

Capclave 2007 Programming Schedule – 12 October 2007

Friday Programming

7-8pm

PLAZA II

Can a small town elf make it in the big city?

Jim Freund (m) Michael Swanwick, Tom Doyle, Marilyn “Mattie” Brahen, Jeri Smith-Ready
Urban fantasy

ADAMS

Small Press Publishing

Lawrence M. Schoen (m), Sean Wallace, Neil Clarke, John Betancourt, Roger MacBride Allen, George Scithers

Running a book publishing company, publishing a magazine or semi-pro zine. What’s worked for you? What hasn’t? How do you handle the intellectual property rights? How do you publicize your product? How do you get it into stores? What should your website look like? What should Capclave members be looking to buy or subscribe to from small presses?

RANDOLPH

Settlers of Capclave

Perianne Lurie (m), Hal Haag, William S. Lawhorn

Introduction to European board games. Why Settlers of Catan is the best game ever. And what’s up with all those trains? Find out which games you should be playing and then play them at the con.

8-9pm

PLAZA II

Guest of Honor Event Ellen Datlow and Jeffrey Ford Interview each other

RANDOLPH

Children’s Programming Run by Peggy Rae Sapienza

9-10pm

PLAZA II

The 2007-2008 TV season

Michael Zipser(m), Perianne Lurie, Michael Pederson

What’s on and what’s worth watching? Discuss new and returning science fiction, fantasy and horror shows on TV. Why are there so many upcoming vampire detective shows these days? Upcoming mid-season replacement shows are fair game too.

ADAMS

Is that a Maltese Falcon in your pocket or are you just happy to read me?

Davey Beauchamp (m), David J. Williams, Matt Jarpe, Lon Prater

Neo-pulp: what is it, who's writing it, and where do you find it?

RANDOLPH

Reading – Roger MacBride Allen 9-9:30 Reading – Victoria McManus 9:30-10pm

10:00-11:00pm

PLAZA II

Don't go there. Unless you really want to.

Ian Randal Strock, Lawrence Watt-Evans, George Scithers(m), Steve Stiles

Taboo subjects in fantasy, science fiction and horror. Are there any? What lines won't you cross?

What lines should you cross? If the panelists can get through the hour without mentioning the Sturgeon story, the programming chair will bake them all cookies (or fudge).

ADAMS

If I ran the studio

Michael Zipser, Jim Freund (m), Michael Pederson, Darrell Schweitzer

What books and stories would you adapt to film? Live action or animated? Why do film studios insist on optioning novels when short form fiction is really the ideal length for being adapted to film?

RANDOLPH

Reading – Michael Swanwick 10:00-10:30pm

Reading – Nancy Jane Moore 10:30-11:00pm

11:00pm – midnight

PLAZA II

Where's the humorous SF?

Matt Jarpe, Jim Freund (m), Steve Stiles, David J. Williams

It's easy to name the funny fantasy books, but where are the funny SF books? Star Smashers of the Galaxy Rangers and Bill the Galactic Hero can't possibly be the last time someone wrote an intentionally funny space opera.

ADAMS

Why does my protagonist look like Julie Bell?

Roger MacBride Allen (m), Lawrence Watt-Evans, Michael Swanwick, Jeri Smith-Ready

How do books get their covers? What are the best and worst cover illustrations you've ever had?

RANDOLPH

Alternative Sexualities in SFF

Nancy Jane Moore (m), Tom Doyle, Bud Sparhawk How well are alternative sexualities (or any sexuality) portrayed in science fiction and fantasy?

SATURDAY PROGRAMMING

9:00AM

RANDOLPH

Reading – Lawrence M. Schoen

10:00-11:00AM

PLAZA II

Is There Room in an SF Universe for God?

Michael Swanwick, Bud Sparhawk, Robert Scott, Karl Schroeder, John G. Hemry(m)

If physics and biology are supposed to explain everything, what's left for God to do?

PLAZA III

Autographing David Hartwell, Nancy Jane Moore

ADAMS

Biology – the other hard SF

Matt Jarpe(m), Perianne Lurie, Doug Fratz, Ed Lerner, Sam Scheiner

It's not all computers and physics. Where's the love for the genetically altered and the killer viruses?

11:00AM-NOON

PLAZA II

So you want to put together an anthology?

