

CONQUEST 45

NOIR

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2014

KANSAS CITY, MO



CONQUEST 45

AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR
GLEN COOK

TOASTMASTER
CAROLINE SPECTOR

ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR
DAVID LEE PANCAKE

FAN GUESTS OF HONOR
BARBARA VANTILBURG
RAY VANTILBURG

SCIENCE GUEST OF HONOR
BRIDGET LANDRY



David Lee Pancake

It all started in 2010 at the NASFiC in Raleigh, North Carolina, when Jeff Orth announced that Kansas City was looking at bidding for the Worldcon in either 2015 or 2016. Over the past six years, the Kansas City in 2016 Bid Committee has grown from a few crazy people to a full-fledged asylum. We've got grizzled¹ SMOFs who've worked dozens of Worldcons, seasoned² chairs and committee members from local and regional cons across the country, and fresh³ youngsters who until recently were blissfully unaware of cons, fandom, or the terrible fate that awaited them.

It's been six long years of sitting tables, throwing parties, traveling the world and seeing only the inside of a hotel, and at long last, the both the end and the beginning are in sight. The end of the bid, with the vote in London, and, Should We Win™, the beginning of planning and running the best Worldcon ever, here in the center of the U.S. for the first time in forty years. That's right, a Worldcon in your back yard, but without the mess and the complaints from your neighbors.

So come to our party, support the bid if you haven't yet, and maybe even talk to the bid chairs about helping us make this dream a reality. C'mon, it'll be fun!⁵ Really!

1. With balsamic vinegar and olive oil⁴
2. With a secret blend of herbs and spices
3. Picked daily and rushed to the nearest concom
4. Sorry, that was supposed to be "drizzled"
5. For certain values of "fun"; no guarantee implied



Kansas City in 2016

A Bid for the 74th
World Science Fiction Convention
August 17-21, 2016 § www.kcin2016.org

Kansas City in 2016 is sponsored by MASFFC, Inc., a 501(c)(3) corporation

"World Science Fiction Society," "WSFS," "World Science Fiction Convention," "Worldcon," "NASFiC," "Hugo Award," and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.



<http://www.kcin2016.org/>



@KCin2016



/KC2016

Photo courtesy Beth Welsh; Giant Floating Charlie Parker Head™ because Bird Lives

CONTENTS

GUEST OF HONOR BIOS		RULES AND REGULATIONS	4
Glen Cook	6	PANEL PARTICIPANTS	
Caroline Spector	10	& OTHER GUESTS	17
David Lee Pancake	8	PROGRAMMING	37
Ray & Barbara VanTilburg	12	IN MEMORIAM	55
Bridget Landry	11	AUTOGRAPH PAGE	56

CONQUEST 44 CONCOM & STAFF

CONCHAIR: JESI PERSHING VICE CHAIR: KRISTINA HINER

Art Show	Mike Neely, Kat Gibb, Melissa Batson	Photography	Tracy Majkol, William (Joe) Dixon, J Michael Strange, Dave Michael
Benefit Auction	Ruth Lichtwardt, Mackenzie Van Beest, Meagan Kane	Programming	Earline "Cricket" Bebe, David Sooby, Victoria L'Ecuyer
Dealer's Room	Cindy Norton	Publications	Keri O'Brien
Guest Liaison	Megan Petersen	Logistics/Quartermaster	Eric Orth, Damon Brooks, Greg Steel
Con Suite	Beth Welsh, Carol Doms, Elizabeth Gooch, Jim Young, Barry Haldiman, Ty Gephardt	Registration	Dawn Eckel, Robert Eckel, Robert Fischer, Melissa Fischer
Hotel Liaison	John Platt	Security	David Kleinowski
Marketing	Kristina Hiner	Story in a Bag	Noble Fusion
Masquerade	Inger Myers, Sheril Harper, Jon Mohning, Samantha Myers, NakaKon Sound Crew	Treasurer	Cindy Norton
Network Gaming and A/V	Joe Myers, Karl Foss, Ted Poovey	Volunteers	David Means
Parties	Jeff Orth	Website	Allison Stein, Michael Higgins, Karl Foss

RULES & REGULATIONS

BEHAVIOR

ConQuesT is committed to offering a convention experience as free from harassment as we can make it for our members, regardless of characteristics such as gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, age, race, religion, nationality, or social class. We do not tolerate harassment of convention participants in any form. ConQuesT attendees violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the convention without a refund, at the discretion of the convention organizers.

Harassment includes offensive verbal comments to such characteristics, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, unwelcome photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome attention. Attendees asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately. If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have similar concerns, please contact a convention staff member immediately. Convention staff will help attendees contact hotel security or local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel less unsafe for the duration of the convention. When reporting such an incident, providing a name, badge number and/or physical

description of the person(s) involved would be extremely helpful. Please remember that we need to know about any incidents during the event in order to take action.

In addition, anyone who violates the guidelines and policies listed below, or who violates state or federal law, or who acts in a just plain stupid manner, may be sanctioned or expelled from the convention without a refund at the discretion of the convention organizers.

For lesser offenses, committee members are authorized to punch a hole through the badge and badge holder if they observe inappropriate behavior on the part of children. If a child receives three badge punches, the child and his/her guardian(s) will have their memberships revoked without refund.

NEW HOTEL

2014 is our first year at this hotel, so please help us make our first impression a good one by treating the hotel's staff and general patrons with courtesy and respect.

BADGES

To be granted access to convention areas, your badge must be worn in a visible location at all times. Please comply immediately if asked to show/produce/wear your badge. Parties associated with the convention are required to check for badges as well as ID.

FOLLOW THE LAW

The legal drinking age in Missouri is 21. Minors caught with alcohol or adults caught serving alcohol to minors will forfeit their membership and will be evicted from the facilities. Liquor Control agents have been known to mingle among us. Please drink responsibly and act accordingly. NOTE: Alcohol is not permitted in public areas of the hotel.

ConQuest does not condone the consumption or use of illegal substances. Law Enforcement professionals are members of ConQuest and will take action as necessary. Please do not make them work this weekend!

All convention areas and sleeping rooms are non-smoking by city ordinance.

All members of ConQuest are expected to abide by state and federal laws. Failure to comply will result in expulsion from the convention without refund.

CURFEW

Party Floor Curfew. Children 15 and under must leave the party floor by 11 p.m. unless accompanied by parent or guardian. Additionally, strollers and other devices that can block the doors/hallways are not permitted on the party floor, save for the transportation of children to their room on that floor.

CELL PHONES

Please turn off or set to silent all miscellaneous gadgetry, during programming items.

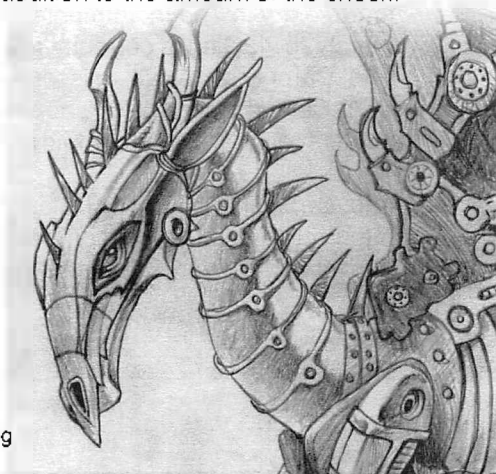
WEAPONS POLICY

Weapons may be worn as part of a costume Friday night after opening ceremonies until midnight and Saturday 30 minutes prior to the start of Masquerade until midnight. All weapons, outside of Masquerade entrants during the Masquerade, must be peace bonded by a ConQuest security member or staff. Weapons purchased during the convention must be taken directly to your personal space (room, vehicle, etc.)

CHECKS

If any person writes a check to ConQuest with insufficient funds, that person will thenceforth be on a cash (or credit card) basis only. There will also be a \$20 charge in addition to the amount of the check.

Ray VanTilburg

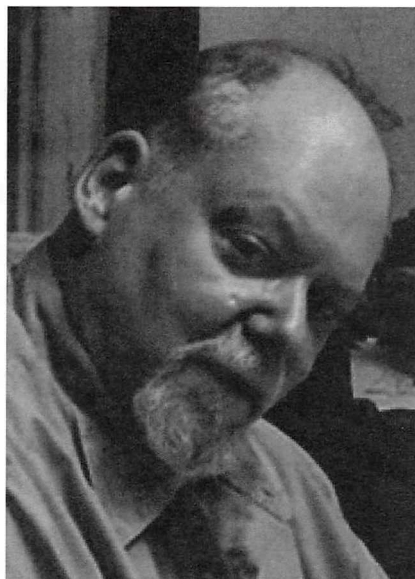


GLEN COOK

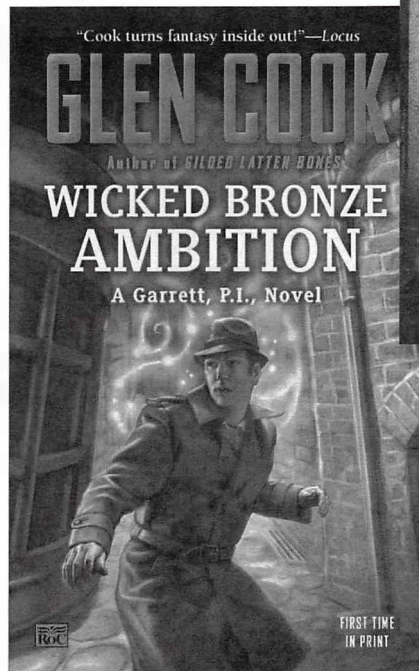
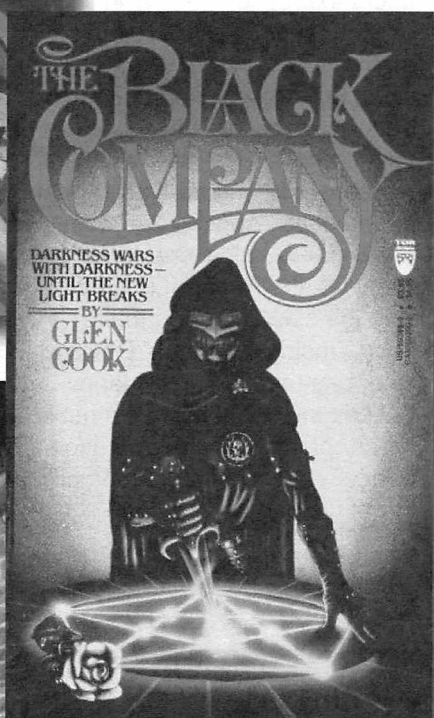
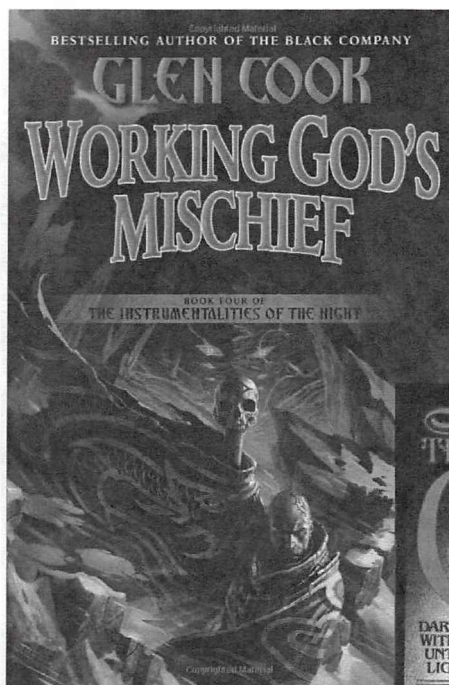
AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR

Glen's love of writing began in grade school, and in high school he wrote the occasional article for his school's newspaper. After graduation Glen spent time in the United States Navy and later worked his way through college, leaving little time for his writing endeavors. It wasn't until he started working at General Motors that his writing took off, at times penning as many as three books per year. It was during this period that Glen wrote his first novel of *The Black Company*, a gritty fantasy series that follows an elite mercenary unit through several decades of their history.

The series, currently 10 novels long, has become something of a cult classic, especially among current and former members of the military, and has appeared in more than 20 languages. Glen is also well known for his *Garrett P.I.* series, which tells the haphazard adventures of hard-boiled detective Garrett, and his *Dread Empire* series, which highlights Glen's earlier published work. To date Glen has written a handful of short works, a few articles, and 51 books, the most recent of which, *WORKING GOD'S MISCHIEF*, the fourth entry in *The Instrumentalities of the Night* series, is to be released March 2014. Glen is currently retired from his job at GM, living with his wife, Carol, in St. Louis, Missouri. Glen met Carol while attending the 1970 Clarion Writers Workshop. Both are regular faces in the ConQuest dealers room and at other Midwest conventions.



