

## From the distant future and the forgotten past. From the far reaches of space and the house next door.

From award-winning author AARON CHRISTOPHER DROW a gathering of fourteen curious tales

that wend and weave across worlds familiar and unthinkable.

A captivating journey through wishes and nightmares, love and murder, war and miracles.

And the occasional dalliance with destiny.

"THERE IS MAGIC HERE is the promise in the first ling Of the of this new collection, and the promise is kept nicely, concisely, entertainingly, cleverly throughout. The gods must clearly smile indeed, and so will the reader, Welcome to Redaunk







The Lods Must

Clearly Smile

aaron Christopher Drown

STORIES BY



### LibertyCon® 35 / DeepSouthCon 61

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Cover art by David Matlingly



35th Anniversary Literary Guest35th Anniversary Special GuestTimothy ZahnDavid Weber

In memory of our founder, Uncle Timmy Bolgeo

## Welcome to LibertyCon 35!

Welcome to LibertyCon 35! It's hard to believe that this will be the 35<sup>th</sup> time that we're together to celebrate everything that's fantastic about Science Fiction and Fantasy, but here we are in beautiful downtown Chattanooga doing just that.

If you're new to LibertyCon, let me welcome you to the family! When Dad and the original board began this journey so long ago, we simply wanted a space to meet with our convention family and friends in the summer to enjoy each other and our community with an old-style southern convention. A place for us to leave the real world behind and meet people who share our interests. Little did we know that 37 years later (we skipped one year due to fire and another due to Covid) that we would grow to not only meet those needs but to also become a place for professionals to learn and hone their craft, from beginning beautiful dreamers who are figuring out how to get those stories out of their head and into the hands of readers to seasoned professionals who sit at the bar and develop collaborations or whole new series during the weekend.

With over 200 programming events and counting, this weekend will have something for everyone! From the Art Show to the Huckster Room there are beautiful, exotic, and just downright nerdy items to tempt everyone. Watch out, because our game room can make the weekend go by in a blink with the 100s of games available. And our professionals, oh my! From our main guests of honor to our newest authors, artists, and scientists, you'll have your choice of over 180 attending professionals to meet, reconnect and learn from.

LibertyCon is also hosting DeepSouthCon 61 during the convention, a tradition that is near and dear to our hearts. For those of you who might not have been to a DSC before, it's a beautiful addition to any convention or can be held as a standalone convention. DeepSouthCon adds particular programming, focusing on Southern Fandom history, which I cannot recommend enough for those who wish to know where we came from and many times why we have the traditions that we do. Each year two awards will be given as lifetime achievement awards, the Rebel and Phoenix. The Rebel award is given to a science fiction fan who has done a great deal for Southern Fandom. The Phoenix award is given to a science fiction professional who has done the same. We'll be giving those awards out Friday evening in a special ceremony, so please come by and cheer the newest additions to those hallowed halls. We're blessed to have several people who have won one or both of these awards in the past attending LibertyCon this weekend. You'll be able to tell who they are by their badge ribbons, so if you see one, please thank them for all that they've done for Southern fandom.

Speaking of thankfulness, I cannot thank our wonderful board and staff enough for all of the hard work that they do not only during the convention weekend but the countless hours that many of them spend throughout the year making LibertyCon the convention that it is. Our staff spends their own time and money to put on the awesomeness that is LC, so when you see them, please give them a big THANK YOU!

As I'm writing this, I can't help but think of my favorite programming event, our Opening Ceremonies. It's a special time for me personally, the few minutes before I walk through the ballroom door I feel closer to our original chairman, my dad, than any other time during the year. I know that he is with me as I walk in to kick off the best weekend of the year. Seeing all of your faces during that hour is one of the greatest gifts that I could receive. I want to thank each and every one of you for being with us this weekend, for adding all that you are to our LibertyCon family.

Brandy Bolgeo Hendren LibertyCon 35 Chairman



"Rules and responsibilities: these are the ties that bind us. We do what we do, because of who we are. If we did otherwise, we would not be ourselves." - Neil Gaiman The Sandman: Book of Dreams

#### HARASSMENT & DISCRIMINATION

Harassment and discrimination of any sort will not be tolerated and is a violation of the Code of Conduct. Discrimination is not limited to gender, race, ethnicity, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental disability.

#### ALCOHOL & SMOKING

Federal law does not allow the consumption of alcohol for anyone under 21 years of age. To get a drink, you must produce a VALID driver's license, state ID, or military ID with your picture on it to prove that you are at least 21 years of age. Attempting to drink while under 21 years of age or knowingly serving alcohol to someone under 21 years of age is a violation of the law and LibertyCon's Code of Conduct and could subject you to ejection from LibertyCon.

Tennessee state law does not allow smoking in any enclosed public places, including hotels, restaurants, or the Convention Center.

#### ATTIRE

LibertyCon loves costumes! However, we are a family-friendly convention. Please dress and costume appropriately.

#### AGE RESTRICTIONS

All convention attendees who are 17 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a guardian. Minors under 7 years of age must always be accompanied by a guardian.

#### BADGES

Badges must always be worn in plain sight. If you lose your badge at the convention, you will have to purchase another badge at the full admission price before being allowed to participate in further convention activities.

#### WEAPONS POLICY

All weapons or items which may be mistaken for a weapon, except for knives with a blade length of 4 inches or less, must be peace bonded by LibertyCon Security before they may be worn. This weapons policy will be strictly enforced.

#### **ROOM PARTIES**

Room parties are not official LibertyCon events but we encourage them. If your party is approved by Brandy, in a hotel room on the Party Floor, and with the door open, then the expectation is that the party is open to all LibertyCon attendees. If your party is intended to be private, please keep your door shut so misunderstandings don't occur. Hosts are required to card anyone who wishes to drink at their event and must follow the rules outlined in the Alcohol & Smoking section. LibertyCon does not and will not assume any responsibility to check badges for any type of party.

#### PRIVACY, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND ELECTRONIC RECORDING

LibertyCon members should be aware that photographs, video, and audio recordings occur during the convention, and that their likenesses may appear in these recordings. Attendees and members agree to assign without compensation the use of their likenesses for the use of promotional material.

Members of the press are welcome at all events. All journalists, media photographers, and any other members of the press are required to display an official LibertyCon Press Badge or always be accompanied by a LibertyCon staff member.

Members should be polite and ask before taking photographs or recordings of members and attendees whenever possible. Photography and audio/video recordings for personal archival use are generally acceptable. If an individual makes it clear that they do not wish to be photographed or recorded, doing so may be considered harassment. **Cosplay** IS NOT **consent**.

The usage of photographic or recording devices is prohibited in certain areas of the convention including the Art Show and Charity Auction. Where allowed, please take photographs before or after a program event to avoid distracting panelists and audience members to the maximum extent possible.

PETS

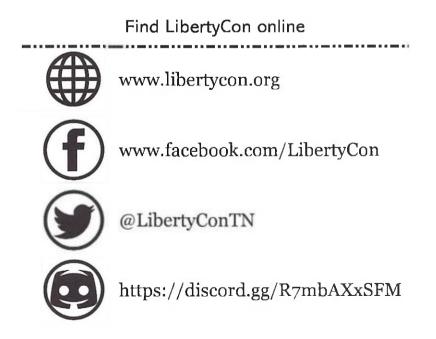
Pets are not allowed in convention function spaces. Fully trained service animals, however, are always welcome.

#### GRILLS & OUTDOOR COOKING

No outdoor cooking or open flame grills are allowed on the hotel premises.

#### EJECTION FROM THE CONVENTION

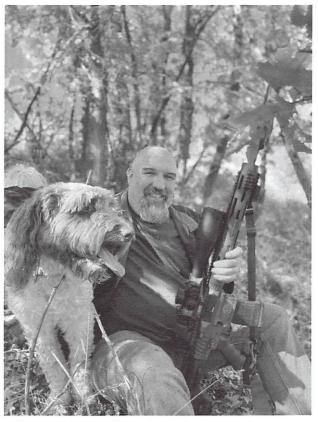
If you are ejected from LibertyCon because of a violation of the convention rules or Tennessee State Law, then your attendance fees will not be refunded.



## Literary Guest of Honor

## Larry Correia

Larry Correia is a Dragon Award winning, New York Times Bestselling author. He has written 25 books and is best known for his Monster Hunter series, the Grimnoir Chronicles, the Saga of the Forgotten Warrior, and In Defense of the Second Amendment, his first and only nonfiction title. He has written two collections of short storie, and has co-edited four more. Before he was a full-time writer, he had been a



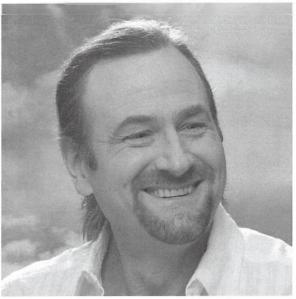
dairy farmer, a firearms instructor, and a military contract accountant. In his free time, he enjoys painting minis, shooting guns, and playing games with his friends and family. On nice, sunny days, he can be found on the back porch watching over Yard Moose Mountain, with his wife, the Lovely Mrs. Correia, who is the one people really come to see.

Correia has four children, one of whom is an author, and she learned almost everything she knows from him. Some of her fondest memories are going on long car rides, telling him about whatever she was working on at the time, and talking about storytelling for hours. Without him, she would not have nearly the fondness of writing that she does now. He is always encouraging of not just her, but all young artists, and his responses to story ideas are almost always "That sounds awesome! You should do it!"

Hinkley Correia

## Artist Guest of Honor David Mattingly

David Mattingly's home page identifies him as "artist, teacher, matte painter." And he is indeed all those things, and more. You'll find some of the many, many works he's done for Baen Books front and center on that page, with Honor Harrington enjoying a place of ... honor. But there are wizards, robots, wolves with guns, Vincent Price, and Mattingly himself firing a blaster enthusiastically. And probably an Orson, too, though you'll have to look for the cat who appeared on many a cover over the years, mostly covertly, as is only fitting for a cat.



Mattingly has been a partner in the fun and joie de vivre of Baen illustration from the very beginning of Baen, back in 1984: Our first sell piece featured a centaur, a horn, and an amazing starscape. His work has graced numerous *New York Times* bestselling books, including many Honor Harrington series titles, and he's illustrated everyone from Edgar Rice Burroughs (reprints—he's not *that* old) to Martin Caidin and Timothy Zahn. He's worked for every mainline publisher in New York and has over 2,000 book covers to his credit. Not a typo: 2000!

But even if you haven't seen one of his covers (you have), his work will be familiar to you. He began his career at Walt Disney studios, nominative determinism being a real thing, drawing matte paintings for the movies. His work graced such features as *The Black Hole, Tron, Dick Tracy* and *I, Robot* for Weta Digital, and he rose to head the matte department at Disney before he left. It is no exaggeration to say that he is one of those artists whose vision have shaped what our modern conception of "science fiction and fantasy" is.

Mattingly is a man who is not content to rest on his laurels (and he's won numerous industry awards for his illustrations, too). I've known him to always be experimenting with different ways of approaching covers, including exploring 3D printing and computer animation. And because he's that kind of person, he shares what he learns: he's been now for many years a teacher at the School of Visual Arts and the Pratt Institute in New York City. And he's on-line, as well, at Lynda.com, if you are interested in learning from him. And check out his book of instruction. *The Digital Matte Painting Handbook*, and his book of art, *Alternate Views, Alternate Universes*, unfortunately both out of print, but available as used copies.

