

SMOFcon 27

Time Management

and don't miss:
Friday's **BUDGETING BOOT CAMP!**
Saturday's **NEGOTIATIONS WORKSHOP!**

PROGRESS
REPORT #4
NOVEMBER 2009

Last-Minute Notes & Info

★ **Preliminary program schedule & information** is available online at <http://www.alamo-sf.org/smofcon27/programming.html>.

★ The **Budgeting Boot Camp** is full. There are still a few slots open in the **Negotiations Workshop** (email reservation request to smofcon_negotiations@alamo-sf.org).

★ We will have tables available in the 10th floor atrium outside of the Hospitality Suite for **"Birds of a Feather"** discussions. Signup sheets will be in hospitality.

★ Pre-con registration closed on 11/22/09. **At-the-door memberships** will be available for \$75.

★ Some **hotel rooms** might still be available. Please contact Kurt Baty (hotel@alamo-sf.org), who has reserved a few extra hotel rooms at our contract rate.

★ **Registration** will be located outside of the Hospitality Suite, in the 10th floor atrium.

★ Our **Hospitality Suite** will be in room 1031. (There are still a few openings for an hour or two of sponsorship during the weekend. Please contact Melissa Tolliver at smofcon_hospitality@alamo-sf.org to reserve a time and day.)

★ The 10th floor of the Hilton Garden Inn is a concierge floor. If you don't have a room key, just tell the hotel staff you're a member of SMOFcon (or show them your badge) and they will key the elevator for you.

★ **Free WiFi at Austin's airport**, sponsored by Google:
"When you're traveling this holiday season, you can enjoy free WiFi at 47 participating airports and on every Virgin America flight. Just bring a WiFi-enabled laptop or mobile device and stay connected to family and friends for free while you travel now through January 15, 2010."
<http://www.freeholidaywifi.com>

★ **Super Shuttle service** from the airport to hotel and back (round trip) is currently \$26. Make your reservations ahead of time at www.supershuttle.com.

★ **Cab fare** from the airport to the Hilton Garden Inn typically costs between \$25–\$30 (higher rates during rush hour traffic).

★ A ride on **Capitol Metro's Airport Flyer** from the airport to our hotel costs only 75¢.

★ **Surface parking** is available across the street from the Hilton Garden Inn on 5th Street from PLaz, Partners in Parking – Public Parking at a current rate of \$10 per day (no in/out privileges).



Click here for the National Weather Service's 7-day forecast for Austin!

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?CityName=Austin&state=TX&site=ENX&textField1=30.267&textField2=97.743&e=1>

From The Chair

The pieces of the puzzle for SMOFcon are quickly taking shape and all are (hopefully) falling into place.

This Progress Report is our final one, and includes information on how to arrive easily at our hotel (see the map and directions on page 2, as well as a schedule & map for Capital Metro's Airport Flyer route on page 3); where our Hospitality Suite will be (room 1031), and how to find Registration (outside of Hospitality, in the atrium on the 10th floor). We are looking forward to hosting this year's SMOFcon and hope the weather stays sunny until after the con.

If you have any questions or concerns about your stay, please contact me directly.

— Karen Meschke (meschke@io.com)



SMOFcon 27

Dec. 4-6, 2009
Austin, Texas

Chair: Karen Meschke

Hospitality: Melissa Tolliver,
Heidi Berthiaume, Glenn
Glazer

Hotel: Kurt Baty

Program: Karen Meschke

Budgeting Boot Camp:
Vince Docherty,
Deb Geisler, Mark Olson
& Leslie Turek

Negotiations Workshop:
Colin Harris

Publicity: Cathy Beckwith

Publications: Pat Virzi

Registration: Laura Domitz

Treasurer: Bill Parker

Web Page: Clif Davis



Austin Downtown

500 North IH 35 • Austin, Texas 78701

512-480-8181

Directions to our Hotel

From Austin-Bergstrom International Airport:

