GoH: Lois McMaster BujoldArt Goh: Allen HoszowskiFan GUH: Oz FondecchioFilk GoH: Leslie Fish

Albacon 2007

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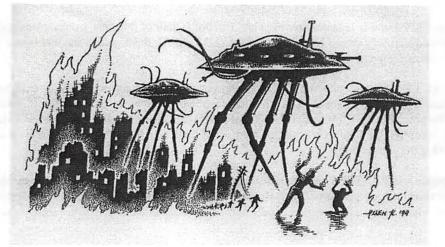
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Albacon 2003



Guest of Honor:Lois McMaster BujoldArt Guest of Honor:Allen KoszowskiFan Guest of Honor:Oz FontecchioFilk Guest of Honor:Leslie Fish

From the Albacon Chair

Hi,

I'm the lady with many hats! My name is Jennifer Sternfeld and I'm both Chair of this year's convention and President of the Latham Albany Schenectady Troy Science Fiction Association (LASTSFA), the organization that oversees Albacon as well as many other events during the year.

This year's Albacon has been a lot of work, with both the change in venue in mid-summer and all the extra transportation issues that the move entailed. Fortunately, I got to work with many wonderful people to pull this all off. I think we have a great convention planned for you. We have a wonderful lineup of guests this year including our Guests of Honor Lois McMaster Bujold, Allen Koszowski, Oz Fontecchio, and Leslie Fish. Please take this chance to speak with each of them at one of the many events during the convention.

Also while you are here, please join LASTSFA. We hold readings, signings and discussions with authors and others on a regular basis. Some of our recent guests have been Anne Bishop, Lynn Flewelling, Ryk Spoor, Kristen Britain, Laurence Howard, and Paul Martens. Many of our other past guests are here at Albacon as well. If you see them around the con, stop and say "Hi!".

All of this fun can be had for the low price of \$10.00 (full membership), \$25.00 (family membership), or \$5.00 (student membership). We are always looking for new members. Other benefits include eligibility for discounts at Flights of Fantasy, a local book and gaming store and longtime supporter of our group (thank you Maria!). Please show your support of science fiction, fantasy and other literature in the region and feel free to ask me or another con-committee member about joining LASTSFA.

In "real" life I'm also a personal chef, so any writing that I do has to end with a recipe. So here is my:

Recipe for a Great Convention

4 Guests 21 Committee Members Some helpful Volunteers Lots of Attendees 1 Hotel (or two if you like your convention just a bit spicier, like mine!)

Mix well, season with Ice Cream, shake with Regency Dancing.

Add Art Show and Auction, Filking, Gaming, Masquerade, Panels, Readings, SNE and Videos. Season to taste with parties, bar service and snacks.

Serve in the Adirondacks in the fall On horseback or in the indoor pool (optional)

Enjoy,

Jennifer Sternfeld Chair, Albacon 2003 President, LASTSFA

Albacon 2003 Committee

Chairman: Jennifer Sternfeld **Operations:** William M. Ryan, Sylvia Wendell Secretary: jan howard finder **Publicity:** jan howard finder **Treasurer:** Kevin Allen Volunteers: William M. Ryan **Programming:** Joe T. Berlant, Chuck Rothman **Publications:** Paul Kraus, Deb Atwood, and Gaming: Walter Wedenbine Chris Ford Art Show: Ted Atwood, Bonnie Atwood Hotel Liaison: Jonathan Sternfeld **Art Show Deputies:** Kevin Allen, Deb Atwood **Hospitality:** Julia McGinnis Filk: Michael Feldman Masquerade: Christine Bunt Committee Member: Chris Ford **Registration:** Jenny Kraus, Sharon Sbarsky, and Debbie Coombs **Tech Crew: Richard Ralston Richard Ralston Dealers:** Joe T. Berlant Video Program: Richard Ralston **Anime Program:**



Albacon is sponsored by LASTSFA (the Latham Albany Schenectady Troy Science Fiction Association), a 501c3 organization

