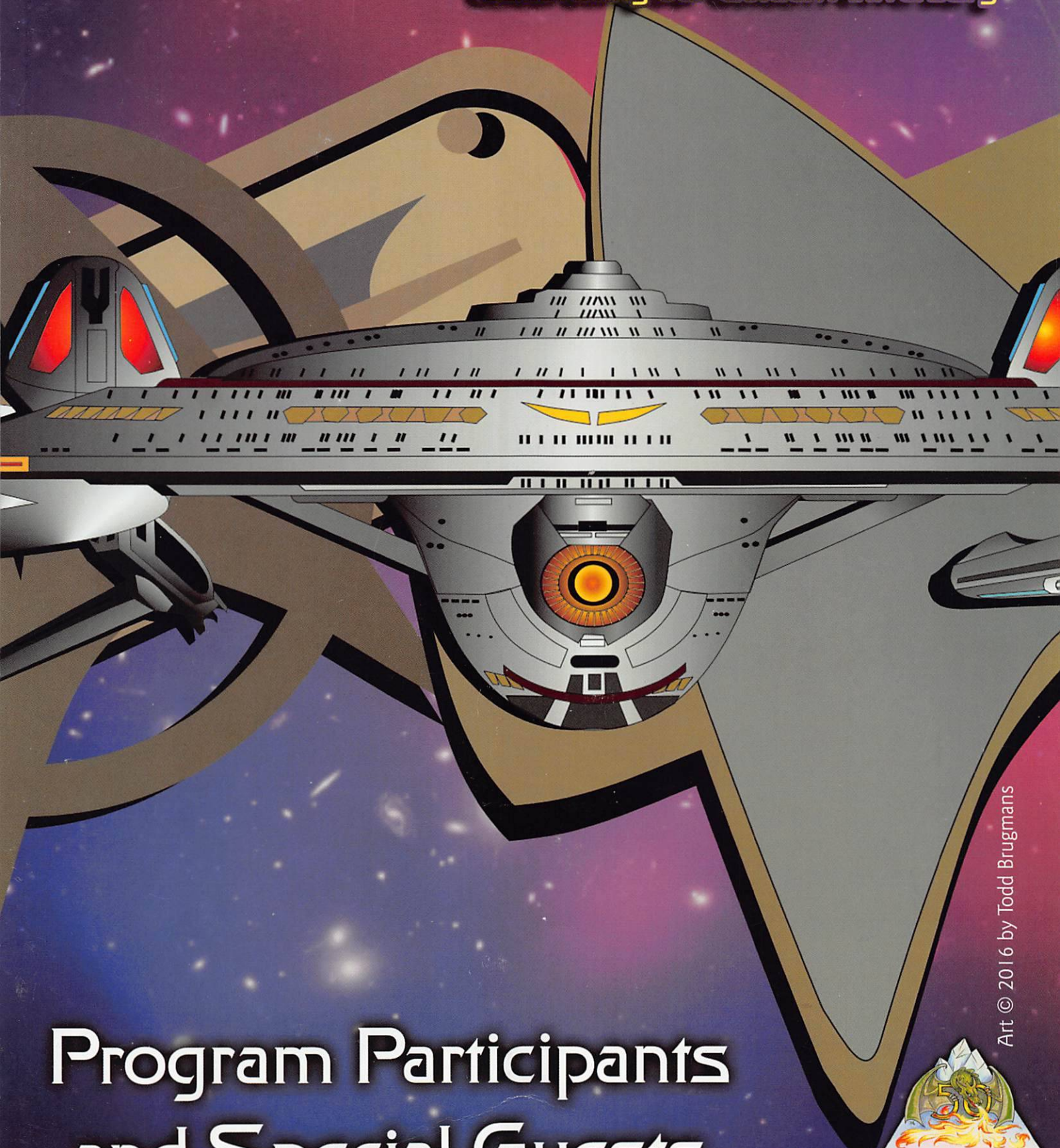


BALTICON 50

Celebrating our Golden Anniversary



Program Participants
and Special Guests

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BALTICON

The Baltimore Science Fiction Society, Inc. proudly welcomes you to

The Maryland Regional Science Fiction Convention



BALTICON 50

Guest of Honor

George R.R. Martin



Filk Guests of Honor
Bill & Gretchen Roper

Art Guest of Honor
John Picacio



Fan Guests of Honor
**Martin Deutsch &
B. Shirley Avery**



2016 Compton Crook
Award Winner
Fran Wilde



2016 Robert Heinlein
Award Winner
Kim Stanley Robinson

2015 Compton Crook
Award Winner

Alexandra Duncan



Toastmaster
Mark Van Name



May 27-30, 2016
Memorial Day Weekend

**The Renaissance Baltimore
Harborplace Hotel**

A Marriott Affiliate

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Over 400 Hours of Multi-Track Programming featuring authors, publishers, editors, artists, scientists, musicians and other creative SF luminaries. Join over a thousand SF fans for the area's largest and longest running convention of its kind! Visit our huge art show, dealer's room, concerts, dances, gaming room, computer room and video room. Special Balticon and Star Trek 50th anniversary programming. Everything Science Fiction and Fantasy in one huge package.



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BALTICON 50

Celebrating our Golden Anniversary

May 27-30, 2016

**The Renaissance Baltimore
Harborplace Hotel**

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Star Trek*, the Balticon 50 *Program Participants and Special Guests* booklet cover is part of a triptych of souvenir book covers with our friends at Farpoint (Feb. 12-14, 2016) and Shore Leave (July 15-17, 2016).

Original Art © 2016 by Todd Brugmans

**Program Participants
and Special Guests**



BALTICON

Balticon 50 Program Participants

Danielle Ackley-McPhail	Brenda Clough	Val Griswold-Ford
Aziz Al-Doory	John Cmar	Daniel Hack
Day Al-Mohamed	Myke Cole	Eta Hack
Lisa Adler-Golden	Doc Coleman	Gay Haldeman
Kennedy Allen	Paul Cooley	Elektra Hammond
Nina Amaya	Iver Cooper	Eric Hardenbrook
Scott Andrews	Elwin Cotman	P.C. Haring
Catherine Asaro	Billy Crash	Kelly Harmon
Ashaya	Meriah Crawford	Lauren Harris
John Ashmead	Vonnie Winslow Crist	Ayne Hart
Lisa Ashton	Lynn Cunningham	Jeff Hartline / BryndenBFish
B. Shirley Avery	Erik Darden	Katie Hartlove
Sarah Avery	Amanda Davroe	John Hartness
Jared Axelrod	Keith R.A. DeCandido	Bjorn Hasseler
T. Eric Bakutis	Wendy Delmater	Reesa Herberth
Philippa Ballantine	Virginia DeMarce	Inge Heyer
Rob Barba	Arinn Dembo	Chris Hiles
Brick Barrientos	Martin Deutsch	Larry Hodges
Lada Bartova	Ming Diaz	D. Jeannette Holloman
Diana Bastine	Tim Dodge	Thomas Holtz
Jim Beall	Rosy Dorffner	Heidi Hooper
John Becker	Tom Doyle	Starla Huchton
R.S. Belcher	Alexandra Duncan	Matt Hughes
Joseph F. Berenato	James Durham	Eric "Hymie" Hymowitz
Joshua Bilmes	Scott Edelman	Michelle Hymowitz
Danny Birt	Gary Ehrlich	Chris Impink
Ally Bishop	Gaia Eirich	Lonnie Ingram
J.R. Blackwell	Zachary Eirins	Alex Jacobs
Boogie Knights	Christiana Ellis	Nancy Janda
Arthur Boorman	Paul Ellis	Thomas Jewell
Walt Boyes	Bill Fawcett	Leslie Johnston
Marilyn "Mattie" Brahen	Harold Feld	Paula S. Jordan
Alessia Brio	Judi Fleming	DJ Kangal
Charlie Brown	Billy Flynn	A. L. Kaplan
Todd Brugmans	Terri Flynnstress	Alma Katsu
Peter Bryant	D. Douglas Fratz	Robert I. Katz
James Buechler	John L. French	David Keefer
Stephanie 'Flash' Burke	Jesse Friedman	William Kennedy
Laura A. Burns	Clint Gage	Tom Kidd
Ty Burson	William LJ Galaini	Mark "the Encaffeinated ONE" Kilfoil
Mildred Cady	Allison Gamblin	Kim the Comic Book Goddess
Jack Campbell / John Hemry	Charles Gannon	Jonah Knight
Jack Carroll	Eric Gasior	Brian Koscienski
Christine Chase	Pamela L. Gay	Dotty Kurtz
Robert Chase	Veronica Giguere	Mur Lafferty
Carl Cipra	Phil Giunta	Ruth Lampi
Mitchell Burnside Clapp	James Gossard	Sharon Landrum
Denise Clemons	Stephen Granade	Grig Larson
Jack Clemons	Randy Green	Chris Lester

Balticon 50 Program Participants

Gary L. Lester	Christopher Pisano	Steven Southard
Emily Leverett	Scott Pond	Bud Sparhawk
Jennifer Levine	The Positronic Cats	Michael Spence
Steven Levine	Jennifer R. Povey	Benjamin Steinhurst
Bryan Lincoln	Peter Prellwitz	Christopher Strachan
Tim Livengood	Jordan Price	Jim Stratton
Andy Love	Karen Purcell	Ian Strock
Steve Lubs	Maxxyne Putz	David Lee Summers
Mike Luoma	Pyris	Gayle Surrette
Perrienne Lurie	Christine Rake	Jim Swann
Barbara Mabie	Larry Reclusado	Linda Swann
Mark MacDicken / Flabbergast	Nobilis Reed	Michael Swanwick
Erik Mack	Angela Render	Kathryn Szkotnicki
Gail Z. Martin	Jason Richardson	K.M. Szpara
George R.R. Martin	Ray Ridenour	Cecilia Tan
Misty Massey	Greg "RPG Dude" Robin	Leigh Targaryen
Demetrios Matsakis	Kim Stanley Robinson	Tek the Clockwork Doctor
Maugorn	Ron Robinson	Bob Terry
Scott McDaniel	Dave Robison	Patrick Thomas
Mike McPhail	Scott Roche	Jeff Thornsen
Christie Meierz	Roberta Rogow	John Tilden
Karen Miden	Bill Roper	Izolda Trakhtenberg
Holli Mintzer	Gretchen Roper	Black Tribbles
James Minz	Christopher Mark Rose	Michael Underwood
Andy Mitchell	Dragan Rose	Mark L. Van Name
Bernie Mojzes	Ann Marie Rudolph	Michael A. Ventrella
Michelle Moore	Don Sakers	Thomas M. Waldroon
Tee Morris	Carol Salemi	John Walker
Vivid Muse	Kathreja Sarfati	David Walton
Jay Nak	Lee Sarfati	Jean Marie Ward
Princess Jacquelyn Von Necropolis	Robert J. Sawyer	Joy Ward
Laura Nicole	Patrick Scaffido	Shannon C. Ward
Christine Norris	John Scheeler	Robert Waters
Nutty Nuchtchas	Ken Schrader	Lawrence Watt-Evans
Meg Nuge	Chooch Schubert	Leonard Webb
Goldeen Ogawa	Darrell Schweitzer	Diane Weinstein
Lady Ozma	Dr. SETI / H. Paul Shuch	Heather Welliver
Kate Pakaski	Chris Shockey	Alex White
Ada Palmer	Alex Shvartsman	S.L. Wideman
Sharon "SMAP" Palmer	Ethan Siegel	Fran Wilde
Patches	Podcasting's Rich Sigfrid	John Williams
Marianne Pease	David Silverman	D.C. Wilson
Michael Pederson	Hildy Silverman	Jen Wilson
L. Penelope	John Skylar	Steven H. Wilson
TJ Perkins	Jay Smith	A.C. Wise
Meredith Peruzzi	Waylon Smith	David Wood
John Picacio	Maria Snyder	Robyn Wyrick
Kelly Pierce	David Sobkowiak	Jeff Young
Sarah Pinsker	Michelle Sonnier	Cindy Young-Turner

Balticon 50 Program Participant Bios

Danielle Ackley-McPhail



Award-winning author Danielle Ackley-McPhail has worked both sides of the publishing industry for longer than she cares to admit. Currently, she is a project editor and promotions manager for Dark Quest Books and has recently started her own press, eSpec Books.

Her published works include five urban fantasy novels—*Yesterday's Dreams*, *Tomorrow's Memories*, *Today's Promise*, *The Halfling's Court* and *The Redcaps' Queen*—and a young adult Steampunk novel, *Baba Ali and the Clockwork Djinn*, written with Day Al-Mohamed. She is also the author of the solo science fiction collection *A Legacy of Stars* and the non-fiction writers' guide *The Literary Handyman*, and is the senior editor of the *Bad-Ass Faeries* anthology series: *Dragon's Lure*, and *In an Iron Cage*. Her work is included in numerous other anthologies and collections.

Danielle is a member of the Garden State Speculative Fiction Writers, the New Jersey Authors Network, and Broad Universe, a writers' organization focusing on promoting the works of women authors in the speculative genres.

Danielle lives in New Jersey with husband and fellow writer, Mike McPhail, mother-in-law Teresa, and three extremely spoiled cats. She can be found on Facebook (Danielle Ackley-McPhail) and Twitter (@DMcPhail). To learn more about her work, visit www.sidhenadaire.com or www.badassfaeries.com.

Lisa Adler-Golden

Lisa Adler-Golden is a biologist, costumer, and fan of all things fandom.

Aziz Al-Doory

Aziz is one of the cohosts of *History of Westeros*, a podcast dedicated to the histories and mysteries of *A Song of Ice and Fire*. He has been obsessed with *ASOIAF* since approximately 2001, to the point where he can and will drop everything to chat about the smallest details. He loves almost any game associated with it, and is also an avid gamer outside of *ASOIAF*.

Day Al-Mohamed



Day Al-Mohamed is co-editor of the anthology *Trust & Treachery* and hosts the multi-author blog *Unleaded: Fuel for Writers*. In addition to speculative fiction, she also writes comics and film scripts. Her recent publications are available in *Daily Science Fiction*, the Crossed Genres anthology *Oomph—A Little Super Goes a Long Way*, and GrayHaven Comics' anti-bullying issue *You Are Not Alone*. She is an active member of the Cat Vacuuming Society of Northern Virginia Writing Group, and Women in Film and Video. When not working on fiction, Day is Senior Policy Advisor with the US Department of Labor.

She has also worked as a lobbyist and political analyst on issues

relating to healthcare, education, employment, and international development. She loves action movies and drinks far too much tea. She lives in Washington, DC, with her wife, N.R. Brown, in a house with too many swords, comic books, and political treatises. She can be found online at www.DayAlMohamed.com and @DayAlMohamed.

Nina Amaya



Nina Amaya, Belly Dance Instructor, has been studying the dances of the Middle East since the 1990s. She runs a belly dance troupe, Aubergine, and Brinjal, Baltimore's Bellydance Band. She also runs the Baltimore Faerie Faire, a one-day festival dedicated to the fae creatures who stayed when the City was built around them. Study belly dancing at Balticon and celebrate with The Fae at the Masquerade Ball, and the Faire the week after!

Scott Andrews

Scott H. Andrews lives in Virginia with his wife, two cats, nine guitars, a dozen overflowing bookcases, and hundreds of beer bottles from all over the world. His short fiction won a \$1000 prize from the *Briar Cliff Review* and has appeared in *Weird Tales*, *On Spec*, and *Space and Time*. He is Editor-in-Chief and Publisher of the online fantasy magazine *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, and is a three-time finalist for the Hugo Award, the World Fantasy Award, and the Parsec Award. He will be a guest lecturer at the 2016 Odyssey Writing Workshop.

Catherine Asaro



Catherine Asaro has written more than 25 books in science fiction, fantasy, and near-future thrillers. She earned her doctorate in chemical physics and master's in physics, both at Harvard. Her works *The Quantum Rose* and *The Spacetime Pool* are both Nebula® Award winners. Among her other distinctions, she is a multiple winner of the

AnLab from *Analog Magazine* and the RT BOOKClub Award for "Best Science Fiction Novel." Her most recent books are *Undercity* (Baen) and *Lighting Strike*, Book II. Her next book, *The Bronzed Sky*, is due out from Baen late in 2016.

A former ballet and jazz dancer, Catherine has performed on both coasts and in Ohio. As a musician, she performs at various cons and jazz clubs. She has appeared at cons and other venues as a Guest of Honor or author guest in the US and abroad. For more information, see her Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Catherine.Asaro.

Ashaya

Ashaya is one of the cohosts of *History of Westeros*, a podcast dedicated to the histories and mysteries of *A Song of Ice and Fire*. She is an avid *ASOIAF* gamer, having modded the *Game of Thrones* board game, though her one true love is *Crusader Kings 2: Game of Thrones*.

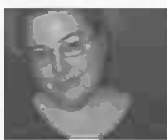
John Ashmead

John Ashmead has a BA in physics from Harvard (summa cum laude) and a master's in physics from Princeton. He is currently working on a physics dissertation, "Time & Quantum Mechanics," detailing how to quantize time using the same rules as we use for space ("Experimentally testable, which is always nice!") John got his start as an editor at *Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction* magazine.

He's currently working with Darrell Schweitzer on an anthology, *Tales From the Miskatonic University Library*. By day, he's a database admin and developer at Nistica, which produces the optical switches used to control the Internet. He does a bit of database and web consulting on the side. His life's great ambition, however, is to develop a practical and cost-effective time machine.

Lisa Ashton

Lisa Ashton is a longtime Balticon participant. She is an experienced costumer with several Balticon BIS (Best in Show) wins, including "Magic of the Ancients," "It's Tough to Be a God," and "Basic Black." She is also the founder of Miss Lizzy's Traveling Historical Fashion Show, a non-profit dedicated to education and preservation of Victorian culture and fashion.

Sarah Avery

Sarah Avery won the 2015 Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for *Tales from Rugosa Coven*. With David Sklar, she coedited the themed anthology *Trafficking in Magic, Magicking in Traffic*, which includes stories from James

Enge, Darrell Schweitzer, and Elizabeth Bear. Avery's short fiction has appeared in *Jim Baen's Universe*, *Black Gate*, and *Fantasy Scroll*. For seven years she has been a regular essayist and reviewer at *Black Gate*.

Jared Axelrod

Jared Axelrod is the creator of *The Voice of Free Planet X*, which takes a human-scale public radio approach to far-out science-fiction concepts. Jared Axelrod interviews everyone from vampires to time travelers, advanced A.I.s to ancient monstrosities.

Axelrod has been podcasting since 2005, and is also the creator of the serials *Aliens You Will Meet* and *Fables of the Flying City*. The story started in *Fables of the Flying City* is concluded in *The Battle of Blood & Ink*, a graphic novel he

wrote that was illustrated by Steve Walker and published by Tor.

He is not domestic; he is a luxury, and in that sense, necessary.

T. Eric Bakutis

T. Eric Bakutis is an author and game designer based in Maryland. The staff of Balticon selected his debut fantasy novel, *Glyphbinder*, as one of eight finalists for the 2014 Compton Crook Award. Its sequel, *Demonkin*, was published in late 2015.

His short story, "Hunted," won second place in the 2015 BSFS Short Story Competition, and his short fiction has appeared in a number of markets and anthologies. He has also received three honorable mentions from the Writers of the Future Contest.

When not developing games or writing, Eric blogs about game design and virtual reality, tweets regular links to remixed videogame music and memes, and also publishes one new 1500-word short story every month for the Fantasy-Faction Writing Contest.

Philippa Ballantine

New Zealand-born fantasy writer and podcaster Philippa (Pip) Ballantine is the author of the *Books of the Order* and the *Shifted World* series. She is also the co-author with her husband Tee Morris of the *Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences* novels. Her awards include an Airship, a Parsec, the

Steampunk Chronicle Reader's Choice, the RT Reviewer's Choice Award for steampunk, and a Sir Julius Vogel. She currently resides in Manassas, VA with her husband, daughter, and a furry clowder of cats.

Rob Barba

Rob is a guy who somehow managed to have a birthday of Valentine's Day (though his family will deny this), a hometown of Huntington Beach, CA (which his family will also deny), and ended up in the Navy for a stretch, traveling the world, learning new cultures and languages and ... anime and manga (okay, so he knew about those before he joined the Navy.) He then met his wife and figured he could do more damage to the nation by leaving military service and going into government employment. After wasting taxpayer funds, he went into comics and writing.

He has a ponytail, which was passé back in the 90s, and probably could use a shave. Since leaving the service, he thinks jeans and sweaters constitute formal wear. He's also a massive liar, but hey, so is every other fiction writer out there—that's why you buy their stuff. He now lives in Ponyvi...er, Winchester, VA with his wife and a dog that thinks she's a cat.

Oh, and something about being an accomplished linguist, archivist, artist, typographer, administrator and a dozen other things that have no bearing on why you're reading this.

Brick Barrientos

Brick Barrientos has been playing in and organizing trivia contests for too long. He captained the University of Maryland to the College Bowl national championship. Brick was a one-day winner on *Jeopardy!*, defeating a four-time winner. These days he hosts a movie trivia game show called Silver Screen

Test that can be found at www.silverscreentest.com. Brick has been running the science fiction trivia contest at Balticon for more than 20 years and ran the trivia contest for Bucconner, the Worldcon in Baltimore. His current day job is in compliance for an investment advisor.

Lada Bartova

A self-proclaimed *A Song of Ice and Fire* nerd, Bartova is Czech living in Ireland. Quite new to the whole science fiction/fantasy convention scene, she is very excited by all of it. If you skipped the ninth doctor, she cannot be friends with you.

Diana Bastine

Diana Bastine is a free-lance author and editor based in North Carolina. She is the author of the award-winning YA fantasy series featuring Caitlyn Flynn (*The Source*, *Shapeshifter* and *Selkie*). These three novels, and the final, unpublished fourth volume, *Gabriel's Secret*, will be released by Double Dragon e-books in 2016. Diana is known to

her friends and family as the "Fairy CatMother" and sells t-shirts and tote bags with this logo. She is also a certified Reiki Master/Teacher. Diana loves to read, do handcrafts and improve her brain—she loves puzzles of all sorts, including jigsaws, math and logic puzzles, and word puzzles of every variety. She enjoys exercising first thing in the morning, eating healthy food—and swears her only vice is 85+% dark chocolate. She can be reached at www.fairycatmother.net.

Jim Beall

Jim Beall (BS-Math, MBA, PE) has been a nuclear engineer for over 40 years, a war gamer for over 50, and an avid reader of science fiction for even longer. His experience in nuclear engineering and power systems began as a naval officer, shortly after surviving one of Admiral Rickover's infamous interviews, aboard USS *Long Beach* (CGN-9).

Experience after the United States navy includes design, construction, inspection, enforcement, and assessment with a nuclear utility, an architect engineering firm, and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC). Assignments at the USNRC included senior resident inspector (both for construction and operations), inspection team leader, and senior enforcement specialist, before serving as the policy assistant for reactors to three different USNRC Commissioners and earning the agency's Meritorious and Distinguished Service awards.

Duties of those policy-level posts included substantial research into alternative and speculative energy sources, as well as energy forecasts. Some sources and methods include coal, oil, hydro, geothermal, tidal, solar, wind, fracking, space-based, heavy water reactors, breeder reactors, fusion, and even anti-matter (mostly for the math and atomic equations). These studies were a necessary aspect for reviewing energy proposals, assessing technical reports, and drafting speeches.

Baen Books (www.baen.com) has published three of his non-fiction articles: "Our Worldship Broke!," "Case Studies in Handwavium," and "From Corvus to Keyhole—Shipyards: Past, Present and Science Fiction."

John Becker

John Becker, writer and filmmaker, recently won his third Individual Artist's Award from the Maryland State Arts Council. He co-wrote and co-produced with James Durham the film *Thirst*. For the second year in a row, he was commissioned to write a play for the One-Minute Play Festival at Round House Theatre. His musical, *Everything I Do*, was read at the Kennedy Center and chosen for a workshop at Artist's Bloc. He was commissioned by Farrar, Straus, and Giroux in NY to co-write and co-direct the book trailer for Susan Coll's *The Stager*. His play *Summit Meeting* was performed at the Kennedy Center for a festival, where it was awarded first place by audience vote.

John has had plays performed four years in a row at the Source Theatre in DC and had a play performed off-Broadway at the Emerging Artists Theatre in New York. His articles have been published by Emerson College's *Howround* and others. He has also had plays performed at the Baltimore Playwrights Festival, the Writer's Center, Company 13, the Run of the Mill Theatre (for which he won a Greater Baltimore Theatre Award), the Human Rights Arts Festival for Amnesty International, and many others.

R.S. Belcher

R.S. (Rod) Belcher is an award-winning newspaper and magazine editor and reporter.

Rod has been a private investigator, a DJ, and a comic book store owner, and has degrees in criminal law, psychology and justice, and risk administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. He's completed master's work in Forensic Science at The George Washington University, and has worked with the Occult Crime Taskforce for the Virginia General Assembly.

The Grand Prize winner of the *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* Anthology contest, Rod's short story "Orphans" was published in *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds 9* (Simon and Schuster, 2006). It was his first professional fiction sale.

Rod's first novel, *The Six-Gun Tarot*, was published by Tor Books in 2013. The sequel, *The Shotgun Arcana*, was published in 2014, and the third book in the *Golgotha* series, *The Queen of Swords*, is currently in production. His novel *Nightwise* was released in August, 2015, and his latest book, *The Brotherhood of the Wheel*, was published by Tor in March of 2016. Sequels to both books are forthcoming.

He lives in Roanoke, VA with his children, Jonathan and Emily.

Joseph F. Berenato

Hailing from Hammonton, NJ, Joe spent four years as the entertainment editor of *The Hammonton Gazette* before returning to his roots at his family's blueberry farm. In 2014, Joe conceived, edited, and contributed to *New Life and New Civilizations: Exploring Star Trek Comics*. He and Rich Handley co-edited *The Sacred Scrolls: Comics on the Planet of the Apes; Bright Eyes, Ape City: Examining the Planet of the Apes Mythos; and A Long Time Ago: Exploring the Star Wars Cinematic Universe*, and they have more volumes in the works. Joe's work for IDW Publishing includes the introduction for *Star Trek: Gold Key Archives Volume 3* and a retrospective essay for *Star Trek #50*. He is an adjunct professor with several community colleges in New Jersey, and recently received a Master of Arts in Writing from Rowan University. You can find Joe at jfbarenato.wordpress.com and on Twitter at [@JFBerenato](https://twitter.com/JFBerenato).

Joshua Bilmes

Joshua Bilmes has been a literary agent for 30 years, and represents #1 bestsellers Charlaine Harris and Brandon Sanderson (past Balticon GoH), and many other sff authors including Compton Crook winners Myke Cole and Elizabeth Moon, NY Times bestsellers Jack Campbell, Simon R. Green and Peter V. Brett, and dozens more. This spring, several of the 15 debut authors the agency has sold since 2014 will see their first novels published. He reads lots of comics, and loves to watch movies and tennis.

