

WORLD HORROR CONVENTION 2004



April 8-11, 2004
Embassy Suites Phoenix North Hotel
Phoenix, Arizona, USA
www.whc2004.org



Progress Report #1

**WORLD HORROR
CONVENTION 2004**

C/O Leprecon Inc.

P.O. Box 26665

Tempe, AZ 85285-6665 USA

Address Correction Requested

WELCOME CHAIR MIKE WILLMOTH & VICE-CHAIR DOREEN WEBBERT

Welcome to the first progress report for World Horror Convention 2004! We will be holding our event Thursday April 8 through Sunday April 11, 2004 (Easter Weekend) at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona, USA. This hotel was also the site of WHC94 and WHC98. Back then Mike was the Treasurer of each event and Doreen the Co-Chair. This time the reins are in Mike's hands. The sponsor of WHC2004 is Leprecon Inc., an Arizona non-profit corporation. Most of the staff from WHC94 and WHC98 are back on board to bring you a wonderful convention.

While we are making plans to bring you the best World Horror Con ever please feel free to contact us about ideas, questions, or whatever. You'll find Mike's telephone number in this issue along with his email address next to that of the convention's email and mailing addresses. Both Mike and Doreen receive emails sent to the convention email address just in case.

GUESTS-OF-HONOR

We are pleased to welcome Caniglia (www.caniglia-art.com) from Nebraska as our Artist GoH, Stephen Jones (www.herebedragons.co.uk/jones) from the UK as our Editor GoH (and overseas guest), David Morrell (www.davidmorrell.net) from New Mexico as our Toastmaster, Dee Snider (www.deesnider.com) from New York as our Media GoH and Mort Castle (mortwrites.freesevers.com) from Illinois as Writers Workshop GoH. You can find out more about these fine professionals on our website or on their own sites listed. As soon as we have an update to the guest list we'll make sure our website is corrected immediately.

ADVERTISING

Ad rates are as follows:

Progress Reports (5.5" wide x 8.5" high)
#2 deadline September 15, 2003; #3 deadline February 14, 2004

Inside front cover: US\$150, image area: 4.5"x7.5";

World Horror Con 2004 Registration Form

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE/PROVINCE _____

ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

COUNTRY _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

FAX _____

PROFESSION (Writer, Artist, Editor, Fan, etc.)

_____ Supporting Membership(s) at US\$35 each = US\$ _____

_____ Attending Membership(s) at US\$ _____ each = US\$ _____

Total US\$ _____

_____ Check: We accept travelers checks, personal checks, business checks, cashiers checks or money orders for the total amount above. Make it payable to WHC2004.

_____ Credit Card: We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express. Charge may show Leprecon Inc. as recipient. Leprecon Inc. is dba WHC2004.

Card Number _____

3 or 4 digit auth code _____ Expiration _____

Name as it appears on your card (please print)

Signature _____

Payment also accepted online via PayPal. Visit <http://www.paypal.com> and send payment to paypal@leprecon.org.

Mail this form to the address above with your payment. Thank you!

How To CONTACT Us

World Horror Con 2004
c/o Leprecon Inc.
P.O. Box 26665
Tempe, AZ 85285-6665 USA
whc2004@leprecon.org
www.whc2004.org

Mike Willmoth
Chair, WHC2004
mwillmoth@compuserve.com or
mwillmoth@earthlink.net
480-945-6890 (phone - 24 hour home office)

NOTICES

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Inside full page: US\$100, image area: 4.5"x7.5";
Inside half page: US\$60, image area: 4.5"x3.75";
Inside quarter page: US\$35, image area: 2.25"x3.75".

Program/Souvenir Book (8.5" wide x 11.0" high)
deadline February 29, 2004

Back or inside cover color ad: US\$400, image area: 7.0"x9.5";
Inside full page b&w: US\$300, image area: 7.0"x9.5";
Inside half page b&w: US\$175, image area: 7.0"x4.5"(hor),
3.38"x9.5"(ver);
Inside quarter page b&w: US\$100, image area: 4.5"x3.38"(hor),
3.38"x4.5"(ver).

Web page banners and ads: US\$30 per month (or 30 consecutive days),
image area: 350x50 pixels;
Banner creation: US\$60 per hour (1 hour minimum).

For any for-profit group or individual wanting inserts into the registration bags we'll handle that for US\$10 per item inserted. For any non-profit or not-for-profit group wanting inserts we'll do that for free.

Please contact us for supported formats for advertising in the progress reports or program book.

