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Conference Retrospective

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Conference Retrospective

CLARE ROSE

POD's Fourth Annual Conference, held at Shangri-La on November 5-8, 1978, is now past history. Just in case those of you who were not in attendance are thinking we were off on some South Sea Island, I hasten to add that *this* Shangri-La is a conference center in Afton, Oklahoma, and although it is very lovely, the 206 registrants came to work, learn, teach, and relax a little.

The conference had many moods, ranging from laid back to turned-on (as the photo display in this issue will attest). Joggers, bike riders and tennis players gave some of us guilt feelings about being sedentary, while we in turn made them feel guilty (albeit less so) about missing sessions.

In all there were 52 sessions (85 percent of them selected through an open proposal competition) focusing on seven areas: organizations, students, instruction, faculty, administrators, programs and skill building. Session titles and presenters are reprinted in this issue for those of you who were unable to attend.

In order to provide an opportunity for participants to recover from the barrage of information and cognitive involvement, two special dinner events were held: a country-western barbeque and hoedown and a Polynesian luau. At the hoedown, especially, there were some rather remarkable character changes in response to the music. Some of us still remember how to do a mean jitterbug. Unfortunately, certain of the photographs taken there are claimed to have been lost or damaged. Personally, I think Mary Lynn is onto a great blackmail scheme.

I would like to thank the other Conference Planning Committee members (Ruth Rose, Bob Bolan, Earle Bowen, Glenn Erickson, Steve Scholl and Mary Lynn Crow), the presenters and the staff of Shangri-La for making my job easier. I also wish Earle Bowen success as he begins planning the 1979 conference. I'll be there, and you will be able to easily recognize me—I'll be the relaxed one.