

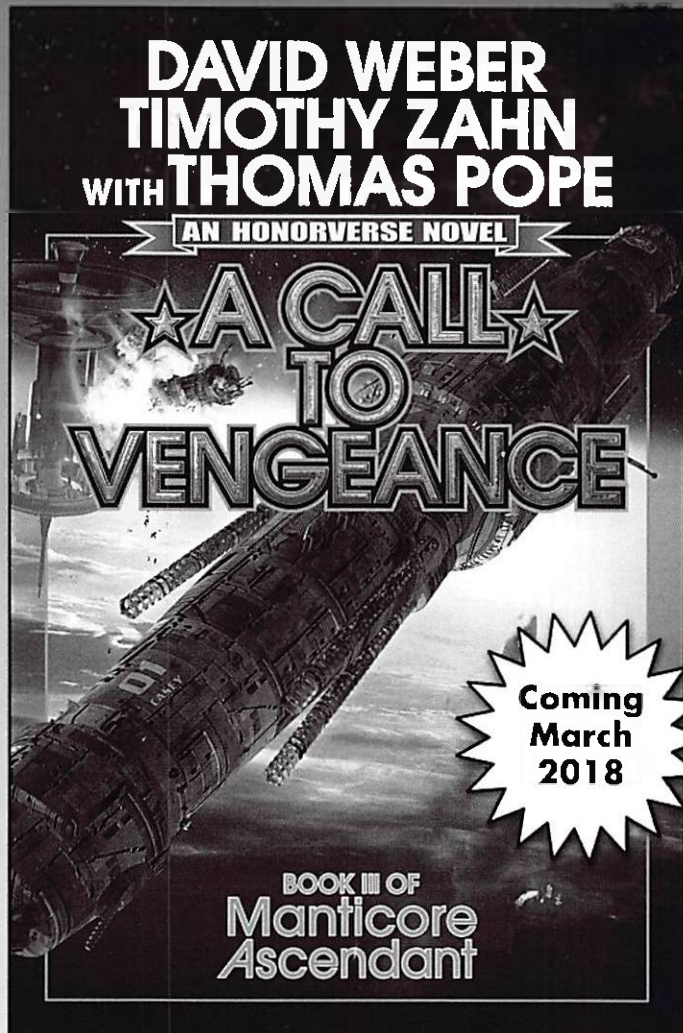
ConGregate 4 / DeepSouthCon 55



July 14-16, 2017

ANSWER THE CALL TO VENGEANCE

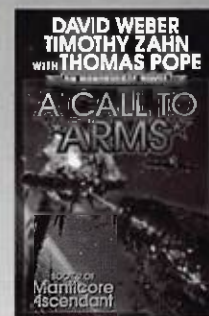
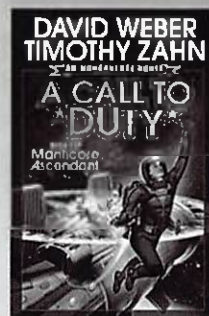
The Manticore Ascendant Series Continues



Travis Long has risen from humble beginnings to become one of the Royal Manticoran Navy's most valuable assets. Twice he's saved the RMN, but now he faces his greatest challenge yet, one that will test his mettle as an officer and as a man of honor. Vengeance is calling—and Travis Uriah Long is willing and able to answer!

The newest installment in the Manticore Ascendant series from *New York Times* best-selling authors David Weber and Timothy Zahn and Honorverse expert Thomas Pope.

Explore the Honorverse through the Manticore Ascendant series!



Praise for the Manticore Ascendant series:

"The plotting is as solid as ever, with smaller scenes building to an explosive, action-packed crescendo . . ."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Like Robert A. Heinlein and Orson Scott Card, Weber and Zahn are telling a story about a teenage character but writing for readers of all ages."

—*Booklist*

"[T]his astronomical adventure is filled with . . . intrigue and political drama."

—*Publishers Weekly*

Find sample chapters for all Baen Books at www.baen.com.
For more information, sign up for our newsletters at:
http://www.baen.com/newsletter_signup.



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**IF you See
SOMETHING, Say
SOMETHING!**

Statement on Inclusion

At ConGRegate, we pride ourselves in trying to provide an inclusive environment, and are proud to support all fans regardless of gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, physical appearance, body size, age, race, color, religion or national origin.



From the Con Chair

Welcome to ConGRegate 4 / DeepSouthCon 55!

What an honor is it to be hosting DeepSouthCon (DSC) this year. When we won the bid, we heard from a lot of people that said hosting DSC was going to be a pain in the tail, and I've got to tell you, it's really not. Yes, there are some traditions that need to be adhered to, but really, those are things that we have found add to our con; they haven't detracted from it. DSC is a southern tradition like no other, and we are truly fortunate to have been awarded this year's con.

Now, on to a more serious issue. With things that have been happening throughout the world recently (Phoenix ComicCon comes to mind), you will see a new mantra at ConGRegate, "If you see something, say something!" Safety is part of our job as the con staff, but we can't be everywhere, all the time. So, we ask that everyone be aware of things that are going on around them. If something looks suspicious or even if you see someone being harassed, please don't just raise an eyebrow; raise the issue with the con staff. It's possible we've seen it and have investigated it; it's also possible that we're being pulled in six other directions and haven't seen it. So, please, "If you see something, say something!"

With that out of the way, let me wish everyone a fun weekend. We have a lot of great programming scheduled and hope that you can find something to do that you truly enjoy over the next three days.

Thank you very much for coming, and have a great convention!

-James Fulbright
President/Con Chair

Convention Staff and Harassment Policy

Convention Staff

Convention Chairman	James Fulbright
Vice Chairman	Scott Gibson
Programming Director	Tera Fulbright
Assistant Programming Director	Charles Rizzo
Accessibility Coordinator	Richard Sarner
Guest Services Coordinator	Ann Tucker
JustUs Productions President	Jeff Smith
Gaming Coordinator	Ron McClung
Gaming Staff	Bill Boivin
	Tim McCrary
	Landon Hatfield
ConSuite Director	John Desmarais
Director of Registration	Amy Masters
Assistant Registration Director	Cindy Walker
Exhibit Space Coordinator	Scott Gibson
Exhibitor Space Staff	Stephanie Roane
Dealer Room Staff	Bill Mann
	Janine Martinez
Director of Operations	John Endicott
Tech Ops Coordinator	Andrew Greeson
Assistant Tech Ops Coordinator	Tim Dixon
Marketing Director	Nancy Knight
Marketing Staff	Patrick Brown
	Aaron Brite

Volunteers

Liam Allen, Casey Casas, Jonathan Casas, Jen Davis, Rachel Desmarais, Conall Desmarais, Marcy Desmarais, Laura Haywood-Cory, Luke Mallicoat, Wendell McCollom, Gene Moody, David Robbins, Rowdy Scarlett, Andy Simmons, Ian Simmons, Heather Simpson, John Simpson, Chuck Turnitsa, Anita Turnitsa, Heidi Turnitsa, Dana Windsor, Carol Wood

Game Masters

Philip Carrol, Bennett Grills, Lynn Holiman, Todd Holiman, Sam Horsley, Violet Horsley, Alan Hyde, James Kight, Steven Savage, James Sugrue, Bjørn Windlover

ConGregarate Productions

Corporate Officers

James Fulbright -- President
Laura Haywood-Cory -- Vice President
Tera Fulbright -- Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors

Everette Beach (Chairman of the Board), Laura Haywood-Cory, Paul Cory, James Fulbright, and Tera Fulbright

Harassment Policy

We are endeavoring to make ConGregarate a safe place for fans to gather. Even so, certain types of inappropriate, offensive or harassing behavior can be found at public places across the world. To the best of our ability, we want to prevent inappropriate conduct during the convention.

It is very important that if you are being harassed, or in any way feel endangered, that you report it immediately. For the convention to be able to address issues, it is important that we be made aware of any situation that might occur, with as many details as can be provided (names, badge numbers, descriptive information, etc.).

If you feel you have been harassed, please find the nearest convention volunteer and ask to be directed to the Convention Chairman or Vice Chair. During convention hours, you should be able to locate a staff member at the con registration table, the Prefunction area, or at Con HQ (see map on p. 20).

Additionally, if you see someone being harassed, we encourage you to speak up and say something. As a community, fandom needs to work together to make sure everyone is treated with respect.

Once a complaint of discriminatory harassment has been filed, an investigation will be conducted. The nature and extent of the investigation will depend upon the complaint. The convention will respect the wishes of the person reporting the harassment when deciding on further steps. A convention participant, who the con organizers believe has committed harassment, or who fails to cooperate with an investigation, may be sanctioned or asked to leave the convention without a refund at the discretion of the con organizers. Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately.

Actions taken by the con staff are separate and distinct from any legal action and do not, in fact, preclude legal consequences from happening.

* * *

Definition of Harassment - to create an unpleasant or hostile situation, especially by uninvited and unwelcome verbal or physical conduct.

Types of harassment include but are not limited to: physical assault, battery, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate or unwelcome physical contact, unwelcome sexual attention, negative comments regarding gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, age, race, or religion.

Convention Rules

1. When you are in the convention areas, you must wear your badge. Lost badges will only be replaced once. The basic gist here is: *yes, you have to wear your stinking badges.*
2. The staff of ConGregarate reserves the right to toss anyone (members, guests, dealers, volunteers... anyone) out of the convention, without a refund, if they are behaving like a jerk. ConGregarate's management will be the sole arbiters of what constitutes behaving like a jerk.
3. Please be aware that harassment falls under rule number two (2) above. Keep in mind that the determination of what is harassing behavior is typically defined by the VICTIM. We will only consider intent when determining the fate of anyone we feel is guilty of harassing their fellow con-goers. Please see our full harassment policy on p.2 of this book.
4. ConGregarate requires that you provide your real name when you register for the convention. An alias can be used on your badge, but our database must have your real name associated with it. Anyone who provides false information to the convention may be asked to leave the con, without a refund.
5. Mother always said, "Don't run in the house!" The same applies to the con site.
6. Do not tear up the hotel! We like it here and want to come back at some point. If you have a lapse in judgment and we catch you wrecking the hotel... well, go back and read rule number 2.
7. You may only hang signs on the walls of the hotel with the hotel's permission. Special materials, and possibly labor, will need to be provided by the hotel. Fees for those services will apply.
8. Bladed weapons must be sheathed and peace-bonded at all times. All other actual weapons are prohibited in the con space (Ballrooms, Prefunction Space, Programming Suites and Con Suite). Blasters and fake weapons are permitted if you swing by the reg desk first and allow us to "peace-bond" it.
9. The staff of ConGregarate cannot permit unauthorized vendors to sell anything at the convention. The dealers have paid good money to be here and it's simply not fair to them otherwise.
10. Please switch your cell phones, and other electronic devices, to silent ring while you are in the programming rooms. If you do receive a call, we ask that you leave the room before you answer your phone.
11. Please be aware of, and courteous to, your fellow conventioners as you navigate the walk spaces in the convention. In particular, try not to block the aisles in the dealer room, the panel rooms, and especially the ramp leading from the lobby to the Prefunction area.
12. As with most hotels, the Radisson makes a good chunk of its money from catering. It is one way they can help keep

your convention costs low. You may not eat food in the con space unless it was purchased from the hotel. Your options this weekend are: you can eat what you buy from the hotel, go out to eat, or eat in your personal room. The same applies to all beverages.

13. ConGregarate is not responsible for items lost during the convention. As each of us has lost stuff from time to time, we can sympathize with you. We'll even try to help you find said items. We cannot, however, afford to replace them. Sorry.
14. While the convention organizers encourage members to bring their children to ConGregarate, we ask that parents take an active role in monitoring the events in which their children participate. Some events (and most parties) may not be suitable for all ages. Also, please be aware that ConGregarate is not a daycare service. Children left unattended may be remanded to the care of Child Protective Services of Guilford County.
15. ConGregarate is offering a "kids area" during select times of the convention, with crafts and coloring books. Feel free to take your children there if they need a break from the con. Please be aware, however, that this area is not designed as daycare.
16. No smoking (or vaping) inside the hotel. Smoking areas are available outside of the hotel lobby and on the terrace outside the convention center.
17. We believe in the "no costume is no costume" rule. Naked people are not quite appropriate for ConGregarate's common areas.
18. Since discussions of a political nature have a tendency to become incendiary, we ask that you limit those to your private hotel rooms or outside of the hotel.
19. No rule listed here supercedes local law, state law, federal law or hotel policy. You still have to obey those strictures.
20. And, finally, our most important rule during the convention is: HAVE FUN!

Photography Policy

1. While photography and videography are generally allowed in all convention spaces and the hotel lobby, photography, flash photography, or videography may be prohibited at certain events or in specific areas. These will be identified by signs, announcements, or notations in the panel descriptions in the program book, as appropriate. Violating the photography & videography rules can result in your removal from the area or event.
2. Photographers and videographers may not block walkways or emergency exits with their equipment. Backdrops may not be put up in any convention space without the permission of the convention.
3. You must ask for permission before you take a person's picture or record them, and take the answer "no" with good grace.

Featured Guests

Barbara Hambly

Writer Guest of Honor

Since her first published fantasy in 1982 – *The Time of the Dark* – Barbara Hambly has touched pretty much all the bases in genre fiction, including mainstream historical fiction, historical murder mysteries, fantasy, science fiction, comic books, graphic novels, media tie-ins, a screenplay, and scripts for Saturday morning cartoon shows. She continues to write both fantasy and historical fiction: the well-reviewed Benjamin January series of historical whodunnits (whose fourteenth entry, *Drinking Gourd*, was published this year by Severn House U.K.), and the vampire tales of James and Lydia Asher and their vampire acquaintance Don Simon Ysidro, also from Severn House (most recently, *Darkness On His Bones*).

She keeps her hand in the world of fantasy by continuing the adventures of the heroes of her various Del Rey fantasy series of the '80s and '90s with the *Further Adventures*, novellettes of 10,000-15,000 words published independently online through Amazon. In addition, she has written, under the name of Barbara Hamilton, three historical murder-mysteries of the “famous historical sleuth” variety featuring Abigail Adams, and hopes to do more when she has time.



Born in San Diego, California, a long time ago, she has lived in Southern California most of her life, except for attending the University of Bordeaux, France, for a year in the early '70s, and a few years of living part-time in New Orleans while married to science fiction writer George Alec Effinger.

She currently teaches History part-time at Pierce College in Woodland Hills, and you can follow her on Facebook and LiveJournal. In what stray hours she can steal from these occupations, she is a reasonably good painter; her other interests include dance, martial arts (ko-ryu), costuming, and videogames. She currently does not have time to do any of these.

Now a widow, she shares a house in Los Angeles with several small carnivores.

Alan Pollack

Artist Guest of Honor

Alan Pollack was born in New Jersey in 1964. Influenced at an early age by artists such as Frank Frazetta and Boris Vallejo, Alan knew that fantasy illustration would be his career of choice.

After graduating from high school, he studied at several colleges. At the School of Visual Arts in NYC, the illustration team of Martucci and Greisbach convinced Alan to dabble in oils. He was so inspired by his first attempts that he began developing a portfolio of fantasy illustration.

In his early twenties, Alan worked part-time as a silk screener and a photo retoucher while continuing to build his portfolio. In 1991, after much rejection from New York publishers, Alan was assigned his first cover illustration for *Dungeon* magazine with T.S.R Inc.

He then found an agent in NYC, but, shortly thereafter, was offered a staff position at T.S.R Inc. where he spent the next few years surrounded by great artists while honing his skills.

Since then, Alan has worked for many of the industries RPG companies, including Wizards of the Coast and T.S.R., and has graced the covers of most of the leading book publishers in this country, including Harper/Collins, Daw Books, Del-Rey, Baen Books, Tor Books, ROC and the Science Fiction Book Club. Alan has also had the honor of being chosen as the cover artist for *Spectrum*, an illustration annual which focuses on the year's best science fiction and fantasy art.

In 2015, Alan was one of the top five nominees chosen for the Hugo award for Best Professional Artist.

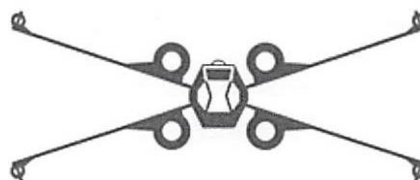
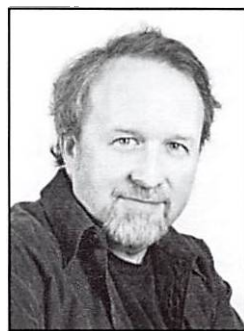
To see more about Alan, visit his website at: alanpollack.com



Michael A. Stackpole

Michael A. Stackpole is the multiple New York Times bestselling author of over forty fantasy and science fiction novels, his best known books written in the Star Wars® universe, including *Rogue Squadron* and *I, Jedi*, as well as the X-Wing graphic novel series. He has also written in the Conan, Pathfinder, BattleTech and World of Warcraft universes, among others.

Currently the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing at Arizona State University Distinguished Writer-in-Residence, Stackpole's other honors include: Induction into the Academy Gaming Arts and Design Hall of Fame, a Parsec Award for “Best Podcast Short Story,” and a Topps's selection as Best Star Wars® Comic Book Writer. Stackpole is the first author to sell work in Apple's App Store, and he's been an advocate for authors taking advantage of the digital revolution.



Toni Weisskopf

Toni Weisskopf succeeded Jim Baen as publisher of Baen Books, a leading publisher of sf and fantasy, in 2006. She has worked with such authors as David Weber, Mercedes Lackey, David Drake, Lois McMaster Bujold, Eric Flint, Wen Spencer, Larry Correia, Charles E. Gannon, and many others. With Josepha Sherman, she compiled and annotated the definitive volume of subversive children's folklore, *Greasy Grimy Gopher Guts*, published by August House.

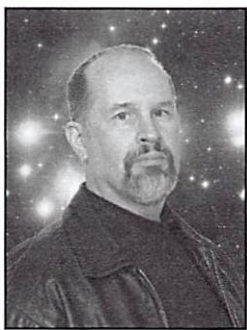
Toni is a graduate of Oberlin College with a degree in anthropology. She is the mother of a delightful daughter, and lives in a hundred-year-old house with three cats, two dogs, and many spears. She is also interested in space science and is an active participant in the Tennessee Valley Interstellar Workshop.



Timothy Zahn

Timothy Zahn was born in Chicago in 1951 and grew up in the western suburb of Lombard. He attended Michigan State University in East Lansing, earning a B.S. degree in physics in 1973, and moved on to the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana for graduate work. He earned a M.S. degree there, also in physics, in 1975, and continued work toward a doctorate. Also in 1975, he began a new hobby: writing science fiction. At first a strictly spare-time avocation, over the next three years he gradually gave more time to it until he sold his first story in December 1978 ("Ernie," *Analog*, September 1979). In 1980 he left grad school and began writing full time.

Since then he has published fifty-one novels, over a hundred short stories and novelettes, and five collections of short fiction. Best known for his ten *Star Wars* novels, he is also the author of the *Quadrail* series, the *Cobra* series, the *Conquerors* Trilogy, and the young-adult *Dragonback* series.



His latest books are *Pawn's Gambit*, his fifth short-story collection; *A Call to Arms*, the second of the *Manticore Ascendant* series with David Weber; *Soulminder*; *StarCraft: Evolution*, *Pawn: A Chronicle of the Sibyl's War*, *Star Wars: Thrawn*, a prequel to Grand Admiral Thrawn's appearance in Season Three of

the Disney XD series *Star Wars Rebels*. and the upcoming novel, *A Call to Vengeance* (with David Weber).

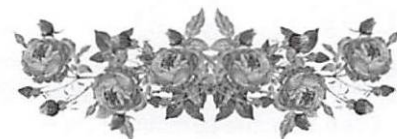
You can contact him at [facebook.com/TimothyZahn](https://www.facebook.com/TimothyZahn).

Hawaiian Shirt Friday

Each year, Congregate remembers contributors that we have lost from the science fiction and fantasy world. The tradition began in memory of Aaron Allston, who was well known for his love of Hawaiian shirts.

We encourage everyone to wear a Hawaiian shirt on Friday, July 14 in honor of:

- Bob Ellis, *fan*
- John "Jack" Ellis, *artist*
- Jerry Doyle, *actor*
- Joyce Katz, *writer/fan*
- Barry Jenner, *actor*
- Kenny Baker, *actor*
- David A. Kyle, *author/illustrator/fan*
- Sheri S. Tepper, *author*
- Don Marshall, *actor*
- Kerry Gilley, *fan*
- Robert Vaughn, *actor*
- Ron Glass, *actor*
- Bernard Fox, *actor*
- Richard Adams, *author*
- Carrie Fisher, *actor*
- Debbie Reynolds, *actor*
- Michu Meszaros, *actor*
- John Hurt, *actor*
- Richard Hatch, *actor/writer*
- Edward Bryant, *author*
- Neil Fingleton, *actor*
- Bill Paxton, *actor*
- J.R. "Klon" Newell, *fan/dealer*
- Bernie Wrightson, *artist*
- Robert Neagle, *fan*
- Robert "Canadian Rob" Nichols, *fan*
- Powers Boothe, *actor*
- Andy Cunningham, *puppeteer*
- Adam West, *actor*
- Stephen Furst, *actor*
- Stewart Weick, *game designer*



Guests of the Convention

Jim Beall

Jim Beall (BS-Math, MBA, PE) has been a nuclear engineer for over 40 years, a war gamer for over 50, and an avid reader of science fiction for even longer. His experience in nuclear engineering and power systems began as a naval officer, shortly after surviving one of Admiral Rickover's infamous interviews, aboard USS Long Beach (CGN-9). Civilian experience includes design, construction, inspection, enforcement, and assessment with a nuclear utility, an architect engineering firm, and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC). Assignments at the USNRC reactor inspector, inspection team leader, safety analyst, and reactor policy assistant to three different Presidential-appointed different USNRC Commissioners and earning the agency's Meritorious and Distinguished Service awards.