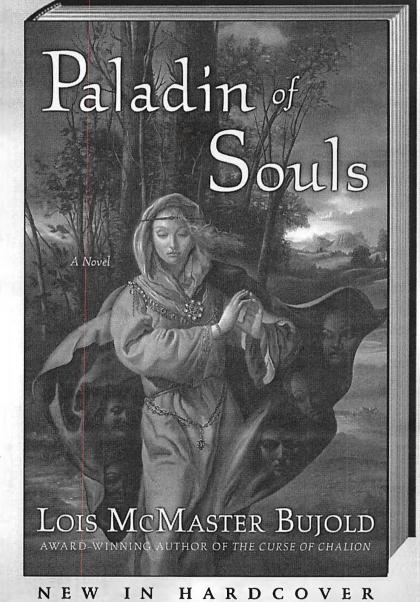
New from LOIS MCMASTER BUJOLD Multiple Hugo and Nebula Award-Winning Author

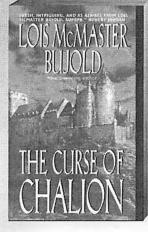
"Fresh, intriguing and, as always from Lois McMaster Bujold, superb." –Robert Jordan*

In this follow-up to *The Curse* of *Chalion*, Bujold spins a magical tale of a queen's voyage to faraway lands and self-discovery. For on her pilgrimage, Ista finds that the darkest demons she must battle come from within.

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Lois McMaster Bujold



by Lois McMaster Bujold (updated November 24, 2002)

I was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1949. I graduated from Upper Arlington High School in 1967, and attended the Ohio State University from 1968 to 1972. I have two children, Anne, born in 1979, and Paul, born in 1981. We resided in Marion, Ohio, from 1980 to 1995, and moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1995.

I've been a voracious reader all my life, beginning with a passion for horse stories in grade school. I began reading adult science fiction when I was nine, a taste picked up from my father. He was a professor of Welding Engineering at Ohio State and an old Cal Tech man (Ph.D.'s in physics and electrical engineering, *magna cum laude*, 1944), and used to buy the science fiction magazines and paperback books to read on the plane on consulting trips; these naturally fell to me. My reading tastes later expanded to include history, mysteries, romance, travel, war, poetry, etc.

My early writing efforts began in junior high school. By eighth grade I was putting out fragmentary imitations of my favorite writers on my own time.

of course, not for any class. My best friend Lillian Stewart and I collaborated on extended story lines throughout high school; again only a fragment of the total was written out. The high point of my high school years was a summer in Europe at age 15, hitchhiking with my older brother.

I dabbled with English as a major in college, but quickly fell away from it _ my heart was in the creative, not the critical end of things. But an interest in wildlife and close-up photography led me on a six-week biology study tour of East Africa. Eight hundred slides of bugs; much later I also borrowed the landscape and ecology I had seen for background of my first novel. That's one of the nicest things about writing, all of a sudden nothing is wasted. Even one's failures are re-classified as raw material.

After college I worked as a pharmacy technician at the Ohio State University Hospitals, until I quit to start my family. This was a fallow time for writing, except for a Sherlock Holmes pastiche that ran about 60 pages. It was however a very fruitful time for reading, as my Staff card admitted me to OSU's 2 million volume main stacks, filled with wonders and obscurities.

Then my old friend Lillian, now Lillian Stewart Carl, began writing again, making her first sales. About this time it occurred to me that if she could do it, I could do it too. I was unemployed with two small children (note oxymoron) on a very straitened budget in Marion at this point, but the hobby required no initial monetary investment. I wrote a novelette for practice, then embarked on my first novel with help and encouragement from Lillian and Patricia C. Wrede, a fantasy writer from Minneapolis.

I quickly discovered that writing was far too demanding and draining to justify as a hobby, and that only serious professional recognition would satisfy me. Whatever had to be done, in terms of writing, re-writing, cutting, editorial analysis, and trying again, I was determined to learn to do. This was an immensely fruitful period in my growth as a writer, all of it invisible to the outside observer.

My first novel, *Shards of Honor*, was completed in 1983: the second, *The Warrior's Apprentice*, in 1984; and the third, *Ethan of Athos*, in 1985. As each one came off the boards it began the painfully slow process of submission to the New York publishers. I also wrote a few short stories which I began circulating to the magazine markets. In late 1984 the third of these sold to *Twilight Zone Magazine*, my first professional sale. This thin proof of my professional status had to stretch until October of 1985, when all three completed novels were bought by Baen Books. They were published as original paperbacks in June, August, and December of 1986, leading the uninitiated to imagine that I wrote a book every three months.