Danny Birt

Award-winning author Danny Birt has been a contributor to several sci-fi, fantasy, and professional magazines, anthologies, and journals. Formerly, he was an editor for *Flashing Swords Magazine* and Ancient Tomes Press, and is now a freelance editor. His fantasy series *The Laurian Pentology* is being published through Dark Quest Books, with the final book in the series, *Beginning a Beginning*, premiering at Balticon this year. His first children's/YA novel, *Between a Roc and a Hard Place*, won recognition with The National Parenting Center's 2010 Seal of Approval, *Creative Child Magazine's* 2010 Seal of Excellence, and was named one of Dr. Toy's Best Picks of 2010. In addition to literary publication, Danny composes classical and filk music, such as his hour-long piano solo "Piano Petrissage," and the ever-peculiar album *Warped Children's Songs*. Danny's humorous music has been featured on radio and internet programs such as *The Dr. Demento Show* and *The Funny Music Project*.

Ally Bishop



Ally Bishop, MFA, MA, is a full-time professional editor and consultant and founder of *Upgrade Your Story (UYS)*. She's the personality behind the *UYS* podcast and the *UYS Periscope* show. She is the co-creator of The Cerulean Project, a not-for-profit organization focused on building supportive, educational writing communities locally and online. She's also a graphic designer (Creative Kook Designs), a PR/social media consultant and manager, and an author.

Black Tribbles



Sci-fi, comic books, movies, video games, cartoons; it all gets tossed around by the 5-headed hairy hoard of Black Tribbles—creator/producer Len Webb aka Bat Tribble, co-producer Kennedy Allen aka Storm Tribble, Erik Darden aka Master Tribble, Randy Green aka SuperTribble and Jason Richardson aka Spider-Tribble. The team reveals untold stories of geek history, showcases new and upcoming projects, and engages in thought-provoking conversation and provides critical insight into a culture often devoid of a black influence, all with an irreverent tone that delights as it educates. A hot item on G-town Radio, 900am WURD, iTunes, and Stitcher Radio, the show was doubly honored at the 2014 Philadelphia Geek Awards; taking home Streaming Media Project of the Year while Richardson won the coveted Geek of the Year award. The crew regularly invites their guests and fans to find their own 'Tribble Designation' and take the Tribbles' whimsical oath of allegiance into the Tribble Nation, where everyone is 'Too Cool to be Geeks, Too Cute to be Nerds; we are Black Tribbles.'

Find us on www.blacktribbles.com, Twitter [@BlackTribbles](https://twitter.com/BlackTribbles), Facebook [@TribbleNation](https://www.facebook.com/TribbleNation), email blacktribbles@gmail.com.

J.R. Blackwell



J.R. Blackwell is a photographer whose work has been published in newspapers, magazines and on the web. Her most recent project, *In Their Own Worlds*, features photographs of authors in the worlds of their novels.

Boogie Knights

Songs of daring-do with nary a hey nonny nonny! Since 1982, the Boogie knights have put a humorous medieval/mythical twist on everything from commercial jingles to TV/movie themes, from golden oldies to the latest top-40 songs. Our fearless leader, David Keefer (Theodoric of York, Medieval Disk Jockey) and our guitarist, John Scheeler (Sir John of Denver) are founding members. The rest, in order of joining, are: Sharon "Smap" Palmer (Dionne of Warwick), Kate Pakaski (Alice the Cooper's daughter), Linda Swann (the Lady Pinque), Keith R. A. DeCandido (KRAD the Obscure), & Lynn Cunningham ("Mad" Donna.)

Arthur Boorman



Arthur Boorman is a special educator/case manager at Severna Park High School and the faculty advisor to Severna Park High School Science Fiction and Fantasy Club. He holds a BA from the State University of New York, an MA from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, an administration certificate from McDaniel College, and Advanced Professional Certificates in special education, secondary mathematics, and administration. He is a staff blogger and critic for the ComicWow! Network. He is a

member of the Baltimore Science Fiction Society, the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumers Guild, and a life member of the HP Lovecraft Historical Society. He was a paratrooper and combat engineer in the US Army and served in the first Persian Gulf War. In his spare time, he teaches yoga at his local YMCA and at a Disabled Veterans Program in Frederick, MD.

Walt Boyes

Walt Boyes is the editor of the *Industrial Automation INSIDER* magazine, the editor of *The Grantville Gazette*, a member of the 1632 universe editorial board, former editor of *Control* magazine and associate editor of *Jim Baen's Universe*. Along with Joy Ward, Walt is co-editor of Eric Flint's Ring of Fire Press. Walt is an active member of Science Fiction Writers of America.

Marilyn "Mattie" Brahen



Marilyn "Mattie" Brahen has published fiction in Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Fantasy Magazine*, *Space and Time*, *Scheherazade* (in Great Britain), and other magazines, and in the anthologies *Crafty Cat Crimes* and *The Ultimate Halloween*. Her 2003 first novel,

Claiming Her, and its 2009 sequel, *Reforming Hell*, received positive reviews. A third novel, *Baby Boy Blue*, a police procedural mystery set in Philadelphia, was published in 2011 and resold to Linford Mystery Library (large print edition) in Great Britain in 2014. Mattie is also a guitarist, singer and songwriter and enjoys performing filk, folk, blues and other musical genre songs, both her own and those of other musical artists. She lives with her husband, editor and author Darrell Schweitzer, and their cat, Tolkien, in Northeast Philadelphia.

Alessia Brio



Take one part Appalachian redneck, one part ancient wet dream, and one part filthy-minded wordsmith. Mix well and serve with chocolate-covered cherries. There you have the one and only Alessia Brio. Alessia writes

all colors and flavors of erotica, from heterosexual to menage to same-sex, and from twisted to humorous to deeply touching. These days, Alessia spends most of her time managing *Coming Together*, the publishing nonprofit she launched over a decade ago.

Charlie Brown

Charlie Brown is a writer and filmmaker from New Orleans. He currently lives in Los Angeles, where he recently received his master's in Professional Writing from the University of Southern California and also runs Lucky Mojo Press and Mojotooth Productions. He has made two feature films: *Angels Die Slowly* and *Never a Dull Moment: 20 Years of the Rebirth Brass Band*. He is also managing editor of the online literary journal *Vex Mosaic*.

Todd Brugmans



Whether it is in book format or as a visual medium, Todd has been a longtime fan of science fiction. Having graduated in 1993 with a BA degree from Kean University, he has used his skills as a graphic artist and photographer to bring his own style of art and humor to everything he has created.

His artwork has appeared in several fan-publications for groups like Starfleet International, the Official Babylon 5 Fan Club, and The Colonial Defense Force (a Battlestar Galactica club). He has developed award certificates and advertising material as well for these organizations, as well as several chapter logos which are still in use today.

Always willing to help with worthy causes, his work has been featured for charity auctions, signed pieces of art have been made available to assist in fund-raising efforts for groups like the Julian Fleming Memorial Fund and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Todd has provided cover art and illustrations for the program books of Shore Leave convention in Maryland, Farpoint Convention in Maryland, and Sci-Con in Florida. He has served as the art director, providing PowerPoint presentations and graphics for the Starfleet International annual conference, and has worked with Firebringer Press to provide the cover art for Lance Wood's *Heroic Park* (2012).

Todd has dabbled into cosplay, having dressed as a Ranger from *Babylon 5*, a scientist from *Stargate Atlantis*, and more recently as the War Doctor from *Doctor Who*.

In addition to his intense love for science fiction, Todd also actively participates with renaissance fairs, including helping to organize one sponsored by the Lion's Club international as an annual fundraising effort. He has been the lead photographer for this event for the past two years. He may be spotted at New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, or any one of several in his home state of New Jersey, carrying his signature wooden mallet, sporting a Scottish burr, and always his fiancée, Annie, by his side.

Currently Todd is working with a talented performer with the renaissance fairs to develop a comic book parodying the great bard himself, William Shakespeare.

Peter Bryant



Peter Bryant is a game designer, artist, and podcaster. He is the executive producer at Studio187.com and the Director of New Media at TSR Games. He is also the host of the talk show *MythWits*.

James Buechler

James (Jay) has been a cosplayer/costumer for half his life, and an artist for most of it. In the last decade, he's found an amazing partner in crime (Leigh Targaryen) to share in hobbies, adventures and victories. When not creating a new costume or outfit, Jay also works in graphic design and has a love of gaming and technology, role playing, and various fandoms. In the world of Balticon, Jay can usually be found in his natural habitat of the masquerade, discussing fandoms, or performing and entertaining in the childrens programming.

Stephanie 'Flash' Burke

Stephanie 'Flash' Burke is an award-winning *USA Today* bestselling author of some of the most creative and diverse paranormal, romantic, and humorous science fiction novels ever written. It takes up so much of her time that she has had to give up on world domination. Flash is an avid reader, a Master

costumer, a wife and mother of two, and a slave to two cats she believes are going to consume her flesh one day. She writes in many genres, including but not limited to erotica, romance, horror, fantasy, paranormal, BDSM, and GBLTO. You can find Stephanie at her web site, TheFlashCat.net, on her Facebook page, www.facebook.com/stephanie.burke.1048, or at any used book stores, where she can be found trolling for her favorite books with a mug of tea and a scary expression on her face. Please feel free to approach her... that look is not madness, as some would claim. She is merely lost in her imagination and creating awesome worlds to share.

Laura A. Burns

Laura A. Burns has been a space enthusiast her entire life. She has worked as an engineer with various NASA contractors for almost 17 years. She has worked on the James Webb Space Telescope, Landsat 8 and the Joint Polar Satellite System. During the summer

of 2007, she spent nine weeks in Beijing, China at the International Space University and returned as a guest lecturer. She enjoys speaking to the public on space-related topics at conventions and science festivals. She tweets about space and science at @moonrangelaura. In addition to her interest in space, she is a longtime science fiction and fantasy fan, photographer, board game player, knitter, podcast listener, and book collector. She has had two photo exhibitions at Constellation Books in Reisterstown, MD. Laura is the head of the Parsec Awards Steering Committee, the longest running speculative fiction podcasting award, and has lent her voice to several podcasts. Reach her on Twitter at @parsecawards.

Ty Burson

Ty Burson is a Maryland middle school teacher and author of two juvenile fiction novels. He received his doctorate in education in 2011. As a former Russian linguist for the Air Force, he and his family have lived all over the world. He is currently working on the third book in the *Modern Dragon Chronicles* series as well as a young adult novel based upon a real-life family of Kansas serial killers.

Mildred Cady

Games, writing, crafting, acting, costuming, real and alternate history, historical lifestyles, and cooking are the main interests in Mildred's life. She spins those interests into stories for herself and her friends, games to play with friends, and a podcast (the *Picnic Basket* podcast). At Balticon this year she'll be bringing a more in-depth view into Victorian gambling and parlor games, a Whist Tournament, and stories and discussion over in the New Media track.

Jack Campbell / John Hemry

Jack Campbell (John G. Hemry) is the author of the *New York Times* best-selling *Last Fleet* series and *Lost Stars* series, and the Steampunk-meets-high-fantasy *Pillars of Reality* series. His most recent books are *Lost Stars-Shattered*

Spear, *Beyond the Frontier-Leviathan*, and *The Pirates of Pacta Servanda*. John's works have been published in 12 languages. His short fiction includes time travel, alternate history, space opera, military science fiction, fantasy, and humor. Non-fiction work includes articles on declassified US military Cold War plans for bases on the moon, and "Liberating the Future: Women in the Early Legion (of Superheroes)" in *Sequart's Teenagers from the Future*.

John is a retired US Navy officer, who served in a wide variety of jobs including surface warfare (the ship drivers of the Navy), amphibious warfare, anti-terrorism, intelligence, among other things. Being a Sailor, he has been known to tell stories about Events That Really Happened (but cannot be verified by any independent sources). This experience has served him well in writing fiction.

He lives in Maryland with his indomitable wife "S" and three great kids (all three on the autism spectrum.)

Jack Carroll

Jack Carroll is a regular in the 1632 universe, writing in *Grantville Gazette* and the *Ring of Fire* anthologies. A lifelong hard science fiction fan and filker, he has been attending Boston-area cons since the early 1970s, with songs in the *NESFA Hymnal* and *Northeast Passages*. Professionally, Jack is a semi-retired electronics engineer, working mostly on medical products these days. He's an active ham radio operator, volunteering in communication teams for public events and regional emergencies. Jack lives in New Hampshire with his wife, granddaughter, and a fluctuating population of cats.

Christine Chase

Fangirl. Aspiring author. Lover of ninjas. Libertarian Catholic. Taurus. Loves anime, fantasy, science fiction, and long days at the gun range.

Robert Chase

Robert R. Chase is the newly-retired Chief Counsel who, in his real life, has written the Compton Cook finalist novel, *The Game of Fox and Lion*, and is a regular contributor to both *Analog* and *Asimov's*. He has also given presentations on subjects as diverse as anime, copyright, and the Second Amendment.

Carl Cipra

Carl Cipra started reading fantasy and science fiction in his pre-teen years and has been hooked ever since. He became involved with fandom back in the 1970s (by way of the SCA in Southern California) and is one of the founding members of Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians. He really enjoys moderating discussion panels at conventions and is looking forward to all the fascinating discussions at Balticon this year. Mundanely, Carl is the program manager for instructor-training in a much-maligned, three-letter government agency.

Mitchell Burnside Clapp

Mitchell Burnside Clapp is a graduate of MIT with degrees in aerospace engineering, physics, and Russian. He served in the Air Force (active and reserve) for over 30 years and graduated from the Air Force Test Pilot School. He's also managed to be the CEO of two technology startups, develop several concepts for space access, serve as a program manager at DARPA, and learn how to cook ethnic foods from ethnicities he doesn't actually belong to. In his copious free time, he has managed to become a Pegasus-award winning musician.

Denise Clemons

Denise Clemons holds a BA in Biopsychology from Vassar College and an MA in Writing from Johns Hopkins University. She spent the first 20 years of her career as an executive in the technology industry before leaving the corporate world to devote her energies to the non-profit arena. She lives in Lewes, DE where she writes a weekly cooking column for the *Cape Gazette* newspaper. Denise is a member of Science Fiction Poetry Association and her poetry has been published in journals, chapbooks and anthologies.

Jack Clemons

Jack Clemons is both a science fiction writer and a "rocket scientist." He's published several science fiction stories and is an active member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, he has bachelor and master degrees in aerospace engineering, and he was an engineer and team leader on NASA's Apollo and Space Shuttle Programs. He gives talks across the Mid-Atlantic region, having also appeared at Balticon 49, on the Apollo Moon Program, regarding the design and first flights of the NASA Space Shuttle, and on why science matters. He also appeared in the "Command Module" segment of *Moon Machines*, the Discovery Science Channel's award-winning six-part documentary about the Apollo Program. He writes a bi-weekly space and science blog for *Amazing Stories Online Magazine*, and is completing a memoir about his time on the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs.

Brenda Clough

Brenda Clough writes science fiction and fantasy. Nine of her novels have been published. Her two most recent novels are available in e-format: *Revise the World*, a time travel novel, and *Speak to Our Desires*, dark fantasy/detective. Brenda also writes short stories and occasional non-fiction. She blogs every week at the Book View Cafe Blog.

John Cmar

John Cmar, MD, has been long enthralled with horrible infections that could spell doom for humankind, as well as sanity and skepticism in the practice of medicine. He is currently the Assistant Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, and an Instructor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is the lead physician in Sinai's Ryan White initiative, which provides medical care and social assistance to patients with HIV infection who are without medical insurance. In his role as Program Director for the Internal Medicine residency program at Sinai, he teaches an annual course series in Evidence-Based Medicine, among many other duties. He also does Infectious Diseases outreach in Baltimore television and print media, and is the guest-in-residence on the monthly *Midday on Health* show with Dan Rodricks on 88.1 WYPR radio in Baltimore.

John is a science fiction and fantasy fan, avid gamer, craft beer aficionado, and podcast enthusiast. He currently blogs and podcasts on skeptical, medical, and geeky topics at johncmr.com.

Myke Cole

Myke Cole is the author of the military fantasy *Shadow Ops* series, including *Javelin Rain*, *Gemini Cell*, *Breach Zone*, *Fortress Frontier* and *Control Point*.

As a security contractor, government civilian, and military officer, Myke Cole's career has run the gamut from counterterrorism to cyber warfare to federal law enforcement. He's done three tours in Iraq and was recalled to serve during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Doc Coleman

It all started with a tweet.

A guest spot on *Galley Table's* second episode opened the door of podcasting, and Doc Coleman stepped through. He continued on as the regular *Galley Table's* stow-away, then went on to produce his own podcast, *The Shrinking Man Project*. His appetite for new media now whetted, he broadened his scope to include voice acting and writing.

He has been part of the New Media Tracks at Balticon, RavenCon, and Capclave, and performed as part of *Metamor City Live* at Balticon 45 and 47, and *Stargazers* at Balticon 46. Most recently, he has taken over the Balticon Podcast, and will be continuing the tradition of news, panels, and interview at balticonpodcast.org. Discover Doc's stories in *The Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences' Tales from the Archives*, the *Way of the Gun Bushido Western Anthology*, and the Steampunk Special Edition of *Flagship* magazine, and keep your eyes out for his novel, *The Perils of Prague*, the first book in the series *The Adventures of Crackle and Bang*. Find out about all of Doc's projects at Swimming Cat Studios (SwimmingCatStudios.com).

When he isn't juggling projects, making a living, or mainlining podcasts, Doc is a gamer, an avid reader, a motorcyclist, a home brewer and beer lover, a fan of renaissance festivals, and frequently a smart-ass. He lives with his lovely wife and two cats in Germantown, MD.

Paul Cooley

A writer, podcaster, and software architect from Houston, TX, Paul E. Cooley produces free psychological thriller and horror podcasts, essays, and reviews, all available from shadowpublications.com and iTunes.

His stories have been listened to by thousands and he has been a guest on such notable podcasts as *Podiorocket*, John Mierau's *Podcast Teardown*, *Geek Out with Mainframe*, *Shadowcast Audio*, and *Vertigo Radio Live*. In 2010, his short story "Canvas" and novella *Tattoo* were nominated for Parsec Awards. *Tattoo* became a Parsec Award finalist. He has collaborated with *New York Times* bestselling author Scott Sigler on the series *The Crypt* and co-wrote the novel *The Rider* (projected release in 2016). In addition to his writing, Paul has contributed his voice talents to a number of podiofiction productions.

His best-selling novel, *The Black*, was released in 2014 and won the 2015 Parsec Award for best novel.

He is a co-host on the renowned *Dead Robots' Society* writing podcast and enjoys interacting with both readers and writers.

Iver Cooper

Iver Cooper has been an active contributor to Eric Flint's *1632* shared universe, with more than 20 short stories and more than 40 articles published so far. Iver's *1632* universe braided story anthology *1636: Seas of Fortune* was published by Baen as a trade paperback in January 2014 and as a mass market paperback in February 2015.

He is working with Eric Flint on a novel set in Ming China.

Iver is an intellectual property law attorney with Browdy & Neimark, Washington, DC. He has received legal writing awards from the American Patent Law Association, the US Trademark Association, and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and is the sole author of *Biotechnology and the Law*, now in its 20-something edition. In his spare time he teaches swing and folk dancing, and participates in local photo club competitions. Iver is married, with a son who is a public policy analyst, and a daughter who works at Universal Orlando as a copywriter.

Elwin Cotman

Elwin Cotman is the author of two short story collections, *The Jack Daniels Sessions EP* and *Hard Times Blues*. His work has been published in *Black Gate*, *The Southwestern Review*, and *Grist*, among others. As a performance artist, he has performed at hundreds of venues across North America.

Billy Crash

A lover of anything on the fringe or in the undercurrent, Billy Crash is a multi award-winning screenwriter, a published poet, and an essayist in academia. His hard-boiled crime thriller, *Bloodletting*, has been adapted from his script of the same name, which won second place at the Screenwriters Showcase Screenplay Contest in 2006, and

was the leading script in the mystery category. His college textbook, *Earn Internships, Secure Employment: A Practical Guide to Writing for the Workplace* from Kendall Hunt Publishing, has been helping students since the fall of 2015.

When not writing or planning a film project, Billy is co-host of *The Last Knock* podcast with Jonny Numb—which *Entertainment Weekly* considers to be one of the "five essential podcasts for horror fans." The show is available from crashpalaceproductions.com and iTunes.

Currently, he is seeking an agent for his horror novel, *The City of Bloody Love: Red Agenda*, which was adapted from his horror/crime script *Red Agenda*, which won first place at the International Horror and Science Fiction Film Festival in 2008. This will be the first book in *The City of Bloody Love* series. He

is also raising funds for his dramatic science fiction feature, *99%*, which he will direct in the summer of 2017.

Wishing he could afford to eat sushi every day and hand out scholarships to his students like candy, Billy is an Assistant Professor of English at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.

Meriah Crawford



Meriah Lysistrata Crawford teaches research and writing at Virginia Commonwealth University, and is a private investigator, writer, and editor. She's published stories in several genres, as well as essays, a variety of scholarly work, and a poem about semicolons. The anthology *Trust & Treachery: Tales of Power and Intrigue*, which Meriah co-edited, was published in May 2014. Her doctoral dissertation explores the functions of the second person, as well as offering a new perspective on the components of point of view in general—and it's way more interesting than it sounds. For more information, visit her at www.mlcrawford.com.

Vonnie Winslow Crist



Vonnie Winslow Crist, BS Art-Ed, MS Professional Writing, has had a life-long interest in reading, writing, art, fairytales, folklore, and legends. Her books include *The Enchanted Skean* (Compton Crook Award Finalist), *Owl Light*, *The Greener Forest*, *Leprechaun Cake & Other Tales*, *River of Stars*, and *Essential Fables*. A member of the Science Fiction Writers of America and a Pushcart Prize nominee, Crist's writing has won awards from L. Ron Hubbard's Writers of the Future Contest, the Maryland State Arts Council, and the National League of American Pen Women. Her speculative fiction appears in *Chilling Ghost Short Stories* (UK), *Faerie Magazine*, *Cast of Wonders*, *Dia de los Muertos*, *Lorelei Signal*, *Dragon's Lure*, *Defending the Future: Dogs of War*, *Potter's Field 4 & 5*, *Les Cabinets des Polytheistes*, *Tales of the Talisman*, *Trysts of Fate*, *While the Morning Stars Sing*, *Ocean Stories*, *Magical-An Anthology of Fantasy*, *Epona's Children*, and elsewhere.

She is editor of *The Gunpowder Review* and co-editor of Pole to Pole Publishing's *Hides the Dark Tower* and *In a Cat's Eye*. Her fantastical art has been featured on the covers of *FrostFire Worlds*, *Bards & Sages Quarterly*, *Outposts of Beyond*, *Illumen*, *Spaceports & Spidersilk*, *Scifaikuest*, *Aoife's Kiss*, and elsewhere. A clover-hand who has found so many four-leafed clovers she keeps them in jars, Crist strives to celebrate the power of myth in her writing and art. For more info, visit her at www.vonniewinslowcrist.com.

Amanda Davroe



A.L. (Amanda) Davroe writes both YA and adult speculative fiction. She prefers revisionist tales in paranormal, romance, steampunk, and fantasy. She is the author of *Salvation Station* (adult psych horror), *The City Steam Collection* (adult psych

horror), *For Your Heart* (YA paranormal romance) and her YA science fiction novel *Nexis*, which was released by Entangled Publishing in December, 2015.

By day, Amanda lives in Connecticut with her two feline hench-creatures and makes cheese. She's a terrible blusher, has a weak spot for cuddly animals, loves Laffy Taffy and Cadbury MiniEggs, and is a huge advocate of alternative healing methods. Amanda also wears purple shoes and corsets... though not always in the same ensemble. She's a Capricorn, a Hufflepuff, a bit gothic, and a few nuggets short of a Happy Meal.

Keith DeCandido



Keith R.A. DeCandido has written a ridiculous amount of fiction. Recent and upcoming work includes the *Marvel's Tales of Asgard* trilogy of novels, *A Furnace Sealed* (the first book in his new urban fantasy series about a nice Jewish boy from the Bronx who fights monsters), *Stargate SG-1: Kali's Wrath*, short stories in *V-Wars: Night Terrors*, *The Side of Good/The Side of Evil*, *Nights of the Living Dead*, and more. In addition to all the fiction, his classic TV rewatches appear twice weekly on Tor.com, he's a second-degree black belt in karate, and he's the percussionist for Boogie Knights.

Wendy Delmater



Wendy S. Delmater is the long-time editor and publisher of the Hugo-nominated *Abyss & Apex Magazine of Speculative Fiction*. *Abyss & Apex* specializes in finding new talent and has helped launch the careers of many well-known science fiction and fantasy writers such as Aliette de Bodard, Tony Pi, Lisa Mantchev, Will McIntosh, Mercurio D. Rivera, Marie Brennan and more. Twenty-five percent of what *Abyss & Apex* publishes are first-time publications for new authors.

Virginia DeMarce



Virginia DeMarce is a retired professional historian (PhD, Stanford, 1967) with a specialty in Early Modern Europe. She has been writing with Eric Flint in the *1632* alternate history series since 2004. She is also a lifelong genealogist, widowed after 47 years of marriage to Jim DeMarce, and lives in Arlington, VA. For the past several years, her activities have been accompanied by grandchildren and cats.

Arinn Dembo



Arinn Dembo is a prize-winning author of science fiction, fantasy and horror. She is the lead writer of Kerberos Productions, a game development studio in Vancouver, BC, and the ADR screenwriter of the anime series *World Trigger*. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in *The Magazine of F & SF*,

H.P. Lovecraft's *Magazine of Horror*, *Weird Tales*, *Lamp Light Quarterly*, and various anthologies. Single author books include a military science fiction novel, *The Deacon's Tale*, and a collection called *Monsoon and Other Stories*.

In addition to a long career as a writer in the entertainment industry, she holds degrees in anthropology and classical archaeology. Follow her on social media or visit her website, www.arinndembo.com, for more information.

Ming Diaz



Several decades ago Ming Diaz brought his facepaints to Balticon's Fast Track area, and every year since has been watching the young people of Balticon become young adults. He can't tell who's been having more fun in the process. He lives in St. Mary's County, MD.

Tim Dodge

Tim Dodge is a fiction writer, non-fiction freelancer and podcaster living in Syracuse, NY. He is the author of the podcast novels *Acts of Desperation* and *Purgatory*. Print and electronic versions of *Purgatory* were published in 2012. He is currently seeking publication for his latest novel about a ghost hunter in New England. His short story "Down By The River" appeared in the *Tales From the Archives* podcast in 2015. He is the host of the occasional podcast *The Geek Side Of Life* (www.thegeeksideoflife.com) and writes a blog titled "If My Thought-Dreams Could Be Seen" (www.timdodgestories.com). A lifelong bookworm, he serves as a trustee on two library boards and was elected president of one while he was out of the room getting donuts. His current work-in-progress is a novel about street musicians hypnotizing pedestrians with subliminal messages.