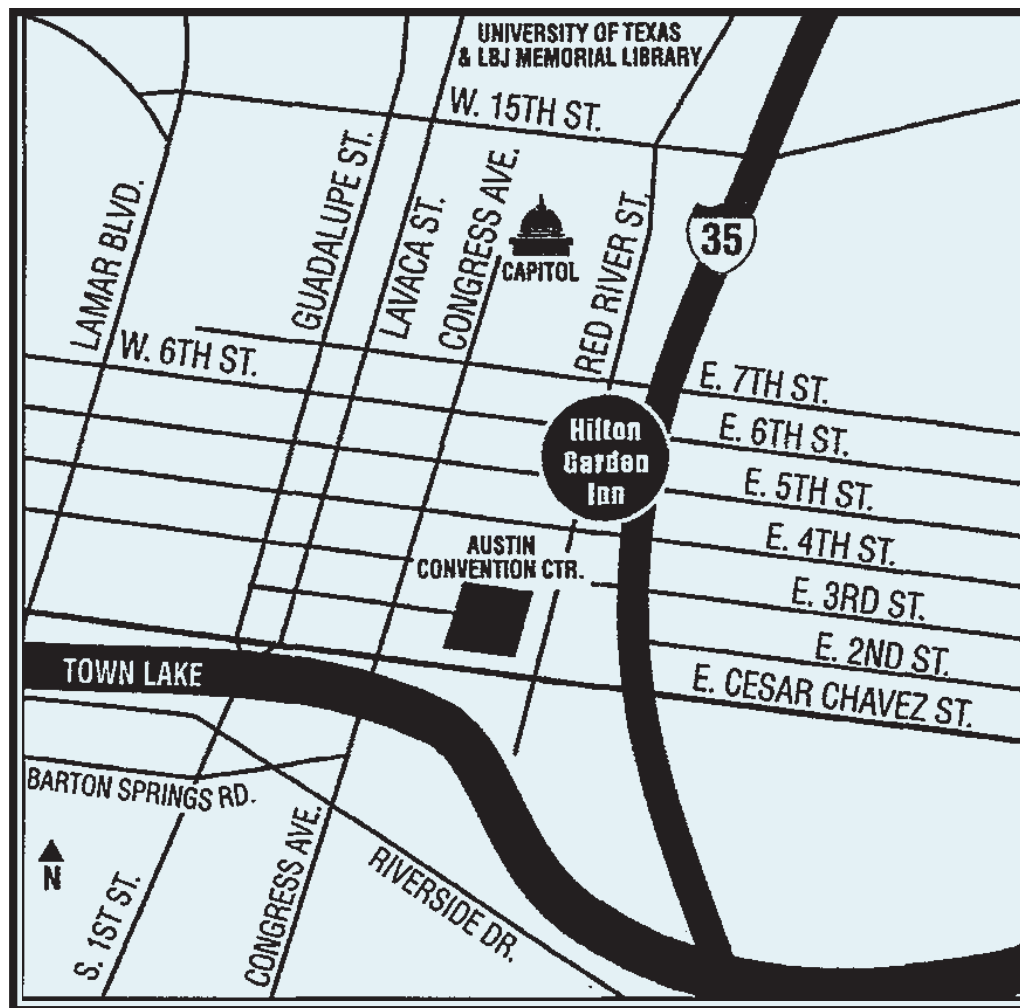
Exit the airport from Presidential Blvd. At the intersection, turn left onto Hwy. 71 West. At the IH-35 junction, continue on to IH-35 North until Exit 234C (6th-12th Streets). Turn left at the first traffic light (6th Street). From 6th Street, turn left at the 2nd light onto the southbound access road. The hotel entrance will be immediately on the right, before the next intersection.

From San Antonio

Travel North on IH-35 and take Exit 234C (6th-12th Streets). Turn left at the first traffic light (6th Street), then turn left at the 2nd traffic light onto the southbound access road. The hotel entrance will be immediately on the right, before the next intersection.