ART SHOW - LARRY VELA

The Art Show will be located in the Ventanas Room just across from the hotel's restaurant. This is the same room as at WHC98. We'll have 4'x4' pegboard panels on legs and placed in a zig-zag pattern in parallel rows. Tables will be 6'x2.5' for three dimensional items or other needs and will probably line the walls. The room has windows and adequate lighting, but we will investigate additional lamps just in case. The Print Shop will be using tables. We'll also have some tables and chairs to make you feel at home and for networking.

The Saturday night Artists Reception with Wine and Cheese Tasting will be held in the Art Show like we did at WHC98. Here you'll get a chance to mingle with the artists attending the convention. There is no extra fee to attend this event if you already have an attending membership.

Art Show Awards will be issued to artists in the following categories: Best Color, Best B&W, Best 3D and Best of Show. Votes are cast at-con by attendees of WHC2004. For more information please contact us.

Art panels will be US\$20 per panel and tables will be US\$20 each. Print Shop entries are US\$5 per artist. Mail-in art will be accepted as well as that brought in-person. Artists who bring artwork, but don't have an attending membership, will be allowed in the Art Show to hang and remove their artwork only. All artists must be juried before sending artwork unless you've displayed at a previous WHC Art Show. Please contact us if you need to be juried or to verify previous participation. We will forward your request to the World Horror Society Jury Committee (JC). We accept email, websites, slides, photographs, etc. for submissions. If you've already displayed at a previous WHC, then let us know. We will then confirm with the JC whether an artist is successfully juried, or previously juried. We will collect a 15% commission on all Print Shop sales and a 12% commission on all Art Show sales. We will supply accepted artists with an address to mail in art in the next progress report.



DEALERS ROOM - DAVID HIATT

Our dealers room will be in the same location as WHC98, the upper ballroom (Salons ABCDE). This comprises 4800 square feet of space. Dealers packets have been handed out at WHC2003 in Kansas City, Missouri, by our Chair. Packets are also available by mail. Please contact us (email, mail or phone) with your company name, address, email address and general line of products. We will mail you a packet containing all the details about our dealers room including table rates. All tables include two dealers room only passes which can be upgraded to attending memberships for half the going rate (see Membership & Registration). An attending membership will be required to attend the Mass Autographing scheduled for Friday evening (see Programming). Do not send us payment until you've received and reviewed the dealers room packet. We will return any payments sent before packets arrive.

can sign up in advance for an hour at the table and run a signing and book sales. We will put the debut times in the pocket program. Time at the table is free, but limited to one hour per publisher or author. We realize that not everyone can afford a dealers table or can staff one throughout the con. We hope this will help. Just contact us to sign up!

SECURITY - CAPTAIN MORGAN

Once again I'll be running security for the convention. I ran security for WHC94 and WHC98. You probably never met me and, if I do my job right, you probably won't at WHC2004. However, we reserve the right to refuse and/or revoke membership for anyone who fails to follow the rules. Basically, use common sense and have a great time.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special events at WHC2004 include the Artists Reception with Wine & Cheese Tasting, a Charity Auction, the Mass Autographing, Opening and Closing Ceremonies, etc. We're also looking into hosting the International Horror Guild (IHG) Awards. Mort Castle will once again be running two Writers' Workshops. Participants in these workshops will have to pay an additional fee of US\$30 in advance to WHC2004 and attendance is limited to 18 in each. We'll have more information on all these events in the next progress report as well.

If you have something to donate to the Charity Auction, then contact us for details. We are in the process of selecting a non-profit charity for the auction and will announce it in the next progress report and on the website. In the past we've raised US\$5000 for the Red Cross to help victims of the 1994 Los Angeles earthquake that caused so much damage. We also work with the local conventions who hold charity auctions every year. Please let us know what you'd like to donate. We'll make sure you receive a receipt for your generosity.

presentations will be held in Suites BC and DE (also lower ballroom area) much like at WHC94 and WHC98. Suites BCDE will be combined for the Friday Mass Autographing while the Saturday Artists Reception will be in the Art Show (Ventanas - lobby level across from the restaurant). Readings will generally last 30 minutes per author. Panels and presentations will last 75 minutes in 90 minute blocks unless more or less time is known in advance. Please contact us if you're interested in participating or being in the Mass Autographing. We'll send you a form to fill out, either email or regular mail.

Twilight Tales is planning on sponsoring the Third Annual Flash Fiction Contest to be held late Friday night. It's a companion to the Gross Out Contest which will be held on Saturday night. Come join the fun!

PUBLICATIONS - PAUL CARPENTIER



My staff and I handle the Progress Reports, Pocket Program and Program Book publications. I incorporate content and advertising into these items. If you'd like to submit some fiction to be included in our Program Book, advertising in our Progress Reports or artwork for our website or other publications, please contact us for details.

