

THE BADGER STATE?

You may be wondering what all this is about Wisconsin and badgers. *Taxidea taxus* is a powerful, curmudgeonly member of the weasel family, and just about anything it can dig for, it will eat. It can dig so well that there have been cases of them digging their way up through paved surfaces. They live in dens they tunnel out 6-9 feet underground.

While Wisconsin does indeed have badgers (unlike the Wolverine State, Michigan, which has no wolverines), the nickname for the state comes from the miners of Cornish descent who came to the state in the 1820's to extract rich lead ores. For convenience, they lived in their excavations like, uh... right.

Since then the Wisconsin badger has been most recognized as the University of Wisconsin mascot, Bucky Badger™. And when I say™ I sure do mean™. They're quite protective of their mascot. You may have heard recently that a Bucky Badger™ suit was stolen in Madison. We want to say right now that we had nothing to do with it, and those photos of Bucky turning the crank on a mimeo are clearly fakes.

—Tracy Benton



CORFLU BADGER

APRIL 25-27, 2003—MADISON, WISCONSIN

Ah, Wisconsin in late April; flowers are coming up, birds are singing, and the snow plows are finally being put away until autumn. Into this environment comes the twentieth annual Corflu.

Of course we'll have the traditional Corflu amenities: the opening ceremonies and official selection of the Guest of Honor will be held on Friday night, and the traditional Corflu softball game will be held Saturday afternoon at a nearby field. Saturday night will feature the TAFF/DUFF auction, and the brunch with the GoH speech and the FAAN Awards will be held on Sunday morning (LATE morning).

We'll be at the cozy Inn Towner Hotel on the western edge of the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison. With a number of interesting ethnic restaurants (Korean, Palestinian, Italian, sushi, Thai, Mexican) and a couple of decent coffee shops nearby, there should be numerous walking-distance options for reliable food. There will be an excursion to the first farmer's market of the season on the Capitol Square, there will be lots of great conversation, there will be plenty of fanzines, and there will be a whole lot of Phannish Phun. While there are a number of events on neighboring weekends, we hope you'll be able to spend some time with us in Madison.

—Bill Bodden

NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA BURROW: In the Madison tradition, Corflu BADGER is planning to have lots and lots of programming. Room after room of programming. Would you mind helping out? Take a look at my preliminary list of program items, and see what you think. What panelists should I invite for each panel discussion? Who are the experts? How can I expand or refocus these ideas to improve them?

- WHEN DUFF WAS YOUNG: WHERE IS LESLEIGH LUTTRELL WHEN WE NEED HER?
- THE DINNER PARTY: PLACE SETTINGS OF THE BNF's
- ANTHRAX ON BOARD: FAILED FANZINE TITLES
- FUCK 'EM BUCKY: WHY OUR MASCOT WAS DRUMMED OUT OF FURRY FANDOM
- C'EST LA VIE ON THE MISSISSIPPI: THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY TOBES
- NO SHAGGING RULE: SAFE FANNISH PRACTICE OR POLICY BEST LEFT TO BASEBALL?
- IAN SORENSEN: WHAT ARE WE AFRAID OF?
- WORLD BUILDING 101: HUMAN PYRAMIDS WORKSHOP

As you can see, I need help. Please contact me with your program ideas and suggestions for what I should do with mine.

—Spike Parsons

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CURRENT MEMBERS

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Lise Eisenberg
Moshe Feder
Jim Hudson*
Hope Leibowitz
Frank Lunney
Diane Martin*
Spike Parsons*
Mark Plummer
Vicki Rosenzweig
Yvonne Rowse*
Ron Salomon
Jeff Schalles
Joyce Scrivner
Dan Steffan
Lynn Steffan
Steve Stiles
Elaine Stiles
Jerome Van Epps
Ted White
Julie Zachman*

* Official Bagel-Eating
Committee members

THE FARMER'S MARKET: A 30-YEAR TRADITION

If you come to Corflu, you'll be in Madison for the first outdoor Farmer's Market of the season on Saturday morning. That means it could be 40 degrees F, or 80; snowing, raining, or sunny. But, it won't be crowded at 7 a.m. like it is later in the season. The vendors will be there before 7, and typically shut down around 1pm.

The market covers the 4 sides of the Capitol Square, which really is a square. (That was a big surprise to me—a transplanted New Englander used to Harvard Square and other "squares" that were trapezoids, heptagons, and the like). It's about 2 miles from the hotel, but the free hotel shuttle (and various local fans) will be driving there on Saturday morning. The Capitol is worth visiting, and most of the local museums are within a couple blocks.

The first markets of the season tend to have limited amounts of produce: spinach, watercress, ramps (a wild leek), various other greens, some flowers, hydroponic tomatoes. It all has to be grown locally, and we're in the frozen northland, so fresh green selections are limited. But you'll also find lots of things to plant, maple syrup, honey popcorn, meat, candy, eggs, and baked goods. And more baked goods. And even more baked goods, lots of baked goods. There will also be some amount of political action, particularly later in the morning. It'll probably be too early for the morel mushrooms, but you can never tell with global warming. Since we're in Wisconsin, there will be artisan cheeses, and lots of fresh, squeaky cheese curd.

There's a huxsters street next to the market, for the people who want to sell things that don't qualify as "homemade" or "locally grown". Since we don't grow a lot of our own coffee in Madison, you'll need to go there or, better, to one of the excellent coffee shops within a block of the Square (Ancora is our favorite). For details about the market, see www.madfarmmkt.org. Or, come to Corflu and we'll give you a guide to some of our favorite vendors.

—Jim Hudson



THE HOTEL

The Best Western InnTowner and Highland Club (www.inntowner.com) is on the near west side of Madison. The hotel is complete with a pool, a hot tub, and features (oh bliss) a free airport shuttle. A small number of smoking rooms are available, so to secure one, book early. To make your reservation, call 1-800-528-1234 and specify Corflu (code CORF). Our room rate is \$89 US per night.

REGISTER

An attending Corflu membership includes the Sunday banquet. A supporting membership includes all publications given to attending members. Membership rates:

- ✦ Attending, July 1, 2002 until April 1, 2003: \$45 US (£30 UK)
- ✦ Attending, after April 1, 2003 and at the door: \$60 US (£40 UK)
- ✦ Supporting membership only: \$15 US (£10 UK)

In the U.S., make checks payable to Tracy Benton and mail with form to Corflu c/o Tracy Benton, 108 Grand Canyon Drive, Madison WI 53705. In the UK, send the completed form with a cheque made out to Yvonne Rowse, Evergreen, Halls Farm Lane, Trimpley, Worcs, DY12 1NP.

(Persons wishing to have their name withdrawn from the GoH selection process can slip a cool, yet discreet, \$20 to Bill Bodden before Friday at 8PM, and no one will be the wiser <wink>. Proceeds from this "slush fund" will be split among a variety of worthy causes, most notably the "Send Bill and Tracy on a Consuite Beer Run Trust.")

Find us on the web! <http://www.mailbag.com/users/billzilla/corflu.html>. On second thought, just use Google. Email us at corflu20@tds.net.

CORFLU 20 REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip
Code: _____

Email Address: _____