



Progress Report 3

February 10 – 12, 1995
Waterfront Plaza Hotel, Jack London Square,
Oakland, California

Potlatch 4

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Potlatch: n. [Chinook Jargon, fr. Nootka *patshatl*, giving.] **1.** a ceremonial feast of the Indians of the northwest coast, marked by the host's lavish distribution of gifts. **2. Northwest:** a social event or celebration. **3. Contemporary:** a gathering devoted to the discussion, creation and appreciation of modern speculative fiction. **4. Potlatch 4: California: A place where readers and writers meet on common ground.**

The Octopus Orates

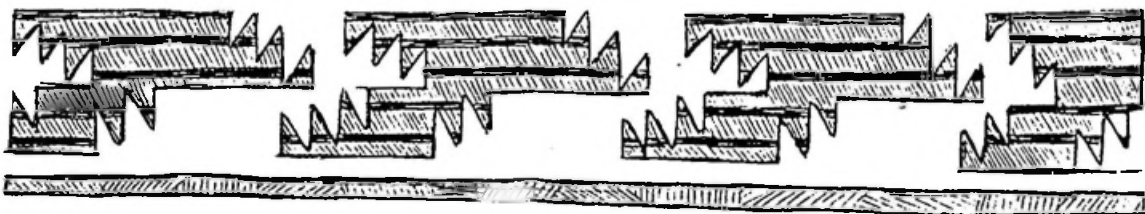
Potlatch 4 is almost upon us! We're all really excited about the innovations we have ready for this year: the Tiptree Awards presentation (and did you see the writeup in *Ms.* about the Tiptree Awards? Four pages! Too bad they didn't mention Potlatch, isn't it...), our new hotel, and our location in downtown Oakland. Of course, these innovations won't change the essential character of Potlatch: a place where readers and writers can meet on common ground. Elsewhere in this PR you'll see the current version of our program, which promises once again to spark a lot of discussion; some information about our hospitality suites, which will once again feature some fine comestibles; more on our small but elegant dealer's room, concentrating on (gasp!) books; and some great suggestions from our Native Guy about

how to get around the area.

Putting on a Potlatch is actually a lot of fun, but not as much fun as we all expect to have attending it. One of the great things about a convention the size of Potlatch is that the people putting it on get to join in while it's happening. I expect to attend most of the program items, and I hope you will also. The people on the panels are there mostly to start discussion, not to end it: that's part of why we have a long lunch break to allow people to set up their own discussion groups, or Algonquins. Don't forget to use the bulletin board in Hospitality to set up one for yourself!

We're looking forward to seeing all of you at Potlatch 4, old-timers or new attendees. Come and join in the fun, and tell your friends to come too!

— Tom Whitmore



The Waterfront Plaza Hotel

We continue to be delighted with our hotel accommodations at the Waterfront Plaza Hotel, Jack London Square. The Waterfront Plaza is a relatively small privately-owned hotel in the heart of Oakland's waterfront tourist district. They've been very cooperative and easy to deal with, and they're looking forward to having a bevy of readers and writers descending upon them.

The con suite will be in the hotel's largest function room, the Spinnaker, during the evenings, and in one of the smaller function rooms during the day. (Our dauntless con suite staff, led by Patty Peters and Donya White, are putting out a great deal of effort and energy to make this logistically complex situation workable; once you've tasted the wonders of the con suite, be sure and let them know that you appreciate their efforts). Programming and the auction will also be in the Spinnaker Room; other convention events will make use of the Chart and Compass Rooms off the main lobby, and the writers' workshop will take place in one of the waterfront parlor suites.

The hotel is literally "on the waterfront," as well as being surrounded by trendy shoppes (and a giant Barnes & Noble), and the Ferry docks right in front. See the Native Guy for more details.

