

CONCAVE 34

February 22-24, 2013
Bowling Green, KY



CONCAVE XXXXIV

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2013

- 12:00 NOON Registration Opens¹
Consuite officially opens
Huxter (Meeting Room) and Art Show Setup
- 5:00 p.m. Approximate Opening of Huxter , Art, Film, & Game Rooms²
- 8:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies
- 11:00 p.m. Registration closes.
- About 3:00 a.m. Bowling at Southern Lanes
- TBA: The pool will be closed only for minimum legal maintenance.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2013

- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Served
- 10:00 a.m. Registration, Art Show, and Huxter Room re-open
- 12:00 NOON Registration closes. Contact staff for Late Registration.
- 2:00 p.m. Concave banquet in the basement room. Banquet tickets are available at registration for \$15 each. Banquet is limited to 30.
- 6:00 p.m. Art Show closes for bidding
- 7:00 p.m. Approximate start of Art Auction
- 8:00 p.m. Evening Meal Served
- MIDNIGHT Informal Poolside Masquerade

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2013

- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Served
- 10:00 a.m. Art Show Checkout - No sales after 11:00 a.m.
- 2:00 p.m. Hotel checkout. Extensions may be available on request.
Gaming Rooms closes
- TBA Huxter Room closes when the last dime is squeezed from the marks.
Dead Dog Party for the survivors.
Volunteers for teardown are invited to the Sunday Night Pizza Orgy.

¹ ALL CONCAVE ATTENDEES WILL BE ID-CHECKED AT REGISTRATION. THOSE 21 AND OLDER WILL BE ISSUED A SPECIAL WRISTBAND. This wristband will be used as proof-of-age at all activities, including room parties. Further proof-of-age may be required by servers at their discretion. Lost or damaged wristbands can be replaced with proof of payment.

² Opening times for these areas is approximate and depend on the speed of setup. Volunteers to speed things up are always welcome. The closing times for these functions are not set and will be determined by the people running them.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be ROOM PARTIES! Look for announcements!

GRUMBLES FROM THE CAVE



Hello Concavers! I find myself sitting in the moment of controlled chaos that is Pre-Concave. Gary has already warned the printers that this is coming late! This is big number THIRTY FOUR! We made it and we are back for another year of the unique experience that is Concave. You may have noticed that we are in the same hotel and yet it is called something new. Alas the Best Western Motor Inn is no more. So we proudly welcome you to the Baymont Inn and Suites of Bowling Green! Of course with the new name will come a few changes; as we mold our selves into one single thought sharing being with the new hotel management there

may be a few new nuances to explore. For example you may notice that there is a whole lotto smoking going on outside! Not tobacco (although that must occur there too) but meat! One of the nuances we are adapting to in our quest for Hotel Singularity is the adaptability available to us without the use of the hotel's kitchen. Don't worry folks we expect to be bringing the best possible experience and our folks are all at the top of their game. If you want to help just sign up in the Consuite.

Like last year we are occupying the Atrium area of the Hotel and calling it the "Concave Village". There you will find all of our vendors, game rooms, the Consuite, room parties, and of course the pool. Then downstairs you will find our magical and exciting Art Show! Come behold these unique treasures and then come back Saturday night to buy them! We will once again offer a limited seating (get them fast folks) banquet in the art auction area at 2pm Saturday to honor our "Troll Slaying" Guests of Honor Drew & Heather Curtis.

We will again be requiring all of our members who wish to partake in adult beverages be carded at registration and wear an armband for the duration of the weekend. Replacement arm bands will be \$40 so don't lose them. This band must be worn at all times and should not be tampered with or shared (we will know if you do). Bartenders in the Consuite and Room parties will be looking for the band before they serve you. Special thanks to all of you who help make this weekend possible year after year with your tireless service and dedication. We rely on you and all our attendees to make this the best darn Relax-a-Con in Kentucky! The kegs and chickens are have been ordered. Refrigeration is in place and the future is so bright for Concave you had better bring your shades!

Now let's get this Concave started!

- CLAUDE MILES

P.S. - I hope you can all truly appreciate my excitement! I try to illustrate this by using a lot of exclamatory punctuation!!!! Just imagine I am yelling any sentence that ends with an exclamation point.

GUESTS OF HONOR: DREW AND HEATHER CURTIS

Making the Internet Safe For Geekdom

Back in the mid-90's Drew and Heather began attending Concave and immediately began to pitch in by providing invaluable support in the art show, taking turns in keeping the art room open and especially with Heather serving as a member of the auction team. Then after a few years, something strange began to happen. A cadre of Drew and Heather's friends began showing up and taking over the middle of the consuite with laptops doing something cryptic through the weekend. Watchers may have thought they were running some sort of networked game because whatever they were doing, they certainly seemed to be having fun! What we didn't know immediately was that what we were seeing was a rare face-to-face meeting of the operatives of Fark.com working on developing the website.