Duties of those policy-level posts included substantial research into alternative and speculative energy sources, as well as energy forecasts. Some of those other sources were coal, oil, hydro, geothermal, tidal, solar, wind, fracking, space-based, heavy water reactors, breeder reactors, fusion, and even anti-matter.

Baen Books (baen.com) has published four of his non-fiction articles: "Our Worldship Broke!", "Case Studies in Handwavium", "From Corvus to Keyhole -- Shipyards: Past, Present, and Science Fiction", "Radium Girls of Science and Science Fiction."

Samantha Bryant

Samantha Bryant is a middle school Spanish teacher by day and a mom and novelist by night. That makes her a superhero all the time. Her secret superpower is finding lost things. When she's not writing or teaching, Samantha enjoys time with her family, watching old movies, baking, reading, and going places. Her favorite gift is tickets (to just about anything).

She's the author of *Going Through the Change: A Menopausal Superhero Novel*, the sequel *Change of Life*, and the threequel *Face the Change* (due out July 11, 2017), all available through Curiosity Quills Press on Amazon or by request at your favorite bookseller. The three-quel will be out in summer 2017. You can find her on Twitter @mirymom1 or at her blog/website: samanthabryant.com

Roger and Janet Carden

Roger and Janet Carden are the husband and wife team behind *Crimson Streets* (2016-present), an online magazine dedicated to fiction in the style of the pulp magazines of yesteryear. They focus on fast paced stories of action, adventure, and intrigue; from hard boiled dicks and dangerous dames, to bold aviators and unspeakable horrors. Before starting *Crimson Streets*, both Roger and Janet worked with a team which published *The Familiar* (1988-1998), a professional print magazine dedicated to role-playing and adventure games. Roger is a co-founder of the Game Publishers Association, as well as an early supporter and member of CAR-PGa, the Committee for the Advancement or Role-Playing Games). Both enjoy playing "let's pretend" with

their friends via table-top role-playing games, Janet is a fan of mystery and crime novels, whereas Roger is a fan of classic science-fiction and fantasy. They both really enjoy genre movies; the good ones... and the really, really bad ones.

Alexandra Christian

Alexandra Christian is an author of paranormal romance with a speculative slant. Her love of Stephen King and sweet tea has flavored her fiction with a Southern Gothic sensibility that reeks of Spanish moss and deep fried eccentricity. As one-half of the writing team at Little Red Hen Romance, she's committed to bringing exciting stories and sapiosexual love monkeys to intelligent readers everywhere. Lexx also likes to keep her fingers in lots of different pies having written everything from sci-fi and horror to Sherlock Holmes adventures. Her alter-ego, A.C. Thompson, is also the editor of the highly successful *Improbable Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* series of anthologies from Mocha Memoirs Press.

A self-proclaimed "Southern Belle from Hell," Lexx is a native South Carolinian who lives with an epileptic wiener dog and her husband, author Tally Johnson. Her long-term aspirations are to one day be a best-selling authoress and part-time pinup girl. Questions, comments and complaints are most welcome at her website: lexxxchristian.wixsite.com/alexandrachristian.

Paul Cory

Paul Cory is a photographer based in Durham, North Carolina. You'll find fine art landscapes and nature, cosplay, portraits, and dancers, light movement artists and fire spinners in his portfolio. See examples of his work at www.paulcory.com.

Carol Cowles

Carol has long been a guardian of Geek Culture in Charlotte. She has served for several years as the Program Director for ConCarolinas and worked the Carolina and Arizona Renaissance Festivals for 13 years. She co-hosts two podcasts – the weekly *Guardians of the Geekery* (www.guardiansofthegeekery.com) and the bi-monthly *Out of Our Skull* (www.soundcloud.com/femmesfaisant). She also is known for her fabulous crafting and ferocious literary appetite. Her fandoms include all things Tolkien, *Doctor Who*, *The Walking Dead* and skulls – lots of skulls. You can find her on the webs at: www.purplehairedpixie.com.

Barbara deBary-Kesner

Barbara deBary-Kesner is a Human Systems Integration engineer by day, a masked caped crusader by night... in her dreams. Barbara specializes in GUI design, designing systems with the operator in mind to enhance usability and performance. Most evenings are spent curled on the couch with her husband Carl and 2 cats, watching cooking shows, a whodunit murder mystery, or the latest sci-fi, fantasy or superhero show.

Barbara is a key founder of MystiCon; serving as Programming Director for a few years before moving to Head of Registration.

Glenda Finkelstein

Glenda has a wide and varied career as a writer having published song lyrics, human-interest articles, poems, short stories, novels, and screenplays. Her interest in writing was not just a happenstance, having a great-grandfather who was a wonderful poet, and aunts and uncles who nurtured her imagination. Inspired by the legendary J.R.R. Tolkien, this art form was a natural course for her to take. She has written one historical novel, but her heart lies mostly with the Science Fiction and Fantasy genre's where her imagination can soar unhindered. Her writing has won her several awards, and is branching off into new uncharted territories. Her latest novel, *Phoenix Rising*, was published by Final Destiny Press and marks her tenth book.

She is a dynamic public speaker, in addition to her writing, she has ventured into the arena of acting. She voices six of her female characters in the audio adaptation of her novel, *Nemesis Rising*, a powerful rendition that even has the added benefits of sound effects and mood music. You can see all of her works on her website page at www.finaldestinypress.com. Her greatest hope is to ignite a love affair with reading in the hearts of people everywhere.

Gild the Mourn

Entering a realm somewhere between J.R.R. Tolkien's Middle Earth and Grimm's Fairytales, Gild The Mourn has laid a path for you to travel to a world beyond your own. The Fairytale themed Gothic Rock duo hailing from Charlottesville, VA comes clad in armor and war paint to tell tales of battles long forgotten, worlds that have faded from the pages of memory, and the struggles of the human condition. The band consists of husband and wife duo, Gopal and Angel Metro. Gopal being a veteran musician is co-founder of the dark rock bands *Bella Morte* and *Brighter Fires*. The two strive to create a positive culture around their music, focusing heavily on inner strength and perseverance. Their motto 'In the Darkest of Times, Find Light Within' represents finding fortitude within one's self during times of hardship and strife.

Guardian Corp

Lord of the Rings, *Star Wars*, *The Princess Bride*, and many other movies have one thing in common — amazing fight scenes!

Guardian Corp is the Choreographed Stage Combat division of The Sword Conservatory, a NC nonprofit dedicated to teaching the various sword art forms. We teach the basics of both sword fighting and choreography, so that performers can look like the dashing hero or powerful villain.

John Grigni

John Grigni has been an illustrator and designer for over 25 years. He began using computers for 3D work in the early 90s. He's provided illustrations for a number of gaming companies, both traditionally and digitally. In 2012, he started Argos Animation, and has been using Blender heavily in his production work. In 2014, he did the opening animation for the first Congregate.

John Hartness

John G. Hartness is a teller of tales, a righter of wrong, defender of ladies' virtues, and some people call him Maurice, for he speaks of the pompatus of love. He is also the award-winning author of the urban fantasy series *The Black Knight Chronicles* (Bell Bridge Books), the Bubba the Monster Hunter comedic horror series, the Quincy Harker, Demon Hunter dark fantasy series, and many other projects.

In 2016, John teamed up with a pair of other publishing industry ne'er-do-wells and founded Falstaff Books, a small press dedicated to publishing the best of genre fictions "misfit toys."

In his copious free time John enjoys long walks on the beach, rescuing kittens from trees and playing *Magic: the Gathering*.

Simon Hawke

Simon Hawke was born Nikolai Yermakov to Russian immigrant parents in 1951 in New York City. He grew up on Long Island and has also lived in Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., California, Colorado, and Arizona. He has traveled extensively, usually by motorcycle, and after 50 years of riding, only gave it up last year. After writing a number of novels under his birth name, he started writing under the pen name of Simon Hawke, and eventually changed it legally. He is the author of over 60 published novels, among them the *Time Wars* series and the *Wizard of 4th Street* series. He received his B.A. in Communications from Hofstra University and his M.A. in English and History from Western New Mexico University. The rest of his education he received from the school of hard knocks.

In addition to writing, he has worked a wide variety of jobs, some interesting and some not, and for the past 17 years has been employed by Home Depot. He is married to Deborah Brien and makes his home in Greensboro, N.C. An avid fitness enthusiast, he enjoys weight lifting, walking, yoga, and kayaking.

Randall Hayes

Randall Hayes, Ph.D., your friendly neighborhood neuroscientist, co-organizes the Greensboro Science Cafe, where they corner -- ah, informally interview -- a working scientist at Gibb's Hundred Brewing every month, as well as an ongoing science book club at Scuppernong Books. Check them out at [Facebook.com/greensborosciencecafe](https://www.facebook.com/greensborosciencecafe).

He also writes the monthly science column, PlotBot, for our local online SF magazine, www.intergalacticmedicineshow.com.

Kim Headlee

Kim Headlee lives on a farm in southwestern Virginia with her family, cats, goats, Great Pyrenees goat guards, and assorted wildlife. People and creatures come and go, but the cave and the 250-year-old house ruins—the latter having been occupied as recently as the midtwentieth century—seem to be sticking around for a while yet. She has been an award-winning published

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novelist since 1999 (*Dawnflight* first edition, Sonnet Books, Simon & Schuster), and has been studying the Arthurian legends for nigh on half a century. Her most recent fiction release, *King Arthur's Sister in Washington's Court* by Mark Twain as channeled by Kim Iverson Headlee, has been hailed as "solidly entertaining" by *Publishers Weekly*. The pen-and-ink headshot art was created for this novel and is copyright 2015 by Jennifer Doneske.

Dr. Daniel Herr

Dr. Herr is a pioneer in collaborative nanotechnology research, development, manufacturing and innovative supply chain management. He serves as UNC-Greensboro's professor and Nanoscience Department Chair at the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering (JSNN) in Greensboro, North Carolina. He leads a highly collaborative and transdisciplinary team that explores foundational nanoscience platforms and addresses emerging, high impact More-than-Moore (MtM) application opportunities. Current research platforms include nanobioelectronics, nanoenergy, computational nanotechnology, nanometrology, nanobiology/medicine, functional self-assembled nanomaterials, biomimetic systems and sustainability. He also continues to serve as Adjunct Associate Professor in Materials Science and Engineering at North Carolina State University, where he co-teaches a graduate level course on The Materials Science of Nanoelectronics. He also directs North Carolina's Nanomanufacturing Innovation Consortium (NIC) and serves as co-PI of the National Nanotechnology Coordinated Infrastructure's SENIC cluster, which facilitate industrial-academic networking and nurture access to the JSNN's facilities and faculty. These initiatives provide nanomaterials, nanofabrication and characterization tools, processes, and expertise to catalyze economic development. This work enables emerging and potentially disruptive More-than-Moore technologies and market opportunities. Examples include complex functional nanosystems that include healthcare, medical diagnostics and theranostics; sustainable materials and processes; energy scavenging and storage devices; flexible nanoelectronics; and smart textile, aerospace, transportation, construction, and agriculture technologies, etc., which drive the realization of the Internet of Things.

Tom Hutchens

Born in Winston-Salem North Carolina, Tom spent a great deal of his childhood dressing up as his favorite *Star Wars* characters. By 2003, this love for heroic characters would manifest itself in Tom's ability for armor craft, as he learned to meld time honored armor-smithing techniques with today's technology to create hyper-realistic sets of Mandalorian armor. Tom also enjoys crafting realistic and working life-sized *Star Wars* props.

In 2007, Tom founded the Mandalorian Mercs Costume Club here, with NC's "Talon Clan" being the organization's first chapter. Years of hard work would gain the club recognition by Lucasfilm

LTD. as the "Elite Mandalorian Costume Organization" as well as the organization's conversion from fan group into a registered non-profit. Tom has lent his knowledge of Mandalorians, armor, and culture in *Star Wars* to help collaborate on various *Star Wars* books, as well as being a writer for *StarWars.com*. Tom's costume and prop creations have been featured on such productions as Discovery Canada's *Daily Planet* television show, Warrior Poet's *In A Galaxy*, *Star Wars* documentary, and Adams Film's "Mandalore the Uniter" web-documentary.

Tom's Mandalorian character "Mandalore the Uniter" has been added to the list of *Star Wars* "Legends" Mandalorians in both the *Essential Guide to Warfare*, and *Bounty Hunter Code*. When he isn't helping out with the *Star Wars* universe, he's a network security administrator, entrepreneur, and maintains a farm with his wife in Mocksville NC.

Stuart Jaffe

Stuart Jaffe is the madman behind The Max Porter Paranormal Mysteries, the Nathan K thrillers, The Malja Chronicles, *The Bluesman*, *Founders*, *Real Magic*, and so much more.

He trained in martial arts for over a decade until a knee injury ended that practice. Now, he plays lead guitar in a local blues band, The Bootleggers, and enjoys life on a small farm in rural North Carolina. For those who continue to keep count, the animal list is as follows: one dog, three cats, three aquatic turtles, one albino corn snake, seven chickens, and a horse. As best as he's been able to manage, Stuart has made sure that the chickens and the horse do not live in the house.

JT "The Engineer"

JT "The Engineer" is an all-purpose geek. She obtained her Masters of Science in Engineering Mechanics with a focus in biomechanics from Virginia Tech in 2013. Her research focused on animal locomotion and included the analysis of beetle respiration and helping construct a platform to measure the force produced during an insects jump. Currently, she teaches basic engineering and design to future nerdlings (aka high school students) in Henrico County, Virginia. She also serves as the advisor to her schools chapter of the Technology Student Association (TSA) and as well as the coach for the Quidditch club.

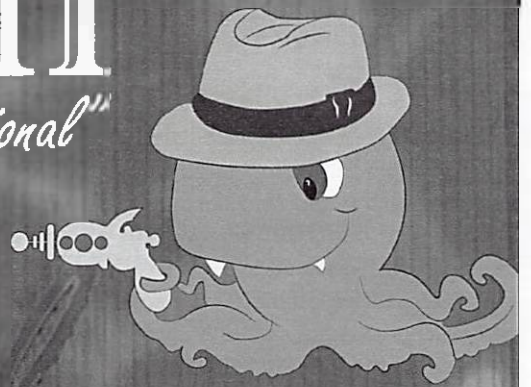
Outside of the world of science and education, "The Engineer" is an avid fan of many TV and literary fandoms including *Doctor Who*, *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, *Marvel*, and well, it's quite a long list. To further discuss her fandom, she is the author of *FrakinSpoilers* in which she reviews the occasional movie and talks about other nerdery. In addition to TV, she is also very active in *World of Warcraft* as an elite protection warrior.

"The Engineer's" creative abilities also extend to the world of crafts and photography. Some have called her a wizard with duct tape and she loves to great various geeky pieces for jewelry and other uses. She has also had several photos featured on Upcoming section on 500px. While her true passion is animal

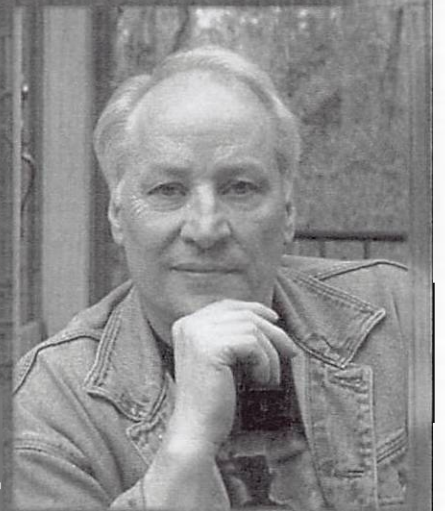
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photography, she has also been a staff photographer for RavenCon and ConCarolinas. Her photography can be viewed on: 500px.com/engineerdjen and www.flickr.com/photos/engineerdjen/sets/

Albin Johnson

In 1997, Albin Johnson created the 501st Legion, an Internet-based group for *Star Wars* costumers describing itself as Darth Vader's elite Imperial unit, "Vader's Fist." In 17 years, Albin helped grow the group to over 10,000 members worldwide in over 48 countries. The 501st has appeared in *Star Wars* novels, games, comics, toys, cartoons, and even Episode III. Following the loss of his daughter, Katie, to cancer in 2005, Albin and the R2 Builders Club created R2-KT, a pink astromech droid, to spread awareness of pediatric illnesses. Together, the 501st and R2-KT have raised millions for charity and worked with the *Star Wars* community to make a difference in the world.

Tally Johnson

Tally is a graduate of Spartanburg Methodist College and Wofford College with degrees in history. He is the author of *Ghosts of the South Carolina Upcountry*, *Ghosts of the South Carolina Midlands*, *Ghosts of the Pee Dee* (all for The History Press) and *Civil War Ghosts of South Carolina* (for Post Mortem Press) and has a story in *An Improbable Truth* (from Mocha Memoirs Press).

Tally currently serves as Special Services Coordinator for the Chester County Library and has been active in many community groups, including Chester County First Steps, the Chester County Arts Council, the School Improvement Council for the Chester Park School of the Arts and the Chester Little Theater among others. He is on the Roster of Approved Artists as an author, as well as the South Carolina School Librarians' list of storytellers. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends, hiking, hammock camping, visiting historic sites, and reading. He has been a guest at ConGRegate, ConCarolinas, Fandom Fest, MonsterCon, MystiCon, AtomaCon and Imaginarium.

Paula S. Jordan

Paula S. Jordan, a poet, occasional blogger, actress, and former NASA and NOAA orbit analyst, has authored three Analog stories, including *Vooorh*, a novelette, Jul/Aug 2014. In her novel-in-progress, a resourceful small-town group of friends joins forces with a centuries-old alien-watch group to defend friendly aliens and humans alike from a deadly anti-human faction of the alien species. The story is set in the present day North Carolina Mountains. Working title: "The Long Hello."

Paula has been a writer most of her life, beginning with her discovery of poetry in second grade and science fiction not long after. Both were distinctly formative experiences. After degrees in history and drama, and several years of copy-writing and freelance writing, she returned to college for a BS degree in physics. This led to thirteen years as an orbit analyst with NASA and NOAA, the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.

Chris Kennedy

A bestselling Science Fiction/Fantasy author, speaker, and small-press publisher, Chris Kennedy is a former naval aviator and elementary school principal. Chris' stories include the Occupied Seattle military fiction duology, *The Theogony* and *Codex Regius* science fiction trilogies, and the *War for Dominance* fantasy trilogy. Get his free book, *The Death of Atlantis*, at his website: chriskennedypublishing.com.

Called "fantastic" and "a great speaker," he has coached hundreds of beginning authors and budding novelists on how to self-publish their stories at a variety of conferences, conventions and writing guild presentations. He is the author of the award-winning #1 bestseller, *Self-Publishing for Profit: How to Get Your Book Out of Your Head and Into the Stores*, as well as the leadership training book, *Leadership from the Darkside*.

Chris lives in Virginia Beach, Virginia, with his wife and family. He is currently working with the Navy to help shape Navy training processes for the year 2025. He is the holder of a doctorate in educational leadership and master's degrees in both business and public administration.

You can follow Chris on Facebook at: facebook.com/chriskennedypublishing.biz and on Twitter at @ChrisKennedy110.

Darin Kennedy

Darin Kennedy, born and raised in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is a graduate of Wake Forest University and Bowman Gray School of Medicine. After completing family medicine residency in the mountains of Virginia, he served eight years as a United States Army physician and wrote his first novel in the sands of northern Iraq.

His debut novel, *The Mussorgsky Riddle*, was born from a fusion of two of his lifelong loves: classical music and world mythology. *The Stravinsky Intrigue* continues those same themes, and his *Fugue & Fable* series will culminate in *The Tchaikovsky Finale*, all from Curiosity Quills Press. The first novel in his The Pawn Stratagem contemporary fantasy series, *Pawn's Gambit*, is available from Falstaff Books. His short stories can be found in numerous anthologies and magazines, and the best, particularly those about a certain Necromancer for Hire, are collected for your reading pleasure under Darin's imprint, 64Square Publishing.

Doctor by day and novelist by night, he writes and practices medicine in Charlotte, NC. When not engaged in either of the above activities, he's been known to strum the guitar, enjoy a bite of sushi, and rumor has it he even sleeps on occasion. Find him online at: darinkennedy.com.

Nicole Givens Kurtz

Speculative pulp author, Nicole Givens Kurtz, writes science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Her most popular work, futuristic pulp series, Cybil Lewis blends whodunit mysteries within futuristic, post-apocalyptic world-building. Her novels have been named as finalists in the Fresh Voices in Science Fiction, EPPIE in Science Fiction, and Dream Realm Awards in science fiction. Nicole's short stories have earned an Honorable Mention in L. Ron Hubbard's Writers of the Future contest, and have appeared in such noted publications as *Crossed Genres*, *Tales of the Talisman*, and *Genesis Magazine* as well as numerous anthologies. Find Nicole online at: nicolegivenskurtz.com or mochamemoirspress.com.

Todd Lacey

Todd started his professional acting career at the age of 6 with the well known 'Edison Players' in south Florida. With over 40 stage productions under his belt, Todd has also worked in commercials and film with some familiar titles as *The Abyss*, *The Three Amigos*, *The Last of the Mohicans* and *Gettysburg* just to name a few. Still active, Todd also pursues other creative passions in writing and creating costumes. Todd has always been interested in costuming at a very early age. His mother was a professional actress and casting director for Screen Gems back in the 60's but she also had a love for creating costumes for theater. For the past 15 years, his passion for costuming has given him opportunities to show his work. His reference work include him as 'Darth Revan' in *Star Wars: The Essential Warfare Book*, his Mandalorian in *Star Wars: The Bounty Hunter Code Book*, and his classic 'Marvel Hawkeye' in *Cosplay: The Fantasy World of Role Play* by Laure Orsini. Todd can also be found as the reference model for the *Star Wars* Topps cards with Plo Koon and Darth Revan.

