



## MENTOR OF ARISIA

Issue 48

November 1994

**(AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR...)**



### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

OCTOBER 16, 1994:

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Joel Herda, President; James Stevenson, Vice-President; Erik Bunce, Treasurer; Edward Dooley, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the president, Joel Herda at 3:40 p.m. The meeting was held in Executive Session due to the sensitive nature of certain items.

Several volatile issues were brought to the Executive Board's attention. The first and foremost was a problem concerning the Convention Chairman for ARISIA '95. It was reported to the board that certain derogatory remarks were made by the chairman concerning a member of the E-Board, and the board in general. The remarks were reported to have been made at the October ConCom Meeting.

The president stated that he had been at the meeting and recalled no such remarks. The treasurer explained that the statements were made after Joel had left the meeting, and repeated the remarks that had been made. The president was livid over the comments as were other members of the board. The vice-president raised the point that the chairman was under pressure and had already stated that she was looking for an assistant. The clerk stated that Nicholas Shectman's name had been suggested to him as a possible assistant.

After consideration of the matter, it was therefore decided to ask Nicholas Shectman if he would serve as her assistant. If Mr. Shectman agreed, it was the recommendation of the board to recommend to Ms. Oranch the name of Nicholas Shectman as her assistant. (Addendum: Mr. Shectman agreed to serve as Ms.

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Oranch's assistant and Ms. Oranch agreed to have Phi as her assistant.)

The president raised a problem that had come to his attention that persons were misusing the intent of proxies. The general intent of a proxy was to provide a vote on an issue or issues at a meeting that a member was able to attend. The president was concerned that individuals were slipping items into their proxies which had no right being there. Motions and seconds to motions had no place as part of a proxy. While an individual could be instructed, or asked outside of a proxy to make a motion on a person's behalf, it had no place as part of the proxy.

It was further pointed out that proxies in other corporate settings were usually declared invalid in total if any part of a proxy were found to be invalid. It was suggested that the corporation may wish to consider this in their dealings with proxies. The president stated that he would disqualify a motion which was made as part of a proxy as inappropriate, but would allow the motion to be made on the person's behalf if any member wished to present it.

Several members of the board had asked for the meeting to reconsider the photocopier proposal. Upon further discussion by the members it was felt that the board could not justify the expense with corporate publications. Further, the board decided that it would consider purchasing a small desk top copier to handle the lighter aspects of the business of the convention and the corporation, such as coping checks and such. Upon discussion, it was made quite clear that the corporation would not rent or authorize the rental of a machine at ARISIA '95 or authorize any corporate member to do so.

The treasurer announced that he was still digging through the financial records. They appeared to be honest, but that proper reporting practice was not always followed. While Erik expected to be able to turn the books over for an audit, he did not feel that they were in any shape at this time to do so. Entries were still being compared to accurately track information.

On the subject of banking, the treasurer announced that only the core Executive Board (elected officers) would have signatory power on the savings accounts of the corporation. Minor debate was entertained on whether the corporation should maintain the two signature policy on the checking account. Erik explained that the bank really did not monitor the two signatures on checks made out for under \$1000. The treasurer also notified the board that one check had slipped through with only one signature.

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ConChair '95

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Articles, comments, and items for Mentor should be submitted to the Clerk at the address shown above.

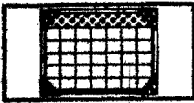
People are requested to use their discretion when calling the officers listed above, especially at their places of employment.

For up-to-date information by computer/modem, call Arisia BBS: 617/364-1576 or 617/364-3343.

Mr. Bunce announced that he intended to set safeguards in place that would insure no such incident or misuse would occur. The major items being that no check would be signed prior to the submission of a completed purchase order/expense report. The corporate treasurer would hold the only check book for the corporation. The convention treasurer would be required to monitor spending and verifying purchase orders/expense reports/advance request before a check would be requested and cut.

