



# Mentor

The Newsletter of Arisia, Incorporated — Number 130, April 2004

## Notice

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All general (non-honorary) corporate memberships expire at the end of August. Dues in the amount of \$24 must be paid (or a request for waiver of dues must be submitted to the Executive Board) by the start of the Annual Meeting in order to retain voting rights, or to run for office.

## Minutes of the March Meeting

The March meeting was called to order at MIT at 14:45 on 14 March 2004.

In attendance were:

Alex Latzko, Joel Herda, Carsten Turner, Lisa Hertel, Lis Carey Mike Sprague, Walter Kahn, Jeanne Kahn, Ben Levy, Nichoas Shtectman, Skip Morris, Tom 'Merv' Murphy Rick Kovalcik Craig McDonnough.

We have a new member in the person of Michael Sprague.

The meetings was run under the more or less standing agenda:

### Reports:

**Clerks report:** Mentor is late courtesy of the clerk getting the art show checks out.

Dave Belfer-Shevett gave his proxy to Phi via email.

Question was raised on meeting notice requirements and validity of email. Skip responded with a point of order that the precedent was set E-mail is valid if we have alternate notice for members not on email.

RK also raised a point of order:

### Treasurer's report:

Question about 501C3 status. Phi sent the original letter of grant sent back to IRS to get them to do a fiche search. A new letter of grant was issued. The grant is nominally perpetual.

Question from Merv: Now that we have a valid document, can it be placed on-line in a common format, such as Adobe .PDF – Phi answered in the affirmative.

One other tax related issue is the last time we went to get an ST-2; they gave us one with a 15-year expiration date. Kinko's noted this and they called the state that said it's no longer a valid ST-2. Phi faxed MA a copy of the Fed form, and they sent him a new ST-2, which will also then be put up on the web

**Bank Accounts:** when Phi took office we had a large number of bank accounts. We are now down to three accounts at Fleet bank, which have monthly fees. We are considering move to Wainright bank with has non-profit rates (read no fee). There is a branch near Park Plaza with Saturday hours.

**Cash registers:** we have two, both are broken, one has a missing column in the master tape, (this will get fixed). The other has a design flaw where when the battery dies it loses all programming. A motion to dispose of the big register by was introduced by Phi. Passes by acclamation

Phi will not be running for re-election.

**Vice President.** Not present.

**President** No report

### Database Committee:

Phi. One shot database being developed for the use of programming.

With regard to registration database, as corporate sales officer, Phi has the bulk of data necessary to add to the database already in CSV format. Dave Belfer-Shevette has the info necessary to pull a real snapshot together aside from comp info and sales table stuff from Phi.

Skip: talking to Bryt apparently Stonekeep did not implement all the features or fields from our existing database.

In particular some of the fields, which help us to generate mailing lists. This info exists only in comments or in paper. This needs to be corrected and Stonekeep has volunteered to do so. Couldn't record transfer or cross buy memberships info. A lot was done as comments and will require manual processing to clean up. Non-committal as to whether or not CONGO served our purposes.

Merv. Skip: a data dump exists, in SQL format. Do not yet have a dump in CSV format,

Or we have someone interpret SQL dump and push that back into access database.

Skip will get a copy of the dump to Merv. The Eboard will act.

**Honors committee:** Joel – intends to meet just after Lunacon to come up with its mandate. Carsten has volunteered to be on it. Joel will propose a meeting time to the corporate list

**Hotel Search committee** (Ben Levy) The new convention center hotel will not be completed till spring/summer of 2006. The choices are down to the Park Plaza; Sheraton; Copley Marriott. Skip added that the Boston SF-Film Marathon is also looking to move hotel

Alex asked: What is the radius of search Ben answered: within Greater Boston Visitors Bureau search engine area.

