

WESTERCON 67
1
PROGRESS REPORT

WELCOME

Fabulous
VEGAS



Mike
Walters



Lubov

Internationally known fantasy artist
and Westercon 61 Art Guest of Honor



Lubov's art transforms impossible dreams into worlds of unusual perception and belief. Images that are inspired by the beauty of the surroundings and carried into the world of imagination.

www.LUBOV.net

You'll Be Diving Into Fannish Fun At...

Westercon

L A S V E G A S **61** 2008

July 3 through 6, 2008

JW Marriott Resort & Spa

221 N. Rampart Blvd. • Las Vegas, NV 89148

www.jwlasvegasresort.com

Guests

Writer Guest of Honor

Kage Baker

Artist Guest of Honor

Lubov

Fan Guest of Honor

Milt Stevens

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Writer Guest of Honor *Kage Baker*



Kage Baker was born in Hollywood and presently resides in Pismo Beach, CA. She is best known for her novels of the time-traveling immortals of the Company, whose series concludes with *THE SONS OF HEAVEN*, published this July. She is currently working on a fantasy novel, *THE HOUSE OF THE STAG*.

Website: www.kagebaker.com





Pic by: Alan White

Art Quest of Honor

Lubov

Lubov was born in St. Petersburg, Russia in the former Soviet Union. Anxious for cultural and political freedom, Lubov immigrated to the United States. This move caused her to adapt to a culture very different than the one she had known. Although she has very few good memories of her youth while in Russia and of her move to the US, her early adversities forged a great strength of character that would benefit her for the rest of her life. It is this strength of character and her tenacious hold on truth that abounds in her art.

Perhaps oddly, it is the art of the fantastic - fantasy, phantasmagoric - that draws Lubov's imagination and her skills as an artist. Her work has its own voice. It stands outside the cacophony of commercial art, the core purpose of which always will be to sell you something you don't necessarily need. Lubov studied art at the Chicago Art Institute, one of the most prestigious schools in the country, but she maintains that her true knowledge of art - her sense and sensibility - comes via her own studies. Lubov's work is singular in both imagination and execution. There is technical mastery in her work; mastery in the sense of the old masters. Lubov's art is a return to the pre-Raphaelites' storied imagination, a thesis of art that resonates for Lubov. (Lubov's artistic inspirations include Adolphe-William Bouguerau, John W. Waterhouse, Maxfield Parrish, Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, Victor Mikailovich Vasnetsov, Arkhip Kuinji, Alphonse Mucha, and Rembrandt.) Lubov paints with oils, the most difficult painting medium of all. The technique itself is six hundred years old and nothing since devised can match the sheer power of this very human mode of expression when handled by such an expert.

Art never was about mere self-expression; it is all about emotion. Art is the expression of the universal self; the human experience to which each person can relate. Of course, there exist many levels to art - its context, sub-text, and hidden text, or message - but if art requires explanation then it has failed. Lubov shows us, the appreciators of her art, understanding and appreciation by using the story of her painting and the wizardry of her technique. There exists in her work that indefinable something that conveys simultaneously both perfect innocence and vast wisdom. These rather contradictory qualities are found in the artist herself. Lubov is young and old; wise beyond her years.

To view her work in the proper manner, it might be simplest to think of her as a classical painter exploring the human condition through the scrim of the fantastic. Though still young, Lubov has the certain potential to become a master in the classic sense. It is your opportunity to enjoy, appreciate, and even collect Lubov's work now, before the world's great museums recognize her magnificent talent.

Fan Quest of Honor

Milt Stevens



Pic by: Alan White

Milt Stevens dates his time in fandom from joining LASFS (Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society) in June 1960. This was the week after he graduated from high school. During most of the fifties, he had been reading the fan columns which appeared in the prozines of the time, so he knew quite a bit about fandom before contacting it. In November 1955, he had decided he wanted to own all the science fiction in the world. This malady is known as completist collecting. He made a partial recovery in a couple of years. In 1958, he decided he wanted to spend some money on dating girls, and could probably survive while only owning most of the science fiction in the world.