Rosy Dorffner

Rosy is a long time crafter who can never settle on any one craft. She is currently head over heels about Fairy Gardens. She is, as her father would say, a "jack of all trades; master of none."

Tom Doyle



Tom Doyle is the author of a contemporary fantasy series from Tor Books. In the first book, *American Craftsmen*, two modern magician soldiers fight their way through the legacies of Poe and Hawthorne as they attempt to destroy an undying evil—and not kill each other first. In the sequel, *The Left-Hand Way*, the craftsmen are both hunters and the hunted in a global race to save humanity from a new occult threat out of America's past.

Tom's collection of short fiction, *The Wizard of Macatowa and Other Stories*, includes his WSFA Small Press Award and Writers of the Future Award stories. He writes science fiction and fantasy in a spooky turret here in Washington, DC. You can find the text and audio of many of the stories on his website, www.tomdoylewriter.com.

James Durham

James Durham, writer/producer/composer, is the undead-loving creator of the award-winning *FETIDUS (The Foundation for the Ethical Treatment of the Innocently Damned, Undead and Supernatural)*, which is about to launch a thrilling new season in 2014. He's also one of the time-twisted minds behind the science fiction indie film *95ers*, which was recently picked up for distribution and should be hitting stores soon. He works in film, new media and music production while simultaneously singing, dancing, and doing amazing feats of acrobatics. That last part is false. Visit jamesdurham.com for more information.

Scott Edelman



Scott Edelman has published more than 85 short stories in magazines such as *The Twilight Zone*, *Absolute Magnitude*, *The Journal of Pulse-Pounding Narratives*, *Science Fiction Review* and *Fantasy Book*, and in anthologies such as *Why New Yorkers Smoke*, *The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction: Volume Three*, *Crossroads: Southern Tales of the Fantastic*, *Men Writing SF as Women*, *MetaHorror*, *Once Upon a Galaxy*, *Moon Shots*, *Mars Probes*, *Forbidden Planets*, *Summer Chills*, and *The Mammoth Book of Monsters*.

Upcoming stories will appear in *Analog*, Jaym Gates' anthology *Genius Loci*, the UK magazine *Postscripts*, the third installment of the anthology series *Chiral Mad*, and the 50th anniversary issue of *Space and Time Magazine*.

A collection of his horror fiction, *These Words Are Haunted*, which came out from Wildside Books in 2001, has recently been reissued by Fantastic Books, and a standalone novella *The Hunger of Empty Vessels* was published in 2009 by Bad Moon Books. He is also the author of the Lambda Award-nominated novel *The Gift (Space and Time, 1990)* and the collection *Suicide Art (Necronomicon, 1992)*. His collection of zombie fiction, *What Will Come After*, came in 2010 from PS Publishing, and was a finalist for both the Stoker Award and the Shirley Jackson Memorial Award. His science fiction short fiction has been collected in *What We Still Talk About* from Fantastic Books.

He has been a Stoker Award finalist six times, in the two categories Short Story and Long Fiction.

Gary Ehrlich

Gary Ehrlich stalks the hallways of northeast conventions and assorted filk conventions. In mundania he is a mild-mannered structural engineer for a major trade association, representing them on material design standards committees and at building code hearings. At cons he can be found on a stage or in the filk room, offering songs of space flight, lunar colonies and hyperspace hotels. Gary is a three-time chair of Conterpoint, the DC area's incarnation of NEFilk, the Floating Northeast Filk Con, has filled other roles for Conterpoint and for 1997's Second Concerto, and is currently Balticon's Director of Filk and Other Musical Mayhem. In April 2012 Gary was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame for his contributions to the filk community. Gary appears on five collections of convention recordings: "How Many of them Can We Make

Die?" (Conterpoint '96), "The Filk Was Great..." (Conterpoint '00), and "Millennium Pandemonium, Volume 1" (MilPhil '01) by Kludge Audio, and USB Productions' "Triskaidekafilkia" (FilKONtario 13) and "Filk Heroes" (FilKONtario 14).

Gaia Eirich



Gaia Eirich is a Master costumer and has been attending and costuming at conventions for 15 years. For the last 17 years she has been sewing and creating costumes in a wide variety of forms including fantasy, historical, and anime costumes for conventions and commissions, belly dance costumes for a studio, wedding dresses, accessories, and also basic quilt making. She has also worked as a costume manager in a theater and is currently working on belly dance costume alterations for a studio. She loves and greatly enjoys taking part in convention masquerades and has judged the Balticon masquerade. She is also an active member of the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumer's Guild, the local chapter of the International Costumer's Guild.

Zachary Eirins



Zachary Eirins is the manager of a mental fitness and wellness store that provides board games for all ages with the intent of supporting brain health.

Christiana Ellis



Christiana is a writer and podcaster living in Massachusetts with her corgi, Luna. Her novel, *Nina Kimberly the Merciless*, is available in print and as a free self-produced podcast audiobook. She is also the writer and producer behind *Space Casey*, the science-fiction audiodrama which won both a Parsec Award and the Gold Mark Time award.

In addition to the half-dozen podcast projects that she has going at any given time, she is also currently in production on *Phyllis Esposito: Interdimensional Private Eye*, a science-fiction serial available as individual installments at christianaellis.com, as well as audio and ebook collections.

Paul Ellis

Paul grew up in northern Alabama, in the crook of the Tennessee River, and moved to central Virginia in the late '70s. He has worked in food service, retail, radio and television, and in IT, most recently as a systems team programmer. Paul's life is kept exciting by his wife and three daughters. He writes genre fiction as an escape. Other than that, he's just this guy, you know?

Bill Fawcett



After writing for the early issues of *Dragon Magazine* in the 1970s, Bill became one of the founders of and lead designer at Mayfair Games, a board and role play gaming company. He has continued his game design work creating a number of PC games and apps. Bill Fawcett & Associates has packaged over 400 books science fiction, fantasy, military, non-fiction, and licensed novels and series for major publishers.

As an author Bill has written or co-authored over a dozen books plus close to 100 articles and short stories. Bill has collaborated on several mystery novels including with Chelsea Quinn Yarbro the *Authorized Mycroft Holmes* novels and the *Madame Vernet Investigates* mystery novels. As an anthologist Bill has edited or co-edited over 40 anthologies. Bill was the editor of *Hunters and Shooters* and *The Teams*, two oral histories of the SEALs in Vietnam. Among the non-fiction books Bill has written are *Oval Office Oddities*, *100 Mistakes that Changed History* and *Trust Me, 100 Leadership Mistakes that Changed History* and *101 Stumbles in the March of History* (Fall 2016). His historical mistakes series is an often amused look at how the mistakes in history changed our lives. The series includes *It Seemed Like a Good Idea, It Looked Good On Paper* (engineering disasters), and *You Did What*. His military mistakes series include *How to Lose A Battle, How to Lose a War, How to Lose WWII, How to Lose a War at Sea*, and *How to Lose the American Civil War*.

Harold Feld



Harold Feld is the Senior Vice President for Public Knowledge at one of the nation's premier consumer advocacy organizations, working at the intersection of copyright, telecommunications and the internet. Feld is highly regarded as a thought leader in the areas of broadband policy, spectrum reform and consumer protection in the digital age. He was previously a Senior Vice President at the Media Access Project (MAP), a public interest law group, where he advanced competition policies in media, telecommunications and technology. Prior to joining MAP, Feld was an associate at Covington & Burling, and clerked for the DC Court of Appeals.

Feld is a frequent author on technology, broadband access and wireless policies, and his scholarly, legal and opinion pieces have been published in the *New York Times*, *The Hill*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *San Jose Mercury News*. He also regularly appears as a contributor at wetmachine.com, through his popular blog "Tales of the Sausage Factory." In 2007, Illinois Senator Dick Durbin praised Feld and his blog for "[doing] a lot of great work helping people understand how FCC decisions affect people and communities on the ground." He has appeared on Bloomberg, CNBC, and C-Span's *The Communicators*, and has regularly testified on a variety of policy issues before the US House and Senate Commerce and Judiciary Committees.

He lives in Silver Spring, MD with his wife and son.

Judi Fleming

By day, Judi Fleming works as an instructional systems specialist writing training materials for the federal government. She is a graduate of Seton Hill University's master's program in Writing Popular Fiction where she went to write more fun and interesting things. Judi also does a wide variety of art in many different forms and styles and teaches various art classes on the east coast.

Billy Flynn

Acting is a natural outlet for a former class clown. With a background in radio and podcasting, Billy Flynn has spent years working in radio creating comedic characters to entertain listeners. Hosting events such as *The Boom Effect* telethon and The Parsec Awards led to some acting opportunities. Billy Flynn has appeared in the plays *Much Ado About Murder*, *Annie*, *Murder at Avedon Hill*, *THY*, and provided voice work for *Power in the Blood*, *The Amazing Pulp Adventures of Mr. Adventure*, *Requiem of the Outcast*, *Sci-Fi Shenanigans*, *Star Trek Miami*, and anywhere else that will have him. Billy Flynn can also be heard announcing roller derby for the River City Rollergirls. His goal is to one day be the voice of a super-hero in a cartoon.

Terri Flynnstress

Flynnstress brings a sultry, feminine voice to *GRDsWeekly* and occasionally the *Geek Radio Daily* show. Flynnstress is originally from Maryland, and went to school at George Mason University and University of Phoenix. The Richmond, VA area is now her home. She helps teachers integrate 21st century skills in the classroom with inspiring ed tech. Flynnstress was not always a geek; her husband, Billy, got her hooked on favorites like *Star Trek*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *Doctor Who*, and *Firefly*. Flynnstress also loves to travel, watches too much TV, admits to being addicted to Facebook, and is trying to save the earth, one recycled can of Coke at a time. Look for her toting her new little geekling around the con and introducing her to the wonders of geekdom.

D. Douglas Fratz

D. Douglas Fratz is best known in the science fiction and fantasy field as a book reviewer who currently writes for SF Site and New York Review of Science Fiction. He has been reviewing books and writing about science fiction for more than 40 years, with work appearing in *Science Fiction Age*, *Science Fiction Eye*, *Fantasy Review*, *The Washington Post*, *Science Fiction Weekly*, *SciFi Wire*, and BLASTR (on the SciFi Channel's web site) and other venues, including his own literary magazine, *Quantum Science Fiction & Fantasy Review* (formerly *Thrust*.) He founded *Thrust* as the science fiction

magazine of the University of Maryland, and continued it as a semiprofessional magazine after graduation. As publisher and editor of *Thrust/Quantum* (1973-1993), he was nominated for five Hugo Awards. He has been attending science fiction conventions since 1968, and has appeared on more than 100 panels and other program items.

In real life, Doug Fratz is an environmental scientist serving as Vice President of Scientific and Technical Affairs for the Consumer Specialty Products Association in Washington, DC, a trade association representing the formulated consumer products industry, where he has worked for more than 35 years. Doug Fratz received his BS degree in chemistry from the University of Maryland in 1974, and his MS degree in environmental science from the George Washington University in 1983. He lives in Gaithersburg, MD.

John L. French

John L. French has worked for more than 30 years as a crime scene investigator and has seen more than his share of murders, shootings and serious assaults. As a break from the realities of his job, he writes science fiction, pulp, horror, fantasy, and, of course, crime fiction. His books include *The Devil of Harbor City*, *Past Sins*, *Souls on Fire*, *Here There Be Monsters* and *Paradise Denied*. He's also written several books with co-conspirator Patrick Thomas, the latest of which is *The Assassins' Ball*. John is the editor of *Bad Cop*, *No Donut*, *Mermaids 13: Tales of the Sea*, and *With Great Power*. One of these days John will get a website and a Facebook page but in the meantime he can be contacted at jfrenchfam@aol.com.

Jesse Friedman

Jesse Friedman received a master's in education of social studies in 2012 from the University of Georgia, for which she did research on utilizing popular culture in the social studies and English classrooms. She has taught and written about several popular culture topics, including "nerd culture" in the media, what the alternative history and low fantasy genres can teach us about history, and representations of historical concepts of gender, race, class structures, warfare, and religion as represented in popular culture. She is currently teaching and developing the Youtube series "Beyond Edutainment," which explores lessons that can be learned from video games. She has served on multiple DragonCon panels concerning George R. R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire*, as well as historical fiction television shows.

Clint Gaige

Clint Gaige is a writer, with four novels and numerous short stories to his credit. His work has appeared in *Bullet Magazine*, and he was nominated for two Pushcart Prizes. His film work includes the short films *Dogmatic Siblings*, *Brothers* and *Perspective*, the feature length films *Making the Mob* and *Violent Karma*, and the educational series *Classroom Moments* as well as the documentary *Voices of the Holocaust*. He has just wrapped his latest film, *A Clean Exit*.

William LJ Galaini

Author of multiple science fiction and fantasy novels, William Galaini has also published several humorous and historical short stories, available for Nook, Kobo, and Kindle. Having initially started as a self-published author, he has now allied himself with Scarlet River Press to release his new series of novels about a Steampunk version of Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

William Galaini grew up in Pennsylvania and Florida. His mother gave him an early love of reading, especially when it came to the great classics of science fiction. He is also a history buff and fascinated by mythology and folklore. His various vocational pursuits include being a singer in a professional high school choir, manager of the call center at a luxury resort, US Army medic, prison guard, and middle school English teacher. As such, he is perfectly suited to breach a solid metal door, humanely restrain the enemy within, and politely correct their grammar all while humming *Handel's Messiah* and drinking a lovely cuppa tea.

He currently hangs his hat, rucksack, and tweed smoking jacket in Northern Virginia.

Allison Gamblin

Diagnosed with D.I.D. and P.N.E.S. in 2015, Allison Gamblin is one of the few Wordpress professionals who comes to the table with her own stable of IT Geeks in one, easy-to-work with USAF Format. She is often accompanied by her ESA sidekick, Strax the Cat.

Charles Gannon



Dr. Charles E. Gannon's award-winning *Caine Riordan/Terran Republic* hard science fiction novels have been multiply best-selling and Nebula finalists. He also collaborates with Eric Flint in the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* best-selling *Ring of Fire* alternate history series. His other novels and short fiction straddle the divide between hard science fiction and technothriller, and have appeared through various imprints and in various magazines.

A Distinguished Professor of English and Fulbright Senior Specialist, his best known work of non-fiction, *Rumors of War and Infernal Machines*, won the 2006 American Library Association Award for Outstanding Book. He is a recipient of five Fulbright Fellowships and Travel Grants and has been a subject matter expert featured in various national magazines, as well as media venues such as NPR and the Discovery Channel.

A member of SIGMA, the "science fiction think tank," he has served as a consultant for various intelligence and defense agencies, including DHS, Pentagon, Air Force, Army, Marines, NATO, DARPA, NRO, NASA, and several other agencies and defense contractors.

Prior to his academic career, Dr. Gannon worked as a scriptwriter and producer in New York City, where his clients included the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and The President's Council on Physical Fitness. He also has many credits in game design, including GDW's *Traveller*, *2300 AD*, and *Dark Conspiracy* RPGs.

Eric Gasior

Eric Gasior is the Technical Director for Balticon, in charge of the crew that sets up and runs the theater, dance, and room A/V tech. He has done lighting design or served as run crew for several performing arts organizations including Fluid Movement, Yellow Sign Theater, The Colonial Players, The Rude Mechanicals, and Laurel Mill Playhouse. His professional background includes computer systems administration at space science, behavioral science, and health science organizations.

Pamela L. Gay



Dr. Pamela L. Gay is an astronomer, writer, and podcaster focused on using new media to engage people in science and technology. Through CosmoQuest.org, she works to engage people in both learning and doing science. Join her project, CosmoQuest, to map our solar system in unprecedented detail through citizen science projects, and to learn astronomy through media productions such as *Astronomy Cast*. Through this weekly podcast, Fraser Cain and Dr. Gay take you on a facts-based journey through our cosmos, exploring not only what we know, but how we know it. In addition to podcasting, she also works to communicate astronomy to the public through her blog Starstryder.com, frequent public talks, and mass media. Her writing has appeared in *Astronomy*, *Sky and Telescope*, and *Lightspeed* magazines, and she has appeared in episodes of *The Universe* and National Geographic's *Top Secrets*.

Veronica Giguere

Veronica "V." Giguere is a narrator, author, and educator. In love with her microphone for a decade, she has voiced spoiled supervillains, tempting demons, communist metahumans, space marines, anxious technomancers, secret agent archaeologists, suspicious journalists, foxling pirates, enchanted princesses, and a young woman facing an odd spider infestation. She is a coauthor of the *Secret World Chronicles* podcast novel series and her other writings include inner-city cyberpunk, psychological thrillers, and zombies. When she isn't telling you your favorite stories, Veronica masquerades as a mild-mannered academic whose specialties include time management, peer tutor training, and academic resource instruction.

Phil Giunta



A Pennsylvania resident, Phil Giunta graduated from Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia with a BS in information systems and continues to work in the IT industry. Honestly, he would love nothing more than to escape corporate America and open his own bait and tackle shop, or explore outer space in a starship, which might allow him to open a bait and tackle shop on another planet. He has a plan, but we digress....

His first novel, the paranormal mystery *Testing the Prisoner*, debuted in 2010 from Firebringer Press. His second novel in the same genre, *By Your Side*, was released in 2013.

Phil's short stories appear in such anthologies as *ReDeus: Divine Tales*, *ReDeus: Beyond Borders*, and *Somewhere in the Middle of Eternity*, which he also edited. He is currently editing the second book in that series, *Elsewhere in the Middle of Eternity*, which is slated for release in 2016 along with his paranormal mystery novella, *Like Mother, Like Daughters*.

Visit Phil at www.philgiunta.com, and find his audiobooks at podioobooks.com/contributor/phil-giunta.

James Gossard



James Gossard was on location in the Central Valley of California working as the Script and Continuity Supervisor for the indie film, *The Drama Club*, which wrapped principal photography in September 2015. More recently, he's co-authored the short science fiction film, *Apocalypse in 9/8*, which will be produced late 2016.

Besides penning graphic novels and screenplays, James owns a company that consults and writes for businesses and provides business advice to artists. He created and hosts the web series, "Writer, write thyself!", which explores topics of interest in the writer's life. He regularly leads screenwriting workshops that focus on building a screenwriter's toolbox and understanding the elements that create a rich story in film. His workshops have been held locally at Balticon, and for Women in Film & Video in Washington, DC. He has also served as a screenplay judge.

Other projects include a rewrite of his *Cory McCabe* young adult novels, beginning with *Grizzly Heart*. He is developing a volume of poetry, *James Leslie on James Leslie*. James also writes for stage. As a playwright, his plays have been produced and have received multiple awards, including the Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award.

James studied creative writing at the University of Montana and received his MA in writing from Johns Hopkins University. He is a member of Women in Film & Video, Maryland Film Festival, and The National Alliance for Media Arts and Culture. James lives with his wife, Ann, in Ellicott City, MD.

Stephen Granade



Stephen Granade is a physicist specializing in lasers and robotic sensors. His sensors have read fingerprints from 10 feet away, controlled robot helicopters, and guided the shuttle to Hubble. He's the host of NASA's "No Small Steps" YouTube series and has won awards for presenting to non-scientist audiences.

Val Griswold-Ford



Val Griswold-Ford is the author of the *Dark Horseman* novels *Not Your Father's Horseman*, *Dark Moon Seasons* and *Last Rites*, all from Dragon Moon Press. She is the co-editor (with Tee Morris) of the memorial anthology *Tales of the Tesla Ranger*. She is also the co-editor of *The Complete Guide to Writing Fantasy: the Opus Magnus* (with Tee Morris) and *The Complete Guide to*

Writing Fantasy: The Author's Grimoire (with Lai Zhao), also from Dragon Moon Press, and has self-published the short e-novella *Snow* and, most recently, the short story "Convoy." She has published several short stories in various anthologies online and in print, and is owned by three cats, with whom she and her husband reside in New Hampshire. You can find her at www.vg-ford.com or on Twitter as @vg_ford.

Gay Haldeman

Gay Haldeman (Mary Gay Potter Haldeman, for those who have read *The Forever War*) has a master's degree in Spanish Literature from the University of Maryland and another in linguistics from the University of Iowa. She has taught in the Writing Center at MIT every fall since 1983, specializing in English as a second language. The rest of the year she resides in Florida, where she manages science fiction Grand Master Joe Haldeman's career, dealing with editors, answering correspondence (in Spanish and French as well as English; isn't the internet wonderful?), serving as travel agent, answering the phone, typing and filing, arranging publicity, selling Joe's out-of-print books, etc. She shared a Skylark Award with Joe in 1996, and in 2011 was given the Big Heart Award at the World SF Convention in Reno, NV. She's been going to SF conventions since 1963 (so has Joe) and loves to meet new people. After 46 years of marriage, she still thinks Joe's the best thing that ever happened to her.

Elektra Hammond



Elektra Hammond emulates her multi-sided idol Buckaroo Banzai by going in several directions at once. She's been involved in publishing since the 1990s—now she writes, concocts anthologies, reviews movies for tabloid.io, and edits science fiction for various and sundry. When not freelancing or appearing at science fiction conventions, she travels the world judging cat shows. Her latest story, "Salamander Bites," can be found in *Temporally Out of Order* edited by Joshua Palmentier and Patricia Bray.

Elektra lives in Delaware with her husband, Mike, and more than the usual allotment of felines.

Eric Hardenbrook



Eric is a fan, an author, and an artist, usually in that order. Eric lives in central Pennsylvania with his gorgeous wife and daughter. He writes science fiction and fantasy to try to get the stories out of his head. As a fan he helps run Watch the Skies (www.watchtheskies.org) and assists in the

publication of their monthly fanzine. He can be found (at least some of the time) at www.ehardenbrook.com and at *The Pretend Blog* (www.ehardenbrook.com). When not working on those things, Eric enjoys the occasional video or board game and is an old school role player.

P.C. Haring

P.C. Haring has been a fan of science fiction from an early age. He has always been one of those who looked up at the night sky and wondered, "What if...?" On 1 January, 2010, he began exploring those questions when he made his debut as a writer and podcast novelist with the release of the *Cybrasis Podcast*. Since then he has not looked back. He has contributed short stories to Scott Sigler's *The Crypt: Book 1—The Crew* podcast, Philippa Ballantine's *Chronicles of the Order* audio anthology, and Tee Morris and Pip Ballantine's *Tales from the Archives* anthology where his podcast of "The Seven" won the 2012 Parsec Award for "Best Short Story," and is currently hard at work on his next full-length novel, *Slipspace: Harbinger*.

When he's not writing and podcasting, P.C. Haring puts his accounting degree, his MBA, and his CPA credentials to good use as a corporate accountant in the Chicagoland area.

Kelly Harmon

Kelly A. Harmon used to write truthful, honest stories about authors and thespians, senators and statesmen, movie stars and murderers. Now she writes lies, which is infinitely more satisfying, but lacks the convenience of doorstep delivery.

She is an award-winning journalist and author, and a member of Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. A Baltimore native, she writes the *Charm City Darkness* series, which includes the novels *Stoned in Charm City*, *A Favor for a Fiend*, and *A Blue Collar Proposition*. Her science fiction and fantasy stories can be found in many anthologies, including *Triangulation: Dark Glass*, *Hellebore and Rue*, *Deep Cuts: Mayhem*, *Menace and Misery*, and *Gaslight and Grimm*.

Ms. Harmon is a former newspaper reporter and editor, and now edits for Pole to Pole Publishing, a small Baltimore publisher. She is co-editor of *Hides the Dark Tower* with Vonnie Winslow Crist. For more information, visit her blog at kellyaharmn.com, or, find her on Facebook and Twitter: [facebook.com/Kelly-A-Harmon1](https://www.facebook.com/Kelly-A-Harmon1), twitter.com/kellyaharmon.

Lauren Harris

Lauren is the author of *The Millroad Academy Exorcists* novella series and assistant editor at Orson Scott Card's *Intergalactic Medicine Show Magazine*. Her voice can be heard narrating novels on Audible.com and in various short fiction podcasts and audio dramas. She lives in North Carolina with her pet librarian and three demanding cats of varying fluffiness.

Ayne Hart

This author is still thinking up her biography. Don't worry, it'll come up sooner or later. No, really. I mean, sure, I have an art degree, I work on comics and write, but that's not exactly something that sounds official.

Hold on, let me think...I should probably add something about being a well-traveled individual who served in the Army for years and lived in Scotland for a while, too. Not sure how I'd add that, though.

I'm sure I'll figure out how to do an author bio eventually.

Jeff Hartline / BryndenBFish

Jeff Hartline, AKA, BryndenBFish is the founder of the "Wars and Politics of Ice and Fire" blog: a blog dedicated to political, military and historical analysis of *A Song of Ice and Fire*. He lives in Baltimore, MD with his wife and ferocious dog.

Katie Hartlove

Katie Hartlove (MS professional writing) has been actively involved in many aspects of the writing and publication process. Her poems and short stories have appeared in magazines and anthologies. She has been editing for about 10 years. In 2009, she began Book Mark It Promotions (book-mark-it.com) and provides marketing solutions to authors around the country. In 2010, she opened Cold Moon Press, which recently released Vonnie Winslow Crist's collection, *Owl Light*. Visit Cold Moon Press at coldmoonpress.com.

John Hartness

John G. Hartness is a teller of tales, a righter of wrong, defender of ladies' virtues—and some people call him Maurice, for he speaks of the pompatus of love. He is also the best-selling author of EPIC Award-winning series *The Black Knight Chronicles* from Bell Bridge Books, a comedic urban fantasy series that answers the eternal question, "Why aren't there more fat vampires?"

John is the author of the *Bubba the Monster Hunter* series of short stories and novellas, the *Quincy Harker*, *Demon Hunter* novella series, and the creator and co-editor of the *Big Bad* anthology series, among other projects.

In 2016, John teamed up with a pair of other publishing industry ne'er-do-wells and founded Falstaff Media, a publishing conglomerate dedicated to pushing the boundaries of literature and entertainment.

In his copious free time John enjoys long walks on the beach, rescuing kittens from trees, and recording new episodes of his ridiculous podcast *Literate Liquors*, where he pairs book reviews and alcoholic drinks in new and ludicrous ways. John is also a contributor to the "Magical Words" group blog. An avid *Magic: the Gathering* player, John is strong in his nerd-fu and has sometimes been referred to as "the Kevin Smith of Charlotte, North Carolina." And not just for his girth.

Bjorn Hasseler

Bjorn Hasseler found 1632 in a public library. Then he found the 1632 conferences at Baen's Bar and discovered to his delight that fans were encouraged to write. He has now had 10 stories and a three-part serial published, all in the 1632 universe, and is the assistant editor of the *Grantville Gazette*. He grew up outside Watertown, NY, graduated from Gettysburg College (political science) and Capital Bible Seminary (theology), and has worked as a War of 1812 reenactor, assistant athletic director, data administrator, and adjunct professor. He is currently an education coordinator at the University of Maryland University College.