**Long Range Planning committee:**

The text of the LPR proposal was listed in an earlier edition of Mentor, and is repeated here as follows:

Moved to amend the bylaw sections on meetings by:

“The default location will be set for the coming year at the annual meeting after the elections. The default time will be 2:00 PM and the default date the third Sunday of the month. The new default takes place once published

Any exceptions to the defaults should be considered three (3) calendar months in advance. Any meeting may be changed if need be, so long as proper notice is given as defined in section 2.4 of the by-laws”

Submitted: Lisa Hertel, Bridget Boyle, Carsten Turner, Rick Kovalcik, Skip Morris

**Arisia 03**

Skip: no report

Lisa and Merv asked when the books would be closed. Alex answered he is waiting for Phi to get together in person, and then we'll close them.

**Arisia 04**

Carsten – working on sending out checks. Art show checks done

It is the intent of the 04 con chair and treasurer, they be supplied with a copy of their

Books.

**Arisia 05**

Phi for Buzz - Would like it if Lunacon stuff gets to Lunacon. Priority of A05. Should not be held on technicalities.

Registration: Phi has taken on task of getting data for registration into on place. Congo, corporate sales info, comp info, sharing (data) information. DBS has volunteered

That it gets into one big pile of data.

Program database team: Phi, Elaine Rachel Silver, and Connor. For next years programming, events, and publications. Will be used to generate data dumps for things like pocket program.

Question from Merv; Would like DB committee to get results of this scheduling database to fold the info into what the DB committee is doing. Merv volunteers to help, its been something he's been working on/towards for four years.

No AGOH yet, switching from waiting from non-committal GOH to 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. Hope to be able to announce at the LunaCon party.

Potential AGOH may still appear as a special guest, depending on stuff.

Marketing machine rolling.: Rickland Powell is heading it up, with Heather Munn as staff. We throw parties and send out a mass mailer, what else should we be reaching out to. We have website stuff. There is a person doing it, and there is a straw man website under development. Parties are currently scheduled for LunaCon; BaltiCon; Worldcon. There will be presence at ICON. Carsten asked if there was a party planned for Anime Boston, Lisa notes they're sold out.

For Worldcon, suggestions of Themes were discussed. We want to have the biggest party possible. We [ed, this was the Imperial WE] have ambitious plans for it.

Philcon is off the radar at this point. Once of the concepts for WorldCon is to give away tote bags, so we should find them in storage.

Budget process is starting, and should be moving in the next few weeks, but no budget coordinator has been found yet

Rick: To the point of getting materials to LunaCon assistance is requested in loading the truck. --

## Individual reports;

Corporate inventory. Skip reporting. In trying to get a proper inventory for LunaCon he discovered we are missing pipe and bases as listed below. In a lighter vein Skip found the old banner. We sent to Arisia 4 metal bases, 4 uprights 3 cross pieces and black drape. Near as Skip can tell, Kenny doesn't remember loading the pipe/bases at the end of the con. They were probably left at Con. Mail sent to person who set it up. Skip will go to Park Plaza and look for 250 lbs of bases and pipes.

If we can't locate it the replacement cost is \$600. We've made money with it. It's planned to be used at Lunacon this year.

Do we want to spring for more this week: Shipping equals cost, they are non-returnable.

Can they be rented, yes, @ 25% of purchase price. Discussion. If we buy more, it's likely other cons will rent the extra or buy it outright from us. How long did it take to pay for the existing equipment? Skip estimates a rental rate of \$350 commercial rental, 200 fannish rental rate. [ED. The missing hardware was found eventually]

Skip noted on a whimsical point largest con attended run by a non-profit 1-22 march, Attendance 1.3 million, 16k volunteers. It's the largest RODEO in Texas and occupies the entire Reliant Center.

Other notes of individual standing, a request was made to identify the corporate sys admin, and he was identified as Chris Schuldner

## Old business.

Long Range Planning Committee doc will be published in Mentor as it exists [see above]/.

Lunacon – the truck needs to go. There are flyers, which will go to Lunacon. The theme of the party will be savory.

From Lisa Hertel: Regarding the Tim Powers book: Has Joel gotten letter or e-mail explaining what has happened with it? There was a printing error, and NESFA will exchange these books in perpetuity. NESFA has stopped all sales of first edition.