Ellen Datlow, Darrell Schweitzer, Lawrence M. Schoen (m), Kathryn Cramer, Davey Beauchamp

How do the stories get picked? How do you come up with a theme? What sells and what doesn't? How do authors produce readable fiction in the straitjacket of an original themed anthology?

PLAZA III

Autographing Jeffrey Ford, Maria Snyder

ADAMS

60 Years of WSFA

Peggy Rae Sapienza(m), Ted White, Michael Walsh, Elaine Stiles, Steve Stiles, George Scithers
History of the Washington Science Fiction Association and its place in fandom

NOON-1:00PM

PLAZA II

P.O.V.

Scott Edelman, Maria Snyder, Bud Sparhawk, Dennis Danvers(m)

First, second and third person. When and how to use them. How many viewpoints can you sustain in a story? What works and what doesn't.

PLAZA III

Autographing Ellen Datlow, Michael Swanwick

ADAMS

The Future of War

Thomas McCabe (m), Ed Lerner

1:00PM – 2:00PM

PLAZA II

Defining Jeffrey Ford

Jeffrey Ford (m), Ellen Datlow, Dennis Danvers, Andy Duncan, Colleen Cahill

Classifying our author GOH and all his works. Fantasy? Mystery? New Weird? What genre is he?

PLAZA III

Autographing Kathryn Cramer, Matt Jarpe

ADAMS

"Holy Shuftik!" He Cried

John G. Hemry, Lawrence M. Schoen(m), David Louis Edelman, Tom Doyle, Catherine Asaro

How does an author create a distinctive language for characters in the future or in a different world and keep it understandable to the reader? What's the right balance between creating language and making sure the reader can figure it out without a dictionary appendix to the story?

2:00PM – 3:00PM

PLAZA II

Heinlein Centennial

Yoji Kondo(m), Roger MacBride Allen, David Hartwell, George Scithers, John G. Hemry, Michael Dirda

Discussion of Heinlein's impact on the field, the themes in his work, the juveniles and why more of his books haven't been made into films.

PLAZA III

Autographing Davey Beauchamp, Ed Lerner

ADAMS

Romance and SF/F

Victoria McManus(m), Mary Jo Putney, Jeri Smith-Ready, Maria Snyder, Bud Sparhawk

These days it seems as if half the books in the science fiction and fantasy section of the bookstore are being reviewed in the Romance Times and nominated for awards in the romance genre. When and how did the genre lines become blurred? Were the distinctions always artificial? Has crossing over into the romance genre increased the readership of SF/F?

3:00PM-4:00PM

PLAZA II

Harry Potter Autopsy

Ann Crispin, David Louis Edelman, Davey Beauchamp, Andy Duncan, Maria Snyder, Doug Fratz(m)

Did the Deathly Hallows live up to your expectations? Was it even possible for it to do so? Were you happy with the resolution? What would you have done differently?

PLAZA III

Autographing Catherine Asaro, Karl Schroeder

ADAMS

Cosmologists Should Pay Darth Vader for the Dark Energy

Yoji Kondo/Eric Kotani

Yes, there will be actual science programming at Capclave!

4:00PM – 5:00PM

PLAZA II GOH EVENT Jeffrey Ford reading

PLAZA III

Autographing Lawrence M. Schoen, Lawrence Watt-Evans

ADAMS

Best books of 2007

Jim Freund(m), David Hartwell, Scott Edelman, Doug Fratz, Ernest Lilley

Discuss your favorite new books of 2007. Which novels deserve your Hugo/Nebula/Tiptree/etc nomination? What novels won't be nominated and deserve to be and why not?

5:00PM – 6:00PM

PLAZA II

Playing well with Others: Co-editing

Ellen Datlow, David Hartwell, Edmund Schubert(m), Lawrence M. Schoen, George Scithers
Partnerships in editing. How does co-editing differ from co-authoring?

ADAMS

The Middle Ages Sucked

Darrell Schweitzer, Mary Jo Putney, Lawrence Watt-Evans, Tom Doyle(m), Lon Prater

The majority of the population was serfs, the Black Death was killing people off in vast numbers and there was no indoor plumbing. Life was nasty, brutish and often short. So why are so many fantasy novels set in pseudo-medieval societies? What's the attraction?