As an aside, Erik announced that it was his intention to make heavy use of the safe of the hotel, and that only one deposit would be made at the conclusion of the convention.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



## CONVENTION CORNER:

- 11/11/94 ORYCON 16:  
Portland, OR
- 11/18/94 PHILCON '94:  
GOH: Larry Niven  
AGOH: Jim Burns  
Philadelphia, PA
- 11/25/94 CONTEX 12:  
GOH:  
AGOH: Robert Daniels  
Houston, TX
- 01/06/95 TROPICON 13:  
GOH: Kristina Kathryn Rusch  
AGOH: Jael  
West Palm Beach, FL
- 01/13/95 ARISIA '95:  
GOH: C J Cherryh  
AGOH: Jael  
Boston, MA
- 02/03/95 DEAD OF WINTER II:  
GOH: Nigel Bennett  
Woburn, MA
- 02/17/95 BOSKONE 32:  
GOH: Diana Wynne Jones  
AGOH: Ruth Sanderson  
Framingham, MA
- 03/05/95 ASTRONOMICON 4:  
GOH: David Drake  
AGOH: Robin Wood  
Rochester, NY
- 03/10/95 BASH '95:  
GOH: Max Grudenshik  
Taunton, MA
- 03/17/95 LUNACON '95:  
GOH: Paul Anderson  
AGOH: Stephen Hickman  
Rye Brook, NY
- 03/31/95 CONCEPT '95:  
GOH: Spider & Jeanne Robinson  
AGOH: Vincent DiFate  
Montreal Quebec, CANADA
- 03/31/95 I-Con 14:  
Stony Brook, NY
- 04/22/95 BIDCON 2  
Boston, MA
- 04/28/95 PORTCON XVII:  
West Point, NY
- 07/13/95 DRAGONCON  
Atlanta, GA
- 07/28/95 MYTHCON 26:  
GOH: Tim Powers  
AGOH: Michael Collins  
Berkeley, CA

08/28/95 NECRONOMICON 2:  
GOH: Ramsey Campbell  
Denver, MA

08/24/95 INTERSECTION:  
Glasgow, Scotland



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 11/03/94 ARISIA Executive Board Meeting at the home of Joel Herda at 8 p.m.
- 11/12/94 ARISIA '95 ConCom Meeting. To be held at the home of Pat Vandenberg and Allan Kent at 2:00 pm.
- 11/13/94 ARISIA Corporate Meeting UMASS BOSTON, Boston. (\*\*LOCATION CHANGED UNABLE TO SCHEDULE SPACE AT BRANDEIS\*\*) 4th Floor lounge, Wheatly Hall at 2:00 p.m.
- 11/29/94 Press date for MENTOR 49.
- 12/10/94 ARISIA '95 ConCom Meeting. To be held at the home of Pat Vandenberg and Allan Kent at 2:00 pm.
- 12/14/94 ARISIA Corporate Meeting UMASS BOSTON, Boston. 4th Floor lounge, Wheatly Hall at 7:30 p.m.
- 12/27/94 ARISIA '95 ConCom Meeting. To be held at the

home of Pat Vandenberg  
and Allan Kent at 2:00 pm.

**(GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS)**



**CORPORATE  
MEETING  
OCTOBER 19, 1994**

**01/03/94** Approximate Press Date for  
Mentor 50. Contact Clerk  
for more detail for  
submissions for this issue.

**01/06/95** ARISIA '95 ConCom  
Meeting. TBD.

**01/13/95** ARISIA '95 Begins

**01/15/95** ARISIA '95 Concludes

**01/22/95** ARISIA Corporate Meeting  
Boston Park Plaza Hotel at  
1 p.m. (ARISIA '95  
ConCom Debriefing to  
follow at 3 p.m.)