Over the years, Milt has worked on a whole bunch of conventions. He was chairman of the first Loscon in 1975, the 1980 Westercon, and co-chairman of the 1984 worldcon, L.A.con II. After chairing a worldcon, he got divorced and took an extended vacation from running conventions. By the late nineties, he started getting involved again. For the 2006 worldcon, L.A.con IV, he did the progress reports before the convention and ran the fanzine lounge during the convention. He will also be doing the program for the 2007 Loscon.

Milt has been the official editor of FAPA (Fantasy Amateur Press Association) for the past four years and a member on and off since 1972. FAPA is the oldest amateur press association (apa) in the science fiction field having been founded by Don Wollheim and John B. Michel in 1937. Over the years, just about everybody in the known universe has been a member of FAPA at one time or another. Of course, some people who didn't even exist were also members, but that's a different issue. In addition to FAPA, Milt has been involved in fanzines in all sorts of ways. In 1964, a weekly apa called Apa L was founded at the LASFS. It's still running after more than two thousand weeks. He started contributing with Apa L #11 and hit approximately 150 distributions over the next few years. He also joined SAPS (Spectator Amateur Press Society), SFPA (Southern Fandom Press Association), TAPS (Terrean Amateur Press Society, so named because Arnie Katz didn't know how to spell Terran at the time), and *The Cult* (you must submit a letter from your parents before we can explain *The Cult* to you.) Along with all the apas, he also writes lots and lots of letters to general circulation fanzines.

LASFS membership specifies that Death Does Not Release You. Milt has never tried dying, so he can't comment on the absolute accuracy of that rule. However, he is still a pretty much active member of the club. For the last year, he has been the editor of De Profundis, the LASFS monthly newszine. In the past, he was on the Board of Directors for twelve years and Chairman of the Board for seven. He was also President for a year and Grand High Janitor for a couple of years. Those of you who haven't been attending conventions for very long may wonder about their purpose. The true purpose of convening is to Hang Out. Once you accept that purpose, you can continue convening for a very long time. Milt plans on Hanging Out at this convention. Go thou and do likewise.

