

MYTHCON VIII

Mythcon VIII

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This year's Mythcon materialised after one or two false starts in which our resources were suddenly pulled out from under us. That the conference is happening at all, and certainly that we have encountered as few insoluble problems as we have, is due almost entirely to the indefatigable efforts of the local co-ordinators, who have given beyond the call of their time and energy. I specifically want to thank them here. In addition, I want to thank in advance a host of people whose names do not appear above, but who will have made this conference possible in dozens of ways. To them, particularly to the members of the local branch of the Mythopoeic Society, Cair Paravel, we owe this conference.

B. McM.

WELCOME TO MYTHCON VIII!

We hope you'll enjoy this year's conference in all its aspects. This year's Mythcon, like previous conferences, will involve a mixture of literary and fannish activities, including papers, discussions, a keynote speech, a procession, a masquerade, an art show, an auction, and a music program. Please refer to the center pages of this program book for a complete schedule of conference activities.

UC San Diego is organized on a quasi-Oxonian model, with four semi-independent colleges, a medical school, and an administrative complex. Most of Mythcon will be held at Third College, although registration and meals are at Muir and some of our large-group activities will be held in Mandeville Center. The campus is rather confusing, so keep your maps handy, relax, and enjoy the scenery. Parking is free on campus over the weekend, and after five p.m. on weekdays, in spite of the PERMITS REQUIRED signs; but on weekdays from seven a.m. to five p.m. you'll either need to park in metered spaces for 10¢/hr or purchase a temporary sticker from the University registration desk in Tenaya Hall for 50¢/day.

Some campus facilities you may want to know about are: Central University Library, just east of the Conference area--open M-F 8-6; Revelle Sundry Store and Ice Cream Hustler, in Blake Hall at Revelle College--open weekday mornings and afternoons; University Police Station at corner of Miramar Road and Myers Drive; Student Center, just south of Mandeville Center--open weekdays.

La Jolla is a beautiful and intriguing town, and I hope many of you will get a chance to go into the urban part of it while you're here. To get there, take either Torrey Pines Road or La Jolla Shores Drive south about two miles from the campus; continue southwest on Torrey Pines after the two roads come together, and you'll end up in the heart of La Jolla. You'll find a beautiful shoreline, dozens of small, high quality shops, a number of first-rate restaurants, and several really handsome churches. Prospect Street is a true southern California rarity--a street where people actually walk around at night, going from place to place without vehicles. Check it out!

There's a lot to see in the San Diego area, and if you're staying in town past the end of the Con, do some exploring. Sea World, Balboa Park, Old Town, Mission San Diego de Alcalá, Coronado Island--these are worthwhile, well-known tourist stops, but don't slight some less publicized places.

The Scripps Institution of Oceanography is a quarter mile south of UCSD, and its aquarium is fascinating--and free. There are three beaches close to the campus: La Jolla Shores, at the south end of La Jolla Shores Drive; Black's Beach, below La Jolla Farms Road just northwest of the campus; and Torrey Pines, three miles north of UCSD on North Torrey Pines Road. Black's Beach is the only officially recognized swimsuit-optional public beach in the U.S. Mission Bay, the San Diego harbor, and the Point Loma Lighthouse are also worth visiting.

There are plenty of places to eat within four miles of the campus, although almost none within one mile other than the cafeterias. My own recommendations are as follows.

- quick meals: Boll Weevil, 1000 Prospect, La Jolla; or 7070 Miramar Road, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of UCSD; a first-rate hamburger place--half-pound burgers for about a buck, with friendly service and good variety.
- pizza: Carnegie A-440, Carmel Valley Road just east of Torrey Pines, Del Mar. Not particularly cheap, but very good. Musical decor.
- steaks: Chuck's Steak House, 1250 Prospect, La Jolla. Solid, elegant American fare. Entertainment.
- French: Cote d'Azur, 1250 Prospect, La Jolla. Absolutely first-rate. They have a late-night menu as well as breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- Mexican: Alfonso's, 1015 Prospect, La Jolla. Often crowded, but very good. Fairly inexpensive.

There are also chain restaurants in the area--Sambo's at Carmel Valley Road & I-5; Carl's Jr. at 4199 Governor Dr., just east of Genesee; Jack-in-the-Box at Pearl Street and La Jolla Blvd.