PUBLICITY - LEE WHITESIDE

My job is to advertise the convention to everyone. We'll be doing direct mailings to past WHC attendees, taking ads in various publications and contacting media outlets. If you have an idea on where we should send information, please let us know. If you'd like some fliers sent to you, a colleague or a business nearby just contact us. We'll be happy to provide you with some. We can also email you a PDF file for convenience or visit our website for the download area. As we get closer to the convention we'll be updating our information, so check with us periodically for those updates.

PUBLISHERS' DEBUT TABLE

We will have 2 tables in the preconvene area outside the dealers room for any publisher or author who has a book debuting at the con. You

GRAND MASTER AWARD—ED BRYANT

World Horror Conventions are required to issue only one award every year - the Grand Master Award. Eligible recipients must have contributed greatly to the horror field, must be alive at the time of the voting, and cannot have won a previous GMA.

Votes for the GMA should be submitted by members of WHC2004 by means of the ballot below. Ballots must be sent by mail only and must be postmarked by December 31, 2003. Send your ballots to: World Horror Con 2004 GMA Administrator, c/o Edward Bryant, 2103 W. 28th Ave., Denver, CO 80211 USA. A photocopy of the ballot is acceptable as long as an original signature exists.

The winner will be officially notified in January and will be invited to attend the convention. If they can attend, then we'll announce them in progress report #3. Otherwise, we'll make the announcement at Opening Ceremonies. The GMA award was designed by Alan Clark and will be on display in the Art Show until Closing Ceremonies where it will be presented to the winner or a representative.

The following list shows the previous winners of the award: 1991 - Robert Bloch, 1992 - Stephen King, 1993 - Richard Matheson, 1994 - Anne Rice, 1995 - Clive Barker, 1996 - Dean Koontz, 1997 - Peter Straub, 1998 - Brian Lumley, 1999 - Ramsey Campbell, 2000 - Harlan Ellison, 2001 - Ray Bradbury, 2002 - Charles L. Grant, 2003 - Chelsea Quinn Yarbro.

Grand Master Award 2004 Ballot

Professional Nominee: _____

Member Name (print): _____

Member Address: _____

Member Signature: _____

GREEN ROOM - MARJ KOSKY

Green Room is for program participants to hang out prior to their event to discuss what they want to talk about ahead of time. We'll have light snacks and drinks available throughout the program day. Most likely we'll share a room with Program Operations (at-con programming) so you'll also be able to ask them questions. If we don't share a room, then we'll be next door. By the next progress report we should know for sure. Either way we'll be just off the main lobby as at WHC94 and WHC98. Come to Program Ops/Green Room for your schedule after you've gotten your badge from Registration. They'll point the way.

GUEST LIAISON - ETHAN MOE

As Guest Liaison I'll be making sure that our Guests-of-Honor get to their program items, get around town, to and from the airport, etc. Usually, at WHC the GoHs are not that busy. However, they may want to go offsite for shopping or food. If you have a need to contact one of our GoHs, please let us know so I can make sure they are available.

HOSPITALITY - LIZ HANSON

As you may already know our Hospitality Suite will be in an Executive Suite (twice the size of a regular sleeping room), just like we had at WHC94 and WHC98. For 2004 we are bringing back "Boo-berry" cupcakes, cactus candies, and prickly pear jelly, to name a few specials. We will have the usual and the unusual (e.g. Doreen's eyeball salad and other yummy things) out for your tasting pleasure. We hope you will treat our suite as a calm oasis to get away from it all for a bit.

At this time we expect Hospitality to be open from late morning to late evening. Due to breakfast being covered by the hotel we don't plan to open up until about the time programming starts up. We'll also identify contents for those with allergies. Our staff will appreciate that effort alone.

If you are interested in sponsoring Hospitality for a couple of hours for a special promotion, please contact us and we'll see what we can do. We know that for some groups this works better than taking a party suite for an entire evening. If you want to serve alcohol, then you'll

OPERATIONS - MARK BONIECE

Convention Operations (Con Ops) is the convention office. We plan on staffing the office 24 hours a day in case our staff needs something or our attendees need something. This will be the main contact point for outside calls to the convention. If someone really needs to get ahold of an attendee and they can't reach them in their room, then arrange to contact the office and we'll do what we can to find them.

PROCURER - BARRY BARD

I coordinate the freebie stuff sent to the convention. Sometimes it means posters, buttons, bookmarks and sometimes it means books, movie passes, dancing vampires. If you have something that you want to have us put out on the freebie tables, including convention fliers, then contact us and we'll be happy to put them out.