Todd currently resides in Charlotte, North Carolina with his wife, four dogs and two cats.

Cheralyn Lambeth

Cheralyn Lambeth is a professional costume, prop, and puppet builder whose work includes feature films (*The Muppet Christmas Carol*, *The Patriot*, *Evan Almighty*, *Leatherheads*, *The Hunger Games*), TV programs (*Dinosaurs*, *Homeland*, *Outcast*), and theater/interactive properties (Sesame Street Live!, Star Trek: The Experience, *Avenue Q*, Sir Purr for the Carolina Panthers). On the fan side of things, she is proud to be a long-time active member of the 501st Legion, serving as Legion Historian/Archivist, and is founder and Captain of the Southern Belle Ghostbusters, a *Ghostbusters* fan/cosplay team. In addition, she is an active paranormal researcher and author, working with the Charlotte (NC) Area Paranormal Society as an investigator.

Her books include *Haunted Theaters of the Carolinas*, *The Well-Dressed Puppet*, and *Creating the Character Costume*, released in December 2016.

Kelly Lockhart

Kelly Lockhart has been a regular presence on the convention scene since he was a teenager back in the mid-80s. Over the years, he has done a little bit of everything in fandom: running costume contests, art shows, consuites, computer gaming rooms, working with the media, helping out with parades, overseeing convention operations, co-chairing a WorldCon bid, serving on multiple con committees, and being a panelist and moderator on countless panels.

Professionally, he is the Managing Editor for an alternative weekly newspaper back home in Chattanooga, as well as a Consulting Editor for Baen Books. His most recent project for Baen is the *Black Tide Rising* anthology of zombie apocalypse stories he co-edited under his professional name of "Gary Poole" (long story) with New York Times bestselling author John Ringo. Additionally, he is the founder of both the very popular Robot Battles competitions and the Southern Fandom Resource Guide online convention calendar.

In 2008, he was presented with the Rebel Award at the DeepSouthCon for lifetime service to Southern Fandom. He has also been awarded with a Murrow Award (named after legendary journalist Edward R. Murrow) for excellence in broadcast journalism, several Associated Press journalism awards, and a display case full of Addy awards for both radio and print advertising design.

An active presence on social media (ask him about "the thread that never ends"), he spends his limited amount of free time writing and performing original music around his hometown, trying to herd his five cats, playing an occasional round of golf (badly), and continuing his lifelong quest to find the perfect brand of whiskey. He also is rumored to own more tropical shirts than Weird Al Yankovic, as he is almost never seen not wearing one.

Steven S. Long

Steven S. Long is a writer and game designer who's worked primarily in the tabletop roleplaying game field for the past twenty years. During that time, he's written or co-written approximately 200 RPG books. He's best known for his work with *Champions* and the HERO System, but has worked for many other RPG companies. In recent years, he's branched out into writing fiction as well, contributing Fantasy short stories to numerous anthologies. He frequently claims that he's revising his novel, but this may be an elaborate scam of some sort. His first major work of non-fiction, a book about the Norse god Odin for Osprey Publishing, was released in May 2015. Since then he's primarily focused on several long-term projects, including a novel, various short stories, his *Worldbuilding Guidebook*, and *Mythic Hero*. His Master Plan for World Domination has reached Stage 71-Upsilon.

You can find out more about Steve and what he's up to at: www.stevenslong.com.

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Mark MacDicken

Semi-professional entertainer for nearly 40 years, Mark MacDicken performs comedy magic as the eccentric wizard “Flabbergast”. Besides being an accomplished actor and comedy magician, Mark is also a top-notch puppeteer and balloon sculptor. Formerly known as Spiffy the Clown, he has performed at literally hundreds of family celebrations, as well as theme parks, fairs and festivals, company picnics, summer recreation programs, mall events, and on local television. In recent years, “Flabbergast” has embraced the Mid-Atlantic region fan convention scene, performing at Awesome Con DC, Balticon, MystiCon, Farpoint, Shore Leave, ConGregarate, MarsCon, and adding more appearances all the time!

Mark has performed puppets for such companies as Knott’s Berry Farm, Keebler, and Kaiser-Permanente. In the early 1990’s, he produced his own children’s series, *Tinker’s Toybox*, for public access television. His stage acting credits span numerous community theatre productions, children’s theatre, comedy improv, and murder mystery dinner theatre. Other interests include cartooning, playing rhythm guitar and bass, songwriting, as well as costume and prop making.

When he’s not dressing up in costumes and playing with his toys, Mark is an elementary school special education teacher in Northern Virginia. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Drama from the University of Southern California, and an MEd in Special Education from George Mason University. You can find Mark at www.facebook.com/FlabbergastWiz, <https://twitter.com/FlabbergastWiz>, or www.gigsalad.com/flabbergast_wizard_centreville

Ian J. Malone

Ian J. Malone is the owner of Sharkflight Publishing and author of *The Mako Saga*, a space opera trilogy about five college buddies turned interstellar war heroes via beers and a video game.

As a graduate of Florida State University, Malone has written in a variety of arenas ranging from public health to news and sports. When it comes to his fictional work, however, he’s a firm believer that nothing shapes an author’s writing like experience. That’s why he credits his tenures in radio, law enforcement, and the military for much of his inspiration, plus the legion of family and friends who’ve stood with him along the way.

Beyond writing, Malone is an avid fan of audiobooks and the outdoors, though it’s also not uncommon to find him at a ballgame, a music concert, or somewhere out by a grill.

Malone presently resides in Durham, North Carolina with his wife and son, but he’ll always be a “Florida boy” at heart.

For more on Ian J. Malone and his books, visit him online at www.ianjmalone.net.

Gail Z. Martin

Gail Z. Martin is the author of *Vendetta*, A Deadly Curiosities Novel in her urban fantasy series set in Charleston, SC (Solaris Books); *Shadow and Flame* the fourth and final book in the Ascendant Kingdoms Saga (Orbit Books); *The Shadowed Path* (Solaris Books) and *Iron and Blood* a new Steampunk series (Solaris Books) co-authored with Larry N. Martin. A brand new epic fantasy series will launch in 2017 from Solaris Books.

She is also author of *Ice Forged*, *Reign of Ash* and *War of Shadows* in The Ascendant Kingdoms Saga, The Chronicles of The Necromancer series (*The Summoner*, *The Blood King*, *Dark Haven*, *Dark Lady’s Chosen*); The Fallen Kings Cycle (*The Sworn*, *The Dread*) and the urban fantasy novel *Deadly Curiosities*. Gail writes three ebook series: The Jonmarc Vahanian Adventures, The Deadly Curiosities Adventures and The Blaine McFadden Adventures. The Storm and Fury Adventures, steampunk stories set in the Iron & Blood world, are co-authored with Larry N. Martin.

Her work has appeared in over 30 US/UK anthologies. Newest anthologies include: *The Big Bad 2*, *Athena’s Daughters*, *Heroes*, *Space*, *Contact Light*, *With Great Power*, *The Weird Wild West*, *The Side of Good/The Side of Evil*, *Alien Artifacts*, *Cinched: Imagination Unbound*, *Realms of Imagination*, *Clockwork Universe: Steampunk vs. Aliens*, *Gaslight and Grimm*, and *The Baker Street Irregulars*.

Find her at www.AscendantKingdoms.com, on Twitter @GailZMartin, on Facebook.com/WinterKingdoms, at DisquietingVisions.com blog and GhostInTheMachinePodcast.com, on Goodreads <https://www.goodreads.com/GailZMartin> and free excerpts on Wattpad wattpad.com/GailZMartin.

Larry N. Martin

Larry N. Martin is the co-author of the new Steampunk series *Iron and Blood: The Jake Desmet Adventures* and a series of short stories and novellas: *The Storm & Fury Adventures* set in the Jake Desmet universe. These short stories also appear in the anthologies *Clockwork Universe: Steampunk vs. Aliens*, *The Weird Wild West*, *The Side of Good/The Side of Evil*, *Alien Artifacts*, and *Gaslight and Grimm* with more to come. Larry and Gail also have co-authored science fiction short stories in the *Space*, *Robots* and *Contact Light* anthologies.

Misty Massey

Misty Massey is the author of *Mad Kestrel*, a rollicking adventure of magic on the high seas (Tor), *Kestrel’s Voyages*, a collection of short stories featuring those rambunctious pirates (Amazon) and the upcoming *Kestrel’s Dance* (Lore Seekers Press). She is a co-editor of *The Weird Wild West* (Espec) and *Lawless Lands* (Falstaff Books), and a founding member of *Magical Words*, the well-known blog for and about writers (magicalwords.net). When she’s not writing, Misty studies Middle Eastern Dance and

performs at regional events as the opportunity arises. You can keep up with what Misty's doing at mistymassey.com, Facebook and Twitter.

Alex Matsuo

Alex Matsuo is an actor, dramaturg, playwright by day, and a paranormal researcher and author by night. She is the founder of the Association of Paranormal Study, which specializes in private home investigations and consultations. She is the author of *The Haunting of the Tenth Avenue Theater*, published by Llewellyn Worldwide, the biggest paranormal and new age publisher in the world. Alex has also published *The Haunted Actor*, as well as *More Than Ghosts* (a guide for investigators taking on private paranormal cases). Alex is also a contributing writer to *The Supernatural Magazine* and *Paranormal Enlightenment Magazine* as well as the pop culture website, TheRichest.

Alex currently hosts the radio show The Wicked Domain on LiveParanormal.com and Informal Paranormal. She has previously hosted the radio shows ParaNation and Paranormal Insider Radio. She also runs a podcast for the North Carolina theatre community called, Triangle On Stage.

Alex received her Master of Arts in theatre arts from San Diego State University in 2011 and currently resides in Raleigh, North Carolina. You can find more information at www.alexmatso.com. You can find her on Twitter, Goodreads, and Facebook.

Melissa McArthur

Melissa McArthur is a master swordswoman, a world-renowned traveler, and lover of all things bookish. One of these things is actually true. When she isn't saving the world, one word at a time, she's busy lecturing university students on parenthetical citations and torturing authors with her red pen. No matter what the capacity—editor, author, teacher—Melissa is utterly fascinated by books and words. She believes that there's something magical about holding a book in your hand and watching as the words disappear and the story unfolds before your eyes. She hopes that she can do that for readers both as an editor and a writer—create stories that engulf you, change you, scare you, bewilder you, make you laugh, make you cry, and through stories, reveal deeper truths about life.

Melissa can be found hiding in the deep corners of the library or at home with her laptop and cat.

For those of you out in cyberspace, she can be found at: www.melissamcarthur.net, www.facebook.com/melissamcarthurwrites, www.twitter.com/mcarthur_me or www.goodreads.com/melissamcarthurwrites

Jennifer McCollom

Professional make-up artist, Jennifer McCollom has worked on feature films and television shows. Her film credits include *The Hunger Games*, *Taking Liberty*, *The Conjuring*, *Leatherheads*, *Talladega Nights*, *The Box*, the Oscar nominated *June Bug*, *MAX*, *The Disappointment Room*, *Masterminds*, and *The Reliant*. Her TV work includes *Army Wives*, the Emmy Award-winning HBO miniseries *John Adams*, *Homeland*, Spike TV's *Bar Rescue*, *Reckless*, *Banshee* and the TV movie remake of *Dirty Dancing*. She has also lent her experience to several independent films including cult favorites *Dead Inn* and *Last Lives*, as well as *A Long Way Off*, *Tarnished Notes*, and releasing in September 2017, *Unbridled*.

When not on set, Jennifer teaches Film and Special Effects at local community colleges, as well as creating unique special effects pieces and costumes for fandom, including *Doctor Who*, *Star Trek* and *Steampunk*.

Jennifer was born in Wilmington, NC; and lived Pennsylvania and Florida before settling down in Randleman, NC with her husband and cats. She holds a BA in Theatre and Physics from UNCG, is a licensed cosmetologist and I.A.T.S.E. Local 798 Journeyman.

She believes you should never stop learning!

Gary Mitchel

Gary Mitchel is a writer, reviewer, geek blogger, gamer, sf/fantasy fan, comics reader, podcaster and International Man of Mystery (who's too dangerous for the entire country of Canada) currently living near Atlanta.

He is co-host, with Deanna Toxopeus, of the Parsec Award nominated RevolutionSF RevCast, the site's weekly geek culture discussion, a part of the ESO Podcast network. He is also host and producer of the RevNews podcast, which looks at various topical nerd-related events. Gary has also appeared on Shauncastic, Needless Things, The Batcave Podcast, The Chronic Rift, Storm of Words, Good to be a Geek, The White Rocket Podcast, The ESO Podcast, and The Saturday B Movie Reel podcasts. He can be found on the Facebook and followed on the Twitter as @Gary_Mitchel (and yes Star Trek fans, it's his real name).

Gary is the Co-Director, with Joe Crowe, of the American Sci-Fi Classics Track at DragonCon. There, he has discussed Sci-Fi TV, zombies, movies, zombies, cartoons, comics and zombies. Some attendees have stated that he is "hilarious," and Gary swears that said people are not related to him

Arylias Nova

Arylias Nova is a Texas born SciFi/Fantasy and Horror writer currently living in Charleston, SC. Growing up geek in Charleston, she quickly found her calling in life as a writer and has since produced the first two installments of her Stories of Ghardar SciFi series, *Spark* and *Ignition*, and is working quickly on the third, *Combustion*. Loving the horror genre herself, she put together

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a series of horror shorts in her *A Peek Inside* collection and her dark-humored novella series *Parenting During the Apocalypse*.

Nova has quickly become a rising star in the author world, being the number one selling author during the Barnes and Noble BFest in Mount Pleasant, SC, and a major fan favorite. She takes time to connect with her readers and working with schools through the You-Niversal NERD foundation to speak with and uplift others about their own creative outlets.

Nova has several other projects in the works, including two new novel series to premier during 2017.

Michael D. Pederson

Michael D. Pederson is the publisher/editor/graphic designer responsible for *Nth Degree*. Mike began his career as a writer/publisher in 1988 when his SF short story, "Dust Storm," won first place in a local writing contest. In the 1990s, he wrote and published the Raven comic book series (with artist R. Craig Enslin) and edited and published *Scene*, a Virginia-based entertainment magazine.

In 2001, Mike was part of the Best in Class – Master Division winning presentation (*Pre-Emptive Strike*) at the Millennium Philcon Masquerade. Two months later he started *Nth Degree*. In 2007, he wrote a chapter on "Writing for Magazines" for Dragon Moon Press' *Writing Fantasy: The Author's Grimoire*.

In addition to *Nth Degree*, in 2006, Mike (along with Tee Morris and Tony Ruggiero) came up with the crazy idea of hosting a science-fiction convention in Richmond, Virginia. After its tenth year, RavenCon moved to Williamsburg and Mike is still the con chair. Other than RavenCon, Mike has also run programming for Trinoc*con, been Fan Guest of Honor for ConCarolinas and Mysticon, co-chaired a successful NASFiC bid (with Warren Buff), and served as Master of Ceremonies for MarsCon. Between *Nth Degree* and his many convention appearances, Mike has become the East Coast's go-to guy for interviews. He's interviewed guests for Balticon, ConGregate, MarsCon, Mysticon, RavenCon, and StellarCon.

Yes, Mike is an insanely busy person; if you see him at a convention please feed him lots of caffeine and/or beer.

When not engaged in geekish pursuits, Mike is an under-employed graphic designer and lives in Richmond, Virginia.

Matthew Penick

Matthew Penick is a professional costumer and fitness enthusiast, as well as the owner of costume and prop company Ribbons and Rivets, which he founded in 2009. A self-taught leatherworker, he made his first suit of armor in college out of scraps and remnants from the local Tandy. In fact, that very first suit of armor is still in action (having received numerous upgrades) and is now the award-winning Nightwalker armor set, which can be seen in several short films, a documentary

in progress, and a feature length movie, *The Gamers 3: Hands of Fate*. Although it was created primarily as a leatherworking business, Ribbons and Rivets has since incorporated a variety of materials to bring designs and characters to life and is known for attention to detail and screen accuracy. Matthew enjoys doing workshops and demos on leather work and patterning, and is always happy to talk shop with fellow costumers.

Theresa Perlmutter

Theresa Perlmutter started out as an artist. Painting and drawing were her prime passions in high school. When a friend introduced her to her very first comic book, *X-Men 97*, she knew it was what she wanted to do. In the late 80s and early 90s, she was introduced to costuming, however it wasn't cosplay, but Renaissance Faire that got her into actually designing and sewing. Still, she wondered how she could make the costumes that she saw and designed in her drawings, but never quite got a handle on how it could be done. Many of her renn fair friends made wondrous items out of leather and steel, but those materials were far too heavy for what she wanted to create.

At 47, she ventured into her first Cosplay. Most of it was bought or what she had on hand. A head piece for the Dragon Empress theme was her first attempt at creating horns out of paper mache.



Seanan McGuire, Author

SyFy Faceoff's

RJ Haddy & Roy Wooley

**Panels Tracks, Costume Contest, Gaming,
Short Film Festival, Workshops, and more!**

The Welcome to the 105 panel at Wizard World in Raleigh is where she felt she had finally met a group of like-minded people, with their motto, 'Cosplayers helping Cosplayers.'

Technology had finally caught up with her vision, and with the insights and ideas of YouTubers and fellow engineers, she made her first serious cosplay. Inspired by the Elric series, she constructed a set of Melnibonian Dragon armor, and entered into the NCCC cosplay contest a year after her first cosplay experience, and sat in on her first table setting at Cosplay America as an engineer helping others. Refining her skill set over the last three years, she now has created cosplays using worbla, styrene, polymer clays, paper mache, latex and sewing. She has done panels that include detailing and mold making. Expanding her photography to include fellow cosplayers and a roaming documentary style photography of conventions.

Now at 52 years old, Teresa is under the cosplay Facebook page of Bluewyrn Designs, is currently the Director of Conventions for the 105th Squad, and the winner of the 105th Engineer of the Year award for 2016.

Maya Preisler

Maya Preisler is a professional artist, blogger, editor, and gamer with twenty-four years of convention experience. She is a published illustrator whose art has been featured at various art shows and conventions. Her poetry and writing have been published in various literary magazines and her website received international attention in the early 2000s. As a gamer, Maya was one of only two women ever inducted into a local gaming clan (the other being her sister) and spent ten years as an administrator and tech for LAN gaming at conventions. She is a professional game demonstrator for No Ordinary Gamers and an MIB for Steve Jackson Games. Maya has a BFA from UNC Charlotte and currently works several freelance jobs as an artist, illustrator, and designer and volunteers as a staffer at multiple conventions. You can find her online at www.mayarenee.com, facebook.com/artofmayarenee, and twitter.com/mayapreisler.

Angela Pritchett

Angela Pritchett is an actress, author, musician, costumer and makeup artist. She has been seen in films such as *Plan 9*, *The Porkchop* film trilogy, *Pig Girl* and many others. Angela is the author of *Shut Up and Eat! The Unofficial Doctor Who Cookbook Series*. She also plays covers of movie, tv, video game and anime themes on the Ukulele. Angela went to UNC Greensboro and has a BS in Music Education and a Masters in Liberal Studies and Ethnomusicology. She does the podcasting segment "A Geek Girls Take" that can be heard weekly on the Earth Station One Network, and when she has free time she spends it sewing or playing with her pug, Jimmy. You can find her online at: angelapritchett.blogspot.com, amazon.com/author/angelapritchett, www.imdb.com/name/nm4250551/ or www.instagram.com/angalese/

Daphne Reeder

Daphne Reeder has been a creative force from a very young age. Beginning at the age of 5, she's been on television programs on WTVI, in plays & stage performances, and modeled, both in front of a camera and on the runway. She has always enjoyed the freedom of dressing up, and became an accomplished cosplayer by the time she was 17. Since then, she has added to her arsenal of outfits to cross multiple genres, though her passions are sci-fi/fantasy and horror. She has modeled for multiple events and has been on posters and flyers around the Charlotte and Atlanta areas.

Daphne is not only a cosplayer and model, but she's also a talented actress, and has graced the screens of many a film festival. The mind behind Drache Media Films (www.drachemedia.wix.com/drachemediafilms), an independent film company that focuses on the sci-fi and horror genres. Daphne has several projects in the works, on which she will be teaming with 13th Floor EFX (13thfloorefx.com/).

Gray Rinehart

Gray Rinehart is the only person to have commanded an Air Force tracking station, written speeches for Presidential appointees, had music on *The Dr. Demento Show*, and been nominated for a literary award.

Gray is a Contributing Editor (the "Slushmaster General") for Baen Books, and his fiction has appeared in *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, *Asimov's Science Fiction*, *Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show*, and elsewhere. He is also a singer/songwriter with two CDs of mostly science-fiction-and-fantasy-inspired songs: 2013's *Truths and Lies and Make-Believe* and 2015's *Distorted Vision*. His story, "Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust, Earth to Alluvium," was a finalist for the 2015 Hugo Award for Best Novelette.

Gray fought rocket propellant fires, refurbished space launch facilities, commanded the Air Force's largest satellite tracking station, and did other interesting things during his rather odd US Air Force career. Gray's alter ego is the Gray Man, one of several famed ghosts of South Carolina's Grand Strand, and his web site is graymanwrites.com.

James Rippe

James is a local artist from Durham, NC and holds a BFA from William Paterson University in NJ. James has continued his passion for art with Ripptowne Photography and through cosplay. His first and most well-known costume was "Formal Vader," how Darth Vader would dress for the empire's most formal occasions complete with a tuxedo, light saber cane and a glass of champagne. While creating other costumes, James formed The 105th Squad. His goal is to help others learn the art of costuming and to help both local and international charities with the amazing creations that the 105th Squad produces.