My experience as an art director with David has always been one of choosing between an embarrassment of riches when he gives me sketches for a project. A real triumph for me, though, was in identifying David as the Honor Harrington series cover artist (and Jim Baen immediately agreeing). As some readers may recall, we tried a number of artists for the first five Honor covers before settling on David—and that was because I'd seen a sketch he'd done for another series that, with some judicious change of models, would work just great for Honor. And we have never looked back, Honor's beret and all!

He and his wife, Cathe Cogswell (a name well known in science fiction literary history), are wonderful mentors to David's students, and also wonderful hosts to visiting firemen in New York, and always up to exploring new foodie opportunities. I hope they'll enjoy Chattanooga's offerings, and I know that you'll enjoy your Artist Guest of Honor!

Oh, and I hope you picked up your LibertyCon T-shirt, because it's got beautiful David Mattingly art on it this year! Also, check out his table in the dealer's room!

Toni Weisskopf

## STEM Guest of Honor

## **Doctor Travis Taylor**

I've known Travis—"Doc" or "Doc Taylor" to most folks—for quite some few



years now. My late husband Darrell knew him first, and introduced us when I decided to try my hand at writing a book. Travis took me under his wing and mentored me through the whole thing, including constructive critique of the first draft, talking me out of trashing it when the plot happened in real life and killed a friend, polishing, and finding a publisher. During that whole process, we became good friends.

The most fun I have EVER had writing a book was when he and I coauthored *Extraction Point!* The concepts of that book evoked our shared interests in several ideas, and while he traveled a lot on business, we still managed to find time to brainstorm and write together. He'd call me from the gate at his flight layover, and say, "Steph! I had an idea for the book, and wanted to run it by you!" Next thing I knew, I was grabbing my laptop and typing notes directly into the manuscript as we came up with wording, dialogue and actions! Sometimes we'd write entire scenes that way, over the phone! We'd brainstorm and talk and write until he was literally walking into the skybridge and my phone was threatening to shut down with a dead battery! Over and over and over. And when I'd written all I could think of for the moment, I'd hand off the manuscript to him, and he'd go over what I'd written and pick up where I'd left off, write until he couldn't think of more, and hand it back to me. Back and forth. And it was seamless.

Of course, we've both used each other as characters in stories. That's fun, 'cause you know the person, and you know what they'd do and say, and sometimes you surprise 'em. I wasn't expecting to ever be the heroine of his story, but he saw me in that role. Means a lot to me.

Travis is brilliant, of course, and really awfully [expletive redacted] good at the stuff he does, whether it's high-level engineering/science, writing novels, writing popular science, or hosting/guesting on TV shows about science- and engineering-based concepts. (Sitting back and watching—sometimes even helping—behind the scenes during filming is almost as much fun as coauthoring a book with him.) He has an ability that is all too rare among scientists and engineers: the ability to break down the most abstruse scientific concept into something that is easily understood by non-scientists. That comes across in his writing, his TV appearances, and his public appearances.

Which is how I know that his stint this year as LibertyCon's STEM Guest of Honor is gonna be fun!

Stephanie Osborn

## Special Guest of Honor Regina Kirby

Our Special Guest, Regina Kirby, is a woman of many, many talents. For those of you who aren't familiar with LibertyCon, the Special Guest is a professional who has supported and contributed to LibertyCon substantially over many years. Regina certainly fits that category to a tee.

A not-so-secret SMOF (secret mistress of fandom or Southern Mistress of Fandom as she calls it) as well as a DcepSouthCon Rebel winner, she first began attending conventions in 1988 at Dixie Trek in Atlanta, GA. She quickly moved from an attendee to staff at the 1990 DragonCon. Luckily for those of us in Chattanooga, Regina decided to attend Chattacon 19 to promote DragonCon and the rest as



Chattacon 19 to promote DragonCon and the rest, as they say, is history.

After a long and successful career in the Westminster School system in Information Technology, Regina retired from that career to embark on one even more successful as the Senior Director of Programming for DragonCon. In this position, she gracefully navigates the epic role of overseeing the planning and execution of DragonCon's incredibly large and intricate programming schedule. This is not surprising as there is literally nothing this woman cannot do.

At LibertyCon, Regina wears several hats. She's the head Guest Liaison, a Hospitality 1<sup>st</sup>, and the not-so-enviable position, many times, of being the one who listens patiently as Brandy and Vonn wind their way through issues and offers sage advice. She works tirelessly year-round to ensure that our Guests of Honors' trips to and from the convention go smoothly and that their time with us over the weekend is a great experience.

Wearing many hats tends to be a theme for Regina. Her time with the Hospitality Department is no different. When she's not working directly with our Guests, Regina is most often found in the LibertyCon Consuite helping Vonn ensure everything runs smoothly. She's a fount of knowledge, charitable to a fault, and one of the best sounding boards before, during, and after the convention. Not only does she make incredible pound cakes, but she also brings additional food just in case we need something extra.

For those of you who know Regina, the most impressive thing about her isn't her amazing organization or impressive knowledge, but her huge heart. No matter what she is doing, her passion and love for people shine through. When you see her, please take a moment to thank her for helping to shape Southern Fandom into what you see today.

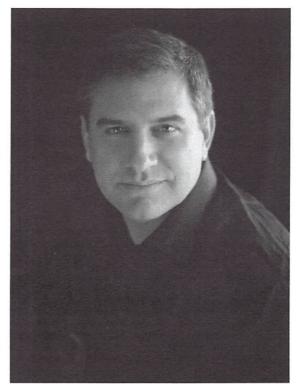
Vonn Gants and Brandy Bolgeo Hendren

### Master of Ceremonies

## **Terry Maggert**

Imagine reptiles that could fly, like winged alligators, swarming in masses across humid Mesozoic skies. Many as small as sparrows, others with wingspans wider than a biplane. Some gaping sharp ravenous beaks, and others with mouthfuls of clicking needle-teeth, swishing long, spear-tipped devil tails like diabolic kites. Real-life dragons.

At around the half-hour mark of this animated discussion, Terry Maggert and I caught our breaths, both oblivious to the rolling eyes of the convention crowd ambling around us. We had, after all, just met—introduced by my wife Leia after Terry had giddily gushed over one of her stained glass Pteranodons. Where had this guy been all my life?



Over lunch, I swiftly learned there was more to Terry than our mutual ardent appreciation of prehistoric flapping lizards. Much more.

A self-described rabid reader, Terry's an ardent admirer of Anne McCaffrey, Ernest Hemingway, and Robert Frost, among many others. In addition to his scholarly background as a history professor, Terry had found his true calling as the author of over thirty science fiction and dark fantasy novels. These include dystopian science fiction, paranormal urban fantasy, young adult paranormal fantasy, tales of time travel, and sword and sorcery.

And, yes, between the pages of some of his books, there be dragons.

Although Terry clearly, even boyishly, enjoys himself at the keyboard, he's an unpretentious working writer who treats his schedule with the professional discipline of any other serious job. He compares proofing and editing his books, something many authors consider tedious at best, to "being able to take back the dumb things you've said." Would that we could all do that in so-called real life.

He finds villains delicious to write, reveling in their glorious insults, while noting that pride is always their downfall. Well, almost always. His favorite kind of scene to write is between two people, together in a room, having an uncomfortably honest conversation. Terry likes to approach each book he writes with musings, like "Do Vikings like jokes? What kind of dog would be friends with a ghost? What would happen if a demon went to the beach?"

Also, Terry's a dedicated rescue animals advocate. He bakes and drinks disturbingly copious amounts of coffee. Oh, and he longs to visit Africa to have breakfast with giraffes. When you're looking for a good book to escape into or need a qualified forklift operator, Terry's the guy for you.

So, the next time you see Terry Maggert at a convention, ask him about where his ideas come from, or about pterodactyls, or the time we were nearly struck by lightning in a restaurant parking lot, or even ask him if Jesus was a strict vegetarian. He has the answers.

But don't get him started on his loathing of butter beans. You'll never hear the end of it.

Martin Powell

## Thank you to all our authors and readers in attendance!



For free sample chapters and more visit www.baen.com.

Use this code to see all the books you can read in the **Baen Free Library.** 



## 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Literary Guest

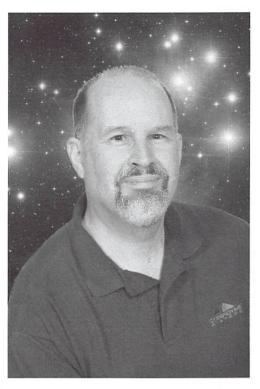
## **Timothy Zahn**

Tim Zahn is a year older than I am. Yes, he's *that* old. But he's also sort of like a fine wine that improves with age.

And he got off to a pretty rousing start to be improving from, to be honest.

I first met Tim's writing way back in 1987, when I picked up a short story named "Cascade Point" by this guy named "Zahn," who I'd never before heard of at that point. I thought then that it was one of the best pieces of short fiction I'd ever read, and nothing has happened in the interim to change my opinion of it. I have, however, met Tim in the flesh, now, and he has been a very substantial contributor to my Honorverse stories, both as a writer of short fiction and as a collaborator with me and Tom Pope on the Manticore Ascendant series.

I wanted Tim as a collaborator for a lot of reasons. One is that I like him a lot, on a personal level. In fact, Sharon and I count him and Anna among our personal friends, because they're just such darned nice



people. I also wanted Tim as a collaborator because I didn't want to write those novels solo. I wanted them to have a significantly different "flavor" from the novels of Honor Harrington's time since they were happening several hundred years earlier. So, I was looking for someone whose storytelling style was different from mine, whose writing ability I deeply respected, and who I could inveigle into writing those books for the Honorverse. And I wanted him because he'd already made a not insignificant contribution to the Honorverse "canon" in the short fiction he'd contributed to the anthologies. It was what's known as a "win-win" situation, from my perspective, and I'm really pleased with how those books worked out.

But that's my personal and professional relationship with him, and there are a whole bunch of people out there who have read his work who share the same admiration I feel. And with good reason.

I think it's fair to say that, in many ways, Tim saved — or at least hugely rejuvenated a largely moribund — *Star Wars* franchise. His Thrawn novels are deep in the DNA of the *Star Wars* community, and the way in which they were ignored in the last movie trilogy had a lot to do (in my personal opinion) with how disappointed quite a lot of that community was in where the movies went. And the fact that according to John Favreau Tim has a consulting role in *Ahsoka*'s plans to bring Thrawn into the series is what they call a Good Thing<sup>TM</sup>.

His *Star Wars* work would be more than sufficient laurels to rest upon if he really wanted to (and if he showed any particular interest in slowing down and resting). But then there's the Blackcollar trilogy, the Cobra trilogies (yes, there are three *trilogies*, not just three novels), the Conquerors trilogy, the lcarus series, the Dragonback series, two really good Terminator novels, the Quadrail series, the Sibyl's War series, the aforementioned Manticore Ascendant series, and God only knows how many other solo novels scattered about. Oh, and over fifty short stories that I'm aware of. I suspect there are others lurking in the underbrush somewhere, waiting to spring out and captivate the unwary reader who strays into range.