The Hotel

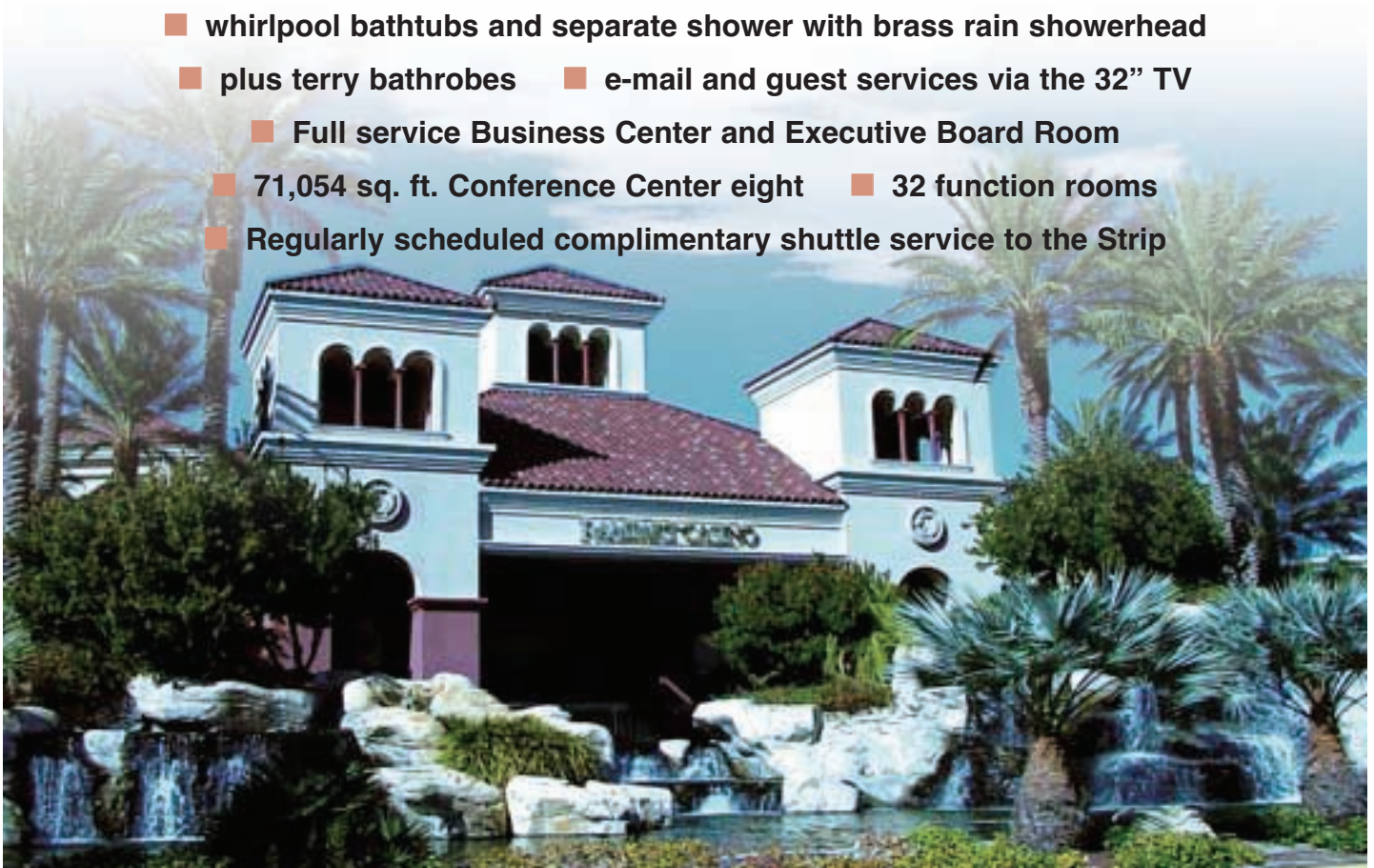
J. W. Marriott Resort

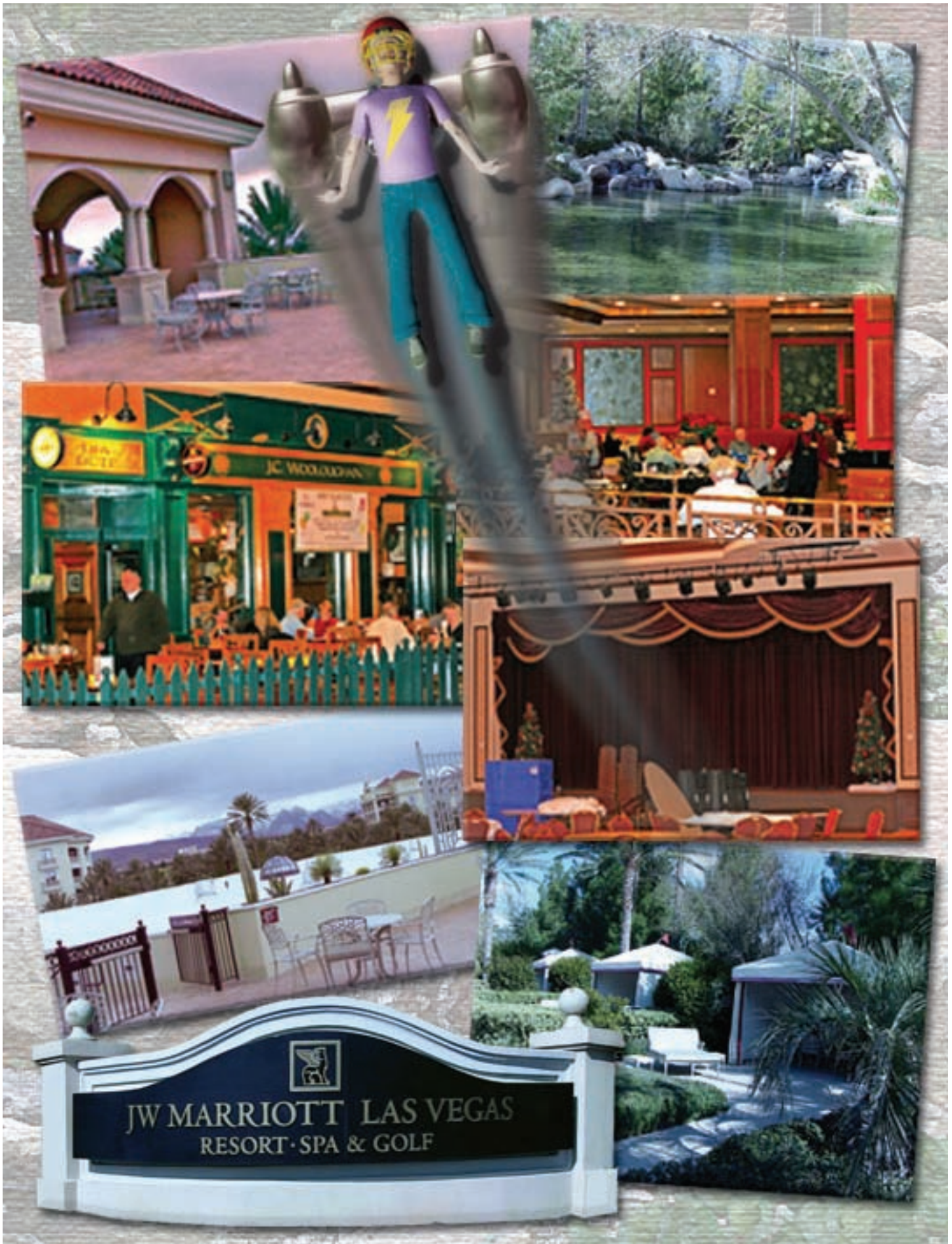
Nestled in the hills overlooking fabulous Las Vegas is the incomparable J.W. Marriott Resort. You'll enjoy a truly resort-style convention experience in the world-class convention areas, restaurants and spa facilities. Wander among the ponds and waterfalls that surround the property; bask in the Vegas "Dry Heat" while soaking in the enormous pool with secluded Jacuzzis, private cabañas, caves and waterfalls.

