

CONCAVE 43



February 22-25, 2024
Bowling Green, KY

GRUMBLES FROM THE CAVE



Greetings ConCavers!

We are here for ConCave in 2024 to turn it up to 43!!!

This convention is run by a committee of volunteers I can only describe as amazing. They put in so much work to bring things to life for this amazing weekend. Your attendance and the committee of people who run ConCave are what make this event possible every year.

The consuite will still be available with snacks and drinks. There will be food trucks available at meal times with options for gluten free, vegetarian, and carnivore. There is also El Maguey attached at the end of the hotel and many other local options for sustenance.

We will have an in-house security team, so please don't be alarmed when you see security T-shirts. They are here for us and to help ensure our enjoyment is safe and fun.

Volunteers make our world go round. No one person is more important than another. I would like to say thank you to everyone who volunteered last year and helped out! Thank you!!! There was help cleaning off tables, in consuite, bar, and anywhere else help was needed. If you enjoy helping out with food, bartending, art show, a few minutes to help pick up some empty cups lying about, all is appreciated! It makes it a better place for all of us attending. If sign-ups are available for an area, please feel free to sign up! There isn't a sign up for garbage cleanup, but it is up to us as a group to help keep that under control.

We didn't have a clearly visible sign up sheet for consuite last year but that has been fixed.

May this weekend be amazing for everyone! There will be parties!
There will be snacks! There will be costumes! There will be art!
There will be games! Fun will be had!

Colleen Logsdon

GUEST OF HONOR:

KAROL BROWN IS YOUR CON MOM



Karol went to her first con in 1981. Her friend Frank Johnson took her to OctoCon in Sandusky OH and filled her in on the jargon of fandom and what to expect from the weekend. That was 43 years ago.

She doesn't remember the exact year she first came to Concave but it was decades ago at the Park Mammoth. She remembers Wigwam Village (and has visited one in New Mexico as well), the sauna she had to cross the frozen tundra to get to, the fog in the indoor pool (and the moans echoing under the dome). Consuite up the stairs, hucksters under the stairs like trolls. The creepy motel at the bottom of the hill. Why do all

of the overflow hotels look haunted? Horse Cave with Gypsy's Closet and the Bookstore Cafe, and now Bowling Green. She still misses Denny's. Concave has always been one of her favorite cons.

Karol has been on of the most active members of the Cincinnati Fan Group (CFG). For many years she was a hard-working volunteer helping to run the consuite at Midwestcon, the long-running Cincinnati relaxacon which was one of the inspirations for Concave. Karol spent weeks in advance of the con to prepare as well as helping to search for venues for the convention and negotiating with the hotel. A lively consuite is Karol's natural habitat.

Karol has attended most of the Worldcons over the last 50 years as well as regional conventions too numerous to count. She has a huge store of tales about the goings-on at these fannish gatherings and some of fandom's icons like Bob Tucker, Harlan Ellison, Doc Barrett, Howard DeVore, Andy Offutt and more. It's easy to get her spilling the beans of all of these characters.