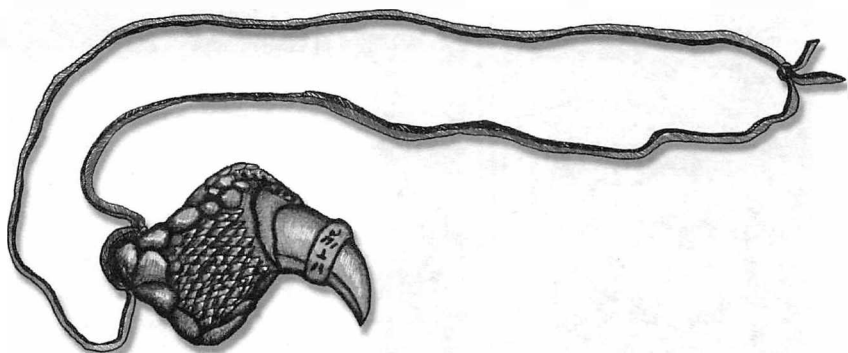
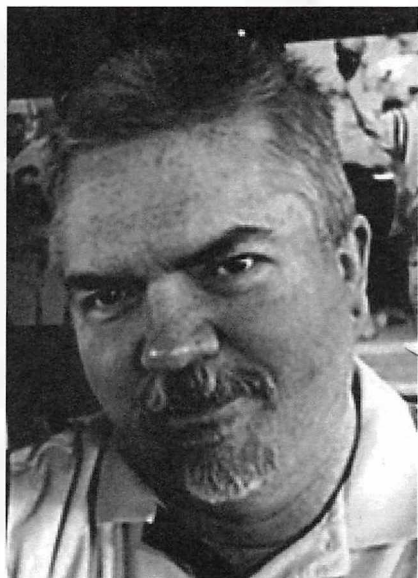
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glen_Cook
<http://scifan.com/writers/cc/CookGlen.asp>
http://www.isfdb.org/cgi-bin/ea.cgi?Glen_Cook



DAVID LEE PANCAKE

ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR

David Lee Pancake's sculptures and illustrations represent a varied and unique repertoire of dragons, superheroes, risqué angels, abstracts and horror sculptures and paintings. His talent expresses equally in clay or canvas. David loves to play with textures in his sculptures and his attention to detail is revealed in his careful application of dragon scales and feathers. He states: "I love detail and texture. Angels, dragons and other mythical creatures allow me the freedom to play with the clay and bring to life what's inside my head." David's work captures a flight of fancy, freezes the imagination's most soaring dream, and brings it to terra firma for our pleasure and admiration. The fantasy creations of David Lee Pancake are gracing homes all over the world and we are sure you won't forget his name.



David Lee Pancake



Pleasant Dreams
David Lee Pancake

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DKPANCAKE](https://www.facebook.com/dkpancake)
[WWW.DAVIDLEEPANCAKE.COM](http://www.davidleepancake.com)
[HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/DKPANCAKE](https://twitter.com/dkpancake)

CAROLINE SPECTOR

TOASTMISTRESS

Caroline Spector is a writer and editor in the gaming and science fiction field, with over 25 years experience. Some of her works include computer game hint books, three novels, and several short stories in the Wild Cards universe. Most recently Caroline was published in two well received anthologies. Her essay, Power and Feminism in Westeros, appears in *Beyond the Wall: Exploring George R.R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire* edited by Jim Lowder. She is also featured in the Gardner Dozois and George RR Martin anthology *Dangerous Women*, with her novella *Lies My Mother Told Me*. Caroline is no stranger to ConQuest. In past years she's not only been a panelist, but a much enjoyed musician at Room Con. Hopefully Bland Lemon Denton, for which she plays bass guitar, will treat us to another jam session this year.



BRIDGET LANDRY



SCIENCE GUEST OF HONOR

Bridget Landry was educated as a chemist and planetary scientist, trained as an engineer, and has worked in spacecraft operations at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena for more than 20 years.

Most of her career has been in what is known as sequencing: building sets of commands that are sent to and stored on the spacecraft to execute the bulk of the spacecraft activities over a specific period of time. She has worked on the Hubble Space Telescope, the joint US-French oceanographic

Earth-orbiter Topex, the Mars Pathfinder project (which included the first Mars rover), the Cassini mission to Saturn and the Dawn mission to the main asteroid belt. Ms. Landry is currently a team member of the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, where she supports the orbiter's mission and relay for both currently functioning Mars rovers, Opportunity and Curiosity.

Ms. Landry takes great interest in the advancement of women in technical fields, and she helps and bars to their progress, as well as in the problem of sparking and maintaining girls' early interest in science and math. In her technical hat, she has been on science-related panels at WorldCons, local, and regional conventions and has been a Science GoH at several regional cons, as well as participating in outreach activities outside the fannish community.

With the other side of her brain, Ms. Landry is a Master Level costumer with a twisted sense of humor, (google "Strauss Waltz Assault Team"), and a fondness for ST:TOS. She has been on panels and won Masquerade awards from the local to the WorldCon level.



RAY & BARBARA VANTILBURG

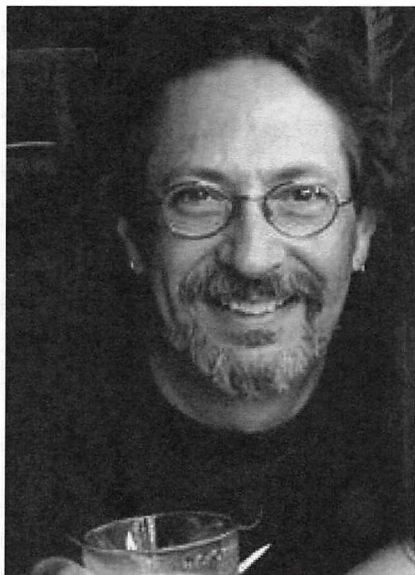
FAN GUESTS OF HONOR

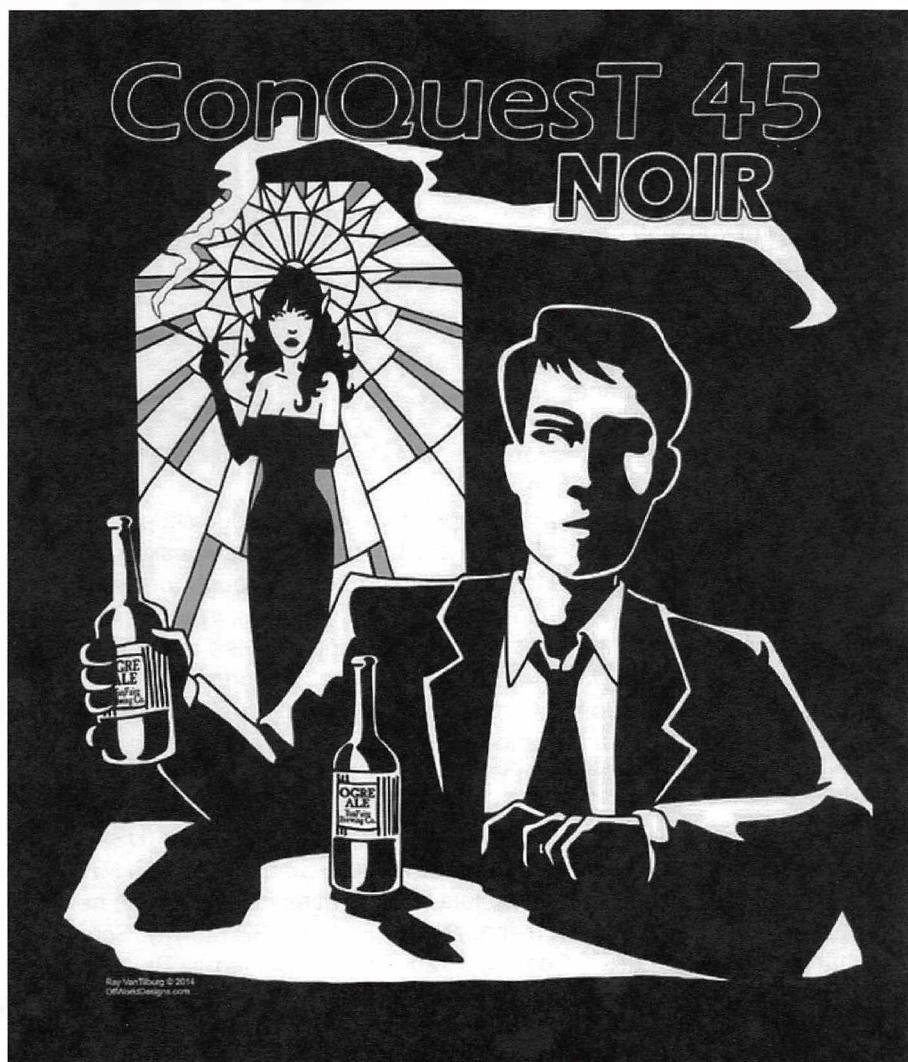
Ray and Barb VanTilburg are living proof that nerd dreams do come true. First, they met at a science fiction convention in 1987 and have been happily married since 1989. Next, they've managed to find a way to make a living selling Ray's fantastic art on t-shirts at conventions around the country and occasionally outside of the US. They handle souvenirs for about 40 to 50 events each year and have an awesome line of original geek culture tees. Barb says they couldn't do it without other artists too and of course their great OffWorld Designs team. It's been a while since they've been able to attend ConQuest and both are excited to be back. Click the web page link to see what they've come up with lately and see the conventions link for a list of other cons you might be interested in trying out.

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/offworlddesigns)

[offworlddesigns](https://www.facebook.com/offworlddesigns)

<http://www.offworlddesigns.com>





**Come check out the shirt for ConQuest 45
in the Dealers' Room.**

TADAO TOMOMATSU

MNAHMNAH

Life, sometimes it gets in the way of fun and fandom. Life has prevented Tadao from joining us this year at ConQuest, but he vows to return victorious, eventually. If you know Tadao, your (Kevin) Bacon number is either 2 or 3 and you are a very fortunate denizen of Earth.

For those of you who have not had the pleasure of meeting Tadao, he is one of fandom's knights in shining armor and Jack of Most Trades: Actor, Comedian, Producer, Writer, Director, con runner, MC extraordinaire and all around nice guy. Always riding to the rescue of those in need, whether it be

the moving of things, creation of props, derailing a difficult situation or adding laughter at the drop of a hat, any hat really. He is considered not Japanese enough for Pearl Harbor. Wasn't "geeky" enough for Galaxy Quest. Wasn't ethnic enough for Season 2-3 of Heroes. Wasn't "foreign enough" for The Big Bang Theory. He auditioned for Glee but oddly they did not ask him to sing, which would have clinched things. There are a few things he has auditioned for but can't talk about, really. Sorry. He worked on "Escape from LA" and nearly ran over Kurt Russel on a bike, twice. Ironically, they were both wearing Eye patches.

Known in many parts of the world as "Mr. Shakes Hands Man (USA, #2)" International Interviewer for "BANZAI" from Ch.4 the UK. As Mr. Shake Hands Man he got to meet lots of celebrities he thought he never would including: Angelica Houston, Mickey Rooney, Bill Murray, Scarlett Johanson, George Lucas, Samuel L Jackson, got Kissed by Beyonce with Jay Z like 5 feet away and has lived to tell the tale. Tadao is also known for his work on Friends (1994), Inspector Gadget (1999) and Star Trek: Excalibur (2012). . He's been on the Tonight show with Jay Leno. (Well, we won't talk about that...), He was seen on HEROES as Det. Furakawa, who was blown up by a nuclear man. Met "The Cheerleader", "the Artist" and the Other Geek.



He was born in Texas and comes from a loooonggggg line of Buddhist priests(27 generations) and Samurai (150 or so generations). Fannishly speaking Tadao saw Japanese Anime/Sentia before it was popular. (*the Japanese side of the family taking pity on the 'black sheep' of the family). He likes Steampunk, Retro, Dr. Who, Stargate, Browncoats, Jedi, Anime-head, mild costumer and building props, including the ever accumulating pile of discarded nerf guns. He has done some voice overs for games and such, including: Throne of Darkness, a Japanese version of Diablo. Apparently he put the game on a computer and everyone kept hearing him argue with himself.

So the short and long of it is.... Tadao I miss you, you are amazing and I wish you nothing but the best.

Inger

**Tadao may not be here...
*But we have the next best thing.***

A standee of our friend will be circulating the con, just waiting to take a photo with each of you!

Post your photos to Facebook and tag ConQuestKC. That way he gets to see all the fun his cardboard double had this weekend.



PANEL PARTICIPANTS & GUESTS

ZO ALLEN A con-goer for many years, I've put in my time as a costumer, art show director, programming goddess, and currently am part of the Guest Liaison team for Archon. I've been a radio announcer, a classical programmer for an NPR station, assistant to the Regional Librarian for Southeast Asia, taught college communication classes, and am a title examiner for a major bank. I sing with a women's chorus, have performed in community theatre, and oh, yes, I write. It's mostly fantasy and erotica (I do enjoy the research), and am continually thankful for the help and support of my wonderful friends at Yard Dog Press. Buy their books!