Guests of the Convention

Dr. Tedd Roberts

Dr. Tedd Roberts (aka Speaker to Lab Animals) claims he was born to wonderful parents, grew up in Texas, attended university, then went on to grad school. He is a Professor at a medical school where his research focuses on the drug and radiation effects on hippocampus and memory. He also leads a team that is testing the first neural prosthetic device for memory restoration.

It has long been suspected that Dr. Tedd was genetically created in a growth vat and raised by hyper-intelligent rats to study and understand the human brain with an eye towards world domination. Since Dr. Tedd is also known for his research on the brain, he has also been suspected to be one of the most likely causes of any future zombie apocalypse ... whether it would be because of a lab "accident" or because his curiosity on its effectiveness is still hotly debated. In either (or both) cases it is suspected that Dr. Tedd will provide expert commentary.

Dr. Tedd is known for his eagerness to educate others: hosting educational Scotch tastings at conventions, consulting for numerous authors on matters pharmaceutical, biological, and neurological; and writing nonfiction essays (found at Baen.com - Free Library, Nonfiction 2012- 2016) on matters of science in science fiction. Dr. Tedd also educates through convention appearances, his previously mentioned essays and blog. Among all of these endeavors, he has also mentored numerous young minds through his involvement with the Boy Scouts of America and by offering advice to up and coming researchers and grad students. He has recently started writing short fiction, YA novellas and SF novels. He is married, raising two sons, competes in 5K races, studies and instructs Krav Maga & Pekiti Tiersia Kali, and plays trombone in a brass octet at his church.

Linda Robertson

Linda Robertson is an internationally published author. She won first place in the OSU/Mansfield Florence B. Allen writing competition (2006). Since then, she's earned a cum laude Associate of the Art's Degree in English and published several novels and short stories.

In addition to the Immanence series, she is the author of the Persephone Alcmendi series. A lifelong musician, she also wrote, performed, and produced a musical score/CD for Jovienne. When not writing or composing, she finds time to dabble in costuming/sewing, crafting, and furniture renovation.

She attends various writing conventions and book festivals, blogs, and gives workshops about the craft of writing. A mother of four boys, Linda is married and lives in Northeast Ohio.

J. Matthew Saunders

J. Matthew Saunders, a native of Greenville, South Carolina, is the author of the Daughters of Shadow and Blood trilogy about the Brides of Dracula and numerous fantasy and horror short stories. He received a B.A. in history from Vanderbilt University

and a master's degree from the School of Journalism at the University of South Carolina. He received his law degree in California and practiced there as an attorney for several years. He is an unapologetic European history geek, enjoys the Celtic fiddle, and makes a mean sun-dried tomato-basil pesto. He currently lives near Charlotte, North Carolina with his wife and two children. To find out more, visit www.jmsaunders.com.

Sarah Schambach

Sarah (Lunar Rose Costuming & Cosplay) is an award-winning costume maker and blogger from Atlanta, GA. She has been making costumes since diving in head first with a full Tudor court gown at the age of 16. With a particular interest in Tolkien, Star Trek, book-inspired costuming, and a lifelong love of historical costuming, she has created a strong portfolio of both screen accurate and original designs. She has a passion for skilled craftsmanship, and her works often feature heavily detailed elements such as hand-embroidery and beading, custom-dyed fabrics, scale mail, and handmade patterns. Her work has won several major awards, including DragonCon's coveted title of "The Chosen", and has been featured in *Cosplay Culture Magazine*.

Edmund R. Schubert

Edmund R. Schubert is the author of the novel, *Dreaming Creek*, and over 50 short stories. Some of his early stories are collected in *The Trouble with Eating Clouds*; newer ones can be found in *This Giant Leap*. Schubert also contributed to and edited the non-fiction book, *How to Write Magical Words*. In addition to writing, Schubert served for ten years as head editor of the online magazine *InterGalactic Medicine Show* (including publishing three IGMS anthologies and winning two WSFA Small Press Awards), resigning from the post in 2016 to make writing his primary focus. Schubert maintains that his greatest accomplishment came during college, when his self-published underground newspaper made him the subject of a professor's lecture in abnormal psychology; however, declining a Hugo nomination for Best Editor (because of the associated political game of thrones that came with it) comes in a close second.

Chris Shrewsbury

Chris Shrewsbury (Rolling Thunder Cosplay) has been panelist, guest, and staff at conventions for 30 years.

Studying at Liberty University, he became a nationally certified sign language interpreter, working in entertainment, education, and public service. He's also taught hearing and hearing-impaired students at pre-school through university levels.

Recently Chris has developed a severe neurological condition affecting strength, balance, and pain levels, and now spends increasing amounts of time wheelchair-bound. As a tirelessly vocal advocate and encourager of the disabled, many of his cosplays incorporate his disability, such as his detailed mobile

replica of the TARDIS built around his wheelchair, earning first prize in the *Doctor Who* division at NC Comicon.

Chris is an avid convention guest, panelist, writer, prop fabricator, costume judge, and is Accessibility Coordinator at Animazement. His boundless sense of humor and genuine love for all things geek make him a very popular con Guest and Panelist.

Rich Sigfrit

To say that he enjoys podcasting and new media would be a gross understatement. Rich's credits include mentions in high school and collegiate papers, newspapers, *Podcasting for Dummies*, and *Advanced Podcasting Tricks*. He has been called an innovator, having created the first fandom podcast (RotO), the first podcast for an Independent Wrestling Federation (Halo: Hardwired), and distributed the first comic book made available via podcast feed (Podcast 9). He was the force behind the official Troma Podcast and a former host/editor of the 501stCast, the official podcast of the 501st Stormtrooper Legion. He produced the long running Amazing Pulp Adventures Radio Show starring Mister Adventure, serving as writer and primary voice actor for recorded and live stage versions.

Rich has done commercial voice work as the voice of CRASH, SWE and GOUGE Wrestling, Volaris phone systems, Howards

RV and Fit Family NC (also providing puppeteering). He has also MC'd numerous conventions and events, host/creator of Thinkin' While you're Drinkin' Trivia, and is the house MC for Succubus Sorority, Riot Kittens and Nerd-Vana Burlesque under the pseudonym Richie Muenster. Between the podcasts, requested voices from other shows, father of 3, various audio sketches and dramas have been heard on ChronoRadio, Star Wars and Beyond, SwitchedOn Show, the Geeklabel Podcast and Dragon Pages' Wingin' It syndicated show, (plus countless guest appearances on other shows) of which he is very proud.

In his spare time, he sleeps.

Stephen J. Simmons

Stephen J. Simmons was raised by a feral pack of English teachers in a tiny hamlet in the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York, and went to high school in Albany. He spent twenty-one years in the Navy, both as a nuclear operator on five fast-attack submarines and as an instructor in both of the Navy's nuclear power training schools. He started writing shortly after he retired from the Navy, partly because his children had grown too old to listen to bedtime stories, but mostly because the cats never laughed at the funny bits. He sold over a dozen flash-fiction

The Charlotte Geeks and ConCarolinas, in partnership with Noah's Event Venue present


THE 2017 GEEK GALA:

OCTOBER 21
Muggles Market 10am-4pm
Geek Gala 7pm-midnight

FREE FOOD CASH BAR

- Live Musical & Comedy Performances
- Trivia & Costume Contests
- Photo Booth & Caricatures
- Psychic Card Readers
- Sci Fi Carnival Games & Prizes
- Geeky Goody Basket Raffle (for charity)
- Geeks Got Talent! Contest (\$150 cash prize!)


proceeds benefit



DAVE THOMAS
FOUNDATION
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GEEKZILLA

KING OF THE CAROLINAS



Rich Sigfrit

Mikey Mason

Dave Beauchamp

Metricula

www.geekgala.com

Guests of the Convention

stories to various online publishing venues, every one of which went out of business after buying his work, so he decided to try his hand at longer formats. He has since sold a handful of short stories, and his first novel, *The Galileo Syndrome*, was released in 2014.

Amy H. Sturgis

Amy H. Sturgis (amyhsturgis.com) earned her Ph.D. in Intellectual History from Vanderbilt University, teaches Liberal Studies at Lenoir-Rhyne University, and specializes in Science Fiction/Fantasy and Indigenous American Studies. She is one of the staff members behind the Hugo Award-winning StarShipSofa podcast (starshipsofa.com) and the Editor in Chief of Hocus Pocus Comics (hpcomics.net). The author of four books and over fifty articles, and the editor of six books, Sturgis is a regular speaker at colleges and genre conventions across the United States, Canada, and England. She had been interviewed as a science fiction expert by NPR's State of the Nation, The Huffington Post, and a variety of other media outlets. In 2006, she was honored with the Imperishable Flame Award for J.R.R. Tolkien Scholarship, and in 2015, she was honored by the Los Angeles Press Club for "Best Magazine Review/Criticism/Column" for her *Reason* article "Not Your Parents' Dystopias: Millennial Fondness for Worlds Gone Wrong." Sturgis lives with her husband in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina.

William C. Tracy

William C. Tracy is a North Carolina native with a Masters and BS in mechanical engineering. He also has a BA in toy design. As such, he has both designed and operated heavy construction machinery (big toys) and is an expert in linkage design and optimization. He has been a Professional Engineer since 2010, and dabbles in production-scale 3D printing.

He has trained in Wado-Ryu karate since 2003 and runs his own dojo in Raleigh, where he uses physics knowledge and efficiency of design in his martial arts teaching. He is also an avid reader and writer, a lifelong fan of science fiction and fantasy, and a video and board gamer.

William has two self-published science fantasy novellas available: *Tuning the Symphony*, and *Merchants and Maji*, both set in his 'Dissolutionverse,' where magic replaces space travel. They will be followed by a novel in 2017 funded by Kickstarter.

In his spare time, he wrangles three cats and a bald guinea pig, and his wife wrangles him (not an easy task). They both cosplay, and force their pets to participate to make cute Holiday cards.



Valentine Wolfe

Formed in 2006, Valentine Wolfe is the combined effort of Sarah Black and Braxton Ballew. Imagine Sarah Brightman being backed by Francois Rabbath blowing through a Marshall stack at midnight. Having dubbed their music "Victorian Chamber metal", the duo have synthesized a love of metal, classical, and industrial, infusing them with a Victorian sensibility that evokes the likes of Bram Stoker and Edgar Allan Poe.

Ethereal soprano vocals of Sarah Black are buttressed by the thunderous growl of Braxton's electric upright bass; the two coalescing over pounding rock and electronic grooves punctuated by a maelstrom of synthesizers, keyboards, and sound design. Their work has attracted the attention of rock audiences, goth enthusiasts, theatre composers, and con attendees all up and down the east coast.

Their previous release, *The Nightingale: A Gothic Fairytale*, is a dramatic adaptation and reinterpretation of both *The Emperor and the Nightingale* by Hans Christian Andersen and *Ode to a Nightingale* by John Keats, set in a sinister Poison Garden, based on the Alnwick Botanical Gardens in England, where every single plant can kill.

Their current release is *A Child's Bestiary*, nine tracks of macabre oddities from the imagination, an exploration of a grotesque menagerie, lurking under the guise of a child's innocent rhymes. Learn more at www.valentinewolfe.com

White Plectrum (Keith Brinegar)

When White Plectrum began, I had no idea it would go this long. Bill Mullis and I wrote and performed songs together, then began to perform songs others – James, Erik, Raymond - had helped us write or had written for us. Nowadays, Michael Kazalski, formerly of Coyote Run, has joined me on the bass. Michael loves the music just as much as I do. He's even co-written a new filk to a song that has been haunting me for a filk for the last several years. To find out which one, you'll just have to come to the show. Either way, Michael adds something to the show that has been missing for a long time. We've clicked, just like Bill and I did. And I've still got a great crew, although the names and faces have changed.

Come out and give a listen. We may even have music to sell, if you want. Either way, we hope you enjoy the show. We promise we'll do our best. Who knows, we might even get you to sing along!

Richard C. White

Richard C. White is a science fiction/fantasy author, but he has also been known to do dark fantasy, new pulp, historical adventure, fantasy noir, and even non-fiction. His latest release was *Harbinger of Darkness* and earlier this year he released a dark fantasy short story collection, *For a Few Gold Pieces More*. Other recent releases were *Terra Incognita*, a collection of articles on world building, and "Crossed Swords in the Moonlight," a short story that appeared in *All for One: Tales of the Musketeers*. He's also the author of *The Dark Leopard: Mouse Trap*, *Full Moon Affair*, and "Notes in the Fog" in the *Charles Boeckman Presents: Johnny Nickle* duology.

As a media tie-in writer, he's written for *Star Trek*, *Doctor Who*, and *The Incredible Hulk*. His novel, *Gauntlet Dark Legacy: Paths of Evil*, was the best-selling tie-in for his publisher that year. His latest tie-in work was "No Rest for the Wicked," a *Battletech* short story for Catalyst Game Labs.

Richard is a member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America and the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers. Additionally, Richard serves on the SFWA Writer Beware committee.

Michael G. Williams

Michael G. Williams writes wry suburban horror: stories of monsters, macabre humor and the deceptively picturesque. He is the author of the novels *Perishables* (2012 Laine Cunningham Novel Award), *Tooth & Nail*, *Deal With the Devil*, and the forthcoming *Attempted Immortality*. Michael is on the development team for *Wraith: the Oblivion 20th Anniversary Edition* and co-creator of the forthcoming fantasy RPG setting *Voistvanost*. He has also written a number of short stories across the spectrum of speculative fiction. Michael favors first-person narration for its power to preserve the humor and humanity at the heart of horror.

Michael maintains The Perishables Project, a blog about transparency in his marketing efforts, and is an avid reader, distance runner, cyclist, gamer, and podcaster. He is also a brother in both St. Anthony Hall and Mu Beta Psi. Michael lives in Durham, NC, surrounded by more and better friends than he probably deserves.

Allen Wold

Allen Wold was born in south-western Michigan, where he began writing when he was about eight years old. He still has some of those early "stories" somewhere.

He finished high school in Tucson, Arizona, and graduated from Pomona College, in Claremont, California, where he later met his wife, Diane. They married in 1972, and moved to North Carolina, where he began his career as a full time writer. In 1986, he became a full time father, and gave up writing for about three

years. In 2003, he became a full time writer again, when Darcy went off to college, also at Pomona.

He has published nine novels (six of which have been re-issued by ReAnimus Press), several short stories (mostly for the Elf Quest anthologies), five non-fiction books on computers, and a number of articles, columns, reviews, and so forth, also concerning computers. He stopped doing that a long time ago.

Under his own imprint, Ogden House, he has published *Strood's Cross*, *Sturgis*, *Dead Hand*, his collected stories for *Blood of Ten Chiefs*, *Freefoot*, *A Closet for a Dragon and Other Early Tales*, and *Cat Tales, Reminiscences*.

Currently, Allen is working on a pseudo-Lovecraftian novel; a space-opera in six parts; a pseudo-steampunk faerie story, and other projects in hand. The first volume of his epic-heroic fantasy, *The Black Ring: Zhanai'degau*, has been accepted by Double Dragon, and should be out late next year. The other five volumes should follow.

Allen has been running his version of a writers' workshop at various conventions for more than thirty years, and has had some success, since several people have not only finished but sold stories they started in the workshop, and a couple have even won awards. He also runs a plotting workshop, an interactive lecture, which is a lot of fun, and which people have found helpful.

Allen is a member of SFWA.

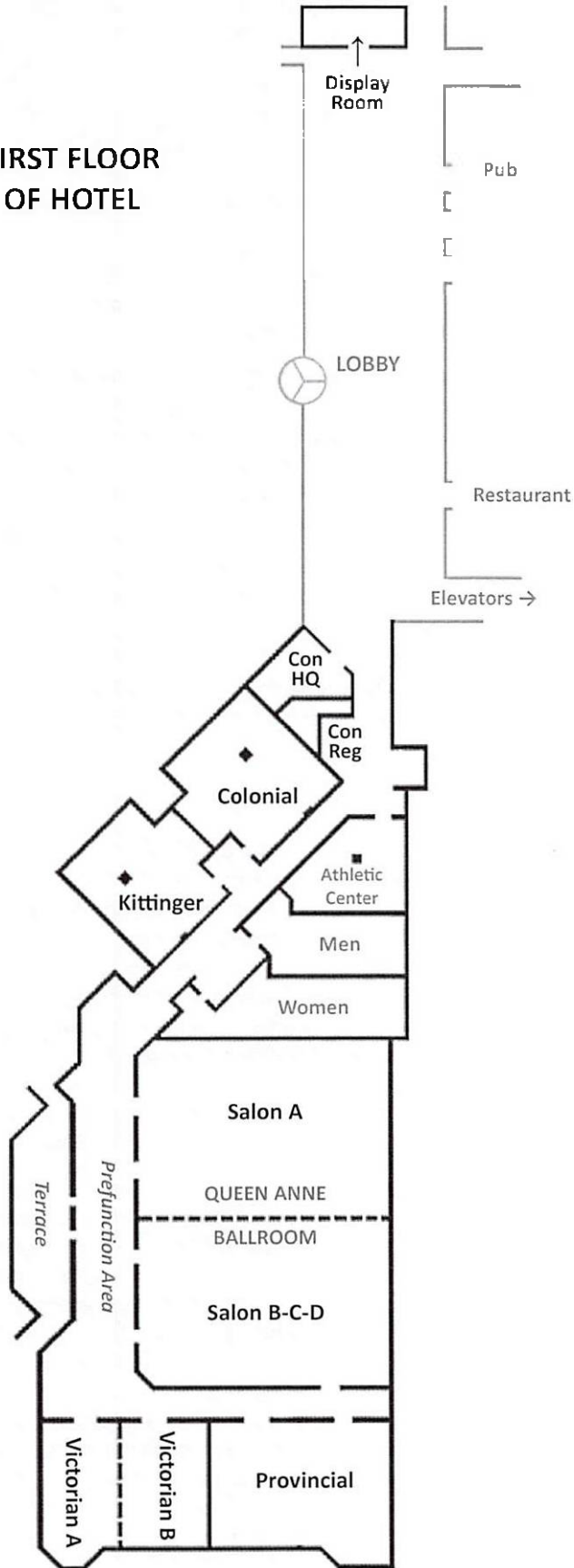
Darcy Wold

Darcy Wold is a part-time artist, an inveterate editor, and an even more inveterate reader. In her day job, she works for CDISC (a standards development organization specializing in clinical data interchange) as a publishing editor and a technical metadata curator. Both roles involve finding creative ways to make things both pretty and meaningful at the same time, without either the prettiness or the meaning getting in the way of the other. Any remaining creativity goes into her art, which is currently mostly digital, and frequently fractal-based. Her published art includes some book covers and the occasional animated web ad.

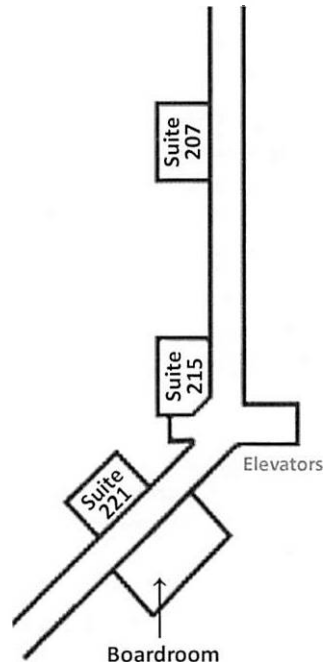
Darcy was raised by a statistician and a science fiction writer in an ex-blue-collar-tobacco town, except for three years spent in west London, England. For two of those three years, she attended a theatre arts vocational school, but was unable to continue her training on the other side of the pond, and eventually majored in Asian and religious studies at a small liberal arts college in southern California. She has taken classes in a variety of partner and modern dances, and has tried to learn a couple different instruments, though without much success. She sings mezzo in a womens' chorus, identifies roughly as pratyeka-buddhist, is sometimes quite sarcastic, and aggressively scribbles out or deletes extraneous apostrophes at every opportunity.

Map of the Con Site

FIRST FLOOR OF HOTEL



SECOND FLOOR OF HOTEL



Radisson

RAVENCON 13

WILLIAMSBURG, VA • APRIL 20–22, 2018

Author Guest of Honor:

Chuck Wendig

Music Guest of Honor:

The Vailix

Gaming Guest of Honor:

Eric Wile

RavenCon is a Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention that features over twelve continuous tracks of programming (over 300 hours!). More than 100 writers, fans, artists, scientists, musicians, gamers, filmmakers, and costumers will be available for discussions, panels, readings, and signings. There's also anime, concerts, parties, workshops, children's programming, vendors, and our famous Gaming Room that never closes. We guarantee, there's always something fun to do at RavenCon! *More information online at ravencon.com.*



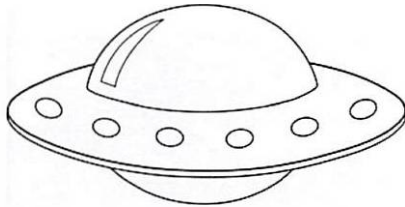
Held at the DoubleTree Williamsburg—50 Kingsmill Road, 757-259-5697

THE CON OF OPPORTUNITY!

Event Descriptions

FRIDAY

You will find two types of events listed: Audience Participation (AP) and Experts Talk (ET). ET events are traditional con panels. In AP events, we encourage audience participation.



Flash Panel (AP)

FRI - 1:00 PM

Provincial

We're kicking off the con with a little bit of crazy. The guests will show up. The audience will show up. And once they are there, our moderator, Everette Beach, will take random suggestions from the audience for the panel to discuss!