From Houston

Take 290 West to IH-35. Travel South on IH-35 and take Exit 234B (8th-3rd Streets). Proceed on the access road through the 6th Street light. The hotel entrance will be immediately on the right, before the next intersection



From Dallas/Fort Worth

Traveling on IH-35 South, take Exit 234B (8th-3rd Streets). Remain on the southbound access road through the 6th Street light. The hotel entrance will be immediately on the right, before the next intersection.

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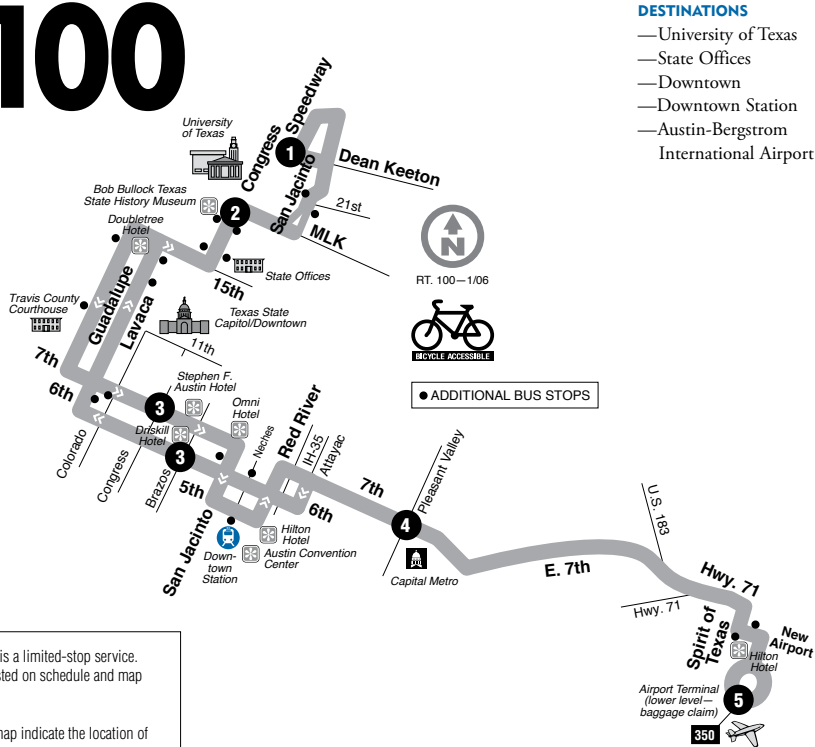
SMOFcon is a yearly get-together where the Secret Masters of Fandom meet to exchange insights into what has happened during the previous year, at both the local level and at the most recently held meeting of the World Science Fiction Society (also known as Worldcon). We look for old friends, make new ones, catch-up on the latest gossip and rumors, attend panels on a variety of subjects about convention running, and express our views on best ways to do something. We talk about what went right and wrong, either behind the scenes or what the general membership saw, review what the ConCom should have done to correct it or how they prevented a mishap from becoming a disaster. We often get recruited to work on other conventions — or recruit others to come work on our next convention. Okay, we do a LOT of talking with each other — we refer to it as “SMOFing.” And SMOFing requires lots of good food and drink to keep us going when our energy runs low.

Every SMOFcon has a theme which is used to help focus the convention as a whole. At SMOFcon 27, the theme is Time Management. There will also be a Budgeting Boot Camp on Friday (to help convention runners plan their budgets for conventions both large and small), and a Negotiations workshop on Saturday.

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100

Airport Flyer



- DESTINATIONS**
- University of Texas
 - State Offices
 - Downtown
 - Downtown Station
 - Austin-Bergstrom International Airport



● ADDITIONAL BUS STOPS

Note: Route 100 is a limited-stop service. Only bus stops listed on schedule and map are served.