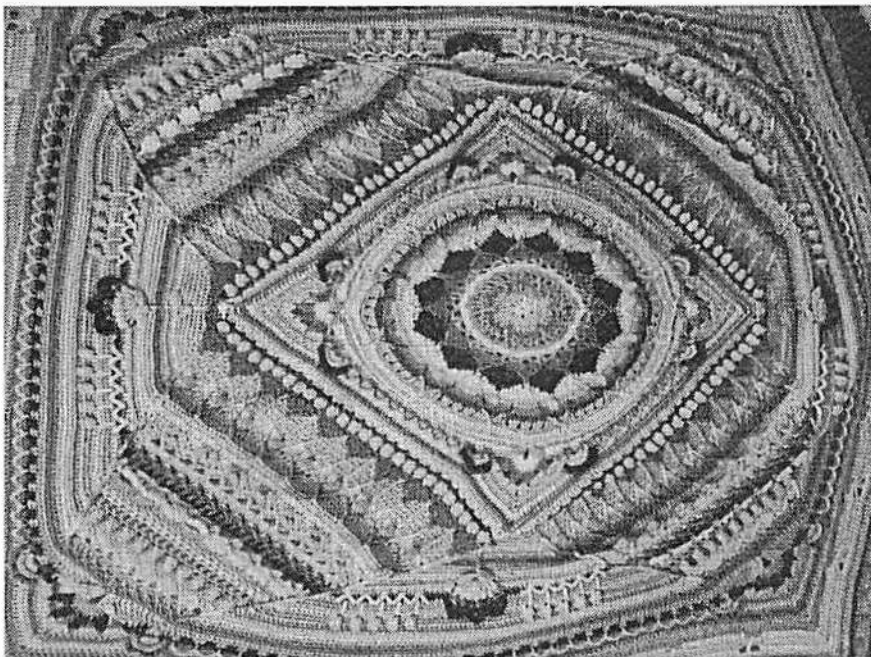
Hanging out around Karol is always an adventure. During the Worldcon in 2019 a group of fans got to see a part of Dublin that's not in any of the guidebooks. As a dinner group started to pay for a late-night meal Karol discovered she had dropped her wallet during the taxi ride from to the Temple Bar district. Google Maps showed the location of the nearest Garda station so the gang took off to report the loss. Lets just say that the people at the Garda station at midnight on a Friday night were colorful. There was a happy ending to the escapade. The next day Karol's wallet was turned in to another Garda station, so

the rest of Karol and JB's Irish vacation was saved. If she had not braved the midnight hike to the Garda station it might not have turned out so well.

Karol's skills as a nurse have been called upon many times at conventions. She has helped fans get through medical emergencies ranging from serious drug reactions to hemorrhaging ulcers, not to mention the various cuts, burns, and minor injuries that happen during a convention weekend. Once a young fan played paintball in the woods at Outsidecon and got covered by dozens of tiny ticks. Karol calmly plucked the offending critters from the young man's tender bits without batting an eye.

Karol is an artist whose chosen media are fabric and yarn. She and Corlis Robe made a hobby of trolling fabric stores for the cheapest, most mind-blowing fabric patterns known to mankind. Karol took these and made the "distinctive" shirts that Gary Robe wore as Concave Chairman for many years. Karol is also an accomplished crocheter. She entered one of the afgans she crocheted into the Kentucky State Fair and won 3rd place!

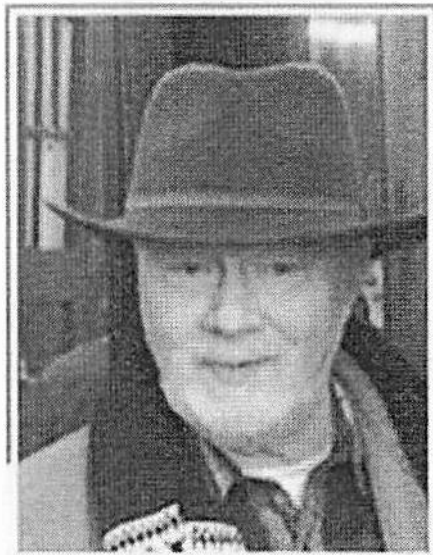
For those looking for more personal info here it comes. She's an Aries, ridiculously intelligent and staggeringly gorgeous, and she raised two daughters coming to con's. She comes as part of a set with her long-time Companion, JB. She was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig disease) last year which is why she's on the scooter. As unlikely as it seems Karol has given up drinking, but that will not stop her from joining in at the parties this weekend. Ask her about fannish lore and convention war stories to get her started and have a great time at Concave this weekend!



Karol's Award-winning Afghan

THE CATALYST – RICKY STEVEN SHEPPARD

NOVEMBER 5, 1953 – APRIL 28, 2023



It is with great sadness that I report here the passing of my great friend Ricky Sheppard at the end of April. Some of you knew Rickey but I can testify that he has touched every one of your lives. I can say with absolute certainty that without Ricky you would not be reading this .

