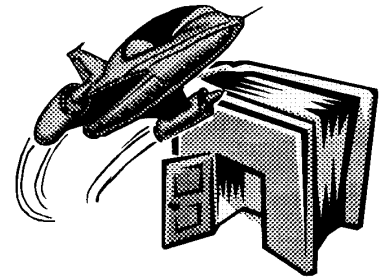


# MileHiCon 41



July 2009

Progress Report 2

**October 23-25, 2009**

**Hyatt Regency Hotel - Tech Center**

**7800 E. Tufts Ave., Denver, CO**

## Program Highlights

There's so much in the planning stages right now that there wouldn't be room in the progress report for all of it—so here's a brief preview with more details to come on the MileHiCon website and via the MileHiCon Yahoo group. (Not signed up yet? Come on in!)

It's been a decade since Buffy The Vampire Slayer and the (surviving) gang graduated, and we're celebrating! Check out opening ceremonies, view Graduation Day (part 1 and 2) in the video room, come to Dr. Horrible's Sing-along Blog on Friday night, stop by the reunion mixer in the con suite and get your official reunion name tag, and don't forget to join in the Once More with Feeling Sing-along in the video room. It's a weekend-long commemoration of Joss Whedon and Sunnydale High's Class of 1999 ten-year reunion!

On Friday night, plan to attend a special musical event featuring our musical GoH Marc Gunn and Odd Austin. There could be some additional surprises, too—don't miss it!

See the full-size TARDIS!

It's showtime! Check out several one-act plays with a science/science fictional/fantastical bent. Interested in being in one of them? Contact playwright Owen Allen (exseraph@gmail.com) if you are a potential volunteer thespian.

Other probable programs include: The Great 1890s Airship Saga \* Steampunk costuming \* An art presentation of laser-engraved boxes, based on the Golden Ratio \* A movie pitch session \* and much more.

Returning this year: The MileHiCon Meet, Munch & Mingle Friday after opening ceremonies \* the kids'/active track—our theme this year, Superhero Island! \* Authors' Networking in the bar on Friday night \* The Flying Pen Press pitch session \* Project SciFi Runway! Start putting your team together now—the challenges are new, the materials may be different, but the fun remains the same. \* and such MileHiCon standards as the Critter Crunch, masquerade, art show/art auction, the poker tournament, author readings, the Challenge Panel, the Turkey Readoff, and much more.

Worth getting up early for—be sure to stop by the consuite for special coffeeklatches (sponsored by Who Else! Books? at the Broadway Book Mall, 200 So. Broadway) with several of our guests and other attending authors/artists on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

## CONFIRMED GUESTS-OF-HONOR

### Author Guests of Honor



#### **Nancy Kress**

Hugo Award winner and Author of *Steal Across the Sky*, *Dogs*, *Crossfire*, *Probability* series, *Stinger*, *Maximum Light*, *Beggars Ride*, and many more.



#### **Barbara Hambly**

Author of *Windrose Chronicles*, *Darwath Trilogy*, *Sunwolf and Hawk* series, *Sun-Cross* series, *Benjamin January* series, *James Asher* series, *Winterlands*, *Raven Sisters*, *Star Wars* novels and *Star Trek* novels



#### **Music GOH Marc Gunn**

Cats. Irish music. Sci Fi. Drinking songs. Nowhere else but from the bizarre imagination of Marc Gunn would those four elements be so neatly integrated. Formerly with the award-winning "Brobdingnagian Bards".

### Artist GOH John Picacio

2005, 2006, 2007 and 2009 Hugo Artist Award Nominee, 2005 World Fantasy Award Winner, Chesley Award Winner.



#### **Toastmaster**

#### **Brandon Sanderson**

Author of *Elantis*, *Mistborn* series, *Alcatraz* series, *Warbreaker*, and now the final book in the *Wheel of Time* series.