The man is clearly an overachiever.

He is also one of the nicest, warmest human beings you will ever meet.

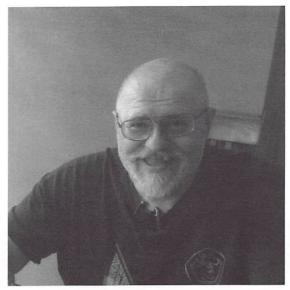
I am honored to call him a friend and proud to call him a collaborator, and I would tell the LibertyCon community how very fortunate we are to have him as a guest this year, if I didn't already know that everyone reading this program book already knows that.

David Weber

## 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Guest

## David Weber

"With more than eight million copies of his books in print and 33 titles on the *New York Times* bestseller list, David Weber is a science fiction powerhouse. In the vastly popular Honor Harrington series, the spirit of C.S. Forester's Horatio Hornblower and Patrick O'Brian's *Master and Commander* live on—into the galactic future. Books in the Honor Harrington and Honorverse series have appeared on 21 bestseller lists, including *The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times*, and *USA Today*."



But you probably knew that part already.

Like many others, I first met David through his writing. For me, it started with the Starfire books (I do love me some exploding spaceships) and then progressed on through the Honorverse—which is, in my humble opinion, the best-constructed science fiction setting in history.

Not currently being written. Not within a particular subgenre. Ever.

Agree or disagree with that statement, it's hard to deny the Honorverse is something special, a setting and a cast of characters that opens a unique playground in our minds, one that doesn't come along very often. David's written a lot of great books, but it's safe to say the Honorverse is what he's best known for.

But what about the man himself? What's he like?

To me, David is a great friend, an exceptional coauthor, and the best writing mentor I could have ever hoped for. He's also one of the smartest—and more critically, one of the *wisest*—people I have ever known, and that's not a statement I make lightly.

I first met David at a small convention in Greenville, South Carolina where he was handing out free copies of *On Basilisk Station*. I'd brought my dogeared paperback of *In Death Ground* in the hopes of having it signed, and when I plopped it on the table, David let out a surprised "Whoa!" at the ragged state of the book.

Afterward, my wife and I sat down with Sharon Rice-Weber (or, more accurately, were unwillingly corralled by the TRMN because we did *not* want to bother David's wife!) and she later invited us to meet them for lunch. One thing led to another, and soon the four of us became fast friends.

Skip forward several years, and the four of us were celebrating my wife's birthday. I asked David if he'd be willing to read through a recently rejected manuscript of mine and let me know where he felt I needed to improve. He said yes, but then as dinner progressed his expression changed, became... somewhat mischievous.

That's when he suggested we write a novel together.

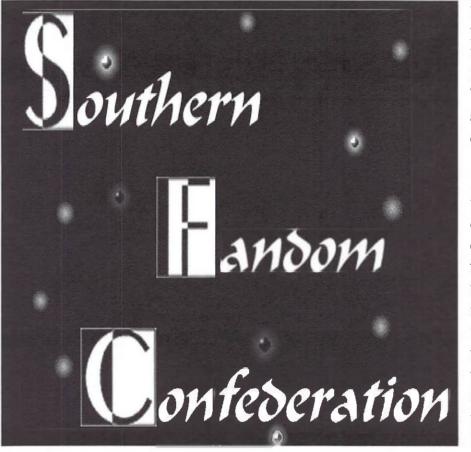
I was eventually able to sputter out a yes, but I bring this story up to illustrate a point: I went to David as a friend with a problem, and he decided to help me by giving me a nontrivial chunk of his professional time and energy!

That, right there, tells you all you need to know about what kind of person David Weber is.

Jacob Holo

# What is the Southern Fandom Confederation?

The **Southern Fandom Confederation (SFC)** is a not-for-profit literary organization and information clearinghouse dedicated to the service of Southern science fiction and fantasy fandom. It focuses on science fiction and fantasy fans residing in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. It exists for the purpose of



promoting fan and professional activity within that area. However, any fan from anywhere is welcome. The **SFC** has been and always shall be a nondiscriminatory organization.

SFC was founded in 1969 at the DeepSouthCon in Knoxville, Tennessee. For over fifty years, it has and continues to serve as a way to bind together southern fans active in and/or interested southern in fandom. Members get voting privileges and access to news, convention information, fanzine listings, membership roster, club lists, and more.

To quote Toni Weisskopft from the Southern Fandom Confederation Handbook:

"Southern fandom is something special. Of course, just plain old science fiction fandom is an incredibly neat thing, a cultural phenomenon unique to the twentieth century, an amorphous bundle of splendid contradictions. But Southern fandom is a particularly nice part of that amorphous bundle."

## LibertyCon 35 / DeepSouthCon 61 Attending Guests and Pros

Here are many of the interesting people scheduled to attend LibertyCon 35 / DeepSouthCon 61 This list is current as of the printing of this book and subject to change without notice.

Tim Akers: Tim splits writing time between RPGs and novels. Since college, he's worked with White Wolf, Wyrd Games, Paizo, and Kobold Press. His novels range from New Weird thrillers (*Heart of Veridon*) to traditional fantasy (Hallowed War trilogy). He, his indefatigable wife, and his mountain of unpainted miniatures live in Chicago.

Atlanta Radio Theatre Company: ARTC is a professional troupe that brings "new old-time radio", complete with lush soundscapes, stirring music, and original stories guaranteed to remind you that...*There is Adventure in Sound!* 

**Charity Ayres**: Navy Veteran, teacher for both high school and college, author, and mom. When she isn't creating worlds of fantasy with characters saying what they think without remorse, she's running with her dogs, playing online games with her teenager, or dreaming up new ways to kill people. In print, of course.

**David Badurina**: David Badurina is a speculative fiction author in Hartford, Connecticut. David's a father, business owner, YouTuber, podcaster, 4th degree black belt, and passionate storyteller. His 2020 debut novel, *The Caretaker* launched a mind-blowing supernatural world where psychological concepts influence and manipulate humanity in a quest for power and control.

**Griffin Barber**: Griffin spent his youth in four different countries, learning three languages, and burning all his bridges. Finally settled in Northern California and retired from being a police officer in a major metropolitan department, he lives the good life with his lovely wife, crazy-smart daughter, tiny bengal, and needy dog.

**Kristina Barnes**: Kristina Barnes is a long-time lover of all things fantasy and mystery. She enjoys ice-cold coffee and is way too nerdy about marketing. She edited and is published in the Three Ravens anthology *Misfits of Magic* and has upcoming release dates for far too many co-authored, fantasy, and non-fiction books.

**Everette Beach**: Best known as the auctioneer for charity auctions at Sci-Fi conventions and other events. Over 25 years he's auctioneered at events along the East Coast. In his more mundane life, he's an Information Technologies Director for a corporate credit union providing financial solutions for Credit Unions all over the US.

Jim Beall: Jim Beall (BS-Math, MBA, PE) has been a nuclear engineer for 40+ years, a wargamer for 50+, and an avid reader of science fiction for even longer. Experience: operations (nuclear officer USN), design (Duke Power), construction (United Engineers & Constructors), inspection (USNRC), and energy policy (USNRC Commissioner Reactors Assistant).

**Rita Beeman**: Rita Beeman lives with her wiener dogs in Texas, where she loves to tend plants that thrive on her level of neglect.

**David (Brena) Bock**: David Bock (also listed under the nom de plume Brena Bock) is a proud member of #TeamAndMore in several anthologies, including *Space Force: Building the Legacy, Can't Go Home Again,* and *Saints of Malta.* Other stories are in the works along with a full-length novel.

**David Bogen**: David Bogen has been active in many aspects of fandom from ConCom for many Texas conventions to managing art shows with Pegasus Management across the country. He's better known in his professional community as a leader in implementing future looking analytics and processes that are transforming the electric industry.

**Karen Bogen**: A cat-loving native of Texas, K.B. is a self-confessed knit-/yarn-aholic. For nearly thirty years, she's been lurking behind the scenes doing editing and manuscript repair. Her most recent publication, *Everything Works in Theory*, and first books of the Quest series are available. Coming soon *Snrely, Yon Quest*—Quest book three. **Philip K. Booker**: Phil Booker lives near Chattanooga, Tennessee. He writes stories across all genres but tends to focus on Urban Fantasy and Science Fiction. His pieces are often littered with humor, snark, and pop culture references. Find him on Facebook and join his mailing list for updates on new releases!

**David Boop**: David debuted with sci-fi/noir, *She Murdered Me with Science*, followed by weird western, *The Drowned Horse Chronicle–Volume One*, then with Kevin J. Anderson co-wrote the mech comic *Travailiant Rising*. David edits weird and space western anthologies for Baen and writes characters like Predator, The Green Hornet, and Kolchak. Davidboop.com.

Susan Brady: Susan has been running Make It, Take It (a convention tradition) since LibertyCon 4. She is into a bit of everything, loves making pretty things, playing with feathers and glitter, and turning out incredible ready-to-wear costumes. Bring your children to craft and help them build a costume for the masquerade.

**Tabitha S. Bragg**: Tabitha is a native of Atlanta. Her whole life her head has been in the clouds; from rendering VFX clouds to building "the cloud" for very large companies. Her writing and worldbuilding benefited greatly from her deep technical knowledge, allowing her to map future technologies and trends in believable ways.

Jonathan Brazee: Jonathan is a retired Marine infantry colonel and a full-time hybrid writer of military sci-fi, paranormal, and historical fiction. He's a two-time Nebula Award and two-time Dragon Award finalist and a USA Today bestseller. He's an active member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America.

**Amy Brewer-Davenport**: Amy Brewer-Davenport is an artist local to the Chattanooga area whose work explores worlds of fantasy and lore. They have spent the last year painting the landscape and denizens of an enchanted forest, a place where they hope you will come and take a wander.

**Bokerah Brumley**: Bokerah Brumley lives on ten permaculture acres, complete with sheep, goats, peacocks, turkeys, geese, guineas, ducks, chickens, five home-educated children, and one husband. **Doug Burbey**: Army Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Douglas Burbey is constantly preparing to: repel the zombie hordes, defend America from all enemies foreign and domestic (particularly Hipsters and Fashionistas), brew beer & defeat the Rebel Alliance. His debut series Blood War has beer, dead demons, corrupt politicians, and rage issues.

**Dave (D.J.) Butler**: He's mostly recovered from being a lawyer. He writes fantasy for adults (*Witchy Eye*, Baen) and kids (*The Kidnap Plot*, Knopf), loves languages and board games, and plays bad guitar. He's married and has three kids. Dave is also an acquisitions editor for Kevin J. Anderson's WordFire Press.

**Richard Cartwright**: Richard Cartwright was born and raised in Tennessee when he was not bouncing around North America. Along the way, he acquired degrees in history, law, and cynicism. He learned the art of storytelling sitting around kitchen tables, campfires and courtrooms over the years but came to writing later in life.

**J. P. Chandler**: Born and raised in California, where he now resides with his wife of many years. He uses writing in the genres of Science Fiction and Fantasy as his excuse for pursuing various interests. He first started writing fiction when he was fourteen.