The Waterfront Plaza is pleasant, pretty, comfortable, and convenient - everything we wanted in a convention hotel. Single or double rooms are \$89 for Plaza view, and \$99 for Bay view. **The deadline for registering at the conference rate is January 21, 1995.** If you are not already registered, call the Waterfront Plaza Hotel at (800) 729-3638. We hope you enjoy this choice as much as we have so far!

— Debbie Notkin

The Awards Banquet

The banquet will be an 10:30 a.m. brunch buffet leading into the Tiptree Awards ceremony and the Clarion West auction. Brunch tickets will be \$18 for a yummy all-you-can-eat assortment of eggs, bagels, fresh fruit, and other assorted special treats. Banquet entertainment will be from a special gathering of Loud Women, ranging from Ellen Klages (star of stage, screen, and the Readercon Auction) through Eileen Gunn (noted for the famous panel "Eileen Talks About Whatever She Wants To") to Jeannie Bowman, the woman with the most infectious laugh ever heard.

The James Tiptree Jr. Award will be given for the fourth year (and the first time on the West Coast). It goes to the story or book which does the most to expand gender roles in science fiction and fantasy. This year's panel of judges is chaired by Susanna Sturgis, noted critic and anthologist, who will be attending Potlatch along with judges Ellen Kushner and Pat Murphy (and perhaps more), plus, probably, the winner of this year's award. The Tiptree Award is one of the few science fiction awards to come with a cash prize (thanks to all those bake sales and other fundraisers) as well as a chocolate typewriter. If you didn't see the feature on the Tiptree Award, and women in science fiction, in the December issue of Ms. Magazine, you have a treat in store for you.

After the award ceremony, we'll hold the Clarion West Auction, which has in the past featured everything from laser printers to electric guitars, plus the usual array of books, artwork, and special services.

It's the best show in town (and the only show at Potlatch, 'cause the con suite and programming will all be shut down). See you all there!

— Debbie Notkin

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Writers' Workshops

The Potlatch 4 Writers' Workshops will be held at the Waterfront Plaza Hotel on Saturday and Sunday, February 12 and 13. Based on the successful Potlatch II Writers' Workshops, they reflect the convention theme: Readers and Writers Meet on Common Ground. Our philosophy is to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each manuscript and the craft of storytelling and writing in a friendly and helpful atmosphere, writer to writer. Your participation in the workshop will require two hours of your time, allowing you to enjoy the rest of the convention.

All workshop participants must be members of Potlatch, and there is no extra charge for participation in the workshop. Writers who are fairly new to the writing/critiquing experience will want to apply for a beginning level workshop. Writers who have made professional fiction sales or have a great deal of short fiction workshop experience should apply for an advanced level workshop.

The deadline for submitting a manuscript is Friday, January 13. Manuscripts must be complete short works of science fiction or fantasy, not longer than 7,000 words. Send *six clear photocopies of your manuscript, collated and paper-clipped*, to the address below. Be sure to include your *name, address and telephone number* on the manuscript and to indicate whether you want to be in a *beginning or advanced level workshop session*. You will be notified at least two weeks in advance of the day and time of your workshop session.

If the number of manuscripts we receive exceeds the number we can accommodate in two days of workshops, we will return any additional manuscripts at our expense.

— Bridget McKenna
Box 22
Ahwahnee CA 93601



Clarion West Benefit Auction

The Clarion West Scholarship Auction will once again feature wonders and marvels beyond what ordinary mortals imagine. Books, art, computer materials: who knows what ace auctioneers Ellen Klages and Tom Whitmore will put before your eyes? Bring your checkbooks and cash: go home with something unexpected, and remember that your purchase helps send a writer to Clarion West, ensuring that there will be new and different writers to keep feeding your reading habit. Even if you don't buy anything, we'll keep you entertained!

— Tom Whitmore

About Clarion West

Clarion West is a non-profit literary and educational organization based in Seattle whose main project is to put on the Clarion West Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Workshop every summer. The Workshop is taught by six successful writers and editors, each of whom is in residence for a different week. These professionals work closely with about twenty students, who intensively write and critique each other's writing for all six weeks. The Workshop costs about \$2,000 (aside from lost wages), and Clarion West scholarships help needy students defray the cost. Clarion West also sponsors a writers-in-the-schools program, readings, lectures and other special events.