Reesa Herberth

Reesa Herberth was born in Nevada and spirited away to California before moving to Hawaii, where she grew up on the Big Island. She tried Arizona for a few years, and then lit out for the DC area, where her nomadic itch is regularly curbed by the nightmares of urban traffic. She's held a handful of the requisite crazy writer jobs, including book store overlord, office goddess for an artisan ice cream maker, and cheese-cup scrubber at an organic goat dairy. With her partner Michelle Moore, she writes the award-winning *Ylendrian Empire* space opera series. Their most recent title, *Peripheral People*, is the best book about psychic cops on the trail of an interstellar serial killer that Reesa's mom has ever read.

Inge Heyer

Inge Heyer has spent decades developing a unique expertise in astronomy communications across a variety of settings, including college classrooms, K-12 schools, informal educational settings, professional scientific journalism, and science fiction venues. Born and raised in Berlin, Germany, she completed her secondary education there before accepting a scholarship to attend Tenri University (Japan), where she studied Japanese. After later earning an undergraduate degree in physics and astronomy from Smith College, she earned a master's degree in astronomy from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and a PhD in science education from the University of Wyoming. In addition to her professional work as senior data analyst at the Space Telescope Science Institute, Dr. Heyer also served as the public information officer at the Joint Astronomy Centre, where she led the education and public outreach efforts. She has earned Shodan in both Judo and Karate, and serves as guest science blogger for StarTrek.com. Dr. Heyer currently teaches astronomy and physics at Loyola University, Maryland, and serves as Deputy Press Officer for the American Astronomical Society. And if you have ever wondered how those beautiful Hubble images got into science fiction series like *Babylon 5* and *Star Trek*, Inge is the trouble-maker who instigated this.

Chris Hiles

Chris Hiles is a nurse and emergency manager specializing in mass casualty and mass fatality incidents. He serves in the Civil Air Patrol and the United States Air Force Auxiliary, where he has held the positions of Squadron Commander, Encampment Commander, and Maryland Wing Health Services Officer/Assistant Director of Safety. He lives in Baltimore, MD with his wife and puppy.

Larry Hodges

Larry Hodges's third science fiction novel, *Campaign 2100: Game of Scorpions*, is coming out from World Weaver Press in January 2016. It's a satire/drama that covers the election for president of Earth in the year 2100, when the whole world has adopted the American two-party electoral system and has been challenged by a third-party moderate—all subject to the observations of an incredulous alien ambassador (it is *West Wing* in the 22nd century.) A resident of Germantown, MD, Larry is an active member of Science Fiction Writers of America with over 70 short story sales. He's a graduate of the six-week 2006 Odyssey Writers Workshop, the 2007 Orson Scott Card Literary Boot Camp, and the two-week 2008 Taos Toolbox Writers Workshop, and he hopes to God he's finally learning. In the world of non-fiction, he's a full-time writer with 10 books and over 1600 published articles in over 150 different publications. And he's a champion table tennis player, writer, and coach!

D. Jeannette Holloman

Jeannette is a member of the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumers Guild. Her costumes have been featured in *Threads* magazine and *The Costume Makers Art*. She has participated in several WorldCon, CostumeCon and Malice Domestic award-winning costumes. She is a voice-over artist. She is married to author, costumer and technocrat Ron Robinson.

Thomas Holtz

Dr. Thomas R. Holtz, Jr., is a dinosaur paleontologist specializing in the origin, evolution, adaptations, and paleobiology of carnivorous dinosaurs (especially *Tyrannosaurus* and its kin.) He is a faculty member of the Department of Geology at the University of Maryland, College Park, a research associate of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, and is on the Scientific Council of the Maryland Science Center. In addition to his technical publications, Dr. Holtz has written several books for the general audience (such as *Dinosaurs: The Most Complete Up-To-Date Encyclopedia for Dinosaur Lovers of All Ages*), and has been a consultant on numerous TV documentaries. Dr. Holtz is the faculty director of the College Park Scholars—Science and Global Change Program (www.geol.umd.edu/sgc). He lives in Upper Marlboro, MD with his wife (long-time Balticon costumer Sue Shambaugh), a trio of cats, and the Inland bearded dragon Osborn.

Heidi Hooper

Heidi Hooper is the Dryer Lint Lady—Believe it or Not. A graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University's sculpture department, she later studied for her master's at the University of California Long Beach and the Massachusetts College of Art. After cancer ate most of her upper arm, she has tried to find new ways of making art and has become the nation's leading dryer lint artist.

Her work can be seen in Ripley's Believe It Or Not museums around the world, and Heidi was featured in their books. Her work is also currently showing in galleries in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

After *Consumer Reports* called her "The Andy Warhol of Dryer Lint" she made a piece called "Andy Warhol in Dryer Lint" which won the prestigious 2014 Niche Award for recycled art. She was the Artist Guest of Honor at Albacon earlier this year.

She is a Master costumer who has judged masquerades at the Worldcon level as well as at Ravencon, Lunacon, Mysticcon, and previous Balticons. Heidi, along with her husband Michael A. Ventrella, currently runs the Alliance LARP.

Visit her at www.HeidiHooper.com.

Starla Huchton

A geek of all trades, Starla Huchton has been crafting stories in various genres since 2007. She is a three-time Parsec Awards finalist for her podcast fiction work, and was the first-place winner for Science Fiction & Fantasy in the Sandy competition in 2012. Her work spans science fiction, fantasy, new adult romance, young adult

titles, steampunk, contemporary, and other varieties of stories. She is greedy and likes all the genres!

When not writing, Starla trains three Minions, a black lab, and a military husband whilst designing book covers for independent authors and publishers at DesignedByStarla.com.

Matt Hughes

Matt Hughes is the co-host and producer of the *Radio Westeros* podcast, a podcast dedicated to literary analysis and theories about characters and events in George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series. After spending a number of years contributing to fan forums under the pseudonym "yolkboy," he got serious about merging his background in sound with his penchant for discussing *A Song of Ice and Fire*. The result was the *Radio Westeros* podcast. Matt lives in England where winter is never far away.

Michelle Hymowitz

Michelle Hymowitz is in charge of the Gaming Programming Track at Balticon 50 this year. She has been playing games for almost 30 years and is addicted. She enjoys teaching folks how to play games, watching them as the light bulb goes off in their brains and they finally figure out how the rules work in a game so they can play to win. She is the current president of the Games Club of Maryland, which brings people together

to play games and have fun. That is Michelle's main goal at Balticon as well.

Chris Impink

Studio Unseen is made up of two carbon-based creatures: Chris Impink and Barb Fischer. On December 30, 2009, they closed the book on *Fragile Gravity*, a strip that featured independent comics, conventions, and (in an earlier arc) an invasiory force of penguins. Oh, and an extra-bitter stoat.

In 2010, they began a webcomic called *Sledgebunny*, a story that takes place in the high-speed work of flat-track roller derby. This was going well until 2013, when the antihero wordsmith descended into a downward spiral of depression and demotivation, thanks to being laid off. However, things have finally improved and the duo is not only back on track, but is starting another project called "Welcome to Longview Shoals."

Chris Impink does artwork and web design; he has been featured in Antarctic Press and did much of the graphic work for *The Babylon Project* role-playing game. Additionally, his work has been featured at various conventions such as Katsucon, Technicon, and Rising Star. He is also mildly notorious for co-founding Katsucon, though his team of spin doctors has kept that under wraps for many years. In his rare moments of free time, Chris works with the crew from Super Art Fight (www.superartfight.com). He is also instrumental in preventing Barb from procuring things like a death ray satellite, Chris Evans, or a fleet of tea corgis.

Lonnie Ingram

Lonnie Q. Ingram is an internationally known master wire artist and owner of Lonnetrix Fine Wire Art. Originally from our nation's capital, he currently resides in Baltimore, MD, where he established his art and design business. Self-taught, he created a new style of wire sculpture at the age of six, using twisty ties.

Educated at the Corcoran School of the Arts and Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Mr. Ingram embraced his artistic education, intent on sharing his gift with the world. Inspired by the work of Alexander Calder, he uses his technique and 28-gauge wire to create innovative sculptures.

His work has been on display in various locations including Baltimore, Washington, DC and New York City. Mr. Ingram has created pieces for the president, the guys at *American Chopper*, and the logos for numerous companies.

Alex Jacobs

Alex started dancing in the late '90s during the neo-swing revival, but found himself drawn into the wider world of Ballroom and Latin. He was a member of the University of Wisconsin and the University of Pennsylvania ballroom dance teams, before becoming a full-time dance instructor.

Alex is a master-level certified teacher of dance, holding certification with High Honors in the Rhythm, Smooth, and Hustle styles, and was the first teacher in the USISTD (United States Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing) to be awarded

certification in Peabody. Though he has been a finalist, and won numerous first-place and gold awards at competitions, Alex still considers himself primarily a social dancer.

According to Alex, "dance is for everyone." It is his belief that absolutely anyone can both learn to dance and enjoy being a dancer. It doesn't matter if you're young or old, a man or woman, afraid you started too late or think you have two left feet. If you want to dance, you can do it! Alex wants to show you how.

Nancy Janda

In 1982, Nancy Janda's future wife Larisa Van Winkle lured her to her first science fiction convention, Paracon. Since then, the mantra of "I Can Do That!" has empowered her to illustrate fanzines, repair game systems, show artwork at convention art shows, guard treasures of botanical art and history, and give workshops designed to show the student that They Can Do That, Too.

Paula S. Jordan



Paula S. Jordan is the author of three *Analog* stories, including "Vooorh," a novelette, (Jul/Aug 2014.) That story and her previous *Analog* entry, "Two Look at Two" (April 2011,) are adaptations from a present-day alien-contact novel now nearing completion. Her first professional publication, "The Gift of Unbinding" (May, 2001), also appeared in *Analog*. She is now at work on more short stories as well as the novel.

After degrees in history and speech and several years as a freelance writer, Paula earned a BS in physics and worked for 13 years as an orbit analyst for NASA and NOAA. She supported more than 30 science missions, including the lunar-orbiting Clementine mission that first detected water on the moon.

She invites you to visit her web site at PaulaSJordan.com. She also writes an occasional column, "A Writer's View," at SFSignal.com. Follow her on Twitter: @PaulaSJwriter.

Thomas Jewell

Tom is a maker and a cosplayer and has been attending Balticon off and on for 30 years.

Leslie Johnston

Leslie has been a costumer since the 1970s, and is back with new-found excitement after a multi-year absence. She has competed and won in masquerades at Westercon, Balticon, Worldcon and CostumeCon, among others. She is a long-time hall costumer as well, and can talk for hours at a time about construction techniques, costuming history, and her real life job in the digital preservation of cultural collections.

DJ Kangal

DJ Kangal has been a DJ for 20 years since his first live event, New Year's Weekend, 1996, at the science fiction convention Evecon. Since then he's spun almost 100 venues in 17 states, including a nine-city Midwest Tour in 2002. If you can name a nightclub in Mid-Atlantic, DJ Kangal has probably spun a gig there at some point in the last two decades.

A. L. Kaplan



A. L. Kaplan's love of books started at an early age and sparked a creative imagination. Her work has been included in *Young Adventurers: Heroes, Explorers, AND Swashbucklers*, *Indies Unlimited's 2014 & 2015 Flash Fiction*, *Dragonfly Arts Magazine 2014 & 2015*, *Suppose: Drabbles*, *Flash Fiction*, *AND Short Stories*, and the

Balticon 49 *BSFAN*. She is president of the Maryland Writers' Association's Howard County Chapter and holds an MFA in sculpture from the Maryland Institute College of Art. When not writing or indulging in her fascination with wolves, A. L. is the props manager for a local theatre. Read A. L.'s short works and poems at alkaplan.wordpress.com.

Alma Katsu



Alma Katsu's *The Taker Trilogy*, a historical fantasy with supernatural elements, has been published in over a dozen languages. The first book, *The Taker*, was named a top-ten debut novel of 2011 by Booklist. Ms. Katsu is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins Writing Program and has taught at numerous writers conferences.

Robert I. Katz

Robert I. Katz, MD recently retired as Professor of Anesthesiology, University of Florida, and Chief, Anesthesiology Service, North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System. He is the author of *Edward Maret: A Novel of the Future* and the three novels in the *Kurtz and Barent Mystery series: Surgical Risk, The Anatomy Lesson, and Seizure*.

William Kennedy



William Kennedy costumes at the Master level. In his professional life he is a Child Protection Social Worker.

Tom Kidd

A casual image search under "Tom Kidd" on the internet will quickly illustrate the illustrious career of this illustrator and show hundreds of the illustrations he's done to illustrate books that needed illustrating. He is the principal illustrator on Eric Flint's *1632* series. He illustrated *War of the Worlds* and *The Three Musketeers*. Art books include *Kiddography*, *Other Worlds*, and *How to Draw and Paint Dragons*. Although he has won many awards for work done for a wide array of publishers, he occasionally mentions having a vague sense of feeling artistic. That's when we call him Gnemo.

Mark “the Encaffeinated ONE” Kilfoil

Mark “the Encaffeinated ONE” Kilfoil is a podcaster, radio host and program director, narrator, software developer, tabletop gamer, and general geek and nerd. With nearly 20 years of radio experience, a master’s degree in computer science, and a lifetime of interest in science fiction and fantasy, Mark has made forays into podcasting (including the Parsec-winning *The WEIRD Show* and the Parsec-nominated audio-adaptation of his novella *Tainted Roses*), story narration (with over a dozen stories in *Far Fetched Fables* and *Starship Sofa*), audio drama (with *Buffy Between The Lines* and *Wasted Tape*), and computer science research (in multi-agent systems negotiation). Since 2010, he has been the program director of CHSR-FM, a campus-based community radio station in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. He is currently working on writing audio drama, producing more radio shows, and stuffing as much fiction into his mind as possible.

Kim the Comic Book Goddess

Kim the Comic Book Goddess is a serial balladeer and podcaster from northeastern Pennsylvania. She records music and essays under the name Comic Book Goddess Productions that is sometimes hard to classify and, frankly, rarely actually mentions comic books any more. Her podcast, *Geek Pantheon and Your Moment of Kim*, has mostly been on hiatus since being named a finalist for 2009’s Best Speculative Fiction Comedy/Parody Podcast. She’s lent a voice to many of the projects that really should be your favorites and is happy to lend you a few songs at Balticon.

Jonah Knight

Jonah is very happy to have his first published story in the *Gaslight and Grimm* anthology. To catch sight of him, please attend the launch party.

Brian Koscienski

Brian Koscienski developed his love of writing from countless hours of reading comic books, losing himself in the different worlds and adventures found within the colorful pages. He had minor success early in his career by getting a few short stories published in independent ‘zines, but found more success in partnering with Chris Pisano. As a writing team, they have had stories, articles, graphic novels, poetry, and novels published. Their latest novel, *The Devil’s Grasp*, is a high fantasy with horror elements.

Dotty Kurtz

Dotty Kurtz likes to read and travel. She is a former travel agent who writes about her trips on her website: lp_web4us.tripod.com, or conduct a web search for “Dotty’s Dimensions.”

Mur Lafferty

Mur Lafferty is a podcaster, author, and editor. She is an inductee into the Podcaster Hall of Fame, winner of the John W. Campbell Award and the Manly Wade Wellman Award, the editor of *Mothership Zeta* and the author of *The Shambling Guide* series from Orbit Books. Her next book, *Six Wakes*, will be out in October 2016.

Ruth Lampi

Ruth is an illustrator, sculptor, printer, potter and writer. She has more side projects than is reasonable for any one person, an art degree from Moore College of Art and Design, and a small business in selling anime wigs. She is currently working on a young adult series, a visual novel, a graphic novel, a series of block prints, and a busy convention season. Give her tea.

Sharon Landrum

Sharon Landrum was thrilled to discover the world of costuming at her first Balticon many years ago. Costuming combined her love of dressing up with her interests in designing, sewing and crafting. She took her first sewing class at age 11 and has a BS degree in apparel design from the University of Maryland, College Park. She has been working as a theatrical costumer for the last 20 years.

Grig Larson

Grig “Punkie” Larson grew up in Northern Virginia, finding fandom through D&D, FanTek, and *Rocky Horror*. He works as a systems administrator by day, and by night he’s an author, open source advocate, and runs Katsucon. A staple in VA/DC/MD science fiction and anime fandom since the 1980s, he’s been a panelist, moderator, emcee, actor, sketch writer, convention adviser, narrator, and the kind of sub-fame that keeps people from asking, “Hey, how’d HE get in here?” He’s done everything from chair a convention to being the guy who vacuums the staff suite. In no particular order.

In 1993, his first book, *The Saga of Punk Walrus*, became a cult classic. Since then he’s been published in *Gateways*, several short story anthologies, and written several sketches and spoofs for various acting venues. You can often see him at Balticon, Katsucon, Anime Mid Atlantic, and DC Rollergirl home bouts. He is a Redditor and can also be found posting on the Ars Technica forums. *Trolley* was his first published steampunk/horror novel. His latest book is *Space Bitch*, available through Kindle on Amazon.com.

Chris Lester

Chris Lester is an author and podcaster. From 2007 to 2011 he produced *The Metamor City Podcast* (www.metamorcycity.com), a Parsec Award-winning urban fantasy series with a full voice cast. In May 2015 he debuted his new solo podcast, *The Raven & the Writing Desk*, where he continues to share his fiction with the world. Lester's work has been praised for its rich settings, complex characterization, and thoughtful exploration of issues of gender, sexuality, and social class. His books are available in both print and e-book versions through his independent publishing label, Liminal Corvid Press. He lives in southwestern Montana with his partner and their many pets.

Gary L. Lester

Gary L. Lester won his first writing award at the age of 17. He has been involved with various forms of writing ever since, from plays to stories and even a novel. His first book, *Ursula the Yellow*, won first place for Fantasy in the Maryland Writers Association's Novel Contest. He currently is the Creative Director for Greyrock

Publishing, LLC, and Senior Editor for Channel 37. He co-authored, along with Paul Lagasse, the anthology *Season One!*, which includes numerous short stories from the Channel 37 website. He also has numerous e-books on Amazon and Smashwords. Gary and Paul also co-host Channel 37's *Audio Invasion!* podcast.

Emily Leverett

Emily Lavin Leverett is a fantasy, science fiction, and horror writer, an editor, and an English professor. Her works have appeared in Flash Fiction Online, *Drafthorse: A Journal of Work and No Work*, *Athena's Daughters II*, and *Cinched—A Corset Anthology*. Her edited collections include *The Big Bad: an Anthology of Evil and Big Bad II* with John Hartness, as well as *Tales from the Weird Wild West* with Misty Massey and Margaret McGraw. Her study of medieval English romance heavily influences her fiction. Recent scholarly work discusses violence—particularly flaying and cannibalism—as a means of constructing English identity in the late medieval romances *The Siege of Jerusalem* and *Richard Coer de Lyon*.

Her first novel is the first book in *The Eisteddfod Chronicles*, published by Falstaff Books in 2016. Co-written with Sarah Joy Adams, the novel combines medieval romance and modern epic with urban fantasy. When neither writing nor teaching, she and her spouse spend time together reading, watching television and movies, rooting for the Carolina Hurricanes, and attending their two rambunctious cats.

Jennifer Levine

Jennifer Levine holds a BA in English literature and creative writing from Brandeis University. She has over seven years' experience working as a full-time editor and is currently the managing editor for Circlot Press, where she has compiled

and edited a number of erotic sci-fi and fantasy short-story anthologies. Hire her to edit your work at www.Touchstone-Editing.com or find her on Twitter @jlevine3.

Steven Levine

Dr. Steven P. Levine is a board-certified psychiatrist and nationally-recognized expert in the use of ketamine for depression. He graduated with honors/Phi Beta Kappa from Johns Hopkins University, received an academic scholarship to Tulane University School of Medicine, and then completed internship and residency in psychiatry at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell. In addition, Dr. Levine completed fellowship sub-specialty training in psychosomatic medicine/psycho-oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center/New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Along with his psychotherapy-based adult psychiatry practice and consulting work, he is the president/CEO of Ketamine Treatment Centers, LLC, a pioneering clinic using cutting-edge, rapidly acting treatments for mood and anxiety disorders with offices in New Jersey, Baltimore, Colorado, and Florida.

Bryan Lincoln

Bryan is an audio producer who works with audiobooks, audio fiction podcasts, and audio drama.

Tim Livengood

Tim Livengood is a planetary scientist who measures the composition, temperature, and wind velocity in planet atmospheres. Most recently, he has been using the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter to investigate where water may be

hidden on the moon.

He was a co-investigator of NASA's EPOXI mission, and was the education and public outreach team leader for EPOCH. Tim graduated from Towson Senior High School in 1980 and from Washington University in St. Louis in 1984. During his college summers, he killed rats and cell cultures in an underground laboratory using a linear accelerator. He finished a doctorate in physics and astronomy at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore in 1992. He moved to Goddard Space Flight Center in 1991 and has worked there ever since. He is also an active storyteller and will tell you all about it, amusingly and at length.

Andy Love

Andrew Love has master's degrees in electrical engineering and physics. He has given talks about the science of science fiction and other topics to a wide range of audiences. He's married to children's author Pamela Love (author of *A Loon Alone*).

Steve Lubs

Steve Lubs has run the Balticon Writers Workshop for many years.

Mike Luoma

Mike Luoma writes and publishes science fiction and comic books, produces the weekly *Glow-in-the-Dark Radio* podcast, and he's the music director and hosts middays on "The Point," Vermont's Independent Radio Network. His science fiction novel *Vatican Assassin* introduced "BC," a killer for the New Catholic Church.

BC's story further unfolds in *Vatican Ambassador* and *Vatican Abdicator*. Mike now writes the adventures of Alibi Jones, BC's son: *Alibi Jones*, *Alibi Jones and The Sunrise of Hur*, *Alibi Jones and the Time War of the Devrizium*, the comic book *The Adventures of Alibi Jones*, and his latest novel, *Alibi Jones and The Hornet's Nest*. His new novel, *Alibi Jones and the Star Seeds of Earth*, is in the works. More at MikeLuoma.com and glowinthedarkradio.com.

Perrienne Lurie

Perrienne Lurie is an infectious disease epidemiologist and public health physician for the Pennsylvania Department of Health. She has been active in fandom for many years, and has served as the email liaison for Baltimore's 1998 Worldcon bid, the deputy program coordinator for BucCONeer, the Hugo ceremony director for Torcon 3, and she has worked on many other regional conventions and Worldcons. Perrienne currently runs the gaming area for Capclave, and has run the Balticon Green Room for way too long. She's also active in the Central Pennsylvania (European strategy board) Game Club.

Barbara Mabie

Barbara has been sewing since she was six years old. Taught by her grandmother, she would sew bags and help her grandmother sew "yo-yo quilts." She learned how to bead, make jewelry, and create other DIY things later on, and has been making handmade items ever since. Earning her cosmetology license in 2007, she also loves styling wigs and hair, and specializes in special FX makeup and prosthetics. An avid gamer, she attended her first video game convention, Pax East 2012, and fell in love with the costuming and cosplay world. Since then she has developed her sewing, wig styling, prop making, and makeup skills and created Mabie Knot Designs & Cosplay, her commission business which she now currently runs with her husband and other half, Jay Nak. Now more active in the cosplay and costuming community, she has judged cosplay contests and was one of the winners of the Arda-Wigs.com Banner Contest Spring 2016, and is featured on their website.

Mark MacDicken / Flabbergast

A professional entertainer for over 30 years, Mark MacDicken performs comedy magic as the eccentric wizard "Flabbergast." As well as being an accomplished actor and comedy magician, Mark is also a top-notch puppeteer and balloon sculptor. Formerly known as "Spiffy the Clown," he has performed at hundreds of family celebrations,

as well as theme parks, fairs and festivals, company picnics, summer recreation programs, mall events, and on local television. In recent years, "Flabbergast" has embraced the Mid-Atlantic region fan convention scene, performing at Awesome Con DC, Balticon, MystiCon, Farpoint, Shore Leave, ConGregarate, MarsCon, and adding more appearances all the time!

When he's not dressing up in costumes and playing with his toys, Mark is an elementary school special education teacher. He holds a BFA degree in drama from the University of Southern California, and a master of education degree in special education from George Mason University. Mark lives in Northern Virginia with his wife and adult son and daughter.

Gail Z. Martin

Gail Z. Martin is the author of *Vendetta: A Deadly Curiosities Novel* (2015, Solaris Books) in her urban fantasy series set in Charleston, SC; *Shadow and Flame*, the fourth and final book in the *Ascendant Kingdoms Saga* (2016, Orbit Books); *The Shadowed Path* (June 2016, Solaris Books) and *Iron and Blood*, a new steampunk series (Solaris Books) co-authored

with Larry N. Martin.

She has also authored *Ice Forged*, *Reign of Ash*, and *War of Shadows* in *The Ascendant Kingdoms Saga*, *The Chronicles of The Necromancer* series (*The Summoner*, *The Blood King*, *Dark Haven*, *Dark Lady's Chosen*); *The Fallen Kings Cycle* (*The Sworn*, *The Dread*) and the urban fantasy novel *Deadly Curiosities*. Gail writes three ebook series: *The Jonmarc Vahanian Adventures*, *The Deadly Curiosities Adventures* and *The Blaine McFadden Adventures*. *The Storm and Fury Adventures*, steampunk stories set in the *Iron and Blood* world, are co-authored with Larry N. Martin.

Her work has appeared in over 20 US/UK anthologies. Newest anthologies include: *The Big Bad 2*, *Athena's Daughters*, *Heroes*, *Space*, *Contact Light*, *With Great Power*, *The Weird Wild West*, *The Side of Good/The Side of Evil*, *Alien Artifacts*, *Cinched: Imagination Unbound*, *Realms of Imagination*, *Clockwork Universe: Steampunk vs. Aliens*.

Find her at www.AscendantKingdoms.com, on Twitter @GailZMartin, on [Facebook.com/WinterKingdoms](https://www.facebook.com/WinterKingdoms), at DisquietingVisions.com blog and GhostInTheMachinePodcast.com, on Goodreads at www.goodreads.com/GailZMartin, and read free excerpts on Wattpad wattpad.com/GailZMartin.

Misty Massey

Misty Massey is the author of *Mad Kestrel*, a rollicking adventure of magic on the high seas from Tor Books, and *Kestrel's Voyages*, a collection of short stories featuring rambunctious pirates (available for the Kindle.) She is a co-editor of *The Weird Wild West* anthology from eSpec Books and a founding member of *Magical Words*, the

well-known blog for and about writers (magicalwords.net). When she's not writing, Misty studies Middle Eastern dance and performs at regional events as opportunities arise.