In the mid 70's Ricky was involved with the student government at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green and he managed to get appointed to the University Guest Speaker's Committee. Ricky had an agenda with the committee to get a prominent SF writer to give a lecture. It was not an easy task. Ricky discovered he could influence the group by becoming the swing vote. If the jocks wanted an athletic speaker, he'd vote with them in exchange for a SF speaker.

If the English majors wanted to bring a poet to campus, he'd horse trade with them. In the end, Ricky managed to get Ben Bova to come and lecture. That lecture in the spring of 1976 was the spark that developed into the WKU Speculative Fiction Society that brought me, Pat Molloy, Naomi Fisher, Annette Carrico and others into fandom.

Ricky ran a used book and comics shop, Hard to Find Books, in the 80's. It was there that a young customer was lured into checking out the WKUSFS. Her name was Corlis Finley, who you now know as Corlis Robe. Our wedding in 1988 (with Rickey serving as Best Man) was a fannish gathering that launched what became the Louisville in '94 Worldcon bid. Without Ricky's bookstore to pull Corlis into fandom that meeting might never have taken place.

Ricky was right there when responsibility for running the UpperSouthClave in Bowling Green passed to the Bowling Green fans when Cliff Amos had to bow out of running the convention. That evolved into Concave, which is still running after all these years. Ricky stepped in as chairman for Concave 4 after Pat Molloy passed the torch to him in 1983.

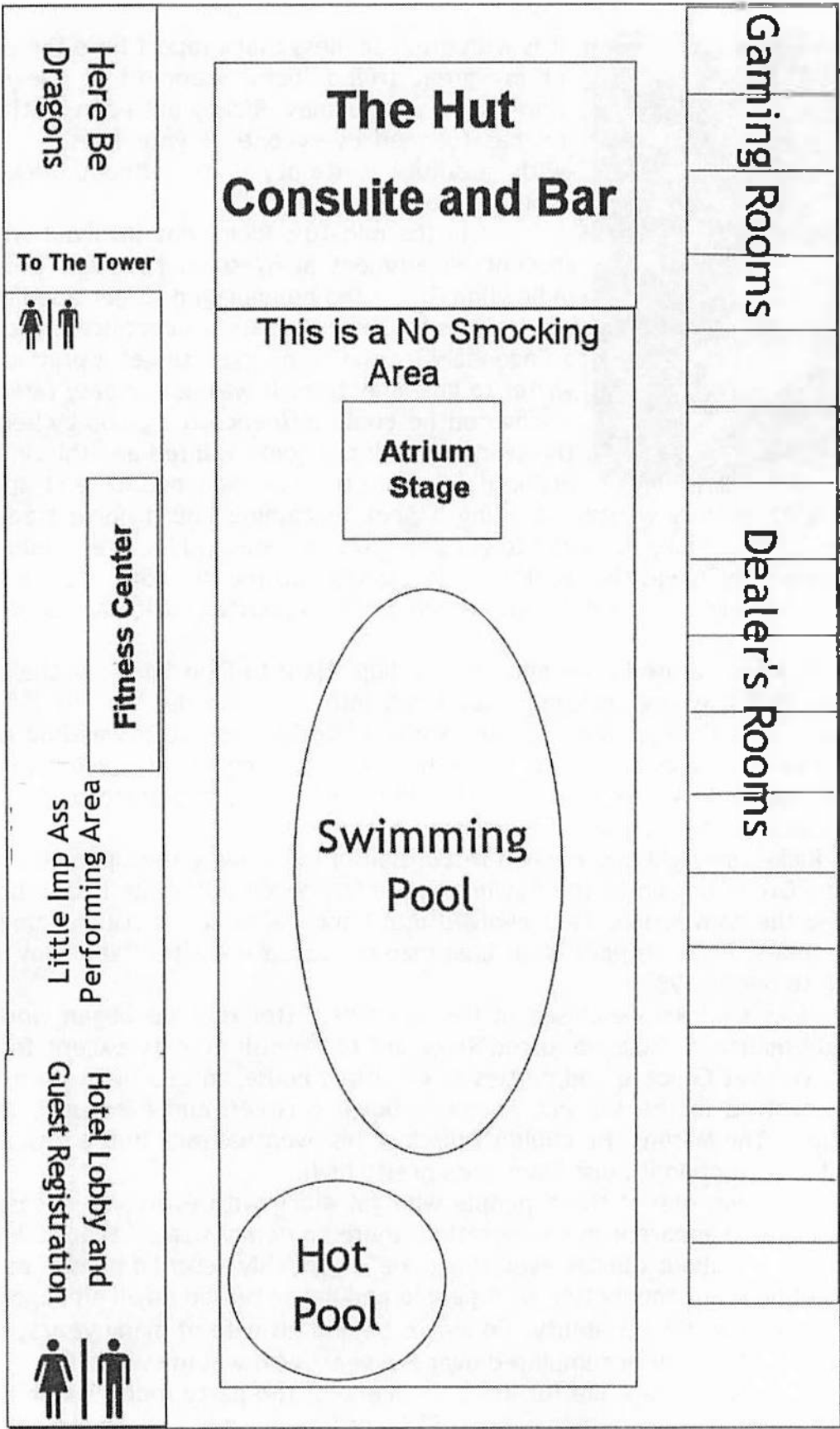
Ricky's bookstore closed in the mid-80's. After that he began work as a hotel night manager. That job forced Ricky out of fannish activity except for making short visits at Concave and parties at Annette's house. In lieu of fandom, Ricky became involved in the Masonic Lodge in Bowling Green and eventually rose to leadership in The Masons. He couldn't disclose his eventual rank in the Masons, but from hints he dropped it must have been pretty high.