Analog Magazine serialized my fourth novel, Falling Free, in the winter of '87-'88; it went on to win my first Nebula. I was particularly pleased to be featured in Analog, my late father's favorite magazine _ I still have the check stub from the gift subscription my father bought me when I was 13 (a year for \$4.00). "The Mountains of Mourning," also appearing in Analog, went on to win both Hugo and Nebula Awards for best novella of 1989, and The Vor Game and Barrayar won Hugos for best novel back to back in 1991 and 1992. My titles have been translated into seventeen languages (so far).

I broke into hardcover at last with *The Spirit Ring* in 1992, a historical fantasy, and returned to the universe and times of Miles Vorkosigan with *Mirror Dance*, which won the Hugo and Locus awards in 1995. My next novel was a lighter series prequel, *Cetaganda*, serialized in *Analog* starting with the September '95 issue, then released in hardcover in January '96 by Baen Books. I had my first experience as an editor, along with Roland Green, putting together the anthology *Women at War*, published by Tor Books in 1995. *Memory* had hardcover publication in October 1996, and was a Hugo and a Nebula nominee. *Komarr* was published in June 1998, and was the recipient of a Minnesota Book Award in the science fiction and fantasy category. *A Civil Campaign*, the direct sequel to *Komarr*, was published in September 1999, garnered my sixth Hugo nomination in the novel category, and was my fourth such Nebula nominee. Sample chapters of several of my SF titles are available at <u>www.baen.com</u>, along with a free download of the **complete** text of my award-winning novella "The Mountains of Mourning" in the Baen Free Library.

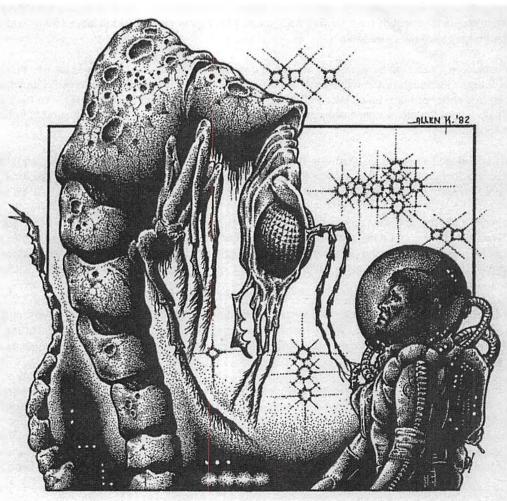
A new fantasy novel, *The Curse of Chalion*, saw publication in August 2001 from Avon/Eos (<u>www.eosbooks.com</u>). It scored my seventh Hugo nomination for best novel, my first nomination for the World Fantasy Award, is on 2003 Nebula preliminary ballot, and won the Mythopoeic Award for best adult fantasy, given by this society. (<u>www.mythosoc.org/a02remarks.html</u> My acceptance speech is posted there.) For a little while longer, an extended 11chapter excerpt may still be downloaded for free at <u>www.fictionwise.com</u>. *Chalion* saw paperback release in October 2002. I have just completed a sequel, to be titled *Paladin of Souls*, scheduled for publication by Eos/HarperCollins in the fall of 2003.

A new Miles adventure, titled *Diplomatic Immunity*, came out from Baen in May 2002, and will see paperback release in mid-2003.

The Reader's Chair, a small audio company, has done a superb job of publishing some of my SF series on audiocassette, unabridged; their website is at <u>www.readerschair.com</u>.

The Bujold Nexus, my own fan-run website, is at <u>www.dendarii.com</u> with more information.

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LOIS MCMASTER BUJOLD BIBLIOGRAPHY