**Debi Chowdhury**: Debi Chowdhury is a Member of ICG (international Costumers Guild), Sick Pups (New York, New Jersey Costumers Guild), NOEL (Northern Lights Costumers Guild, Ma), Co-Director Worldcon 75 Masquerade, Helsinki, Finland Assistant Director, ARISIA, 2017, Boston, Ma Green Room Director, Lunacon 2016, 2017 Assistant to the masquerade director.

Sarah Clithero: Sarah lives near the geographic center of the US with her husband and two daughters. She works for a composites manufacturer. In 2022, she joined Raconteur Press as copy editor and life's been...interesting. Building's not on fire, there aren't bodies to bury, which means all is well in Sarah's world.

**Stephen Euin Cobb**: Stephen Euin Cobb is an author, novelist, magazine writer, futurist, awardwinning podcaster, and host of The Interstellar Research Group's video series "From Here to the Stars," for which he won the Iridani Award in 2021. He's interviewed over 500 people, and written over 100 magazine articles. **Stewart Cobb**: Stewart Cobb designs satellite navigation systems for a living and reads SF&F for inspiration. He earned a PhD in Aerospace Engineering and holds more than a dozen patents. He's been an Air Force officer and a flight controller for the Space Shuttle but hasn't yet reached orbit himself.

Julie Cochrane: Julie Cochrane has been writing stories since age five. She has three novels coauthored with John Ringo in his Legacy of the Aldenata series, by Baen Books, and a story in *Rogues in Hell*, by Perseid. Her background includes psychology, chemistry, IT, and martial arts.

**David B. Coe/D.B. Jackson**: David is the author of thirty novels and as many short stories. He's written epic fantasy, contemporary urban fantasy, and media tie-ins. Most recently, he's published The Chalice War trilogy, a contemporary urban fantasy steeped in Celtic mythology. As D.B. Jackson, he writes the Thieftaker Chronicles and the Islevale Cycle.

Jason Cordova: A 2019 Dragon Award finalist, Jason Cordova is probably best known for his Kin Wars series. He was also featured in John Ringo's bestselling *Black Tide Rising* anthology, as well as the third follow-up, *We Shall Rise*. He currently lives in North Carolina.

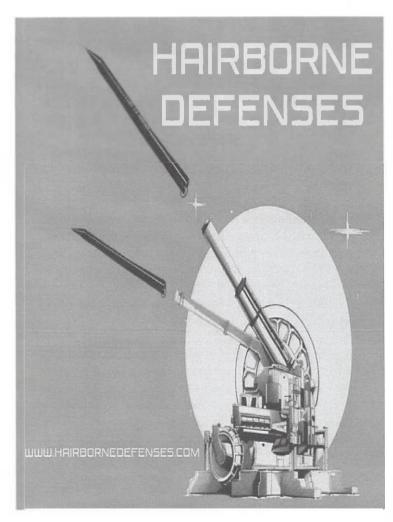
**Isaac Craft**: Isaac's speculative and flash fiction stories are published in nearly a dozen of the Corner Scribblers anthologies via Three Ravens Publishing. He's currently working on his first novel, with plans for the second and third sequels. When not writing or reading, Isaac can be found practicing old cookbook recipes.

Jim Curtis: JL is both a retired Naval Flight Officer and engineer in the defense industry. He now lives in north Texas writing full time. JL has written novellas and short stories for over fifteen different anthologies and twelve novels in three series: The Grey Man, Rimworld, and Showdown on the River.

**Kimberly S. Daniels:** She grew up reading Asimov, Heinlein, and Norton, and dreamt of the stars and the currents of space. She then received her MFA in creative writing at the University of South Alabama. She's published several sci-fi works including the Valkyrie Series: *The Valkyrie Profiles* and *Flight of the Valkyrie.*  **Tammie Darden**: I am a biologist who works as a chemist. I spend a lot of my time helping with my grandkids. In my off hours, I chain read, play Civ V, sew, cook, and garden a little. I have worked conventions for years and help run an Alternate History based convention.

**Ben Davis:** Dr. Ben Davis holds a Ph.D. in Nuclear Physics and an MS in Nuclear Astrophysics from the University of Notre Dame. He is a college professor of mathematics, programming, astronomy, and physics/engineering. He's had a successful career in software development and controls engineering. His interests include history, futurism, and skepticism.

**Randee Dawn**: Randee Dawn is an entertainment journalist scribbling about glam entertainment by day and wild worlds of fiction by night. Her debut novel, *Tune in Tomorrow*, about a fantastical TV reality show published in 2022. She writes about showbiz for *Variety* and Today.com and co-authored *The Law & Order: Unofficial Companion*.





**Robert Dean:** Born before man ventured into space and grew up in Texas. An engineer by day, working on computer and communications systems, always chose fun and interesting side jobs, such as Renaissance fair jouster, professional dancer, Wild West show performer, and a variety of jobs in movies and TV.

Steve Diamond: Steve Diamond is a Horror, Fantasy, and Science Fiction author for Baen, Wordfire Press, and numerous other publishers. His most recent works are a collection of Horror short fiction, *What Hellhounds Dream*, a YA Supernatural Thriller, *Residue*, and a Dark Fantasy/Horror novel co-written with Larry Correia, *Servants of War*.

Aaron Drown: Aaron, a Maine native whose debut novel *A Mage of None Magic*, won the Darrell Award for Best Novel. His short story collection, *The Gods Must Clearly Smile*, is available. An award-winning graphic designer, Aaron resides in Memphis with his wife, Sarah, dog and cat, and his trusty Macbook, Sancho.

Jeff Duntemann: Jeff Duntemann has written professionally since 1974, in both science fiction and technical nonfiction. He has appeared in *IASFM*, *Omni*, and several hardcover anthologies. Two of his stories have appeared on the final Hugo ballot. He is retired from technical publishing and now lives in Scottsdale with his wife Carol.

**Greg Eden**: Greg is from New Zealand where he trained in radio communications. He's worked in England, Wales, Austria, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, and Chad. His career has spanned radio installation, communications officer for the UK Fire Service, paging networks, and currently ATC Systems and Meteorological Sensor Networks in West Africa.

**Robert S. Evans:** Robert S. Evans is a Georgia native film writer and director. His short films have aired in festivals all over the world. He is currently dipping his toes into more detailed writing, with a science fantasy novel well into the works.

Kacey Ezell: Kacey Ezell is a helicopter air ambulance pilot who writes scifi/fantasy/horror/noir/alternate history fiction. She is a two-time Dragon Award Finalist for Best Alternate History and has written multiple bestselling novels published with Chris Kennedy Publishing, Baen Books, and Blackstone Publishing. Find out more and join her mailing list at www.kaceyezell.net. **Bill Fawcett**: Bill has been a teacher, corporate executive, college dean, and board and computer game designer. He's worked for major publishers, creating and editing over 400 books, and has collaborated on the Mycroft Holmes, Ian Fleming, and Madame Vernet mysteries. His non-fiction includes *Hunters and Shooters*, *The Teams*, and *Making Contact*.

C. S. Ferguson: C. S. Ferguson used to be an adventurer, traveling half a million miles through 55 countries, circling the globe nine times, finally settling in Seattle, where everyone is an aspiring game designer. He claimed the same to fit in. Except, people believed him. His 14 games are in 68 countries.

**Declan Finn**: Declan Finn is the author of books ranging from thrillers to urban fantasy to Sci-Fi, including the Dragon Award Nominated Novel for Best Horror in 2016, *Honor at Stake*, and the 2017 follow-up, *Live and Let Bite*. He was also nominated for Best Apocalypse novel at the 2017 Dragons.

Steve Fleming: At various times, Stephen has been paid to be an optical physicist, laser fabricator, software developer, field engineer, salesman, entrepreneur, venture capitalist, board member, consultant, angel investor, public speaker, academic bureaucrat, and economic developer. He's invested in over a dozen aerospace startups and currently chairs the Arizona Space Business Roundtable.

**Monalisa Foster**: Monalisa won life's lottery when she escaped communism and became an unhyphenated American citizen. Despite her degree in physics, she's worked in several fields including engineering and medicine. She and her husband are living their happily ever after in Texas. Her epic space opera, *Ravages of Honor* is out now.

Julie Frost: Julie Frost lives in Utah with a herd of guinea pigs, her husband, and a kitten who thinks she's a warrior princess. Her short fiction has appeared in many venues, and her novels are published by WordFire Press. Visit her Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/julie.frost.7967/.

**Karl Gallagher**: Karl K. Gallagher is an engineer at a major aerospace company. Previously he calculated trajectories for a commercial launch rocket start-up and designed and operated weather satellites. Karl lives in Saginaw, TX with his family. His books *Torchship* and *Torchship Pilot* are available on Amazon and Audible.

**Michael Gants**: Michael Gants, a retired Navy submariner, is a science fiction and fantasy author. His other jobs have included nuclear mechanic, antiterrorism trainer, small craft boarding specialist, programmer, journalist, and aquarium technician. His first novel, *Wavesong*, is due out this year. He lives with his fantastic family in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**Rich Garber**: Rich's fannish life started over 40 years ago with friends in the Air Force, leading to Worldcon in Baltimore. His primary interest has always been gaming. He's gotten the chance to design, playtest, and run games at many conventions, as well as meet several major designers in the industry.

Amie Gibbons: Amie was born and raised in Utah, flew south for school, and stayed. She lawyers, writes, dances, sings, and cat-wrangles, and does some better than others.

Kelly Grayson: Kelly is a critical care paramedic, author, and public speaker. When his job doesn't have him prowling the underbelly of the city, he's an award-winning columnist for several industry publications, writes fantasy/sci-fi novels, and contributes short stories to literary anthologies. He can be found at his author page on Amazon.

Kevin R. Grazier, Ph.D.: served as the Science Advisor for several television series and movies, including SyFy Channel series *Defiance*, the TNT series *Falling Skies*, and the film *Gravity*. He performed the same role for 4 seasons on the Peabody Award-winning *Battlestar Galactica*, as well *Eureka*, *Battlestar Galactica: Blood and Chrome*, and *The Event*.

Jeff Greason: Serial entrepreneur and innovator with 23 years in the commercial space industry. Chief Technologist of Electric Sky, developing powerbeaming technology; and Chairman of the Tau Zero Foundation, developing advanced propulsion for interstellar missions. Contributed to commercial space regulation and worked at XCOR Aerospace, Rotary Rocket, and Intel. 25 patents. Shane Gries: Shane Gries is a career soldier, student of history and writer. He spent over seventeen years serving overseas. He's a graduate of Airborne School, Ranger School, earned his Expert Infantryman Badge and did some time in combat. Now he writes books about zombies and stuff that blows up.

**Richard Groller**: Richard writes fiction and nonfiction. His works include *The Warrior's Edge, The American Warrior*, and *The Book of Night*, short stories in the series *Heroes in Hell, Sha'Daa: Tales of the Apocalypse*, the HWA Poetry Showcase, and horror anthologies *What Scares the Boogeyman?*, *Terror by Gaslight*, and *Dark Corners*.

Amy Guildroy: A Carnegie Mellon graduate, a tax preparer with years of experience helping people optimize their tax liabilities, and is authorized to represent clients before the IRS. One of Amy's interests is tax returns for creative individuals, including her husband, Dave Schroeder, author of the Xenotech Support and Congruent Mage series.