● Black dots on map indicate the location of bus stops.

Outbound—To Airport

100 WEEKDAYS / OUTBOUND					
1	2	3	4	5	To Route/Garage
DEAN KEETON AT SPEEDWAY	CONGRESS AT 18TH	7TH AT CONGRESS	E. 7TH AT PLEASANT VALLEY	AIRPORT LOWER LEVEL	
—	4:52	5:00	5:08	5:18	
—	5:32	5:40	5:48	5:58	
6:04	6:10	6:18	6:28	6:38	
6:44	6:50	6:58	7:08	7:18	
7:24	7:30	7:38	7:48	7:58	
8:04	8:10	8:18	8:28	8:38	
8:45	8:51	8:58	9:08	9:18	
9:25	9:31	9:38	9:48	9:58	
10:05	10:11	10:18	10:28	10:38	
10:45	10:51	10:58	11:08	11:18	
11:25	11:31	11:38	11:48	11:58	
12:05	12:11	12:18	12:28	12:38	
12:45	12:51	12:58	1:08	1:18	
1:25	1:31	1:38	1:48	1:58	
2:03	2:09	2:17	2:27	2:38	
2:43	2:49	2:57	3:07	3:18	
3:23	3:29	3:37	3:47	3:58	
4:03	4:09	4:17	4:27	4:38	
4:43	4:49	4:57	5:07	5:18	
5:23	5:29	5:37	5:47	5:58	
6:03	6:09	6:17	6:27	6:38	
6:46	6:52	6:59	7:08	7:18	

Inbound—To Downtown/UT Campus

100 WEEKDAYS / INBOUND					To Route/Garage
5	4	3	2	1	
AIRPORT LOWER LEVEL	E. 7TH AT PLEASANT VALLEY	6TH AT BRAZOS	CONGRESS AT 18TH	DEAN KEETON AT SPEEDWAY	
5:20	5:31	5:39	5:46	5:51	
6:00	6:11	6:19	6:26	6:31	
6:40	6:51	6:59	7:07	7:13	
7:20	7:31	7:39	7:47	7:53	
8:00	8:11	8:19	8:27	8:33	
8:40	8:51	8:59	9:07	9:13	
9:20	9:31	9:38	9:45	9:51	
10:00	10:11	10:18	10:25	10:31	
10:40	10:51	10:58	11:05	11:11	
11:20	11:31	11:38	11:45	11:51	
12:00	12:11	12:18	12:25	12:31	
12:40	12:51	12:58	1:05	1:11	
1:20	1:31	1:38	1:45	1:51	
2:00	2:12	2:20	2:28	2:35	
2:40	2:52	3:00	3:08	3:15	
3:20	3:32	3:40	3:48	3:55	
4:00	4:12	4:20	4:28	4:35	
4:40	4:52	5:00	5:08	5:15	
5:20	5:32	5:40	5:48	5:55	
6:00	6:12	6:20	6:28	6:35	
6:40	6:52	7:00	7:08	7:15	
7:20	7:30	7:37	7:44	7:49	

Continued on next page

Outbound—To Airport

100 WEEKDAYS / OUTBOUND					
1	2	3	4	5	To Route/Garage
DEAN KEETON AT SPEEDWAY	CONGRESS AT 18TH	7TH AT CONGRESS	E. 7TH AT PLEASANT VALLEY	AIRPORT LOWER LEVEL	
7:24	7:30	7:37	7:46	7:56	
8:04	8:10	8:17	8:26	8:36	
8:44	8:50	8:57	9:06	9:16	
9:24	9:30	9:37	9:46	9:56	
10:04	10:10	10:17	10:26	10:36	
10:44	10:50	10:57	11:06	11:16	

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8:00	8:10	8:17	8:24	8:29	
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9:20	9:30	9:37	9:44	9:49	
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10:40	10:50	10:57	11:04	11:09	G
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100 SATURDAYS / OUTBOUND