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NOVELS

- 1. Shards of Honor Baen Books, June 1986. Original paperback.
- The Warrior's Apprentice Baen Books, August 1986. Original paperback.
- Ethan of Athos Baen Books, December 1986. Original paperback.
- Falling Free Serialized Analog, Dec. & Mid-Dec. 1987, Jan. & Feb. 1988. Baen Books, April 1988. Original paperback.
- Brothers in Arms Baen Books, January 1989. Original paperback.
- Borders of Infinity Easton Press signed first edition, 1989. Baen Books, October 1989. Original paperback.
- The Vor Game Easton Press signed first edition, 1990. Baen Books, September 1990. Original paperback.
- Barrayar Serialized Analog, July, August, September, & October 1991. Easton Press signed first edition, 1991. Baen Books, October 1991. Original paperback.
- The Spirit Ring Baen Books, November 1992, Hardcover edition. Baen Books, October 1993, Paperback edition.
- Mirror Dance Easton Press signed first edition, 1994. Baen Books, March 1994, 1st hardcover printing. March 1994, 2nd hardcover printing. Baen Books, March 1995, Paperback edition.
- Cetaganda Serialized Analog, October, November, December, and Mid-December 1995. Easton Press signed First Edition, January, 1996. Baen Books, January 1996, 1st hardcover printing. Baen Books, October 1996, Paperback edition.
- 12. Memory first Baen hardcover October 1996, first Baen paperback October 1977
- Komarr first Baen hardcover June 1998. Easton Press signed first edition 1998, first Baen paperback April 1999
- A Civil Campaign first Baen hardcover September 1999, Easton Press signed first edition 1999, first Baen paperback August 2000.
- The Curse of Chalion first Eosbooks hardcover August 2001. Harper Torch paperback October 2002.
- 16. Diplomatic Immunity first Baen hardcover May 2002

NOVELLAS

- "The Borders of Infinity" Alien Stars IV: Freelancers: Baen Books: September 1987.
- 2. "The Mountains of Mourning" Analog, May 1989.
- "Labyrinth" Analog, August 1989.
- "Weatherman" Analog, February 1990.
- 5. "Winterfair Gifts" Irresistible Forces: NAL: February 2004
- The first three novellas were collected in Borders of Infinity, see above. "Weatherman" was incorporated into The Vor Game, see above.

SHORT STORIES

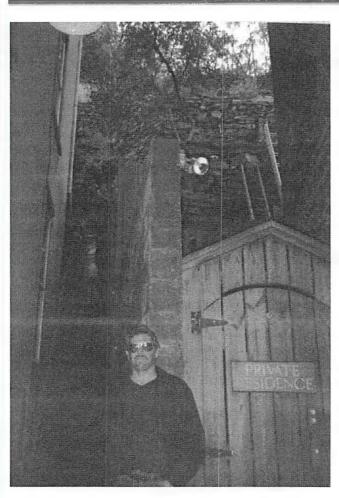
- "Barter" Twilight Zone Magazine, March/April 1985.
- 2. "Aftermaths" Far Frontiers, Volume V, Spring 1986.
- "The Hole Truth" Twilight Zone Magazine, December 1986.
- 4. "Garage Sale" American Fantasy, Spring 1987.
- "Aftermaths" was incorporated into Shards of Honor, see above.

NON-FICTION ARTICLES

- "Allegories of Change" New Destinies, Vol. VIII, Sept. 1989.
- 2. "The Unsung Collaborator" Lan's Lantern, Issue # 31.
- "My First Novel" The Bulletin of the Science Fiction Writers of America, Vol. 24, No. 4, Winter 1990, Whole number 110.
- "Free Associating About Falling Free" Nebula Awards 24, HBJ, 1990.
- "Getting Started" Writers of the Future, Vol. VIII, 1992.
- "Genre Barriers" Ohio Writer Magazine, Vol. VI, Issue # 3, May/June 1992.
- "Mind Food: Writing Science Fiction" The Journal of Youth Services in Libraries, ISSN 0894-2498 Vol. 10, No. 2, Winter 1997
- "Letterspace" with Sylvia Kelso Women of Other Worlds, 1999

In addition, various works have been translated and published in fifteen languages so far: novels in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Polish, Russian, Czech, Japanese, Dutch, Croatian, Lithuanian, Hebrew, Romanian, Bulgarian, and a short story in Chinese. This does not include Science Fiction Book Club editions.

Allen Koszowski



Allen is one of the most prolific artists in his field, having published more than 3,000 illustrations for hundreds of genre publications, including Isaac *Asimov's SF* magazine, "The Magazine of Fantasy & SF," "Cemetery Dance," "Whispers," "Fantasy Tales," "Weird Tales," "The Horror Show," "The Robert Bloch Companion," and many others.

Allen's art has been published since 1973, but he did not start to submit it to the professional markets until 1982, when his first professional sale was to *Asimov's SF*.