Drew Curtis is the Founder and CEO of Fark.com, the Internet's primary source of news with a comedic twist (not to be confused with The Onion). If you haven't visited Fark.com itself, you should. It is one of the Internet's primary portals to all things Cool and Geeky. It is sort of like a CNN website for only the stuff you really want to know. Forget politics and economic reporting, OK, there sections for politics and business, but it's the snarky and amusing sort of stories. Fark just doesn't do dull and boring. Fark.com is in the business for bringing smiles to its readers,. Think News of the Weird with a really wide-angle lens and a love of geek themes.

Fark was founded in 1999. Its current readership is 3 million unique hits a month, 55 million page views. Fark's audience is unusual in that it is 90% organic (typed into the address bar or from a favorite/bookmark) - by comparison 30% is considered to be high, 90% is unheard of. Fark has been a category on Jeopardy twice and is mentioned once every 1-2 days somewhere in mainstream media on a regular basis.

Drew has appeared on every major media news channel and show, both radio and TV, including Wait Wait Don't Tell Me, The Bob and Tom Show, and John Stossel. He is the author of It's Not News It's Fark: How Mass Media Tries to Pass Off Crap as News, a book which accidentally nailed exactly how mainstream media is wasting our time with junk news filler.

Drew spoke at TED last year on his experience fighting off a patent troll attack (not to be confused with the more harmless hall troll variety). Patent trolls are companies that exist only to buy up patent rights with no intention of ever practicing the technology that is covered. Instead they sue companies that are actually Doing Something with patent infringement lawsuits hoping to collect a settlement to make them go away. Patent trolling is one of the most insidious forms of legal protection racketeering on the planet. Most of their targets simply pay them to go away rather than fight it out



in court. Not Drew. He took on a patent troll who was threatening Fark.com and won not only the patent infringement claim, but additional damages for harassment and filing a frivolous lawsuit! The resulting highly positive response from his talk has prompted Drew to start a company in the next few

weeks that attacks and destroys patent trolls for fun and profit. He refers to this new company as a 'Patent Goat'.

Drew has been a Concave attendee since 1996 and one year had to do so sober. His therapy resulting from that event is ongoing. We like to think that Concave taught Drew and Heather a bit about running conventions because in the first week of April, they will be heading to New Orleans for the third annual Fark Party. This members-only event sounds a bit like Concave when you read about it on the website:

The last few years we've put together shows, but a lot of people didn't feel that the show was crucial to the party, so we're trying something a little different. This year, we're just going to invade Bourbon Street, including a Saturday night at a venue right on Bourbon Street where we'll have our own party including an open balcony on the avenue. There will likely be other events mixed in, but it'll be less structured than it was in Vegas to give people more time to enjoy the city with other Farkers. Also, more time to recover from hangovers. That's important.

It has been fun to watch "one of the family" of Concavers rise to success and International recognition over the last several years, so it was with great pride and pleasure that we recognize Drew and Heather as our Guests of Honor at Concave 35!



Care and Feeding of the Baymont Inn

Please treat the hotel with respect! There are some rules we expect all Concave members to respect if we are to get along here.

1. The only smoking areas in the hotel are the front unloading zone and in designated smoking guestrooms.
2. The Lobby / Atrium area and first floor hallways are open to the general public, and occasionally travelers will enter out of curiosity or looking for a room. Please keep activities in the public areas appropriate and considerate of local sensibilities.
3. Since we are now in a larger city the temptation to drive somewhere is greater than it was in Horse Cave. So, it is very important that we all do our best to prevent drinking and driving. The BCPD will be quick to shut us down if we flood the streets of Bowling Green with DUI's! Be your own Police force first and help keep each other out of trouble!
4. Concave is a membership driven convention. The low low cost of our membership is the sole form of revenue that makes this convention happen. So if you see someone without a badge help them to get one or notify Concave staff. This is a **zero-tolerance** issue. If we find you are harboring non-members in your room or sharing your badge then you are out.
5. Don't trash the hotel! There are several trash barrels on each floor and in the atrium area. Please do not allow trash to accumulate in the hallways. The better the job we do in housekeeping, the more welcome we will be next year.
6. Please report spillage and breakage as soon as possible! We understand that accidents will happen, but the sooner we are able to clean up a problem the better!
7. There will be posted notices of Quiet Areas. Please avoid loud talking and hall parties in this area. Many of the convention workers are staying in this area, so unless you like grumpy bartenders, keep the noise down in the designated Quiet Zones.