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6:44	6:50	6:57	7:07	7:17	
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2:40	2:52	3:00	3:07	3:12	
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4:00	4:12	4:20	4:27	4:32	
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<http://www.capmetro.org>

SMOFcon 27

Preregistered Members (November 23, 2009)

Terry Adams - Colorado Springs CO
 Karen Anderson - Seattle WA
 Kimm Antell - Pflugerville TX
 Bobbi Armbruster - Venice CA
 Margene Bahm - Kansas City, MO
 Julie Barrett - Plano TX
 Kirsten M. Berry - San Jose, CA
 Keri Bas - Houston TX
 Kurt Baty - Austin TX
 Cathy Beckwith - Jersey Village TX
 Judith C. Bemis - Groveland FL
 Heidi Berthiaume - Plano TX
 Gary S. Blog - Edison NJ
 Kent Bloom - Colorado Springs CO
 Steven Boucher - South Yarra
 Victoria Australia
 Robbie Bourget - Langley Slough,
 Berkshire, United Kingdom
 Seth Breibart - Minneapolis MN
 April Bremner - San Antonio TX
 Liz Burton - Austin TX
 David Cantor - Groton CT
 Daniel Chamberlin - Memphis TN
 Daniel Chamberlin (Friend of) -
 Memphis TN
 Dave Clark - Berkeley CA
 Michael J. Contos - Casa Grande AZ
 Sara Cooper - San Antonio TX
 Steve Cooper - Letchworth GC UK
 Ray Cyrus - Chicago IL
 Joni Dashoff - Philadelphia PA
 Todd Dashoff - Philadelphia PA
 James Daugherty - Henderson NV
 Kathryn Daugherty - Henderson NV
 Clif Davis - Spring TX
 Margaret Davis - Spring TX
 Gay Ellen Dennett - Natick MA
 Jane Dennis - Lexington KY

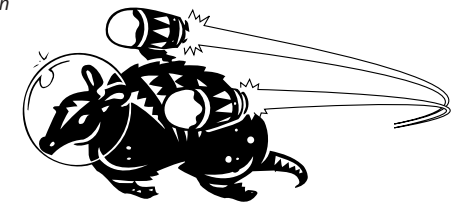
Scott Dennis - Lexington KY
 Vincent Docherty - Den
 Haag, Netherlands
 Laura Domitz - Copperas Cove TX
 Ed Dravecky III - Allen TX
 Fred Duarte - Austin TX
 Matthew Duarte - Austin TX
 Bobbie DuFault - Gold Bar WA
 Rhonda Eudaly - Arlington TX
 FACT - Austin TX
 FACT - Austin TX
 FenCon - Waxahachie TX
 Dave Gallaher - Fremont CA
 Deb Geisler - Middleton MA
 Janice Gelb - South Yarra, Victoria,
 Australia
 Gerald Gieseke - Gold Bar WA
 Glenn Glazer - Felton CA
 J-Mag Guthrie - Katy TX
 Johnathan Guthrie - Katy TX
 Anita Haddock - Houston TX
 Mark Hall - Houston TX
 Colin Harris - Guildford, Surrey, UK
 Mark Herrup - Chicago IL
 Meredith Hines - Plano TX
 Crystal Huff - Somerville MA
 Marcia Illingworth - Powell, TN
 Tim Illingworth - Powell, TN
 Mary Kay Kare - Seattle WA
 Rocky Kelley - Austin TX
 Kate Kligman - Houston TX
 Kim Kofmel - Houston TX
 Richard Rick Kovalcik - Newton
 Centre MA
 Elisabeth Kovar - Skokie IL
 Diane Lacey - Toronto, Ontario
 Canada
 Alexis Layton - Cambridge MA