Demetrios Matsakis



Dr. Demetrios Matsakis is a physicist who went to MIT and UC Berkeley, where he studied under the Nobel-prize winning professor who invented the laser and constructed two special-purpose lasers to study the molecular clouds where stars are born. Dr. Matsakis is credited with the discovery of a new form of methanol in the

Orion nebula. After graduating, he used radio astronomy to measure the wobbles in the Earth's rotation by looking at quasars near the edge of the observable universe. Later, he became interested in timekeeping with atomic clocks and rapidly-spinning neutron stars (pulsars). He went on to manage the Time Service Department of the US Naval Observatory, which uses over 100 atomic clocks to set the time for GPS and much of the world. Under his management, a set of four atomic fountains was designed and built, giving time accurate to 16 decimal places. This is the most precise 24x7 measurement system ever built by mankind to measure anything.

He has served on many international commissions related to the timekeeping art, represented the US in Geneva, and has published over 100 papers as well as one science fiction story. He is often quoted or featured in newspapers, radio shows, web articles, and documentaries. He is married and has two children. At Steger Junior High he set a record by doing 21 pull-ups.

Maugorn

Maugorn or Steve Haug is a full time musician and can be found straying into and scratching at the doors of Renfests, Faerie Festivals, Pubs, Bars, and anywhere else where he's welcome and fed. He performs from a repertoire that spans dozens of lifetimes and genres on an arsenal of instruments.

Scott McDaniel

Scott McDaniel is a web designer and illustrator. He loves looking at art to figure out how it fools us into seeing what the artist wanted us to see. If you like *Dictionary of the Khazars*, *Rush*, Alphonse Mucha, doumbeks, invented languages, or illusions, he would like to talk to you.

Mike McPhail



Author and graphic artist Mike McPhail is a member of the Military Writers Society of America; he is dedicated to helping his fellow service members (and those deserving civilians) in their efforts to become authors, as well as supporting related organizations in their efforts to help those "who have given their all for us." He is best known as the

editor and illustrator of the award-winning *Defending the Future* series of military science fiction anthologies (www.defendingthefuture.com) In 2015 he became a small press publisher as the co-owner of eSpec Books LLC (www.especbooks.com). Visit him at www.milscifi.com.

Christie Meierz



Bestselling author Christie Meierz has been writing since she was seven years old. After raising several rambunctious boys, she took to writing space opera and planetary romance set in an empathic civilization on the edge of a dystopian Earth empire. Her published works include her PRISM award-winning debut novel, *The Marann*, and her most recent book, *Farryn's War*, which was released in September 2015. In her universe, set 500 years in the future, she explores how empaths live together and what happens when empaths and normal humans collide.

Christie now lives in Pittsburgh with her mathematician husband and an assortment of stuffies. When she's not writing fiction, she writes about writing on her blog, *Meierz Musings*, and on Facebook, where she welcomes comments and friend requests.

Karen Miden



Having attended Balticon since 2004, this avid science fiction fan began as a participant of the LARP, and within a year was drafted to the position of Balticon's Gamemaster and planner. Now settling into the role of LARP administrator and Assistant LARP Mistress, she looks forward to the next chapter in the Balticon series, having survived Jedi and droids, mutants, steampunk pirates, and the like.

Holli Mintzer

Holli Mintzer is a writer and illustrator of short fiction and original comics. Her fiction has appeared in *Strange Horizons*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *InterGalactic Medicine Show*; she has exhibited her comics and illustration at the Small Press Expo, Brooklyn Zine Fest, and other events. She lives in Mount Rainier, MD, and spends too much time looking at vintage clothes on Pinterest.

James Minz

Baen Books Executive Editor James Minz has been employed in genre publishing for more than two decades, having first worked for Tor for more than a decade, then briefly for Del Rey (SF/F imprint of Random House), until finally, on the centennial of Robert A. Heinlein's birth, landing at Baen.

Over the years, Minz has worked with Catherine Asaro, David B. Coe, Larry Correia, Hal Duncan, Eric Flint, Terry Goodkind, Elizabeth Haydon, Nancy Kress, Mercedes Lackey, Sharon Lee, Steve Miller, Elizabeth Moon, Frederik Pohl, John Ringo, Robert J. Sawyer, Travis S. Taylor, Harry Turtledove, Vernor Vinge, David Weber, Jack Williamson, Gene Wolfe, and Timothy Zahn, among many, many, many others. His vices remain SF/F, animation, Wisconsin sports teams, role-playing games, quality beer and booze, and sweets (especially chocolate).

Andy Mitchell

Andy Mitchell is the owner of Corefun Studios, with which he developed and authored the game *Solar Echoes*. *Solar Echoes* is a role playing game involving small unit tactics set in a science fiction universe, with a fast moving game system designed to promote team-play by allowing players to coordinate their moves and decisions together, react to opponents at any time, and see all actions occur simultaneously!

As seven alien races struggle to co-exist in an uneasy alliance, the Inter-Stellar Union sends Union Guard agents on missions to preserve the crucial balance. These specialized operatives must do what regional security cannot, dealing with smugglers, pirates, terrorists, and even greater challenges in order to bring stability to a universe that needs it desperately. Without the Union Guard, the races will not be prepared to face a looming alien threat they can only hope to defeat together.

Bernie Mojzes



Bernie Mojzes publishes and co-edits *Unlikely Story* (www.unlikely-story.com). When there's a free minute or two, he writes.

Michelle Moore



Rainbow Award-winning author Michelle Moore has a well-documented obsession with travel, television, frappuccinos and flamingos. These, however, come in a distant second to her love of writing. With her partner Reesa Herberth, she writes

the award-winning *Ylendrian Empire* space opera series. All by her lonesome, she writes the paranormal *Playa Escondida* series.

Michelle divides her time between Washington, DC and the oldest city in the nation, St. Augustine, FL. She's hoping to figure out how to write on the beach without getting sand in her keyboard, and once she solves that, she'll move on to the age-old question of how to write with a cat in the house.

Tee Morris



Tee Morris has been writing science fiction, fantasy, horror, and non-fiction for over a decade. His first novel, *MOREVI: The Chronicles of Rafe & Askana*, has the distinction of being the first novel to be podcast in its

entirety, ushering in a new age for authors. He went on with Evo Terra to write *Podcasting for Dummies* (as well as its second edition with Chuck Tomasi). His expertise reached deeper into social media when he penned *All a Twitter* and *Sams Teach Yourself Twitter in 10 Minutes*.

In 2011, Tee returned to fiction with the *Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences* series, penned with his wife, Pip Ballantine. The series and its short fiction podcast, *Tales from the Archives*, has won several awards including the 2014 Parsec Award for Best Science Fiction Anthology Podcast, the 2011 Airship Award for Best Steampunk Literature, and RT Reviews' Choice Awards for

Best Steampunk of 2014.

Tee and Pip also host *The Shared Desk*, a podcast covering collaboration and other aspects of a writer's lifestyle. He now runs the social media initiatives for Stratford University located in Maryland and Virginia. He enjoys life in Virginia alongside Pip, his daughter, and three cats. Explore the works of Tee Morris, and his occasional geek rants, at TeeMorris.com.

Vivid Muse



Vivid Muse, aka "Viv" Schubert, has been podcasting since 2007, when she and her husband Chooch launched both *Into the Blender* and the *City of Heroes* podcasts. The *City of Heroes* podcast was honored by the Parsec Awards as a finalist in 2008 and 2009.

Viv later began the *Girls' Rules Podcast* to offer up alternative role models, points of view, and empowerment on a female-only podcast. She later joined P.G. Holyfield, the creator of SpecFicMedia.com, and others, on *Beyond the Wall* (*A Game of Thrones* podcast), which began shortly before the first season of HBO's *A Game of Thrones*. It has proudly remained spoiler-free since launch in 2011.

Viv also co-hosts "Consumption," a discussion with creatives and other fans about the media they are consuming.

After an unexpected onset of disabilities tried to slow her down, Viv decided to share her experiences with the podcasting community, to let others with similar disabilities know that they are not alone and how to not let their disabilities hinder their enthusiasm for their fandom(s).

Viv is also a very happy wife, proud mother, and utterly-smitten grandmother.

Jay Nak

Jason is a software engineer by day, and a costuming and sculpting hero by night. His experience has led him to sit as craftsmanship judge for both New York Comic Con and Celebration V. He has also been on stage many times as an MC for children's masquerades at NYCC and Celebration V as well. He is a founding member of Cosplay Burlesque and served as their MC until 2013. His expertise as a DJ has also led him to perform at several Katsucon dances, and he has been running the Katsucon and AnimeUSA dance-off for 11 years. More recently, along with Cosplay Group "Team Takeo," Jason and his wife Barb attended Wintercon as costuming guests. Currently, he and Barb are both halves of Mabie Knot Cosplay and Designs.

Princess Jacquelyn Von Necropolis

She is an avid board gamer. She wants to eat your BRAIN!

Laura Nicole



Laura Nicole, also known as "The Gypsy Pirate," has been voice acting since 2005. From playing aliens to super villains, vampires to plucky sidekicks, her range has stretched a wide spectrum.

Currently Laura is the host of her own show *Gypsy In The*

Attic, which discusses the experiences of being a voice actor as well as interviewing numerous other voice actors, podcasters, and authors. She is also a featured narrator for Mark Slade's *The Book of Weird* anthology and many audio dramas on the 4077th Productions audio group.

Laura is also a writer and currently has several short audio pieces on GypsyAudio.org. She will soon be releasing additional short stories on her website, GypsyLaura.com.

Christine Norris



Christine Norris is the author of several YA works, including *A Curse of Ash and Iron* and the *Library of Athena* series. She is highly over-educated; however, she has never flown an airship. She has a complete weakness for British television, an addiction to movies, re-told fairy tales, and police procedural shows. She also believes in fairies. Her most recent work is the short story "When Pigs Fly," found in the *Gaslight and Grimm* anthology from eSpec books.

Nutty Nuchtchas



Artist by day, blogger and podcaster by night, Nuchtchas, nicknamed Nutty, (also gamer, roleplayer, and self-professed "Geek Queen") is the chief editor and director of nimlas.org and NIMLAS Studios. While currently based in New Brunswick, Canada with spouse and Dragon, Nuchtchas is often traveling back to where she came from, New York, and all around the rest of the United States.

Meg Nuge

Student by day, ninja by night, geek all the time. What more do you need to know?

Goldeen Ogawa

Goldeen Ogawa is a writer, illustrator and cartoonist. She originally wanted to be an actor, but gave it up when she discovered all the best parts were for men. She then embarked on a mission to write the parts she would have liked to play. The project is ongoing.

Today she is the author of over 20 short stories and novellas, and has been working as a freelance illustrator since 2009. Her work ranges from colorful science fiction to dark fantasy, short tales to epic sagas. In addition, she has served as a narrator for the *District of Wonders* podcasts, and is the creator of the (complete) webcomic, *Year of the God-Fox*. An entirely self-taught artist, she illustrates many of her stories, which are published through her small press, Heliopause Productions. She is an avid cyclist, she has 20 years' experience training and handling horses, and she even spent four seasons working as a whitewater raft guide.

She describes herself as a fan of science, a friend of dragons, mostly harmless, and also into cats. New works from her can be found in her *Apsis Fiction* anthologies, published semiannually through Heliopause. Her official site is goldeenogawa.com, but she is most active on Twitter, where she can be found @GrimbyTweets.

Lady Ozma

Lady Ozma has been involved in fandom since Balticon 20. She loves to read and watch genre material and can often be found hanging around the costumers and artists at Balticon. A multi-year participant of NaNoWriMo, actress, web developer, member of the Hogwarts Running Club, and costumer, it is easy to see she's got more interests than time. She's also raised two sons on the convention circuit and loves to bring other youth to the wild and wonderful world of conventions and fandom.

Kate Pakaski

Kate is a proud member of the Boogie Knights since 2004, occasionally known as Alice the Cooper's Daughter.

Ada Palmer



Ada Palmer's first science fiction novel *Too Like the Lightning* (Tor Books, 2016) is a tale of global politics in the year 2454. She is an historian of the Renaissance, Enlightenment, classical reception, the history of books, publication and reading, and the history of philosophy, heresy, science and atheism. She teaches in the history department at the University of

Chicago, and researches in Italy, often in Florence or at the Vatican Library. She is the composer for Sassafrass, an a cappella group performing fantasy, SF and mythology-themed music, and her Viking musical play *Sundown: Whispers of Ragnarok* came out on CD and DVD in 2015. She researches anime/manga, especially Osamu Tezuka, early post-WWII manga, and gender in manga. She has published on the history of manga and worked as a consultant for many anime and manga publishers. She writes the philosophy and travel blog ExUrbe.com.

Sharon "SMAP" Palmer

Sharon Marie Antoinette Palmer (a.k.a. "SMAP") has been a costumer and artist in Maryland since 1980, often working backstage at local masquerades. She's been performing with the Boogie Knights since 1987 as the Lady Dionne of Warwicke.

Patches

Patches has taught Medieval and Renaissance dance at Balticon and other science fiction conventions for decades. She loves teaching beginners the joy of dance. She has also taught countless people to hula hoop (especially those who claim they cannot).

Marianne Pease



Marianne is a Master costumer and a member of the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumer's Guild, and also a freelance writer with Onyx Path. She is currently working on the highly-anticipated *Changeling: The Lost*, second edition.

Michael Pederson

Michael D. Pederson is the publisher/editor responsible for *Nth Degree*. Mike began his career as a writer in 1988 when his SF short story, "Dust Storm," won first place in a local writing contest. In the 1990s, he wrote and published the *Raven* comic book series and edited and published *Scene*, a Virginia-based entertainment magazine.

In 2001, Mike was part of the "Best in Class—Master Division" winning presentation ("Pre-Emptive Strike") at the Millennium Philcon Masquerade. Two months later he started *Nth Degree*. In 2007, he wrote a chapter on "Writing for Magazines" for Dragon Moon Press' *Writing Fantasy: The Author's Grimoire*.

In 2006, Mike (with Tee Morris and Tony Ruggiero) began the science-fiction convention RavenCon in Richmond, VA. After its tenth year, RavenCon moved to Williamsburg and Mike is still the con chair. Mike has also run programming for Trinoc*con, been Fan Guest of Honor for ConCarolinas and Mysticon, co-chaired a successful NASFiC bid with Warren Buff, and served as Master of Ceremonies for MarsCon. Between *Nth Degree* and his many convention appearances, Mike has become the East Coast's go-to guy for interviews. He's interviewed guests for ConGregarate, MarsCon, Mysticon, RavenCon, and StellarCon. In the last few years Mike has interviewed a wide range of writers, gamers, artists, and actors.

Yes, Mike is an insanely busy person; he appreciates caffeine and/or beer.

When not engaged in geekish pursuits, Mike is an under-employed graphic designer and lives in Richmond, Virginia.

L. Penelope

Leslye Penelope is an award-winning paranormal and fantasy romance author. Her debut novel, *Song of Blood & Stone*, won the 2016 Self-Publishing eBook Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. She writes speculative fiction featuring multicultural characters and believes it's important for everyone to see themselves reflected in fiction. She lives in Baltimore with her family.

TJ Perkins



TJ Perkins is a gifted and multi-award winning author with 13 books out in the mystery/suspense, New Age, and fantasy genres for young readers. She has been published numerous times in a wide variety of magazines, anthologies and websites.

Meredith Peruzzi

Meredith is a museum professional by day and a bilingual geek by night.

Kelly Pierce

Kelly Shannon Pierce has had two decades of experience in managing volunteer/donation endeavors, including over a decade of acting as Auction Coordinator for BSFS Books for Kids Auction for the Baltimore Science Fiction Society (BSFS), both year-round and at Balticon, as well as previous years spent volunteering at summer camps for the mentally challenged.

She first became involved with Balticon in the late 80s/early 90s when she joined GLOBE (Gamer's League of Baltimore's Elite). As a GLOBE member she volunteered to run RPGs such as AD&D and *Teenagers From Outer Space* at Balticon. She has been working to get RPG back at Balticon since chairing Balticon 48. This year she is going to run a *World of Darkness* game on Sunday night.

Sarah Pinsker



Sarah Pinsker is the author of the novelette *In Joy, Knowing the Abyss Behind*, the 2014 Sturgeon Award winner and a 2013 Nebula finalist. Her story "A Stretch of Highway Two Lanes Wide" was a 2014 Nebula finalist, and another story, "No Lonely Seafarer," made the 2014 Tiptree Award longlist. Her fiction has been published in magazines including *Asimov's*, *Strange Horizons*, *Lightspeed*, *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, and *Uncanny*, and in anthologies including *Accessing the Future: A Disability Themed Anthology of Speculative Fiction*, *How to Live On Other Planets: A Handbook for Aspiring Aliens*, and *Long Hidden*. Her stories have been translated into Chinese, Spanish, and Galician.

Sarah will be the Author Guest of Honor at Chessiecon 2016. She co-hosts the Baltimore Science Fiction Society's "Dangerous Voices Variety Hour," a reading series/quiz show. She is also a singer/songwriter with three albums on various independent labels: (*Charmed*, disappear records; *Wingspan*, Reinventing Records; *This is Your Signal*, The Beechfields, with the Stalking Horses) and a fourth forthcoming. She and her wife live in Baltimore, MD.

Christopher Pisano



Chris Pisano was discouraged by his 10th grade English teacher from reading H. P. Lovecraft. Being naturally disobedient, Chris has been a fan ever since. He had minor successes early in his career by getting a few poems published, but found more success in partnering with Brian Koscienski. As a writing team, they have had stories, articles, graphic novels, and poetry published, and most recently their debut novel, *The Shattered Visage Lies*, by Post Mortem Press.

Scott Pond



Scott E. Pond is the owner/proprietor of both Scott E. Pond Designs (freelance graphic design) and Darker Reality Studios (small indie-press). He uses his almost non-existent free time to enhance his various creative skills and has done everything from drawing, writing, photography and writing to custom action figure design, graphic design, and desktop publishing. His designs have been seen in the works of: *New York Times* Bestselling author Scott Sigler; Parsec Award-winning author Paul E. Cooley; award-winning novelist and screenwriter Matt Wallace; Jake Bible; Sue Baiman; Scott Roche; M. Jandreau; Doc Coleman, and many others. He

released his first book, *Mental Graffiti*—a collection of his wit, wisdom, and observations—in January 2016 under his Darker Reality imprint, with additional books slated for later in 2016.

Examples of his design work can be found at scottpond.com. His indie press, related books, and projected release schedule can be found at darkerreality.com.

The Positronic Cats

The Positronic Cats are a Sci-Fi/progressive folk duo from Pennsylvania. Simple chord progressions paired with powerful vocals and intricate mandolin phrasings are the foundation for songs about love, revenge, and the future.

Jennifer R. Povey



Jennifer R. Povey is in her early forties, and lives in Northern Virginia with her husband. She writes a variety of speculative fiction, whilst following current affairs and occasionally indulging in horse riding and role playing games. She has sold fiction to a number of markets including *Analog*, and written RPG supplements for several companies. Her most recent release is the apocalyptic science fiction novella trilogy *The Silent Years*. She writes an ongoing urban fantasy serial that can be found at makingfate.jenniferrpovey.com.

Peter Prellwitz



Peter Prellwitz was bitten by the writing bug at an early age and has never been cured. Starting with an awful (but produced!) Thanksgiving play in 4th grade, success only spurred him on. Fortunately, Peter's writing skills have improved considerably over time.

Presently, Peter has a total of nine novels published in trade paperback and ebook, all by Double Dragon Publishing (DDP). His novel *Horizons* was selected by Mike Resnick as Best Science Fiction and awarded DDP's 2003 Draco Award. Four of his short stories appear in the anthology *Twisted Tails*, which won the 2006 Dream Realms Award. Peter also has short stories in *By Other Means*, *Best Laid Plans*, *Dogs of War*, *Bad-Ass Faeries*, *It's Elemental* (Dark Quest, LLC) and *Twisted Tails VI* (DDP). He continues writing novels and short stories, as well as dabbling in web comics. He has just completed writing his latest novel, *Redeeming the Plumb*.

Peter's novels, along with more than three dozen short stories located on his site, help weave a tapestry of mankind's exploration and settling of the galaxy over the next two and half millennia.

A native Arizonan, Peter has also lived in Wisconsin, California, Hawaii, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania, where he now lives with his wife, Bethlyne, and four of their five sons. In addition to writing, Peter enjoys history, backpacking, scuba diving and languages.

Visit Peter at ShardsUniverse.net.

Jordan Price

Jordan Price is the Steven Muller Distinguished Professor of the Sciences at St. Mary's College of Maryland. His research integrates two disparate fields of biology, animal behavior and

molecular evolution, to investigate the evolutionary histories of animal communication signals including the songs and color patterns of birds. Previous study topics have included the evolution of female birdsong, sexual dichromatism in birds, avian echolocation, complex social behavior, and the cultural transmission of birdsong. He has conducted field work on multiple species throughout the eastern United States, as well as in Mexico, Belize and Venezuela. Jordan received his PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a B.Sc.H. from Queen's University in Canada. He conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Minnesota before joining St. Mary's College in 2002.

Karen Purcell

Dr. Karen Purcell was born and educated in Troy, NY. She attained her bachelor's in biology magna cum laude from Pace University, Pleasantville Campus. She then spent a year at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute working on a master's in molecular biology, as a librarian at WRPI, the campus radio station, and in the box office at RPI Players. She graduated with the Class of '92 from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell, the only veterinary school in the United States with a theatre troupe.

Dr. Purcell has worked as an associate veterinarian in New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and North Carolina. Currently, she is an independent contractor providing relief veterinary services to practices in North Carolina.

In her spare time (hah!), Dr. Karen spent many years wearing various hats at Arisia, the large regional science fiction convention in the northeast. She has also helped with various Worldcons and costuming endeavors. She belongs to the Northern Lights Costumers guild. She also is an active belly dancer, previously with Bad Raqs San'e Sahara and now at Tapestry Academy in Raleigh, NC. She is attempting to become active in southeast fandom.

Dr. Purcell currently lives with her husband Denis, two golden retrievers and three cats. When she is not working with animals, she is spending her time unpacking and learning her new surroundings.

Maxxyne Putz

Maxxyne Putz is a Level 1 Magic judge.

Christine Rake

Christine Rake is one of the inaugural graduates of LOST University, with a BS degree in LOST studies. If you spent any time at the Jersey Shore in the 1990s, you may have heard her on FM 106.3 (WHTG-FM—Modern Rock at the Jersey Shore) where she was the News Director, Morning Show Sidekick and host of FM 106.3's *Common Threads* on Sunday mornings. A graphic designer by day, Christine is an active member of the Brotherhood without Banners and an avowed Hufflepuff. She is dedicated to furthering the fan community and proudly wears her fandom on her sleeve.

Larry Reclusado

Mr. Reclusado has worn many hats in his time on planet Earth, including having worked as a stunt man and served in the Marines. He has managed a comic book store, and has produced television shows on all types of fandom. He has also participated in and gamemastered several LARPs at Balticon and in other regions. If you're the daring type, try and beat him at comic book trivia.

Nobilis Reed

A few years ago, Nobilis Reed decided to start sharing the naughty little stories he scribbled out in hidden notebooks. To his surprise, people actually liked them! Now, he can't stop. The poor man is addicted. His wife, teenage children, and even the cats just look on this wretch of a man, hunched over his computer and shake their heads. Clearly, there is no hope for him. The best that can be hoped for is to just make him as comfortable as his condition will allow. Symptoms of his condition include two novels, several novellas and numerous short stories. He is the creator and host of *Nobilis Erotica*, the best erotic speculative fiction podcast in the known universe.

Angela Render

Angela Render is a senior web analyst who writes nonfiction, poetry, and fiction in genres including fantasy, science-fiction, historical, and adult. Her current project is a mid-grade entitled *Song of the Lost Clan*.

Ray Ridenour

Ray Ridenour has been an artist for 45 years, and a Balticon participant since 1966. At science fiction conventions and in general, he has exhibited paintings, drawings, computer art, stained glass sculptures and windows. He has sat on many convention panels as both member and moderator. He has acted in fannish and non-fannish plays, as well as two horror films—one as a featured player, in which he lost his head.

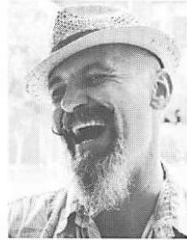
Outside of fandom, Ray has spent 20 years as a professional artist and community liaison for Baltimore City housing departments. He has built commercial displays for department stores, done illustrations for the *Baltimore Sun*, and produced private projects for individuals and community institutions.

Greg "RPG Dude" Robin

Greg is running Balticon 50's RPG room. Contact him at rpggaming@balticon.org.

Ron Robinson

Ron is a part of the "Ron and Jeannette" costuming team. Over the years they've participated in several WorldCon and CostumeCon winning costumes. They have been costuming for more than 30 years.

Dave Robison

Dave Robison is a storyteller who has been captivated by tales and legends his entire life. He was drawn to the immersive storytelling of live theater at an early age, participating in community workshops and school productions, a passion that continued through high school and college. He was also drawn to role-playing games which led to a deep appreciation of speculative fiction, cutting his teeth on Robert E. Howard, Michael Moorcock, and JRR Tolkien.

Securing his theater degree from the University of Wyoming, Dave pursued a degree in graphic design and, in the years that followed, worked at dinner theaters, design studios, and ran a used bookstore. In 2009, he and his wife, Teri, launched Rabbit Hole Radio Theater, an audio theater production company that produced over 40 hours of quality audio theater with over 200 volunteers.

In 2012, Dave launched *The Roundtable Podcast* with friend and colleague Brion Humphrey. The podcast gave writers the opportunity to brainstorm their story ideas with established authors and editors like Lou Anders, Cat Rambo, Kameron Hurley, and Hugh Howey. The unique format combined with Dave's over-the-top delivery and enthusiasm earned the podcast a small but dedicated following. In 2015, Dave formed Wonderthing Studios, LLC and brought *The Roundtable Podcast* under its banner. He then joined the Ed Greenwood Group's Onder Librum project as their audio director, editor for their steampunk story world, and broadcasting director for their many podcasts.

Scott Roche

Some creatures feed on blood and revel in the screams of their prey. Scott Roche craves only caffeine and the clacking of keys. He pays his bills doing grunt work no one else wants to take, bringing dead electronics back to life and working arcane wonders with software. His true passion is hammering out words that become anything from tales that terrify to futuristic worlds of wonder. All that and turning three children into a private mercenary army make for a life filled with adventure.

Roberta Rogow

retired librarian, living in New Jersey.

Roberta Rogow writes historical mysteries, although she often twists the history. Her most recent series, *The Saga of Halvar the Hireling*, takes place in an alternate Colonial Manhattan, run by Spanish Moors instead of Dutch traders. She is also a longtime Filker, and was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame in 2013. In her non-fannish life, Roberta is a

Christopher Mark Rose

Christopher Mark Rose is a fledgling writer of speculative fiction. His story, "A Thousand Solomons," won first place in the 2015 BSFS Amateur Writing Contest. He participates in the BSFS Critique Circle, and has finished a rough draft of a first novel. He hopes to write stories that are affecting, humane, and concerned with big questions.

When not writing or being a husband and father, he works in the Space Explorations Sector at Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory, where he designs flight firmware. His designs are flying now in NASA's Van Allen Probes, and will be in the forthcoming Solar Probe Plus spacecraft.