CLAIRE ASHGROVE Building on a background of fantasy game design, a fascination with history, and a lifetime love of books, award-winning author Claire Ashgrove brings to life action-filled, passionate journeys of the heart. Her paranormal series, *The Curse of the Templars* (Tor), marries the history of the Knights Templar with the chilling aspirations of the most unholy—a must-read for speculative fiction fans. She also writes darkly arousing espionage novels as the National Bestselling Author *Tori St. Claire* and historical romance as *Sophia Garrett*.

In her non-writing time, she's put her past-life as a fiction acquisitions editor to work with *Finish The Story*, a full-scale Indie editing house co-

founded with Bryan Thomas Schmidt. She lives in Missouri and enjoys spending downtime with her two sons and too-many horses, cats, and dogs.

MARGENE S. BAHM started in Science Fiction and Fantasy fandom in the 1970s working on a number of Kansas City conventions held in that era. Her first Worldcon was *Denvention 2* in 1981. At Kansas City's annual convention, *ConQuest*, she has held the positions of Programming Director (4 years), Benefit Auction Director (4 years), Convention Headquarters Director (1 year), Co-Chairman (6 years), and Facilities Director (2 years). She was the Bid Chairman for the Kansas City in 2006 *Worldcon Bid* and the Kansas City in 2009 *Worldcon Bid*. She is currently on the Chairman's Staff for the Kansas City in 2016 *Bid*.

For 30 years I was a member of the *Clanna Eireanne* Irish Dance troupe, eventually becoming a dance teacher. I taught adults Irish Ceili Dance through *Communiversy* until I retired in 2009.

ROBIN WAYNE BAILEY is the author of numerous novels, including the *FROST* series, the *DRAGONKIN* trilogy and *THE BROTHERS OF THE DRAGON* series, as well as the acclaimed *SHADOWDANCE* and *SWORDS AGAINST THE SHADOWLAND*, among others.

His short fiction has appeared in many anthologies and magazines, and much of his work has been collected in two collections from Yard Dog Press, including *TURN LEFT TO TOMORROW* and *THE FANTASTIKON: TALES OF WONDER*. His story, "The Children's Crusade" was a 2008 Nebula Award nominee. Robin is a former president of the Science Fiction & Fantasy Authors of America, a former director of KaCSFFS, and one of the key founders of the Science Fiction Hall of Fame.

EMILY BENNETT: I've been born and raised in Kansas City for all 21 years of my life. I have been interested in costuming, cons, make-up, and the such after I saw the *A Nightmare on Elm Street* movies and seeing the elaborate make-up and special effects done in them and on Freddy himself. I fell further in love with costurning and make-up after seeing the SyFy series *Face-Off*. My first ever convention at Planet Comicon in 2013 cemented my dream of having a hand in cosplaying. I hope to use my passion to turn it into my career in the near future.

THE james k. burk is the con persona of James K. Burk, who writes, and Jim Burk who likes spending time with old friends and making new ones. His work is available on Amazon and, at the convention, the Yard Dog Press table. His first novel, *HIGH RAGE* has been reissued in a new edition by Wolfsinger Publications, who also published *THE TWELVE*. His latest release is a weird western in the

Night Marshal series, "The Ghoul of Socorro." Yard Dog Press has published his chapbooks, stories in anthologies, and the novel *HOME IS THE HUNTER*.

M.C. CHAMBERS writes science fiction and fantasy. A science fiction story, *Visual Silence*, won Grand Prize in the National Space Society's fiction contest in 2008 and is presented in the anthology *Return to Luna* by Hadley Rille Books. A fantasy novelette *Silk and Velvet* appears in Hadley Rille's anthology *Renaissance Festival Tales* and her fantasy novel, *Shapers' Veil*, was released by Hadley Rille Books in 2011. She has completed training intensives in *Creating in Original Voice®* (2012) and *Storytelling in Original Voice®* (2013) given by best-selling author Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estés. Chambers is now working on a second novel and several shorter works. She is a member of the NobleFusion writers' group since 1998. She is also a flute player, a mother of five, and a variable print programmer.

ROB CHILSON I was born 1945; discovered SF with the January 1950 ish of *ASTOUNDING* (I read it later). I was first published (*ANALOG*) in 1969; most recently published, 2014 (*ANALOG*). Have sold stories to every editor of *ANALOG* since 1938, in fact (all 4 of them). Have not missed a *ConQuest* since *BYOB-Con* in 1979, and enjoyed every one of them.

I fully expect to enjoy this one, and hope everybody else does too. Further info if wanted at my (work-in-progress) web page: robchilson.name

KATHLEEN COLLINS is an urban fantasy author published with Carina Press. *Realm Walker* and *Death's Daughter*, the first two books in her series are available now. When she's not writing, she works in a local prosecutor's office or spends time with her two boys, three if you count her husband.

COYOTE has been an active costumer/cosplayer for over 30 years as well as a puppeteer. She has created costumes from the *Star Trek* universe and has sold them professionally. She has also created costumes from anime, *Dr. Who*, *Supernatural*, *Sherlock*, *Dark Hunters*, and more. She taught pre-professional puppetry and has performed with local puppeteers and as a licensed psychologist has used puppetry in therapy.

GERA L. DEAN has been a life-long storyteller and student of just about anything that catches her attention. She is a former college English composition instructor, and currently is working on her third novel. Her short story, "Twitch of a Tail, Swipe of a Claw" can be found in the *Forward Motion Anthology*, **CAT EYES**.

SHERRI 'CONBARBIE' DEAN was born late AND backwards in a small town in Missouri, which explains a lot. Her mundane hours are spent as a veteran of the animal health field (and the recipient of many a puppy piddling) until she gets rich and famous. Or was that infamous? She spends her quality

Here's something you haven't read yet.

THE LAST ITERATION OF DEXTER MAXWELL

MATTHEW HART

SECOND HARVEST

MATTHEW HART

"Overall, it was a surprisingly good read, and I highly recommend it. I look forward to reading the sequels"

Sci-fi Bookworm
sci-fi-bookworm.blogspot.com

LastIteration.com

Capscovil.com

The Last Iteration

CAPSCOVIL

time writing, illustrating, making crazy costumes and reading.

She credits Forrest J "Uncle Forry" Ackerman for her love of Science Fiction, fantasy and horror, and is active in genre conventions throughout the Midwest. It is at one of these early conventions she encountered the infamous (there's that word again! Buy a thesaurus already!) Selina "BUY MY BOOKS!" Rosen and was thusly corrupted to submit cover art, stories and mad editing skills for Yard Dog Press. Sherri's latest works available are the Weird Western collection with co-author Bill D. Allen titled *THREE ACES FROM SATAN'S HAND* and the horror anthology *DEATH IS ONLY SKIN DEEP* with Tim W. Burke and Allison Stein. Both are available online, so get crackin' as they won't last long!

Sherri has long referred to herself in the third person, the 'royal we,' if you will, as the Queen of the Flying Monkeys for years and has recently earned the title of The Feisty Mistress of Fear. (If you've met her you already know. If not, do so and

BUY HER STUFF!) In addition to commanding her monkey minions (and a chameleon named Kharma) she likes shiny presents and hearing from fans on Facebook, Twitter and the upcoming website. Now, go forth and make with the monkey adoration! She needs praise, lie if you must.

SEAN DEMORY's an author living in Kansas City, Missouri. His short story, "The Ballad of the Wayfaring Stranger and the Dead Man's Whore" was recognized in Locus Magazine's Recommended Reading List for 2012 and was an Honorable Mention for "Best Horror of the Year – Volume Five." Sean is publishing two novellas, "Box Man" and "Green Man Blues," on Beyond – Stories.com and is working on "Conjure Summer," his next novel.

BRADLEY DENTON's first professional story was published in *THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION* in 1984, and since then he's published dozens more stories and five novels. His work has been nominated for the Hugo,



Nebula, Stoker, and Edgar awards, and has won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award, the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award, and the World Fantasy Award. His latest book, **SERGEANT CHIP AND OTHER NOVELLAS**, will be published by Subterranean Press on May 31, 2014. When not writing, Brad manages the career of Bland Lemon Denton, the World's Oldest (and Worst) Bluesman.

KARIN RITA GASTREICH lives in Kansas City and in Costa Rica. Her publications include the fantasy novels **EOLYN** and **HIGH MAGA**, as well as the short story "Creatures of Light", all from Hadley Rille Books. An ecologist by vocation, Karin is an associate professor of biology at Avila University, and a recipient of the Andrews Forest Writer's Residency. She coordinates the blog *Heroines of Fantasy*, dedicated to lively discussions of fantasy, science fiction, and historical fiction, with a focus on women in genre fiction. You can visit Karin at <http://heroinesoffantasy.blogspot.com> or at <http://eolynchronicles.blogspot.com>

DEB GEISLER is a somewhat boring college professor from Boston, Massachusetts. She is an occasional convention runner, has read SF/F all of her life, loves living in the future, digs Kansas City (although she has been a St. Louis Cardinals fan since 1981), and has the coolest, most loving husband on this or any other planet.

She doesn't collect anything interesting – save for wicked awesome friends.

CHRIS GERRIB's novel, *Pirates of Mars*, came out from Hadley Rille Books in February, 2012. He admits to being a bit obsessed with Mars, but in a healthy way. Chris still has a day job as the IT director at a Chicago-area bank, and holds degrees in history and business from the University of Illinois and Southern Illinois University. He also served in the US Navy during the First Gulf War, and can proudly report that not one Iraqi MiG bombed Jacksonville, Florida while he was in the service. In his copious free time, Chris is a past President of and currently active in his local Rotary club.

JULIANNA GITCHELL currently residing in OKC with husband, Geoffrey Gitchee, our two kids and a puggle.

JUDE-MARIE GREEN writes speculative fiction, and has recently been published in *Penumbra*, *The Colored Lens*, *Perihelion*, and Hadley Rille Books' forthcoming anthology, *World Jumping*. She has edited *Abyss & Apex*, *Noctem Aeternus*, and *10Flash Quarterly*. She attended Clarion West 2010 in Seattle, and currently lives in San Diego. More recently, she won the Speculative Literature Foundation's 2013 Older Writers Grant. <http://judemarie.wordpress.com>

SANDRA "CAT" GREENBERG, (formerly Morrese) has appeared in Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Fantasy Magazine*, the DAW anthologies *Sword and Sorceress XI* and *Four Moons of Darkover* and the SFWA

Bulletin. She's run Writer's Workshops at Archon and taught creative writing in Missouri and Maryland. For most of the last 15 years, she's also been the advertising director for the SFWA Bulletin and is the Public Relations chair for Archon. In addition to fiction, Cat also writes songs with her husband, Bari, who she performs with, and together they are half of the filk band The Unusual Suspects. The band's first CD, *Accidental Filk Band*, came out in 2012 and Cat and Bari's duet CD *Romancing the Filk* was released last November. They own Mountain Cat Media LLC, a recording and design studio.

BARI GREENBERG is an engineer by trade but a Bard at heart. He is part of the St. Louis filk band, The Unusual Suspects along with his wife and songwriting partner, Cat Greenberg, Valerie Ritchie (Cat's daughter), and their friend Mark Ewbank. The band's debut CD, *Accidental Filk Band*, came out in fall 2012 and Bari and Cat's duet CD, *Romancing the Filk*, was released last November. He is co-owner of Mountain Cat Media LLC, a recording and design studio.

BLAKE HAUSLADEN Armed with an English degree from Ripon College and an MBA from Chicago's Stuart School of Business, Blake has enjoyed a sixteen-year career in the shadowed back-office realms of the financial industry. He currently works in Chicago and writes in his free time. His second novel *Native Silver* is being released on May 22nd.

MYSTIE/JAMES HOLLAMAN

My name is Mystie or James, depending on what I am wearing. James is a writer and artist for Yard Dog Press. He can provide odd thoughts or just a different way of looking at the world. You can usually find him some where in the convention by looking for him and the smoking jackets he wears. Mystie usually comes out to play in the evening and loves to hang around and talk with her friends. Tho she is starting to come out more and more. We are both known for running Room Con, a convention with in a convention. (held in a room on Saturday night at ConQuest) Don't be afraid to stop and talk if you want. And don't forget to come to Room Con and see Bland lemon and the Honey Badger play the night away.