Allen is currently a member of <u>The Association of Science</u> <u>Fiction and Fantasy Artists</u> and has won numerous awards in the past. A couple of these include the <u>L. Ron Hubbard</u> <u>Illustrators of the Future Award</u> and for 8-10 years in a row, Allen won Best Artist and other categories for the Small Press Writers and Artists Organization

A collection of his drawings has been published by Magic Pen Press, with an introduction by Brian Lumley. Allen is a former U.S. Marine infantryman and a decorated Vietnam war veteran, including a Purple Heart; and he is a rabid collector of genre books and magazines, possessing nearly 20,000 items of the sort.

He is self-taught and prefers working with pen and ink, which allows him to create incredible detail. Allen is married, has two children, and lives in Upper Darby, PA.



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Leslie Fish

by Mary Creasey of Random Factors (originally written for the NASFIC)

When I told Leslie Fish that she needed a bio for the NASFiC program book, she said, "OK. Write it." Huh?! Well, as her sometime-sorta manager/producer/agent/Net interface...I guess that I'm as qualified as anyone!

OK, basics: Born in New Jersey, 11 March 19-something, to a mundane dentist father and singer mother. Learned to sing and to read at a very young age; started playing guitar at 16; started writing the first of hundreds of songs shortly thereafter, including her first settings of Rudyard Kipling's poetry. Went to her first con at 16; saw Martin Luther King Jr. speak at 17; went to college, majoring in English and minoring in psychology, protest and politics. Paid hard dues in the Civil Rights and anti-War movements; joined the Industrial Workers of the World; did psych counseling for vets (among many other jobs including railroad yard clerk, go-go dancer, computer keypuncher and social worker). Wrote her first filksong of dozens, "Fellowship Going South", in 1963. Saw the Apollo 11 landing in 1969, and then began her most famous (and best-loved) filksong, "Hope Eyrie" [a.k.a. "The Eagle Has Landed"]; that took six years to write.

In 1973 she discovered Star Trek--and she was hooked--totally and thoroughly... ("TV that actually showed real issues!") She began contributing to the fanzines--illustrations, stories and songs. She was so hooked, in fact, that she cut two LP albums with her I.W.W. band, The Dehorn Crew, of space and Star Trek songs: _Folk Songs for Folk Who Ain't Even Been Yet_ (1976), and _Solar Sailors_ (1977), which debuted the all-time most notorious Star Trek filksong ever written: "Banned From Argo". These were the first of several solo albums, another with the Dehorn Crew, and dozens of songs, both alone and collaborative, on albums from every major filk label. She was elected to the Filk Hall Of Fame as one of the first inductees. She is also now a pro writer; in addition to her two fan novels, she has out _A Dirge For Sabis_ (part of the "Sword Of Knowledge" trilogy) with C.J. Cherryh, several short stories and more in the works.

Leslie is single, and lives in Phoenix, AZ with some house mates and a varying number of cats. Most of her time is spent writing and cat-chasing, but she makes time for gaming, the local SCA and her FanHaven land project (see her for details).

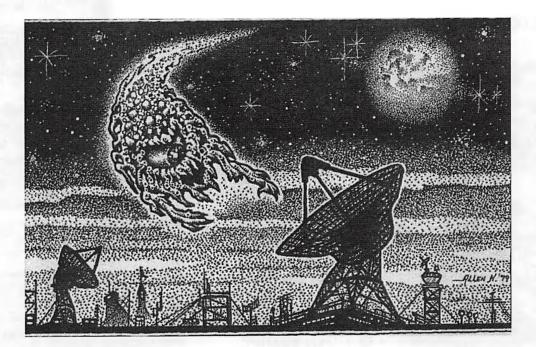
Look for her in the smoker's filkroom at night. Contrary to her rather lurid legend, she won't skewer anyone for honest questions: her weapons of choice are wits and words. She is patient with newcomers, she willingly shows guitar techniques or song chords to about anyone who asks. Her guitar technique is almost unreal; her vocal talents include a three-octave range and power enough to rattle windows; her songs are on scores of topics from cats to computers, but largely Anarchist politics, Pagan subjects, and future folk. She also has a wealth of stories on songwriting, fandom and politics [she's one of the best raconteuses I know]. Just DON'T ask for "Banned From Argo"--ask her to do something not on a tape or one that she hasn't done in years!