**Dr. Robert E. Hampson:** Dr. Robert E. Hampson is a scientist and author who uses cutting-edge science every day. His research is the basis for an upcoming medical device to treat Alzheimer's Disease. He writes short and long fiction in military and hard SF genres, with common themes of medicine, bionics, and scientific exploration.

Valerie Hampton: Dr. Hampton is a historical archaeologist teaching at UF, author, game creator, indie film producer, and speaks on the intersection between popular fantasy and history. She founded Antiquarian Boardgames and conventions Conan's Riddle and Ice & Fire Con. Her company GrimSisters Production Co. works on feature films and other projects.

Jeffery H. Haskell: Jeffery H. Haskell lives and breathes writing. As a full-time author, he now pursues his life's calling with the help of his amazing family. The only thing he likes as much as writing is helping other authors be successful. He will continue to write until he dies, longer if allowed.

**Aaron Haskins:** A.C. Haskins is a former Army officer turned economist, data geek, and business executive, and occasionally he writes stuff related to his many interests, including (but not limited to) ancient and medieval history, mythology, martial arts, guns, and theoretical economics. He lives in Michigan with his lovely wife, Nora.

**Bjorn Hasseler**: Bjorn Hasseler writes and edits in the 1632/Ring of Fire universe. He has written three novels and over twenty short stories and co-edited 1637: The Coast of Chaos. He is the managing editor for the bi-monthly e-magazine The Grantville Gazette. Please ask him how you can write for 1632.

Jonna Hayden: Jonna Hayden is a professional Costume Designer, clothing historian, and long-time SF geek. After many years of hiding in the Science Fiction section of the school library, she found her tribe when she attended Orycon 5. She builds shows for the Opera, Ballet, and anyone else who will pay her.

Mark Haynes: A Renaissance man trapped in a s pecialist's body with a degree in biology, so I'm in IT. I've worked as a software developer, QA, process specialist, Scrum Master, and Agile Coach. Lately, I've been focusing on writing and speaking. I'm asked how long have you been agile? My answer: always.

Sean Hazlett: Army veteran, writer, and editor living in the San Francisco area. He's got over 40 stories in publications including *The Year's Best Military and Adventure SF, Year's Best Hardcore Horror*, *Terraform, Galaxy's Edge, Writers of the Future*, *Grimdark Magazine*, and *Vastarien*. Editor of *Weird World War III* and *IV* anthologies.

**Brandy Bolgeo Hendren**: Brandy is Chairman of the Board of Directors of LibertyCon and daughter of its founder, Richard "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo. Brandy's first convention, Chattacon 2 in 1976, led her to become actively involved in the fandom community; as a fan, staff member, and board member of various conventions throughout the years.

**David Hensley**: David W. Hensley lives in Chesapeake, Virginia where he continues his pursuit of a well-told tale. His first story, "Desperate Ground", can be found in the award-winning anthology, *JTF-13 Legends*. Be on the lookout for his first novel, *72 Hours to Graceland*.

Louise Herring-Jones: Louise Herring-Jones (Amy L. Herring) writes speculative fiction with a preference for historical fantasy. Her stories have appeared in fourteen anthologies. Amy is a reporter for *The Daily Dragon Online* and is a NaNoWriMo co-municipal liaison. She also coordinates the Huntsville (Alabama) Literary Association's writers' group. John Holmes: J. F. Holmes is a two-time Dragon Award Finalist, military science fiction writer, and owner of Cannon Publishing. He served for 22 years in the US Army and NYARNG, retiring as a Senior NCO. Currently, he lives in Upstate NY with Cannon Publishing's Executive Vice-President of Happiness.

H. P. Holo: H. P. Holo grew up in a family where it was dangerous to say, "I'm bored." She's also an incorrigible smart aleck. When her parents said, "Read a dictionary," she did. And then she began writing novels, including *The Wizard's Way* (with Jacob Holo) and the *Monster Punk Horizon* series.

Jacob Holo: Jacob Holo is a science fiction and fantasy author whose works include national bestsellers *The Gordian Protocol* and *The Valkyrie Protocol* (with David Weber), *Time Reavers* (a *Kirkus Reviews* Best Indie Book of 2014); *The Wizard's Way* (with H.P. Holo), and *Monster Punk Horizon: Excess* (with H. P. Holo).

**Teresa Howard**: A life-long fan of science fiction and fantasy. She's a retired teacher, semi-professional genealogist, and science fiction and fantasy author. Her short stories have been published in magazines, anthologies, and on IPhone apps in the US, Canada, and the UK. Her debut novel *The Reluctant Empress*" was published in 2018.

**Rob Howell:** Rob is the publisher of New Mythology Press (<u>https://chriskennedypublishing.com/new-mythology-press/</u>), creator of the Firehall Sagas fantasy universe, a reformed medieval academic, and a retired soda jerk. His parents discovered books kept Rob quiet. Without them, it's unlikely all three would have survived.

**Daniel M. Hoyt**: Daniel is a real-life rocket scientist. However, some years ago, his wife seduced him to run away with the writing circus. He's been published in *Analog*, several anthologies, and published a space opera novel, *Ninth Euclid*. He intends to resume writing them when the day job lets up a little.

Marshall Hoyt: Marshall Hoyt is—under protest one of the writing Hoyts Taken in by the allure of science fiction and character-driven stories, he's been integral in helping Sarah Hoyt (His mother) adapt to comic writing, and is helping both Daniel and Sarah in crafting the space adventure series, Cat Valor.

Sarah A. Hoyt: Sarah A. Hoyt was born in Portugal and lived most of her life in Colorado. She is an

award-winning science fiction author, but has written everything from historical romance to mystery, fantasy, comics... Her mathematician husband has instructed her to say no genre is safe from her.

**G. Scott Huggins:** Huggins works include the saga of the half-dragon Princess Responsibility, beginning with *Responsibility of the Crown*, and the novel *All Things Huge and Hideous*, chronicling the adventures of James and Harriet, the slightly heroic veterinarians of the Evil Dark Lord. Their latest adventure appears in *No Game For Knights*.

**Fred Hughes**: Fred Hughes is a twenty-year Navy Submarine veteran who is the Amazon best-selling author of the Empire of Britannia Series. Fred started as a self-published indie author but now writes for Chris Kennedy Publishing.

**Mark Huston**: Mark H. Huston is a Chicago areabased author of alternate history and science fiction. He has multiple short stories and novellas published in Eric Flint's Ring of Fire Series. His most recent novel, *Up-time Pride and Down-time Prejudice* was a Dragon Award finalist. His work has also appeared in *F&SF*.

Jamie Ibson: Jamie Ibson is from the frozen wastelands of Canuckistan, where moose, bears, and geese battle for domination among the hockey rinks, igloos, and Tim Hortons. After a stint in the CAF and a truncated law enforcement career, he writes fulltime in Canada's Maritimes. Follow him at https://ibsonwrites.ca.

**Steve Jackson**: Steve Jackson started designing games in 1977. He is responsible for, among others, *Ogre, Car Wars, Illuminati, GURPS, Zombie Dice,* and *Munchkin.* His hobbies include Lego (especially trains), rolling ball machines, gardening, and he really wishes he could still find the time for beekeeping, tropical fish, videogames, and the SCA.

Les Johnson: Les is a physicist, author, and NASA technologist. He's been a LibertyCon GoH 3 times, winner of the Phoenix Award, and was featured in the March 2019 issue of *National Geographic*. Les leads two NASA space missions, holds 3 patents, and is a member of the International Academy of Astronautics.

## Tech Tips for Authors

from Nate Hoffelder, The Author Website Guy

I like sharing tech tips with my friends just as much as I like fixing websites. Here are a few tricks I've learned over the years. - *Nate* 

#### Screen Sizes Matter

Never evaluate a design or proofread text on a smartphone. It doesn't matter whether you are checking a new logo, a print layout, or an illustration, a smartphone's screen is simply too small to properly evaluate the content.

#### **Contact Forms**

I know you have a contact form on your site, but does your site also log the messages sent through the form? A recent discussion in my FB group The Help Desk reminded me that emails sometimes go astray. This is why I make sure that the sites I build use a contact form that logs all submissions.

#### Backups

Backups are the foundation of all website security and maintenance. If your website is backed up regularly, you can use it to undo whatever accident just caused your site to crash. And if your site gets hacked, there's a good chance you will have a backup from before the hack, saving you some of the time and energy required to de-hack the site.

#### eBook Formatting

This breaks with print formatting rules, but when you use an ellipsis or m-dash in your ebook, you \_really\_ need to add a space both before and after. Some reading apps will treat...this as one long word. Trust me, this can do terrible things to the ebook's formatting.

#### Spam

Spammers are going to flood your site with their trash, trust me on that. Luckily, you can use the **Cleantalk** Wordpress plugin to automatically keep spam comments from ever being seen by legitimate visitors. It even kblocks spam in your contact forms!

#### **Internet Archive**

If you've ever discovered a post or page was mysteriously deleted from your site, and wanted to get that one post back without restoring your entire site from a backup, I may have a solution. The Internet Archive regularly scans and backs up most websites, and if you are lucky it will have a copy of your missing page or post.

#### Let me know if you found these tips useful!

Nate@NateHoffelder.com

www.NateHoffelder.com



April Kelley Jones: April has read, written, or edited her way through numerous fictional worlds. A Tennessee native, April currently lives in South Carolina with her husband and three children. Her poems and short stories are in various literary magazines and anthologies. You can also check out her debut novel, *The Curse Breaker*.

**Bryan Jones**: Bryan Jones is a chainmail smith and digital artist who proudly hails from Huntsville, Alabama, the "Rocket City." Bryan is a fan of Renaissance Faires and medieval combat, translating that interest into chainmail creations that will delight any fair lady and her knight in shining armor.

Howard Andrew Jones: Howard Andrew Jones is the author of the upcoming Hanuvar series from Baen (starting with Lord of a Shattered Land August 2023), a critically-acclaimed Arabian Fantasy series, and the Ring-Sworn trilogy from St. Martin's. When he's not editing Tales From the Magician's Skull, you might find him lurking at www.howardandrewjones.com.

**Daniel Kemp:** A 1995-1996 1998 Ole Miss graduate, Dan went on to Fort Benning, Korea, and Fort Campbell for the next decade. He mined experiences in Kosovo and Iraq for his Master's in Military History through Norwich University in 2012. His first novel and several short pieces are forthcoming in 2023.

Michael Kingswood: A 20-year veteran of the US Navy submarine force and lifelong fan. He's published over 80 titles and his shorts have appeared in anthologies. His weekly podcast, Story Time With Michael Kingswood, can be found in video and audio formats. He has four children and currently resides in San Diego.

Martha Knowles: Before she retired, Martha was a professional librarian and records management specialist. She was on the TVIW Board of Directors and was the administrator and Registrar for the TVIW symposia 1-4. When TVIW became the Interstellar Research Group, she stepped up as Registrar for the 7th IRG Interstellar Symposium.