We hope you all will join us in thanking the staff of The Best Western Motor Inn for agreeing to host this madness. The management is very appreciative of our business, so let's try to deserve their trust! A great way to show your appreciation is to leave a gratuity for the housekeeping staff.

- CLAUDE AND THE CONCAVE COMMITTEE

Stuff and Nonsense in Bowling Green

PROMOTIONS: Although there are literally hundreds of places to eat in Bowling Green a few have gone out of there way to make us feel especially welcome. The Denny's attached to the hotel offers 20% off from 6-9am and 10% off any other time. Show them your Concave badge when you order. The hotel has other promotions with nearby restaurants and stores, so check at Reception for details and suggestions.

ATTRACTIONS: This is Concave! Where could you go that is more entertaining than this?!?! Well, if you must, there are several attractions. BGKY is the Home of the Corvette and hosts the Corvette Museum (I-65 Exit 28). If you are more adventurous Lost River Cave (Cave Mill Rd - 6th light on US 231 - Scottsville Rd, then left) is one of many parks and outdoor areas around the city. Mammoth Cave is up the road 30 miles to the north on I-65. There are two Great Escape (not the comic store!) Theaters on Campbell Ln (8th light to right on US 231, then left).

PARTY SUPPLIES: Well, it's a wet city, so there are liquor stores within walking distance of the hotel. All liquor stores in Bowling Green close promptly at 11 p.m., so plan accordingly. They DO NOT serve people in the checkout line at closing time. Beer, however is sold in groceries until 2 AM Sunday morning.

RESTAURANTS AND SHOPPING: Can be found in abundance on the oh-so-well-planned for growth Scottsville Road. If you need something you can get it , if you can stomach the traffic! We're not kidding - there's everything from new cars to camping gear! Sam's Club, The Greenwood Mall, Best Buy, K-Mart, Kroger and dozens of restaurants are all located between 1-2 miles to the right from the hotel on Scottsville Rd. Turn left 2 miles north on Scottsville Rd to Campbell Lane (Best Buy/CVS on the corners) to find Wal-Mart, Target, Lowes, CVS Pharmacy, Sam's Club, Barnes & Noble, Office Depot and more restaurants and shopping. As far as restaurants, there is everything from Applebee's to Zaxby's waiting for you along Scottsville Rd and Campbell Lane.

FEEDING OUR MACHINES: There are plenty of convenience stores right here at the Exit 22 interchange offering all types of fuel. For those with the required affiliations, Sam's Club and Kroger offer their usual discounts on fuel.

JAIL: Bowling Green, KY has more police per capita than Louisville and Lexington combined, so be aware they are waiting for you. They are dying to show you the accommodations they take such pride in. Seriously, these cops do not play. The city wants our revenue and the Police are there to facilitate this just as much as the hotel. Be safe and DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE!!

CONCAVE 34 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee:

CHAIRMAN: Claude Miles

FACILITIES VC: Brad Hall

REGISTRATION VC: Shawn 'Haunce' Ewing

TREASURER: Gary Robe

CONSULTE: Robert "Apple Pie" Andrews Tonya Miles,
C. S. Lanham

Jim Gaines: **EXEC. CONSULTANT**

Robert "Apple Pie" Andrews: **BANQUET ORGANIZER**

Pat Molloy: **SOFTWARE CONSULTANT**

Douglas Smith: **GAME ROOM**

Trish and James Krog: **ART SHOW**

Claude Miles: **HUXTER ROOM**

Michael Jameson: **LEGAL COUNCIL**

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS:

Isaac Robe: *Bowling Coordinator*

Gary Robe — *Program Book Editor*

Deidre Daniel — *Program Book Artwork*

And Many Thanks To Concave 33 Volunteers

Lisa Barnes

Bill and Fran Bartley

Nathan Byers

Josh Cady

Brad Collins

Heather Curtis

Tank Dozier

Bob Embler

Naomi Fisher

Jim Gaines

Martin and Shannon

Hickey

Elizabeth Hughes

Walter and Joni Hunt

Troy Johnson

Frank and Millie Kaliz

Mark Linneman

Michelle McDonald

Pat & Debbie Minogue

Sherry Norris

Deborah Parrish

Curt and Kim Payne

Mike Pendleton

Charlene Ray

John Ray

Nick and Isaac Robe

Tim Romero

Chris and Jenny Rosser

Ryan Spainhoward

Hawsie Stewart

The Tainted Ones

Beth Tapp

Shataria Thomas

Bill and Bonnie Waedle

BJ Willinger

Joel Zakem

And Apologies to

Anyone Who Was

Inadvertently Missed!

And to all the others not named here who threw room parties and volunteered during the weekend, our deepest thanks and appreciation!

And a very special thanks, to the
management and staff of the



**BAYMONT INN AND
SUITES**