**02/07/94** Press Date for Mentor 51.

**02/17/95** BOSKONE 32 Begins.

**02/19/95** BOSKONE 32 Concludes.

**02/23/95** ARISIA Corporate Meeting  
Umass-Boston, Boston at  
2 p.m., 4th Floor lounge,  
Wheatly Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the vice-president, James Stevenson, at 7:55 pm.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Aaron Agassi (RS), Ted Atwood, Zack Brown, Erik Bunce, Jennifer Bunce (RS), David Corriveau (RS), Randall Cohen, Ed Dooley, Robert Fairbairn IV, George Flynn, Joel Herda, Mark Hertel, Christine Ivey, Allan Kent, Patrick McCormack, Sheila Oranch, John Preston, Tim Roberge, Noel Rosenberg (RS), Nicholas Shectman, Michael Sprague, James Stevenson, Kim Van Auken, Amy West, Karl Wurst

25 Corporate Members were present, 21 General Members, at the October Corporate Meeting.

[ALL MEMBERS SHOULD REMEMBER IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK OFF THEIR NAMES ON THE ATTENDANCE LIST SO THAT IT IS RECORDED AND COUNTED IN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL EFFECT THE QUORUM CALCULATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING.]

**CORRECTIONS:** Concerning Mr. Cohen's "suggestion" as reported on page 14, the item should have read "advance notice of a motion to be made". The minutes were accepted as corrected.

**PROXIES:**

Walter Kahn granted his proxy to Edward Dooley.

Marshall Ellis granted his proxy to Pat McCormack (with a list of alternatives). Marshall specified in his proxy a second to a motion which was ruled invalid.

Kevin Fallon granted his proxy to Kim Van Auken.

William Powers granted his proxy to Sheila Oranch.

Jeffrey Jordan granted his proxy, with general instructions on general topics, to Pat McCormack.

Concerning CONVENTION COSEK and IMPOSING  
SWERS, MEMBERS are encouraged to forward  
information and items to the CLERK  
concerning items to go into either calendar  
area.

MEMBERS are reminded that the deadline for  
submission of items for publication is the  
THURSDAY before the press date.

Pat Vandenberg granted her proxy to Allan Kent.

A. Joseph Ross granted his proxy to Sheila Oranch.

The Clerk ruled that the attempted proxy, and subsequent motion by Matthew Saroff invalid on the grounds that an Honorary Member (who is not a General Member) in accordance with the bylaws was not allowed to vote (or grant proxies). The membership agreed with the clerk's interpretation.

## TRANSFERS:

**VOTED:** To transfer Kevin Fallon, Mark Hertel and Kim Van Auken from Red SHIRT to GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

The vice-president moved that the voting on the three be done by one secret ballot. The membership approved the request.

By secret ballot the motion passed by 22 votes in favor.

**MOTION:** To transfer Jennifer Bunce, David Corriveau, and Noel Rosenberg from RED SHIRT to GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

This motion was automatically tabled until the next meeting in accordance with the BYLAWS.



FROM THE DESK OF "EL SUPREMO"...

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

### *Joel Herda Reporting:*

In my first month as President, we have had several major issues come up. There is ongoing controversy over the need to not allow certain persons to attend our conventions, concern over budgeting, savings and financial controls, and concern about successful production of this year's convention.

In the first meetings of the E-Board, we have tried to wrestle with some of these issues. We decided that the issues of banning were best brought once again before the corporate membership for open discussion. With regards to finances, we

decided to try and install some standards of accounting and banking to reduce some of the paperwork, and to correct the confusing banking situation.

With regards to the requests for a full audit of our finances going back several years, it has been brought to my attention that many of the records are neither understandable nor readable, and further that they change according to the whim of whoever was treasurer of the convention and/or corporation at the time, and so no sensible audit can yet be made. I have instructed the treasurer to attempt to conform to some standards of accounting and financial tracking so that the records will be understandable from now on.

Most major issues will take some time to sort out, and some of them will require the action of the full membership. Though information secrecy is not my chosen style, I would like to once again ask that all members refrain from using the arisia-staff mailing list for corporate business and information, especially information of a sensitive nature. We have some very controversial letters broadcast to all who can read the arisia-staff list, and most recipients are not corporate members. No mailing list is entirely secure, and this one is less so than most. It may make sense, then, for us to start a mailing list for corporate members only.

## VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT / GRANT COMMITTEE /

### *James Stevenson Reporting:*

The vice-president presented a proposal for a function, to be known as the "WINTER SOLSTICE PARTY". The idea for the party was something that the corporation could give back to the membership, as is the custom during this particular time of the year in other corporations and organizations. As ARISIA is made up of a polyglot of persons with different beliefs, the vice-president proposed that it would be appropriate to celebrate, in fannish manner, the longest night of the year. The celebration would give individuals a better chance to get to know each other, and relax for one evening before the chaos of the final push to prepare for the convention, and allow the corporation to foot the bill.

The vice-president's proposal was that the Solstice Party would be held at the Dedham Holiday Inn. The organization could chose between a buffet dinner, individual rates ranging from \$16.95 to \$22.95, or a sitdown dinner, individual rates ranging from \$17.95 to \$23.95. If we reserve for 80 persons there would be no charge for the room. Music, and such, could

be provide by the organization, or we could hire someone to provide it for us. The reserved date of the two provided by the vice-president was December 18th. The vice-president moved that the organization decide on the matter, and after some discussion, withdrew his motion in order to have the specifics published in *MENTOR*.

Additional business, the president reappointed Tina Roberge as the head of Corporate Inventory Control, and as the CICO of the corporation.

**TREASURER'S REPORT /  
BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

*Erik Bunce Reporting:*

The treasurer reported that we were with a new bank and receiving interest on our accounts (1.7/1.9). The accounts will cost us a minimum amount on service charges. The interest on the new accounts should more than cover the charges we will accrue. Various checks and balances will be taken to minimize any financial exposure in the way that the accounts will be handled. The treasurer was presently looking into a new credit card processing company which promises to give us a better rate than the one we now have. A treasury meeting/budget meeting was announced for 10/20/94.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

*Edward Dooley reporting:*

The clerk reminded the membership to sign in. Payment for today's meeting were \$22 and would drop to \$20 after the conclusion of the meeting. Ed referred to the chart of membership dues that was printed in the previous issue of the corporate newsletter.

[Chart of Membership Dues pro-rated:

September	\$24	March	\$12
October	\$22	April	\$10
November	\$20	May	\$ 8
December	\$18	June	\$ 6
January	\$16	July	\$ 4
February	\$14	August	\$ 2

**TO THOSE BEHIND THE LENS:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ConCom '95:**

**Sheila Oranch reporting:**

The ConChair reported that the first deadline for LOGISTICS forms was past. Members were reminded the importance of these forms in providing detail information on items coming into the convention (which helps to determine the size of the vehicle, and how many vehicles the Logistic Department will need) as well as providing detailed information to the financial group for items being placed on the Convention's insurance policy. Sheila stressed that everyone intending on having something brought in by Logistic or watched by them had to fill out the form. [All forms at this point require the signature of the individual filling out the form, the division head, and now the ConChair. Any form which is incomplete will be bounced back as per published policy.]

IF YOU ARE BRINGING SOMETHING IN AND EXPECT ARISIA '95 TO KNOW ABOUT IT -- FILL OUT A FORM!!!

The ConChair announced that departments and divisions that know they will need gophers should get their request in as earlier as possible. The Chairman announced that a ConCom Directory should be being printed real soon [--the ConCom Roster was printed in the second Issue 3, Volume 1 of "Behind The Lens" included in *MENTOR*, Issue 46.]. The next ConCom meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for November 12th at Pat and Allan's in Arlington. Sheila explained that both Pat and Bill were feverishly working on completing registration entry even as she spoke. The Clerk, again, requested that the complete list of members comp'ed for ARISIA '95 be submitted to the Corporation for publication in *MENTOR*.

Pat McCormack requested information on why Marty Gear was not hosting the masquerade this year. What criteria was used in selecting his replacement. Sheila explained that Carol Salemi had decided to use someone else. [As noted in the ConCom Roster--Marty will be hosting the Opening Ceremonies, and hopefully a guest in the Programming Division.]

## CORPORATE DEPARTMENTS:

### ConCom '96:

#### Nicholas Sheckman reporting:

I have sent out letters to my GOH choices. I hereby request that rates for ARISIA '96 be set at \$25.00 through February, with other rates to be determined later. I hereby submit the following preliminary budget, to cover all expected expenses through January.