6:00PM – 7:00PM

PLAZA II

Closed for set up for party

ADAMS

Turn, Turn, Turn

John G. Henry(m), Brenda Clough, Edmund Schubert, Victoria McManus

Once upon a time Westerns and SF ruled while fantasy crept through the shadows. Then the Tolkien Asteroid hit and caused a mass die-off in Westerns and SF while fantasy multiplied to rule the world, even devouring much of Romance. Is the fantasy era still going strong, or are there any signs that fantasy is faltering and a new age of genre literature may soon evolve?

WORKSHOPS IN THE RANDOLPH ROOM

10:00 AM – 1:00PM Writers Workshop

Allen L. Wold, with L. Jagi Lamplighter, Edmund Schubert, and Jeri Smith-Ready

Bring paper and a writing implement. All else will be explained at the beginning of the session.

Limited to 10 participants

1:00pm – 3:00pm Reviewers Workshop *Peter Heck* gives a discussion of the problems and techniques of book reviewing, with an emphasis on reviewing of SF, fantasy and related genres.

Participants may bring a short review (under 500 words) of a recent book for group discussion. In addition to consideration of specific reviews, the workshop will focus on ways to write an effective and useful review, the relation of reviewing and criticism, and the requirements of different audiences.

Limited to 12 participants.

3:00-5:00pm Contracts Workshop *Jane Jewell*, Executive Director of SFWA, with *Michael Capobianco*, will give you insight into the arcana of contracts: What do those terms mean? Sub-Rights? Territories? Reserve Against Returns? What to look out for. What you can usually change just by asking. What they won't budge an inch on. All those things that you'd really rather learn before you start negotiating your next contract!

Limited to 15 participants.

5:00 – 7:00pm How to Get a Real Agent This two hour mini-workshop will be conducted by SFWA's Chair of Writer Beware. *Ann Crispin* will discuss sources for locating and querying appropriate agents with good track records of sales. She will also instruct participants on how to avoid the many incompetent or outright scam agents proliferating these days. Participants should bring their query letter, and Ms. Crispin will critique it and make suggestions for improvement.

Limited to 10 participants.

7:00PM – 8:00PM

PLAZA II

Closed for party set-up

ADAMS

Why is "Genre" a Dirty Word?

Mary Jo Putney, Scott Edelman, Dennis Danvers(m), Ian Randal Strock, Kathryn Cramer

Let's talk about the way so many people talk about genre fiction with an air of not-sovague Puritan guilt -- they might feel that reading genre is, somehow, lowering or perhaps they were scared in the cradle by somebody equating "make-believe" with filth.

RANDOLPH

Reading – Maria Snyder 7:00-7:30pm

Reading – John G. Hemry 7:30-8:00pm

8:00pm – 9:00pm

PLAZA II

Closed for set up for the party

ADAMS

What should be in your Netflix queue

Michael Zipsler, Jim Freund(m), Barbara Krasnoff, Ernest Lilley, David J. Williams

What science fiction, fantasy, and horror movies should everyone see? What are your favorite movies and why do they deserve your love?

RANDOLPH

Reading – Lon Prater 8:00-8:30pm Reading – Andy Duncan 8:30-9:00pm

9:00pm -10:30pm

PLAZA II

60th BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR THE WASHINGTON SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

The WSFA Small Press Award ceremony will be held during the party.

RANDOLPH

Reading – Jeri-Smith-Ready 10:00-:10:30pm

11:00pm – midnight

ADAMS

Current and Changing Gender Roles in SF/F

Nancy Jane Moore(m), Barbara Krasnoff, Ernest Lilley

Discussion of the changing roles women have played in shaping science fiction. This can range from considering the range of women characters in SF (from sex objects to 3-D characters in stories) to questioning whether and how women's roles as authors, editors, and reviewers in the science fiction field and as fans have changed.

RANDOLPH

Reading – Tom Doyle 11:00-11:30pm

Reading – David Louis Edelman 11:30pm-midnight

SUNDAY PROGRAMMING

9:00AM – 10:00AM

ADAMS

Children's Programming

Run by Peggy Rae Sapienza

RANDOLPH

Writers Workshop follow-up session

Allen Wold, Jeri Smith-Ready

10:00am -11:00am

PLAZA II

The End of the World As We Know It

Darrell Schweitzer (m), Karl Schroeder, Roger MacBride Allen, Tom Doyle

According to various ancient calendars/prophetic works, it all ends on December 21, 2012. Do we believe it? What, if anything, can we do to prepare? Should we? Do we want to survive such an event?