Some miscellaneous conference notes:

1. Checkout time on Monday is 3 p.m.
2. The University will charge us for any towels that are missing from the rooms when we leave.
3. If you're locked out of your room between 8 a.m. and midnight, you can get a spare key from the Tenaya Hall desk. After midnight, you'll have to get a campus policeman to find the night watchman, and he'll let you in.
4. Please see the local coordinators about any questions you have about the conference or the facilities.

Have a very good time!

Andy Howard

Schedule

Friday

- 2:00 Registration Begins.
- 5:00--6:00 Dinner, Muir Commons.
- 8:00 Opening Night Party, Tioga Hall #103.
- 10:00 Film: "Jason and the Argonauts", Third College Lecture Hall (TLH) 104.
- 12:00 Room registration officially closed. Late arrivals contact Andy or Sandi Howard, rm. B-16.

Saturday

- 7:00--9:00 Breakfast, Muir Commons.
- 8:30 Paper: "Eldarion and the Choice?" by Louis Epstein et al. TLH 110.
- 9:30 Assemble for Procession, west of Third College Residence Halls.
- 10:00 Opening Session and Keynote Address, TLH 104.
- 11:00 Art Show, TLH 109, and Hucksters, TLH 111, open.
- 11:00 Paper: "The Religion and Morality of Middle-earth", by Joanne M. Such, TLH 110.
- 11:30--1:00 Lunch, Muir Commons.
- 1:00 Paper: "'The Northern Literature' and the Ring Trilogy", by Mariann Russell, TLH 110.
- 2:00 Paper: "Land of Faerie: the Disappearing Myth", by Caroline Geer.
- 3:00 General Auction, TLH 104
- 5:00--6:00 Dinner, Muir Commons.
- 6:30 Paper: "Numinor and the True West: A Geographical Myth from Irish Mythology used by Lewis and Tolkien", by Edgar Chapman.

- 7:30 Music Program. Mandeville Center B-210.
(Second Basement).
- 8:45 Guest of Honor Richard Purtill, "Heaven and
Other Perilous Realms", TLH 104.
- 10:30 (approx) Film "Phantom of the Opera", silent.

Sunday

- 5:30 Dawn Fandom. Gather in front of Third
College Residence Halls as for Opening
Session.
- 7:00--9:00 Breakfast, Muir Commons.
- 11:00 Paper: "Unifying Principles in C. S. Lewis'
Space Trilogy", by Ethel Wallis. TLH 110
- 11:30--1:00 Lunch, Muir Commons.
- 1:00 Paper: "The Host of Heaven: Astrological and
Other Images of Divinity in the Fantasies of
C. S. Lewis", by Nancy-Lou Patterson. TLH 110.
- 2:00 Paper and Discussion: "The Many Worlds of
Fantasy--Presentation and Discussion of a
System for Classifying Fantasy Sub-Genres",
by Diana L. Paxson.

LOCAL CHURCHES

Baptist: University City First Baptist Church, 4377
Eastgate Mall, San Diego, 453-3944. 9am & 10:30am.

Roman Catholic: Mary Star of the Sea, 7727 Girard Ave.
La Jolla, 454-2631. Sat.-5:15pm; Sun.-7-8-9-10-11-12,
5pm, 7:30pm in Spanish.

Episcopal: Church of the Good Samaritan, 4321 Eastgate
Mall, La Jolla, 455-0660. 8am & 10am.

United Presbyterian: Northminster Presbyterian Church,
4324 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego, 273-3011. 10am.

Lutheran: All Saints Lutheran Church, Genesee & Governor,
San Diego, 453-3595. 8:30am & 10:30am. (LCA)

United Church of Christ: Union Congregational Church,
1216 Cave, La Jolla, 459-5045. 10:30am.

United Methodist Church: La Jolla United Methodist,
6063 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, 454-7108. 9:30am.

3:00 General Auction (contd.) TLH 104.
 4:00 Art Show verbal bidding, TLH 109.
 5:00--6:00 Dinner, Muir Commons.
 6:30 Paper: "You Also Shall Be Psyche, or a
 Woman's Search for Soul", by Frances L. Smith.
 TLH 110.
 7:30 Masquerade. Mandeville B 210. Participants
 should contact Christe McMenomy or Meg
 Garrett beforehand if at all possible.
 9:00 "Three Figures of Evil": A series of dramatic
 monologues from fantasy literature, by Don
 Smith. TLH 104.
 10:00 Film, "Jason and the Argonauts", TLH 104.