— Jane Hawkins

Dealers Room

When you have to get that book you heard about in the panel, and you absolutely have to get it now, head for the Potlatch Dealers Room. Convenient to our daytime hospitality suite and our main program room, the Dealers Room has the same excellent Bay views as all our other rooms. And books. Hard to find books. Wonderful books. Books that walk back and forth between your ankles until you pick them up and take them home.

Con Suite

The con-suite is being run by Patty Peters and Donya Hazard White, which should clue some of you to the fact that there will be more to the munchies than carrot sticks and tortilla chips. For this they will need some volunteers. Patty and Donya wish to make it known that said

James Tiptree, Jr. Bake Sale

The bake sale will be located in the con suite and travel with it when it switches rooms. The con suite will not have sweet stuff except for breakfast time, so if you want a sugar fix, we're it. Some food will be sold whole. Some will be sold by the piece, slice or item so that we can satisfy your small cravings as well as your large ones.

I'm actively soliciting donations. Please, please, please donate. In addition to your baked goods, bring a card listing ingredients. If you don't bring a card with you, be prepared to fill one out at the time you leave the goodies. Those of us with food allergies need to be able to choose just which goodies to buy. Contact me at (408) 373-7852 or 381 Laurel Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950 to volunteer.

— Sheila Bostick

volunteers will have first dibs on the foods they are helping to heat or transport. If a tray leaves the prep room with 24 items and arrives with 22, fine. If it arrives with only 12, well, next volunteer!

Here is one recipe that has already been tested on committee and other friendly eaters. Due to its garlic content, it has not yet been decided if it will be served before or after the "Care and Feeding of Demon Lovers" panel.

— Donya Hazard White

Bocconcini

2 pounds fresh mozzarella
6 large garlic cloves
1/2 cup good olive oil
2 tablespoons dried oregano
1/2 teaspoon crushed dried hot red pepper

If the mozzarella does not come in bite-size pieces, cut it into one inch cubes. Coarsely chop the garlic and combine with olive oil in a large bowl. Stir in the oregano and hot pepper.

Add the mozzarella cubes and toss gently until they are well coated with the oil and seasonings. Let marinate for a minimum of several hours. Serve with toothpicks.

Adapted from *The 5 in 10 Appetizer Book* by Paula J. Hamilton, Hearst Books, New York, 1994

Registration

Registration will be in the small foyer outside the Spinnaker room (our main programming room). Registration hours will be:

Friday	3:00 PM	7:00 PM
Saturday	9:30 AM	2:30 PM
Sunday	10:00 AM	12:30 PM

Programming on Friday won't start until 6 PM, but hospitality will be open in the Spinnaker room and you can pick up your badge and hang out.

After-hours registration will be wherever the registrar or her designated deputy may be. Find a Potlatch committee member and explain that you need to give us money, and you will be taken to where the action is.