INCOME	'94	'95	'96
56 Memberships @ \$25	6250	5180	1400
89 Comp Memberships @ \$8	0	0	712
			-----
			2112

#### EXPENSES

ConChair Admin (act)			50
Mailbox Rental (proj)	192	192	192
Storage Unit (1/2 Dec 1/2 later)	1440	1440	1220
Publications (flyers-Dec)			100
Publications (bkmarks-Dec)		100	100
Party @ A '95			100
Ad Trade Reimbursement (to A '95)			370
			-----
			2112

#### CASH FLOW ANALYSIS:

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	LATER
EXPENSES:	50	370	800	100	792
INCOME:	0	0	0	2112	0

The acceptance of ARISIA '96's preliminary budget was tabled pending publication in the corporate newsletter.

## CORPORATE INVENTORY CONTROL:

### Tim Roberge reporting:

We still have stuff! [Tim, at the request of the E-Board had continued to act as CICO during the interim.] At the close of fiscal year 1993 the corporate inventory was nearly complete and the permanent numbering system was almost in place. The Inventory Database was ready to be converted to Peachtree, the commercial software that the clerk mentioned at the September meeting.

## ...AND HERE BE DRAGONS

## OLD BUSINESS:

### Subject: Tangent Grant

Approximately a year ago Tangent asked for a grant, nothing has been done about this yet.

Tangent does provide a valuable resource to fandom as well as to Arisia in general. For this reason I move the following:

1- That the By-Laws and/or policies concerning grants be temporarily suspending.

2-That we grant Tangent \$300.00 for the purchase of a new hard drive with the remainder going to Tangent for general up-keep of the system.

3-That a specific person be assigned to purchase the Drive, and see to it that the Drive and the remaining money are delivered to Tangent.

I volunteer myself, but this is not part of the motion

(FYI: This motion was provided to the Corporate Clerk, to be

forwarded to the E-Board and to be published in Mentor prior to this meeting. It specifically stated that it was motion not a suggestion.)

Much discussion was heard on this item. In the end the motion was withdrawn and an alternative motion was substituted. It was:

**VOTED:** To instruct the E-Board to make the gift, either of money or equipment to Jeff Jordan or Tangent BBS in recognition for services to the Fannish Community.

The item passed unanimously. Mr. Cohen again volunteered to act as the instrument for the proposal.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Subject: Motion to require the E-Board to inform the membership of upcoming E-Board meetings.

I move that the E-Board be required to publish the Date Time and Location of all E-Board meetings with the following exceptions:

1-An Emergency meeting where the only topic of discussion is the emergency for which the meeting was called.

2-A closed meeting, where a single, specific, sensitive, subject is to be discussed.

Randall Cohen

Some discussion was held on whether the board had violated the bylaws. The clerk raised Article IV, Section 4.3, paragraph (a). Mr. Cohen countered that Article IV, Section 4.3, paragraph (f) required the meetings to be open unless a for a specifically stated purpose, but allowed that the same section did not require the board to notify the membership.

Pat McCormack offered that the board should not make a habit holding sessions and tell people they could not come. But, additionally, the board should not be required to tell members of all their meetings as their may be instances where the board has to meet quickly, and notification of the membership could be impossible.

The motion was tabled.

Re: E-Board meetings

I have heard that the E-Board looking in to have two E-Board meetings each month. One with the Con Chairs and open to general membership. The other for "General day to day business" (Ed Dooley) and this would be an Executive Session and therefor closed to the general membership.

While I agree that there are times when the E-Board meetings should be closed, such as when they are discussing a single sensitive subject. I do not think the intent of having an Executive Session was to prevent the membership from observing the regular meetings where the day to day business is discussed by the E-Board.

It is specifically stated in the By Laws, section 4.3 paragraph F, "Executive Board meetings are open to all members unless closed by the Board for a specifically stated purpose."

I would also like to remind the President of something he said to me (Randall Cohen), "Arisia doesn't have closed meetings."

With all this in mind, I would like the president to tell the membership what his intended policy concerning E-Board meetings will be.