Skip requests an errata sheet be published for those who wish not to exchange their potentially autographed copy. The con chair officially requests that Lisa Hertel make a good faith effort to provide an Adobe .PDF of the missing paragraph(s) so that people who do not wish to turn in their first printing (to read it now etc). This will be posted to the website.

Skip: Move to retain our existing stock and authorize and purchase of an equal number of copies of the new printing when they are available. Carsten seconds. Discussion ensued as follows:

Phi: we need to keep archive copies. We will not be selling our archive copies. We would like to give away some of copies at N4 as door prizes; they need to be corrected versions. Perhaps buy a few more to archive both printings. We would need to purchase extras in any case.

Rick - assumes Phi was arguing against the motion.

Merv - we should keep 2 for archive, and get 2 fixed for the archive. Sell off the rest of the stock.

Ben, are they re-printing the dust cover – RK – yes

Walter, its important we don't see defective copies. In the future we may want to work with NESFA in the future.

Rick provided a motion to call the question

Merv notes. Would like to not piss NESFA off over this one.

Skips motion fails

Rick then proposed an alternate motion: Instruct the corporation to agree to NESFA's request to exchange all but two copies of the book for archive. Carries by unanimous hand vote.

DATABASE:

Discussion of database was performed after the Chair directed the meeting to be a committee of the whole. No notes were taken of the discussions. The following is the outcome of the discussion.

Motion: Move to direct the executive board to communicate with Stonekeep Consulting to fulfill post con obligations per the MOU. Communications will include notice of future course of action; communications will specify a timetable, format of data to be returned and any other deliverables per MOU.

The Eboard is directed to update the corporation via e-mail, by 31 March 2004.

The Arisia 2004 treasurer is directed to withhold payments to Stonekeep until otherwise directed by the e-board.

The question was called and a vote taken by show of hands: Motion carries 9 in favor, none opposed.

PIPE and DRAPE. Pending research Skip is requesting authorization to spend \$750 to replace the missing pipe and stands Carsten seconds.

Phi comments: He doesn't believe Arisia should act as a rental house; we should not tie up our money in capital purchases for this purpose.

Rick comments: Its paying for itself in two years, anything above that is gravy, we need to find other sources of funds. Stan calls, Merv second. Carries 10 to 0.

ARTISTS CHECKS: Ben proposes the following: Starting with Arisia 2005 the convention treasurer is directed to make the first order of business after the convention is to issue checks to Arisia artists.

Joel commented: It would be good to have a timetable after the convention in general. Motion ruled out of order by the chair, and tabled till next meeting.

## Future meetings:

Motion to move the meeting in May to start at 16:00. Dinner afterwards. Lisa/Merv seconded. Call the question. Passed by acclamation

**April Corporate Meeting** 20 April 2004 at the home of Rick Kovalcik. Dinner at 19:00 Meeign at 20:00. Rick Kovalcik and Susan Mozzicato

19 Chesley Road, Newton Centre, MA 02459-1903  
1-617-244-4560 (home)  
1-508-259-6819 (cell)

rk@mit.edu et. al.

By car, take the Mass Pike to exit 17 (Newton Corner). Follow signs to Newton Centre which will put you on Centre St. (When coming off the Mass Pike heading east from route 128, stay to the right. Centre St. will be the first street on the right. When coming off the Pike heading west from Boston, go 3/4 of the way around the "circle" around the hotel over the Pike.) Continue on Centre St. for 2 miles to Newton Centre. Immediately after the large parking lot on left, turn left onto Beacon St.

\*Go 2 blocks and turn left onto Chesley Rd. just after Murray's Liquors and Motophoto on the left. If you pass a Gulf Station, US Post Office, and West Coast Video on the right, you have gone too far. Our house, a gray colonial with white and red trim, is the fourth house on the left. You must park on the right hand side of the street facing in the direction of travel OR YOU MAY BE TICKETED. Alternatively, you may park in the driveway to the right of the house as you are facing it.