PLAZA III

Autographing David Louis Edelman, John Betancourt

ADAMS

Where's the new and recent YA science fiction?

Victoria McManus(m), Davey Beauchamp, John G. Henry

Who's writing SF for children, tweens and teens these days? Or do I have to give my cousin's kid Farmer in the Sky for Hanukah? Harry Potter isn't the Universe. Discussion of the interesting genre (SF/F/H) books for kids that have come out in the past couple of years, with an emphasis on science fiction, as it seems to be overwhelmed by fantasy these days.

RANDOLPH

Reading – Matt Jarpe 10:00 - 10:30am Reading – Barbara Krasnoff 10:30am - 11:00am

11:00AM – NOON

PLAZA II

Best short fiction of 2007

Ellen Datlow, Kathryn Cramer, Jim Freund(m), Sean Wallace

Which SF/F/H novellas, novelettes, and short stories published this year were your favorites? Which do you think deserve to be nominated for the Hugo/Nebula/Tiptree/etc? Which short fiction pieces deserve to be nominated but won't and why not?

PLAZA III

Autographing Andy Duncan, Jeri Smith-Ready

ADAMS

Astronomy and Science Fiction

Yoji Kondo(Eric Kotani), Karl Schroeder, Roger MacBride Allen, Michael Capobianco

Exploring strange new worlds happens as often at a writer's keyboard as it does at an astronomer's eyepiece. In the real world, planets get promoted and demoted. Discuss astronomy in science fiction.

RANDOLPH

Children's Programming

Run by Peggy Rae Sapienza

NOON – 1:00PM

PLAZA II

Re-Reading

Jeffrey Ford, Brenda Clough, Lon Prater, Nancy Jane Moore, Jim Freund(m)

Share some of your favorite books to re-read with us -- and tell us why.

ADAMS

LibraryThing and other bibliophilic sites

Colleen Cahill(m), Lawrence M. Schoen, David Louis Edelman, Barbara Krasnoff

Cool sites on the net that every book lover should be aware of. Will include a practical demonstration.

RANDOLPH

Reading – Robert Scott noon-12:30pm

Reading – John Betancourt 12:30pm-1pm

1:00PM – 2:00PM

PLAZA II

First Sentence, First Paragraph: What Does It Take To Grab You?

Ellen Datlow, Allen Wold(m), Andy Duncan, Ian Randal Strock, Brenda Clough

Great first sentences, to work, have to be sneaky or elegant. But great first sentences are rare. So what qualities does a novel or story have to have to make you keep reading beyond that first sentence or first paragraph?

ADAMS

The New Weird, The Interstitial Arts

Jeffrey Ford, Kathryn Cramer(m), Dennis Danvers, Marilyn “Mattie” Brahen

What are we trying to accomplish by defining new ways of looking at all/some/a small piece of speculative fiction/science fiction/fantasy?

RANDOLPH

Everything old is new again: Re-imagining and remaking the classics

Michael Zipser, Michael Pederson(m), Barbara Krasnoff, George Scithers

Why have Dr Who, Battlestar Galactica and Smallville succeeded and Flash Gordon and Enterprise failed horribly? Buffy and Stargate successfully made the transition to tv. Total Recall and Timecop - not so much.

2:00PM -3:00PM

PLAZA II

Why are Timid Female Characters still so common in YA fiction?

Victoria McManus(m), Lon Prater, Ernest Lilley, John G. Henry

Why are the girls still waiting for the guys to act in emergencies, while having to do the ugly stuff themselves? Why do they all fall in love with and want to have sex with the guy while he gets to coast along and make all the decisions? Why does the guy get to have it all but the girl has to choose between magic and marriage?

ADAMS

Going Beyond the Bookmark.

Maria Snyder(m), Davey Beauchamp, Roger MacBride Allen

We all know publishers have a limited amount of money to spend when it comes to promoting books. The majority of the effort rests with the author. This panel will discuss unique promotions available to authors, and will look at gimmicks versus giveaways-what works and what ends up in the trash.

RANDOLPH

Gripe Session

Tell the ConComm what they did right and what they did wrong.

Colleen Cahill, Cathy Green, Sam Scheiner and Bill Lawhorn