## Other Highly Probable Guests

In addition to our Guests of Honor and look for the usual wide variety of authors, artists, scientists/technologists and more to attend. Here are some of the expected participants we had heard from at press time: Mario Acevedo, Chuck Anderson, Tony Bagley, Hilari Bell, Carol Berg, Shannah Biondine, Jaime Birren, Karen Bjorn, M.H. Bonham, David Boop, Ian Brazee-Cannon, Amy Cahill, Sean Cahill, Peri Charlifu, Craig Chrissinger, Fred Cleaver, Yvonne Coats, Patricia Coleman, Theresa Crater, Laura K. Deal, Marie Des-Jardin, F.P. Dorchak, Betsy Dornbusch, David Dvorkin, Win Scott, Eckert, A.C. Ellis, J Alan Erwine, Becca Feiner, MT Fierce, Ellen Friedman, Laura Givens, Warren Hammond, Carol Hightshoe, Wynette Hoffman, David Horst, Dave Hughes, Greg Hyde, Gary Jonas, Sam Kepfield, Lee Killough, Alan Lickiss, Rebecca Lickiss, Richard Martin, John Miller, Catherine Cooke Montrose, Odd Austin, Robin Owens, Laura E. Reeve, Rob S. Rice, David B. Riley, Rebecca Rowe, Diana Rowland, David Rozansky, Christopher Salas, Serpentmoon, Lorraine Stacey, Jeanne Stein, Eric James Stone, David Lee Summers, James Van Pelt, Connie Willis, Courtney Willis, StanYan, Robert Pogue Ziegler, Robert Zubrin.

We hear from more people every week—check the MileHiCon Yahoo groups for updates.

# Calling All Mad Scientists and Robotic Enthusiasts!

## Critter Crunch Competition

Here's your chance to show what that gray matter upstairs can do. For years now you've watched and said, I can make a better critter than that. Well now's the year to show everyone you're not all hot air. Start working the that critter NOW!!!

Here's all you have to do:

1. Read and follow the rules located on the MileHiCon website, [www.milehicon.org](http://www.milehicon.org). *There are some changes to the rules, as of last year, so read them closely.*
2. Build your critter. *Your critter will be evaluated prior to the competition to assure that it stays within all the specifications listed in the rules. Arrive at least an hour early.*
3. Send in your entry fee (20# division - \$7.00 or 2# division - \$4.00) to the MileHiCon address, P.O. Box 487, Westminster, CO 80036. *Entry fees may be paid at the door, however, they will increase and there is no guarantee that space will be available in the competition line-up. Arrive early.*
4. Be at MileHiCon 41 on October 26, 2008. *Check the MileHiCon website for exact times. You must check-in at the MileHiCon registration desk to complete your entry forms and receive your competitor ribbons. Again, arrive early.*

5. Compete, have fun and win Cash Prizes!!! This year our cash prizes are: 20# Division—1st Place \$50.00, 2nd Place \$25.00, and 3rd Place \$15.00. 2# Division—1st Place \$35.00, 2nd Place \$17.00, and 3rd Place \$8.00

Entering the Critter Crunch does not entitle you to a full MileHiCon membership. Your Critter Crunch entrance fee only entitles you and two assistants to enter the competition. It does not allow you to attend the rest of the convention. If you want to attend the rest of the convention, you may purchase your membership at the registration desk at the speaker half-price rate. Family and/or friends that only want to watch the competition will have to purchase at least a Sunday convention membership.

The 5th Annual MileHiCon Critter Float-tilla Race Join us at the indoor pool Friday night the MileHiCon Critter Float-tilla Race. What can you do with a milk carton? How fast can you make it go? Show up at the pool on Friday and let everyone see just how inventive and creative you are. Check on the MileHiCon website for competition rules and updates. For more information about either of these competitions contact: John Morse, e-mail: [jdmorse@chisp.net](mailto:jdmorse@chisp.net) phone: 303-987-0950

## Calling All Artists

MileHiCon 41 is proud to host the largest science fiction and fantasy art show in the Rocky Mountain region. Last year was another great show and we anticipate the show will be even better this year. Each year new artists are added to the displays. Don't miss your opportunity!

Display panels are 4' X 4' and tables are 1.5' X 6'. Call Bruce Miller at 303-936-4092 or E-mail [Bruce.M.Miller@gmail.com](mailto:Bruce.M.Miller@gmail.com) for more information on the art show.

MileHiCon is also looking for program book art. Good black and white copies are preferable. Do not send originals, we will not return them. Please send all art work to the MileHiCon address.