AARON HOLLINGSWORTH

Born and raised in the Jefferson County, Missouri area, Aaron Hollingsworth moved to Kansas where he spent most of his 20s making music, studying kung fu, and compiling his literary ideas. In his late twenties he moved to Kansas City, Missouri where he now lives with his wife and two sons. Mr. Hollingsworth has self-published one novel so far; a science fantasy entitled "Four Winds – One Storm: The Bone Brick City". It's sequel, *The Geohex of Wraith County*, is due out in late 2014. Aaron also writes short fiction.

RICH HORTON is a Software Engineer for the Boeing Company in St. Louis, MO. He is also a longtime SF reader who has been writing

reviews and essays for places like Locus, Black Gate, and others since the late '90s, and he is the editor of The Year's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy from Prime Books as well as such other anthologies as Superheroes and the upcoming Space Opera.

AMANDA HOWER (BIRKS) started out in 1990 as a costume apprentice at the Kansas City Renaissance Festival where she learned how to research clothing styles and create patterns based on pictures from a variety of resource materials. It came quite naturally that in the spring of 2001 that she should turn her sewing and design skills into a full-time career. She took her last \$200,

bought as much fabric and buttons as she could afford, borrowed a digital camera and computer from her brother, made a few pirate coats and listed them on eBay. She had enough money left over after paying bills to purchase more fabric and continued to sell on eBay for the next eight years, shipping to places as remote as Norway and Australia.

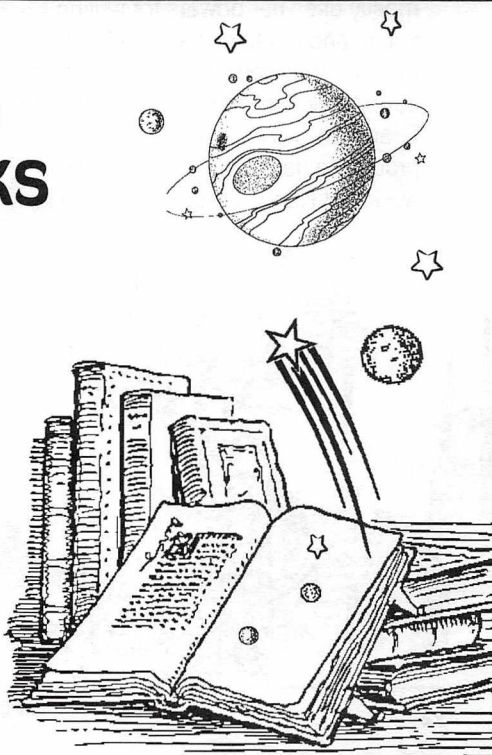
CHRIS HOWER is a long time Doctor Who fan and first time panelist. He lives in Blue Springs Missouri along with his wife and 3 children, where he works as an at home supervisor for a major computer company. He is also Chief Marketing Officer for Psi Phi Studios, Kansas City's premiere affordable custom costume and



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KIJ JOHNSON is a writer of speculative fiction and a winner of the Hugo, Nebula, and the World Fantasy Awards. She has a short story collection and three novels, and a lot of short stories. She's currently an assistant professor in the Department of English at the University of Kansas, and the associate director for the Center for the Study of Science Fiction.

VICTORIA L'ECUYER has a BA in English. She also builds imaginary world, grows galaxy-large socio-political entities, practices Math for Evil Geniuses, and blows theoretical objects up for fun and profit. She mostly uses her powers for writing fiction and crafting, because taking over the real world involves too much paperwork. Her work appears in "The Grantville Gazette." When she's not practicing her evil genius skills, she works for Kansas State University as

the Space Coordinator and disaster first responder.

LAURA LEHEW is the author of a full-length book of poems, two chapbooks, numerous articles and more than 450 poems in *Anobium*, *Filling Station*, *Ghost Town*, *The Inflectionist Review*, *PANK*, *Slice and Spillway* among others. She facilitates two poetry critique groups, steers the Lane Literary Guild and is an active volunteer for the Oregon Poetry Association having held positions as President, Contest Chair and Cascadia editor, a student award anthology. She interned for, and is a former board member, of *CALYX Press*, an independent press focused on nurturing women's creativity. Her small press *Uttered Chaos* focuses on publishing poetry chapbooks, books and anthologies. She received her MFA from the California College of Arts. Laura knows nothing of gardens or gardening but is well versed in the cultivation of cats. Her poems are everywhere (www.lauralehew.com/ www.utteredchaos.org).

JAYMES LOGAN is a fiction writer and online movie and comic book critic. He has one published science fiction novel, "The Girl With 7 First Names." Jaymes runs *Geekvolution* on YouTube, a hub of daily review and discussion videos about all things geeky, focused primarily on comics and superheroes. Online, he's known as Captain Logan. Among other shows, Jaymes hosts a series called *Superhero Rewind*, narrative analyses on every superhero movie ever made.



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Rates valid until 13 July 2014. † Family is 2 adults and 2 children. In memoriam.
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So far, he's produced well over 100 episodes. He's also been running a regular Star Trek club in the Kansas City area since 2003.

ANGELA LOWRY is an Oklahoma artist painting and drawing and owns Angel Arts Studio. Angela works her brush on Science fiction, fantasy, and realism. She has Classical, Fantasy, Cyberpunk influences. Attending her first convention in Tulsa at 15, she publishes with several game companies, book publishing and attends conventions. She does illustration, murals, portraits, and other fine art. Art is available at <http://angelarts.4t.com> and eBay seller jforehand, galleries at Angel Arts Studio on Facebook.

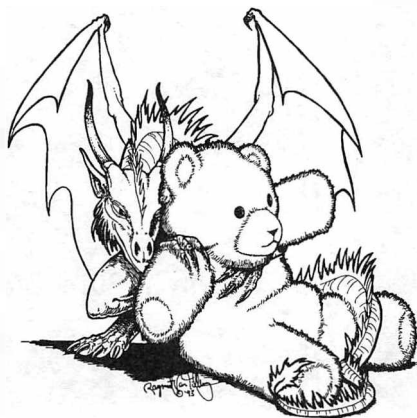
JULIA S. MANDALA holds degrees in history and law, and is a copy editor, scuba diver, underwater photographer and belly dancer. Her novels *The Four Redheads: Apocalypse Now!* and *Redheads in Love* (with Linda L. Donahue,

Rhonda Eudaly and Dusty Rainbolt) and *House of Doors* (part of *Double Dog #5*) are available from Yard Dog Press. Her works also appear in *Witch Way to the Mall* and *Fangs for the Mammaries* (edited by Esther Friesner), *The Four Redheads of the Apocalypse*, *Dracula's Lawyer*, *A Bubba in Time Saves None*, *International House of Bubbas*, *Houston, We've Got Bubbas* and *Flush Fiction* (from Yard Dog Press). (www.juliasmandala.com)

KD MCENTIRE is the author of the *LIGHTBRINGER* trilogy and several short stories.

MARCY MCNEAL After 20 years of fandom, starting at age 18 at *DemiCon* in Des Moines, IA. Marcy brings con-experiences to life with story telling and laughs.

CHRISTOPHER MCKITTERICK's poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and other short works have appeared in a diversity of publications. His debut novel, *Transcendence*, is available from *Hadley Rille Books*; he recently finished *Empire Ship*, and has several other books underway, including the YA trilogy, *The Galactic Adventures of Jack & Stella*. Chris teaches SF and writing at the University of Kansas, gives regular talks, directs the Center for the Study of Science Fiction (sfcenter.ku.edu), and serves on the jury for the Campbell Memorial Award for best SF novel. Visit Chris at christopher-mckitterick.com, Facebook, Google+, Tumblr, or Twitter.



DAVID MEANS has been a regular attendee of conventions on the central and southern plains for over thirty years, including ConQuesT for much of that time. David spent most of the 1980's working on various Oklahoma conventions such as OKon, SoonerCon, and ConTest, but has now become active in several other hobbies, including genealogy, board gaming, and Scottish/Celtic history.

In "real life" David has focused his career on writing software for flight simulators, both civilian and military. He and his lovely wife Marisa make their home in the wilds of Kansas City north of the river, where they are giving a fannish upbringing to their offspring, Maura and Iain, who are -- in point of fact -- The Most Attractive and Intelligent Children in the Whole World (as certified by a panel of their grandmothers).

MARISA D. MEANS -once described as "a real hoot", she has calmed down considerably. Marisa has been a fan of science fiction a loooooong time (she blames her older brothers - for a lot of things but this is what she is willing to share at the moment). She lives in Kansas City with her spouse: David Means, their two teenaged children (when did that happen?!?) and two cats Tiger and Malcolm (3 guesses who he is named after...!)

AMY J. MILLER Master Costumer, Tolkien geek, anime nut, Star Trek trivia aficionado, playwright/fan fiction author, voracious reader of dragonless fantasy/scifi and all around lover of things small and furry (not to mention things tall, hot and ripped)

TIM MILLER has been active in D/ FW fandom for more than 25 years, going to his first SF convention in 1988. Since then he has worked on too many conventions to count and has attended even more. He is one of the founders of FenCon in Dallas and is chairing it this year. In addition to his work with FenCon, he is on the board of InterFilk and has been on staff of several recent Worldcons and this year's NASFiC. 10 years ago he built a full size Dalek named Joe that lives in his front room.

PAULA HELM MURRAY's stories have appeared in *Sword and Sorceress IV and VIII*, *Spells of Wonder*, *MZB's Fantasy Magazine* and *Eldritch Tales*. By day she works for a large government agency. She is currently working on a big fat fantasy series. She lives in Kansas City with her spice, Jim and Margene, and the cats. Especially the Amazing Ripley.

TRUDY V MYERS has been writing since the fourth grade. When she took early retirement from her day job, she decided writing would be her next career. She has four fantasies available on smashwords.com, and a continuing SF/romance at www.MacOnFireball.blogspot.com. She currently lives in Omaha with her husband, their younger son, the family dog, thousands of books and hundreds of pieces of artwork.

R. L. NAQUIN is an urban fantasy novelist and short story writer. She writes the *Monster Haven* series for Carina Press.



Boston in 2020

Christmas Worldeon Bid*

Have you heard that New Zealand is thinking about running a Worldeon in 2020?

Why go to the beautiful beaches of New Zealand when you can enjoy the icy shores of Boston in December?

Why enjoy the landscape that was used in such films as *The Lord of the Rings* when you can enjoy the scenery used to produce *Cheers*?

Enjoy the wonders of Boston during Christmas! Freezing temperatures! Ice! Snow! Psychotic drivers! Boston has all of that and more!

So, choose Boston over New Zealand (www.nzin2020.org) when deciding where to go for Worldeon in 2020.

Bid's Moral Compass: Christopher J. Garcia (Head Muckety Muck). **Bid Committee:** Rick Carson (I'm Batman), Norman Cates (Grand Poobah), Jesi Lipp (Top Banana), Tim Miller (Big Cheese), Helen Montgomery (Head Honcho), Barbara VanTilburg (Kingpin), Leane Verhulst (Official Guilty Party).

*World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldeon", "NASFiC", "Hugo Award", and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

The Fine Print: No shirt, no shoes, no service - pants optional. Objects in mirror may be closer than they appear. Machine wash cold, lay flat to dry. Do not dry clean. Eat your vegetables. Do not run with scissors. We're gonna party like it's 1999. Love is a battlefield. Edited to fit your screen. If you keep making that face, it'll freeze like that. Not suitable for anyone. Free toy inside! Do not pass Go, do not collect \$200. A sucker is born every minute. What could possibly go wrong!

* Not a real bid. This is only a test. If this had been a real bid, you would have been instructed on how to give us all your money. This concludes this test of the Emergency Worldeon System.

MID-BOOK PUZZLE PAGE

W Y M O O R S R E L A E D Y T Y T G K C
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ALIEN
ARTSHOW
ASIMOV
BOOKS
BUFFY
COMICBOOK
CONQUEST
COOK
COSTUMING
CURIOSITY
DEALERSROOM

DOCTORWHO
DRAGON
EDITOR
FANTASY
GARRETTPI
GUESTOFHONOR
HEINLEIN
JOSSWHEDON
KACSFSS
KLINGON LANDRY
LIGHTSABER

MASQUERADE
MILITARYSF
NOIR
OFFWORLD
OPPORTUNITY
PANCAKE
PANELIST
QUIDDITCH
SCIENCE
SCIFI
SCULPTURE

SPECTOR
STARTREK
THEAVENGERS
TOMOMATSU
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Artwork by Lar de Souza



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Rachel believes in pixie dust, the power of love, good cheese, lucky socks and putting things off until the last minute. Her home is Disneyland, despite her current location in Kansas. She has one heroic husband, two grown kids, a crazy-cattalady starter kit, and an imaginary dog named Waffles. She doesn't have time for a real dog.