Ricky was one of those people who got along with everyone. His eclectic interests became apparent in conversation where he demonstrated that he knew at least a little bit about almost everything. He'd probably describe himself as an introvert, but he loved connecting with people and never turned down an opportunity to help if it was within his ability. He leaves behind his wife of many years, Betsy, and hundreds of friends accumulated over the years who will miss him.

There will be a wake for Ricky on in one of the party rooms which is open to anyone wanting to share memories of Ricky or find out more about him. We'll all miss you, friend.—Gary Robe

VETTE CITY INN ATRIUM AREA

HERE BE FOOD TRUCKS



Here Be
Dragons

To The Tower



Fitness Center

Little Imp Ass
Performing Area

Hotel Lobby and
Guest Registration



The Hut
Consuite and Bar

This is a No Smocking
Area

Atrium
Stage

Swimming
Pool

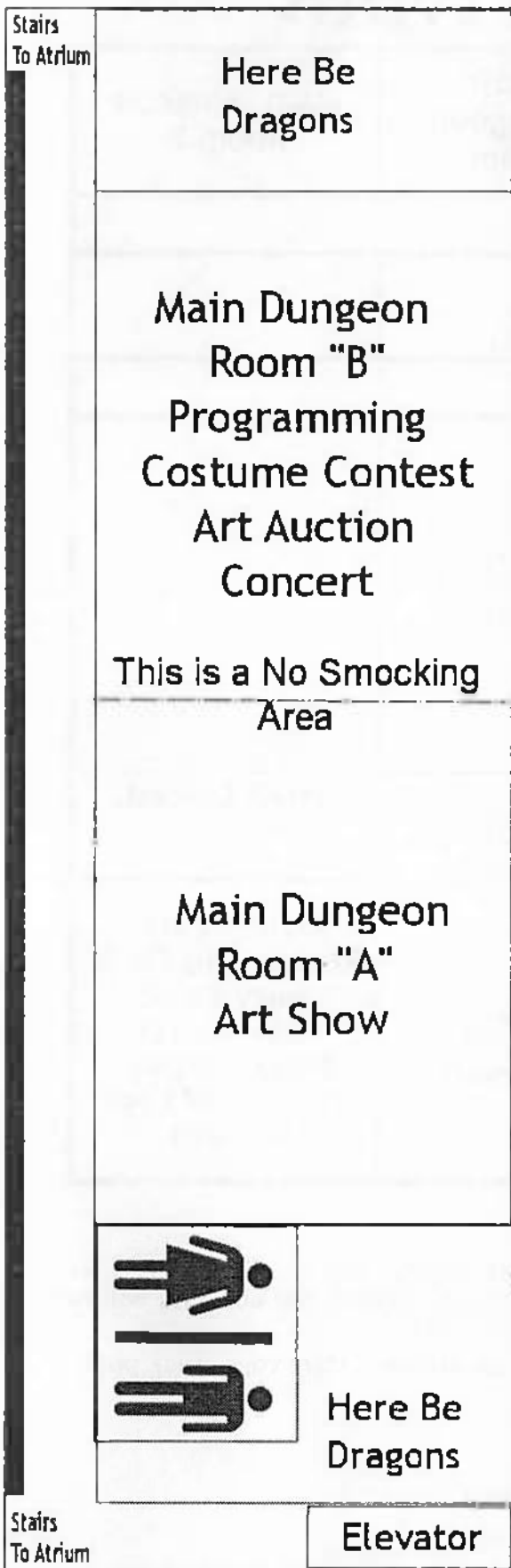
Hot
Pool

Gaming
Rooms

Dealer's
Rooms

Elevator

Dungeon Level



GAMING PROGRAM

The Concave Game Room is proud to host a variety of board games to enjoy at your convenience. Be it having a drink with a tavern of characters or running from space monsters of another dimension you will have blast with the games in our selection.

GAME PROGRAM HOURS

Thursday 2 PM
Friday/Saturday: 10:00 AM
Sunday: 10:00 AM

Due to the nature of Concave, we are only listing Opening times.. Closings will be up to Joshua or the availability/interest of volunteers to keep it open.

COSTUME CONTEST

The annual Concave costume contest will be in Dungeon Room at 5 PM. Viability of the contest will depend on participants registering. Sign up with Joni Hunt or use the sign-in sheet at the registration table. There is no cost to entry. The costume contest is open to adults and children

LITTLE IMP ASS PERFORMANCE SPACE