LESLIE FISH DISCOGRAPHY

- 1. Solar Sailors (LP)
- 2. Folk Songs for Folk Who Ain't Been Yet (LP)
- 3. Firestorm: Songs of World War Three (rare, may be out of print)
- 4. Folk Songs for Solar Sailors (CD reissue of "Solar Sailors" and "Folk Songs..." LPs)
- 5. Our Fathers of Old (3rd Fish/Kipling tape with Joe Bethancourt)
- 6. Serious Steel (S.C.A. related songs With Joe Bethancourt)
- 7. Smoked Fish and Friends (1996 Worldcon)

Leslie also appears on many other filk anthology recordings. The following is a very short list:

- 1. Border Patrol
- 2. Grandma Went Out With a Bang (Conterpoint Too, v. 1)
- 3. Tapeworm I and II (Bob Kanefsky--parodies)
- 4. Screams of the Vegetables (1998 Worldcon)
- 5. Bayfilk series



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The History of Albacon

The first Albacon was held October 7-9, 1996 with Guests of Honor Nancy Kress, Jill Bauman, and Shirley Maiewski. At that time, the convention was actualy held in Albany, at the Howard Johnson's Hotel and Conference Center. However, we'd be unable to return to that site -- the hotel was torn down the following year!! This first Albacon was the debut of the Friday night Ice Cream Social, a tradition which has remained with Albacon since the beginning. The Wombat (jan howard finder) Chaired the convention, which cleared an attendance of about 250. Bruce the Conqueror made his first appearance.

The second Albacon moved to Schenectady for October 15-17, 1997. Chaired by Kevin Allen, it included Guests of Honor Melissa Scott, Charles Lang & Wendy Snow-Lang, Wayne Brown, the Don't Quit Your Day Job Players. The first Saturday Night Extravaganza premiered in 1997, and included the Mr./Mrs. Albacon contest, where Bill the Starship Captain wowed the audience with his stellar musical skills. Approximately 300 people attended the convention. Unfortunately, during the convention Paul Edwin Zimmer passed away – the over \$500 raised at the Charity Auction were donated in his memory.



Danielle Allen, daughter of Kevin Allen and Deb Atwood, is the youngest chair yet of Albacon, being only 8 months old on October 7-9, 1998. She was

ably aided by her regents Kevin Allen, and Joe Berlant. Esther Friesner, Queen of the Hamsters was Guest of Honor, and was joined by Jael, Joe Mayhew, and the Don't Quit Your Day Job Players. It was the largest Albacon thus far, at about 350 attendees. Hamsters were everywhere, and the Saturday Night Extravaganza included a birthday party for Esther's mother and a performance of "The Shame of Maudie Jones or A Fate Worse than Death".

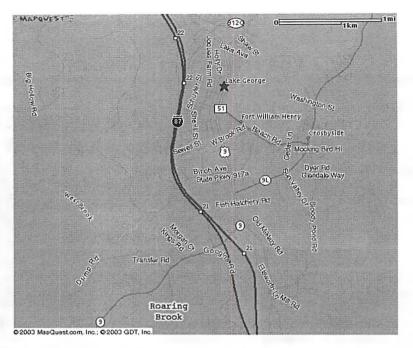
1999 brought the fourth Albacon a month early, on the heels of Hurricane Floyd, which generated lakes in the parking lot Thursday night, puddles in some of the rooms that same night, and knocked out Amtrak service from NYC until Saturday afternoon. Hal Clement, Vincent DiFate, and Seth Breidbart were the Guests of Honor for this convention run by Paul Kraus. About 250 people attended. The Saturday Night Extravaganza featured Science Class with Professor Stubbs.



Albacon returned to Columbus Day Weekend for 2000, with Guests of Honor Glen Cook, Joseph DeVito, and jan howard finder (aka, the Wombat). Deb Atwood chaired this convention which had about 250 attendees. The Saturday Night Extravaganza brought a party to celebrate Albacon's fifth birthday, complete with a cake bearing the image of the Wombat (with wombat!), and "Albacon, the first 2000 years" as presented by Chuck Rothman. David Hartwell conducted an exclusive interview of Glen Cook.

Joe Berlant stepped into the position of Con-Chair for Albacon 2001. Larry Niven flew in as our Guest of Honor, while Bob Eggleton and Marianne Plumridge celebrated their third wedding anniversary as Art Guests of Honor. The Fan Guests of Honor (Ted & Bonnie Atwood) took a break from babysitting and helping run the convention (well, no, they didn't actually) to enjoy being celebrated as guests.