PROGRAMMING - BILL BISHOP

Programming is setting up a number of panels and discussions of interest to artists and writers working in Horror. Right now, we are planning on having one track of programming devoted to art and another devoted to writing. There will also be the opportunity for authors to give readings. We're hoping to also bring you an **Independent Film Festival**. Please contact us if you are interested in participating on a panel, giving a presentation or showing something in the festival. There will be no fee to enter the festival, but someone must be present to talk about the film presented. As in the past, all participants must have attending memberships.

Currently, we plan on having Opening Ceremonies Thursday evening, the Mass Autographing Friday evening, the Artists Reception with Wine & Cheese Tasting Saturday evening and Closing Ceremonies Sunday afternoon. We plan on not scheduling anything opposite the daily happy hour (5:30pm - 7:30pm) and will leave a generous dinner break between afternoon events and evening events for folks who want to go offsite for alternate dining plans.

Readings will be held in Suite A (lower ballroom area) which will contain a comfortable chair with lamp or podium with lamp. Panels and

morning and throughout the weekend into the evenings. Payments are accepted in cash (in person only), checks (personal, business, travelers, cashiers, money orders), credit cards (Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express) or PayPal (online only). Please download our registration form from our website or email us so we can email the form back to you. Once your registration is processed you'll receive a receipt by mail unless we see you in person.

Credit card orders should not be sent by email due to privacy issues. Be sure to use PayPal for online payments or mail us a completed form including your credit card number, security authorization code (from the front or the back of the card) and your signature. Our Treasurer will run the card number and send you a receipt back. Only the Treasurer and Chair will have access to the card information except at-con where a limited number of registration staff will have access. We know this is an issue for some folks and we do our best to protect your information.

As has been in the past, your membership is not refundable, but is transferable. If you decide you cannot make the convention after you have purchased a membership, then please write a letter authorizing the transfer (including the name of the recipient or just TO BEARER if you don't know), sign it, and send us a copy by mail. Email is not acceptable for such transfers. Please make sure that whomever is receiving the membership has a copy of the letter with them when they arrive just in case. Photo IDs are required to pick up badges and registration material at-con.

MEMBERS (AS OF MAY 28, 2003)

Feo Amante, Rick Andrews, Barry Bard, Mark Boniece, Cathy Book, Edward Bryant, Paul Carpentier, Alan Clark, Patrick Connors, Shahn Cornell, Richard Dansky, Ed deGruy, Ray Gish, Larry Hallock, Eric Hanson, Liz Hanson, David Hiatt, Kim Hiatt, David Jeppesen, Ros Lyn (Lyn) Jeppesen, Gene Kelly, Joan Kelly, Karen Leichel, Darkyr Malys, Margaret Mannatt, Kim Martin, Linda McAllister, Rich McAllister, Jen McAlonan, Kevin McAlonan, Kathy Meade-Hallock, Clydene Nee, Stephen Pagel, Marilyn Rau, Mark Siegel, Alan Siler, Henry Allen (Hank) Smith, Gary Swaty, Melinda Thielbar, Larry Vela, Doreen Webbert, Jim Webbert, Lee Whiteside, Mike Willmoth.

need a separate party suite as our insurance policy doesn't allow us to serve alcohol in Hospitality. However, non-alcoholic beverages and all food items are ok.

HOTEL - MIKE WILLMOTH

As you already know WHC2004 will be held at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North Hotel. Rates are US\$88 per night single through quadruple for regular suites or boardroom suites (see below) and US\$99 per night single through quadruple for upgrade suites (see below)! All regular rooms are two-room suites with a separate bedroom from the living room. Each living room has a sleeper sofa with a bar sink, mini refrigerator, microwave oven, coffee maker, television, telephone with data ports, work desk, etc. Each bedroom has either one king bed or two double beds, television, telephone with data ports, night stands, closet, vanity, bathroom with shower/tub combination, etc. Smoking and non-smoking rooms are available along with a limited number of handicap accessible rooms.

Buildings on the west side of the property have three floors while the buildings on the east side have two floors. Rooms either face the pool area or the parking lots. Each building, each floor, each side (pool or parking) has two interconnecting rooms in case you need them. Elevators exist in the main building where the lobby and function space are located (north end of the property), and every couple of buildings throughout the property. Parking lots are on the first (ground) floor for each building. There are over 300 rooms in 12 buildings, tennis court, pavilion, 5000 square foot circular year-round swimming pool, hot tub, etc. We have extended hours for both the pool and hot tub (until 4am if you're not noisy)!

