

Albacon 2001

Progress Report #1

July 1, 2001

Guest of Honor

Larry Niven

Artist Guests of Honor

Bob Eggleton and Marianne Plumridge

Fan Guests of Honor

Bonnie and Ted Atwood

October 6-8, 2001

Albacon Returns to the Ramada

Albacon is once again returning to the Ramada Inn and Convention Center in Schenectady, NY. This year we have some competition for hotel rooms in Schenectady. Union College, located within walking distance of the Ramada, is holding Parent's Weekend the same weekend as Albacon. Because of this our room block closes earlier than usual, on **September 7**, so make your reservations as soon as possible. We expect that once our room block closes, the hotel will rapidly sell out, and all other hotels in Schenectady will be booked solid as well. To make reservations, call the Ramada at 1-518-370-7151. If you have any problems (such as, are told the Albacon room block is already full), ask for the Sales Office. They are aware of the situation and will work it out for you.

Albacon 2001 Progress Report #1

If you still have problems, email the Albacon committee at

committee@albacon.org

and we will help you out.

Hotel Room Rates



Single	\$80 / night
Double	\$85 / night
Triple	\$85 / night
Quad	\$85 / night
Suite*	\$100 / night

*Suites must be booked through the Albacon committee, email

committee@albacon.org.

Thursday Non-Banquet

Albacon's Guests of Honor typically arrive the Thursday before the convention. Thursday evening a combination Art Show setup and pizza party is held at the hotel.

This is a great opportunity to meet the people who bring you Albacon, as well as to spend some time with

the Guests in a very low key environment.

Friday Evening Events

This year, there are two major events scheduled for Friday evening at Albacon.

One of Albacon's most popular events, the **Ice Cream Social** kicks off Friday night. Mingle with Albacon's guests while enjoying some frozen treats.

Following the Ice Cream Social will be a new event for Albacon, a **Regency Dance**. No experience necessary as Susan DeGuardiola leads you through a number of formal dances. A great event to just sit by the sidelines and watch as well.

Membership Information

If the mailing label on this Progress Report says Full Member or Gaming Member in the upper right corner, then the addressee already has a membership of that type to Albacon 2001. If there is no indication on the mailing label, then you still need to register. The current

Albacon 2001 Progress Report #1

membership rate is \$33, memberships must be post-marked by September 10. Following September 10 the rate will be the at the door rate of \$45.

Memberships may be purchased from Albacon committee members at other conventions. Albacon will be represented by Joe Berlant in the Dealer's room at both Readercon and The Millennium Philcon. Readercon will be July 13-15 in Burlington, MA. The Millennium Philcon is the 59th World Science Fiction Convention and will be held August 30th through September 3 (Labor Day weekend) in Philadelphia, PA. Stop by Joe's table and pickup an Albacon 2001 membership for \$30 [you might want to buy a book or two from Joe as well].

To register for Albacon by mail, send your name, address, email address, and badge name to:

Albacon 2001
P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA.

Payment should be via check or money order. Multiple memberships may be mailed in one envelope.

Albacon has a policy of offering free memberships to Full Members of SFWA, GOH or Chairs of any past Worldcon, anyone who attended Albacon in Scotland earlier this year, or anyone with a valid non-North American passport. Do you know anyone who qualifies for a free membership?

Registration Numbers



As of July 1, 2001 there are 103 people registered to attend Albacon 2001. This is substantially greater than last year at this time, and comparable to 1998, where there were 357 attendees at the convention.

Albacon 2001 Progress Report #1

Albacon and LASTSFA Logo Contest

LASTSFA, the Latham Albany Schenectady Troy Science Fiction Association and the parent organization of Albacon, has decided to establish graphic logos for both the club and the Albacon convention.

There will be two different logos to reflect the different focus of the two. Logos need to evoke a sense of adventure, an eagerness to stretch ourselves, and expand our minds. The variety of the genre should be well represented; a logo focused on one facet of Science Fiction or Fantasy would be inappropriate. The logos need not include the names LASTSFA or Albacon, but they may.

LASTSFA

LASTSFA is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting Science Fiction and Literacy in the Capital District region of New York State. This is accomplished through the annual convention (Alba-

con), discussion groups, signings, and other events throughout the year.

Albacon

Albacon is the small annual regional convention held by LASTSFA. It strives to provide a high quality experience for both guests and attending members. Almost all of the interests of the Science Fiction / Fantasy community are represented, including literature, gaming, art, film and other media among others.

Preliminary Details

The contest will conclude at Albacon 2001, at which time the winners will be chosen. LASTSFA reserves the right to choose winners for both, either, or neither of the LASTSFA or Albacon logos.