Westercon 61 will be a convention you will never forget!

The J.W. Marriott features:

- 548 luxurious guestrooms from 560 sq. ft. ■ private safe ■ walk-in closets
- 72 luxury guest suites from 800 sq. ft. - 2,200 sq. ft. ■ 24-hour room service
- 24 hour concierge service and valet parking ■ Hertz Car Rental service
- refrigerator-cooler, coffee maker, iron and ironing board
- dual-line telephones for modem or fax at desk and bed,
high speed internet, with personalized voicemail
- whirlpool bathtubs and separate shower with brass rain showerhead
- plus terry bathrobes ■ e-mail and guest services via the 32" TV
- Full service Business Center and Executive Board Room
- 71,054 sq. ft. Conference Center eight ■ 32 function rooms
- Regularly scheduled complimentary shuttle service to the Strip





Leisure...

**All con and no play
make Jack a dull fan.**

Sure, you're here for the convention; but when in Rome (or Las Vegas), you'll not find a more sumptuously appointed spot than the JW Marriot. Take a moment to recharge the warp drive.



AQUAE SULIS Spa and Salon

- 40,000 sq. ft. spa with 36 treatment rooms offering a full range of treatments
- Full service salon featuring hair styling, pedicure and manicure services
 - Whirlpools, steam saunas, hydrotherapy pool, bathing chambers, Watsu tubs, waterfall showers
- 11,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art fitness center ■ Aque Sulis Essentials Spa Boutiquier
- 2,000 sq. ft. Motion Studio housing aerobic, Pilates, and yoga classes

REFUEL



- **Ceres:**
B/L/D with waterfall and garden views
- **J.C. Wooloughan:**
Authentic Irish Pub serving traditional fare and Irish beers. Live Irish music Friday nights.
- **Shizen:**
Japanese cuisine, sushi and teppanyaki.
- **Spiedini Ristorante:**
Milanese and urban Italian cuisine in a chic setting.

- **Plush Lounge:**
High energy night club with live entertainment.
- **Waterside Cafe:**
Poolside beverages, light lunch and snack service.
- **Starbuck's**
Gourmet Coffee House.
- **Rampart Buffet:**
Lunch, dinner and Sunday Brunch.
- **The Carmel Room:**
Upscale Contentail dining.
- **Promenade Cafe:**
24 hour salads, appetizers, burgers, entrées and desserts.
- **Gustav Mauler's**
Gourmet Tobaccos and Lounge.