NANCY NUTT In her time in Fandom, Nancy Nutt has filled just about every role at science fiction conventions and the local science fiction club, Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy (KaCSFFS) except for treasurer. That time has encompassed more than 30 years. Discovering fandom in 1978 she just missed both the Kansas City and St. Louis World Cons in that decade but decided that vacationing at WorldCons and the local conventions was a thing that should be done. She's recently devoted a lot of time to creating swell fiber stuff that has appeared on Reddit, in New York Fashion Week shows and the movies (look for the binary Christmas stocking in Iron Man 3-that's hers). She'll be wandering the halls with her trademark laugh and share her opinions with any that enjoy good conversations that range from serious to silly. Check out her fiber art in the Art Show. It could change your plans for Halloween.

KERI O'BRIEN is a local Graphic Designer and a graduate from the University of Kansas. When she isn't attending, planning, and designing for various conventions, she can be found at her laptop watching more TV and movies than she cares to

admit and reading the blogs of her favorite authors. She likes to joke that, like many of her generation, she grew up online. She also designed the program book you are currently reading, so feel free to send her feedback at kericanfly@gmail.com.

MARK OSHIRO mixes textual analyses, confessional blogging, and humor while discussing and dissecting popular media, mainly in the sci-fi/fantasy genres. He's covered Firefly, Doctor Who, His Dark Materials, Battlestar Galactica, Buffy/Angel, The Hunger Games, and, most famously, Harry Potter. He runs a vibrant community, self-publishes his reviews as books, and is destroyed by fiction on a daily basis. His sites were nominated for a Hugo in the Fan Writer category in 2013.

DAVID J. PEDERSEN is a native of Racine, WI who resides in his home town Kansas City, MO. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He has worked in sales, management, retail, video and film production, and IT. David has run 2 marathons, climbed several 14,000 foot mountains and marched in Thee University of Wisconsin Marching Band. He is a geek and a fanboy that enjoys carousing, picking on his wife and teenage kids, playing video games, and slowly muddling through his next novel.

SELINA ROSEN's stories have appeared in several magazines and anthologies. Her twenty-one published books include How I Spent

the Apocalypse, Queen of Denial, Black Rage, Jabone's Sword, and It's Not Rocket Science: Spirituality for the Working-Class Soul. She owns Yard Dog Press and created their Bubbas of the Apocalypse universe.

SUSAN SATTERFIELD is the author of a number of published short stories including "The Lady Killer" and "Sweet Teddy" appeared in an anthology entitled *Small Bites*, which was a benefit for author, Charles Grant. Her poem entitled "The Hunger: A Zombie Poem," appeared in October, 2009 in an anthology titled *Vicious Verses and Reanimated Rhyme* from Costcom Entertainment. Her latest story, "A Bad Case of the Munchies," appears in the Yard Dog Press anthology *I Should Have Stayed in Oz*. She has a number of writing projects on (and sometimes

under) the table. She lives in Lee's Summit with her extended family including five dogs, one tough black cat, and assorted fish.

BRYAN THOMAS SCHMIDT is an author and editor of adult and children's speculative fiction. His debut novel, *The Worker Prince* (2011) received Honorable Mention on Barnes & Noble Book Club's Year's Best Science Fiction Releases for 2011. His first children's books, *102 More Hilarious Dinosaur Jokes For Kids* and *Abraham Lincoln: Dinosaur Hunter--Land Of Legends* released in 2012 and 2013. His short stories have appeared in magazines, anthologies and online. He's edited several anthologies, including *Beyond The Sun* (2013), *Raygun Chronicles: Space Opera For a New Age* (2013),

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Gaslamp Terrors (2014) and Shattered Shields (forthcoming, Baen, 2014) and is working on several more. He hosts #sffwrtcht (Science Fiction & Fantasy Writer's Chat) Wednesdays at 9 pm ET on Twitter.

DEANNA SJOLANDER After attending Seton Hill University and attaining her degree in Writing Popular Fiction, Deanna Sjolander spent a few years researching different pursuits (also known as reclaiming a life post grad work!). Deanna is currently working on several projects including her time travel romance, Sophie and the G-Man, and a YA adventure sci-fantasy. Deanna was a contributing writer and co-editor to the Hazard Yet Forward Anthology and is an editor for Dog Star Books in addition to her free-lance work. Deanna is also a contributing writer for Inveteratemediainjunkies.com where she writes about beer, cosplay, geeky crafts and anything else that sparks her fancy.

J. DANIEL STANFIELD (Dr. Stan) is a retired U.S. Army officer. After wearing stripes for many years, he received his commission and held a wide variety of Intelligence and Electronic Warfare positions. During his military career, he had the great honor and privilege to lead soldiers, serve in the Fifth Special Forces Group, with Navy SEAL Team 5, and as a Strategic Intelligence Officer for the Supreme Allied Commander Europe. He holds a Masters of Science and Doctorate in Business Administration, and has a passion for the arcane subjects of organizational design, grand strategy

and decision-making. He currently lives nears Omaha with his wife Christine and their pets.

ALLISON STEIN is an artist, author, TV addict, geek princess, and cat servant — not necessarily in that order. When not painting, writing, updating her social media status, or serving as cat furniture, she hoards art supplies and practices Advanced Google-Fu. Her short fiction appears in several Yard Dog Press anthologies (I Should Have Stayed in Oz, A Bubba In Time Saves None, Houston We've Got Bubbas, and Flush Fiction) as well as Death Is Only Skin Deep from NobleFusion Press and A Horror A Day: 365 Scary Stories from Barnes & Noble Press.

Look for her art in the art show, at AllisonStein.com and on the covers of several books from Yard Dog Press, NobleFusion Press, and KaCSFFS Press. Allison is a founding member the NobleFusion writers' collective and volunteers as webmaster and/or social media marketer for several genre-related organizations.

HENRY G. (H.G.) STRATMANN, MD has been a cardiologist for more than 31 years. Before entering private practice he performed clinical medical research and became Professor of Medicine at St. Louis University School of Medicine. He has authored or coauthored some 70 publications in medical journals, primarily in the field of nuclear cardiology. Henry is a regular contributor to Analog Science Fiction and Fact, including over 30 stories and science fact articles.

DR. JEAN STUNTZ is a Professor of History at West Texas A&M University. She has read SciFi/Fantasy since childhood and started attending cons in the last millennium. She published *The Alamo and Zombies with Yard Dog Press* after winning one of their contests. In real life she teaches history, takes care of her cats, makes wine, and knits.

PATRICK STUTZMAN began his writing career by joining the freelancer pool for *Wizards of the Coast*. Under the leadership of Rodney Thompson, Patrick proved himself to be a professional designer with his work for the *Star Wars Roleplaying Game, Saga Edition* product line. His credits include a total of 5 books, both official Gen Con adventures for the *Saga Edition* rules, and several articles for *Wizards' Star Wars RPG* website

After Patrick finished his work on the *Star Wars RPG* product line in 2009, he decided to turn his attention to his own projects, resulting in his first novel, *Alone on the Edge*. He has since completed two more books to create *The Chronicles of Anna Foster* series and is currently working on the fourth book of the set as well as a new series set in the same universe.

MARK W. TIEDEMANN began publishing science fiction stories professionally after attending the *Clarion Workshop* in 1988. He has subsequently published over 50 short stories, numerous reviews and essays, and 10 novels. *Compass Reach* was shortlisted for the Philip K.

Dick Award in 2002 and *Remains for the James Tiptree Jr. Award* in 2006. As well, he served on the board of the *Missouri Center for the Book* for 9 years, 5 as president, during which time he served in the creation of the *Missouri State Poet Laureate* post. He is a lifelong resident of St. Louis. For over 35 years he worked as a photographer. An amateur musician, he has occasionally performed in public. He now works for *Left Bank Books* and is represented by the *Donald Maass Literary Agency*.

MARIA WATSON's interest in science fiction goes all the way back to when *Dr Who* had a scarf. Her love for the arts goes beyond writing to photography and music. She has had the opportunity to travel as a vocalist and classically trained violinist in style's ranging from the contemporary to mariachi. Her first novel *The Covering* is based completely on a dream.

BRETT WILLIAMS is the author of *High Octane Damnation*, *Family Business* and *Legend of Kill Creek Woods*. A member of the *Horror Writers Association*, this multi-genre author writes horror, crime, fantasy, erotica, and anything else he damn well pleases. His short stories have appeared in *Thuglit*, *Delirium Books' Horrorwired Vol. 1*, and *Fifty Shades of Decay*, to name a few. He lives in Kansas with *Eddie Blue*, a *Jack Russell terrier*.

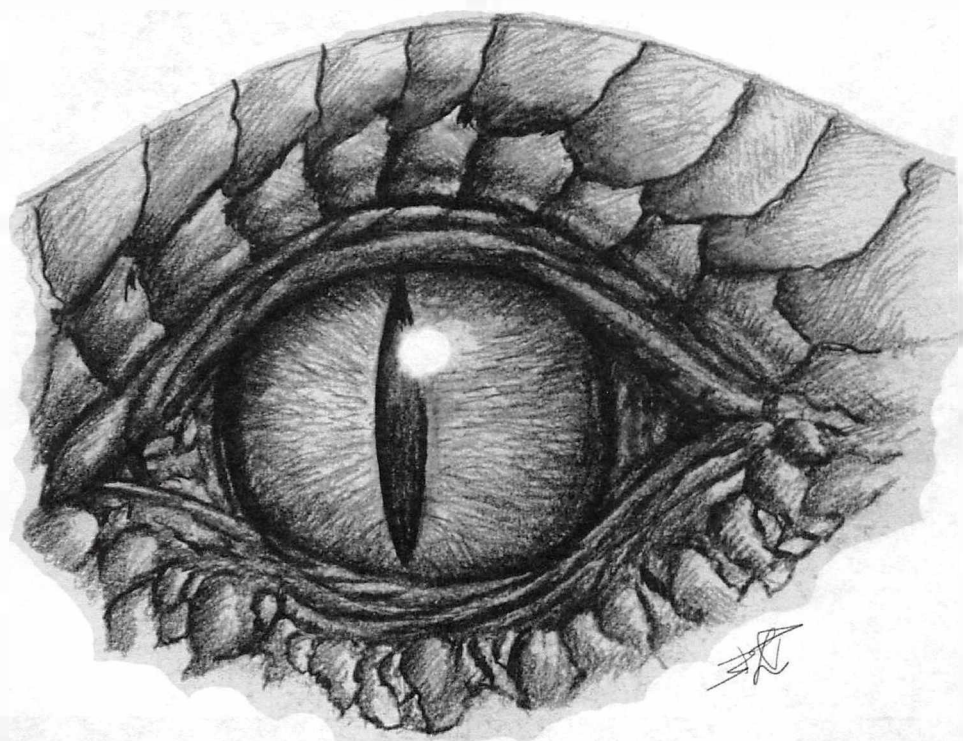
DENNIS YOUNG's writing experience began somewhere around the third

grade and has continued since, finding an outlet for his imagination in the world of fanzines and fan literature.

Working in the international construction trade, he continued his craft in technical writing, business plans, and other professional works for over 30 years. In the early 2000's The Ardwellican Chronicles took form, and in 2006 published his first book, *Secret Fire*, followed by *Dark Way of Anger*, the second in the series. *Secrets of the Second*

Sun was released in 2010 and *Book Four, Kaanan's Way*, in 2012. His mantra is "Working on The Ardwellican Chronicles and Hope I Live Long Enough to Finish".

With stories of family relationships and blood-oaths taking precedence over all, The Ardwellican Chronicles offer stirring tales of high adventure and challenges to test the mettle of the bravest souls and spirits.



David Lee Pancake



PROGRAMMING

Sorted Alphabetically. For Times and Locations consult your pocket program.

2-D MEDIUM: 3-D ART

Jan Gephardt demonstrates her current techniques for creating paper sculpture, from idea to finished piece. Paper is the ultimate 2-dimensional object. See how Jan gets it to leap into the third dimension and do special tricks. • **Jan Gephardt**

AGING FANDOM

No one is getting any younger some of us continue to live it up while others slow down. What are the challenges facing us both as individuals and collectively as the years go by? Some older fans worry about turning over fandom to the younger generations. Some of us just don't know what the kids are into and want to keep up. How do we bridge that generation gap, groom young fans into fandom leaders, and keep track of the explosion of new things? • **Sherri Dean (M), Paula Helm Murray, Susan Satterfield, Ty Gephardt**

ALIEN ARTIFACTS

Several authors are given a series of ordinary objects, and one by one they have to explain what alien culture the object is really from and what the purpose is. • **Ty Gephardt (M), Bari Greenberg, Jude-Marie Green, Patrick Stutzman**

ARE THERE TOO MANY STRONG WOMEN?