Dragan Rose

Dragan Rose is a member of the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumers' Guild and the International Costumers' Guild. She loves designing and making all types of costumes and props. She also recently designed and costumed for her first play, Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well*, produced by the Rude Mechanicals in Greenbelt, MD. Dragan has been coming to Balticon for many years and is looking forward to seeing all her longtime friends and making new ones.

Don Sakers

Don Sakers was launched the same month as Sputnik 1, so it was perhaps inevitable that he should become a science fiction writer. As a writer and editor, he has explored the thoughts of sapient trees (*The Leaves of October*), brought ghosts to life (*Carmen Miranda's Ghost is Haunting Space Station Three*), and beaten the "Cold Equations" scenario. Since 2009, Don has been the book reviewer for *Analog Science Fiction and Fact*, where he writes the "Reference Library" column in every issue. Don's most recent books are *Children of the Eighth Day* and *Meat and Machine*.

Carol Salemi

Carol has worked over 40 years in many aspects of costuming, from creating/fabricating to teaching to judging/masquerade directing. She is a Master costumer who enjoys new, fun, and challenging techniques that keep it fresh. Her most recent work can be seen on TLC's *My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding*. She's has worked as a medical massage therapist

(29 years), works for Regal Cinemas and Sondra Celli Designs, has jobs in the Haunt Industry, and likes making Steampunk items. Check out her jewelry in the Art Show!

Kathreja Sarfati

Kat Sarfati has been the Head or Assistant Head of Anime Programming at Balticon for a number of years to the point she doesn't remember any more when she started. She is a former Con-Chair of Anime USA, and has worked at anime conventions in leadership roles for over five years. She writes fan fiction and works on jewelry and art in her little spare time.

Lee Sarfati

A longtime geek, science fiction, and anime fan, Lee has several years of experience staffing anime conventions, as well as a wide breadth of knowledge of random trivia.

Robert J. Sawyer

Robert J. Sawyer has won the best-novel Hugo Award (for *Hominids*), and has 12 other Hugo nominations to his credit. He's also won the best-novel Nebula Award (for *The Terminal Experiment*), the John W. Campbell Memorial Award (for *Mindscan*), and the Audio Publishers Association's Audie Award for Best Science Fiction or Fantasy Audiobook of the Year (for *Calculating God*), plus Spain's Premio UPC de Ciencia Ficción (the world's largest ongoing science-fiction prize; Rob has won it a record-setting three times). He's won Canada's Aurora (a record-setting fourteen times), Japan's best-foreign-novel Seiun Award (three times), China's Galaxy Award, *Analog's* AnLab, the Hal Clement Memorial Award, and NESFA's Edward E. Smith Memorial Award (the Skylark Award).

In 2014, he was one of the initial nine inductees into the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame. His 23 novels include *Starplex*, *Rollback*, *Wake*, *Triggers*, *Red Planet Blues*, and the just-published *Quantum Night*. The ABC-TV series *FlashForward* was based on his novel of the same name, and Rob, a member of both the Writers Guild of America and the Writers Guild of Canada, was one of the scriptwriters for that series.

His work has hit #1 on the Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.ca, Audible, and *Locus* science-fiction bestsellers' lists. Rob holds two honorary doctorates and has published in both the world's top scientific journals, *Science* (guest editorial) and *Nature* (fiction). He lives just outside Toronto. Visit him at sfwriter.com. Photo credit: Christine Frost.

Patrick Scaffido

Patrick Scaffido is an author, podcaster, and musician. His work is available at thousandheads.com. He prefers writing surrealistic trippy science fiction epics to writing his own bio. He once fought a giant mutant terrier armed only with the jawbone of a mule. The terrier won.

Ken Schrader

Ken Schrader is a science fiction and fantasy writer. He spends a great deal of his spare time listening to the characters running around in his head. When he's not doing that, or playing with his dogs, he's been known to watch the occasional super-hero movie.

His short story "Haven" appears in the *Weird Wild West Anthology*.

Ken loves music, books, the big sky right off his front porch, *Star Wars*, *Firefly*, *Blind Guardian*, jasmine tea, and the smell of rain on the air.

Chooch Schubert



Chooch Schubert is a podcaster, musician, and audio engineer living near Washington, DC. He started podcasting in 2007 (*The City of Heroes Podcast*) and currently co-hosts a number of shows including: multi-Parsec finalist *Beyond the Wall* (*A Game of Thrones* podcast), *Consumption* (covering media from TV, books, games and more), and *Into the Blender* (life in a blended family). Chooch has participated on and moderated panels at several conventions covering diverse topics such as: writing fiction, podcasting, advanced audio editing, web design, video games, and live music performances. By day Chooch is a federal IT manager who enjoys board games, writing music, and audio production for podcast and film.

Darrell Schweitzer



Darrell Schweitzer's most recent book is a collection of weird and Lovecraftian stories, *Awaiting Strange Gods*, published by Fedogan & Bremer. His novels include *The White Isle*, *The Shattered Goddess*, and *The Mask of the Sorcerer*. He has published about 325 stories in magazines ranging from *Amazing Stories* to *Twilight Zone* and many anthologies, most notably, of late, ST Joshi's *Black Wings* series. He is himself an anthologist (*Cthulhu's Reign*, *The Secret History of Vampires*, *That Is Not Dead*, etc.) and was a co-editor of *Weird Tales* for 19 years. He has published books about H.P. Lovecraft and Lord Dunsany. He also wrote the *Innsmouth Tabernacle Choir Hymnal*, now the standard liturgy for blasphemous rites everywhere.

Chris Shockey

Chris Shockey has been in the Baltimore science fiction convention scene for the last 20 years, the last 17 running Hal's Gaming Oasis at Farpaint.

Dr. SETI / H. Paul Shuch



Dr. SETI is the stage name of the blatant exhibitionist who inhabits the body of noted author and educator Dr. H. Paul Shuch (which rhymes with "luck"). A cross between Tom Lehrer and Carl Sagan, it is said that Dr. SETI sings like

Sagan and lectures like Lehrer. Armed with a laptop computer and an acoustical guitar, Dr. SETI travels the world making the search for life in space accessible to audiences as diverse as humanity itself.

Alex Shvartsman



Alex Shvartsman is a writer, translator and game designer from Brooklyn, NY. Over 80 of his short stories have appeared in *Nature*, *Galaxy's Edge*, *InterGalactic Medicine Show*, and many other magazines and anthologies. He

won the 2014 WSFA Small Press Award for Short Fiction and was a finalist for the 2015 Canopus Award for Excellence in Interstellar Fiction. He is the editor of the *Unidentified Funny Objects* annual anthology series of humorous SF/F. His collection, *Explaining Cthulhu to Grandma and Other Stories*, and his steampunk humor novella *H. G. Wells, Secret Agent* were both published in 2015.

Ethan Siegel



Ethan Siegel is a PhD astrophysicist and professor of physics and astronomy at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, OR. Since 2008, he has won numerous awards for science writing for his blog, *Starts With a Bang*, including the award for best science blog by the Institute of Physics. His writing has been featured by NASA, *Discover Magazine*, *Scientific American*, *Forbes*, *Slate*, and many others. His first book, *Beyond the Galaxy: How Humanity Looked Beyond our Milky Way and Discovered the Entire Universe*, is now available from World Scientific.

Podcasting's Rich Sigfrit



To say that I enjoy podcasting and new media would be a gross understatement. My credits include mentions in high school and collegiate papers, newspapers, *Podcasting for Dummies*, and *Advanced Podcasting Tricks*. I have been called an innovator, having created the first fandom podcast (*RotO*), the first podcast for an Independent Wrestling Federation (*Halo: Hardwired*), and distributed the first comic book made available via podcast feed (*Podcast 9*). I was the force behind the official *Troma Podcast* and a former host/editor of the *501stCast*, the official podcast of the 501st Stormtrooper Legion. I produced the long-running *Amazing Pulp Adventures Radio Show* starring Mister Adventure, serving as writer and primary voice actor for recorded and live stage versions.

I have done commercial voice work as the voice of CRASH, SWE and GOUGE Wrestling, Volaris phone systems, Howards RV and Fit Family NC (also providing puppeting). I have MC'd numerous conventions and events and am the host of "Thinkin' While You're Drinkin'" as well as the house MC for Succubus Sorority and Nerd-Vana Burlesque under the names Dr Fantastical and Richie Muenster. Between hosting podcasts, playing requested voices on other shows, being a father of

three, and creating various audio sketches and dramas, I have been heard on *ChronoRadio*, *Star Wars and Beyond*, *SwitchedOn Show*, the *Geeklabel Podcast* and *Dragon Pages' Wingin' It* syndicated show, and countless guest appearances on other shows, of which I am very proud.

In my spare time, I sleep.

David Silverman

David Silverman is president of American Atheists, the author of *Fighting God* (St. Martin's), the creator and executive producer of the 2012 Reason Rally, and the vice president of the upcoming 2016 Reason Rally. Dave became an activist in 1996 and soon became New Jersey State Director. He was tapped to be the national spokesperson in 2004, and then was named vice president in 2008. The Board of Directors elected Dave as president in September 2010.

Mr. Silverman has appeared on most major news programs including *The O'Reilly Factor* (spawning the famous "WTF meme-face"), *The Real Story with Gretchen Carlson*, *Ronan Farrow Daily*, *Scarborough Country*, CNN's *Paula Zahn NOW*, *Nick News*, *Hannity and Colmes*, *FOX and Friends*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, and many more.

Hildy Silverman



Hildy Silverman is the publisher of *Space and Time*, a nearly 50-year-old magazine featuring fantasy, horror, and science fiction. She is also the author of several works of short fiction, including "The Vampire Escalator of the Passaic Promenade" (2010, *New Blood*, Thomas, ed.), "The Darren" (2009, *Witch Way to the Mall?*, Friesner, ed.), "Sappy Meals" (2010, *Fangs for the Mammaries*, Friesner, ed.), "Black Market Magic" (2012, *Apocalypse 13*, Raetz, ed.), and "The Bionic Mermaid Returns" (2014, *With Great Power*, French, ed.). In 2013, she was a finalist for the WSFA Small Press Award for her story, "The Six Million Dollar Mermaid" (*Mermaids 13*, French, ed.). In the "real" world, she is a Digital Marketing Communications Specialist at Sivantos, Inc.

John Skylar

John Skylar, PhD is a virologist, life scientist, and author incapable of keeping his mouth shut. His nonfiction writing has appeared in *The Huffington Post*, *Mashable*, and other venues. His fiction has appeared in *Perihelion SF*, *Strange Bedfellows* (Bundoran Press), *The Future Embodied* (Simian Publishing), and many others. He also writes for pharmaceutical companies and video games publishers from his base of operations in New York.

Jay Smith



Jay Smith is an award-winning audio dramatist responsible for the Parsec winning horror series *HG World*, the Parsec finalist *The Diary of Jill Woodbine*, and *Hidden Harbor Mysteries*. Jay's books include the gamer-geek satire *Rise of the Monkey Lord*, *Blue Collar Gods*, *Seven 'til Sunrise*, *HG*

World: The Audio Scripts, and the forthcoming *Hidden Harbor Mysteries: Anatomy of a Modern Audio Drama Series*. Currently, Jay writes and produces audio for Onder Librum based on Ed Greenwood's multiverse of speculative fiction including the ongoing urban fantasy series *Hellmaw*.

Jay holds an MFA from Seton Hill University. He attends and speaks at various science fiction and literary conventions about podcasting, writing, audio drama, and zombies.

Maria Snyder



Meteorologist turned novelist, Maria's been writing fantasy and science fiction since she was bored at work and needed something creative to do. Over a dozen novels and 17 short stories later, Maria's learned a thing or three about writing. She's been on the *New York Times* bestseller list, won a half-dozen awards, and has earned her MA degree in writing from Seton Hill University where she's been happily sharing her knowledge with the current crop of MFA students. She also enjoys creating new worlds where horses and swords rule, 'cause let's face it, they're cool, and she's been known to trap her poor characters in a giant metal cube and let them figure out how to get out. Readers are welcome to check out her website for book excerpts, free short stories, maps, blog, and her schedule at www.mariavsnyder.com.

David Sobkowiak

David's creative efforts began at a young age. At six he was recording comedy sketches into a Radio Shack tape recorder. At 13 he started writing novels based on vivid dreams. At 17 he was a DJ and at 20 he was working as a sound engineer for a local rock band in Buffalo, NY. His belief in collaborative works led him to voice acting for several audio drama groups in the early 2000s. In 2006 he co-founded BrokenSea Audio Productions and has lent his voice to productions of *Doctor Who*, *POTA*, *EFNY*, *Jake Sampson*, *BSG*, *Logan's Run*, *Johnny Quest* and *The X-Files*. He has worked alongside some of the best and brightest talents from around the world. As a husband and father he knows firsthand how important collaboration is in everyday life, and he brings that belief to all of the many projects he has worked on over the years. Presently he is working on developing several new creative endeavors including novels, short stories and audio scripts.

Michelle Sonnier

Michelle D. Sonnier writes urban fantasy, dark fantasy, and some horror and steampunk. She's really just an awkward, geeky type who likes to tell stories. She lives in Maryland with her husband, son, and a fluctuating number of cats.

Steven Southard

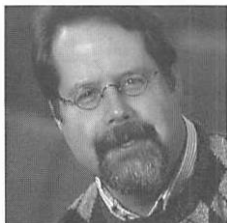
Steven R. Southard's short stories appear in nine different anthologies including *Dead Bait*, *Quest for Atlantis*, and *Cheer Up, Universe!* He's the author of the *What Man Hath Wrought* series, with 12 stories at last count. An engineer and former submariner, Steve takes readers on voyages to far-off places aboard amazing vehicles accompanied by engaging characters. He has tampered with several genres including steampunk, clockpunk, science fiction, fantasy, and horror...and seems to have gotten away with it. Set sail for stevenrsouthard.com to learn more about his fictional adventures.

Bud Sparhawk

Bud Sparhawk has published one mass market paperback novel: *Vixen* (Cosmos, 2008) and two print collections: *Sam Boone: Front to Back* (Foxacre Press, 2001) and *Dancing with Dragons* (Wildside Press, 2008). He has three e-novels available through Amazon and other channels. His novel *Distant Seas* (Fantastic Books) is available from Amazon and other booksellers as trade paperback and eBook.

Bud has been a three-time novella finalist for the Nebula award: "Primrose and Thorn" (*Analog*, May 1996), "Magic's Price" (*Analog*, March 2001), and "Clay's Pride" (*Analog*, July/August 2004). His work has appeared in two *Year's Best* anthologies: *Year's Best SF #11* (EOS, David Harwell-Editor) and *The Year's Best Science Fiction, Fourteenth Annual Collection*, (St Martin's Press, Gardner Dozois—Editor.)

Bud's short stories have appeared frequently in *Analog Fact/Fiction*, a few times in *Asimov's*, and in four *Defending the Future* and other anthologies, publications and audio books. He has put out several collections of his published works in e-book format. A complete bibliography can be found at: budsparhawk.com. He resides in Annapolis, MD and writes a weekly blog on the pain of writing at budsparhawk.blogspot.com.

Michael Spence

Michael Spence writes science fiction, fantasy, and theology, and recently has ventured into mystery and steampunk. He also reads it all. Out loud. For other people.

His recent stories include "The Snowflake Fallacy," in *Realms of Darkover*, edited by Deborah J. Ross; a steampunk story, "Why the Sea Is Boiling Hot: A Tale from the Archives of the Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences," published by Imagine That! Studios (a finalist for the 2014 Parsec Award), "Dark Speech" (with Elisabeth Waters), in *Sword and Sorceress 30*, and "The Music of the Spheres," in *Music of Darkover*, both edited by Elisabeth Waters. His article "Requiem for the Harlequin: Two Perspectives on Time, and a Celebration of

Kairos, in *Three Stories* by Harlan Ellison" appeared in *Sci Phi Journal*.

Michael has also narrated several audiobooks, available through Audible.com, Amazon.com, and iTunes. He played lead roles in Chris Lester's "Whispers in the Wood," which won the Parsec Award in 2010 for Best Speculative Fiction Audio Drama (Short Form), and in Jim Perry's "*Star Wars—Codename: Starkeeper*," which won the *Star Wars* Fanworks Best Audio Drama and Best Director awards.

Benjamin Steinhurst

Ben Steinhurst has been doing math and crocheting for almost as long as he has been reading science fiction. Today he crochets and teaches mathematics at McDaniel College in Central Maryland while fitting in as much reading as possible.

His mathematical research is about random walks through fractal spaces. In particular he is interested in those fractal spaces which change their characteristics at smaller and smaller length scales.

Jim Stratton

Jim Stratton is a chameleon. By day, he is a mild-mannered government lawyer specializing in the field of child-abuse prosecutions. He's been an avid fan of speculative fiction all his life, however, and began writing genre fiction more than 20 years ago. He lives with his wife and children in southern Delaware. In recent years Jim's been forging his dark alter ego of genre fiction author through publication of his tales in venues such as *Dragons, Knights & Angels* magazine, *Ennea* (published in Athens, Greece) and *Nth Degree*. The appearance of his first foray into the world of poetry in *The Broadkill Review* is but another step in his master plan. In 2012, his stories appeared in *Big Pulp E-zine* and the *Rum and Runestones* anthology. His appearance as coeditor and coauthor in *Fantastic Fantasy 13* in 2014 is yet another step in his master plan, along with his appearance in the *Bad-Ass Faeries: It's Elemental* anthology. He will finally step triumphantly into the light with the future publication of his novels, *Loki's Gambit* and *Dokkalfar's Ploy*.

Ian Stroock

Ian Randal Stroock is the owner and publisher of Gray Rabbit Publications/Fantastic Books (www.FantasticBooks.biz). He has been an editor for *Artemis*, *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Science Fiction Chronicle*, and more. He is also an AnLab winning author of fiction and non-fiction. His non-fiction books *Ranking the First Ladies* and *Ranking the Vice Presidents* will be out from Carrel Books later this year. His science fiction has been published in *Nature* and *Analog*.

David Lee Summers

David Lee Summers is the author of nine novels and numerous short stories and poems. His writing spans a wide range of the imaginative from science fiction to fantasy to horror. David's novels include *The Solar Sea*, which tells the story of the first voyage through the solar system aboard a solar sail; *Vampires of the Scarlet Order*, which tells the story of a

band of vampire mercenaries who fight evil; and *Owl Dance*, a Wild West steampunk adventure. His short stories and poems have appeared in such magazines and anthologies as *Realms of Fantasy*, *Cemetery Dance*, and *Gaslight and Grimm*. In addition to writing, David has edited three science fiction anthologies: *A Kepler's Dozen*, *Space Pirates* and *Space Horrors*. When not working with the written word, David operates telescopes at Kitt Peak National Observatory. Learn more about David at davidleesummers.com.

Gayle Surette



An avid reader from a very early age, Gayle Surette also loves books—the binding, the paper, the typography, writing of, writing about, editing, proofing, copyediting, and talking about.... Now, she edits and publishes SFRevu.com and GumshoeReview.com—how could a girl resist. So, with a tremendous pile of books needing to be read and several venues in which to talk about books, authors, and ideas, she's happily reading, learning, and enjoying life, the universe, and everything.

Michael Swanwick



Michael Swanwick has received the Nebula, Theodore Sturgeon, World Fantasy, and Hugo awards, and has the pleasant distinction of having been nominated for and lost more of these same awards than any other writer. He has written nine novels, 150 short stories, and countless works of flash fiction. His latest novel, *Chasing the Phoenix*, in which post-Utopian conmen Darger and Surplus accidentally conquer China, is available from Tor Books.

Swanwick will be guest of honor at MidAmeriCon II, the 2016 World Science Fiction Convention in Kansas City.

He lives in Philadelphia with his wife, Marianne Porter.

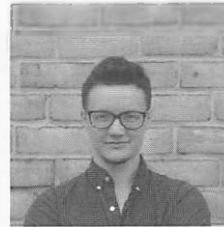
Kathryn Szkotnicki



Kate is an avid costumer who comes from an anime cosplay background. She's been actively costuming for almost 15 years at various east coast anime and science fiction conventions. When she's not making costumes for herself, she's teaching the next generation. Kate is a Family and Consumer Science (Home Ec) teacher at Loudoun Valley High School. After school, she works with the school's drama department on costumes for various productions, and advises the school video game club. In her spare time, Kate also crafts for the Desert Bus for Hope fundraiser each November.

Kate lives in Harper's Ferry, WV, with her cat Othello. When she's not sewing or crafting, she enjoys reading, playing video games, gardening and retrocomputing.

K.M. Szpara



K.M. Szpara lives in Baltimore, MD, with a black cat and a miniature poodle. He has a master of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School, which he totally uses at his day job as a legal secretary. On nights and weekends, he advances his queer agenda at the local LGBT Community Center and writes speculative fiction novels. His short fiction appears in *Lightspeed*, *Shimmer*, and *Glittership*. You can find him on Twitter @KMSzpara.

Cecilia Tan



Cecilia Tan is "simply one of the most important writers, editors, and innovators in contemporary American erotic literature," according to Susie Bright. *RT Magazine* awarded her Career Achievement in Erotic Romance in 2015 and their prestigious Pioneer Award. Tan's BDSM romance novel *Slow Surrender* (Hachette/Forever, 2013) also

won the RT Reviewer's Choice Award in Erotic Romance and the Maggie Award for Excellence from the Georgia Romance Writers chapter of RWA. She is the founder and editor of Circllet Press, Inc., publishers of erotic science fiction and fantasy, as well as the author of many books, including the groundbreaking erotic science fiction/fantasy short story collections *Black Feathers* (HarperCollins), *White Flames* (Running Press), and *Edge Plays* (Circllet Press), the *Magic University* series (Riverdale Avenue Books), *The Prince's Boy* (Circllet Press), and many other books. Her short stories have appeared in *Ms. Magazine*, *Asimov's*, *Absolute Magnitude*, *Strange Horizons*, and tons of other places. Her upcoming series from Tor Books, *The Vanished Chronicles*, will begin publication in 2017.

She lives in the Boston area with her lifelong partner Corwin and three cats. Find out more at www.ceciliatan.com.

Leigh Targaryen



Leigh Targaryen has been dancing since the age of three. She has explored many styles of dance including modern, tap, jazz, hip hop, country line, ballroom, African and Native American, but her main focus has always been ballet. As a youth, she studied under Towson's Children's Dance Division with Patty Enoch Bond, where she was able to gain

a strong foundation in the Royal Academy of Dance. In high school, Leigh was accepted into the dance program at Carver Center for the Arts. After graduation, Leigh went on to receive her Associate of the Arts degree from Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) in dance. During her attendance, Leigh was awarded "Outstanding Dancer of the Year" for two consecutive years. In addition, she also received the only scholarships offered in the dance department, both years in attendance. She graduated from Goucher College in 2008, where she earned her BA in dance therapy.

Leigh began her teaching career at age 11 as an assistant at Kingsville Recreation Center. After three years she was awarded her own classes. Leigh went on to teach creative movement, ballet, tap, modern and lyrical to varying age groups around Maryland, including Maryland School of Ballet and Modern Dance (MSBMD).

Leigh's passion in the field of dance has led her in many directions, including costume design. In 2006 she started designing and crafting dance costumes for herself and received several awards for outstanding craftsmanship at local and national conventions. In 2008 she began designing and constructing costumes for several dance companies. Her most notable projects are Howard County Ballet's *Nightingale*, Baltimore Ballet's *Firebird*, and Maryland School for Ballet and Modern Dance's *Nutcracker*, *Adventures Under the Sea* (inspired by *Finding Nemo*), and *Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer*. She is now designing and creating costumes for Goucher College and Deep Vision Dance Company.

Bob Terry

Robert E. Terry received a BS degree in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, followed by MA and PhD degrees from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, in 1968, 1975, and 1978, respectively.

From 1979 to 1984, Dr. Terry worked with the theoretical physics division of Jaycor, Inc. in Alexandria, VA. In 1985, he joined the Radiation Hydrodynamics Branch of the Plasma Physics Division, Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). With NRL, he worked on plasma radiation source (PRS) dynamics, power flow, plasma flow and reflex triode switches, magnetic interlayer pinches, gyrokinetic flows and microturbulence, RF discharge theory, plasma chemistry, and specialized wire z-pinch models. He then worked with Enig Associates from 2007 to 2014, where he was the principal investigator on a DARPA research effort in high-altitude heat rejection. He is now a self-employed independent researcher. His current research interests include novel fluid particle models, polywell fusion schemes, in-situ fuel production for Mars, and Mars sample return missions.

A founding and lifetime member of the Mars Society, he is the Director of Aerospace Education for the Maryland Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. Dr. Terry maintains a local web discussion list focused on Mars exploration.

Tek the Clockwork Doctor

Steampunk Plague Doctor, costumer, and lover of sci-fi, Tek the Clockwork Doctor is a real-life weapons technician, as well as a writer's tech consultant. Tek is the founder of the Dead Tree Society. Tek loves writing about speculative militaries and weaponry. Catch his *Noises from the Vault* column, including an upcoming novel about armies on Mars.

Patrick Thomas



Patrick Thomas has had stories published in over three dozen magazines and more than 50 anthologies. He's written 30+ books including the fantasy humor series *Murphy's Lore*, urban fantasy spin offs

Fairy With a Gun, *Fairy Rides the Lightning*, *Dead to Rites*, *Rites of Passage*, *Lore & Disorder*, and two more in the *Startenders* series. With John L. French, he co-writes the *Mystic Investigators* paranormal mystery series as well as *The Assassins' Ball*, a traditional mystery. His darkly humorous advice column *Dear Cthulhu* includes the collections *Have a Dark Day*, *Good Advice for Bad People*, and *Cthulhu Knows Best*. A number of his books are part of the props department of the *CSI* television show and one was even thrown at a suspect. His novel *Fairy With a Gun* was optioned by Laurence Fishburne's Cinema Gypsy Productions. Visit www.patthomas.net to learn more.

John Tilden

John Tilden is the treasurer of the Heinlein Society (THS), a charitable and educational organization. THS is also an affiliate member of Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America and gives support to the BSFS Heinlein Award. John has been the Balticon Blood Drive Coordinator for the last decade. John has published several SF poems in small-press magazines and had one poem used in a PBS television program.

Izolda Trakhtenberg



Izolda Trakhtenberg is an author, storyteller, and voice artist. Born in Moldova in the former Soviet Union, Izolda grew up steeped in the rich heritage of Eastern Europe. After her family immigrated to the USA, they settled in Michigan where she graduated from the University of Michigan with an English degree. She has worked for the National Geographic Society's Educational Media division and as an environmental educator at NASA.

She released her first book, *Life Elements: Transform Your Life with Earth, Air, Fire, and Water*, in 2008, and published two books in the *Fairy Godmother Diaries* series: *The Fiddler's Talisman* (2011), and *The Piano's Key* (2016). In 2011, she wrote, directed, and voiced *Breathable: NASA Monitors Our Changing Air Quality*, for NASA. Izolda created and wrote the "Today's Tarot iOS" app in June 2015. A daily card-draw app, it has received rave reviews. The *Today's Tarot* interactive book will be released spring of 2016. As a voiceover artist, she has recorded audiobooks for various authors. Her two most recent projects are Kim Kash's *Ocean City Lowdown* and Ginny Baird's *The Ghost Next Door: A Love Story*.