Panelists: Everette Beach (M), Toni Weisskopf and other guests

Landing Your Creative Career (ET)

FRI - 2:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

How do you open the door that leads to a professional creative career? What about changing careers when you've already climbed the corporate ladder? And for students, how do you know where to focus your study? From world builder to professional author, gamer to game developer, audiophile to pro composer, and storyteller to screenwriter—all have common threads that weave a career path. Our guests divulge their secret tips and tricks for creative entrepreneurs and share how they became successful, professional creators!

Panelists: Chris Kennedy (M), John G. Hartness, Stuart Jaffe, Melissa McArthur, Linda Robertson

Costuming Makes the Character (ET)

FRI - 2:00 PM

Victorian A

What do fantasy characters wear and how does that affect the story? Think of Conan the Barbarian or Paul Atreides. Very different characters with a very different appearance. Julian May deliberately gave her characters elaborate costumes so she could see them in subsequent masquerades. Certainly the characters in George R.R. Martin's *Game of Thrones* series have a definite fashion sense. How can writers describe clothing to overcome a reader's bias about how people should look? How can clothes be used as sign posts to help readers conceptualize a strange world?

Panelists: Cheralyn Lambeth (M), Larry N. Martin

Hi, My Name is Chris & I'm Addicted to Facebook (AP)

FRI - 2:00 PM

Victorian B

In the world of social media it's very easy to find ourselves psychologically dependent upon our cyber-connections. The line between friends and Friends becomes blurred. Let's share experiences and explore possible ways to gain perspective.

Panelists: Chris Shrewsbury (M), Tally Johnson, Gail Z. Martin, Kelly Lockhart, JT "The Engineer"

Girls at the Table (ET)

FRI - 2:00 PM

Boardroom

This panel discusses how game-masters (and gamers in general) set about creating an inclusive gaming table where all are invited and made to feel welcome. Even in the 21st century, there are few females who have game-mastered her own games and even more often been the only female in a gaming group. There are always stories of how women have been mistreated in some way when they try to join a game. How do we change the stereotype that women don't play table top games and how do we make the gaming space more welcoming?

Panelists: Janet Carden (M), Maya Preisler, Jennifer McCollom, Misty Massey

Doctor Who Villains (ET)

FRI - 2:00 PM

Provincial

Daleks vs. Cybermen: Which *Doctor Who* villains are the best? Our panelists discuss the range of villains on *Doctor Who*, which offer the most challenges to the Doctor and which ones are just silly?

Panelists: Darin Kennedy (M), Angela Pritchett, Carol Cowles, Barbara Hambly, Roger Carden

KidsTrack - Coloring/Crafts (AP)

FRI - 2:00 PM

Suite 215

Take time to get down to the artsy basics. Fantasy and science-fiction themed coloring pages at various difficulty levels. Markers and colored pencils will be provided. Grownups also welcome.

Full-Time Creative Work on a Part-Time Schedule (ET)

FRI - 3:00 PM

Boardroom

Panelists will cover basic, though imperative, approaches and concepts for what you need to know to accomplish any project in any medium with any goal.

Panelists: Samantha Dunaway Bryant (M), Glenda Finkelstein, Chris Kennedy, Michael D. Pederson, Ian J. Malone

Trims, Tambour, and Tassels (ET)

FRI - 3:00 PM

Provincial

From tambour beading to soutache to tassels, trims can greatly add to the visual interest of your costume as well as challenge your craftsmanship skills. In this panel, we will discuss how to level up your sewn costumes through selecting, customizing, and even making your own trimmings by hand.

Panelists: Sarah Schambach (M), Daphne Reeder, Cheralyn Lambeth, Jennifer McCollom, Theresa Perlmutter

3D Printing: Is Science Overtaking Science Fiction (ET)

FRI - 3:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

There are some very interesting developments in 3D printing coming in the next 5-10 years. We know that 3D printing can be used for anything from plastic replacement parts, to engineering prototypes, cosplay elements, R&D, space, food, tabletop games, medicine, so on. Our panelists will discuss the current and future state of 3D printing.

Panelists: William C. Tracy (M), John Grigni, JT "The Engineer", Gild The Mourn

Everything Old is New Again (AP)

FRI - 3:00 PM

Victorian B

Star Trek, *The Dark Crystal*, *Samurai Jack* and even *Battlestar Galatica*... More and more TV shows and films are getting the reboot treatment. What does that mean for the original fans? How do "old" fans connect with new fans when it comes to the sharing the story? How do the changes made in each of the reboots change the story? How can new fans connect with the "old" fans when it comes to the energy and passion of the shows?

Panelists: Gary Mitchel (M), Chris Shrewsbury, Carol Cowles, Gary Mitchel

Star Trek: The Next Generation - 30 Years Later (AP)

FRI - 4:00 PM

Victorian B

30 years ago, *Star Trek: The Next Generation* appeared on the small screen. For many Gen Xer's, it was their first introduction to the world of *Star Trek*. Our panelists, along with the audience, discuss what was different about TNG as well as the characters that drove the show while sharing their favorite memories and episodes.

Panelists: JT "The Engineer" (M), Chris Shrewsbury, Ian J. Malone, Gary Mitchel, Barbara deBary-Kesner

Mystery Science Theatre 3000 (MST3K) - The Reboot (AP)

FRI - 4:00 PM

Provincial

The original MST3K began in 1988. The remake launched in 2017 with a Kickstarter funded campaign by Joel Hodgson (the original creator). With the new episodes live on Netflix, audience members and the panelists discuss what works and what doesn't in the newest incarnation of this cult favorite.

Panelists: Mark MacDicken (M), Samantha Dunaway Bryant, Stuart Jaffe, Michael G. Williams

Finding the Story (AP)

FRI - 4:00 PM

Boardroom

New York Times Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole takes you through a series of exercises that will let you build a story from the barest spark through twists and turns. He'll give you several story recipes and show you how you can work from them to create delightfully complex and engrossing stories.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

Panelists: Michael A. Stackpole

From Animation to Creation: Blender Workshop (AP)

FRI - 4:00 PM

Victorian A

For anyone interested in getting a start on 3D work, whether for illustration, animation, or game development, Blender presents a powerful tool with an enormous advantage: it's free! But most people's initial reaction is that it's too complicated. Artist John Grigni will help you past that first impression and help you start creating models in 3D. This workshop is intended as an overview of the capabilities of the program, a tutorial on some of the basics, and a gateway to the large online Blender community, sharing tutorials and assets, both free and paid. Feel free to bring a computer for some hands on practice.

Panelists: John Grigni

Gray Rinehart (Concert)

FRI - 4:30 PM

Salon B-C-D

Gray Rinehart entertains with songs from his folk albums.

Event Descriptions

Cosplaying with Your Kids (AP)

FRI - 5:00 PM

Suite 215

Our panelists discuss cosplaying with your kids and offer tips on how to get started, sources for assembling a cosplay, and social media tips.

Panelists: Maya Preisler, JT "The Engineer"

How to Design with Your Users in Mind – User Experience 101 (AP)

FRI - 5:00 PM

Victorian A

The art and science of getting inside your User's heads. A one hour workshop introducing the foundations of modern User Experience (UX) Design, geared towards game designers, web designers, app designers, clothing designers, event planners and anyone who wants to create a product or event that people will love.

Panelists: Gild the Mourn

Fanzines – Why They are Important (ET)

FRI - 5:00 PM

Victorian B

What are fanzines, what is their history, and why they are still relevant today? What were some of the first fanzines? What purpose did they serve? What could be found in them? And how have they changed over time?

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Gail Z. Martin, Roger Carden, Warren Buff

Writing in Multiple Tie-In Universes (ET)

FRI - 5:00 PM

Provincial

Our panelists have written official novels for *Star Wars*, *Star Trek*, and *Beauty and the Beast*, as well as Sherlock Holmes pastiches. Given that they also write a lot of other fiction, the panelists discuss the differences between writing original fiction and writing for pre-existing franchises/worlds.

Panelists: Amy H. Sturgis (M), Barbara Hambly, Alexandra Christian, Richard C. White, Melissa McArthur



101 Ideas in an Hour (AP)

FRI - 5:00 PM

Boardroom

Ever wonder where writers get their ideas? Join New York Times bestselling author Timothy Zahn as he guides you and your fellow workshop attendees on the path to creating characters, aliens, magic systems, and societies that you can use as jump-off points for literally hundreds of stories, novels, and even multi-book sagas.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

White Plectrum

FRI - 5:30 PM

Salon B-C-D

White Plectrum entertains with filk songs both classic and new!

Close Up Magic

FRI - 6:00 PM

Suite 215

Join Flabbergast, the time-traveling wizard, as he entertains and mystifies children and adults alike with magic that you can reach out and touch (or maybe not!). Suitable for all ages.

Panelists: Mark MacDicken

Supernatural: The Legend, Lore, Myth and Magic of Monsters (ET)

FRI - 6:00 PM

Provincial

Supernatural has been around for more than 10 wonderful years and is still going strong. Although the show has gotten more silly/emotional and less scary over the years, there's one thing that keeps the family business booming: all the creepy Supernatural monsters. Whether we're talking about the mighty Darkness or your basic garden-variety demon, as long as monsters are around, the Winchesters will be there for you when the rain starts to fall. Or, you know, when you smell sulfur and feel cold all of a sudden. Our panelists discuss how the myths and legends of monsters play out in the Supernatural world.

Panelists: Gail Z. Martin (M), Stuart Jaffe, Ian J. Malone

Marketing for Newbies (ET)

FRI - 6:00 PM

Victorian A

A common misconception among authors is that your book is your brand. Wrong! YOU are your brand! So... how do you draw attention to your brand and use it to gather sales? Come to this workshop and find out!

Panelists: Chris Kennedy

On Writing Short Stories (ET)

FRI - 6:00 PM

Victorian B

Short stories are often a great way to begin writing. Our panelists talk about how they got their start, what interests them in writing short stories and where new authors can look to publish their work.

Panelist: Gray Rinehart (M), Steven S. Long, Arylias Nova, Edmund R. Schubert, Stephen J. Simmons

Writing Sherlock Holmes and Other Icons (ET)

FRI - 6:00 PM

Boardroom

Sherlock Holmes, James Bond, Superheroes... what are the challenges with writing these iconic characters? And if you change them - how do you make sure to capture their essence? When writing an iconic character, how do you determine what makes them iconic? Is it Sherlock Holmes being a detective, or Bond working for MI-6? What happens if Holmes is a Demon, or Bond is set in a Fantasy World?

Panelists: Amy H. Sturgis (M), Misty Massey, J. Matthew Saunders, Nicole Givens Kurtz, Melissa McArthur

E Komo Mai! (Opening Ceremonies) (ET)

FRI - 7:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

This is our version of our opening ceremonies. There will be door prizes and short speeches by some of the guests! This is the time and place to decompress from the rigors of travel, meet friends old and new, and make the transition to being at the Con!

Each year, ConGREGate remembers contributors that we have lost from the science fiction and fantasy world. The tradition began in memory of Aaron Allston, who was well known for his love of Hawaiian shirts.

We encourage everyone to wear a Hawaiian shirt on Friday, July 14.

Panelists: James Fulbright (M), Allen Wold, Barbara Hambly, Michael A. Stackpole, Alan Pollack, Toni Weisskopf, Timothy Zahn

The New Faces of DC - Supergirl/Arrow/Legends (AP)

FRI - 7:00 PM

Victorian B

No matter how you feel about the DC Movies, most people agree that the TV versions of the DC universe is one of the best written in recent memory. Join our panelists as they discuss what is working in the CW's DC World and what they could do better.

Panelists: Carol Cowles (M), JT "The Engineer," Darin Kennedy, Barbara deBary-Kesner

Pulp Fiction (AP)

FRI - 7:00 PM

Boardroom

Pulp is sometimes seen as some of the first true SF - with fast paced stories of action, adventure, and intrigue; from hard boiled dicks and dangerous dames to bold aviators and unspeakable horrors. Our panelists discuss the history of Pulp and its influence on SF/F.

Panelists: Steven S. Long (M), Nicole Givens Kurtz, Richard C. White, Roger Carden, Janet Carden

"Dragons and Griffins and Bears, Oh My!" - The Pictish Art of Scotland (ET)

FRI - 8:00 PM

Victorian A

Although there exists no word in Scottish Gaelic for "dragon," these and many other magnificent creatures and symbols adorn hundreds of monoliths throughout Scotland. Author Kim Iversen Headlee, who has been chasing these stones for nigh on two decades, presents an introduction to this ancient and mysterious art form.

Panelists: Kim Headlee

Fanspeak – Learning the Basics (ET)

FRI - 8:00 PM

Victorian B

From FIAWOL to Great Ghu, our panelists will educate the audience on commonly used terms and how to use them correctly.

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Toni Weisskopf, Gail Z. Martin

Worldbuilding 101 (AP)

FRI - 8:00 PM

Boardroom

Readers come to fiction for escape, and they love diving into alien world which are far more fantastic and titanic than our own. New York Times Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole will walk you through the key elements of making sure your world has the depth readers crave. He cover the basics from geography and history—the stuff you missed skipping class in Middle School—and then show you how to work religion, culture, non-human races, magick and technology into a cohesive whole which will allow your readers to get lost in the worlds of your making.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

Event Descriptions

Beat da Geeks (AP)

FRI - 8:00PM

Provincial

No, not like that! Go head-to-head against other fans for the right to take on our panel of experts in this geek trivia challenge.

Panelists: Rich Sigfrit (M), Chris Shrewsbury, Steven S. Long, Kelly Lockhart

Book Launch Party

FRI - 8:00PM

Suite 207

Join several of our guests as they celebrate the launch of their newest books. For specific authors and books, please see Sched.com.

Gild the Mourn

FRI - 8:30 PM

Salon B-C-D

Join Gild the Mourn for their fairytale themed music.

Historical Costuming for Cosplay (ET)

FRI - 9:00 PM

Victorian B

With the popularity of shows like *Outlander*, *Penny Dreadful*, and *Downton Abbey*, there is a growing interest in cosplay with a historical twist, but historical cosplay and historical costuming are not necessarily one in the same. In this panel, you will learn how to adapt historical fashions to suit your cosplay needs.

Panelists: Sarah Schambach (M), Cheralyn Lambeth, Theresa Perlmutter

Steampunk Jamboree (AP)

FRI - 9:00 PM

Victorian A

Familiar tunes, funny fan-fueled lyrics, and a few British Chestnuts, presented for you to sing along with Flabbergast and the Missus in Victorian Music Hall-style. Rated E for Everyone!

Panelists: Mark MacDicken

From Nancy Drew to Anita Blake (ET)

FRI - 9:00 PM

Boardroom

From Nancy Drew to Anita Blake, female detectives have graced bookshelves for many years. What skills do you need to bring writing these leading women to life? Where can you find great new female detectives?

Panelists: Melissa McArthur (M), Nicole Givens Kurtz, Melissa McArthur, Darcy Wold, Janet Carden

Carrie Fisher - From Princess to General (AP)

FRI - 9:30 PM

Provincial

With her larger-than-life personality, both on- and off-screen, and incredible sense of humor, Carrie Fisher was destined to have a special place in the hearts of Star Wars fans of all ages. Costumes are encouraged, and all are welcome as panelists and audience members share personal stories of how she touched fans' lives and will live in their hearts-always!

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Angela Pritchett, Maya Preisler, Albin Johnson, Barbara deBary-Kesner

Design an Alien (AP)

FRI - 10:00 PM

Victorian B

Paula Jordan moderates this panel on how to properly design your alien so that it will be realistic in accordance with known science.

Panelists: Paula S. Jordan (M), Glenda Finkelstein, Jim Beall, Randall Hayes

Romance in Genre Fiction (ET)

FRI - 10:00 PM

Victorian A

From Laurell K Hamilton's Anita Blake's active romantic life to the relationships that bedevil Jim Butcher's Harry Dresden, how do you add romance to genre writing? Do you follow the typical "romance" plot lines? Or do you follow the more typical genre plot? How do you know when you are writing a "romance" novel that takes place in a science fiction/fantasy setting vs a "science fiction" novel with romantic elements?

Panelists: Alexandra Christian (M), Gail Z. Martin, Melissa McArthur, Linda Robertson

Writer Beware (ET)

FRI - 10:00 PM

Boardroom

Writer Beware's mission is to track, expose, and raise awareness of the prevalence of fraud and other questionable activities in and around the publishing industry.

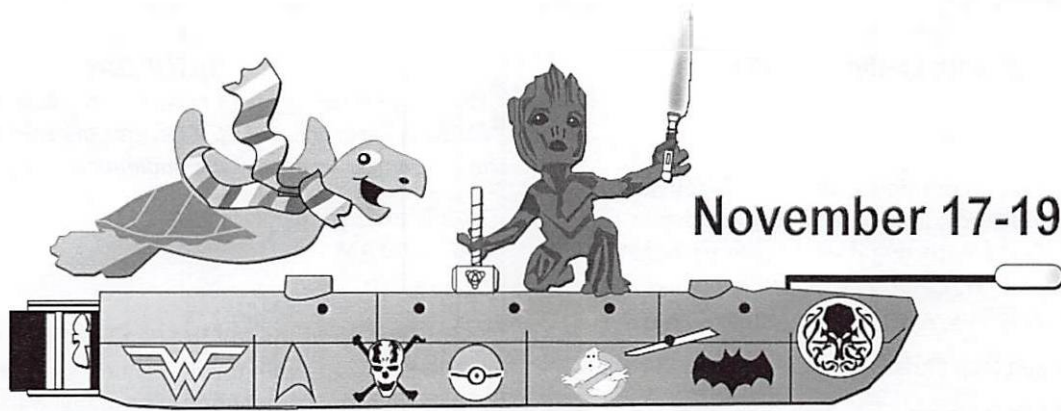
Panelists: Richard C. White (M), Roger Carden

Valentine Wolfe

FRI - 10:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

Join Valentine Wolfe for their unique blend of Ethereal Heavy Metal Music.



AtomaCon 2017

North Charleston, SC

<http://atomacon.org> @atomacon

Keith R.A. DeCandido
Author Guest of Honor

Noise Complaint
Cosplay Tap Group

Rich Sigfrit
Master of Ceremonies

Dimensional Riffs
Nerd Rock Band

Forest Path
Musical Performance
Group

Authors, Artists, Fan Groups
Science & Tech Professionals

Sanctioned Poke'mon and Smash Brothers Tournaments

Mario Kart 25th Anniversary Tournament

Costume Contest***Charity Auction***Vendor's Room

200+ hours of panels and events

Back from the hurricane in
a fully remodelled hotel!

Event Descriptions

Cospositivity: Cosplay with Confidence (ET)

FRI - 10:30 PM

Provincial

Discuss body image and confidence in oneself, self-worth, ways to work on confidence, and how to stay positive in the community when faced with negative people or negative comments on social media. Cosplaying regardless of age, skin color, gender, body type/size, and disability will be covered.

Panelists: Nancy Knight (M), Chris Shrewsbury, Patrick Brown

Ghost Stories with Tally & Braxton (ET)

FRI - 11:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

You've heard Tally Johnson's ghost stories...now join him along with Braxton of Valentine Wolfe as they tell ghost stories accompanied by the haunting soundscapes of Braxton's bass.

Panelists: Tally Johnson, Valentine Wolfe

How Fan Connections Have Changed (AP)

FRI - 11:00 PM

Boardroom

The way fans have connected over the years has changed greatly. From the first use of fanzines and Usenet to the popularity of LiveJournal to the current use of Facebook and Tumblr, how are fans finding ways to connect with each other?

Panelists: Kelly Lockhart (M), Maya Preisler, Albin Johnson

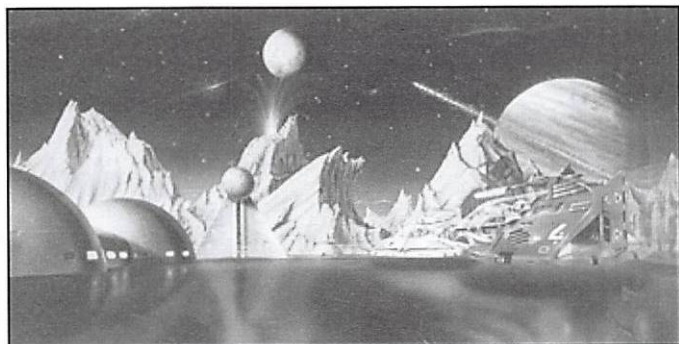
The Alternative Night Life (ET)

FRI - 11:00 PM

Victorian B

A 101 style introduction to kink, BDSM, and the meaning of life. Well, maybe not the last one. Come learn about what all the letters stand for and talk about what *50 Shades of Grey* got right and what was just plain wrong. This panel will cover the basics of BDSM, from definitions, to consent, to finding and exploring your local scene, and basic safety. Ages 18 and up.

Panelists: JT "The Enginerd" (M), Rich Sigfrit



SATURDAY

You will find two types of events listed: Audience Participation (AP) and Experts Talk (ET). ET events are traditional con panels. In AP events, we encourage audience participation.

Iron Maker (ET)

SAT - 9:00 AM

Salon B-C-D

Two teams from the 105th Squad will face off to build a SF themed costume with previously unseen materials that will be provided at the competition. The teams will be limited to two hours, and a "curve ball" may be injected into the competition midway through the build.

Panelists: James Rippe, Theresa Perlmutter

Mixing Historical Research with Genre Fiction (ET)

SAT - 9:30 AM

Provincial

Given that historical fiction itself is a demanding genre requiring a lot of effort if one wants to do it right, our panelists discuss the challenges they've faced and choices they've made in blending historical work with the fantasy and mystery genres.