There's a lot of talk about strong female characters in SF/F. But where are the other women? If the women are always physically strong and kicking ass, are we really representing women accurately in our writing? Are women just being shoehorned into another impossible mold? Do our women in SF/F represent the same varied roles we see men filling? • **Karin Gastreich (M), Aaron Hollingsworth, Bridget Landry, K.D. McEntire, Zo Allen**

BASIC INTRODUCTION OF COPPER FOIL STAINED GLASS

Panel will cover how to create a pattern, cut glass, foil, and solder. Glass cutting and foiling will have hands on demonstration. • **Julianna Gitchell**

BATMAN VS. SUPERMAN

An exploration of the current overwhelming popularity of Batman, why he's so much bigger than Superman these days, and why he's the center of the universe in DC Comics these days. This would include conversation about these characters in all facets of culture, comics, movies, television, etc. • **Jaymes Logan (M), Caroline Spector, Dr. Stan**

**BEER AND FANDOM:
A LOOK AT THE BEERS
YOU CAN FIND IN THE
GREATER METRO KC AREA**

We've had several new microbrews open in the KC area. Have some locals share where to go for local "fresh made" beer. • **Carol Doms (M), Barry Haldiman, Jim Murray**

**BEST NEW SF&F AUTHORS
OF THE 21ST CENTURY**

Who are the best authors to have joined the genre since 2000?

• **Chris McKitterick (M), Bradley Denton**

BOOKS BELONG TO...

This panel sets out to discuss whether books belong to their authors or to the readers. At the end of the day, does the opinion of the author trump the reader's interpretation? Or is it that once a book is complete, readers may construe it how they like. • **Holly Messinger (M), Angela Lowry, Deb Geisler, Keri O'Brien, Rob Chilson**

BOOKS, BOOKS EVERYWHERE

For those fans who are having trouble finding their bed, fridge, pet, etc. because they are running out of space to store their books, this panel explores how others have solved the dilemma of storage and organization of large book collections. • **Margene S. Bahm (M), Allison Stein, Marlsa Means, Susan Satterfield**

**BRINGING REALITY TO
FICTIONAL WORLDS**

Battle axes don't weigh 20 pounds. Rocket ships don't instantly crash when you turn off the engines. A writer can break the illusion by getting something wrong, even in speculative fiction. How to make your fictional worlds seem realer-than-life by getting these things right. • **Dennis Young (M), Claire Ashgrove, Mark W. Tiedemann, The James K. Burk**

**BRITISH SF TELEVISION:
WHY ARE THEIR PROGRAMS
SO GOOD?**

From Doctor Who to Red Dwarf to Primeval, SF programs on British TV have been good. Why is that? • **John Shoberg (M), Allison Stein, Maria Watson, Nancy Nutt**

**BUILDING A FICTIONAL
WORLD IN WRITING**

How does one go about creating a world for novels that will be acceptable and accepted by the reading audience?

• **Dennis Young (M), Gera Dean, Laura Hawks, Patrick Stutzman, The James K. Burk**

CASSINI

Bridget Landry will do a presentation on the Cassini spacecraft that she worked on at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Cassini-Huygens is an unmanned spacecraft that was sent to Saturn system. • **Bridget Landry**

CLOSING CEREMONIES

Another year down. What does the future hold for Conquest 46? • **Glen Cook, Caroline Spector, David Lee Pancake, Bridget Landry, Ray and Barbara VanTilburg, Jesi Pershing, Kristina Hiner**

CONCERT

LadyCat & Barigato of The Unusual Suspects – Songs of science fiction and fantasy, love, life and space craft, or just plain whimsy. • **Bari Greenberg, Cat Greenberg**

CONQUEST IDOL

Do you like to sing? Enjoy Karaoke? Want to be the next

fannish idol? The join us for the **Fifth Annual ConQuest Idol!** To participate join us for rehearsal on Friday evening to select your song from our selection of Karaoke CD's and have a chance to practice. Remember, song selection is always important. • **Sherri Dean**

CONQUEST IDOL PRACTICE

Sign up and practice to compete for the title of ConQuest '45 Idol. Practice session is mandatory to compete in main event. • **Sherri Dean**

CONTAMINATING OTHER WORLDS

NASA verified that thermophilic geobacillus hitched a ride to

"Please allow me to introduce myself..."



Amanda Hower (CEO) started out in 1990 as a costume apprentice at the Kansas City Renaissance Festival where she learned how to research clothing styles and create patterns based on pictures from a variety of resource materials. She continued to be an active participant at the festival, creating outfits for peasants and nobles alike. It came quite naturally that in the spring of 2001 when she found herself out of work and in danger of losing her home that she decided to turn her sewing and design skills into a full time career.

She took her last \$200, bought as much fabric and notions as she could afford, borrowed a digital camera and computer from her brother, made a few patterns and assisted them on eBay. The response was more than she could have hoped for. She had enough money left over after paying bills to purchase more fabric and continued to sell on eBay for the next eight years, shipping to places as remote as Norway and Australia.

Over the last five years or so she has been getting more requests for costumes from more recent eras as well as the science fiction genre. With such a variety of custom costuming options, she was getting lost on eBay so she launched her own website in June, July 2012.

<http://www.costumecreations.com>



816.269.4932
105 SE Princeton Place
Bus Springs, MO 64014
mistressofthethreads@costumecreations.com
www.psihcreations.com



Psi Phi Studios

Custom Costume Design

Affordable pricing

Amanda Hower
Mistress of the Threads

Mars. How much cost should we incur to ensure we do not bring a piece of ourselves to other worlds where there might be native life, even if it's just bacteria? • **Victoria L'Ecuyer (M), Chris Gerrib, Dennis Young**

COSTUMING FROM THINGS YOU FIND AT HOME

Can't sew? Have no money? You can still costume from the things you find in your closet and possibly the closet of your roommates, family and friends, plus a few things from the kitchen and garage. This panel will help you create costumes that are no-sew and no or little cost. Amanda Hower, Mistress of Threads from Psi Phi Studios and the rest of the panel will show you how. • **Amanda Hower (M), Bridget Landry, Marcy McNeal, Zo Allen**

COSTUMING/COSPLAY ON A SHOE STRING

This workshop would deal with costume design from the ground up – picking patterns, cutting and creating costumes, presenting the costume in cosplay or masquerade. Thrift store costuming would also be discussed and a power point and notes along with actual costumes would be provided showing costumes from various science fiction/fantasy and paranormal genres – literally as well as anime and TV/movie. We would also talk about props and presenting your costumed character. • **Coyote**

CREATING STONE FINISHES

Demonstration on creating stone finishes like malachite, agate, marble, etc. • **Angela Lowry**

CRYPTOGRAPHY AND STEGANOGRAPHY

Cryptography is the process of transmitting information securely in the presence of adversaries. Different forms of cryptography are used as just about every level on an internet connection. There are tons of important and relevant concepts right now, including cryptocurrency (like Bitcoin), Silk Road, and the NSA. Steganography (not Stenography) is the similar, related field of transmitting information without adversaries noticing. It includes concepts like digital watermarking and metadata. The material would be presented at a broad level to introduce the basic concepts without too much detailed math. Attendees will get a better idea of how real-life cryptographic systems work and understand what fictional concepts are plausible. • **Steven Davis (M), Dr. Stan**

DAWN

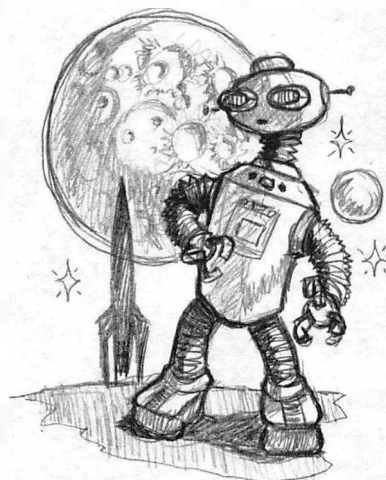
Bridget Landry will do a presentation on the Dawn spacecraft that she worked on at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Dawn is a space probe that was launched by NASA in September 2007 to study the two most massive objects of the asteroid belt – Vesta and Ceres. • **Bridget Landry**

DC VS. MARVEL SUPERHEROES ON TELEVISION AND SCREEN

Man of Steel vs. Thor, Justice League vs. Avengers, Arrow vs. S.H.I.E.L.D. Both companies are throwing their biggest and brightest heroes at the multimedia dartboard. Come discuss the hits and misses of past, current, and upcoming television shows and movies! • **David Pedersen (M), Dr. Stan, John Shoberg, Robin Wayne Bailey**

DESIGN YOUR OWN BOOK COVER (CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING)

Bring your favorite book, your own short story, or just an idea and we will help you create a book cover. Using craft supplies and our imaginations, we will create book covers you can take home to wrap your favorite books. We will take a look at popular book covers and learn more about what grabs people's attentions. • **Keri O'Brien**



DESIGNING FANTASY ANIMALS AND MONSTERS

When it comes to fantasy animals and monsters, the sky is really the limit. But if you want a believable animal or monster from a biological standpoint, here are some ideas to consider.

• **Kij Johnson (M), Kathleen Collins, M.C. Chambers, R. L. Naquin**

DIGGING UP THE EARTH

Hypothesis: At some point in the not-too-distant future, Earth is abandoned, due to plague, global warming, zombies or whatever. Centuries beyond that, alien xeno-anthropologists arrive to investigate a particular site – perhaps Worlds of Fun. What would they actually find as they dig down to expose it and what do they THINK they've found? • **Trudy Myers (M), Aaron Hollingsworth, Angela Lowry, M. C. Chambers**

DISNEY AS COLLECTIVE MYTHOS

It is often said that films reflect the time in which they were created. This panel will discuss how Disney films exhibit cultural attitudes over time, ranging from the portrayal of female characters to the representation of villains.

• **Keri O'Brien (M), David Means, Laura LeHew, R. L. Naquin**

A Strong
Foundation



A Brilliant
Future

DC17

A Bid for the 75th Worldcon
August 16-20, 2017
Under One Roof At
The Marriott Wardman Park
Washington, DC

www.DC17.org



DO WE NEED PAPER BOOKS?

A discussion of the future of paper books versus electronic books. What qualities make paper books better for some books? •

Margene S. Bahm (M), Blake Hausladen, Brett Williams, Claire Ashgrove, Maria Watson

EDITORS ARE NOT THE ENEMY

What editors do, why it matters to writers, and why writers should consider them an asset not an enemy. •

Bryan Thomas Schmidt (M), Claire Ashgrove, Deanna Sjolander, Rich Horton, Selina Rosen

EMBROIDERY DEMO

Learn the different kinds of stitches for costumers. •

Victoria L'Ecuyer

FANTASY DUCT TAPE PROJECTS

Anyone from 5 to 500 (When you reach this old, look as good will you not?) is welcome to join. Start with an idea and choose from provided materials to make a crown, sword, fairy wand, shield or whatever you dream up – your only limit is your imagination! •

Sherri Dean

FIGURINE SCULPTURE DEMONSTRATION

Sculptor David Lee Pancake will give a figurine sculpting demonstration. He will show how to construct a wire armature for the human figure and the application of polymer clay. He will use a variety of techniques to apply textures and detail to

the sculpture. David has been sculpting for 20 years in a variety of mediums and invites artist, hobbyist, and art admirers to come and learn about the sculpting process. •

DAVID LEE PANCAKE

FINDING YOUR AUDIENCE

You've just finished writing the best book on intergalactic cats in space and have independently released it into the wild. Now what do you do? What are the best ways to find and keep your audience when publishing indie novels? •

David Pedersen (M), Brett Williams, Cat Greenberg, Patrick Stutzman, Selina Rosen

FUNCTIONAL NERDS

The term "functional nerd" has been used to describe a new generation of fans. As the pursuits (comic books, RPG's, video games, SF&F books, etc...) become hipper and hipper, the culture of fandom is changing to encompass newer and different members. How is fandom evolving? What will it look like in 5 years? 10? •

Ty Gephardt (M), Marisa Means, Nancy Nutt, Tim Miller

GAME OF THRONES

A look at seasons 1-3 of the Game of Thrones •

Margene S. Bahm (M), Caroline Spector, Zo Allen

GENETIC MANIPULATION AND MADE-TO-ORDER SPECIES: BIOTECH IN SF

Can science fiction serve as a means of learning and as

an example of the possible pitfalls of genetically modifying technologies? Is this really a brave new world? • **Holly Messinger (M)**, **H. G. Stratmann**, **Jude-Marie Green**, **Victoria L'Ecuyer**

GLEN COOK INTERVIEW

Bryan Thomas Schmidt interviews Glen Cook, ConQuest's author guest of honor

GOVERNING THE SOLAR SYSTEM

A few centuries from now, humans will be occupying dozens of planets/moons and thousands of space habitats. What sorts of governments will these far-flung settlements have? Will there be a system-wide government? If so, what will it look like?