## Hotel Information

This year MileHiCon will once again take place at the **Hyatt Regency—Tech Center, 7800 E. Tufts Ave., Denver, CO**. We have negotiated a reduced room rate with the hotel. The room rates are now: single/double = \$89/night, triple = \$114/night, quad = \$139/night. Reserve

your room(s) as early as possible to get these reduced rates.

Call **(303) 779-1234** to make your reservations. REMEMBER, tell them you are with MileHiCon, to get the convention rates and ask to be on the MileHiCon Floor Block. Your room reservations help pay for the convention! If making a reservation over the internet, **use code G-10HI**. This will assure that you are receiving the MileHiCon rate.

## Gaming Gala

The round the clock Gaming Atrium is looking for Game Masters again this year, please email Dustin Hatchett at [colorado\\_gamer@yahoo.com](mailto:colorado_gamer@yahoo.com) if you are interested. The deadline for Game Masters is the easy date of Sept-09-2009.

The Gaming Atrium always allows any convention attendee to pick up a game, grab a table and play. Get your friends together or meet new people. All of our game masters are more than happy to teach the games they are running. This year there will be demonstrations of games hot off the presses with prizes sponsored by a new game store

opening soon; so amazing the NSA asked us not to name them.

If you are the owner a local game store drop Dustin Hatchett an email if you have some prizes you wish to donate; your name could end up here also.

As in past we will have gaming with the guests of honor scattered throughout the weekend. The Friday and Saturday night poker tournaments are always a lot of fun and hosted by the great folks of the U.S.S. Pioneer Science Fiction/Star Trek fan club.

Please reference the gaming website link on the MileHiCon main page as it will be updated monthly from now to the convention with a lot more details. Thank you for your continued support of the MileHiCon gaming.

## Con Suite Sponsorship: A Good Idea

Sponsorship is an excellent way to promote your club, shop, activity, etc. Here's how it works: You host the Con Suite for two hours and bring the munchies, and MileHiCon will provide the beverages. During

that time, you are free to promote your organization. Sometimes the best way to a fan's heart is through his/her stomach. So bring your killer nachos and crunchable cookies to the MileHiCon ConSuite!

We already have a number of time slots reserved. Contact David at [mhc\\_consuite@yahoo.com](mailto:mhc_consuite@yahoo.com) to reserve your time slot NOW!

## Party Floor

Thinking about having a party at MileHiCon this year? Well think no more, the decision is YES. And what makes a party great? It's the people. One way to get a lot of people at your party, is to have lots of people in the area. MileHiCon wants to keep all the parties together on one floor and one wing. By having all the parties on one



floor it will be like having one monster party. If you are interested, please contact us at [lindanel@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lindanel@ix.netcom.com).

Let us know you will be having a party and want to be on the party floor. You will still have to make your room reservations through the hotel, but tell them that you want to be on the 4th floor MileHiCon room block. We will make sure that you get placed in the party wing.

## Costume Contest

One of the enjoyable traditions at MileHiCon is the Costume Contest. We will again have an excellent light and sound setup, experienced

stage staff, and all kinds of help for both the experienced and inexperienced costumers.

Be sure to check the rules on the MileHiCon website, there may be changes in the works.

## You Could Be The New MileHiCon Fictional Character GOH!

You, yes you, could be the next MileHiCon Fictional Character Guest of Honor! It's easy, simply vote for any fictional character (person in costume and assuming the persona of a known fictional character from books, movies, TV, etc.) attending MHC. Ballot box stuffing, campaign (MHC will even provide a campaign speech and debate room), and secret voting for the unsuspecting, deserving, or not, character are encouraged. Voting will take place on Friday and Saturday at the convention. Saturday night the winner will be announced. The attending person (fictional character) with the most votes will become the MileHiCon Fictional Character Guest of Honor. Check the MileHiCon website for complete rules.

If you win, you will receive a Guest of Honor badge, a GOH plaque, and, if you want, can even give a guest of honor speech on Sunday. The winner will also get to hang-out with the other guests in the Green Room. So start working on your campaign materials, devise a plot to get votes and have a lot of fun. I know we will.

## Literacy Auction Donations Needed

At MileHiCon's Literacy Auction you can bid on rare books, autographed books, original artwork, collectibles, SF, Fantasy and Horror items generously donated by the guests and fans alike. All proceeds are given to a charity for the purchase of books and reading education. Every year we have increased our donations, because every year you have increased the number of donations and how much you are willing to bid on items. If you have items to donate to the auction, please call Rose at (303) 477-6822.