Come to the lounge area of the lobby and visit ImpAss! This quiet corner is for reading, performing, or generally sharing you favorite things with a few friends. Play the bagpipes, belly dance, organize a filksing, or read the best passage in the history of SF



CONCAVE 43 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

	The Hut + Pool Area	Main Dungeon Room A	Main Dungeon Room B
Thursday, March 22			
6:00 PM	Chili Cook-Off		
Friday, February 23			
Noon to 5 PM	Registration in pool area Gaming in 1st floor atrium rooms	Art Show Setup	
6:00 PM		Art show Opening	Trivia Contest
7:00 PM			
8:00 PM			
9:00 PM		Art Show Closed	Atrium Party Rooms 2nd Floor Party Time! Hallway Troll Party, Xerpes, Tkis, More? Look for signs.
10:00 PM	Big screen Mario Kart in Atrium		
11:00 PM			
Midnight			

Thursday, Feb 22

AFTERNOON: Setup for the Dealer's room, art display, and gaming rooms, Consuite and early registration in the pool area. Once opened, the Consuite will run as long as there are volunteers to run it (hint, hint!)

6:00 PM [The Hut] Chili Cook-Off Ladies and Gentlemen, start your crock pots!

Friday, Feb 23

1:00 PM Registration Opens in the Atrium

6:00 PM [Main Dungeon Room A] Art show opens

8:30 PM [Main Dungeon Room A] Art Show closes

9:00 PM Room parties begin opening—Look for signs for locations and times

	Room 202	Dungeon Room A	Dungeon Room B
Saturday, February 24th			
10:00 AM	Jim's Movie Room	Art Show open for bidding and immediate purchases	
11:00 AM			Vulcan Yin Yoga
Noon			
1:00 PM			
2:00 PM			
3:00 PM			
4:00 PM			
5:00 PM		Close of Art Show Bidding	Costume Contest
6:00 PM			
7:00 PM			
8:00 PM		Closed	Art Auction
9:00 PM			
10:00 PM		After-auction sales until concert begins	Threepios Concert
11:00 PM			
Midnight			

SATURDAY PROGRAM

10:00 AM: [Dungeon Room A] Art Show open

11:00 AM [Dungeon Room B] Vulcan Yin Yoga Class with Deb Parrish -Open to all! Come and try it! [Atrium 1st Floor} Gaming program resumes

6:00 PM (ish) [Dungeon Room B] Costume Contest (Judge Joni & crew) Sign up with Joni Hunt, or the sheet at the registration table. There will be prizes!