• **Jan Gephardt (M)**, **Chris Gerrib**, **H. G. Stratmann**, **Rob Chilson**, **Victoria L'Ecuyer**

GREAT SFF FILMS YOU ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVEN'T SEEN

The many new options for home viewing have greatly increased the availability of any number of obscure, independent, and foreign films available to anybody willing to risk a journey off the beaten path. • **Robin Wayne Bailey (M)**, **Julia S. Mandala**, **Ken Keller**

HADLEY RILLE BOOKS: SMALL PRESS, BIG PLANS

Founded in 2005 by Eric T. Reynolds, Hadley Rille Books is Kansas City's own small press specializing in science fiction,

fantasy, and historical fiction. Meet our authors and learn about the trials and triumphs of small press publishing. Snacks will be provided, and attendees can participate in a book giveaway. For more information about Hadley Rille Books, including a complete listing of our titles, visit hrbpress.com. • **Karin Gastreich (M)**, **Chris Gerrib**, **Christopher McKitterick**, **M. C. Chambers**

HISTORICAL REALITY IN FANTASY

Why have castles in the same world as dragons? How would having magic actually affect a feudal society? What roles would sorcerers really occupy in such a world? • **M. C. Chambers (M)**, **David J. Pedersen**, **Dennis Young**, **Mark W. Tiedemann**, **The James K. Burk**

HOBBIES AS RESEARCH

The best way to write about something is by attempting to do it. But the problem with doing as research is that it can be easy to let the research



take over the story. How do we balance the story with the fun factoids and tidbits we learn while doing things we plan on incorporating into our novels? How does doing it ourselves lend authenticity and credibility to the story? Great for novelists and editors. • **Deanna Sjolander (M), Gera Dean, Patrick Stutzman, The James K. Burk**

HOW MANY DOCTORS?

"The Day of the Doctor" raised an interesting question: With the addition of John Hurt's War Doctor, does the number of Doctors change? Does the Doctor get any more regenerations? • **Mark Oshiro (M), Allison Stein, Tim Miller**

HOW TO GET KIDS INTERESTED IN SF

Discuss how to get high school students interested in literary science fiction and widen their exposure beyond Twilight and The Hunger Games. • **Marisa Means (M), Deanna Sjolander, Julianna Gitchell, Tim Miller**

HOW TO SCARE YOUR READER

What techniques can you use to write dark fiction? How do you scare the pants off your reader while keep them turning the pages? • **Susan Satterfield (M), Brett Williams, Robin Wayne Bailey, Sean Demory**

THE HUGO AWARDS

The Hugo nominations were recently announced. This panel

will discuss the works/people nominated for Hugos – audience participation encouraged. • **Holly Messinger (M), Kij Johnson, Paula Helm Murray, Rich Horton**

I MARRIED A WEREWOLF: PARANORMAL ROMANCE

Why have vampires, werewolves, and zombies become the subject of romance? • **Kathleen Collins (M), Claire Ashgrove, Kathleen Enfranca, Zo Allen**

I WAS A TEENAGE WRITER

Published authors will bring their cringe-inducing writing from when they were in high school. • **Blake Hausladen (M), Kathleen Collins, Selina Rosen**

INTO DARKNESS: HORROR AND DARK FANTASY

Who's doing great work with horror and dark fantasy right now? Where are the best places to find and read these works? • **Brett Williams (M), K. D. McEntire, Robin Wayne Bailey, Sean Demory**

IS THE APOCALYPSE SUCH A BAD THING?

Examine the tradition of post-apocalyptic literature and ask if the world ending can ever be seen as a positive result. • **Dr. Stan (M), Blake Hausladen, Caroline Spector, Jude-Marie Green**

IT'S A BLING THING

I'll be happy to run a workshop/program item for girls (or more than one, and perhaps divided

by age) on how to make jewelry. If you'd like this, just let me know by late April, so I can make sure to get the supplies. • **Deb Geisler**

JEDI ACADEMY

Bring your Padawans for a session of training and fun! Each youngling will receive a light sabre, lessons in the ways of The Force, an opportunity to hone their skills and ends with an all-out battle for the galaxy! • **Sherri Dean**

KID'S READING: BRYAN THOMAS SCHMIDT

Children's author Bryan Thomas Schmidt reads from his chapter book series ABRAHAM LINCOLN DINOSAUR HUNTER, a humorous, action adventure, alternate history for all ages.

KLINGON CULTURE

An overview of the vast diversity and richness that is Klingon heritage. • **John Shoberg (M), David J. Pedersen, Jaymes Logan**

KLINGON HOL 201: CURSES

A brief overview of the art of cursing in the Klingon language with an emphasis on pronunciation. • **John Shoberg**

LIARS PANEL

Moderator 'interviews' panelists who tell outrageous lies about what they're working on, past works and even who they are! • **Caroline Spector (M), Bradley Denton, Dr. Stan, Robin Wayne Bailey, Selina Rosen, Sherri Dean**

LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS

Quite a few planets have discovered outside our system. Have you ever considered what life might be like on one of those? Examples include the planet that has no sun, a planet in a system with four stars, a planet where one side always faces its sun. • **Trudy Myers (M), Chris Gerrib, H. G. Stratmann, Rob Chilson**

LOOKING BACK ON BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

What made Buffy special and how does it hold up today? • **Mark Oshiro (M), Keri O'Brien, Sherri Dean**

MAKING COSTUMES FOR A LIVING

Mistress of Threads from Psi Phi Studios chief Amanda Hower will discuss finding customers, researching characters, tracking expenses/income, finding patterns, time management. • **Amanda Hower (M), Coyote**

MARK READS BAD FANFIC

Come listen to Mark read his favorite bad fanfic. • **Mark Oshiro**

MARS RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER

Bridget Landry will do a presentation on the Dawn spacecraft that she worked on at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter is a multipurpose spacecraft designed to conduct reconnaissance and exploration of Mars from orbit. • **Bridget Landry**

MEDICINE AND SCIENCE FICTION

How has medicine influenced science fiction? How has science fiction influenced the development of new technologies in medicine?

• **Margene S. Bahm (M), H. G. Stratmann, Jude-Marie Green**

MEMORIAL FOR WILLIAM TIENKEN

An informal memorial for William Tienken a long time member of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society. Come and share your memories of William.

• **Ruth Lichtwardt, Jim Murray**

MILITARY FANTASY

What is it? Who's writing it? How does it differ from high fantasy? What are some examples?

• **Bryan Thomas Schmidt (M), Dr. Stan, Glen Cook, Kij Johnson, Robin Wayne Bailey**

MILITARY SF: REALITY VS. WRITING

How different is the current military from the fictional? Does it matter? • **Dr. Stan (M), Chris Gerrib, Don Mull, Glen Cook**

MISS UNDERSTANDING'S OPEN FORUM ON MANNERS FOR GEEK CULTURE

Ask her panel of experts anything about uncomfortable social issues facing geeks in social situations.

• **Caroline Spector (M), Bradley Denton, Deb Geisler, Janice Gelb, Marcy McNeal**

MOLD MAKING AND CASTING FOR ART AND COSTUMING

Panelist will discuss or demonstrate various mold making and casting techniques. Materials and sources will be revealed. • **David Lee Pancake**

MYSTERY, CRIME AND SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

Detective Stories have long been an aspect of science fiction/fantasy. We have examples including Isaac Asimov's Robot Detectives, Randall Garrett's Magical Detectives, more recently China Mieville's murder in a parallel city, Chabon's alternative Alaska. From vampire assassins to wizard private eyes to undead thugs, crime has been mixing it up with science fiction and fantasy for years.

• **Sandra Levy (M), Bradley Denton, Brett Williams, Claire Ashgrove, Mark W. Tiedemann**

NATIVE AMERICAN ANCESTRY

I was taught in school that the Native American ancestors came here on the Bering Land Bridge during an ice age. Another theory says that the ancestors came from Europe, possibly on small boats. Supporters of both beliefs say they have DNA evidence to support their theory. How can this be? • **Trudy Myers (M), H. G. Stratmann, Jude-Marie Green**

NOVEL BEER

Our favorite characters like a sudsy glass of brew now and

then from George RR Martin and Ommegang Brewery to Harry Potter and Butterbeer (what IS it exactly) to writing about beer in your own novel. We can talk about the basics of brewing and the different styles of beer in addition to the impact of beer on literature and the writer! Great for brewers, writers, fans, and drinkers. • **Deanna Sjolander (M), Jim Murray, Ty Gephardt, William McCullough**

NOVELS YOU SHOULD HAVE READ LAST YEAR

Panelists will share their favorite novels from the past year. •

Chris McKitterick (M), Julia S. Mandala, Robin Wayne Bailey

OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome to ConQuest! Join us as we bring you up to speed on this years Con! • **Glen Cook, Caroline Spector, David Lee Pancake, Bridget Landry, Ray and Barbara VanTilburg, Jesi Pershing, Kristina Hiner**

OPEN FILKING

Hosted by LadyCat & Barigato – Join us for a Bardic Circle – play, sing along or just listen. • **Bari Greenberg, Cat Greenberg**

PAPER MACHE SCULPTURE DEMONSTRATION/WORKSHOP

Sculptor David Lee Pancake will give a paper mache sculpting demonstration. Audience members will be invited to help construct a large dragon head. David will show how you can produce fine texture

with nothing more than paper, water and flour. Paper mache can also be used in costuming. David has been sculpting for 20 years in a variety of mediums and invites artists, hobbyists, and art admirers to come and learn about the sculpting process. • **David Lee Pancake**



PET CARE

Join Sherri Dean and the other panelists as they discuss the challenges of having furry, scaly, or feathered companions. Sherri Dean has been a veterinary technician for 20+ years and will bring her years of experience to the panel regarding the care of various companion animals. • **Sherri Dean (M), Selina Rosen, Signy Gephardt, Susan Satterfield**

QUEER EYE FOR SCI-FI

Mark Oshiro will moderate a panel on the experience of being a science fiction fan who is also queer. The discussion will cover works that have attracted many queer/gay fans, characters that are beloved, and how the

science fiction community can accommodate and attract more fans along the queer spectrum. • **Mark Oshiro (M), Ben Thomas, Mystie, Selina Rosen**

QUIDDITCH, PODRACING, AND BROCKIAN ULTRA CRICKET: SPORTS IN SF/F

The stereotype: nobody in fandom likes sports. However, competitive games figure into many science fiction and fantasy stories (Quidditch, anyone?). Let's consider why this doesn't translate into real-world sports fandom. • **Beth Welsh (M), David Means, Deb Geisler**

REAL ANIMALS IN A FANTASY WORLD

Whether the animals are characters or part of the context of a good story, what do you need to know to "get it right"? • **Jan Gephardt (M), Blake Hausladen, Dennis Young, Laura LeHew, Signy Gephardt**

REIMAGINING THE FAIRY TALE

When did the victim become the hero? Films like *Snow White and the Huntsman*, *Red Riding Hood* and the newest trend in fantasy films. • **Julia S. Mandala (M), K. D. McEntire, Susan Satterfield**

RESEARCHING HISTORY THAT NEVER HAPPENED

A discussion of alternate history fiction from an author's point of view. How do authors go about researching the complexities of history? • **The James K. Burk (M), Aaron Hollingsworth, Bradley Denton, Dennis Young**

SCI-FI TRIVIA TOURNAMENT

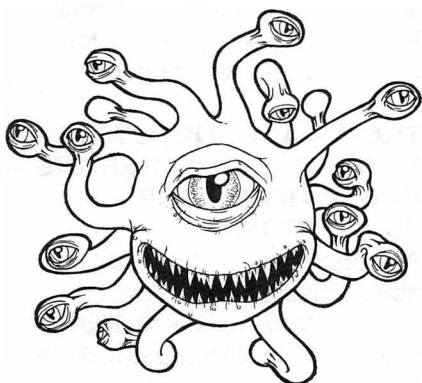
A two hour multi-media trivia tournament covering sci-fi and science fantasy on screen – trivia about *Trek*, *Dr. Who*, *Star Wars*, *Stargate*, etc. The entire audience will be able to participate and there will be prizes and a trophy. • **Jaymes Logan**

SELF-EDITING 101 FOR WRITERS WITH FINISH THE STORY

Editorial team Bryan Thomas Schmidt and Claire Ashgrove discuss tips for basic editing of manuscripts, how to get perspective, common issues, and more. • **Bryan Thomas Schmidt (M), Claire Ashgrove**

SELF-PUBLISHING – TAKING THE LEAP!