Panelists: Amy H. Sturgis (M), Barbara Hambly, Tally Johnson, Kim Headlee, Linda Robertson

21 Days to a Novel (AP)

SAT - 9:30 AM

Boardroom

New York Times Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole presents his three week program for preparing yourself to write a novel. This set of 21 exercises is broken down to give you everything from character creation to world building, practical plotting devices, dialogue development and character voice creation tools. This program is a practical, kick-in-the-pants place to start your career.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

Nanoscience Inspired by Nature (ET)

SAT - 10:00 AM

Victorian A

Dr. Daniel Herr shares his TEDtalk and answers questions about the future of Nanoscience. TEDtalks are influential videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, tech and creativity.

Panelists: Dr. Daniel Herr

Allen Wold's Regionally Famous Writers Workshop (AP)

SAT - 10:00 AM

Victorian B

Allen has been providing conventions with his workshop for many years. Joined by established authors, he provides a safe, creative environment to practice writing. New and established writers can benefit from this workshop. Limited attendance.

This is a 2 hr. workshop, with a 1 hour follow up on Sunday morning. Cost is free. Sign up Sheets are located at Registration.

Panelists: Allen Wold (M), Gray Rinehart, Edmund R. Schubert, Darcy Wold

Bad is the New Good (AP)

SAT - 10:30 AM

Provincial

Over time comic book villains have changed; from *Suicide Squad* to Loki... villains are now becoming heroes. How does that change the dynamic from good vs evil in everything from TV to film to books?

Panelists: Gary Mitchel (M), J. Matthew Saunders, Darin Kennedy

Cover Art (ET)

SAT - 11:00 AM

Victorian A

Cover Art can make or break your book. From how it looks online to what part of the story it captures, join our guests as they talk about the nature of cover art.

Panelists: Chris Kennedy (M), Alan Pollack, Toni Weisskopf, Stuart Jaffe, Larry N. Martin

KidsTrack: Together We are More! (AP)

SAT - 11:00 AM

Suite 215

Join us on an intergalactic adventure as the Mighty Power Rangers gather in High Point, NC to battle fierce enemies and save the city. (Children will pick colors and make bracers.)

Panelists: JT "The Engineer"

Open Pitch - Falstaff Books (AP)

SAT - 11:00 AM

Boardroom

Ever wanted some immediate, direct feedback on your great novel idea? Then join John Hartness, editor of Falstaff Books, and pitch him your idea. John will listen, give feedback and if he likes it, he might even offer you a deal.

Panelists: John G. Hartness

Writing Time Travel (ET)

SAT - 11:30 AM

Provincial

Paradoxes. Infinite Loops. Multiple timelines. Time travel is hard. Writing it is even harder. Our panelists discuss some of the things that make writing time travel challenging.

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Simon Hawke, Steven S. Long

Sit Still, Look Pretty (ET)

SAT - 12:00 N

Victorian A

Female characters from Rey and Jyn to Wonder Woman and Harlequin are known both for their beauty but also for their strength. How do these characters "own their dreams" and move beyond being someone's girlfriend? The damsel in distress. The evil seductress. The tough girl who dies. Why are so many female characters such cookie-cutter archetypes? Why do so many fictional women lack the depth and variety of character of their male counterparts? How can fans and writers work together to create richer stories with more women who don't "Sit Still, Look Pretty."

Panelists: Alexandra Christian (M), Maya Preisler, Glenda Finkelstein, Alex Matsuo, Gild The Mourn

Heroes, Anti-Heroes, Villains (ET)

SAT - 12:00 N

Boardroom

What really makes them different, and does it matter? How are they similar? Would you tell a story from the villain's POV (e.g. *Murder of Roger Ackroyd* and *The Demolished Man*)?

Panelists: Allen Wold (M), Darin Kennedy, Barbara Hambly, Melissa McArthur, Michael G. Williams

The Guardian Corp - Jedi Combat Demo (ET)

SAT - 12:00 N

Salon B-C-D

The Guardian Corps is a stage combat choreography group, specializing in blades of light from a galaxy far, far away. Come watch as Sith and Jedi face off in combat.

Supernatural - Tethering to the Real World (ET)

SAT - 12:30 PM

Provincial

Our panelists discuss how the music, historical facts and real places combine with the fantasy elements to make the show much more real.

Panelists: Gail Z. Martin (M), Stuart Jaffe, Ian J. Malone, Nancy Knight

Event Descriptions

DSC - Hearts Champion of the Universe Tournament (AP)

SAT - 12:30 PM

Victorian B

An annual tradition amongst southern fandom, the Hearts Champion of the Universe Tournament is exactly what it sounds like. Come, play cards, and have fun! Interested participants may sign up at Registration.

Photography Workshop for Photographers (AP)

SAT - 1:00PM

Victorian A

So you just bought a new camera, but the pictures still do not look quite as professional as you had hoped. Professional photographers James Rippe and Paul Cory will provide some hands on suggestions to help your pictures look more like art, rather than something snapped on your smartphone. Cosplayers will be posing for the workshop attendees, so make sure you bring your camera. Participants should plan to show up within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time. When we finish with the introductory discussion, the workshop will be mobile to give participants a chance to work in real-con conditions. Actual workshop 2 hours.

Panelists: Paul Cory, James Rippe

Writing from Different Perspectives (ET)

SAT - 1:00 PM

Boardroom

Authors often try to write about protagonists that are different from themselves. Our panelists discuss why they feel it is important to capture these characters perspectives, the challenges faced in trying to be authentic, respectful, and sensitive in their portrayal, and what they think about current debates and controversies about the importance of diversity, authenticity, and representation in fiction.

Panelists: Amy H. Sturgis (M), Samantha Dunaway Bryant, Barbara Hambly, Larry N. Martin, Michael G. Williams

KidsTrack: How to Defeat the Bad Guys - Ask a Scientist (AP)

SAT - 1:00 PM

Suite 215

Our Mighty Power Rangers meet with some of the city's finest scientists to ask questions of them and learn more about their enemy.

Panelists: JT "The Engineer" (M), Jim Beall, Dr. Tedd Roberts, William C. Tracy

The Stories Behind the Art - AGoH (ET)

SAT - 1:30 PM

Provincial

Michael Pederson interviews Artist Guest of Honor Alan Pollack about the stories behind some of his iconic artwork.

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Alan Pollack

Make-up for Cosplay (ET)

SAT - 1:30 PM

Victorian A

Having makeup that matches the effort put into your cosplay is important. This panel goes into what it takes to perfect your cosplay by having great makeup to go with it. Panelists will cover beauty makeup, appliance application, special FX makeup, sculpting, molding, casting, and wig styling. They will help you answer your questions about makeup to match your costuming and cosplay. They will also offer tips and tools of the trade to use.

Panelists: Angela Pritchett (M), Daphne Reeder, Jennifer McCollom

KidsTrack: Leave Her Alone! Or How to Tell People to Go Away Nicely (ET)

SAT - 2:00 PM

Suite 215

Our team of Power Rangers learn how helping and protecting each other will help them grow stronger.

Panelists: JT "The Engineer", Gild The Mourn

Gray Rinehart (Concert)

SAT - 2:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

Gray Rinehart entertains us with his music!

Okay, I've Got My Idea... (AP)

SAT - 2:00PM

Boardroom

Working from an idea generated on the spot, author Timothy Zahn will guide the participants in laying out an entire story. We'll construct a storyline, find the protagonists, sketch out the character arcs, play with plot twists, and point the way to a satisfying resolution.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

What's Going on in the Lab? (ET)

SAT - 2:30 PM

Victorian A

From nanotechnology to neuroscience, from NASA to nuclear engineering, how has science changed and what do we have to look forward to in the 21st Century?

Panelists: Paula S. Jordan (M), Jim Beall, Randall Hayes, Dr. Daniel Herr, Stephen J. Simmons, Gild The Mourn

Meet The 105th Squad - Demo (AP)

SAT - 2:30 PM

Victorian B

The 105th Squad is a multi-genre costume and prop builder group. We refer to our members as engineers, because they work together in building various projects. Take advantage of this workshop to share your work and learn from others. Feel free to ask members for tips as they are here to help.

Panelists: James Rippe, Theresa Perlmutter

Hold on to the Light (AP)

SAT - 2:30 PM

Provincial

Anxiety and depression are cruel mistresses, and they target a lot of creatives, some you might even know. Let's gather to talk about how to survive them together. #HoldOnToTheLight is a blog campaign encompassing blog posts by more than 100 fantasy and science fiction authors around the world in an effort to raise awareness around treatment for depression, suicide prevention, domestic violence intervention, PTSD initiatives, bullying prevention and other mental health-related issues. We believe fandom should be supportive, welcoming and inclusive, in the long tradition of fandom taking care of its own. We encourage readers and fans to seek the help they or their loved ones need without shame or embarrassment.

Panelists: Gail Z. Martin (M), John G. Hartness, Misty Massey, Darin Kennedy

KidsTrack: It's Morphin' Time (AP)

SAT - 3:00 PM

Suite 215

Our Power Rangers learn how to work together as a team using STEM activities.

Panelists: JT "The Engineer"

White Plectrum

SAT - 3:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

White Plectrum entertains with folk songs both classic and new!

Characterization (AP)

SAT - 3:00 PM

Boardroom

Characters are king in literature and New York Times Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole brings you a toolbox full of techniques to create compelling and memorable characters. Readers read for and remember characters, and after this course, yours will be unforgettable, which will keep them coming back for more.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

The Stages of a Writer's Experience (ET)

SAT - 3:30 PM

Victorian A

Each writer's learning and career experiences are unique, but might there be similarities in the stages of their progress? Assuming a panel of four writers, each at a different stage of his/her career--say, beginner, moderately published, established, and master--what experiences of learning and success might each have encountered in their careers to date and how might they agree or differ?

Beginner William C Tracy, moderately published Paula Jordan, established Gail Z Martin, and master Timothy Zahn explore the likenesses and differences.

Panelists: Ian J. Malone (M), Paula S. Jordan, Timothy Zahn, Gail Z. Martin, William C. Tracy

Kidstrack: (Mock) Battle to Save the City (AP)

SAT - 4:00 PM

Suite 215

Having learned the power of working together, and with the knowledge gained, our Rangers gather to face the enemy.

Panelists: JT "The Engineer"

Flabbergast's Magic Show

SAT - 4:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

Flabbergast, the time-traveling wizard, stops into ConGregarate4/DeepSouthCon55 with his puppet pals and puzzling presentations of prestidigitation to amaze and amuse children and adults alike. Prepare to be Flabbergasted! Suitable for all Ages

Panelists: Mark MacDicken

Event Descriptions

Advanced Characterization (AP)

SAT - 4:00 PM

Boardroom

If characters are king, these techniques will teach you how to establish a dynasty. New York Times Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole reveals the advanced techniques he uses for creating characters of depth, intrigue and humanity, who manage to grow in realistic but seldom predictable ways. You'll learn how to create the sort of characters that can carry whole sagas and keep readers locked in and waiting for each new book's release.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

Photography Workshop - Posing for Costumers and Cosplayers (AP)

SAT - 4:30 PM

Victorian A

Wondering how to look your best when being photographed? Professional photographers James Rippe and Paul Cory will provide some hands-on suggestions to help your poses look your best. Bring your costume and be ready to smile!

Panelists: Paul Cory, James Rippe

Writer Guest of Honor Event (ET)

SAT - 5:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

John Hartness interviews Barbara Hambly! Interview may be recorded live.

Panelists: John G. Hartness (M), Barbara Hambly

Genre Blending: Science Fiction, Fantasy and More (ET)

SAT - 5:00 PM

Boardroom

Mixing science fiction and fantasy with other genres like mystery and westerns can give you a genre cocktail that is great... or very, very bad. Some authors have been hugely successful, while others have crashed and burned. Our experts tell you how to get it just right.

Panelists: Chris Kennedy (M), Misty Massey, J. Matthew Saunders, Darin Kennedy, Nicole Givens Kurtz

The Baen Traveling Road Show (ET)

SAT - 5:00 PM

Provincial

Join the Publisher from Baen Books, Toni Weiskopf, along with artists, editors and authors, as she shares upcoming releases and gives away Baen swag!

Panelists: Toni Weiskopf (M), Gray Rinehart, Alan Pollack, Kelly Lockhart

Leatherworking 101 (AP)

SAT - 5:00 PM

Victorian B

A primer for the basics of leatherwork led by the designers at Ribbons and Rivets, where participants edge, burnish, dye, seal, and decorate their very own wrist cuff. All tools and materials will be provided. Just bring a pair of hands. Fee is \$20.

Panelists: Matthew Penick

And More Geeky Rants... (AP)

SAT - 6:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

And More Geeky Rants... is an amazingly entertaining discussion that lets folks good-naturedly vent on what's wrong in their chosen fandom. Whether it's the cancellation of Firefly or exactly how "fast" is a parsec, this never-the-same-twice event combines the best (and worst!) elements of audience-participation comedy and couples therapy. Not to be missed, this will be the highlight of your con.

Panelists: Chris Shrewsbury (M), Tally Johnson, Samantha Dunaway Bryant, Kelly Lockhart, Kim Headlee

Stories from the Author - Writing in Someone Else's World (ET)

SAT - 6:00 PM

Boardroom

Authors share some stories of the challenges and unique situations that they encountered writing in these shared worlds.

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Barbara Hambly, Timothy Zahn, Simon Hawke, Allen Wold

Using Martial Arts in Writing Fight Scenes (ET)

SAT - 6:00 PM

Victorian A

Join our panelists as they speak about using martial arts in writing fight scenes. They will talk about the different forms of martial arts and how the descriptions of their actions vary in the writing. (Note: There will be a follow up, hands-on panel, How to Survive a Horror Story at 7pm in Provincial.)

Panelists: William C. Tracy (M), Dr. Tedd Roberts, Arylias Nova

CAPCLAVE

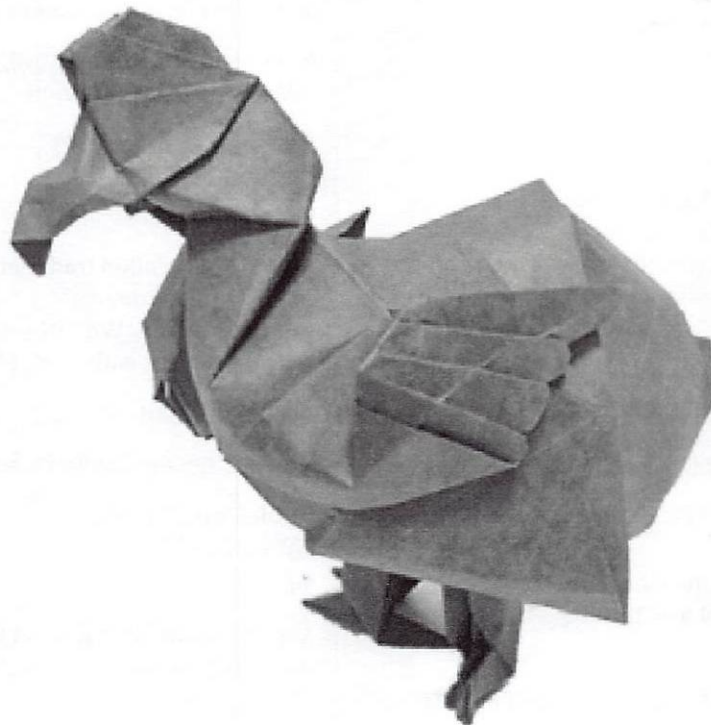
2017

Neil Clarke

Editor of Clarkesworld Magazine

Ken Liu

Author of The Grace of Kings and The Paper Menagerie



6 – 8 October 2017

Hilton Washington DC North / Gaithersburg

Memberships

10 October 2016 – 31 December 2016	\$50
1 January 2017 – 31 May 2017	\$55
1 June 2017 – 31 July 2017	\$60
1 August 2017 – 30 September 2017	\$65
At the door	\$70
Students and Active Military	\$30

Capclave.org

info@capclave.org

Find "Capclave" on Facebook and Twitter

Capclave is hosted by the
Washington Science Fiction Association
(wsfa.org)

Event Descriptions

Basic Armor Patterning (AP)

SAT - 6:30 PM

Victorian B

Come see how the process of armor making begins as the designers at Ribbons and Rivets lead participants through making their own bracer pattern. All tools and materials are provided for this free workshop.

Panelists: Matthew Penick

Awards Ceremony (ET)

SAT - 7:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

We will be handing out three awards: the Manly Wade Wellman Award for best SF novel by an NC writer; The Phoenix Award, DSC's lifetime achievement award that goes to a science fiction professional editor, author, or artist with connections to the South; and the Rebel Award which is awarded to a southern fan.

Panelists: James Fulbright (M), Darin Kennedy, Michael A. Stackpole, Gail Z. Martin, Michael D. Pederson

Creating Magic (ET)

SAT - 7:00 PM

Boardroom

Fantasy author Brandon Sanderson has written several "laws" of magic. His first law is this: "An author's ability to solve conflict with magic is DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL to how well the reader understands said magic." Our panelists talk through how one creates a magic system, how magic can work in a setting, etc.

Panelists: Steven S. Long (M), Alexandra Christian, Melissa McArthur, Linda Robertson, Michael G. Williams

How to Survive a Horror Movie (AP)

SAT - 7:00 PM

Provincial

Join Dr. Tedd Roberts and others as they show how to use found objects and other common martial arts techniques to escape a horror movie!

Panelists: Dr. Tedd Roberts, William C. Tracy, AFKA Senior Master Patrick Macon

Costume Contest Green Room

SAT - 7:00 PM

Victorian A

Green Room (Pre-Judging and Waiting)

Panelists: Cheralyn Lambeth, Sarah Schambach, Gild The Mourn

Working Methods (ET)

SAT - 7:00 PM

Victorian B

What is the environment like when you write? Do you need privacy, silence, music? Longhand or keyboard for first drafts or coarse editing? Notes, outlines, floor plans and maps? Other visual references? Lots of coffee?

Panelists: Allen Wold (M), Tally Johnson, J. Matthew Saunders, Arylias Nova, Edmund R. Schubert

Writing Believable Military Science Fiction - Or "How To Not Suck At Mil Scifi" (ET)

SAT - 7:00 PM

Boardroom

Ever picked up a military science fiction book and lost your suspension of disbelief within a page or two because it was so very, very wrong? Want to learn how to get it right? Come talk with the experts on how they nail their military science fiction and write books that readers can't put down.

Panelists: Chris Kennedy (M), Alan Pollack, Toni Weisskopf, Ian J. Malone, Richard C. White

Costume Contest (AP)

SAT - 8:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

In grand convention tradition, ConGregarate will host a costume contest on Saturday night. Bring your best costume and show off your skills. Bonus: While the judges are judging, White Plectrum will entertain us with some filking.

Host: Rich Sigfrit

Judges: Cheralyn Lambeth, Sarah Schambach, Gild The Mourn

Book Launch Party

SAT - 8:00 PM

Suite 207

Join several of our guests as they celebrate the launch of their newest books. For specific authors and books, please see Sched. com.

ConGregarate Charity Auction

SAT - 9:00 PM Viewing

SAT - 9:30 PM Auction

Provincial

ConGregarate's charity auction will benefit Greensboro Urban Ministry's food bank, a non-denominational organization, which provides food and housing to assist those in need in the inner city.

Fannish History (ET)

SAT - 9:00 PM

Victorian B

From history of WorldCon to media fan groups, what's the backstory about fandom? Who are some of founders and influencers?

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Toni Weisskopf, Kelly Lockhart, Albin Johnson

Radium Girls of Science and Science Fiction (ET)

SAT - 9:00 PM

Victorian A

A nuclear engineer uses many .jpg's and videos to trace the history of women in science (especially nuclear) and in science fiction (both characters and authors) from the beginning to the present day.

Panelists: Jim Beall

Anthology Panel: Lawless Lands (ET)

SAT - 9:00 PM

Boardroom

Join the publisher and authors of the Lawless Lands Anthology as they talk about the process, the Kickstarter and maybe read from their stories!

Panelists: Melissa McArthur (M), John G. Hartness, Misty Massey, Alexandra Christian, Nicole Givens Kurtz



Valentine Wolfe

SAT - 9:30 PM

Salon B-C-D

Valentine Wolfe performs their unique blend of music.

The Difficulty of the Medium (ET)

SAT - 10:00 PM

Victorian A

Veteran costumers and cosplayers discuss what mediums (cloth, foam, paint and more!) to use in different projects. Tips, tricks, which are favorites, and which to avoid.

Panelists: Matthew Penick (M), Tom Hutchens, Cheralyn Lambeth, Theresa Perlmutter, Todd Lacey

Ask a Mad Scientist (AP)

SAT - 10:00 PM

Victorian B

You know those panels where a bunch of stuffy scientists talk about science in fancy language that goes over your head but everyone comes out feeling 20 IQ points smarter? Yeah, didn't think so, and that's good, because this is not one of those panels. Science - it's confusing, mysterious, and sometimes you just have to wonder what the scientists were thinking when they came up with the ideas. Here's your chance to corner some scientists in a panel room for a Q&A on new, funny, important, weird and/or confusing science. It's late in the evening, so let's see if we can have some fun with it!

Panelists: Dr. Tedd Roberts (M), Darin Kennedy, Paula S. Jordan, Jim Beall, Randall Hayes, William C. Tracy, JT "The Engineer", Stephen J. Simmons

The Dichotomy Between Good and Evil (ET)

SAT - 10:00 PM

Boardroom

Sometimes a hero has to make a bad decision and sometimes a villain falls onto the side of good. What makes a hero or a villain as these lines become blurrier? How do creators seek the balance that keeps readers rooting for and against their favorite characters?

Panelists: Samantha Dunaway Bryant (M), J. Matthew Saunders, Edmund R. Schubert, Kim Headlee, Michael G. Williams

Podcasting/New Media (ET)

SAT - 11:00 PM

Victorian A

So what is podcasting? How did it get its start? And where are the best places to find out more information? What are the best "geeky" podcasts where someone can begin listening?

