



# TONOPAH TELEGRAPH

THE NEWSLETTER OF WESTERCON 74  
Vol LXXIV, No 2.1 – LATE SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022

# 2.1

## Masks are Not Optional

For the protection of all members, masks are required at all times in convention-managed space, which includes the Tonopah Convention Center, the Nevada Club and Safe Rooms in the Belvada Hotel, the 3rd floor Gaming Room in the Mizpah Hotel, and the Ballroom in the Mizpah Club. This means not only attendees but also panelists. Having the attendees "vote" on whether or not to wear masks is not an option. If you want to hold a gathering without masks, you can take it outside, as outside spaces are not convention-controlled spaces.

## Service Animals Only

For health, safety, and sanitation reasons, the only animals permitted in the Tonopah Convention Center are registered service animals. Pets of any sort are not permitted. Thank you for your help in keeping everyone safe.

## Schedule Changes

There are a few corrections to the printed program grid as well as other changes:

**Historical Writing in Fiction** – Sunday 8:00am, Lauren Beukes removed, Wole Talabi added

**Gulf Futurism** – Sunday 9:30am, Cristina Jurado removed, Cheryl Morgan & Basma Ghalayini added

**What is Corporate Horror** will be Sunday at 12:30pm, Mizpah Club Ballroom

**Research Aircraft and Spacecraft Programs** will be Sunday 3:30pm, Gold Room

**3 Laws of Robotics** will be Sunday 5pm, Gold Room

**Lynn Gold Filk Concert** – Sunday 7pm, Steve Gillett's Presentation: **Nanotech Asteroid Mining How Nanotech Makes Asteroid**

**Mining Obsolete** – Sunday 8pm, Gold Room has been cancelled.

Monday changes will be in tomorrow's issue.

July 3, 2022

**Weather:** High 86°/Low 44° Fahrenheit

**Sunrise:** 5:30am; **Sunset:** 8:15pm

**Moonset:** 11:29pm (clear skies)

**Planets rising times, July 2-3:** Saturn: 10:32pm; Jupiter: 12:21am\*; Mars: 1:18am\*; Venus: 3:34am\*; Mercury: 4:31am\*

## Steve Gillett Correction

Steve Gillett's father did not actually pass away but is seriously ill in the hospital.

## Condolence Card for Zelda

Arlene in Program Ops has a condolence card for Zelda Gilbert. As reported in the previous issue, her husband Paul passed away while she was at Westercon. Please see Arlene in Program Ops if you want to sign it.

## Watering Hole Menu



Seattle in 2025 Worldcon Bid will be co-hosting with a Cider Tasting at 9 PM tonight.

Membership Stats: 341 members

282 attending, 1 child, 58 supporting

As of noon Saturday 158 badges have been picked up.

## Tonopah History Observations

There is a large stone building with a distinctive pointed silver dome a few blocks to the South of the convention center. Hint: it is on Courthouse Rd. The Nye County Courthouse was built in 1905.

The Mizpah Hotel has a plaque placed by E. Clampus Vitus, the Western historical and drinking society, celebrating the hotel's prominent role in western drinking and gambling history.

## Overheard in Conversation

"My mother started the first antique shop in Snohomish."

"People's reasoning is just fine. Our data can be bad."

(In response to a T-shirt "These are difficult times" with musical staves labeled "13/8" and "5/4") "Those are two of my favorite dance rhythms – *Postupanu* and *Paidushko*."

## Worth Looking Into

The brands on the critters outside the Butler Inn are actual brands of local Tonopah families. Stop by and ask during office hours. Butler Inn staff can tell you all about it.

The five-foot shelf of books in the Mizpah lobby across from the piano is to remind us of the Tonopah public library, oldest in Nevada. You can open the glass case. The books which are *Reader's Digest* Condensed Books, are dated on the spine. So you can see what books the RD editors thought were worth condensing—like having a time machine. The November 1960 volume has *Up From Slavery!*

## "Canons in SF Literature" Panel review

(Friday afternoon with Brad Lyau and Jim Doth)

The term "canon" makes us uneasy, because it implies an authority determining what (or who) is in the canon, and we're suspicious at authority.

But we could each make canons for ourselves.

We could make different canons for different purposes.

We might look for what (or who) had been influential. That could be different from what (or who) we could be happy with today.

We might look for good torch-bearers, even if few people followed at the time.

There was lots of talk about various candidates.

## COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Tests

A very limited number of COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test packages are available for Westercon Attendees during the convention.

If you feel symptoms of COVID-19 then please stay in your hotel room. Call Fred Moulton [REDACTED] between 8AM and 8PM and a test package will be left at your hotel room door for any Westercon Attending member staying in a hotel in Tonopah.

Each package contains two tests.

Consult with appropriate medical professionals if you test Positive or have COVID-19 symptoms.

Please do not wander around if you have COVID-19.

We have a limited number of test packages so this offer is only valid while supply lasts and only from July 1 8AM to July 4 8PM.

Westercon is not a medical organization and is not providing medical advice.

## COVID-19 Tracing

We ask that any person who contracts COVID-19 during Westercon 74 or for one week following the con please send an email to [covid@westercon74.org](mailto:covid@westercon74.org) so we can track any possible outbreak. No personal identifying information will be released without prior approval.

## WiFi Access

**Tonopah Convention Center**

SSID: conventioncenter

Password: convention3558

**Belvada Lobby**

SSID: Belvada Cafe

Password: belvadacafe

**The Tonopah Telegraph** is the newsletter of Westercon 74. All opinions are those of the individual authors. **Editor:** Sharon Sbarsky. **Reporters:** Tom Becker, John Hertz, Spike, Kevin Standlee. **Proofing & Printing Minion:** RKOV. ©2022 by San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., with all rights reverting to creators upon publication. "Westercon" and "West Coast Science Fantasy Society" are service marks of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Inc., and are used under the authority of the Westercon Bylaws.