**Gini Koch**: Gini Koch writes the fast, fresh, and funny Alien/Katherine "Kitty" Katt series for DAW Books/PRH, as well as many other novels, novellas, novelettes, and short stories in all the genres and under a variety of pen names, including G.J. Koch, Anita Ensal, Jemma Chase, A.E. Stanton, and J.C. Koch. www.ginikoch.com

**Tom Kratman**: Tom is a retired infantry lieutenant colonel and retired civil lawyer who writes full-time for Baen, Castalia, and Defy Media. Originally from the Peoples Republic of Massachusetts, he defected from there to the Army in 1974 at the age of seventeen. He and his wife currently call Virginia home.

**Ray Krawczyk**: Ray Krawczyk hails from a small town in Massachusetts. He has lived in such exotic locales as Chicago, Rapid City, Raleigh, and has been allowed to reside near Philadelphia for the last several decades. He suspects this has only happened because the authorities have not been alerted to his presence.

Jeremy Levitt: Jeremy Levitt is a happily married father of 2 who currently works as a mechanical engineer. Before listening to his wife and getting his degree, he worked as a master machinist. As a recovering Marine, he is proud to have gone more than a year without eating any crayons.

Ann Margaret Lewis: Ann began her writing career producing *Star Wars: The Essential Guide to Alien Species* for DelRey. Her first novel, *Murder in the Vatican: The Church Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes* was the Independent Book Publisher's Award Winner for 2010. Her *Warrior of the Kizan* space fantasy will be released in 2023.

**D. Alan Lewis**: D. Alan Lewis is a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee who now resides in Nashville with a beta fish bent on world domination. His latest project is the paranormal-noir *Voodoo Rumors* book series. The series deals with all the unholy creatures of the night, including vampires, werewolves, demons, and ex-wives.

**Guy Lillian III**: Guy is a Rebel winner, 14-time Hugo nominee (12 for *Challenger*), former President of the Southern Fandom Confederation, Official Editor of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance, Fan Guest of Honor at the 1983 DeepSouthCon and other conventions in the South, and husband to Rose-Marie Lillian, the only accomplishment that matters.

**Doug Loss**: Doug Loss is a retired IT security analyst from Maryville, TN. He's been an SF reader since childhood (more than 55 years) and war gamer for over 50 years. He's an avid blues music fan and is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Interstellar Research Group (https://irg.space).

**Tamara Lowery:** Tamara Lowery, author of *The Adventures of Pigg & Woolfe* serial and the Waves of Darkness series, is a native of Chattanooga. Season 3 of *Pigg & Woolfe* launched January 2023 on Kindle. Waves of Darkness began its 2nd edition release in 2021, with titles coming out every 6 months.

Geoffrey Mandragora: Pen name for Brent Mehring. He is currently completing three years of rehab following a twenty-year addiction to historical re-enactment. After decades of arguing with people about what is "period," his first novel, *The Thunderbolt Affair* sets the argument, "What is Steampunk?"

Sarah Martin: After hanging around LibertyCon for years, it was only a matter of time till she volunteered. During LibertyCon she's in the Art Show and running Karaoke. She loves everything tech. She enjoys PC gaming, live streams, and is a moderator on Twitch and Discord for several other streamers.

L. Wailana Massa: Lorna Wailana Massa was born in Hawaii and loves to share the spirit of Aloha. She is an enthusiastic Polynesian dance student with over 20 years of performance experience. She would love to teach you a few Hula moves and show you how to boogie Hawaiian style!

**Mike Massa**: Mike's work encompasses SF/Mil-SF/Fantasy and non-fiction. Since 2016, he has written two novels, and his work has been included in ten anthologies. Mike received his first book contract at LibertyCon XXIX in front of a packed house inside the Choo-Choo's main auditorium—LibertyCon will always be special for him!

**Tom Mays:** Captain Thomas A. Mays, USN, is the Commanding Officer of USS *John L. Canley*, ESB 6, in San Diego, CA. Outside his day job, Tom has written several novels and short stories in The Patron Cycle, 4HU & *The Mutineer's Daughter*, and upcoming for The Fae Wars at Cannon Publishing.

**T. C. McCarthy**: T. C. McCarthy is an awardwinning and critically acclaimed science fiction author whose most recent novels, *Tyger Burning* and *Tyger Bright*, are available from Baen Books. Check out his website at www.tcmccarthy.com. Wil McCarthy: Wil McCarthy, formerly of WIRED and SyFy, has scored one Prometheus Award, two AnLabs, two New York Times Notable Books, and has been nominated for the Nebula, Locus, Seiun, Sturgeon and Philip K. Dick awards. He's the author of the acclaimed *Queendom of Sol* and Rich Man's Sky series.

Sean McCune: Former active-duty Sergeant in the USAF and Veteran of the Gulf War, Sean currently resides in the upper Midwest with his wife and two cats. He works full-time in the telecommunications industry, occasionally goes hunting and fishing, enjoys writing what his Muse demands for numerous stories, and performs voice-over work.

**Patty McIntosh-Mize**: Patty McIntosh-Mize, MS, is a freelance editor, most notably of Mark Wandrey's Dragon Award Finalists, *A Time to Die* and *Cartwright's Cavaliers*. With a lifelong interest in diet, fitness, and health focusing on healing autoimmune disorders, she enjoys helping others learn about and practice healthy fasting, exercise, and dietary habits.

Joe McKeel: Former Dump Truck Driver and haunted attraction builder and actor turned paranormal investigator (retired from all that nonsense). Now a convention director. Joe, more commonly known as JoeDog in the convention circles, has overseen HallowCon-A Fantasy and Horror Convention since 2017. Joe is also a livestreaming YouTuber.

**Ian McMurtrie (Lawdog):** Born in Malta to an Oklahoma oil engineer and Texas school teacher and raised in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. He's been a soldier, EMT, fireman, short-order cook, world's worst rodeo clown, and peace officer. He currently resides in Texas with a very patient lady and three fur children.

**Joseph Meany:** Joseph Meany, Ph.D., The Crimson Alkemist, is a Senior Scientist at Savannah River National Laboratory. His discoveries in materials science have applications in cutting edge renewable energy, green manufacturing, and circular economies. He is a leading expert in carbon nanomaterials and published the 2018 book *Graphene* with Les Johnson.



## CONTOBERFEST

- Literary Guest of Honor: Milton Davis
- Artist Guest of Honor: Amanda Makepeace
- Fan Guest of Honor: Bill Harrison
- Toastmaster: John Hartness

Sandra Medlock: Sandra began her business career as a technical editor then moved to business writing and management positions. She currently tutors online math and writing classes, teaches music, and writes and edits science fiction short stories, novels, and anthologies. She lives in Texas with her husband and three very needy pets.

Megan Miller: Megan is a Super Mom of 3 special needs children who disguises her superhero identity with a day job as Grants Director at a large nonprofit in North Carolina. When she isn't charming bureaucrats, politicians, and wealthy funders out of money, she's working on horror, fantasy/sci-fi, and nonfiction writing projects.

Laura Montgomery: Laura Montgomery practices space law and writes science fiction. Her most recent book, *His Terrible Stall*, continues the lost colony saga, Martha's Sons. She also writes bourgeois legal science fiction. Her author site is at lauramontgomery.com.

Anita S. Moore: Home and work, kith and kin are in Dalton, GA, and yet all my stories end in "...and then we moved." Artist since for always, 3D artist since



2004. Professionally since 2010 DBA "FOOFIGHTERUBU Wargame Terrain Studio"

Richard Moores: Casey Moores was a USAF rescue/special ops C-130 pilot for over 17 yearsoperating in bad places in the dark of night. Now he lives a quieter life, translating those experiences to military science fiction, historical fiction, and fantasy. Find him at www.caseymoores.net.

Michael Morton: Michael Morton is retired USAF and wishes Space Force happened before he retired! He's working for the Space Force now as a civilian, so it's all good. He writes military sci-fi and fantasy, lives in Colorado Springs, and enjoys camping and exploring the local distilleries and breweries.

Nancy Northcott: Nancy Northcott writes historical fantasy for Falstaff Books. She also independently publishes several subgenres of romance and the Outcast Station science fiction series she cowrites with Jeanne Adams. She's also the comics track director for Con-Tinual, the convention that never sleeps. For more information, visit her website, www.NancyNorthcott.com. Jody Lynn Nye: When not engaged in the worthy occupation of 'spoiling cats', she writes usually humorous fantasy and science fiction. She's published over 50 books, 170 short stories, and written with notables including Anne McCaffrey and Robert Asprin. Jody teaches writing and is Coordinating Judge for the Writers of the Future Contest.

**Chris Oakley:** Chris owned and operated Oakley's Gently Used Books, a bricks & mortar used bookshop with a specialty in Sci Fi/Fantasy, for more than 20 years (1995-2016) in Charlottesville, VA. She has been a bookseller at AtomaCon, Madicon, MarsCon, MystiCon, RavenCon, LibertyCon and Omegacon and a Guest at LibertyCon and Congregate.

**Melissa Olthoff** : Melissa Olthoff is a mother of monsters, a military veteran, and a self-proclaimed mocha addict. She is a writer of sci-fi and fantasy stories with a dash of romance. You can find her on Facebook, Twitter, and at melissaolthoff.net.

**Stephanie Osborn**: Stephanie Osborn, the awardwinning Interstellar Woman of Mystery, is a 20+-year space program veteran, with degrees in astronomy, physics, chemistry and mathematics, "fluent" in others, including geology and anatomy. She has authored, co-authored, or contributed to 30+ books, including the celebrated Burnout, and the Displaced Detective and Gentleman Aegis series.

Jon Osborne: Jon R. Osborne is a fantasy and science fiction author from Indianapolis. He is a core author in the military science fiction Four Horsemen Universe. The second book in Jon's The Milesian Accords modern fantasy trilogy, "A Tempered Warrior", was a 2018 Dragon Awards finalist for Best Fantasy Novel.

Erin Palette: Erin Palette is a Prepper, an Eagle Scout, and a Floridian. She believes that anyone can be prepared for most emergencies with some common sense and basic materials. She curates <u>Blue</u> <u>Collar Prepping</u>, a blog which has been teaching readers since 2014 how preparedness doesn't have to cost a fortune.

**Rick Partlow**: Rick Partlow is an Army veteran with a degree in History from Florida Southern College. He is the author of 51 military SF and space opera novels including the Dragon Award finalist *Direct Fire*. Mark Paulk: Dr. Paulk is on the faculty at the University of Texas at Dallas teaching software engineering. Before UTD, he was with Carnegie Mellon University, researching and teaching best practices for software engineering and service management. His best-known work is on the Software Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model for Software.

Sue Phillips: Sue has been involved with fandom for almost 50 years. She has been involved with almost all aspects of conventions, but this is only her second time as a panelist/guest. She lives in Atlanta with a roommate, two cats and a lot of books. Please be gentle.

**Nicole Plummer:** Nic Plume is a Writer in Progress, Sufferer of Wanderlust, Human Sidekick, who learned English from Dragons and is always in search of the next "wheeee" moment. Her stories tell the triumphs, tribulations, failures, and pains of the human experience through a lens formed by her association with the military.

Gary Poole: Radio personality and newspaper editor Gary Poole is the founder and longtime host of Robot Battles, has edited three national bestselling anthologies set in John Ringo's "Black Tide Rising" universe (which a fourth coming in 2023), and runs the Southern Fandom Resource Guide website.