Panelists: Rich Sigfrit (M), Angela Pritchett, Carol Cowles, Alex Matsuo

Where Do You Get All Those Wonderful Toys? (ET)

SAT - 11:00 PM

Victorian B

Encounter someone who's been in the scene for more than 10 minutes and they'll inevitably have a toy bag or two (or 5) full of assorted "implements of destruction." We'll tell you where you can get them (even on a budget) and how you can even make some of your own. Ages 18 and up.

Panelists: JT "The Engineer"

Event Descriptions

Gild the Mourn

SAT - 11:00PM

Salon B-C-D

Musical Guests, Gild The Mourn perform Fairytale Themed Gothic Rock.



SUNDAY

You will find two types of events listed: Audience Participation (AP) and Experts Talk (ET). ET events are traditional con panels. In AP events, we encourage audience participation.

Non-Denominational Prayer Service (AP)

9:00 AM

Victorian B

This is a non-denominational prayer service open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Panelists: Gray Rinehart

My First Costume (ET)

SUN - 10:00 AM

Victorian A

Everyone had to start somewhere. Join our panelists as they talk about their first costume, the trials and tribulations thereof, and where it led them. What made them decide to create a costume? What genre did it come from? What challenges did they face in creating that first costume and how did they overcome them?

Panelists: Sarah Schambach (M), Daphne Reeder, Tom Hutchens, Chris Shrewsbury, Todd Lacey

Southern Fandom Confederation Business Meeting (ET)

SUN - 10:00 AM

Provincial

This will be a general business meeting for the Southern Fandom Confederation.

Panelists: Jennifer Liang

Allen Wold's Regionally Famous Writers Workshop (AP)

SUN - 10:00 AM

Victorian B

Part 2 of Allen Wold's Workshop.

Panelists: Allen Wold (M), Gray Rinehart, Edmund R. Schubert, Darcy Wold

Plotting Workshop (AP)

SUN - 10:00 AM

Boardroom

New York Times Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole unravels the mysteries of creating compelling plots. A novel is a huge undertaking, written over weeks or months, and the plot has to hold it all together. From creating an outline to maintaining flexibility, this seminar gives you the insider knowledge that will separate you from all of your peers.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

Valentine Wolfe

SUN - 10:30 AM

Salon B-C-D

Valentine Wolfe entertains.

DeepSouthCon Business Meeting (ET)

SUN - 11:00 AM

Provincial

This is a general business meeting for DeepSouthCon (DSC) where we will select the site for DSC 57 (2019) - Your vote counts! Everyone with a valid ConGREGate/DSC badge may vote.

Panelists: James Fulbright

TV: Episodic vs. Story Arc (AP)

SUN - 11:00 AM

Victorian A

It used to be that TV shows were episodic. One monster per episode. Now it seems like every story has to be a season long. Do you like it? Do you hate it? Which shows work with the storylines and which don't? And is it too much?

Panelists: Gary Mitchel (M), Barbara deBary-Kesner, Carol Cowles

Paper Mache Workshop (AP)

SUN - 11:00 AM

Victorian B

Cosplayer and 105th engineer, Theresa Perlmutter, is bringing with her alternative way to create lightweight easy to manage construction for your cosplays, whether it be props or details. Not everything has to be expensive; simple materials that you can find in a hardware store and even your own local grocery store, can be used to make great cosplays. Paper mache isn't just for your kindergarten class room or summer camp balloon eggs. Come join Theresa Perlmutter in her workshop where she shows you her techniques, tips and tricks for paper mache construction.

Panelists: Theresa Perlmutter (M)

Winning with Serial Fiction (AP)

SUN - 11:00 AM

Boardroom

E-readers and increased time demands have shifted how many readers consume stories. Shorter fiction (flash fiction through novellas) is more manageable for writers and readers, quicker to publication and often more profitable than longer works. New York Times bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole has written in many series, and produced works of all lengths. He'll show you how to plot a series, provide some basic structures to use and point out ways that your shorter fiction can create a new audience for your longer-form fiction.

Michael A. Stackpole and Timothy Zahn will conduct a series of nine (9) seminars throughout the weekend. Cost at the door will be \$10 per session.

Angela Pritchett and Her Ukulele

SUN - 12:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

Angela Pritchett entertains us with her geeky music.

Science vs. "Alternative Facts" (ET)

SUN - 12:00 PM

Boardroom

This panel is on public misperceptions of scientific research. With all the bad science memes that get tossed about on social media and the constant facepalming, this panel addresses the worst of the memes that we see.

Panelists: Paula S. Jordan (M), Jim Beall, Darcy Wold, Stephen J. Simmons

1987... Never Gonna Give You Up (ET)

SUN - 12:00 PM

Provincial

An expert panel of geeksperts take a trip back in time 30 years to the great geek year of 1987. Expect analysis and quips as they look back at *Predator*, *The Princess Bride*, *The Lost Boys*, *RoboCop*, *Near Dark*, *Spaceballs*, *Hellraiser*, *Masters of the Universe*, **batteries not included*, *The Running Man*, *The Witches of Eastwick* and many more. Our panelists will remind you why you should "never fight a land war in Asia," and "This is the 80s! Nobody likes reality anymore."

Panelists: JT "The Engineer" (M), Mark MacDicken, Misty Massey, Samantha Dunaway Bryant, Gild The Mourn

Are Streaming Shows the Future of TV? (AP)

SUN - 12:00 PM

Victorian A

With some of the best SF and fantasy TV shows coming out on Netflix or Amazon, are regular broadcasts being left behind? Has the quality of genre shows suffered because of it? What is coming on soon on the various streaming channels? How do pay channels affect the fans (ie...*Star Trek: Discovery*)?

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Chris Shrewsbury, Carol Cowles, Gary Mitchel, Barbara deBary-Kesner

Darker Side of Steampunk (ET)

SUN - 12:00 PM

Victorian B

When Horror meets Steampunk. Prostitution, side shows, grave robbery, class divisions, drug abuse, child labor, the list goes on. In this panel, we will discuss some of the darker historical and societal aspects of the Victorian Era and how these facts can inspire character and art and literature.

Panelists: Gail Z. Martin (M), Larry N. Martin, Arylias Nova

Cosplay Toolbox (ET)

SUN - 1:00 PM

Victorian B

Come hear the experts divulge what tools they use to get the job done; the essentials, the helpful, and the novelties.

Panelists: Matthew Penick (M), Tom Hutchens, Cheralyn Lambeth, James Rippe, Todd Lacey

The Science in SF (AP)

SUN - 1:00 PM

Victorian A

Lightsabers, phasers, faster than light travel...how much real science is in our science fiction? Our panelists talk about the fantastic science in science fiction - how much is currently possible? How much is currently in the works?

Panelists: Jim Beall (M), Larry N. Martin, William C. Tracy, JT "The Engineer," Gild The Mourn



Event Descriptions

Star Wars: 40 Years (ET)

SUN - 1:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the release of George Lucas's *Star Wars* in 1977. The film developed an indelible franchise that over the years has come to encompass not just films, but television series, comics, collectibles, games, toys, and books that expanded Lucas's initial vision into a sci-fi wonder. Our panelists discuss all aspects of *Star Wars* past and present and speculate on what's ahead.

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Barbara Hambly, Michael A. Stackpole, Timothy Zahn, Albin Johnson

Falstaff Spotlight (ET)

SUN - 1:00 PM

Provincial

We shine the spotlight on one of our local publishing companies - Falstaff Books. Falstaff Books is a digital and print publishing company based in Charlotte, NC, dedicated to bringing to life the best in fantasy, science fiction, horror, mystery, and dramatic literature. We love bringing amazing stories to light and giving incredible writers a voice. The battered, ignored, rejected "misfit toys" of fiction are all welcome at Falstaff Books, where we understand that every scar is a story and only with different voices can harmony be created.

Panelists: John G. Hartness (M), Darin Kennedy, Melissa McArthur

Logistics of Distribution (ET)

SUN - 1:00 PM

Boardroom

You've printed your book, now what? From Kickstarter rewards, to magazine subscriptions, to direct sales - the panelists will discuss all aspects of distributing the final product through various channels.

Panelists: Roger Carden (M), Chris Kennedy, Ian J. Malone

Costuming: Form, Function, and Fantasy (ET)

SUN - 2:00 PM

Salon B-C-D

Costume designers discuss the merits of costuming in different applications from comics to movies to video games and cosplay. What design choices are rooted in functionality and what just looks cool.

Panelists: Matthew Penick (M), Daphne Reeder, Jennifer McCollom, Sarah Schambach, Todd Lacey

Are You Crazy? The Positives and Negatives of Behind the Scenes at a Con (ET)

SUN - 2:00 PM

Provincial

Our panelists discuss all the work that goes on behind the scenes at a con... as well as the positive aspects that come out of it.

Panelists: Michael D. Pederson (M), Carol Cowles, Barbara deBary-Kesner

Ghosts of NC and SC (ET)

SUN - 2:00 PM

Victorian A

Join our panelists as they tell you about the ghosts of NC and SC, from our own local haunt "Lydia, The Phantom Hitchhiker" to the famous "Gray Man" and the pirates of Charleston. What ghosts have had their start in the Carolinas?

Panelists: Cheralyn Lambeth (M), Tally Johnson, Alex Matsuo

I'll See You Again in 25 Years (AP)

SUN - 2:00 PM

Victorian B

It's actually been 26 years, not 25, but *Twin Peaks* is back with its third season. With the publication of Mark Frost's *The Secret History of Twin Peaks* and *Twin Peaks: The Final Dossier* due to be published in October, was the return to *Twin Peaks* a good thing? And what questions do we want answered - or not answered - by what's left? This discussion will be EXTREMELY SPOILERY, so it's recommended you be all caught up on the third season beforehand!

Panelists: Michael G. Williams

Fusion: Alternative Histories and Mixing Genres (ET)

SUN - 2:00 PM

Boardroom

What happens when dragons fight in World War I? What happens when Germany wins WWII? Our panelists discuss what happens when you mix history and fantasy. Or when you mix fantasy and real life physics. How does mixing genres impact your writing styles and who has done it well?

Panelists: Samantha Dunaway Bryant (M), Glenda Finkelstein, Melissa McArthur

Con in Review (AP)

SUN - 3:00PM

Provincial

The con is almost over. Take a few minutes before you leave and tell us...what worked? What didn't? Feel free to give us ideas for guests or panel topics for our upcoming Cons.

Panelists: James Fulbright

What is a "DeepSouthCon"?

DeepSouthCon (DSC) is an annual traveling convention in the southeast. The first one was held in 1962 at Dave Hulan's home in Huntsville Alabama. It boasted a whopping membership of 6 people! Obviously, the event has grown considerably since then.

What kinds of events are traditional at a DSC?

Because of DeepSouthCon's focus on fannish history, there will be programming related to this throughout the weekend. We will also host the annual Hearts Champion of the Universe Tournament. The Southern Fandom Confederation will hold its business meeting on Sunday, which is open to observers. The DeepSouthCon business meeting, also Sunday morning, is open to anyone attending ConGregarate. We are also responsible for the administration of the prestigious Rebel and Phoenix awards.

Awards? What are the Rebel and Phoenix awards?

The Rebel is awarded to a fan who has contributed much to southern fandom. The Phoenix is given to a similarly accomplished professional with connections to the region. Rumors of a third award, the Rubble, given to those who have done much TO southern fandom are hotly denied. This year's award ceremony will be held in conjunction with the Manly Wade Wellman Award ceremony.

CONCAVE 39
DEEP SOUTH CON 56

February 23-25, 2018 Bowling Green, KY

Guest of Honor: Jack Campbell

Fan Guest of Honor: Rick Norwood

Special Music Guests: Five Year Mission

Check www.concaveky.org for developing information

Deep South Con and Concave—Two great Southern Fannish traditions harmonizing for the first time! Come celebrate 40 years of Bowling Green Fandom with us!



In 1978 Science Fiction Fandom sprung into existence with the foundation of the Western Kentucky University Speculative Fiction Society.

In 2018 we celebrate with Western Kentucky's biggest fannish event ever!

HOTEL: The Greenwood Inn and Jameson Inn hotels \$ 80 per night for single-quad occupancy.

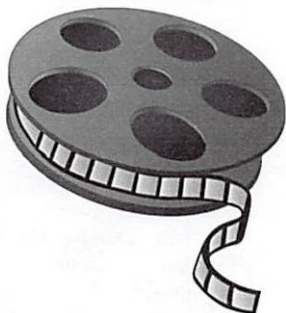
MEMBERSHIP: \$45 adult / \$30 under 21 until 1/31/18.

MAIL TO: Concave-124 Fairlawn AV, Lexington, KY 40505

PayPal payments accepted at www.concaveky.org

Coming next Spring!

THE CONGREGATE
SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



More information to be announced
www.con-gregate.com

Why should I attend the DSC business meeting?

This year's meeting will handle the site selection for the 2019 DeepSouthCon. We will also hear an update from next year's DeepSouthCon. Additionally, if there is any business carried over from last year's business meeting, that will be resolved. This meeting will be chaired by ConGregarate's Con Chair, James Fulbright.

What is the Southern Fandom Confederation?

Why should I attend their business meeting?

The SFC was founded in 1970 by fan Meade Frierson. It exists to help connect fans across the southeast with clubs, zines and conventions related to their interests. To become a member, you must pay the annual dues of \$15, which you can do at the convention. Any new or outstanding business will be resolved. We will also vote on new officers if any of the current officers choose to stand down or are challenged for their seats. This meeting will be chaired by SFC President, Jennifer Liang.

DSC History

1 (1963) - MidSouthCon, Huntsville

Con Chair: David Hulan

2 (1964) - Anniston

Con Chair: Larry Montgomery

3 (1965) - Birmingham

Con Chairs: Al Andrews, Larry Montgomery

Rebel Winner: Al Andrews

4 (1966) - Huntsville

Con Chair: Lon Atkins

Rebel Winner: David Hulan

5 (1967) - Atlanta

Con Chair: Jerry Page

6 (1968) - New Orleans

Con Chairs: Don Marstein, Rick Norwood

Guest: Daniel Galouye

7 (1969) - Knoxville

Con Chair: Janie Lamb

Guest: Rachel Maddux

8 (1970) - AgaCon '70, Atlanta

Con Chair: Glen Brock

Rebel Winner: Irvin Koch

Phoenix Winners: Richard C. Meredith

Guests: Sam Moskowitz, Richard C. Meredith

9 (1971) - Pelicon, New Orleans

Con Chairs: John Guidry, Rick Norwood

Rebel Winner: Janie Lamb

Phoenix Winner: R.A. Lafferty

Guests: Poul Anderson, Fred Patten

10 (1972) - Atlantiscon, Atlanta

Con Chairs: Joe Celko, Steve Hughes

Guests: Hal Clement, Kelly Freas

11 (1973) - New Orleans

Con Chairs: John Guidry, Don Markstein

Rebel Winner: Hank Reinhardt

Phoenix Winner: Thomas Burnett Swann

Guests: Joseph L Green, Joe Celko

12 (1974) - AgaCon '74, Atlanta

Con Chairs: Joe Celko, Sam Gastfriend

Rebel Winner: Ken Moore

Phoenix Winner: George Alec Effinger

13 (1975) - RiverCon I, Louisville, KY

Con Chair: Cliff Amos

Rebel Winner: Meade Frierson III

Phoenix Winner: Andre Norton

Guests: Phillip Jose Farmer, Andrew J. Offutt

14 (1976) - Atlanta

Con Chair: Binker Hughes

Rebel Winner: Ned Brooks

Phoenix Winner: Manly Wade Wellman

Guests: Gahan Wilson, L. Sprague de Camp, Kelly Freas

15 (1977) - B'hamacon, Birmingham

Con Chair: Penny Frierson

Rebel Winners: Cliff Biggers, Susan Biggers

Phoenix Winner: Michael Bishop

Guests: Michael Bishop, Hank Reinhardt, Charles & Dena Brown

16 (1978) - Atlanta

Con Chair: Richard Garrison

Rebel Winner: Don Markstein

Phoenix Winner: Karl Edward Wagner

Guests: Jack Williamson, Kelly Freas

17 (1979) - GumboCon, New Orleans

Con Chair: Justin Winston

Rebel Winner: Cliff Amos

Phoenix Winner: Jo Clayton

Guest: R.A. Lafferty

18 (1980) - ASFICon, Atlanta

Con Chair: Cliff Biggers

Rebel Winner: Jerry Page

Phoenix Winner: Piers Anthony

Guests: Ted White, Michael Bishop, Mike Glyer

19 (1981) - B'hamacon II, Birmingham

Con Chair: Jim Gilpatrick

Rebel Winners: Dick Lynch, Nicki Lynch

Phoenix Winner: Mary Elizabeth Counselman

Guests: Bob Shaw, Jerry Page, Hank Reinhardt

20 (1982) - ASFICon II, Atlanta

Con Chair: Mike Weber

Rebel Winner: Lon Atkins

Phoenix Winner: Kelly Freas

Guests: Karl Edward Wagner, Kelly Freas, Lon Atkins

21 (1983) - Satyricon II, Knoxville

Con Chair: Vernon Clark

Rebel Winners: John Guidry, Lynn Hickman

Phoenix Winner: Doug Chaffee, Joe Haldeman

Guests: Stephen King, Barbara Wagner, Guy H. Lillian, III

22 (1984) - Chattanooga

Con Chair: Irvin Koch

Rebel Winner: Guy H. Lillian, III

Phoenix Winner: David Drake

Guests: Joan D. Vinge, Karl Edward Wagner, Jerry Page

23 (1985) - Huntsville

Con Chairs: Mary Axford, Richard Gilliam

Rebel Winners: Larry Montgomery,

P.L. Caruthers-Montgomery

Phoenix Winner: Sharon Webb

Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Algis Budrys, Barclay Shaw, Bob Sampson

24 (1986) - L&N DSC, Louisville

Con Chairs: Sue Francis, Ken Moore

Rebel Winner: John A.R. Hollis

Phoenix Winner: Andrew J. Offutt

Guests: David Hartwell, Somtow Suchartikul, Ann Layman, Chancellor Alex Schomburg

25 (1987) - Huntsville

Con Chairs: Richard Gilliam, Patrick Molloy

Rebel Winners: Lee Hoffman, Penny Frierson

Phoenix Winners: Orson Scott Card,

Hugh B. Cave

Guests: Robert Bloch, Hugh B. Cave, Ramsey Campbell, Phil Foglio

26 (1988) - Phoenixcon III, Atlanta

Con Chair: Bill Sutton

Rebel Winners: Sue Phillips, Mike Weber

Phoenix Winner: Gerald W. Page

Guests: Gregory Benford, Kelly Freas, Joe Haldeman, The Cosmic Legion

27 (1989) - Memphis

Con Chair: Richard Moore

Rebel Winners: Steven Carlberg,

Maurine Dorris

Phoenix Winner: Robert Adams

Guests: Orson Scott Card, G. Patrick Molloy, Mary Hanson Roberts, Bill Sutton

28 (1990) - Chattanooga

Con Chair: Ken Cobb

Rebel Winner: Charlotte Proctor

Phoenix Winner: Wilson "Bob" Tucker

Guests: Bob Shaw, Forrest J. Ackerman, Bryan Webb, Darrell K. Sweet, Raymond Feist

29 (1991) - ConCat III, Knoxville

Con Chairs: Chloe Airoidi, Mandy Pack

Rebel Winner: Samantha B. Jeude

Phoenix Winner: Charles Grant

Guests: Charles Grant, Doug Chaffee,

Andrew J. Offutt, Ken Moore,

Mercedes Lackey, Larry Dixon

30 (1992) - Phoenixcon, Suwanee, GA

Con Chair: Mike Reaser

Rebel Winner: Steve & Sue Francis

Phoenix Winners: Brad Lineweaver,

Brad Strickland

Guests: Joe Lansdale, Alan Clark, Charlies

Grant, Marilyn Teague

31 (1993) - Conjuraton, Louisville

Con Chairs: Jack Heazlitt, Jennifer Wilson

Rebel Winner: G. Patrick Molloy

Phoenix Winner: Terry Bisson

Guests: Emma Bull, Will Shetterly,

Dawn Wilson, Genny Dazzo,

Andrew J. Offutt

32 (1994) - B'hamacon III, Birmingham

Con Chairs: Julie Wall

Rebel Winners: Don Cook, Bob Shaw

Phoenix Winner: Toni Weisskopf

Guests: Lois McMaster Bujold, Mike Resnick, Bob Shaw, Debbie Hughes, Mark Maxwell

33 (1995) - Kubla Khan 23, Nashville, TN

Con Chair: Ken Moore

Rebel Winner: J.R. "Mad Dog" Madden

Phoenix Winner: Darrell Richardson

Guests: Elsie Wollheim, Larry Elmore, Steve & Sue Francis, Andrew J. Offutt

34 (1996) - Beachcon, Jekyll Island

Con Chair: Bill Francis

Rebel Winners: Gary & Corlis Robe

Phoenix Winner: Jack C. Haldeman II

Guests: Harry Turtledove, Peggy Ranson, Joe Siclari, Edie Stern, Jack C. Haldeman, Barbara Delaplace

35 (1997) - ChimneyCon 3, Jackson, MS

Con Chair: Tom Feller

Rebel Winner: Teddy Harvia

Phoenix Winner: James P. Hogan

Guests: J.R. Madden, Michael Scott

Hanther, James P. Hogan

36 (1998) - B'hamacon IV, Birmingham

Con Chairs: Julie Wall, Gary Rowan

Rebel Winners: Tom Feller,

Wilson "Bob" Tucker

Phoenix Winner: David Weber

Guests: Michael Bishop, David & Lori Dietrick,

Buck & Juanita Coulson,

Wilson "Bob" Tucker

37 (1999) - New Orleans

Con Chair: Robert Neagle

Rebel Winner: Tim "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo

Phoenix Winner: Danny Frolich

Guests: Mike Resnick, Steve Jackson, Toni

Weisskopf, Tom Kidd, George Alec Effinger,

Barbara Hambly, Algis Budrys

38 (2000) - Son of Beachcon, Jekyll Island

Con Chair: Bill Francis

Rebel Winners: Lynn Harris,

Toni Weisskopf

Phoenix Winner: Jack McDevitt

Guests: Jack McDevitt, Ron Walotsky,

P.L. Caruthers-Montgomery, Larry

Montgomery, Jack Haldeman, Allen Steele

39 (2001) - Tenacity 1, Birmingham

Con Chair: Paulette Baker

Rebel Winners: Robert Neagle, Sam Smith

Phoenix Winner: Sharon Green

Guests: Catherine Asaro, Sharon Green, Larry

Elmore, Ned Brooks, Dr. Lawrence J. DeLucas

Weatherly, Lanie & Crew Hardy

40 (2002) - Huntsville

Con Chair: Sam Smith

Rebel Winner: Julie Wall

Phoenix Winner: Allen Steele

Guests: Allen Steele, Connie Willis,

Vincent Di Fate, Nicki & Rich Lynch

41 (2003) - LibertyCon 16, Chattanooga

Con Chair: Tim Bolgeo

Rebel Winner: Mike Kennedy

Phoenix Winner: Rick Shelley (Posthumous),

Larry Elmore

Guests: S. M. Stirling, Darrell K. Sweet, John

Ringo, Darryl Elliott

42 (2004) - MidSouthCon, Memphis

Con Chairs: Dana Bridges, Greg Bridges

Rebel Winners: Dal Coger (Posthumous), Sue

Thorn

Phoenix Winner: Dr. Gregory Benford

Guests: David Brin, Todd Lockwood, David

Williams, Dragon Dronet, Cullen Johnson,

Michael Sheard

43 (2005) - Xanadu 8, Nashville

Con Chair: Dan Caldwell

Rebel Winner: Naomi Fisher

Phoenix Winner: Jack L. Chalker (Posthumous)

Guests: Mike Resnick, Connie Willis, Darryl

Elliott, Timothy "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo

44 (2006) - Trinoc*coN 7, Raleigh

Con Chair: Mike Moon

Rebel Winner: Dan Caldwell

Phoenix Winner: John Kessel

Guests: David Drake, John Kessel, David G.