Monday

7:00--9:00 Breakfast, Muir Commons.
 9:00 Mythopoeic Slide Show. TLH 110.
 10:00 Paper: Untitled, on Smith of Wootton Major,
 by Martha C. Sammons, TLH 110.
 11:30--1:00 Lunch, Muir Commons.
 1:00 Closing Session, TLH 104.
 3:00 Final deadline for check-out.

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CAIR PARAVEL

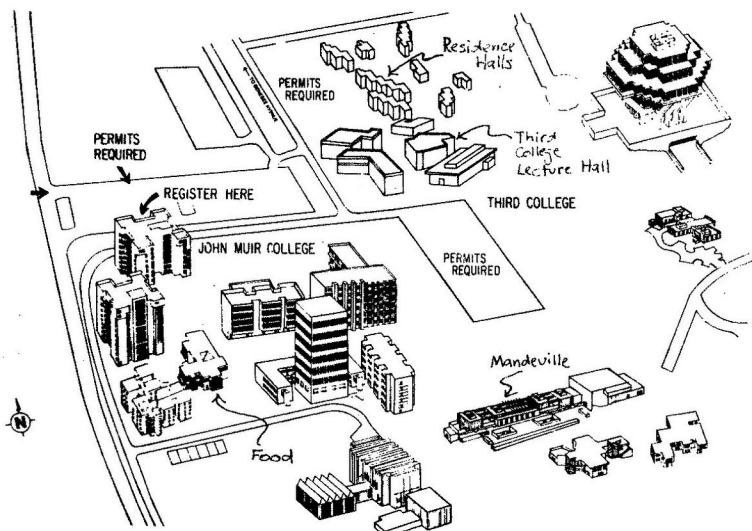
The San Diego Branch of the Mythopoeic Society

Meetings on the second Saturday every month:

7:30 P.M.

For Meeting information contact:

Robin Hunt
 Secretary
 284-0871



Richard Purtill

The question which has haunted the Tolkien movement over most of its existence has been "why Tolkien? What does he say to us that makes his work special?" Dr. Richard Purtill is a philosopher, and as such he must deal closely with words and their meanings. And while the philosopher and the philologist necessarily frame these problems in different terms, the juxtaposition of the two approaches can produce increased depth and clarity.

Dr. Purtill brought his background to bear specifically on Tolkien and Lewis scholarship in his book Lord of the Elves and Eldils (Zondervan, 1974), the work with which members are most likely to be familiar. It balances warmth and precision and remains one of the most lucid studies to have appeared on either of the two to date. Other works include Reason to Believe (Eerdmans, 1974), on the philosophy of religion and the rational underpinnings of faith (referring several times to Tolkien and Lewis). Philosophically Speaking (Prentice-Hall, 1975) presents different philosophical schools represented by various fictional speakers (including a Professor Kirk) in a rough-and-tumble dialogue committed to following the argument wherever it leads. Dr. Purtill has also published Thinking About Ethics (Prentice-Hall, 1976), Logical Thinking (Harper and Row, 1972) and Logic for Philosophers (Harper and Row, 1971), on topics which demand attention (but less frequently receive it) in every age.

Dr. Purtill is chairman of the philosophy department at Western Washington State College, Bellingham, Washington. He is active in the Mythopoeic Society, as well as being a member of the American Philosophical Association and the Sierra Club. Welcome, Dr. Purtill.

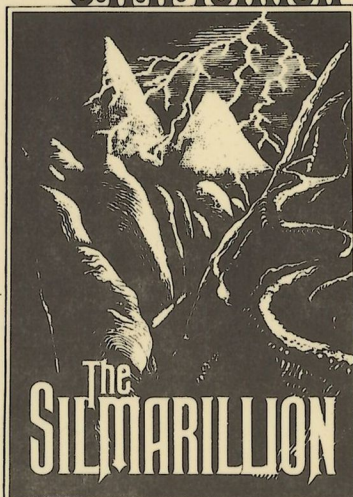
--Fred Brenion, Bruce McMenomy

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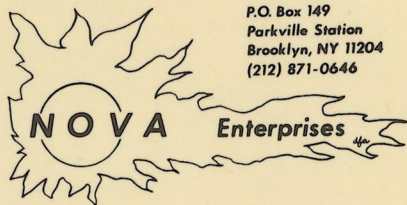
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