Westercon Founding Fathers

Walt Daugherty

1916-2007



Forry, Verne Langdon and Don Post
torment the photographer

So it's been said Burbee and Laney belabored the young Walt for his grandiose fannish plans that never came to fruition. And yet, here we are celebrating Westercon 61, the brainchild of First Fandomite, Walter J. "Doc" Daugherty.

Since September of 1948, Westercon has been a fannish tradition that sees no sign of slowing down.

I met Walt in 1963 by way of Dr. Donald A. Reed's "Count Dracula Society" where we both held some office or another and it was easy to see he was by anyone's measure, a renaissance man. We spent many afternoons at the L.A. Photo Center, Milt Larsen's Magic Castle and conventions where he would display his collection of genre photographs in his "Watch the Vulture" photo exhibit.

Being, of course, a charter member of LASFS ([Los Angeles, Science Fantasy Society](#)), Guest of Honor at many conventions, received many awards and with the help of Forry Ackerman, created the "Evans-Freehafer Big Heart Award" award.

Having an interest in things of antiquity, he was an endless source of knowledge of Egyptology, particularly dealing with King Tut. He also took several trips into jungles of South America exploring the pyramids of ancient civilizations.

His interests spanned tropical fish (where he was presented several "Article of the Year" Awards, and in 2002 was honored to receive the prestigious Gene Lucas Award in recognition of his years of service to IBC.), stamp collecting, parakeets, aquariums, auto racing, gardening, model building, to a lightning Quick Draw (22/100ths of a second),

As a professional ballroom dancer, he won well over 600 awards, including the world championship in New York's "Harvest Moon" competition (film of him dancing appears in four different M*A*S*H episodes). He won his first dance contest at age 9 and his last at 71.

While not hoofing, he also dabbled as a private detective, photography instructor, motion picture stand-in and stuntman (among others for Red Skelton, Robert Hutton, even Cary Grant). When he retired from the City of Los Angeles, he still held two positions, Curator of the Hollywood Museum (which was never opened to the public) and Photography Instructor at the Los Angeles Photo Center.

In remembrance of our founding father, thanks to Mary Ellen Daugherty and Mistress of the Con Suite Lorie Forbes we will be assembling a tribute to Walt in the Westercon 61 Con Suite, open to all members of the convention.