Izolda practices and teaches yoga and Tai Chi and is a first-degree black belt in aikido. She and her husband reside in Greenbelt, MD with their dog and two cats, and a house full of books, musical instruments, and juggling clubs.

Michael Underwood

Michael R. Underwood is the author of the *Ree Reyes* series (*Geekomancy*, *Celebromancy*, *Attack the Geek*, and the forthcoming *Hexomancy*), as well as *Shield and Crocus*, *The Younger Gods*, and *Genrenauts*, a series in novellas. By day, he's the North American Sales & Marketing Manager for Angry Robot Books.

He holds a BA in creative mythology and in East Asian Studies from Indiana University, and a MA in folklore studies from the University of Oregon.

Mike has been a hobby game store cashwrap monkey, a student archivist, a webmaster, a web design teacher, a bear-builder, a bookseller, an independent publishers' representative, and more. Currently, he lives in Baltimore with his wife and their ever-growing library. In his rapidly-vanishing free time, he studies historical martial arts and makes pizzas from scratch. He is also a co-host on the Hugo-nominated *Skiffy and Fanty Show* and *Speculate! The Podcast for Writers, Readers, and Fans*.

Michael A. Ventrella



Michael A. Ventrella's latest novel, *Bloodsuckers: A Vampire Runs for President*, was released in 2014 to excellent reviews. His previous fantasy novels are *Arch Enemies* and *The Axes of Evil*, available from Double Dragon Press. A third book in the series, *It's a Wonderful Death*, co-written with Derek Beebe, is scheduled to be released in August of this year.

He is the editor of the *Alternate Sherlock* series (co-edited with *New York Times* bestseller Jonathan Maberry), due out this year, and the *Tales of Fortannis* anthology series, the fourth book of which (*A Bard Act to Follow*) will be released in November of this year.

His short stories have appeared in various anthologies, including *Heroes in Hell*, *Rum and Runestones*, and *The Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences Archives*.

Michael founded *Animata!*, one of the first magazines dedicated to animation, and he has been quoted as an animation historian in *Entertainment Weekly* and various books about animation. With his wife Heidi Hooper, he runs Alliance LARP which was started in 1989 and now has chapters all over the United States and Canada. In his spare time, he is a lawyer.

Visit his website at www.michaelaventrella.com.

Thomas M. Waldroon

Thomas M. Waldroon has lived in or near Washington, DC for many years. His stories, based on historical and genealogical research, have appeared in *Beneath Ceaseless Skies* and will be collected in the forthcoming *Certain Americans*.

John Walker



John Walker was born in Indiana but raised all over the country, and served in the Air Force for six years. He grew up mostly in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia, officially calling it his home in 2006. His first book, *The Sincerest Form of Flattery*

was released in 2012, with two more books in the series in the same year. With seven volumes of *The Statford Chronicles* now out, John is working on branching out into other genres, and has a blog featuring interviews, short stories and other great

stuff. He has two books in the works now: the next in the *Statford Chronicles*, and a superhero novel.

David Walton

David Walton is a native of Pennsylvania and recipient of the 2008 Philip K. Dick Award for his first novel, *Terminal Mind*. His latest books, *Superposition* and *Supersymmetry*, are quantum physics murder mysteries with the same mind-bending feel as films like *Inception* and *Minority Report*. He is also the author of *Quintessence*, a science fantasy in which the Earth is really flat, and its sequel, *Quintessence Sky*. He lives near Philadelphia with his wife and seven children.

Jean Marie Ward



Jean Marie Ward writes fiction, nonfiction and everything in between, authoring novels including the 2008 Indie Book double-finalist *With Nine You Get Vanyr*, and several art books. Her stories appear in numerous anthologies, such as *Athena's Daughters*, *The Clockwork Universe: Steampunk vs. Aliens*, and *Tales from the Vatican Vaults*. The former editor of *Crescent Blues*, she is a

frequent contributor of video interviews and short subjects to *BuzzyMag*. Visit her website at jeanmarieward.com.

Joy Ward



Joy Ward has been a pro writer since 1994, first as a nonfiction journalist and consultant, then moving on to fiction with her first novel, *Haint: A Tale of Extraterrestrial Intervention and Love Across Time and Space*.

She has a regular interview column in the magazine *Galaxy's Edge*. Joy recently released an anthology, *Dogs and Dragons*, and a second paranormal book of interviews with Missa Dixon, *Wit and Wisdom from the Ark*. She is also co-manager of Eric Flint's Ring of Fire Press and has published short stories in a number of anthologies including *The Grantville Gazette*. She lives in Memphis with her husband Walt Boyes and their senior dog pack.

Shannon C. Ward

Shannon C. Ward is author of the poetry chapbook, *Blood Creek* (Longleaf Press, 2013). Her work has received generous support from Yaddo, Norton Island, the Anderson Center, the Holly House, and Brush Creek Foundation for the Arts. Her poems have appeared in many excellent journals, including *Great River Review*, *Raleigh Review*, *Superstition Review*, and others.

Robert Waters



Since 1994, Robert E. Waters has worked in the computer and board gaming industry as technical writer, editor, designer, and producer. A member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, his first

professional fiction sale came in 2003 with the story "The Assassin's Retirement Party" in *Weird Tales*, issue #332. Since then he has sold stories to *Nth Degree*, *Nth Zine*, Padwolf Publishing, Mundania Press, Marietta Publishing, Pole-to-Pole Publishing, eSpec Books, and Dark Quest Books. His most recent stories were published in the *Grantville Gazette*, Baen Books' online magazine dedicated to stories set in their best-selling *1632/Ring of Fire* alternate history series. He also served as an assistant editor to *Weird Tales* from 1998 to 2006.

Robert's first novel, *The Wayward Eight: A Contract to Die For*, was released in November 2014 and set in the *Wild West Exodus* tabletop game universe.

Robert currently lives in Baltimore, MD with his wife Beth, their son Jason, and their cat Buzz.

Lawrence Watt-Evans

Lawrence Watt-Evans has been a full-time author for over 30 years, with over 40 novels and more than a hundred short stories to his name, including the Hugo-winning short story "Why I Left Harry's All-Night Hamburgers" and the fantasy series *The Legends of Ethshar*.

Diane Weinstein

Diane Weinstein was assistant editor and art director for *Weird Tales* magazine for 15 years. She was also a jack-of-all-trades at Wildside Press for several years and has been the art editor of *Space and Time Magazine* since 2007. She has attended Balticon since 1980.

Heather Welliver



Heather Welliver is a voice artist and producer. She has done narration and voice acting for several podcasts as well as for television. Her role as Ciris in the podcast novel *Cybrosis* by P.C. Haring brought much critical acclaim. Heather's

narration has also been featured in the Emmy-nominated educational series *Access to History*. In her current project, she is producing a family history documentary, *Through My Mother's Eyes*.

Alex White



Alex White is a novelist, born and raised in the American south. He takes photos, writes music and spends hours on YouTube watching other people blacksmith. He values challenging and subversive writing, but he'll settle for a good time. In the shadow of rockets in Huntsville, AL, Alex lives and works as an experienced designer with his wife,

son, two dogs, and a cat named Grim. He enjoys Legos and racecars. He takes his whiskey neat and his espresso black. His debut novel, *Every Mountain Made Low*, will be in stores November 2016.

S. L. Wideman

A born writer, S. L. Wideman has always dreamed of being published. In 2014, that dream came true with the publication of her first novel, *Iona*, book one of the *Space Station Olympus* series, which follows Greek myths as they play out on the fictional Space Station Olympus. This was followed in 2015 by her second novel, *Verucca Victorious*, a wildly fun story about a book character who decides to fight for her deserved happily ever after from the Author.

When she is not writing, S. L. Wideman attends college in the pursuit of her Health Information Management degree. A passion that comes second to writing is her love for medical coding. It is her hope to someday work in a registry by day and write novels by night.

John Williams



John Taylor Williams is the director of production for New America and the owner of Wryneck Studio, a multimedia production lab/mastering facility. He webcasts over 225 multi-camera live events a year, places experts on radio and television, and produces multiple podcasts. He has worked with Cory Doctorow, Wil Wheaton and Skyboat Media to independently release unabridged audiobook versions of *Homeland* and *Information Doesn't Want to Be Free*.

D.C. Wilson

D. C. Wilson is a writer, teacher, blogger, artist, occasional podcaster, and former petty bureaucrat from Harrisburg, PA.

Jen Wilson

Jen Wilson is the co-host of the *Radio Westeros* podcast. A longtime fan of science fiction and fantasy and a former bookseller, Jen has been writing about books for years. As "Lady Gwynhyfvar," she began writing about George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series several years ago, first on the popular fan forum westeros.org, and later on her own blog and as a founding host of *Radio Westeros*. Jen lives in Massachusetts, where she often repeats the Stark House words: "Winter is Coming."

Steven H. Wilson

Steven H. Wilson created the Mark Time and Parsec Award-winning podcast series *The Arbiter Chronicles*, as well as authoring *Taken Liberty* and several other novels and novellas set in the *Arbiters* universe. His other works include the novel *Peace Lord of the Red Planet*, short stories for Crazy 8 Press's *ReDeus* series, and contributions to Sequart Press's *Star Wars* essay collections. He has written for DC Comics and *Starlog*, and is publisher for Firebringer Press, whose seventh and latest book, *Somewhere in the Middle of Eternity*, is a collection of tales of science fiction, fantasy, and the paranormal by Mid-Atlantic authors.

A.C. Wise

A.C. Wise's fiction has appeared in *Clarkesworld*, *Apex*, *Shimmer*, and the *Year's Best Dark Fantasy and Horror 2015*, among other publications. Her debut collection, *The Ultra Fabulous Glitter Squadron Saves the World Again*, was published by Lethe Press in October 2015. Additionally, she co-edits *Unlikely Story*, and contributes the monthly *Women to Read: Where to Start* column to *SF Signal*. Find her online at www.acwise.net.

David Wood

David Wood is the author of the *Dane Maddock Adventures* series and many other titles, and writes fantasy under the pen name David Debord. David also co-hosts the *Authorcast* podcast and is the owner and managing editor of Gryphonwood Press. He lives with his family in Santa Fe, NM.

Robyn Wyrick

Robyn Wyrick is an author, screenwriter, and business professional based in southern Maryland. Mr. Wyrick is the president of Anticipation Films, a Maryland-based production company. He is also the president of DC PHP, a Maryland-based software development and technology consulting company. A passionate driver of Open Source web development in the Washington, DC region, Mr. Wyrick founded the Washington DC PHP Developers Group in 2004. His work includes *The Riley Tompkins Method* (film short—2011), *Eviction Notice* (book—Tantor Media 2012), *For Rent* (film short—2013), *The Face of Planet Earth* (book—est. 2016), *The Zombie Cookbook* (comic—est. 2016), *Off The Leash* (feature film—est. 2016), and *Wake Up Little Suzy* (feature film—est. 2017).

Jeff Young

Jeff Young is a bookseller first and a writer second—although he wouldn't mind a reversal of fortune.

He received a "Writers of the Future" award for *Written in Light*, which can be found in *Writers of the Future*, volume 26. He has contributed to the anthologies *By Any Means*, *Best Laid Plans*, *Dogs of War*,

In an Iron Cage, *Fantastic Futures 13*, *Clockwork Chaos*, *TV Gods*, *The Society for the Preservation of C.J. Henderson* and *Gaslight and Grimm*. Jeff was also published in the magazines *eSteampunk*, *Realms*, *Cemetery Moon*, *Trail of Indiscretion*, *Realms Beyond*, *Carbon14*, and *Neuronet*. He is an editor with Fortress Publishing for their *Drunken Comic Book Monkey* line as well as the anthology *TV Gods*.

Jeff has helped run the Watch the Skies SF&F Reading Group of Harrisburg and Camp Hill for more than 15 years. He also is an instructor for the Step Back in Time class at Dreamwrights Youth and Family Theater. Step Back in Time prepares children to enjoy all aspects of renaissance faires by learning about dress, language, culture, history and more. Finally, Jeff is the

proprietor of the eBay and Etsy shop Helm Haven, which produces Renaissance and Steampunk costume pieces.

Cindy Young-Turner

Cindy Young-Turner has been writing for most of her life. At age 12, she won her first writing contest, a local contest in her small hometown in Massachusetts calling for stories written in the style of Edgar Allan Poe. Thus began her love of stories that are dark and fantastical. She believes genre fiction can be just as well-written and valuable as literature. The universal themes of love, hate, revenge, and redemption are present regardless of whether characters live in the distant future, on other planets, or in fantastical realms. By day she edits and does business development for international development projects. In her free time, she works on inspiring her characters to fight for change and justice in their imaginary worlds. Her published works include the fantasy novel *Thief of Hope* and a short prequel, *Journey to Hope*.



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Balticon 50 Artist Bios

Alan F. Beck



Alan F. Beck has been an artist, designer and illustrator for over 30 years doing work for many major corporations including book covers and magazine illustrations. His work has been exhibited in art shows and science fiction/fantasy conventions all across the country. He has won numerous awards and honors including two Chesley award nominations and a HUGO award nomination, and received a "Body of

Work" Award at LA Con IV WorldCon Art Show, Anaheim, CA. Alan's work tends to be realistic and surrealistic in nature, often whimsical and humorous. His paintings and prints can be found in collections in the US, Canada and Europe. He has recently published a children's book, *The Adventures of Nogard and Jackpot*, and is creator of the "Mouseopolitan Museum of Art." His artwork and concepts are produced using acrylics, watercolor, pastels, 3-D modeling and image manipulation programs. His art can be found in *Space and Time* magazine, *The Fantasy Art Bible*, assorted e-zines and various book covers.

For more info, visit www.alanfbeck.com.

Lori Del Genis

Lori Del Genis is a self-taught artist who is, among other things, a portrait artist, fancy dress designer, and licensed speech-language pathologist. Lori's portraits revel in Photorealism and in capturing expressions; her goal is to let the subject's personality to shine through. She's hugely into Fan Art and views her portraits as one of the highest compliments she can pay to another artist. She is finally following her lifelong dream as a portrait artist but still continues to geek out about such burning issues as the benefits of hemp fabric v. reclaimed silk. Lori was a Baltimore resident for over 16 years (grad school and all) and now lives just north of Boston. Find her art at AFineLikeness.com and her dress designs at ConsciousElegance.com.

Ash Evans

Ash has her style rooted in the realm of fantasy. Using variable techniques, mediums and genre she creates her own world a splatter of paint or a dab of pixels at a time. As a result her studio frequently looks like some sort of bomb went off in Dick Blick.

Knightly Dream Crafters



Knightly Dream Crafters is a joint venture dedicated to making prop and costuming dreams a reality. We also create custom art, one-of-a-kind crafts in various mediums, and individual commissions. We hope to work with you on your dream!

Maggie Mei Lewis



Maggie Mei Lewis was always interested in art from a very young age. As an aspiring artist, she loved the combined aspects of making art, understanding it, and then creating an environment that allowed her to share her art and creativity with the rest of her community.

She has worked in various mediums including graphite, acrylic, oil, watercolor, bronze, aluminum and mixed media, but wanted to try out soft sculpture.

She began needle-felting after becoming fascinated with the unique process. Maggie then began to create and design her own felted pieces of art and continue to pursue the art of needle-felting. At first she started by showing her close friends and family, but then when people saw the needle-felted creations, they suggested opening a shop or selling them somewhere. This gave her the inspiration to open an Etsy shop and share her creations and art with a bigger community. She opened an Etsy shop and the business Miniature Inspirations in 2013, and has been enjoying sharing her soft-sculptures, designs, and art with her community and even worldwide. Follow her work at: www.facebook.com/MaggieMeiLewis1.

Patricia McCracken

Patricia McCracken is an accomplished Fantasy artist working in watercolor. Her style is clearly influenced by the Japanese wood block prints from the Edo period called *Ukiyo-e*, which translates to "pictures of the floating world." She keeps her paintings light and delicate, but with the bold colors and patterns typical of the latter end of that period. She pursued love of art through two degrees, receiving her BFA at the University at Buffalo and MA at Syracuse University. In 2002 she began exhibiting in art shows all across the country and has won a number of awards for her Japanese style work.

Patricia lives in New York City with her family.

Miniature Inspirations



Miniature Inspirations was started in 2013, by the artist Maggie Mei Lewis. Miniature Inspirations specializes in creating and selling miniature fiber art sculptures, as well as fiber art jewelry, faux-felted terrariums, and much more.

Maggie Mei Lewis focuses on creating unique and individual pieces of art, and each sculpture is a little bit different. The small sculptures can take anywhere from a half hour to weeks to design, construct, and complete. Maggie Mei Lewis wanted a way to share her art and the messages of her work with the local community, and this was why Miniature Inspirations was created. Check out Miniature Inspiration's Etsy store at: www.etsy.com/shop/MiniatureInspiration.

Balticon 50 Special Guests



WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME BACK
THE FOLLOWING BALTICON GUEST
OF HONOR ALUMNI TO HELP CELEBRATE
OUR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY:

John Varley

Balticon 15 – 1981

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John Varley

Balticon 15 (1981)

John Varley was born and raised in Texas, and left as soon as he graduated high school. He has never looked back. He has won both the Hugo and Nebula awards. He recently lived in Hollywood, but now resides in the Pacific Northwest. His most recent books are homages to the juvenile novels of Robert A. Heinlein that got him started as a science fiction reader. They are titled *Red Thunder*, *Red Lightning*, *Rolling Thunder*, and *Dark Lightning*. He is currently at work on a book titled *Irontown Blues*. He is probably taller than you.

Photo: John Varley at Vandenburg after a launch.



Nancy Springer

Balticon 20 (1986)

Nancy Springer has passed the 50 book milestone, having written that many novels for adults, young adults and children, in genres including mythic fantasy, magic realism, women's contemporary fiction, mystery, suspense, and young adult. Raised in Gettysburg, PA of Civil War fame, she married while still in college and raised two children while writing, horseback riding, bird watching and fishing. She has won various and sundry awards. In 2007, after 46 years in Pennsylvania, she surprised friends, family and self by moving with her second husband to an isolated but Edenic area of the Florida panhandle. Her decades-ago fantasy novels such as *The White Hart* have recently been digitally reprinted by Open Road Media.



Photo credit: Bob O'Lary

R.A. MacAvoy

Balticon 19 (1985)

Hello, all. I write under the name R.A. MacAvoy, although my call-name has always been Bertie. I have been writing for publication for some 40 years. I was given the John W. Campbell Award in 1983, for my first novel in the Speculative Fiction Field, much to my astonishment. That year I also was granted the inaugural Phillip K. Dick Award, which still was a piece of hand-calligraphed paper without a frame. I was overwhelmed by that one, actually, as I think Phillip Dick was a very important writer and I'm glad they thought of me.

For me, now, to describe what I do as a hobby and where I live, is somehow meaningless. I can mention I once ran a small stable, called Shanachie Stables, raising a few good Connemara Ponies, just as I am now running a very small House, called Shanachie Press, hoping for a few good books. I was a diver in Northern Pacific waters for years, learning night diving, mixed gasses and rescue diving. Much of my life has been spent in the martial arts, with emphasis on self-defense rather than competition. Shall I say that I wove a great deal of clothing and decorative hangings over the years? Or that I grow orchids? I mean—40 years? I don't know where to begin.

Oh! I have also been on the *New York Times* Bestseller list many times. But then, it is really not so hard to get on the *New York Times* Bestseller List. Stephen King wrote a very funny article about that.

If you are young to the S.F. field and don't know who I am, I will prep you by warning that I often kill off my heroes, sometimes at the most unexpected times. But never in a depressing manner. I've never wanted to depress my readers. My outlook is essentially comic.

My latest book, just released, is a collaboration with Nancy Palmer called *Albatross*. It is wildly genre-bending. Breaking, perhaps. The sequel, *Shimmer*, is expected to be wackier. I can only hope you enjoy my work. That's what writers do hope, after all.



Donald Kingsbury

Balticon 26 (1992)



Donald Kingsbury was the 1983 winner of the Compton Crook award for his first novel, *Courtship Rite*, about the society founded by a disabled interstellar exploration vehicle, struggling to survive on a nearby, but harsh planet, requiring them to invent new social mores and to evolve a priest clan devoted to advancing and using what biological knowledge the stranded crew members had been able to preserve. The author is still working on the sequel, *The Finger Pointing Solward*, which takes place 500 years later when the Getans have re-invented space travel. He promises to finish it before 500 years have elapsed. His other sf novels were *The Moon Goddess and the Son*, a near term adventure about the colonization of the moon, and *Psychohistorical Crisis* about a galactic empire in the Asimov style. He has enjoyed imagining viable societies ever since he redesigned the American

Constitution for his high school history teacher, and has enjoyed science fiction since he built rockets back in the days when all that the best rockets could do was bomb London.

Photo: Donald Kingsbury at Occum Pond with StrataThoad, 1944.

Michael F. Flynn

Balticon 26 (1992)

Michael Flynn began selling science fiction in 1984. He is best known for the critically praised *The Wreck of the River of Stars* and the Hugo-nominated *Eifelheim*. He was the first recipient of the Robert A. Heinlein Award for his body of work, and was awarded the Sturgeon prize for his book *House of Dreams*. His short fiction, appearing in *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Fantasy and Science Fiction*, and elsewhere, has been nominated several times for the Hugo. Flynn has twice won the Prometheus Award, first for his novel *In the Country of the Blind*, and then for the novel *Fallen Angels*, co-written with Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle, which also won the Seiun Award. In 2015 he published a novelette, *The Journeyman: In the Stone House*. He works as a consultant in quality management for clients here and abroad. He lives with his wife, Margie, in Easton, PA.



Photo credit: Raj Nanduri, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

Allen Steele

Balticon 27 (1993)



Allen Mulherin Steele, Jr. became a full-time science fiction writer in 1988, following publication of his first short story, "Live From The Mars Hotel" (*Asimov's*, mid-Dec. '88). Since then he has become a prolific author of novels, short stories, and essays, with his work translated into more than a dozen languages worldwide.

Steele was born in Nashville, Tennessee. He received his B.A. in Communications from New England College in Henniker, New Hampshire, and his M.A. in Journalism from the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. Before turning to SF, he worked for as a staff writer for daily and weekly newspapers in Tennessee, Missouri, and Massachusetts, freelanced for business and general-interest magazines in the Northeast, and spent a short tenure as a Washington correspondent, covering politics on Capitol Hill.

His novels include *Orbital Decay*, *Clarke County*, *Space*, *Lunar Descent*, *Labyrinth of Night*, *The Jericho Iteration*, *The Tranquillity Alternative*, *A King of Infinite Space*, *Oceanspace*, *Chronospace*, the *Coyote Trilogy*—*Coyote*, *Coyote Rising*, and *Coyote Frontier*; the *Coyote Chronicles*—*Coyote Horizon* and *Coyote Destiny*; *Spindrift*, *Galaxy Blues*, and *Hex*. He has also published five collections of short fiction: *Rude Astronauts*, *All-American Alien Boy*, *Sex and Violence in Zero-G*, *American Beauty*, and *The Last Science Fiction Writer*. His work has appeared in most major American SF magazines, including *Asimov's Science Fiction*, *Analog*, and *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, as well as in dozens of anthologies.

His novella "The Death Of Captain Future" (*Asimov's*, Oct. '95) received the 1996 Hugo Award for Best Novella, won a 1996 Science Fiction Weekly Reader Appreciation Award, and received the 1998 Seiun Award for Best Foreign Short Story from Japan's National Science Fiction Convention. It was also nominated for a 1997 Nebula Award by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America.

His novella "...Where Angels Fear to Tread" (*Asimov's*, Oct./Nov. '97), upon which *Chronospace* is based, received the Hugo Award, the *Locus* Award, the *Asimov's* Readers Award, and the *Science Fiction Chronicle* Readers Award in 1998, and was also nominated for the Nebula, Theodore Sturgeon Memorial, and Seiun awards.

His novelette, "The Emperor of Mars" (*Asimov's*, June 2010), won the 2011 Hugo Award for Best Novelette and also the *Asimov's* Readers Award.

His novelette "The Good Rat" (*Analog*, mid-Dec. '95) was nominated for a Hugo in 1996, and his novelette "Zwarte Piet's Tale" (*Analog*, 12/98) won an AnLab Award from *Analog* and was nominated for a Hugo in 1999. His novelette "Agape Among the Robots" (*Analog*, 5/00) was nominated for the Hugo in 2001.

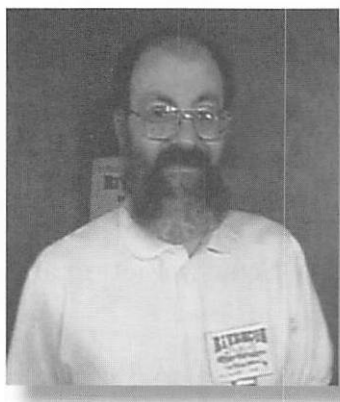
His novella "Stealing Alabama" (*Asimov's*, 1/01) was nominated for a Hugo in 2002, and won the *Asimov's* Readers' Award for that year. His novelette "The Days Between" (*Asimov's*, 3/01) was nominated for a Hugo Award in 2002 and a Nebula Award in 2003. His novella "Liberation Day" and novelette "The Garcia Narrows Bridge" both won the *Asimov's* Readers Awards in 2005. *Orbital Decay* received the 1990 *Locus* Award for Best First Novel, and *Clarke County, Space* was nominated for the 1991 Philip K. Dick Award. Steele was First Runner-Up for the 1990 John W. Campbell Award, received the Donald A. Wollheim Award in 1993, and the Phoenix Award in 2002. In addition, he received the 2007 Alumni Achievement Award from New England College.

Steele serves on the Board of Advisors for the Space Frontier Foundation and the Science Fiction Writers of America, and he is a former member of the SFWA Board of Directors. In April, 2001, he testified before the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics of the US House of Representatives, in hearings regarding space exploration in the 21st century. "Live from the Mars Hotel" is among the many stories and novels included on the "Visions of Mars" disk aboard NASA's Phoenix lander, which landed on Mars in 2008.

He lives in western Massachusetts with his wife Linda and their dogs.

Harry Turtledove

Balticon 32 (1998)



Harry Turtledove is an escaped Byzantine historian who always wanted to write science fiction. As a result, a lot of the science fiction he's written is alternate history. A lot of the fantasy he's written is historically based. He has written several straight historical novels, too. Does anyone suspect a trend? He is married to fellow writer Laura Frankos. They have three daughters, one granddaughter, and another on the way. They also have the mandatory pair of writers' cats, Boris and Natasha. Watch out for Natasha. She beeps.

