

Albacon 2001

Progress Report #2

September 1, 2001

Guest of Honor

Larry Niven

Artist Guests of Honor

Bob Eggleton and Marianne Plumridge

Fan Guests of Honor

Bonnie and Ted Atwood

October 5-7, 2001

Albacon Progress Report Gives Wrong Dates

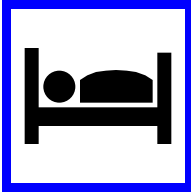
In a massive proofreading error the Albacon Committee allowed publication of Progress Report #1 with incorrect dates. The correct dates are as listed above, October 5-7, 2001, not the October 6-8 dates listed in Progress Report #1.

Reservation Problems Continue with Ramada

A number of members have confirmed the problems suspected by the Albacon Committee. with room reservations at the Ramada. To make a reservation, call the Ramada at 1-518-370-7151. If you have *any* problems ask for the Sales Office. They are aware of the situation and will work it out for you. Remember to make your reservations prior to **September 7**, when the Albacon room block closes!

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Room Rates



Single	\$80 / night
Double	\$85 / night
Triple	\$85 / night
Quad	\$85 / night

The Hotel is sold out of suites for Albacon weekend.

Art Show

The deadline for registering for the Art Show has been pushed back to September 14, 2001. If you are interested in showing at Albacon and have not yet received a mailing, please send email to:

committee@albacon.org
or US mail to:

Albacon 2001 Art Show
P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA.

Guests of Honor

Larry Niven

Mr. Niven covers quite a range in the genre from Ringworld (1970, Hugo and Nebula winner) through all of Known Space and Draco's Tavern to Integral Trees, Dream Park, Destiny's Road (1997), and even a send up to fandom in Fallen Angels (1991). He doesn't just write stories, he creates worlds.

The industry and fans have recognized him with 5 Hugo, 3 Locus Poll and a Nebula award, not to mention countless nominations.

Bob Eggleton and Marianne Plumridge

Mr. Eggleton has won 5 Hugo and 11 Chesley Awards. He has been nominated for two Hugo awards this year, in the Best Related Book category for "Greetings From Earth - The Art of Bob Eggleton" and the Best Professional Artist category. He has also been nominated for two Chelsey Awards in the categories of Best Hardback Book and Best Maga-

zine Cover. By the time Albacon rolls around we'll know if he has more awards to add to his collection. He's already added the Best Artist award from Locus Magazine's yearly poll this year.

Ms. Plumridge is an Australian by birth and an American Resident by choice. Her painting "Appointment With Death" is nominated for a Chesley award this year in the category of Best Unpublished Work Color Work 2000. She has also had three paintings on the covers of "Dreams of Decadence" magazine this year.

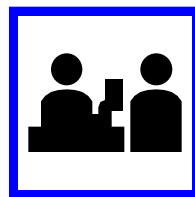
Marianne and Bob have something besides art in common as well, they are wife and husband and reside in Rhode Island (He's the reason she's an American Resident).

Bonnie and Ted Atwood

The Atwoods have been involved in fandom and in helping to run Art Shows for as long as anyone can remember. They are found-

ing members of the Floating East Coast Art Show crew and help out at Art Shows from the biggest to the smallest. At a committee meeting for The Millennium Philcon almost a year ago, Ted walked in with a set of CAD drawings of the Pennsylvania Convention Center. He was already working on the Art Show design. At the other extreme, they have been helping out at the Albacon Art Show ever since we started holding Albacons in 1996.

Even though they are our Fan Guests of Honor, I suspect that they will volunteer their time to help out at our Art Show; it is just the type of people they are, extremely generous of themselves. The entire fandom community is very grateful to and appreciative of them.



Albacon and LASTSFA Logo Contest

LASTSFA, the Latham Albany Schenectady Troy Science Fiction Association and the parent organization of Albacon, has decided to establish graphic logos for both the club and the Albacon convention.

There will be two different logos to reflect the different focus of the two. Logos need to evoke a sense of adventure, an eagerness to stretch ourselves, and expand our minds. The variety of the genre should be well represented; a logo focused on one facet of Science Fiction or Fantasy would be inappropriate. The logos need not include the names LASTSFA or Albacon, but they may.