Robert Bloch chats with Walt
at Worldcon 1968

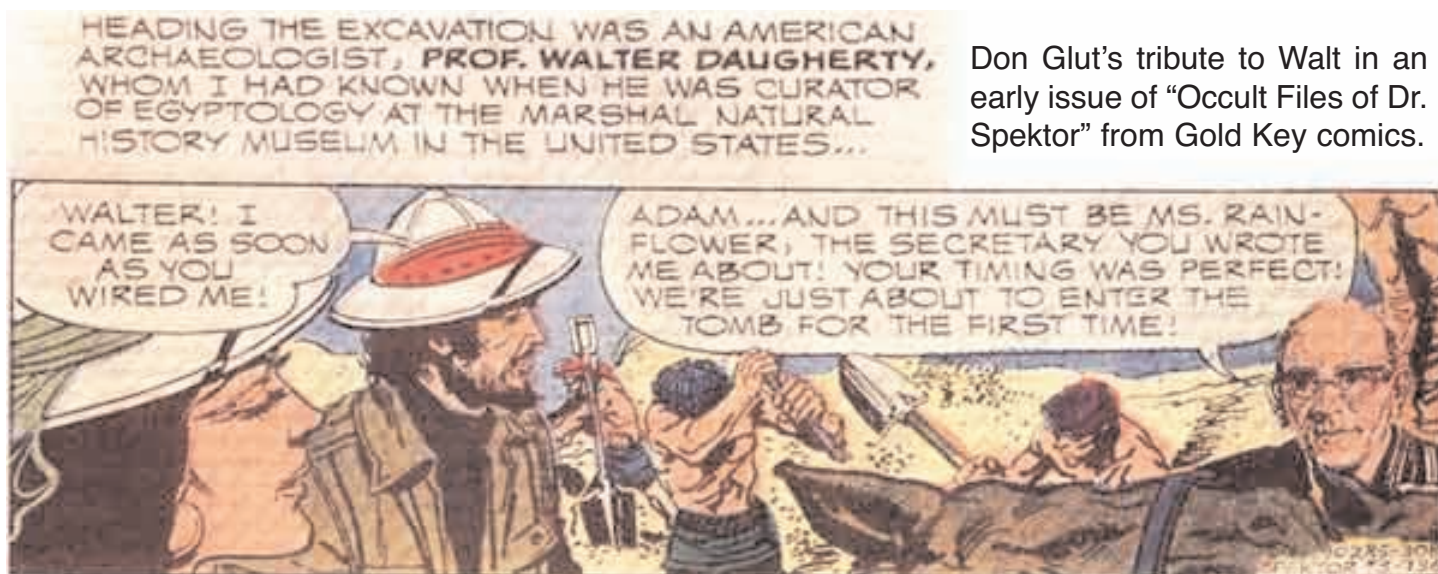


"Heads I win" says Walt to
Fritz Leiber, hamming it up.

"I think Walt has kind of a world record for being a hobbyist; he has something like 52 major hobbies. He retired, I think in 1946 as the dance champion of America, in waltz I believe, and he's very knowledgeable about Egypt. He did fanzines in his day, and in 1941, at the world convention, he was the first person to record speeches, in particular Heinlein's "Discovery of the Future" talk, as it was called."

— Forry Ackerman





Don Glut's tribute to Walt in an early issue of "Occult Files of Dr. Spektor" from Gold Key comics.

A Few Words about Walt and Westercons:

[SFWA](#) | [Santa Maria Times](#) | [Wikipedia](#) | [History of Westercon](#) | [Living Jewels](#)



Pic: Alan White

Walt, "Watching the Vulture" at Westercon 22, 1969



Pic: Richard Harmatz, L.A. Times

Myself, Forry, Walt and Karl Freund, Universal Studios, 1968



Pic: Alan White

Walt, Dr. Donald A. Reed and Ray Harryhausen at the Bela Lugosi Estate



Walt Captures Gordon R. Guy dealt a nasty blow by shovelman, Fritz Leiber.