Albacon 2002 marked the last year in the Schenectady Ramada Inn. Tom Kidd joined us as the Art Guest of Honor, and Mike Resnick as the Guest of Honor. Sharon Sbarsky, our Ribbon Goddess, was our Fan Guest of Honor. Steve Miller and Sharon Lee were special guests.



The village of Lake George is located just minutes up the road from Roaring Brook.



Roaring Brookhas two function buildings that Albacon is using, the Main Lodge and the Conference Center. The buildings with our guest rooms are the ones immediately around the Main Lodge. The Conference Center is located just uphill from the Main Lodge. All suites are located in the Montery building, directly across from the Main Lodge.

Conference Center



Dining Room

Lounge

Gift

Shop

Front

Desk

Upper Deck A

Upper

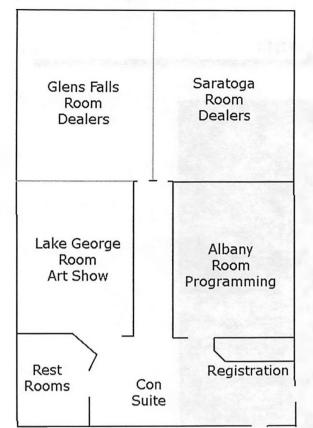
Deck

В

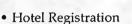
Fireside

Lounge

Garden |Room| Operations



- Lobby, Albacon Registration and ConSuite
- Albany Room, Albacon Main Programming
- Lake George Room, Albacon Art Show
- Glens Falls and Saratoga Rooms, Albacon Dealer's Room
- Hall between Albany and Lake George Rooms, Albacon Readings



Powderhorn

Room

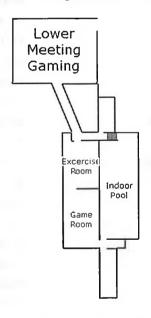
Filk / Anime

Coffee

Shop

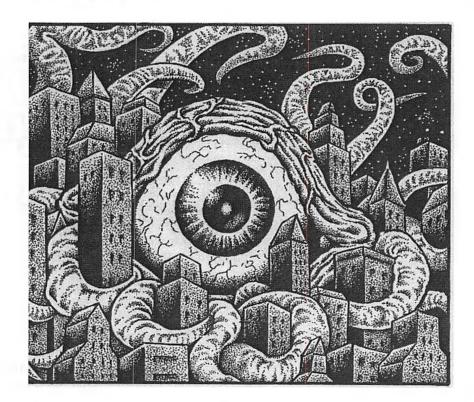
- Hotel Dining Room
- Hotel Coffee Shop
- Hotel Lounge
- Hotel Gift Shop
- Fireside Lounge
- Upper Deck A, Albacon Programming
- Upper Deck B, Albacon Programming
- · Powderhorn Room, Albacon Filk and Anime
- Garden Room, Albacon Operations (located in the back of the Dining Room)

Main Lodge Lower Level



- Lower Meeting Room, Albacon Gaming
- Indoor Pool
- Saunas
- Excercise Room
- Game Room

Program Participants



DANIELLE ACKLEY-MCPHAIL BILLIE AUL ALAN BECK JUDY BEMIS TRICIA BRAY MORGAN BRILLIANT WAYNE BROWN BARBARA CHEPAITIS DAVID COE **KEITH R.A. DECANDIDO** SUSAN DEGUARDIOLA JENNIFER DUNNE **BOB EGGLETON** CARL FREDERICK CHUCK GANNON MARK GARLAND **DEB GEISLER**

LOIS GRESH DAVID HARTWELL KIT HAWKINS **ELIZABETH HILGARTNER** WALTER HUNT PETER HUSTON PETER JARVIS RICK KATZ PAUL LEVINSON SUFORD LEWIS TONY LEWIS ANDRE LIEVEN ELLEN MAIDMAN PAUL MARTENS KAREN MICHELSON MARK OLSON PRISCILLA OLSON

MARIANNE PLUMRIDGE TOM POWERS IAN RANDALL STROCK SHAWN ROSE CHUCK ROTHMAN SUSAN ROTHMAN TONY RUGGIERO STEVE SAWICKI SHARON SBARSKY MEREDITH SCHWARTZ JOSEPHA SHERMAN DIANA SLATTERY **RYK E. SPOOR** MICHAEL TANNER SHANE TOURTELLOTTE JAMES VANDUSEN JO WALTON

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Dave Seeley

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