Ruth Leibig - Palo Alto CA
 Ruth Lichtwardt - Lawrence KS
 Mark Linneman - Sacramento CA
 John Lorentz - Portland OR
 Robert MacIntosh - Annandale VA
 June Madeley - Saint John, New
 Brunswick, Canada
 Faith Malcolm - Saratogo CA
 Jim Mann - McDonald PA
 Laurie Mann - McDonald PA
 Linda Ross-Mansfield - Winnipeg,
 Manitoba, Canada
 Dave McCarty - Chicago, IL
 Stacey Helton McConnell - West
 Chester PA
 Friend of Stacey Helton McConnell -
 West Chester PA
 Michael R. McMillan - Kingwood TX
 Karen Meschke - Austin TX
 Jonathan Miles - Austin TX
 Russ Miller - Waxahachie TX
 Tim Miller - Murphy TX
 Brian Mitchell - Winnipeg,
 Manitoba, Canada
 Helen Montgomery - Chicago IL
 Tim Morgan - Flower Mound TX
 Cheryl Morgan - Fremont CA

Mary Morman - Colorado Springs
 CO
 Melissa Morman - Littleton CO
 Jim Murray - Kansas City, MO
 Michael Nelson - Oakton VA
 Eric Olson - Chicago IL
 Mark Olson - Framingham MA
 Priscilla Olson - Framingham MA
 Jeff Orth - Kansas City MO
 Tony Parker - Groveland FL
 Bill Parker - Houston TX
 John Picacio - San Antonio TX
 Traci Picacio - San Antonio TX
 Michael Pins - Boulder CO
 Spike Parsons - Mountain View CA
 Gary L Plumlee - Indianapolis IN
 Jan Price - Greensboro NC
 TR Renner - Chicago IL
 Dan Robb - Frisco TX
 Ruth Sachter - Portland OR
 John Sapienza - Silver Spring MD
 San Japan - Austin TX
 Peggy Rae Sapienza - Silver Spring
 MD
 James Savage - Hurst TX
 Marah Searle-Kovacevic - Toronto,
 Ontario, Canada

Mike Scott - London, United
 Kingdom
 Andrea Senchy - West Paterson NJ
 Chuck Shimada - Huntington Beach
 CA
 Jimmy Simpson - Arlington TX
 Chuck Siros - Austin TX
 Willie Siros - Austin TX
 Stewart Smith - San Antonio TX
 Julian Snitow - Saratogo CA
 Wendy Snyder - Cedar Park TX
 Kevin Standlee - Fremont CA
 Ian Stockdale - Palo Alto CA
 Tamisan - Flower Mound TX
 Becky Thomson - Sumner WA
 Bill Thomasson - Oak Park IL
 Dan Tolliver - Austin TX
 Melissa Tolliver - Burnet TX
 Bruce Tomlin - Austin TX
 Leslie Turek - Watertown MA
 Barbara Vantilburg - Sandwich IL
 Tom Veal - Chicago IL
 Leane Verhulst - Brookfield IL
 Pat Virzi - Duncanville TX
 Alex von Thorn - Toronto, Ontario,
 Canada
 Bobb Waller - Irving TX
 René Walling - Montreal, Quebec,
 Canada
 Patty Wells - Portland OR
 Tom Whitmore - Seattle WA
 Robyn Winans - Allen TX
 Tom Whitmore - Seattle WA
 Sally Woehrle - Federal Way WA
 Ben Yalow - Bronx NY
 Scott Zrubek - Friendswood TX

SMOFcon 27 is sponsored by ALAMO, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit literary corporation recognized by the IRS since 1996. ALAMO, Inc. is organized for the purposes of promoting the understanding and appreciation of the literary fields of fantasy, science fiction and horror, and to provide a forum for the free discussion of the ideas and concepts associated with these literary fields. In this role it acts to further the interests of the international community of active science fiction fans and the field's professional writers, editors and artists. ALAMO, Inc. was enfranchised by the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS) to run the 55th annual World Science Fiction Convention in 1997.



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