Why Easter Weekend this time? Simple - cheaper for you! This is prime tourist season in the Phoenix metro area. The weekend before would have been around US\$50 more per night and the weekend after around US\$40 more per night. Prices don't drop much until the middle of May and by then we have scheduling conflicts with an annual local convention, LepreCon. Plus, the weather in April is really comfortable, usually in the 80s (Fahrenheit). It's the best time of year to visit Phoenix!

Don't forget about the breakfast in the restaurant that's included every

morning with your stay. Omelettes and either waffles, pancakes or french toast are available at the chef's work area. The buffet line has fruit, cereals, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, etc. The beverage station has milk, juices, water, coffee, hot tea, bread for toast and bagels. Every afternoon in the lounge off the main lobby is the manager's special happy hour. Two full hours of beer, wine and well drinks along with wonderful margaritas, all complimentary. At WHC98 we had plenty of happy campers!

The hotel has a wonderful restaurant and a pool cabana where you can get food. The lounge will also be serving food from the kitchen. We plan to have the restaurant open continuously from morning to evening. Currently, it is called Lafite's and specializes in Cajun dishes. It's almost New Orleans! For those with milder tastes we'll make sure that the hotel offers non-Cajun specials as well all day long. We'll even see about some fast food options for folks who want to grab and go or are on a smaller budget. We've had much success recently with this idea.

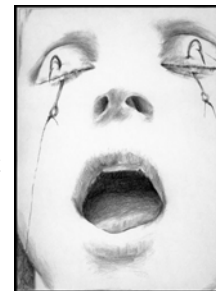
When making reservations we encourage you to arrive a day or two early and/or stay a day or two late and turn your visit into a vacation. We plan to offer something on Wednesday evening (April 7) for folks who come in early, hopefully with the guests-of-honor. Sunday evening will also have a dead dog or similar party to help us all wind down from the weekend. More details will appear in a later progress report. Please let us know if you want to stay in the party area or not. We'll need folks to be near the party suites to prevent non-convention people from staying in those rooms. Our Hotel Liaison can place you in a specific room to accomplish that.

Reservations are accepted using the hotel's direct number (602-375-1777) during normal business hours (8am-5pm Mon-Fri Mountain Standard Time = GMT-7 year-round), Embassy Suites nationwide reservation system (800-EMBASSY or 800-362-2779) or online (www.embassysuites.com) using the special code OWH. Remember that Embassy Suites is part of the Hilton Honors program so be sure to include your HH number. If you don't already have one, then sign up for one and start collecting points during your stay. The convention rate will be the lowest available rate for that time period, so do take advantage of it!

There are 4 upgrades (larger suites) on the property along with 4 conference rooms (boardrooms with large tables in the living room instead of the regular furniture). Currently, the convention has all of these re-

served. One upgrade is a two-story suite called the Townhouse with the living room downstairs and the bedroom upstairs. The other three upgrades are double-wide rooms called Executive Suites. Essentially, they are two regular rooms put together living room to living room with no intervening wall. One bedroom has a king bed with a jacuzzi and the other bedroom has two double beds with a regular tub/shower. We'll be using the closest Executive Suite to the function space as our Hospitality Suite. The other two are available for publishers suites, one night parties, etc. The Townhouse is also available for your entire stay or on a nightly basis for parties. The Townhouse is the closest upgrade to the function space and is accessible off the second floor in building 1, right off the main lobby. The Executives are on the third floors with Hospitality in building 1 and the other two in buildings 3 and 5.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you're interested in reserving a suite or interconnecting rooms for your party. We also offer a service whereby one of our staff members will shop for your party supplies and decorate your suite so you just walk in and run it. You pay us pre-con or at-con for your budgeted amount plus a US\$50 service fee and give us a list of your preferences. We'll do the rest. Linda McAllister is our Publisher Party Liaison. Just ask for her in your contact if you're a publisher interested in a party.



MEMBERSHIPS & REGISTRATION - GARY SWATY

Memberships are available for Supporters or Attendees. Supporting memberships are US\$35 and include voting rights for the Grand Master Award as well as receive all publications including Progress Reports, Program Book and Pocket Program. Attending memberships are US \$110 through September 30, 2003, US\$120 through March 31, 2004, and US\$130 at the door. One day memberships will be available at the door only. Special prices are available to dealers pass upgrades (see Dealers Room for details).

Registration will be located in the upper preconvence area (same as WHC94 and WHC98). Pre-registered members can pick up their badges starting Wednesday evening and continuing throughout the weekend. Registration will be open for new members starting Thursday