Junior Space Ranger



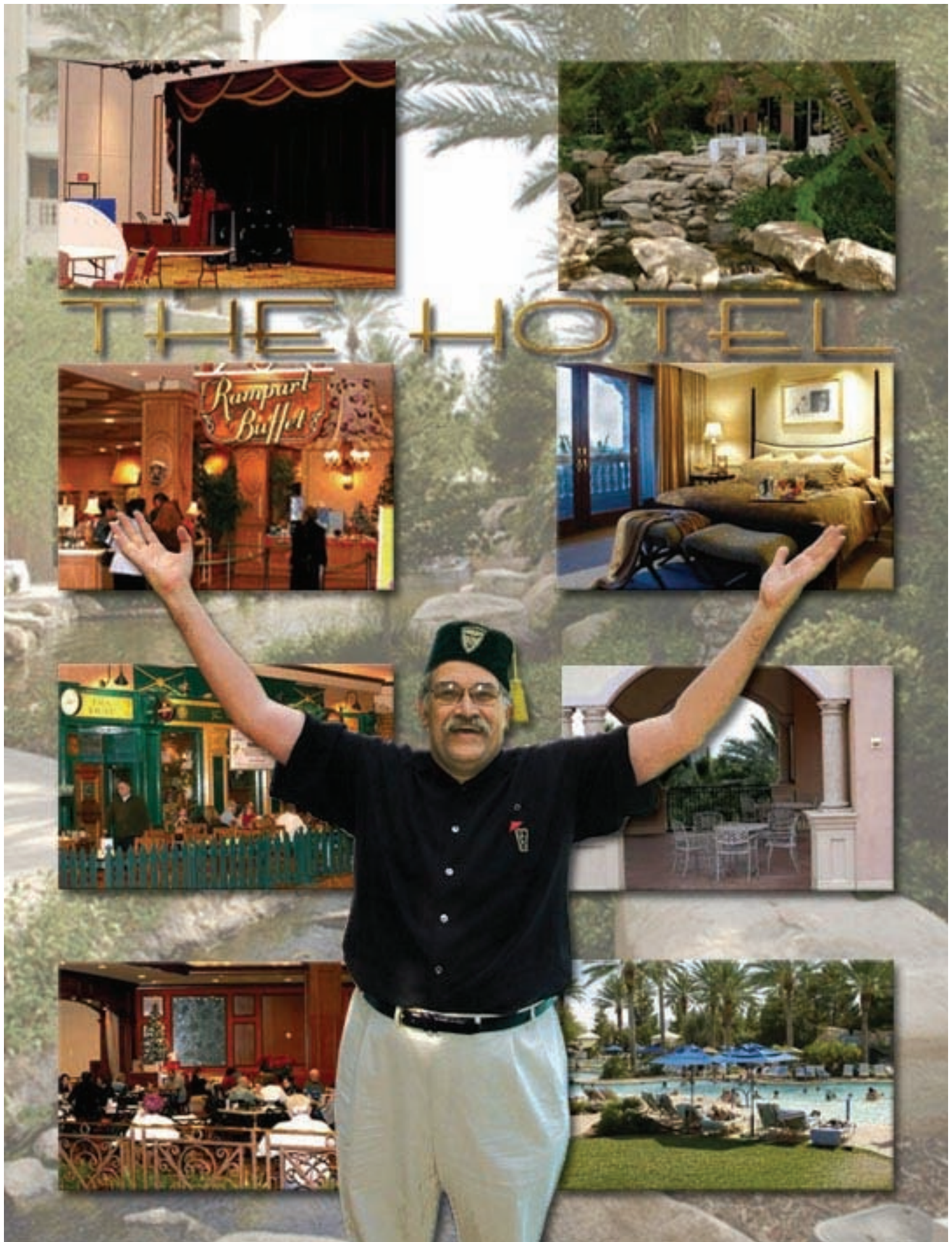
Pic: J. Edward Field

Walt and Sir Alvin Garmeshausen at Eighth Count Dracula Awards Ceremony, 1970



Pic: J. Edward Field

Receiving honorary doctorate from St. Andrews University by Bishop King. 1970





Howdy Pardner, reckon' most of ya'll be comin' from lesser parts.

To bring you up to speed on "The Silver State", here's a few links you might find dad-gum interestin'.

[History of Nevada](#) | [Nevada History in Maps](#) | [Wikipedia History of Nevada](#)



Nevada's state flag has changed 3 times in the past. The body of the flag must be of solid cobalt blue. On the field in the upper left quarter thereof must be two sprays of sagebrush with the stems crossed at the bottom to form a half wreath. Within the sprays must be a five-pointed silver star with one point up. The word "Nevada" must also be inscribed below the star and above the sprays, in a semicircular pattern with the letters spaced apart in equal increments, in the same style of letters as the words "Battle Born". Above the wreath, and touching the tips thereof, must be a scroll bearing the words "Battle Born." The scroll and the word "Nevada"

must be golden-yellow. The lettering on the scroll must be black-colored sans serif gothic capital letters.

The Desert Bighorn Sheep is Nevada's state animal. It is a beautiful animal and well-suited for Nevada's mountainous desert country because it can survive for long periods without water. It is smaller than its Rocky Mountain cousin but has a wider spread of horns. The large rams stand about 4 1/2 feet tall and can weigh as much as 175 pounds.



The Mountain Blue Bird is Nevada's state bird. It lives in the Nevada high country and destroys many harmful insects. It is a member of the thrush family and its song is a clear, short warble like the caroling of a robin. The male is azure blue with a white belly, while the female is brown with a bluish rump, tail, and wings.