Considering self-publishing your novel? It isn't as easy as publishing a book and reaping the royalties,



nor is it for every author. Discover pros and cons of the Indie market, tips to launching a successful book, and whether you're prepared for the business demands. • **Claire Ashgrove (M), Brett Williams, Bryan Thomas Schmidt, Karin Gastreich, Sean Demory**

SOLVING FOR WHY

Writers' block hits all sorts of writers at all sorts of levels. At the core of each episode, though, is resistance. This panel should help writers and other creative types discover not only what the block is, but why they're blocked, and give tools to understand and handles the resistance that blocks them from being creative. Based on techniques from *The War of Art* by Steven Pressfield and *Page After Page* by Heather Sellers • **Gera L. Dean**

SPACE OPERA: MORE THAN MIND CANDY

What is space opera? Is it just for entertainment or does it discuss socially relevant issues? • **Jan Gephardt (M), Chris Gerrib, David Means, Rob Chilson, Victoria L'Ecuyer**

SPECNOIR

Speculative fiction and noir mix particularly well in many subgenres and forms. What is noir and what are some examples of who's writing what and good reads out there? • **Bryan Thomas Schmidt (M), Glen Cook, Mark W. Tiedemann**

STAR WARS EPISODE VII: A NEW-NEW HOPE OR MORE METACHLORIANES?

J.J. Abrams and Lawrence Kasdan's screenplay for "Star Wars: Episode VII" is complete. Disney has announced their intent to clean house on the extended universe, and plans on releasing Star Wars movies at a steady pace. Is Star Wars returning to its roots, or treading dangerous waters? Join us on the dark side as we discuss what's been announced, rumored, our greatest hopes, and our worst fears. • **David Pedersen (M), Mystie, Patrick Stutzman**

STORY IN A BAG

Write a story in an hour! Draw random plot and character elements out of a bag and be creative! • **Noble Fusion**

TEA

• **Herbal Alchemy**

TEACHING SF

Discussion on science fiction in the classroom from middle school through college. • **Chris McKitterick (M), Deb Geisler, Gera L. Dean, Kij Johnson**

THANK GAWD FOR NETFLIX: LITTLE KNOWN SF&F SHOWS, NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOUR VIEWING

An opportunity to share and talk about lesser known SF&F TV shows & Movies, fans should look for. • **Carol Doms (M), Beth Welsh, Robin Wayne Bailey**

THE ART OF ADAPTATION: DIFFERENT MEDIA, DIFFERENT APPROACHES

Many movies are based on novels, short stories, or comics. What are the different ways movies approach their source material?

How does the approach to "Cloud Atlas" differ from that of "The Hobbit", or differ from that of "Game of Thrones"? How about "The Avengers" vs. "The Dark Knight" vs. "The Watchmen"? • **Julia S. Mandala (M), Mark Oshiro, Robin Wayne Bailey**

THE BASIC SHAPES OF COSTUMING

You know the basic shapes from Geometry, come learn how to break down ANY costume into its shapes, analyze materials needed, draft the needed patterns correctly and Voila! You're ready for The Masquerade! • **Amy Miller**

THE BEST COMICS YOU'RE NOT READING

Suggestions from a panel about current great comics people should be reading that they might not know about, be they off-the-beaten-path stuff published by the big companies or independent and underground books. Each panelist will bring single issues or trade paperbacks to show the audience. • **Jaymes Logan (M), Mystie, Robin Wayne Bailey**

THE BUSINESS OF ART

There is more than one way to make a living pursuing a career of art. This panel will explore ways

to use social media, conventions, festivals and networks to sell your artwork. We will also discuss the pitfalls of beginning artist • **David Lee Pancake (M), Allison Stein, Angela Lowry, Barb VanTilburg**

THE CHANGING FACE OF FEAR

What makes us afraid? How do culture and environment influence our perception of fear? • **Brett Williams (M), K. D. McEntire, Sean Demory, Sherri Dean**

THE DOCTOR OVER THE YEARS

Who was the most influential Doctor? Who was your favorite doctor? Do you prefer the old series or the new one? The Kansas City Time Lord Society will answer these questions and more. • **Emily Bennett (M), John Shoberg, Mark Oshiro, Ron Nicholas, Tim Miller**

THE FIRST, MIDDLE AND LAST(?) CHRONICLES OF THOMAS COVENANT, THE UNBELIEVER

From "Lord Foul's Bane" to "The Last Dark", after thirty plus years of writing, Mr. Donaldson is finally done! Brilliant? Dreck? Scream at the page in frustrated horror as the characters yet again and again internalize their dialogue? Come visit The Land, laugh with The Giants and be reminded just what a sweeping fantasy epic really is all about. • **Amy Miller**

THE FUTURE OF COMIC BOOK MOVIES

A panel about upcoming superhero and comic book films. A speculative discussion of yet-to-be-released movies like Superman/Batman in 2016 and Avengers 2, and how the panel feels about the overall direction these franchises are headed in. • **Jaymes Logan (M), Dr. Stan, Mystic**

THE FUTURE OF VIDEO GAMING

From biometrics to immersive VR, how technology is changing and what that means for interactive entertainment. • **David J. Pedersen (M), Patrick Stutzman, Ty Gephardt**

THE GALACTIC ADVENTURES OF JACK & STELLA

Reading from his new (and hopefully complete!) young-adult SF novel, "The Galactic Adventures of Jack & Stella."
• **Christopher McKittrick**

THE HOBBIT: THE JOURNEY THUS FAR

A discussion of Peter Jackson's latest installment of The Hobbit Trilogy, the successes, the missteps and just how f'king cool was Smaug! • **Amy Miller (M), David Means, Mark Oshiro, Paula Helm Murray**

THE ROLE OF THE COMPANION

Discussion of the effect of the Doctor's companions. They

change the Doctor and influence our view of him. Who was the most influential companion? Join the discussion with the Kansas City Time Lord Society. • **Emily Bennett (M), Chris Hower, Mark Oshiro, Ron Nicholas, Tim Miller**

"THE SECRET OF STEEL" FACTS & MYTHS (OR JUST ANOTHER SWORD PETTING ZOO)

We're going to discuss different types of steels, the advantages and disadvantages to each, their strengths and weaknesses, and best applications, as steel pertains to bladed weaponry. We'll even answer the question, "Which is (currently) the best steel?" • **F. L. Zacarola**

TOUGH WOMEN: HEROINES AND VILLAINS

Tough women abound in genre. Let's talk about our favorite heroines, villains, anti-heroines, and everyone in between. • **Karin Gastreich (M), Blake Hausladen, Julia S. Mandala, K. D. McEntire, Selina Rosen**

URBAN FANTASY VS. PARANORMAL ROMANCE

What are these two sub-genres of speculative fiction and how are they different? What are the best books/series for new readers? • **Holly Messinger (M), Claire Ashgrove, Kathleen Collins, K. D. McEntire, Zo Allen**

URBAN FANTASY: FAIRIES AROUND EVERY CORNER

Vampires, gods and monsters, and more, the supernatural can be found in the most unlikely of urban locations. • **Kathleen Collins (M), K. D. McEntire, R. L. Naquin**

WHAT MAKES A HERO/ HEROINE?

A discussion of what defines heroism today and what qualities we want to see in our heroes and heroines that make them heroic. And how are definitions evolving in the modern age. • **Bryan Thomas Schmidt (M), Dennis Young, Gera Dean, Kij Johnson**

WHAT'S NEW IN ANIME SCI-FI

A look at what's new in Sci-Fi anime • **Amy Miller**

WHAT'S NEW ON TELEVISION

A look at the new SF/F/ horror shows on television • **Julia S. Mandala (M), Marcy McNeal, Nancy Nutt**

WHEN HISTORIC FIGURES MEET SF/F PLOTS

Take a historical figure and juxtapose them with a fantastic setting or plotline and see how things shape up. So far, it's met with wild critical success, but for how long? • **Jude-Marie Green (M), Blake Hausladen, Julia S. Mandala**

WHERE HAS ALL THE HARD SF GONE?

The shelves are full of fantasy, zombies, vampires, etc. Is anyone

writing Hard SF anymore? • **Carol Doms (M), Chris McKitterick, Rich Horton, Rob Chilson**

WHY SCI-FI AND FANTASY ART?

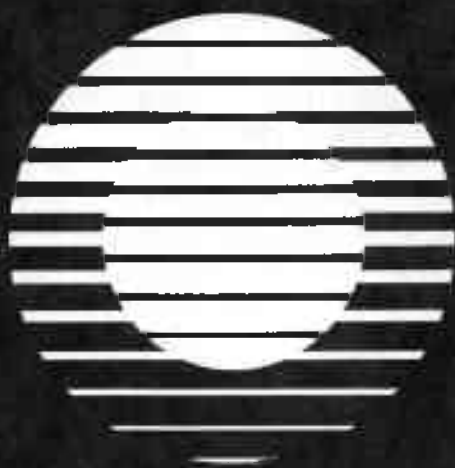
Panelists will discuss why they are attracted to fantasy and science fiction art and the philosophy behind their art. How this type of art is viewed by the art world in general and ways to present scifi and fantasy art beyond fandom and why this might or might not be important. • **David Lee Pancake (M), Allison Stein, Angela Lowry, Jan Gephardt, Ray VanTilburg**

WOMEN OF ANCIENT AND MIEVEAL TIMES

History can inspire the strangest of fictions. On this panel we'll talk about our favorite historical personalities and how they've inspired, or could inspire, fictional characters in fantasy, science fiction, and horror. In keeping with the mood of the con, noir will be the focus, bringing to the forefront (in) famous figures such as Catherine de Medici, Lucrezia Borgia, and the Tigress of Forli. • **Karin Gastreich (M), Claire Ashgrove**

WRITING FOR YOUNGER AUDIENCES

Writing for adults and writing for YA, MG and Children differ. Authors and Editors discuss the differences, the approaches, and fine examples. • **Bryan Thomas Schmidt (M), Chris McKitterick, Deanna Sjolander, K. D. McEntire**



KaCSFFS

The KC Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, Inc.

Founded in 1971, KaCSFFS (pronounced "kax-fuss") has long promoted science fiction, fantasy, and speculative fiction in all of its many forms, with programs, celebrations, presentations, art shows, and associated small groups that enjoy movies or discuss books.

Dues-paid KaCSFFS members are eligible for discounts at a growing number of local retailers

Every year they produce ConQuest, a science fiction convention on Memorial Day weekend... which is where you got this program book.

Regular Meetings:

We meet every month, usually on the third Saturday, at The Writers Place, 3607 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO, 6:30-about 8:30 or 9 p.m. (watch the blog for up-to-date scheduling information).

READ OUR BLOG: <http://kacsffs.blogspot.com/>

IN MEMORIAM

Dan Adkins
Stuart Andrews
Michael Ansara
Iain Banks
Neal Barrett Jr.
Don Barton
Alexandra Bastedo
Richard Battin
Jon Bing
Karen Black
Pamela Boal
Bob Booth
Fred D. Brammer
Gary Brandner
Michael Burgess
Sid Caesar
Stepan Chapman
Thomas Cockcroft
Richard Coogan
Dominick Corrado
Cal Cotton
A. C. Crispin
Hugh Daniel
Frank Dietz
Roseanne Di Fate
Dennis Dolbear
Ruth Duccini
Bobbie DuFault
Jean Dunnington
David Fairbrother-Roe

Mick Farren
Larry Farsace
Al Feldstein
Joan Fontaine
Janrae Frank
Robert M. Fresco
Marty Gear
Vic Ghidalia
H. R. Giger
Parke Godwin
Jim Goldfrank
Mihail Gramescu
Martin Greenberg
Eleanor Gunderson
Delphyne Joan
Hanke-Woods
Diana Harryhausen
Gary Hayes
Michael Hemmingson
Philip Seymour Hoffman
Bob Hoskins
George Inzer
Larry Ivie
Mike Jelenski
Ericka Johnson
Russell Johnson
David Wayne Keller
Nancy Kemp
Jack A. Kinzler
Joel Lane
Len Leone Sr.
Doris Lessing
Roger Lloyd-Pack
Dot Lumley
Paul Mantee
Lee Marshall
Sarah Marshall
Douglas R. Mason
Richard Matheson
Dan McCarthy
John Mimikos
Bruce Murray
Judi Meredith Nelson
Scott Norton

Philip Nutman
Kate O'Mara
Peter O'Toole
MyrnaSue Parmentier
Bill Patterson
William H. Patterson Jr.
Michael Pell
Blue Petal
Al Plastino
Frederik Pohl
Randy Price
Harold Ramis
Arthur Rankin Jr.
James Rebhorn
Alan Rodgers
David Rogers
Mark Rogers
Mickey Rooney
Joseph Ruskin
Leland Sapiro
Lou Scarborough
Lou Scheimer
Fred Scherer
Lorenzo Semple Jr.
Run Run Shaw
Michael Shea
Lucius Shepard
Elliot K. Shorter
Michael Sinclair
Mel Smith
Ruth Speer
Graham Stone
Bhob Stewart
J.C. Soares
Hal Sutherland
William Tienken
Larry Tucker
Ken Utsui
Jack Vance
Slim Whitman
Colin Willson
Rosemary Wolfe
Saul Zaentz



AUTOGRAPHS

HAVE A GREAT
Summer
- ConQuest