## MileHiCon Mix, Munch, and Mingle

On Friday night at 8pm the *MileHiCon Mix, Munch, and Mingle*, or "MMMM" for short will take place. MMMM is a great way to meet the Guests of Honor, other authors, artists, and fans attending the convention. Various munchies & hors d'oeuvres prepared by the Hyatt's gourmet chefs will be served. A very modest fee of only **\$5.00** will be charged for the food.

You can purchase your "MMMM" ticket at the MileHiCon Registration table when you pick up your badge. A cash bar will also be open for both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. So, get to the convention Friday night, attend MMMM, meet your favorite author, and other fascinating people as well.

## Video and Anime, Programming Wanted

Want to see a special movie or japanime? Do you have a fun idea for a programming item? We want to hear about it. Please send your ideas to Marc Gustafson at [tesseract@ix.netcom.com](mailto:tesseract@ix.netcom.com). We are always looking for fresh fun things to see and do at the convention and we welcome your suggestions.

## Fan Table Frenzy

Because of the extra space we have available at the new hotel, MileHiCon is offering a few tables to Fan organizations. These will be limited so make your reservations early. There will be a charge of \$35.00 for electrical hook-ups. The table does not include free memberships to the convention unless your organization is participating in programming. For more information, please contact Chris at [mhc41dealersroom@aol.com](mailto:mhc41dealersroom@aol.com).

## Who Else! Books



[www.whoelsebooks.com](http://www.whoelsebooks.com)  
and  
[www.SoBoDenver.com/  
DenverBookMall.html](http://www.SoBoDenver.com/DenverBookMall.html)

Specializing in new and used SF, fantasy & mystery. Your best source for Colorado authors & Colorado signings.

***Who Else! has the books you want!***

We carry the works of the authors you'll meet at MileHiCon, at great prices.

***After a panel,***

***after a reading,***

***visit us in the Dealers Room.***







NEW LOCATION: 200 S. Broadway, southeast corner of Broadway and Cedar, just across from the post office, and 3-1/2 blocks south of the old Denver Book Mall location.

## The AVISTRUM SCHOOL OF SORCERY is Back

*MileHiCon is proud to announce the addition of THE AVISTRUM SCHOOL OF SORCERY to the activities available during the weekend.*

To attend both MileHiCon and Avistrum events a fee of \$65 -Adult, \$55-Child, for the weekend will be charged. A limit of 100 sorcery students may attend Avistrum events, so purchase your memberships today.

The Avistrum School of Sorcery is an interactive theatrical experience where YOU get to become part of the story! Throughout the weekend the show will include:

-  *The Sorting Ceremony*
-  *Interactive Storyline throughout the weekend*
-  *Dark Wizard's Ball*
-  *Quidditch Tournament on the Playstation 2*
-  *House Points given*
-  *Awarding of House Cup*

For more information, visit the website at [www.avistrum.org](http://www.avistrum.org)  
Contact Headmaster Dowling with any questions at [headmaster@avistrum.org](mailto:headmaster@avistrum.org)

# MileHiCon 41

P.O. Box 487  
Westminster, CO 80036

**PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Denver, CO  
Permit 4033**



## MileHiCon 41 Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

MileHiCon: Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Avistrum: Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Critter Crunch: 20# \_\_\_\_\_ 2# \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **MHC (only) 3-Day Rate:**

\$40.00 July 1 - Oct 1  
\$42.00 at the Door  
Children under 12 half price.

### **AVISTRUM & MHC Rate:**

Adult = \$65, Child \$55

### **Mail To:**

**MileHiCon 41  
P.O. Box 487  
Westminster, CO 80036**

### **For Credit Card Payments: (VISA, MASTER CARD, & DISCOVER)**

Name On Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Card NO.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please include the names and addresses of all individuals registering for MileHiCon 41 and/or Avistrum. If we do not receive the names for all attending, they will not receive the special pre-reg laminated badge. For more information: 303-426-0806. Website: [www.milehicon.org](http://www.milehicon.org) e-mail: [lindanel@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lindanel@ix.netcom.com). Our Yahoo! Group is at <http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/MileHiCon>.*