Artwork submitted must be original. Rights to the winning artwork will belong to LASTSFA, the original may be returned to the artist after being scanned, if requested. Electronic submissions are acceptable, but physical artwork should be submitted as well. Physical

Albacon 2001 Progress Report #1

submissions should be a minimum of 5" x 7" to a maximum of 8" x 10". Either landscape or portrait orientation is acceptable. A specific aspect ratio is not required, as long as the criteria for scaling described below are met.

The winning artists will receive full credit for the work whenever published or displayed, as well as free membership for Albacon 2002.

The winning artwork will be used on all LASTSFA or Albacon promotional materials, including, but not limited to, web sites, flyers, progress reports, event calendars, T-shirts, bookbags, and any other form used to promote the organization and events. To that end, artwork should reproduce well in black and white, spot color (one color plus black), or full color. Artwork should be recognizable when scaled down to about 2" high yet still look good at a scale 5 times that.

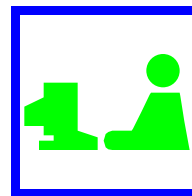
All entries must be received by Albacon Publi-

cations staff by 6pm on Friday, October 5, 2001. All of the entries will be displayed in the Art Show at Albacon 2001. There will be information concerning where to drop off entries at Albacon Registration desk. Request instructions for mailing entries, either via email to committee@albacon.org or US Mail to

Albacon 2001
P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA

Additional details will be published in Progress Report #2 and on the Albacon web site by September 1.

Web site

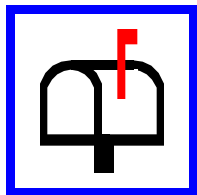


Albacon maintains an Internet Web site for the dissemination of information. The most current information is always posted on this site. The URL is

<http://www.albacon.org/>

Albacon 2001 Progress Report #1

Contact Information



The Albacon 2001 committee may be reached by email at

committee@albacon.org

or via US Mail at:

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P.O. Box 2085
Albany, NY 12220-0085
USA

Any case where emailing the committee is referenced, you may use US Mail to the above address if you do not have, or care not to use, email. The advantage of email is much faster delivery of messages.

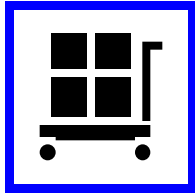
Program Participants

The following are currently scheduled program participants:

- Larry Niven
- Bob Eggleton
- Marianne Plumridge
- Ted Atwood
- Bonnie Atwood
- Sherry Briggs
- Christine Bunt
- D. Cameron Calkins
- Hal Clement
- Carolyn Clink
- Susan DeGuardiola
- Esther Friesner
- Jael
- Chuck Lang
- Mary Soon Lee
- Sharon Lee
- Paul Levinson
- Ernest Lilley
- Charles G. McGraw
- Karen Michalson
- Steve Miller
- Chuck Rothman
- Don Sakers
- Rob Sawyer
- Josepha Sherman
- Wendy Snow-Lang
- Ramona Louise Wheeler
- The Wombat

Albacon 2001 Progress Report #1

Volunteers (Gophers)

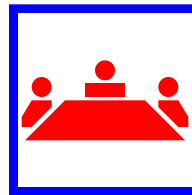


Albacon is entirely volunteer run. From the committee who begin meeting and planning over a year before the convention, to the folks helping out by manning the Con Suite or Registration table for an hour or so during the convention, we are all volunteers.

If you are willing to help out during the convention, when you arrive and go through registration, ask for a volunteer form. Our Volunteer Coordinator, Bill Ryan, has plenty to do, so you're sure to find something interesting.

If you want to volunteer in advance, just email the committee at committee@albacon.org

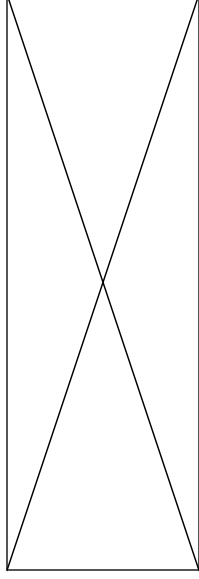
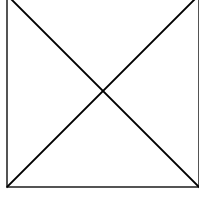
Albacon 2001 Committee



Albacon 2001 is being brought to you by the following dedicated people:

- Chair: Joe Berlant
- Programming: jan finder, Chuck Rothman
- Art Show: Allison and Mike Feldhusen
- Dealer's Room: Joe Berlant
- Gaming: Chris Ford
- Masquerade: Christine Bunt
- Video / Film Programming: Steve Weidner
- Hospitality: Jen Sternfeld
- Registration: Jenny Kraus
- Volunteers: Bill Ryan
- Tech Support: John Harvey
- Publications: Paul Kraus

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Albacon is an activity of LASTSFA, a 501-C-3 Non-Profit organization.