Phil & Kaja Foglio

Balticon 36 (2002)

American artist and cartoonist Philip P. Foglio (pronounced Foh-Leeo) grew up in New York (born 5/1/56). He attended the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, where he earned a BFA in cartooning (1978). Foglio was an enthusiastic science fiction fan artist. He was nominated for Best Fan Artist Hugo Awards in 1976, 1977 and 1978, winning the award in 1977 and 1978. He was also nominated the Best Dramatic Presentation Hugo along with Robert Asprin for the slide show "The Capture." Foglio's first professionally published art was for "Taking the Fifth" in *Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine*, (1978).



In college, Foglio helped found Moebius Theatre, a science-fiction improv comedy troupe that performed at science fiction conventions for over 15 years. Foglio came to most gamers' attention in 1980, when he began the comic strip "What's New with Phil & Dixie" for *Dragon* magazine. The series ran until issue #84 (April, 1984). Each month covered a different angle of role-playing, poking fun at the world of tabletop RPG characters and games.

In the 1980s, Foglio created a comedy/science fiction/detective comics series *Buck Godot*, collected in two volumes: *Buck Godot: Zap Gun for Hire* (Donning, 1986) and *Buck Godot: PSmIth* (Walsworth, 1987).

In 1989 he published the adult comic *XXXenophile*, which ran for 11 issues, regarded by many as the "most literary adult comic ever," and the only adult comic to ever be nominated for an Eisner Award. He also created the first adult-themed CCG, *XXXenophile* (Slag-Blah, 1996), based on the comic book series of the same name. Also in 1989, he co-wrote the comedic science fiction novel *Illegal Aliens* with Nick Pollotta.

In 1990 Foglio moved to Seattle, WA, and in 1991 was hired by Garfield Games (Wizards of the Coast) to illustrate and design characters for the board game Robo-Rally. He married Kaja Foglio in 1993, and they founded Studio Foglio in 1995. Foglio produced card art for Wizards of the Coast's *Magic: The Gathering* collector card game.

During the 1990s-2000s, Foglio provided numerous illustrations for computer games, board games and card games for publishers such as Cheap-Ass Games and Steve Jackson Games. His most recent game project (as of this writing) is *Steampunk Munchkin*.

In 2001 Phil & Kaja released the first issue of *Girl Genius* as a quarterly comic book series. In 2005, they were the first publisher to take an existing commercial comics property and put it online for free. Within a year of becoming a free webcomic, sales had tripled, and their readership

had climbed over 100,000. As Phil has put it, "Giving our stuff away for free was the best business decision we ever made."

Foglio was a professional artist Hugo nominee in 2008, and in 2009.

He, Kaja, and colorist Cheyenne Wright, won the first Graphic Story Hugo Award for *Girl Genius, Volume 8: Agatha Heterodyne and the Chapel of Bones*. They won the category again in 2010 for *Girl Genius, Volume 9: Agatha Heterodyne and the Heirs of the Storm*, and 2011 for *Girl Genius, Volume 10: Agatha Heterodyne and the Guardian Muse*. At this point, they announced that they would take a one-year hiatus from the category.

Night Shade Books is publishing an ongoing prose novel version of the *Girl Genius* saga, of which, at this time, three are in print.

The Foglios continue to live in Seattle and have two children. They enjoy travel, video games and old books.

Kaja Foglio (born 1/12/70) is a Seattle-based writer, artist and publisher. She majored in Fine Art at the University of Washington. For her final, she painted a cinder block orange, put it in a public place and refused to be embarrassed.

She was active in medieval dance, commedia dell'arte, and theatre, appearing as Katherina in Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. She met Phil Foglio in 1990, introduced by her comic book dealer, who knew she collected Phil's comics, and thus probably wouldn't mind having dinner with him. That all worked out remarkably well. They were married in 1993. Also in 1993, she began producing art for Wizards of the Coast's *Magic the Gathering*.

Over the years she would go on to produce art for any number of collectible trading card games, including *Shadowfist*, *Jihad*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Legend of the Burning Sands*, and *XXXenophile*. She also did illustrations for *Marion Zimmer Bradley Magazine*.

She founded Studio Foglio, LLC in 1993 as a venue for her *Magic the Gathering* art prints, but quickly expanded into publishing.

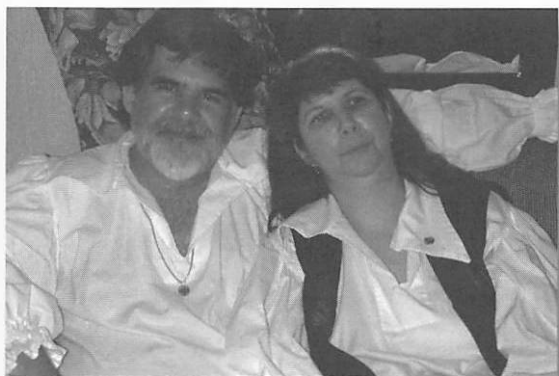
In 1998, she was selected to illustrate the World Fantasy Award winning author Barry Hugart's *The Chronicles of Master Li and Number Ten Ox*.

She co-writes the comic series *Girl Genius* with her husband Phil which debuted in 2001, and is the chief graphic designer and web mistress for Studio Foglio and Airship Entertainment. In 2005, she masterminded their stunningly successful and unprecedented transition from traditional periodical to free webcomic. Counter-intuitively, despite the fact that they were now "giving their product away for free," their sales tripled within the first year.

Girl Genius Volume 8: Agatha Heterodyne & the Chapel of Bones won the very first Hugo award for Best Graphic Story in 2009, and they went on to win in both 2010 (*Agatha Heterodyne & the Heirs of the Storm*) and 2011 (*Agatha Heterodyne and the Guardian Muse*). Kaja, Phil and their two adorable children continue to live the ecotopia that is Seattle. Kaja is interested in improbable Japanese harem romance mangas and is in the process of converting their home into an impregnable steampunk fortress. You can read *Girl Genius* comics online at www.girlgenius.net.

Sharon Lee & Steve Miller

Balticon 37 (2003)



Sharon Lee has been married to her first husband for more than half her lifetime; she is a friend to cats, a member of the National Carousel Association, and oversees the dubious financial schemes of an improbable number of stuffed animals. She lives in Maine because she likes it there. She likes it so much, in fact, that she's written five novels set in Maine: contemporary fantasy trilogy *Carousel Tides*, *Carousel Sun*, *Carousel Seas*; and mysteries *Barnburner* and

Gunshy. With the aforementioned first husband, Steve Miller, Sharon has written 23 novels of science fiction and fantasy—many of them set in the Liaden Universe®—and numerous short stories. She has occasionally been an advertising copywriter, a reporter, photographer, book reviewer, and secretary. For three years, she was executive director of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, and was subsequently elected vice president, and then president of that organization.

Steve Miller is a lapsed publisher, con-running fan, and librarian who writes SF professionally, mostly in the Liaden Universe® shared with Sharon Lee. He survived Clarion West in 1973 and has participated in hundreds of SF conventions, including more than a dozen as a Guest of Honor. In the late 1970s he was a mainstay of Baltimore fandom, including stints as the BSFS Director of Information and Vice Chair of Baltimore in 80, Baltimore's first WorldCon bid.

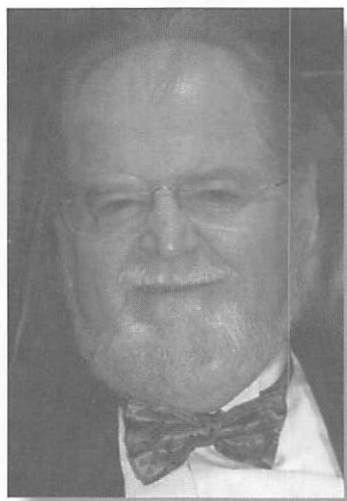
Recipient of Boskone's 2012 Skylark Award as well as the Hal Clement Award for Best YA Novel, Steve was also an ebook publishing pioneer with his BPLAN Virtuals imprint in the late 1980s. His SRM Publisher imprint ran for 17 years and included chapbooks, mass market, trade paper, and hardcover originals.

Alliance of Equals, due in July in hardback, is the next Liaden novel in hardback while *Dragon in Exile*, just out in mass market, is the most recent of 26 novels. *Liaden Universe® Constellation No.3* the most recent Liaden short story collection.

Photo: Albacon 2001. Photo by Ernest Lilley/SFRevu.com.

Larry Niven

Balticon 41 (2007)



The NIVEN File

Born April 30, 1938, in Los Angeles, California, USA, to Waldemar Van Cott Niven and Lucy Estelle Doheny Niven (now Washington.)

Raised in Beverly Hills, California. Hawthorne Public School (Beverly Hills,) Cate School (Carpinteria.)

California Institute of Technology, September 1956 to February 1958. Flunked out after discovering a book store jammed with used science fiction magazines.

Honest employment: gas station attendant, summer 1960.

Graduated Washburn University, Kansas, June 1962: BA in Mathematics with a Minor in Psychology. Half the university was scattered to the winds by a tornado a month after I left. They later gave me a D.Litt., an honorary doctorate in Letters.

First story publication: "The Coldest Place," *Worlds of If*, December 1964.

Met Marilyn Joyce Wisowaty at the Nycon World Science Fiction Convention, 1967. Married September 6, 1969. No children. We reside in Chatsworth, California.

I have written fiction at every length, and speculative articles, speeches for high schools and colleges and conventions, television scripts, political action in support of the conquest of space, graphic novels, and a couple of comic book universes. I've collaborated with a wide variety of writers.

My interests:

Science fiction conventions. Role playing games, live and computer. AAAS meetings and other gatherings of people at the cutting edges of science. Comics. Filk singing. Yoga and other approaches to longevity. Hiking and racquetball.

Saving civilization and making a little money. Moving mankind into space by any means, but particularly by making space endeavors attractive to commercial interests.

In 1980 Jerry Pournelle talked me and Marilyn into hosting a gathering of the top minds in the space industry in an attempt to write a space program for the Reagan government, with goals, timetables, and costs. The Citizens Advisory Council for a National Space Policy met four times during the Reagan Administration, and twice since, for harrowing three day weekends. Attendees have included spacecraft designers, businessmen, NASA personnel, astronauts, lawyers. Adding science fiction writers turns out to be stunningly effective. We can translate! We can force these guys to speak English.

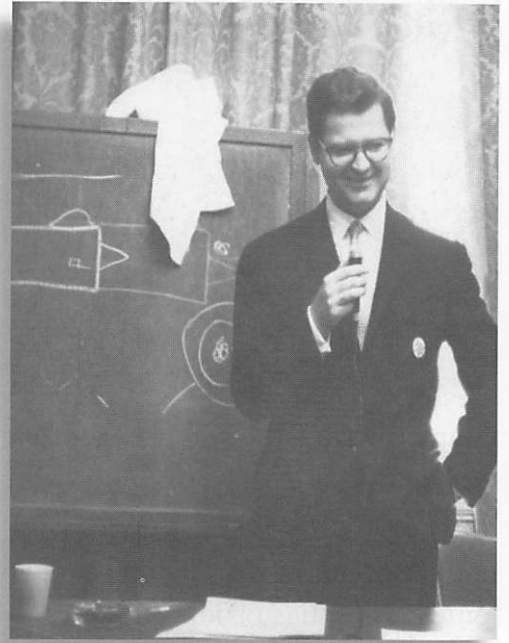
We've had some effect on the space program. SDI (Space Defense Initiative, or Star Wars) was drafted at our house in Tarzana. In '93 we watched the DC-X1 fly. It was a toy version of a single-stage ground-to-orbit spacecraft, and the Council generated it. Our design lost out to the current Skunk Works X-33, but the Council caused the revival of the X Program itself.

I grew up with dogs: Keeshonds, the breed my mother raised and shaped for 60 years. I live with a cat, and borrow dogs to hike with. I have passing acquaintance with raccoons and ferrets. Associating with nonhumans has certainly gained me insight into alien intelligences.

I've written on computers since 1978.

Other work clamors to be written, as if I had the time. Greg Benford has challenged me to return to short stories, and I've done that.

Larry Niven is the author of *Ringworld*, the co-author (with Jerry Pournelle) of *The Mote in God's Eye* and *Lucifer's Hammer*, the editor of the *Man-Kzin War* series, and has written or co-authored over 50 books. He is a five-time winner of the Hugo Award, along with a Nebula and numerous others.

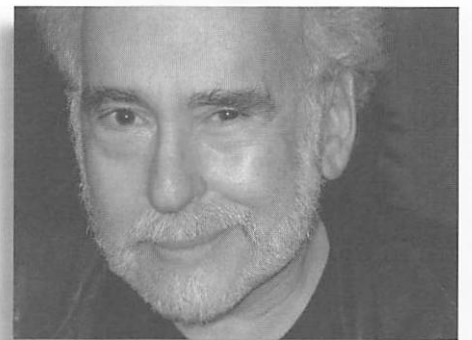


Peter S. Beagle

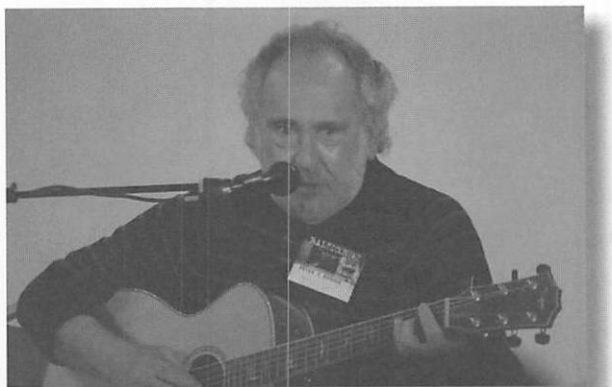
Balticon 40 (2006)

Peter S. Beagle was born in Manhattan on April 20, 1939, the son of Rebecca Soyer and Simon Beagle. Three of his uncles were noted painters, Moses, Raphael, and Isaac Soyer.

Beagle was raised in Bronx, New York, and graduated from the Bronx High School of Science in 1955. He garnered early recognition from The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, winning a scholarship to University of Pittsburgh for a poem he submitted as a high school senior. He went on to graduate from the university with a degree in creative writing. Following a year overseas, Beagle held the graduate Stegner Fellowship in creative writing at Stanford University, where he overlapped with Ken Kesey, Gurney Norman, and Larry McMurtry.



Beagle wrote his first novel, *A Fine and Private Place*, when he was only 19 years old, following it with a travel journal, *I See by My Outfit*, in 1965. Today he is best known as the author of *The*



Last Unicorn and *A Fine and Private Place*, as well as his later fantasies following *The Folk of the Air*. *The Wind in the Willows*, a classic of children's literature by Kenneth Grahame, had originally attracted him to the genre of fantasy.

In the 1970s, Beagle turned to screenwriting. After writing an introduction for an American print edition of *The Lord of the Rings*, he wrote the screenplay for the 1978 Ralph Bakshi-animated version of *The Lord of the Rings*. Two decades

later he wrote the teleplay for "Sarek," episode 71 of the television series *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

Beagle's work as a screenwriter interrupted his early career direction as a novelist, magazine nonfiction author, and short-story writer. But in the mid-'90s he returned to prose fiction of all lengths, and has produced new works at a steady pace since.

In 2005 Beagle published a coda to *The Last Unicorn*, a novelette entitled *Two Hearts*, and began work on a full-novel sequel. *Two Hearts* won the most prestigious annual awards, the Hugo Award for Best Novelette in 2006 and the parallel Nebula Award in 2007. It was also nominated as a short fiction finalist for the World Fantasy Award. Beagle also received a special Inkpot Award in 2006 for Outstanding Achievement in Science Fiction and Fantasy, and in 2007 the inaugural WSFA Small Press Award for "El Regalo," published in *The Line Between* (Tachyon Publications).

IDW Publishing released a six-issue comic book adaptation of *The Last Unicorn* beginning in April 2010. The collected hardcover edition was released in January 2011, premiering at #2 on the *New York Times* Hardcover Graphic Novel bestseller list. It will be followed by an adaptation of *A Fine and Private Place*.

Beagle's 2009 collection of short fiction, *We Never Talk About My Brother*, was nominated for a World Fantasy Award.

Peter S. Beagle is also a consummate musician and songwriter. A 2013 collaboration with UK musician Phildel setting his lyric to music culminated in a new track, "Dark Water Down." In 2015, his song "Wolves are Cool" was recorded by Renée de la Prade of the Accordion Babes. Peter describes the production as "a sort of wild anime" that is easily found on the internet.

Beagle's novel *Summerlong* will be published by Tachyon Publications this fall. Other projects are in the works.

Photo: Peter Beagle performs at Balticon 40 (photo by Balticon staff).

Connie Willis

Balticon 42 (2008)



Connie Willis is the best-selling Nebula- and Hugo-winning science-fiction author of *Doomsday Book*, *To Say Nothing of the Dog*, and the two-volume *Blackout* and *All Clear*. She has won an unprecedented total of seven Nebula Awards and 11 Hugos for her novels, which also include *Passage*, *Bellwether*, and *Lincoln's Dreams*, and for short stories such as "The Last of the Winnebagos," "Even the Queen," "Death on the Nile," and "All Seated on the Ground." She has been named to the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, and is a SFWA Grand Master of Science Fiction.

Her work ranges from laugh-out-loud funny to deadly serious and encompasses time travel, aliens, near-death experiences, fads, Christmas, the Titanic, Hollywood, and everything in between. Her most recent book is *The Best of*

Connie Willis, and her romantic comedy about telepathy, *Crosstalk*, will be out in October of 2016.

Connie lives in Colorado with a very nice husband who collects antique sewing machines, an even nicer bulldog, and two cats who are the spawn of Satan. She loves screwball comedies, Shakespeare, Dorothy Parker, the television series *Primeval*, church choirs, chocolate, Fred Astaire, Mark Twain, and Andrew Lee Potts, not necessarily in that order.

Steven Barnes

Balticon 39 (2005)



Steven Barnes is the multiple award-winning author of some 30 novels, as well as writing for film and television. The creator of the Lifewriting self-improvement program and the Firedance Tai Chi system, he lives in Los Angeles with his wife, novelist Tananarive Due, and his son Jason.

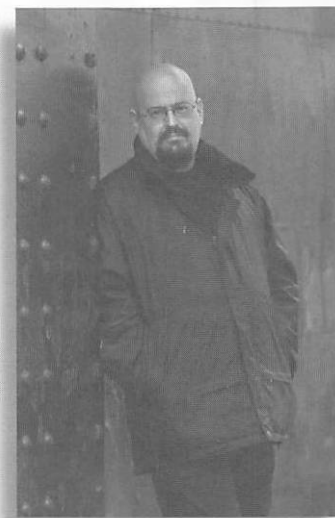
Photo: Steve Barnes & Tananarive Due.

Charles Stross

Balticon 43 (2009)

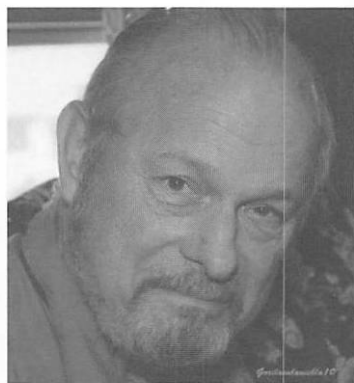
Charles Stross, 51, is a full-time science fiction writer and resident of Edinburgh, Scotland. The author of seven Hugo-nominated novels and winner of three Hugo awards for best novella, Stross's works have been translated into over 12 languages: his most recent novel, *The Annihilation Score*, was published by Ace (in North America) and Orbit (UK/Commonwealth) in July 2015.

Like many writers, Stross has had a variety of careers, occupations, and job-shaped-catastrophes in the past, from pharmacist (he quit after the second police stake-out) to first code monkey on the team of a successful dot-com startup (with brilliant timing he tried to change employer just as the bubble burst). Along the way he collected degrees in Pharmacy and Computer Science, making him the world's first officially qualified cyberpunk writer (just as cyberpunk died).



Joe Haldeman

Balticon 47 (2013)



Named a Grand Master by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, Joe Haldeman has earned steady awards over his 47-year career: his novels *The Forever War* and *Forever Peace* both made clean sweeps of the Hugo and Nebula Awards, and he has won four more Hugos and Nebulas for other novels and shorter works. Three times he's won the Rhysling Award for best science fiction poem of the year. He won the World Fantasy Award for short story in 1993 for "Graves." In 2012 he was inducted into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame. His latest novels are a trilogy, *Marsbound*, *Starbound* and *Earthbound*, and a stand-alone *Work Done for Hire*. Joe was a combat soldier in Vietnam, which strongly influences some of

his work. The movie rights to *The Forever War* have been sold to Warner. When Joe's not writing or teaching—he's retired from M.I.T., where he taught every fall semester for 30 years—he paints, bicycles, plays the guitar, and spends as much time as he can out under the stars as an amateur astronomer. He's been married to Mary Gay Potter Haldeman for 50 years.

Jody Lynn Nye

Balticon 46 (2012)



Jody Lynn Nye lists her main career activity as 'spoiling cats.' When not engaged upon this worthy occupation, she writes fantasy and science fiction books and short stories.

Before breaking away from gainful employment to write full time, Jody worked as a file clerk, book-keeper at a small publishing house, freelance journalist and photographer, accounting assistant and costume maker.

For four years, she was on the technical operations staff of a local Chicago television station, WFBN (WGBO), serving the last year as Technical Operations Manager. During her time at WFBN, she was part of the engineering team that built the station, acted as Technical Director during live sports broadcasts, and worked to produce in-house spots and public service announcements.

Since 1987 she has published over 45 books and more than 150 short stories. Among the novels Jody has written are her epic fantasy series, *The Dreamland*, beginning with *Waking In Dreamland*, five contemporary humorous fantasies, *Mythology 101*, *Mythology Abroad*, *Higher Mythology* (the three collected by Meisha Merlin Publishing as *Applied Mythology*), *Advanced Mythology*, *The Magic Touch*, and three medical science fiction novels, *Taylor's Ark*, *Medicine Show* and *The Lady and the Tiger*. *Strong Arm Tactics*, a humorous military science fiction novel, the first of *The Wolfe Pack* series. Jody also wrote *The Dragonlover's Guide to Pern*, a non-fiction-style guide to the world of internationally best-selling author Anne McCaffrey's popular world. She also collaborated with Anne McCaffrey on four science fiction novels, *The Death of Sleep*, *Crisis On Doona*, *Treaty At Doona* and *The Ship Who Won*, and wrote a solo sequel to *The Ship Who Won* entitled *The Ship Errant*. Jody co-authored the *Visual Guide to Xanth* with best-selling fantasy author Piers Anthony. She has edited two anthologies, humorous stories about mothers in science fiction, fantasy, myth and legend, entitled *Don't Forget Your Spacesuit, Dear!*, and *Launch Pad*, an anthology of science fiction stories co-edited with Mike Brotherton. She wrote eight books with the late Robert Lynn Asprin, *License Invoked*, a contemporary fantasy set in New Orleans, and seven set in Asprin's *Myth Adventures* universe: *Myth-Told Tales* (anthology), *Myth Alliances*, *Myth-Taken Identity*, *Class Dis-Mythed*, *Myth-Gotten Gains*, *Myth Chief*, and *Myth-Fortunes*. Since Asprin's passing, she has published *Myth-Quoted*, *Dragons Deal* and *Dragons Run* (Ace Books), third and fourth in Asprin's *Dragons* series. Her newest series is the *Lord Thomas Kinago* books, beginning with *View From the Imperium* (Baen Books), a humorous military SF novel.

Her newest books are *Rhythm of the Imperium*, third in the *Lord Thomas Kinago* series; an e-collection of cat stories, *Cats Triumphant!* (Event Horizon), *Wishing on a Star*, part of the *Stellar Guild* series, with Angelina Adams, (Arc Manor Press) and a collection of holiday stories, *A Circle*

of *Celebrations* (WordFire Press), and her novella in the second in the *Clan of the Claw* series, *Tooth and Claw*.

Coming next in the pipeline is the next *Myth-Adventures* novel, *Myth-Fits*, scheduled for June 2016.

Over the last 20 or so years, Jody has taught in numerous writing workshops and participated on hundreds of panels covering the subjects of writing and being published at science-fiction conventions. She has also spoken in schools and libraries around the north and northwest suburbs. In 2007 she taught fantasy writing at Columbia College Chicago. She also runs the two-day writers workshop at DragonCon.

Jody lives in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, with her husband Bill Fawcett, a writer, game designer, military historian and book packager, and a black cat, Jeremy. Check out her websites at www.jodynye.com and mythadventures.net. She is on Facebook as Jody Lynn Nye and Twitter @JodyLynnNye.

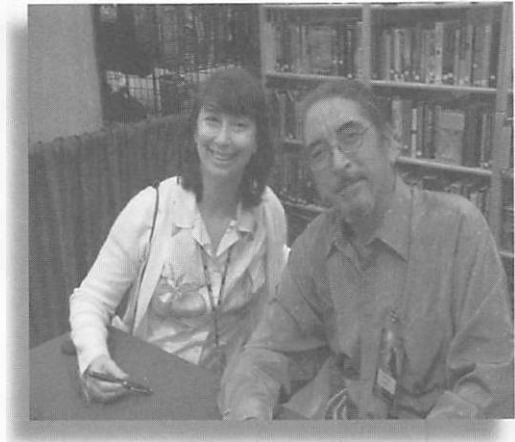


Photo: Jody with Robert Asprin (photo by Thomas Fink).

Jo Walton

Balticon 49 (2015)



Jo Walton has published 12 novels, with a thirteenth, *Necessity*, out this summer. She has also published three poetry collections and an essay collection. She won the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 2002, the World Fantasy Award for *Tooth and Claw* in 2004, the Hugo and Nebula awards for *Among Others* in 2012, and in 2015 both the Tiptree Award for *My Real Children* and the Locus Non-Fiction award for *What Makes This Book So Great*. She comes from Wales but lives in Montreal where the food and books are much better. She gets

bored easily so she tends to write books that are different from each other. She also reads a lot, enjoys travel, talking about books, and eating great food. She plans to live to be 99 and write a book every year.

Baltimore Science Fiction Society



The Baltimore Science Fiction Society is a 501(c)(3) literary organization for science fiction, fantasy, horror, and science literature. We have:

- **Film Night** indie shorts & feature films on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7 PM
- **Spec Fic Critique Circle** writers critique writing every 2nd and 4th Thursday 6:30 PM
- **The Ray Gun Club** our book club meets every 4th Saturday at 6:30 PM
- **Anime Social** anime, manga, gaming every 4th Saturday at 2 PM
- **Dangerous Voices Variety Hour** our quarterly reading series on various dates
- **Business Meetings** 2nd Saturday of each month starting at 7 PM
- **Social Meetings** 4th Saturday of each month starting at 8 PM

We have a **public lending library of over 11,000 books, author readings, movie outings, literary roundtables**, and other events throughout the year. All of our meetings are free and open to the public. Our headquarters is serviced by the 40, 22 and 23 MTA buses, and free parking is available on the street. We're located at:

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Baltimore, MD 21224

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