Hartwell, Patrick Meadows, Barry N. Malzberg

45 (2007) - OutsideCon 20, Dickson, TN

Con Chair: Robert W. Emblar

Rebel Winners: Bill Payne "Dutch,"

Stacy Mickey Kilgore

Phoenix Winner: Tom Deitz

Guests: Clifton E. Gibbs, Christina Barber,

Brenna Walters

46 (2008) - StellarCon 32, High Point, NC

Con Chair: Mike Monaghan

Rebel Winner: Kelly Lockhart

Phoenix Winner: Jim Baen (Posthumous)

Guests: Toni Weisskopf, Monte Moore, Steve

Long, Cheralyn Lambeth

47 (2009) - Hypericon 5, Nashville

Con Chair: Fred Grimm

Rebel Winner: Randy Cleary

Phoenix Winner: Robert "Rick" McCammon

Guests: Brian Keene, Steven Gilberts, Bob

Emblar, Kathy Mar, Glen Cook,

Jonathan Mayberry

48 (2010) - ConCarolinas, Charlotte

Con Chair: Ron McClung

Rebel Winner: Albin Johnson,

Phoenix Winner: Jerry Pournelle

Guests: Jerry Pournelle, Tom Fleming,

Bill Sutton, Brenda Sutton

49 (2011) - FenCon VIII, Dallas

Con Chair: Julie Barrett

Rebel Winner: Brad W. Foster

Phoenix Winner: Selina Rosen

Guests: Gail Carriger, Joe Bethancourt, Steven

H Silver, Vincent Di Fate, Les Johnson, Bradley

Denton, Lou Anders, Stephan Martinieri

50 (2012) - Lunar Party, Huntsville

Con Chair: Julie Wall

Rebel Winners: Shelby Vick, Bill Zielke, Linda

Zielke, Robert Zielke, Becky Zielke

Phoenix Winner: John Ringo

Guests: Lois McMaster Bujold, Howard Tayler,

Travis "Doc" Taylor, Larry Montgomery,

David Hulan, Dr. Demento

51 (2013) - JordanCon, Atlanta

Con Chair: Jennifer Liang

Rebel Winners: Regina Kirby, Mike Lee Rogers

Phoenix Winner: Robert Jordan (Posthumous)

Guests: Michael Whelan, Seanan McGuire

52 (2014) - Contrails, Bristol, VA

Con Chair: Gary Robe

Rebel Winner: Judy Bemis

Phoenix Winner: Steve Jackson

Guests: Gordon van Gelder, Charles Vess,

Pat Molloy, Naomi Fisher

53 (2015) - Contraflow 5, New Orleans

Con Chair: Jessica Styons

Rebel Winners: Frank Sciotta, Michael Scott

Phoenix Winners: Diana Rowland,

Robert Asprin (Posthumous)

Guests: Robert J. Sawyer, Les Johnson,

Julie Dillon, Mark Van Name, John Guidry,

Seanan McGuire, Marc Gunn

54 (2016) - JordanCon, Atlanta

Con Chair: Jennifer Liang

Rebel Winners: Pat Henry, Bill Harrison

Phoenix Winners: Jana Oliver, Eugie Foster

(Posthumous)

Guests: Catherine Asaro, John Picacio, Linda

Taglieri

55 (2017) - ConGregarate 4, High Point, NC

Con Chair: James Fulbright

Guests: Barbara Hambly, Alan Pollack, Toni

Weisskopf, Michael A. Stackpole, Timothy Zahn

56 (2018) - ConCave, Bowling Green, KY

Con Chair: Claude Miles

Guests: Jack Campbell, Rick Norwood, Five

Year Mission

SFC Officers

President: Jennifer Liang

Vice President: M. Lee Rogers

Secretary: Tom Feller

Treasurer: Brandy Spraker

SECTION 1 (a) The Southern Fandom Confederation is a non-profit organization of, by, and for 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, existing for the purpose of promoting fan and professional activity within that area. (b) The President shall have the discretion to name as "Southern Sympathizers" persons or groups outside the South for the purpose of membership and participation in the SFC.

SECTION 2. The SFC shall meet once a year, simultaneously and at the same place as the DeepSouthCon, hereafter DSC. In the event a DSC is not held in a given year, the SFC officers may agree on a time and place for the annual meeting, preferably at an alternate southern convention, and will announce that information to the membership in a timely manner. This meeting shall be open to all dues-paid and dues-exempt SFC members, plus interested parties. Only Dues-paid or -exempt members may speak or vote except through dispensation by the presiding officer. Each meeting shall consist of: (a) a review of the year's activity, (b) election of officers, and (c) suggestions from the membership for activities in the year ahead.

SECTION 3. The officers of the SFC shall consist of (a) President, (b) Vice President, (c) Secretary, and (d) Treasurer. All officers of the SFC must reside within the Confederacy. All are elected to one-year terms of office. Other than the President, any two (2) offices may be combined for one year at the option of the membership present and voting at the meeting at which officers are elected. Without specifically voting to combine two offices, the membership may effectively accomplish the same result by electing the same person to two offices; however, no person shall be allowed to be elected as President if already elected to serve in another office during the same or overlapping term(s) of office and no person elected as President shall be allowed to be elected to serve in another office during the same or overlapping term(s) of office.

(a) The President shall run the annual SFC business meeting, present a summary of the year's activities, set SFC policy on matters of controversy, publish the official SFC bulletin on a tri-annual basis, and represent the SFC at all fannish functions.

(b) The Vice President shall serve in the place of the President should the President be absent. The Vice President shall also assist the President in special projects and other duties as requested by the President within reason.

(c) The secretary of the SFC, in conjunction with the other officers, shall maintain a file of all active Southern fans, clubs, amateur press alliances, conventions, and related fannish enterprises (including those available only electronically) and shall work to disseminate information about these persons, publications, organizations, and events to interested parties, especially members of the SFC. The Secretary shall also maintain the minutes, records, and other documents of the SFC created and/or used during the Secretary's term of office, and shall turn over said minutes, records, and other documents to the Archivist upon completion of the Secretary's term of office. The Secretary shall take minutes of the SFC Business meeting and the DSC Business Meeting held at DeepSouthCon during her or his term of office and shall prepare a report of same to be submitted to the president for publication in the Bulletin. The Secretary shall also assist the President and the Vice President upon request within reason. In the event of the absence of the President and the Vice President, the Secretary shall preside.

(d) The Treasurer shall collect dues for the SFC and maintain an account at a convenient bank on which only the Treasurer or the President may draw. The Treasurer is responsible for mailing the official Bulletin at the cheapest possible rate. The Treasurer shall also assist the other officers at request within reason. In the absence of all other officers, the Treasurer shall preside.

SECTION 4. Dues for the SFC are \$15.00 per year for an individual, with institutional dues being \$50.00 per year, a year being defined as the period between successive DeepSouthCons. Payment of institutional dues also entitles the organization so paying to one free advertisement in the SFC bulletin. The following are dues-exempt: (a) Winners of the Rebel and Phoenix Awards presented at the DSC, (b) Individuals who have performed such service to the organization that the President feels they merit exemption, (c) SFC officers during their term of service.

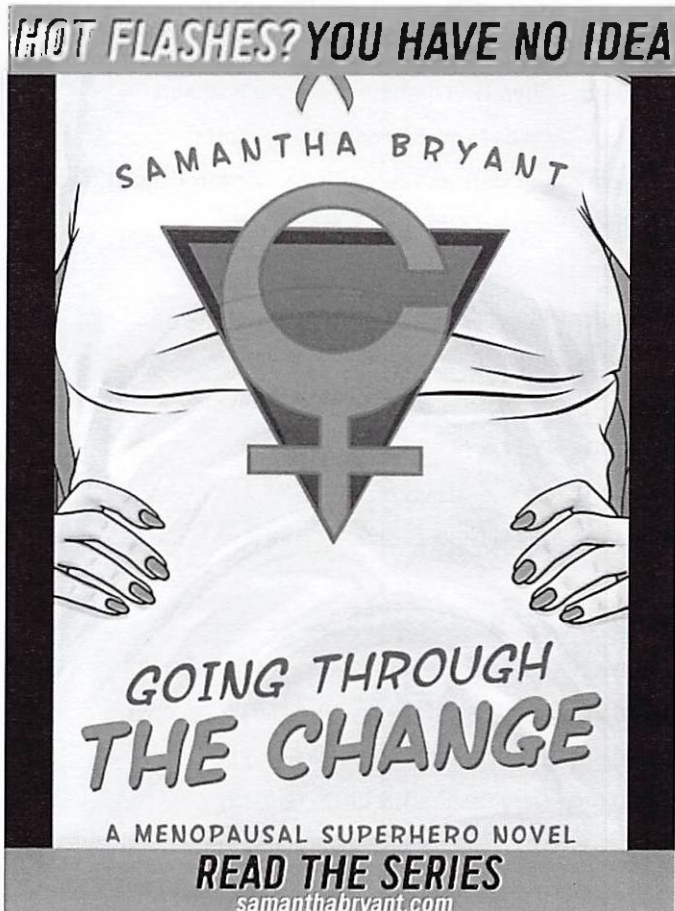
SECTION 5. The official SFC Bulletin shall be published at least every four months. The contents of each issue shall be left to the discretion of the President/editor, but shall include the following: one issue each year shall include a comprehensive list of Southern SF clubs, apas, fanzines, and/or dues-paid and -exempt SFC members. Other material in the bulletin shall be concerned with Southern fandom's history, present activity & future plans.

Editorial policy: (a) The bulletin shall concern itself freely with controversial matters confronting Southern Fandom. All editorial opinions shall be signed by the author and shall not be

considered reflective of the opinions of any officer of the SFC itself. (b) The bulletin shall maintain a neutral position between and among competing bids for DSC, or between and among Southern contenders for a Worldcon. (c) A letter column shall be printed in each issue containing a comprehensive spectrum of opinion on any matter before the SFC. (d) The SFC shall promote the candidacy of Southern fans and professionals for fandom-wide honors such as the Hugo Award. (Capitalization courtesy Guy Lillian, as reported by Tim Gatewood, SFC Secretary.)

SECTION 6. This set of by-laws may be amended or replaced by the SFC members in attendance at the DSC meeting. Any amendment proposed in writing and signed by 20 or more SFC members must be brought before this meeting and voted upon. A majority of members at the meeting may cause an amendment to be brought to a vote. A 2/3 majority of members voting shall be sufficient to cause an amendment to pass.

SECTION 7. All previous by-laws, rules and constitutions of the SFC are henceforth null and void. (As amended at the SFC 1993 meeting, 1997 meeting, 1998 meeting, 1999 meeting, 2000 meeting, 2002 meeting, 2008 meeting, and 2014 meeting.)



Exhibitors

Dealer Room Hours

- FRI 3:00pm - 7:00pm
- SAT 10:00am - 6:00pm
- SUN 10:00am - 2:00pm

Dealer Room (Salon A)

- Alan Pollack (AGoH)
- Michael A. Stackpole
- Timothy Zahn
- Bead Weaver
- Bow Bow by Kyle
- Fashions by Figment
- Final Destiny Press
- Mystik Waboose
- Obsidian's Caldera
- Orielis Books
- Pair-A-Dice Games
- Ssalefish Comics
- Walt's Cards

Hallway Tables (Prefunction Area)

- 105th Squad
- 501st Legion
- Broad Universe
- Falstaff Books
- Gild the Mourn
- Mandalorian Mercs
- MystiCon
- Mocha Memoirs Press
- Royal Manticoran Navy
- USS Charon (STARFLEET)
- Valentine Wolfe

Readings and Signings

Java and Pros

Join a selection of guests as they read from their works or answer questions and enjoy a nice cup of coffee.

Suite 215

Friday, July 14

3:00 pm – Timothy Zahn (in Victorian A - **not** Suite 215)

4:00 pm – Barbara Hambly

5:00 pm – Samantha Bryant & Stuart Jaffe

6:00 pm – William C. Tracy & Michael G. Williams

7:00 pm – Kim Headlee (Adult Reading)

Saturday, July 15

5:00 pm – Simon Hawke & Michael A. Stackpole

6:00 pm – Gail Z. Martin & Larry Martin

7:00 pm – Gray Rinehart & Nicole Givens Kurtz

8:00 pm – Broad Universe Rapid Fire Reading (John G. Hartness, Paula S. Jordan, Nicole Givens Kurtz, Gail Z. Martin, Misty Massey, Melissa McArthur)

9:00 pm – Paula Jordan & Alex Matsuo



Signings

Unless otherwise noted, all signings are located at the signings table in the Prefunction Space outside of the Queen Anne Ballroom.

Some guests have vendor tables (see p.43) where they might be found at times not listed below.

Friday, July 14

3:00 pm - Roger & Janet Carden

3:00 pm - Michael A. Stackpole (Dealer Room)

4:00 pm - Tally Johnson & Alexandra Christian

5:00 pm - Ian Malone & William C. Tracy

6:00 pm - Cheralyn Lambeth & Angela Pritchett

7:00 pm - Chris Kennedy & Arylias Nova

Saturday, July 15

10:00 am - Simon Hawke & Ian Malone

11:00 am - Michael G. Williams & Richard C. White

11:00 am - Michael A. Stackpole (Dealer Room)

11:00 am - Timothy Zahn (Dealer Room)

12:00 pm - Cheralyn Lambeth & Angela Pritchett

1:00 pm - Arylias Nova & Nicole Givens Kurtz

1:00 pm - John Hartness & Melissa McArthur (Falstaff Table)

2:00 pm - Edmund Schubert & Stuart Jaffe

3:00 pm - Barbara Hambly

4:00 pm - Darin Kennedy & J. Matthew Saunders

5:00 pm - Samantha Bryant & Kim Headlee

5:00 pm - Gail & Larry Martin (Broad Universe Table)

6:00 pm - Roger & Janet Carden

7:00 pm - Mark MacDicken

8:00 pm - Arylias Nova & Alex Matsuo

Sunday, July 16

10:00 am - Barbara Hambly

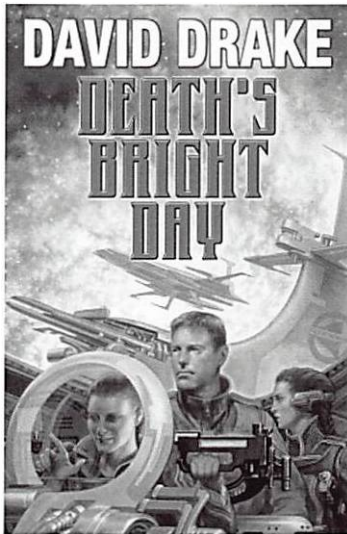
11:00 am - Darcy Wold & Maya Preisler

11:00 am - Timothy Zahn (Dealers Room)

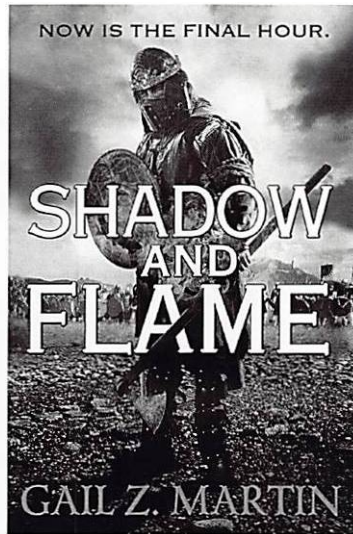
12:00 pm - Gray Rinehart & Chris Kennedy

1:00 pm - Kim Headlee & Nicole Givens Kurtz

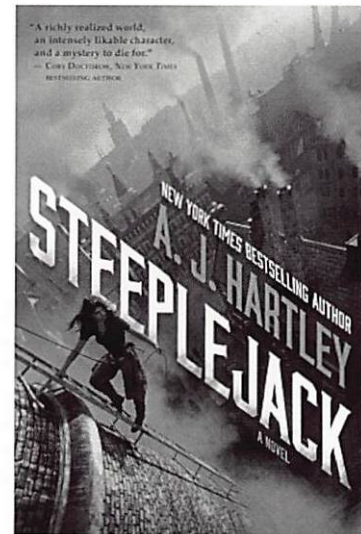
THE NORTH CAROLINA SPECULATIVE FICTION FOUNDATION
IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE NOMINEES FOR THE
2017 MANLY WADE WELLMAN AWARD



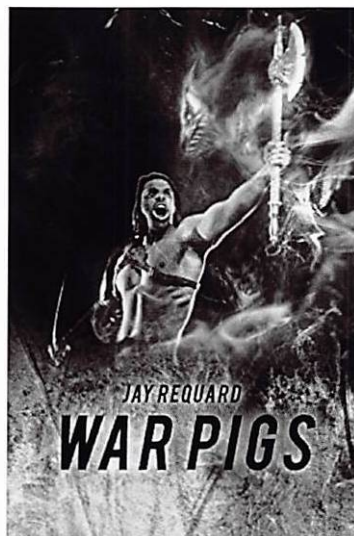
Death's Bright Day
by David Drake (Baen)



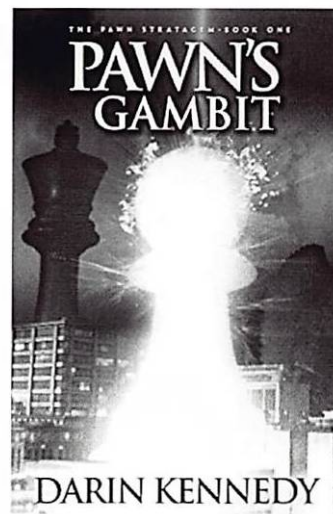
Shadow and Flame
by Gail Z. Martin (Orbit)



Steeplejack
by A.J. Hartley (Tor)



War Pigs
by Jay Requard
(Falstaff Books)



Pawn's Gambit
by Darin Kennedy
(Falstaff Books)

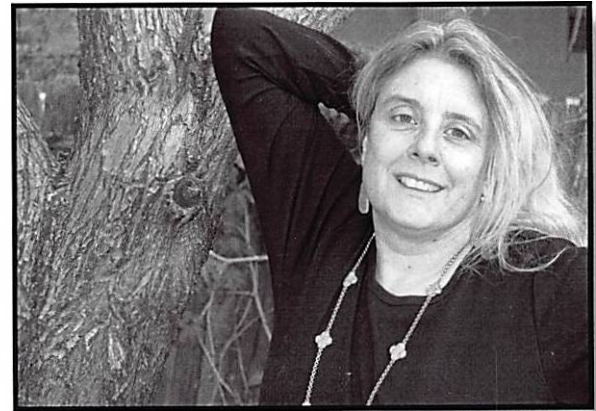
The Manly Wade Wellman Award was founded in 2013 to recognize outstanding achievement in science fiction and fantasy novels written by North Carolina authors. The 2017 award, voted on by the combined membership of North Carolina science fiction and fantasy conventions illogiCon, ConCarolinas, and ConGregarate, covers novels published in 2016. The award is named for long-time North Carolina author Manly Wade Wellman with the permission of his estate. For more information please visit:

ncsff.org

CONGREGATE

FIVE

Jane Lindskold



Author of the Firekeeper series, the Breaking the Wall series, *Treecat Wars*, and *Fire Season*



JULY 13-15, 2018

RADISSON HOTEL - HIGH POINT, NC