Or, take Route 9 to Centre St. Take Centre St. 1 mile to Newton Centre. Immediately after yield / merge and before the large parking lot, turn right onto Beacon St. Continue from "\*" above.

By MBTA, take the Riverside (D) Branch of the Green Line to the Newton Centre stop. Go upstairs and turn right onto Union St. Go 3 blocks crossing Langley Rd. and Beacon St. Union St. turns into Chesley Rd.

Our house, a gray colonial with white and red trim, is the fourth house on the left after crossing Beacon St.

**May Corporate Meeting:** 23 May 2004 at 16:00 at the Lazy-Booklet Inn.

**June Corporate Meeting,** 29 June 2004 at 20:00 at the home of Skip Morris.

Tuesday evening 29 June Skips Place with dinner at 19:00 meeting at 20:00 Proposed by Skip, Carsten seconded. Passed by acclamation.

A representative of Lunacon in the Skip Morris has requested Arisia loan certain convention related chattels to LunaCon. This was referred to the Eboard.

Move to adjourn at 17:50

## Membership/Subscription Information

Subscription to *Mentor of Arisia* is included with Corporate Membership to Arisia, Incorporated. Membership runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> and costs \$24. Dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for members joining during the year.

	May	\$08
	June	\$06
	July	\$04
	August	\$02

## Executive Board

<b>President</b> Joel Herda 17 Heath St, Apt 3 Somerville MA 02145 president@arisia.org	<b>Arisia 2003 Conchair</b> Skip Morris PO Box 542 Merrymack, NH 03054-0542 conchair@arisia.org
<b>Vice President</b> Noel Rosenberg PO Box 464 Chelmsford MA 01824-0464 vp@arisia.org	<b>Arisia 2003 Treasurer</b> Alex Latzko 82 Cliff Rd Milton MA 02186 treasury@arisia.org
<b>Treasurer</b> Nicholas Sheckman 75 Lexington Avenue Somerville MA 02144 treasurer@arisia.org	<b>Arisia 2004 Conchair</b> Carsten Turner  conchair@arisia.org
<b>Clerk</b> Alex Latzko 82 Cliff Road Milton, MA 02186-1750 clerk@arisia.org	<b>Arisia 2004 Treasurer</b> Patrick McCormick

<b>Budget Committee</b> Nicholas Sheckman (chair) Alex Latzko	<b>Long Range Planning Committee</b> Bridget Boyle (chair) Lisa Hertel Rick Kovalcik
<b>Corporate Inventory Control</b> Skip Morris	<b>Corporate Sales Officer</b> Nicholas Sheckman
<b>Corporate Systems Administrator</b> Cris Shuldiner	<b>Survey Committee</b> Claudia Mastroianni
<b>Gaming Convention Exploratory Committee</b> (vacant)	<b>Technical Equipment Committee</b> Joel Herda (chair) Liz Orenstein

## Storage Facility Key Holders

Joel Herda
Noel Rosenberg
Nicholas Sheckman
Paul Selkirk
Skip Morris
Carsten Turner
Rick Kovalcik
Cris Shuldiner
Bryttan Bradley
Steve Huff
Lisa Hertel

## Committee Members & Corporate Appointed Officers

<b>Grant Committee</b> Noel Rosenberg (chair) Claudia Mastroianni Walter Kahn	<b>Database Committee</b> Tom Murphy (chair) Michelle McGuire Tom Murphy Paul Selkirk Cris Shuldiner
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**Times & Places:**

**April Corporate Meeting** 20 April 2004 at the home of Rick Kovalcik. Dinner at 19:00 Meeign at 20:00.

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**Anime Boston,** 4/9-11, Boston Park Plaza, Boston MA  
([www.animeboston.org](http://www.animeboston.org))

Balticon 5-28-31 Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor  
([www.balticon.org](http://www.balticon.org))

**Noreascon 4,** 9/2-6, Hynes Convention Center, Boston MA  
([www.noreascon.org](http://www.noreascon.org))

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