

Leslie Turek

50 Years in Fandom



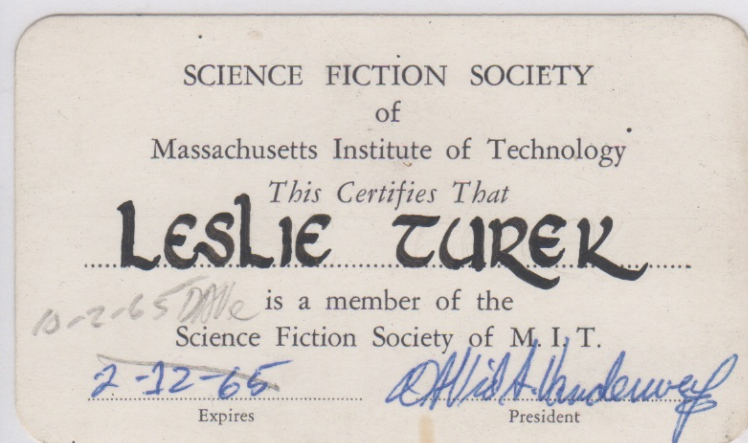
1964 - Finding Fandom

Of course I read science fiction from an early age. Somehow I never encountered juveniles, but started right in on reading the regular sf magazines, Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, etc. But it wasn't until I got to Radcliffe that I found others that shared my enjoyment of sf. Two people to blame: my roommate Cory Seidman (now Cory Panshin), who introduced me to *The Lord of the Rings* (among other things) and dorm-mate Susan Hereford (now Suford Lewis), who had discovered LASFS in high school and led us both to the MIT Science Fiction Society.

Cory and I would take the bus down to MIT every Friday afternoon to attend the MITSFS meeting and go out to dinner with the gang (usually at House of Roy in Chinatown). Of course, MITSFS was not exactly fandom; their motto was “We’re not fans, we just read the stuff”! But there were fans in MITSFS and we gradually got assimilated.



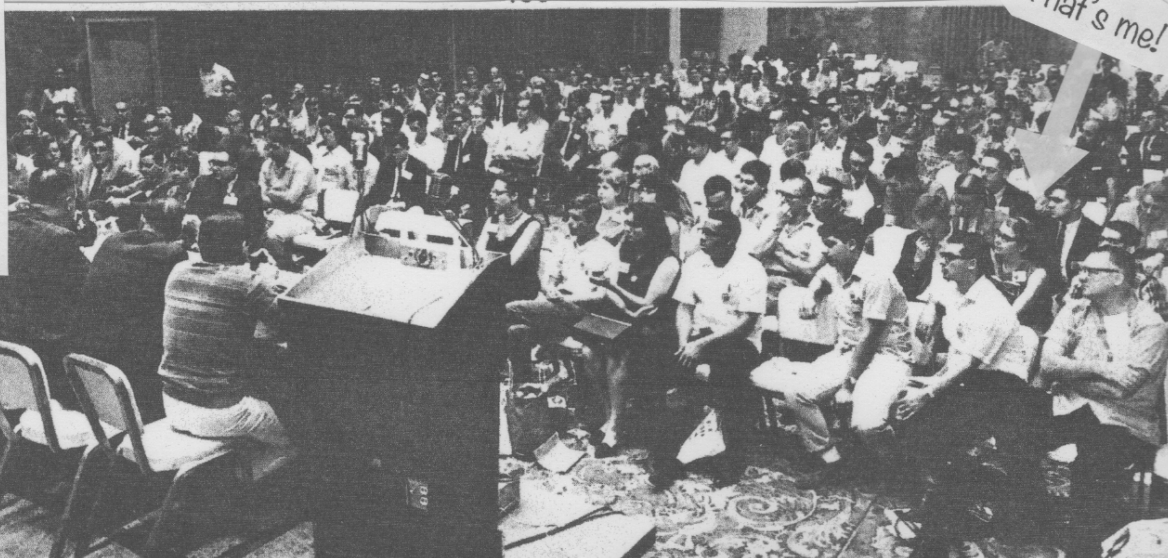
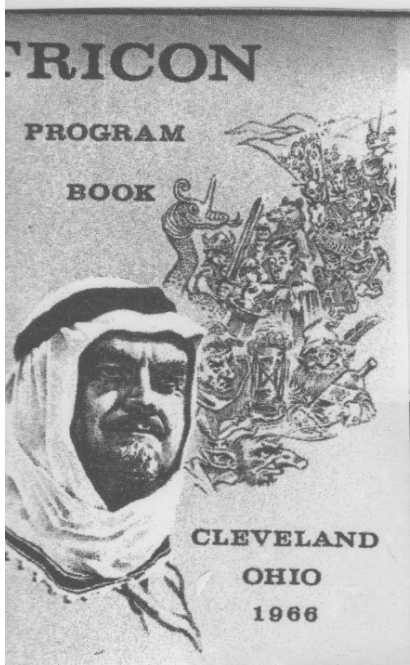
Cory Seidman and me at Radcliffe



1966 - My First Worldcon!

Tricon in Cleveland was my first Worldcon. Cory and I went with Dave Vanderwerf, who had been to two other Worldcons and who was putting in a bid for Boston in '67. We had no money, so Dave had worked out an arrangement to drive someone's car to from Boston to Chicago. (He failed to inform the owner that we were stopping in Cleveland for 5 days on the way, so she was ready to call the police by the time the car was delivered.) But I had a grand time - there were lots of famous authors, cool costumes, and Harlan Ellison and Isaac Asimov put on a show. The Worldcon bid didn't do so well, with Boston finishing 4th in a field of four. The 1967 Worldcon was in New York (Nycon III) - probably a good thing. But Dave had planted the seed...

Jay Kay Klein's *Convention Annual - Tricon Edition* proves that I was there, even if I am just a face in the crowd.



That's me!

CONVENTION ANNUAL NO. 4

TRICON EDITION

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Helping to count the site selection votes at the head table. That's me on the left, Dave Vanderwerf, Ted White, Dave Van Arnum, Dave Kyle, Harlan Ellison, Ron Bounds, and Fred Lerner.