

The Noreascon Proceedings

The Twenty-Ninth World Science Fiction Convention Boston, Massachusetts September 3-6, 1971

The NESFA Press

Leslie Turek
Editor and Production Manager

I transcribed everything on the audio tapes, from the serious....

The Banquet

Toastmaster: Robert Silverberg

Fresh Melon
Broiled Scrod, lemon butter
or
Veal Cutlet, Cordon Bleu
Green Beans Amandine
Potatoes au Gratin
Lettuce and Tomato Salad, vinaigrette
Ice Cream Roll with Chocolate Sauce

TONY LEWIS:

Ladies and gentlemen, members of the 29th World Science Fiction Convention, I should like at this time to present to you the Toastmaster for the Hugo Awards Banquet, Bob Silverberg. [Applause.]

ROBERT SILVERBERG:

Welcome, welcome all of you to the Awards Banquet of the Twenty-Ninth (or whatever) World Science Fiction Convention, the Noreascon - or the Satyricon, as I've heard some of you calling it -[Laughter.] held here in the Boston Sheraton, better known as the Tower of Grass. [Laughter, applause and groans.] It's a great pleasure for me to be up here once again; it's now three years since the last time I presided over one of these affairs. In 1968, I had the rather sombre pleasure of officiating at the longest banquet [Giggles.] in the history of science fiction conventions at the Baycon; it ran something like five days... [Laughter.] It wasn't my fault, but things did get out of hand. I figure that I do owe you some time back from the Baycon and therefore will proceed now to award the Hugos and then we can get along to partying. [Cheers and applause.] In the first category: Best Typeface ... [Laughter.] Should I save them, Tony? ... Oh, give them out to the people who deserve them! [Laughter.]

How many of you were at the Baycon, anyway?

Let's see some hands. You remember all the troubles
we had that night? It was 97 degrees - outside the
hotel; 137 in the halls of the Claremont. We had a

Gothic Baroque Romanesque room in which to ...

[Laughter.] There were these pillars. [Laughter.] The people at that table and that table could see the dais; the people at that table and that table could hear. [Laughter.] The rest of you were out in a vague haze of purple smoke and now and then I would call for a round of applause just so I could be sure you were still there. [Laughter.] Many of you weren't. [Laughter.]

That was three years ago - three years of great changes. Some of us now have more hair, [Laughter.] some have less, some have both more and less.
[Laughter.] Things happen very quickly in the science fiction world and three years is really several eons. This is a microcosm in which you can become a grand old man at 35, a dirty old man at 40, [Laughter and applause.] and in fandom, you can become an elder god at 23, apparently. [Laughter.] The new generations tumble one past the other as quickly as possible. The critics are quick to acclaim a new Brunner, a new Silverberg... [Laughter.] I hope those terms are meant more fondly than the new Nixon we're always hearing about. [Laughter and applause.]

Anyway, I'm back up here tonight. The lights are brighter, the air is clearer, the world is stranger, and we're going to have ourselves a banquet - a short one, a crisp one. It won't be anything like that other one. That was a weird convention, the Baycon, wasn't it? This isn't a weird convention; this is a slick convention - that's a whole different concept.

Up here on the dais with me are a bunch of people whose names you're probably wondering about. Some of them helped to make this convention what it is. Some of them tried their damndest to keep it from becoming what it is. [Laughter.] In any case, I will identify them to you. I ask you not to applaud individual names because that would be invidious and Isaac, in particular, would be very unhappy. [Laughter.] But let me tell you briefly who we have here. At the end we have Mario Bosnyak, the mad Yugoslavian, our TAFF delegate. Next to him, Stew Brownstein, the Chief of PIGS. Amy Brownstein,



...and then there were three - John Schoenherr, Jack Gaughan, and Eddie Jones (Photos by James R. Saklad)



JACK GAUGHAN:

Excuse me, Kelly. I got to take over your function, here, but we've run out of time. Right?

TONY LEWIS:

Right. I'd like to thank all you people who participated on the panel. (Take your drinks with you.)
[Applause.]

JOHN SCHOENHERR:

[Off mike.] Would you like some?

SECOND VOICE:

[Off mike.] What is it?

JOHN SCHOENHERR:

[Off mike.] Try it! Try it! This is an unused straw. It's <u>delicious!</u>



Letraset

SPACEMATIC resistant adhesive

BULLETIN TYPEWRETER

24

AAAAAAAAAAA CCCCCCCCCCDDDDDDD EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE GGGGGGGGG LLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLL NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN NNNNNN PPPPPPPPPQQQQQQRRRRRRRR RRRRRRRRR