Joel's answer was basically that the board was looking into holding a second meeting to speed up day to day business.

[Article IV, 4.3 (f) A quorum of the Executive Board is three (3) the officers unless, because of vacancies, fewer than three officers are filled. Executive Board meetings are open to all members unless closed by the Board for a specific stated purpose. Nothing in this subsection shall require the Board to give notice of its meetings to all members.]

## **DURABLE GOODS:**

The treasurer raised the point that line items for durable items should be removed into the Corporate Budget from the Convention's. The reasoning was that as other cons will use durable goods it better serves the corporation to purchase durable items for use for other cons.

Various interpretations of depreciation was raised and



management control. It was moved to refer the entire problem to the budget committee. The motion passed.

#### MEETING DATES:

The membership voted to accept Wednesday, December 14th at UMB at 7:30 pm, Sunday, January 22nd at the Boston Park Plaza at 1 pm, Thursday, February 23rd at UMB at 7:30 pm.

The decision to select more dates was tabled.

Discussion was held on whether or not it was necessary to hold a meeting in January. Randall Cohen stated that if a meeting was not held in January and something came up, the E-Board could always handle it. It was also pointed out that a meeting in January might benefit Arisia '96 in order that they might be able to prepare for BOSKONE with information gleaned from ARISIA '95. It was also felt that if any problem arose at ARISIA '95, a close meeting could deal with any problem.

A brief recess was called at 9:40 pm.

The meeting was called back to order at 10:00 pm.

A point was raised that the decision to ban an individual from ARISIA '95 might not have been executed exactly in the way the membership had charged the Board to do so. While the Board did look into the matter and come to a decision, the individual in question was not given the opportunity to address the membership.

A motion was made to either ratify the decision or to rescind it on the grounds that it was reached improperly. This motion was later tabled.

A counter motion was made that the decision should be held in abeyance until the E-Board completed its task. Yet another motion was made that the issue should be reopened and discussed publicly.

It was felt that the attempts to look into the matter by the E-Board was not settle as individuals were still discussing it. Therefore, the matter should be looked at openly, with adequate care taken to protect the privacy of all individuals involved.

The president moved to suspend the rules so that open conversation could be held. It was later decided amidst the chaos of cross talk that Joel had not suspended the rules.

Discussion was held anyway on how the issue should be handled. It was pointed out that written consent for public disclosures by all parties involved were required before the matter could be discussed.

Another motion was made to decide how the issue should be handled. This was countered that the final decision was ultimately the convention chairman's to ban the individual. The door was left open to allow future ConChairs to allow the individual to attend. It was questioned whether the door was actually left open. The president read part of the letter which A. Joseph Ross had written. It had clearly left the door open.

At various points the president had to remind the membership that we were not a trial, and that we did not have the authority to judge anyone.

The discussion ended with the question of whether it was appropriate for the E-Board to decide the matter or whether it should be decided by the membership.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A request was made to police the area and clean up.

A reminder was issued to the membership that too much "business" was being done via e-mail and that said "business" was going to persons other than just the ARISIA membership. Caution was urged and that no one should be speaking on corporate matters other than the corporate officers.

New member, Aaron Agassi, stated that he wished to make himself available to the membership and talk to them after the meeting.

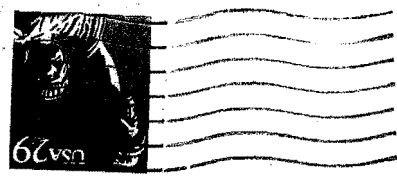
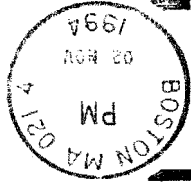
The clerk announced that he had copies of the bylaws and the new corporate directory and roster. He pleaded with the membership to take as many copies as he had more than he could comfortably deal with.

A late call was raised to remind the members to go to NJAC.

[NOTICE: THE NOVEMBER MEETING WILL BE AT UMASS-BOSTON AS THE LOCATION AT BRANDIS WAS NOT CONFIRMED!]

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ARISIA<sup>SM</sup>, Incorporated  
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