7:00 PM (ish) [Dungeon Room B] The Concave 43 Art Auction Come and support our participating artists by beautifying your world.

8:30 PM (ish) [Dungeon Room B] Threepios concert. Concert start time will depend on art auction duration and band set-up

	The Hut + Pool Area	Main Dungeon Room A	Main Dungeon Room B
Sunday, February 24			
10:00 AM	Game Program, Consuite	Art Show Open for After-Auction Purchases	
11:00 AM			
NOON			
1:00 PM			
2:00 PM	Hotel Check-out		
3:00 PM	Pack-up	Pack-up	
Evening	Dead Dog Pizza Party		

SUNDAY PROGRAM

10:00 AM [The Hut] Game rooms re-open

[Dungeon Room A] **Art Show** re-opens The art show will be open for after-auction purchases as well as pick-up and payments for auction purchases.

2:00 PM Dealer's Room, Game Room, and Consuite Pack-Up hotel check-out If you need more time to check out, call the hotel front desk. Key cards will probably expire at noon and will need to be re-programmed if you are staying later

3:00 PM—Sunday Afternoon [All Areas] We will need help in packing up equipment, collecting tables and chairs, and cleaning up our mess. All are welcome to stay. There will be a dead-dog pizza and beer party for anyone staying to help with move-out.

Sunday Evening [The Hut] Concave will throw a pizza party featuring pizza from Donato's for all of our intrepid volunteers and staff remaining after the Sunday afternoon pack-up!

ROOM PARTIES

Here are the parties we know about at press time. There may be more we don't know about yet! Look for party announcement signs for times and places

FRIDAY NIGHT : Troll Party Rm. 217 8 PM; Xerpes Rm. 214 9 PM, Amazons Rm. 202 9 PM; Tiki Rm. 206 9 PM

SATURDAY NIGHT: Toxic Masculinity Rm. 209 8 PM; The Bunnies Rm. 217 9 PM; A Wake for Ricky Rm 217 10PM; Kraken Eggs Atrium Kiddie Pool Stage 10:30 (ish)

MUSICAL GUESTS: THE THREEPIOS

It is sad to say that our long running musical guests, *Five Year Mission* added a new member to the band named Creative Differences and is no longer playing live. Their final album, *Year Five* is still in production and they tell us that it will be released.

We are excited to announce that FYM band member Patrick O'Conner has put together a new band, *The Threepios*, a Star Wars themed group. They will be playing a concert on Saturday night as their Concave premiere! They will be performing all original songs in the dungeon room as soon as they can set up after the art auction concludes and the band can get set up. This is Patrick "Up to 11" O'Conner fronting this bans, so you will know when they start playing!

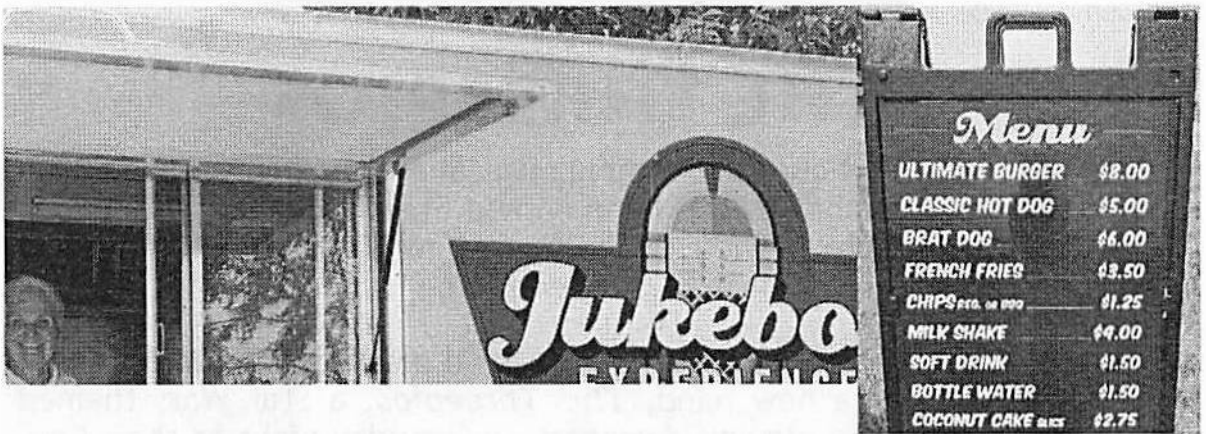


CONCAVE EATS!