Members

Abramowitz, Alyson L.	Davis, Pamela S.	Hudson, James F.	Mattingly, Gary	Scott, Stacy
Adams, Jae Leslie	Donaho, Bill	& Ariel	McAllister, Linda	Shechter, Andi
Adams, Rich	Ellis, Kerry Lynn	Humphrey Pacios,	McAllister, Rich	Sherman, Delia
Anderson, Karen	Faunt, Daug	Stephen	McGuff, Luke	Sieler, Stan
Anderson, Poul	Fitch, Don	Humphries, Bill	McKenna, Mari	Soukup, Martha
Attebery, Brian	Floyd, Terry	Kerr, Katharine	Moslander, Paul E.	Squires, Carol
Babich, Karen	Fulton, Cindy	Klages, Ellen	Moulton, Fred C.	Stillman, Pras
Baer, Freddie	Fulton, Kathy	Kushner, Ellen	Murphy, Pat	Sturgis, Susanna
Bailes, Lenny	Garb, Cynthia	Lafler, Janet M.	Nichols, Jim	Takeuchi, Ray
Baum, Allen	Garb, Gordon	Lafler, Ruth	Notkin, Debbie	Thomas, Guy
Becker, Tom	Gee, Charles R.	Lawrence, Richard	Olsen, John	Van, Eric M.
Bigglestone, Clint	Gibbons, Michael	Lethem, Jonathan	Paleo, Lynn	Van Scyoc, Jim
Bostick, Alan	Gladney, Heather	Levine, David	Parsons, Spike	Verre, Larry
Bostick, Sheila	Goldoft, Marcia J.	Librik, David	Peters, Patty	Voorhees, Karen S.
Bowman, Jeanne	Gomoll, Jeanne	Locus	Phillips, Berni	Ward, Michael
Bratman, David	Goodman, Sarah	Lorentz, John	Potter, D.	Watts, Katherine M.
Brown, Charles N.	Hackney, Glenn	Lyau, Brad	Quenelle, Chris	White, Donya
Callahan, Karen	Hagemann, Ian K.	Lynn, Elizabeth A.	Reeves, Phoebe	Whitmore, Tom
Chamberlin, Ann	Hawkins, Jane	MacDonald, Angus	Rest, Neil	Widner, Art
Charnas, Suzy McKee	Hendrix, Howard V.	MacEwen, Patricia H.	Rucker, Rudy	Wright, Richard
Clark, David	Hirsch, Lisa R.	Malinowycz, Marci	Sachter, Ruth	Yule, Kate
Coad, Rich	Halmen, Rachel	Marano, Michael	Schaefer, Kate	
Custis, Scott	Howard, Denys	Marcus, Daniel L.	Schaffer, Karen	

Vital Statistics

Potlatch 4 is a non-profit literary convention for science fiction readers and writers. Proceeds will benefit Clarion West and the Second Start Adult Literacy Program of the Oakland Public Library.

Potlatch 4 will be held February 10 through 12, 1995, at the Waterfront Plaza Hotel in Jack London Square in Oakland, California.

The attending membership rate will be \$35 until February 1, 1995. The at-the-door rate will be \$40. Tiptree Banquet advance tickets are \$18.

All inquiries may be addressed to:

Potlatch 4
c/o Spike Parsons
P.O. Box 20132
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Potlatch 4 Committee

Publicity: *Allen Baum*. Publications: *Tom Becker*. Treasurer & Tiptree Bake Sale Coordinator: *Sheila Bostick*. Programming: *Janet Lafler*. Hotel & Tiptree Ceremony: *Debbie Notkin*. Registration: *Spike Parsons*. Hospitality: *Patty Peters* and *Donya White*. Native Guy: *Guy Thomas*. Clarion West Auction: *Tom Whitmore* and *Linda McAllister*.

Credits

Potlatch 4 logo by *Freddie Baer*. Illustrations by *Becket Gladney*.

Fine Print

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Technogeek Info

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James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award Banquet Advance Ticket Order Form

Make checks payable
to "Potlatch".

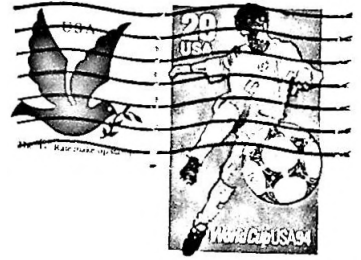
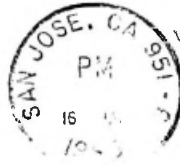
Send to:

Potlatch 4
c/o Spike Parsons
P.O. Box 20132
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Name: _____

Tickets: _____ @ \$18, Total: \$ _____

Clarion West
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c/o Spike Parsons
P.O. Box 20132
Castro Valley, CA 94546



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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