Details

The contest will conclude at Albacon 2001, at which time the winners will be chosen. LASTSFA reserves the right to choose winners for both, either, or neither of the

LASTSFA or Albacon logos.

Artwork submitted must be original. Rights to the winning artwork will belong to LASTSFA. The original may be returned to the artist after being scanned, if requested. Electronic submissions are acceptable, but physical artwork should be submitted as well. Physical submissions should be a minimum of 5" x 7" to a maximum of 8" x 10". Either landscape or portrait orientation is acceptable. A specific aspect ratio is not required, as long as the criteria for scaling described below are met.

The winning artists will receive full credit for the work whenever published or displayed, as well as free membership for Albacon 2002.

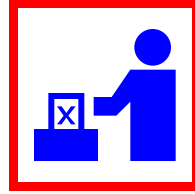
The winning artwork will be used on all LASTSFA or Albacon promotional materials, including, but not limited to: web sites, flyers, progress reports, event calendars, T-shirts, bookbags, and any other form used to promote the organization

and events. To that end, artwork should reproduce well in black and white, spot color (one color plus black), or full color. Artwork should be recognizable when scaled down to about 2" high, yet still look good at a scale 5 times that.

All entries must be received by Albacon Publications staff by 6pm on Friday, October 5, 2001. All of the entries will be displayed in the Art Show at Albacon 2001. There will be information concerning where to drop off entries at Albacon Registration desk. Mailed-in entries are required to be postmarked by October 1, 2001 to insure arrival by October 5. Entries should *not* be sent to the Albacon PO Box; instead a letter postmarked no later than September 15, 2001 requesting mailing instructions and an entry form should be sent to:

Logo Contest
Albacon 2001
P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA

Judging



Attendees of Albacon 2001 will be able to vote for both Albacon and LASTSFA logos. Voting forms will be handed out at registration, one vote per membership.

The Guests of Honor at Albacon 2001 will vote for Albacon and LASTSFA logos.

Members of the Albacon 2001 and 2002 committees will vote for an Albacon logo and the members of the LASTSFA board will vote for a LASTSFA logo.

The results of each of these three separate votes will be weighted and combined to determine a final winner for each logo.

The winner(s) will be announced at the Art Show Auction on Sunday at Albacon 2001.

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Membership Information

The mailing label on this Progress Report will indicate your membership status, if you already have a membership. If you don't have a membership, it's not too late to get a discounted membership. The last date for pre-con registration at the rate of \$33 is September 10, 2001. There will be Albacon staff at The Millennium Philcon, ready and willing and able to sell you a membership at the even greater 'at another con' discounted rate of \$30. Look for Joe Berlant in the Dealer's Room or Paul Kraus anywhere near major events with tech support. Other committee members will also be about at MilPhil as well.

At the door memberships will be \$45 for the entire convention and single day reduced rate memberships will be available for Friday, Saturday, or Sunday only.

To register for Albacon by mail (postmarked by Sep-

tember 10 please), send your name, address, email address, and badge name to:

Albacon 2001
P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA.

Payment should be via check or money order. Multiple memberships may be mailed in one envelope.

Albacon has a policy of offering free memberships to Full Members of SFWA, GOH or Chairs of any past Worldcon, anyone who attended Albacon in Scotland earlier this year, or anyone with a valid non-North American passport. Do you know someone who qualifies for a free membership?

Volunteers (Gophers)

Albacon is entirely volunteer run. From the committee who begin meeting and planning over a year before the convention, to the folks helping out by manning the Con Suite or Registration table for an hour or so during the convention,

we are all volunteers.

If you are willing to help out during the convention, when you arrive, ask for a volunteer form at registration. Our Volunteer Coordinator, Bill Ryan, has plenty to do, so you're sure to find something interesting.

If you want to volunteer in advance, just email the committee at committee@albacon.org

Major Events

Thursday Night

Annual Non-Banquet (7pm - 10pm). Join the Albacon 2001 committee, staff, and Guests of Honor as they setup for the Art Show, get the Dealer's Room ready, and eat pizza.

Friday Night

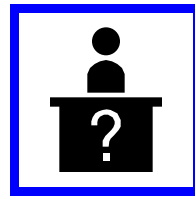
Ice Cream Social (7pm -

9pm). Enjoy some good conversation as well as some cool sweets.