Leia Powell: Award-winning Master Stained Glass Artisan, she's been creating glass masterpieces, breaking down barriers, and rejuvenating the oldworld craft for over 25 years. The first stained glass artist to be nominated for the Chesley Award and the first to be the sole maker of an author's trademarked characters: Edgar Rice Burroughs.

Martin Powell: Critically acclaimed author Martin Powell has written many of the most popular characters in the industry, including Superman, Batman, Popeye the Sailor, and Tarzan of the Apes, in comics and in prose, for Disney, Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, among many others.

Andy Presby: A NASA engineer and retired US Navy submarine officer. He consults on future technology for Joelle Presby and other science fiction authors. He has degrees in spacecraft systems engineering and astronautical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School. Joelle Preshy: Joelle Presby is a former US Navy nuclear engineer and recovering corporate consultant who grew up in West Africa. Her first reader husband works in the space industry. Look for news, funny stories, and book release info on her website: joellepresby.com.

Kevin Pulliam: Kevin Pulliam, with two aerospace engineering degrees and a 20-year career supporting the Army, now also runs a 130-acre farm raising beef, pork, and chicken, along with the occasional batch of beer. A lifelong fan of hard science fiction, he cut his teeth on Heinlein juveniles and hasn't looked back.

Vivienne "Vee" Raper: Vivienne Raper is a freelance journalist with a PhD in satellite engineering who somehow ended up writing about biomedical science for a living. Her fiction is unsurprisingly hard SF, but with a smattering of mil-SF and crime-thriller. Outside of writing, she enjoys renovating a crumbling Victorian house in London.

Alex Rath: Alex Rath is a best-selling Military Science Fiction and Post-Apocalyptic author, residing in Columbia, South Carolina. With works published in the Four Horsemen Universe, This Fallen World, and the Salvage Title Universe, Alex has also started his own Science Fiction series starting with Seeds of Terra.

**Robert Reed**: Rob Reed writes science fiction, fantasy, mysteries, and thrillers. He has worked as an emergency room clerk, reporter, and firearms instructor. He collects vintage military weapons and writes about firearms. Rob lives in the metro Detroit area with his wife, Marie, their three cats, and their untenably large book collection.

Kelle Z. Riley: Award-winning author, scientist, traveler, and martial artist has been featured in newspapers and national television. Her *Undercover Cat Mysteries* feature a scientist-turned-sleuth; her award-winning *Riches and Royals Romances* showcase modern women falling for real-life princes and billionaires. Find her at www.facebook.com /kellezriley; www.twitter.com/kellezriley; and www.kellezriley.net.

**Gray Rinehart**: Gray writes science fiction and fantasy stories, songs, and...other things. He's the only person to have commanded an Air Force satellite tracking station, written speeches for Presidential appointees, devised a poetic form, and had music on The Dr. Demento Show. He's currently a contributing editor (the "Slushmaster General") for Baen.

John Ringo: New York Times best-selling author who created the military-SF series The Posleen Wars (over a million copies in print). He's the author of the series The Council War, Black Tide Rising, and Ghost; novels Princess of Wands, Queen of Wands, The Last Centurion, From the Embers, and We Shall Rise.

Ann Robards: Ray Bradbury's *R Is For Rocket* sparked her love of SF and Fantasy. Both parents (Mom the artist, Dad the photographer) ignited an interest in and appreciation of art, so it is no surprise that Ann has what she thinks is the best convention job ever-the Art Show!

Sam Robb: Sam Robb is an urban fantasy writer from Pittsburgh, PA. He has a penchant for urban exploration, old buildings, back alleys, and taking pictures of graffiti. When he's not making up stories about what he sees during his wanderings, he works as a software developer and intermittent politician.

William Joseph Roberts: William Joseph Roberts has been called a Jack of all trades and Renaissance man by his peers. Since his enlistment as an F-15 Crew Chief with the USAF; he has been an artist, industrial design engineer, blacksmith, brewer, and now, eclectic writer. He and his family reside in Chickamauga, Georgia.

**Natalie Rodgers**: Nat Rodgers is the creator and artist of Cuteness & Vexation - a humorous art series focused on animals at their worst (best). Her related projects include *Fine Familiars* and the *Oracle of the Potoo*, all of which stem from her unique sense of humor and love for animals.

**Brent Roeder:** Brent Roeder, Ph.D., is a neuroscience researcher that is exploring how to restore damaged memory function. A life long geek, he enjoys writing sci-fi and fantasy to relax from work. Very occasionally he even remembers to finish a story.

**Tom Rogneby:** A curmudgeon who spends his time in the wilds of suburban Louisville living with his wife, children, cats, dogs, fish, and various transient outdoor animals. His hobbies include reading, shooting, and writing. He's a veteran who's gone to many exciting places doing boring things. He blogs at DaddyBear's Den (http://daddybearsden.com).

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Ken Roy: Kenneth is a retired professional engineer who's currently living in Oak Ridge. He's a long-time terraforming hobbyist who invented the "Shell Worlds" concept. A founding member of the not-forprofit corporation Interstellar Research Group who enjoys reading in a multitude of fiction genres and non-fiction on space colonization and terraforming.

**Courtney Lytle Sarnow**: Courtney Lytle Sarnow is a partner at Culhane Meadows and an Adjunct Professor at Emory Law. Her practice focuses on protecting creative works and providing consulting for innovative businesses. She has written a law school textbook and several academic articles which are not really as boring as they sound.

**Dave Sarnow:** Dr. David Sarnow (Lt Col USAF ret) is an MD, MPH with over twenty years of real-world public health experience in the Air Force and civilian sectors. His hands-on experience with public health planning and preparedness gives him a unique perspective on disease and all-hazard response. Hans G. Schantz: A theoretical physicist, Hans ended up in a career as an inventor and co-founded Q-Track Corporation. Author of *The Hidden Truth, A Rambling Wreck, The Brave and the Bold*, and nonfiction *The Art and Science of Ultrawideband Antennas.* Hans lives in Huntsville with his wife and two sets of twins.

James Schardt: James Schardt is a 21-year veteran of the US Army as an AH-64 Apache Attack Helicopter Armament Systems Repairer and a graduate of Austin Peay State University. He lives in Kentucky with his wife and too many cats. He enjoys shooting muzzleloaders, painting toy soldiers, and miniatures war gaming.

**M. M. Schill**: M. M. Schill is a writer, traditional Japanese artist, and associate editor at Pseudopod--a pro-market, short fiction horror podcast under the Escape Artists umbrella of speculative fiction podcasts. Outside of those pursuits, she practices martial arts, and is an outspoken activist for victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

**Dave Schroeder**: Dave is the author of the Xenotech Support series and the Congruent Mage high fantasy series. He's a retired IT executive from Atlanta who enjoys performing with ARTC. Dave also runs a small publishing house (Spiral Arm Press) primarily handling his own work, including an audiobook version of *Xenotech Rising*.

Gary W. Shelton: Recently retired and returned to the Family farm in North Alabama. 30 years of experience working with the USDA - Agricultural research service in Mississippi, specializing in soybean genetics. Also Known as "Da Fish," has traveled the continental US in search of card games, good BBQ, and Doughnut shops.

**David Sherrer:** David is a born entertainer and storyteller. He combines decades of gaming and corporate marketing experience to create amazing things and sells them like crackerjacks. He is the part owner and marketing director of Chenoweth Press, publisher of the bestselling Love, Lies, and Hocus Pocus universe novels.

Lydia Sherrer: The award-winning and USA Today Bestselling author of the Love, Lies, and Hocus Pocus universe of books which has sold over a million copies. Most recently, she has published a Gamelit series, TransDimensional Hunter, with NYT bestselling author John Ringo, and has written stories for several Black Tide Rising anthologies.

**Stephen J. Simmons**: Stephen started writing shortly after he retired from the Navy, primarily because his children had outgrown bedtime stories and the cats never laughed at the funny bits. He's published several short stories and flash-fiction pieces, the comic-fantasy novella *Just Grimm And Bear It*, and the SF novel *The Galileo Syndrome*.

**Benjamin Tyler Smith**: Benjamin spends his days creating maps for cemeteries and his evenings herding the undead and battling mutants and aliens. He writes fantasy (*Necrolopolis*), sci-fi (Car Wars fiction), and post-apocalyptic (*Blue Cavalry*, This Fallen World). Follow him at BenjaminTylerSmith.com and join his mailing list for free stories and regular updates!

Chris Smith: Christopher began writing fiction in 2012. His short stories can be found in multiple anthologies, including *Black Tide Rising, Forged In Blood, Noir Fatale*, and *Terra Nova*. Christopher has co-written two novels, *Kraken Mare* with Jason Cordova, and *Gunpowder & Embers* with Kacey Ezell and John Ringo.

**Paul Sparks**: Paul Sparks served as a combat medic in the US Army with three combat deployments overseas. He has been a lifelong geek, plays various RPGs and enjoys reading and writing military science fiction. He lives with his cats in Ohio, where he volunteers with various animal adoption agencies.

Jacob Spriggs: US Army combat veteran, gamer, and author who's visited over 35 countries, and worked a variety of jobs including environmental remediation, farming, civil engineering, and transportation. Kal draws upon these experiences to write over thirty novels. When not writing, reading, gaming, or otherwise working, Kal enjoys hiking, skiing, and camping.

Mark Stallings: Mark Stallings is an Amazon Best Selling author, member of Pikes Peak Writers, speaker at International conferences on Technology topics, is a writer of Wuxia, Fantasy, and Military Sci Fi. He is a competitive shooter, avid martial artist, drinker of craft beer, and motorcycle enthusiast.

**Craig Stanfill:** Craig W. Stanfill is a Ph.D. computer scientist, entrepreneur, and science fiction author with deep experience in Al and parallel computing.

He did ground-breaking research at Thinking Machines Corporation with David Waltz, then cofounded Ab Initio Software. He recently published his first dystopian science fiction novel, *Terms of Service*.

Kevin Steverson: Kevin Steverson is a retired veteran of the US Army. With several best-selling novels, picked up for development into feature film, he is also a published songwriter. When not at a convention or concert, he can be found in the foothills of the NE Georgia mountains writing his next story.

Nick Steverson: Nick Steverson, liquor and wine delivery guy turned writer guy. Published through Chris Kennedy Publishing, he has multiple titles in Salvage Title Universe, Four Horsemen Universe, and This Fallen World as well as the Starflight Universe with Three Ravens Publishing.

Martin Tays: Martin Tays ran reactors on a fast attack submarine during the cold war, but now writes humorous hard science fiction. Stealing Endeavor, his current novel, is now available on Amazon. He lives in Huntsville, Alabama with his wife Misty.

**Bill Thomasson**: Helps biomedical researchers write journal articles and grant applications. He's been reading SF since *Rocket Ship Galileo* but didn't discover cons until 1980. Bill also serves as volunteer Treasurer for Chicago's annual Disability Pride Parade (he's been legally blind since 2000) and Accessibility Services for every WorldCon since 2011.

**Tom Tinney**: Biker (V-twin kind) who enjoys writing sci-fi and fantasy. He's published two books and numerous anthology contributions. *Blood of Invidia*, written with his son, was a finalist for the 2017 Dragon award and they are currently working on *Legacy of Invidia*, as well as short story releases on his website.