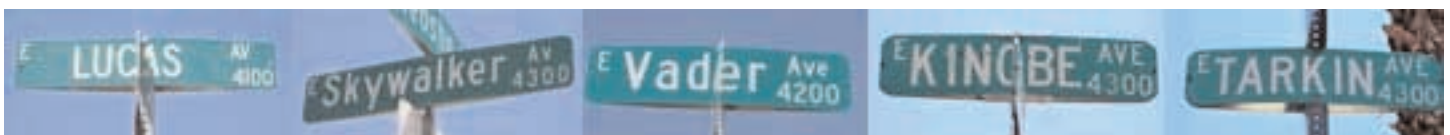


The Lahontan Cutthroat Trout is Nevada's state fish. A native trout found in 14 of the state's 17 counties, is adapted to habitats ranging from high mountain creeks and alpine lakes to warm, intermittent lowland streams and alkaline lakes where no other trout can live. The biggest Cutthroat ever caught in Nevada's Pyramid Lake was 3 feet long and weighed 41 pounds.



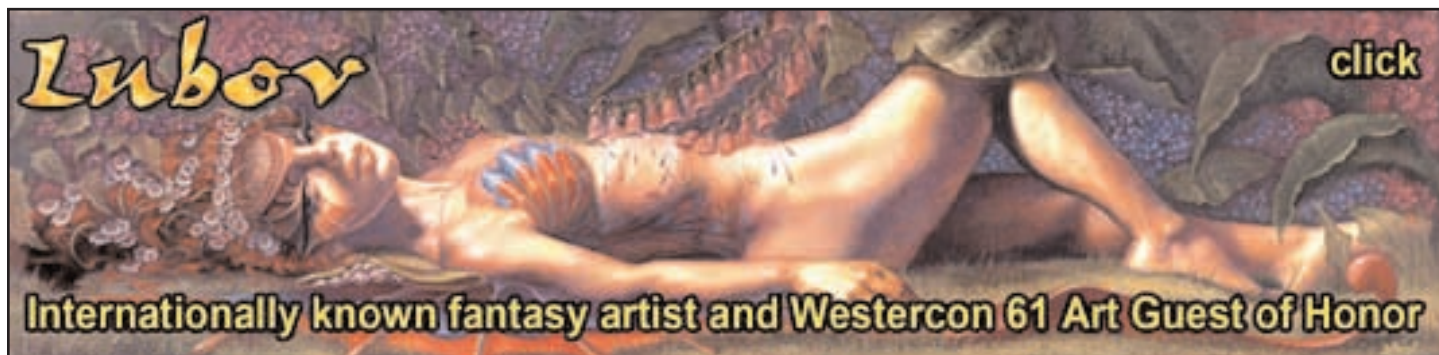
Nevada's State Flower is Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*). It has small yellow and white flowers in the spring grow abundantly in the deserts of the Western United States. A member of the wormwood family, sagebrush is a branching bush (1 to 12 feet high) and grows in regions where other kinds of vegetation cannot subsist. Known for its pleasant aroma, its gray-green twigs, and pale yellow flowers, sagebrush is an important winter food for sheep and cattle. Native Americans used sagebrush leaves as medicine and sagebrush bark for weaving mats. 1959 *Artemisia tridentata* or *trifida*. Yes, a real Triffid.

Ichthyosaur became a state symbol in 1977 as the state fossil. It was found in Berlin, east of Gabbs. Nevada is the only state to possess a complete skeleton (approximately 55 feet long) of this extinct marine reptile.



SEEN AROUND LAS VEGAS

It's true. . . In 1977 when Star Wars first hit the screen, a newly created neighborhood was given Star Warsian street names.



How to get here:

Fifteen minutes northwest of the Las Vegas Strip in the affluent master-planned golf community of Summerlin. Just 20 minutes from McCarran International Airport. From McCarran International Airport, take Interstate 15 North to I-95 North. Exit Summerlin Parkway. Take Rampart exit and make a left, turn right at the resort. [Mapquest link](#).

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Westercon 61 Membership

Las Vegas • July 3 through 6 • 2008

Supporting Membership: \$30.00 • Attending Membership: \$60

(through Corflu April 28)

Member Name #1: _____

Member Name #2: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Make Check or Money Order Payable to:

Conventional Wisdom and mail to:

Elayne Pelz

15931 Kalisher St. Granada Hills

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Total Enclosed:

\$ _____

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