Regency Dance (9pm - 11pm). No experience necessary as Susan DeGuardiola leads you through a number of formal dances.

Saturday

Saturday Night Event. Albacon's masquerade plus a lively interview / discussion with our Guest of Honor, Larry Niven.



Sunday

Art Auction, Charity Auction, Logo Contest Winner announcement, and Dead Dog Party.

How do I get there?



Albacon 2001 is being held at the Ramada Inn in downtown Schenectady, NY

Driving Directions From the East (Boston)

- I-90 west to NYS Thruway Exit 25, I-890
- I-890 to Exit 4, Erie Blvd. Follow the signs for Erie Blvd.; this involves following the ramp in through a large U shaped turn to the left (aka "spiral of death") and passes under I-890. *Stay out of the left lane as you*
- *pass under I-890!*
- On Erie Blvd., cross State St. (NYS Rt. 5), pass the Amtrak Station on the right, go under the train tracks, turn right at the first light following the Grossmans (it will be on the right) onto Nott St.
- On Nott St. go under the train tracks and at the first light (there is a large Ramada sign) turn right into the Ramada parking lot



Driving Directions from the North (Montreal)

- I-87 south to I-90 (NYS Thruway) west
- Follow directions from the east

Driving Directions from the West (Buffalo)

- I-90 east to NYS Thruway Exit 26, I-890
- I-890 to Exit 4, Erie Blvd. Follow the signs for Erie Blvd., you will bear left and go under I-890. *Stay out of the left lane as you pass under I-890!*
- Follow directions from the East from the **on Erie**

Bld. step

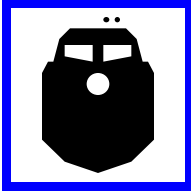
Driving Directions from the South (NYC)

- I-87 (NYS Thruway) north to Exit 25, I-890
- Follow directions from the east

Driving Directions from the South East (Binghamton)

- I-88 east to I-90 (NYS Thruway)
- I-90 west to NYS Thruway Exit 26, I-890
- Follow directions from the west

Via Train (Amtrak)



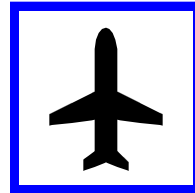
Take Amtrak to the Schenectady, NY station. The station is about 1 mile from the Ramada, so you can walk if the weather is nice and you don't have a lot of luggage. Otherwise call for a cab.

When leaving the station, turn right and follow Erie Blvd. After passing under the train tracks, and going past a Grossmans on the right, start looking for Nott St. (there is a traffic light). Turn right onto Nott St. and go under more train tracks. The Ramada will be immediately on the right.

Amtrak service to the Albany-Rensselaer station is much more frequent than the Schenectady station. If

you wish to arrive and depart from there, contact the committee in advance and we can arrange for pickup and drop off, schedules permitting.

Via Airplane (Albany International Airport)



Once you know your flight times, you have three options.

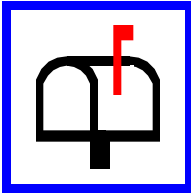
- Cab (ask for the Ramada in Schenectady, not either of the Ramadas in Albany)
- Rent a car (follow Driving directions from the North, there are signs at the airport for I-87)
- Arrange for pickup and drop off with the committee in advance, schedules permitting.

Web site



Albacon maintains an Internet Web site for the dissemination of information. The most current information is always posted on this site. The URL is <http://www.albacon.org/>

Contact Information



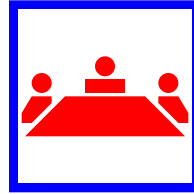
The Albacon 2001 committee may be reached by email at

committee@albacon.org

or via US Mail at:

Albacon 2001
P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA

Albacon 2001 Committee



Albacon 2001 is being brought to you by the following dedicated people:

- Chair: Joe Berlant
- Programming: Jan Finder, Chuck Rothman
- Art Show: Allison and Mike Feldhusen
- Dealer's Room: Joe Berlant
- Gaming: Chris Ford
- Masquerade: Christine Bunt
- Video / Film Programming: Steve Weidner
- Hospitality: Jen Sternfeld
- Registration: Jenny Kraus
- Volunteers: Bill Ryan
- Tech Support: John Harvey
- Publications: Paul Kraus

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Albacon is an activity of LASTSFA, a 501-C-3 Non-Profit organization.