**David Truesdale**: Editor of *Tangent Online*, which was nominated for the Hugo Award six times and one World Fantasy Award. A former editor of *SFWA Bulletin*, served as a World Fantasy Award judge, and wrote an original online column for *The Magazine of F&SF*. Retired to his hometown of Kansas City, MO.

**Oren Truitt**: Oren has worn a lot of hats; chemist, photographer, jeweler, sculptor, gunsmith, bladesmith, fencer, archivist, historian, museum technician, teacher, actor, stuntman, collector. He's considered a small arms expert, especially 19<sup>th</sup>-century firearms, and an aspiring writer. He lives in rural Oklahoma with his beloved Cindy MacLeod, dog Chief, and cat Kit.

**Brian Urbanek**: Brian has been making games since the mid-90s, and still hasn't learned his lesson. He works primarily in online video games and specializes in economies, systems work, and social mechanics. Some of his highest-profile recent titles are *XCom 2* and the last seven years of *Call of Duty*.

John Van Stry: John writes sci-fi and fantasy for Baen and as an indie. His latest Baen book is *Summer's End.* Indie works include *Portals of Infinity* and *Valens Legacy* (written as Jan Stryvant) is another. He is retired from engineering and writes full-time. His hobbies include motorcycles, playing bass, and building guitars.

Zane Voss: Zane Voss holds bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from the Missouri University of Science & Technology and works at an engineering firm in the steel industry. Zane has been a lifelong reader of science fiction and fantasy, and has followed that love into writing his own works of fiction.

**C. V. Walter**: C. V. Walter is a science fiction romance writer, best known for her Alien Brides series, and is the Head Editor for Raconteur Press. When not herding the cats that are the North Texas TroubleMakers, she's traveling to see the country, her friends, and hanging out with her kids.

Mark Wandrey: International bestselling author, Mark Wandrey created the Four Horsemen Universe and has written dozens of novels, with more in the works. He can be found somewhere in the USA, traveling with his wife and dogs, creating new universes, and looking for his next challenge.

James Ward: An excellent Chattanooga-based artist who is well known for putting paint on anything else that's not bolted down. His artwork is on everything from feathers to floppy disks, and he's branched out to creating costuming accessories. James is also an accomplished puppeteer and often gives performances during the convention. **Robert Waters**: Robert's writing career began with "The Assassin's Retirement Party," published in 2003, *Weird Tales*, Issue 332. He's worked in the alternate history series, 1632/Ring of Fire. He's worked in the gaming industry since 1994 and written eight other science fiction and fantasy novels. He lives in Baltimore with his wife Elizabeth.

**Justin Watson**: Justin Watson is a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan. Medically retired from the Army, Justin settled in Houston with his wife Michele and their four kids. He has published one collaborative novel, *The Romanov Rescue*, and several short stories in the fields of military science fiction and alternate history.

William Alan Webb: After 45 years of writing military history Bill became an overnight success when he returned to his roots of science fiction and fantasy. Married for 40 years he was born and raised in West Tennessee, where he still lives, with his wife and 7 dogs.

#### ISSUES AT LIBERTYCON 35 / DEEPSOUTHCON 61

If you encounter ANY problem here at LibertyCon, PLEASE find a Staff member.

All staff will have a staff ribbon on their badge and/ or wearing a LibertyCon black shirt.

We will immediately assist you, handle the issue, and fixit to the best of our ability.

Thank you.

**Toni Weisskopf**: Toni Weisskopf has been the publisher of Baen Books since 2006. Baen is known for its innovative e-publishing program, which has expanded under Weisskopf's leadership to include titles from other publishers. She is interested in space science and serves on the Board of Advisors of the Interstellar Research Group.

**Rich Weyand**: Rich Weyand is a computer consultant and digital forensic analyst. His graduate education is in Physics, and he's never really recovered. In the six years since LC30, he has published twenty-seven novels in five science fiction and fantasy series: Childers Universe, EMPIRE Series, COLONY Series, PANTHEON Series, and Agency Series.

**Michael Z. Williamson**: Michael Z. Williamson is an SF author, military consultant, and Editor at Large for Survivalblog. His novels include the popular Freehold universe, and *The Hero* (with John Ringo). He has consulted for productions on Discovery Networks, the Outdoor Channel, and National Geographic. He can be found online at www.MichaelZWilliamson.com.

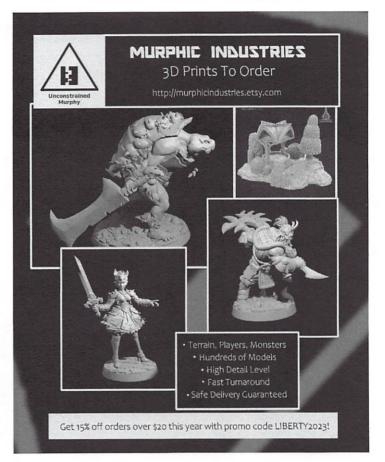
**Philip Wohlrab**: Currently the NCOIC of a Medical Section at an Army Schoolhouse and a senior instructor in several courses. In Iraq, he earned the title "Doc" the hard way, then earned an MS in Public Health. He's published a few short stories, is working on more, and on his first novel.

Marisa Wolf: Marisa Wolf writes science fiction, fantasy, and every point she finds between. A core author in the bestselling Four Horseman Universe, she's responsible (to blame?) for the Valkyries storyline of the Hit World Universe, and over 20 short stories among worlds both shared and her own. More at marisawolf.net.

**Brisco Woods**: Retired from the USAF and TNANG in 2015 and became a realtor working in east Tennessee. Seeing the success of two of his siblings as authors, he decided to give it a try. Now, five short stories, one novella, and two novels later, he's an official multi-national published author. www.briscowoods-author.com.

Trisha J. Wooldridge: AKA child-friendly T.J. Wooldridge, she writes and edits wicked awesome stuff! She's in the Shirley Jackson Awardwinning *The Twisted Book of Shadows*; *HWA Poetry Showcase* volumes; and all New England Horror Writer-anthologies (that she didn't edit). CKP/New Mythology Press publishes her fantasy series, The Princess and the Dragon.

Jenny Wren: Jenny is originally from South Florida, and was never bored as a kid. She was always asking and answering "What if...?" to stay entertained. Now she stays entertained by writing science fiction and fantasy for Three Ravens Publishing and enjoys spending time with her husband and puppies.



**Ben Yalow**: Ben Yalow's been attending conventions since 1971, including every Worldcon since 1971, and worked on hundreds of them, with jobs ranging from gofer to Worldcon Division Head and regional con chair. He's been NESFA President, a member of clubs throughout North America, and edited four books for NESFA Press.

James Young: Missouri native, he escaped smalltown life via military service. Living in the Midwest with his wonderful spouse (artist Anita C. Young), he spends his time researching history, then applying it in new and interesting ways to torment characters. He's been published in academic journals and wrote the Usurper's War series.





Chattanooga Convention Center

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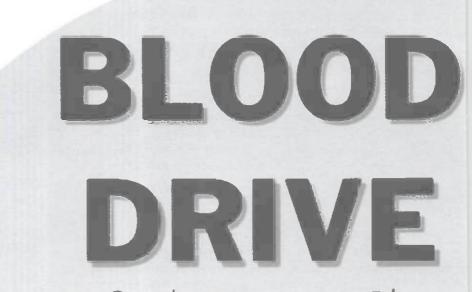
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Dealers Room Ballroom F/G in the Convention	nCenter	Sat	day: :urday: nday:	3:00 PM – 8:00 PM 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Mystik WabooseMagpies CuriosThe Missing VolumeWoods CostumingAlan & Barbara GarrettCrystal Creations	Oakley's Gently Used Books Weber Universal Outfitters Sharp Pointy Things Atlanta Radio Theatre Company Leia & Martin Powell's Glass & Book Treasures		Chris Kennedy Publishing Spinners End Studio A. B. Tales Larry Smith Book Sellers Rich Groller / Three Ravens Publishing	
Art Show Room 4 in the Convention Center		Sat	day: :urday: nday:	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
That Ain't Quite Right Lookout Mountain Room in the	Café and Bar Marriott	Sat Sur	day: turday: nday:	3:00 PM - 2:00 AM 9:00 AM - 2:00 AM 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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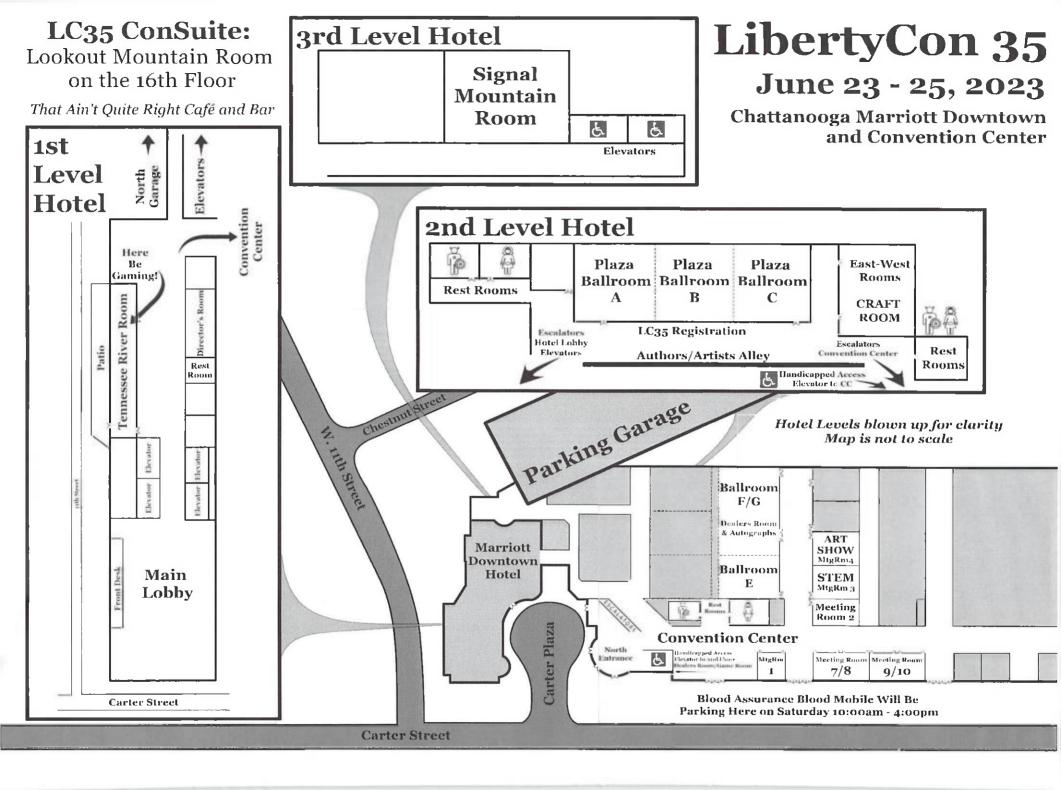
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Staff ticket sales for LibertyCon 36 begin at noon EDT, 8 July 2023. General ticket sales for LibertyCon 36 begin at noon EDT, 15 July 2023.

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## Autographs & SETERCES





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