We have arranged for several food trucks to arrive on Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday evening to feed your needs! The trucks coming to serve us are:

FRIDAY EVENING 4:30—8:00 PM

The Jukebox Experience—Basic American favorites prepared to order. Google “Jukebox Experience Food Truck Bowling Green” for the link to the Facebook page.



Wrap & Roll— Google “wrap&roll_BG” for the link to their Facebook page. Back from last year!



CONCAVE EATS! (CONTINUED)

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Disco Dogs -2nd floor Atrium balcony. Open until the last dog howls!

SATURDAY 8:00—10:00 AM

Stoneybrook Farm—<https://www.facebook.com/Stoneybrookefarmbg/>

Wake up to something sweet and tempting!

STONEYBROOKE FARM FOOD TRUCK

SWEETS

Muffins	3.50
Cookies	2.50
Fudge	3.00/2
Seasonal Delights	varies

SIDES

Coleslaw	3.00
Potato Salad	3.00
Baked Beans	3.00
Mac N Cheese	3.00
Chips	1.00

SPECIALS

Sandwich Choices:	6.00
Barbecue	
Chicken Salad	
Pimento Cheese	
Smoked Sausage	
All beef hot dog	

DRINKS

Iced Tea	2.00
Fruit Tea	3.00
Sodas	2.00
Water	1.00

SPECIAL:

Chicken Salad Plate	12.00
includes fruit and muffin	

*HOMEMADE CHILI SAUCE

Available for hotdogs: onions, kraut, cheese, slaw, relish, mustard, ketchup

CONCAVE EATS! (CONTINUED)

SATURDAY 4:30—8 PM

Lost River Pizza—Food truck version of a local favorite pizza parlor. Check out their website at <https://lostriver.pizza/>



A Taste of Europe—Another returning favorite from last year! Google “A Taste of Europe Food Truck” for the link to their Facebook page.



CONCAVE 43 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee:

CHAIRMAN: Colleen Logsdon

FACILITIES VICE CHAIR: Brad Hall

REGISTRATION VC: Shawn 'Haunce' Ewing

MASTER OF THE REVELS: Joni Hunt

CONSULTE: Michala Sage

Gary Robe: **TREASURER**

Jim Gaines: **EXEC. CONSULTANT**

Pat Molloy: **CHAIRMAN EMERITUS**

Joshua Goodpasture: **GAME ROOM**

Curt and Kim Payne: **ART SHOW**

Kelly Seo: **VENDOR LIAISON**

Lenny Tidwell & Derek Peay: **HEADS OF SECURITY**

Heather McGregor: **LEGAL COUNCIL**

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS:

Gary Robe — Program Book Editor

Darren Carter and Paul Anderson—Head Bartenders

And Many Thanks To Concave 42 Volunteers who kept us fed and "watered"!

Amber Harrell	Savanah	Jason
Annett Rose	Shelley	Jesse
The Corsair*	Miranda	Ryan D & Shelby
Slug Boy	Kelly	Debo & Bradthrax
Mollusk	Kris	Robert
Julie	Marley	Big Burger D
Paul	Kai & Mikey	Laura Jaquish
Naomi	Jordan	

*Most of the folks who signed up for bartending only left their first names or aliases. You know how you are, and we thank you!

And to anyone else we've overlooked who helped with the convention setup, registration, art show, bartending, food service, hauling ice and sodas, and teardown. We couldn't do this without you folks!

**AND FINALLY A BIG THANKS TO THE
MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF
The Vette City Inn**

