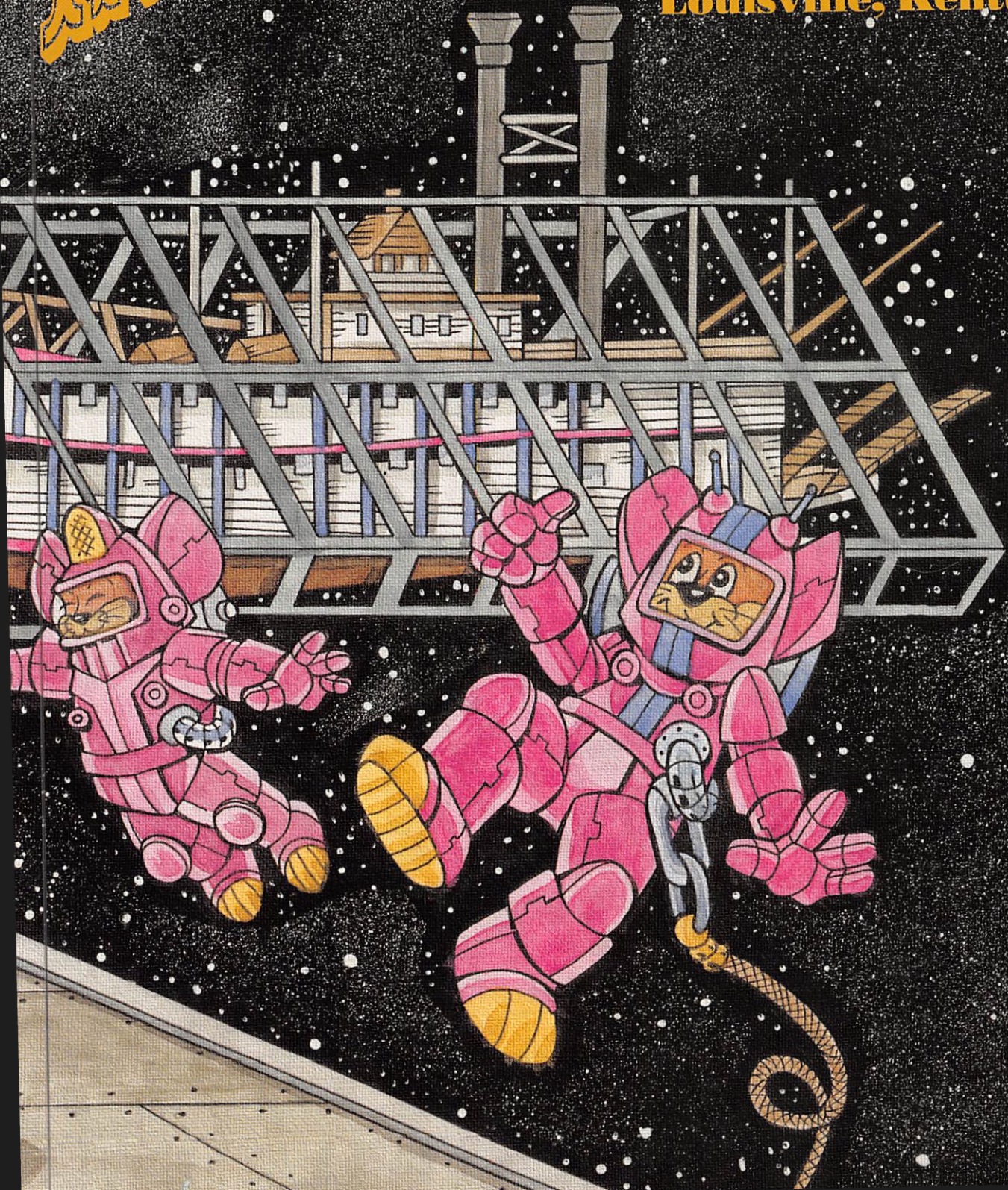


Louisville's Annual Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention

# RIVERCON XXIV

July 30 - Aug. 1, 1999  
Louisville, Kentucky







# RIVERCON XXIV

JULY 30 - AUG. 1, 1999

EXECUTIVE WEST HOTEL      LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

GUEST OF HONOR

ESTHER M. FRIESNER

FAN GUESTS OF HONOR

PAT & ROGER SIMS

ARTIST GUEST

GARY M. WILLIAMS

TOASTMASTER

LAWRENCE WATT-EVANS

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# Welcome Aboard!



**O**NCE AGAIN, FOR THE NEXT-TO-LAST TIME, WE welcome you to RiverCon. Enjoy yourselves, relax, revel in our shared interest—even passion—for all things science-fictional.

With only two more RiverCons to go, we want everyone to have the best experience possible. So let us know if there's anything we can do to make your weekend more pleasant. Please come back next year for our final celebration.

## Badges

Everyone: **PLEASE WEAR YOUR RIVERCON MEMBERSHIP BADGE!** Any time you are in a convention area of the hotel, please wear your badge in a conspicuous place. Not only does this have the obvious benefit of identifying you to other convention members, but you will be refused admission to certain areas and activities if you are not wearing your badge. Plus, the easier it is to see your badge the less likely the convention staff is to stop and ask if you're a RiverCon member. Try not to lose your badge, either; the cost for a replacement is \$25.00. Membership badges remain the property of RiverCon during the course of the convention. RiverCon reserves the right to refuse memberships to, or revoke from, persons who engage in disorderly, disruptive, or unlawful behavior at the convention.

## Hospitality Suites

The RiverCon Hospitality Suites are located in Rooms 272 (non-smoking) and 475 (smoking). They are open throughout the convention for your enjoyment. An assortment of munchies is usually available, but please remember we do not provide meals. Don't forget that RiverCon serves only non-alcoholic drinks in the hospitality suites. *(A reminder to party hosts: Kentucky's legal drinking age is 21, and you are responsible for your guests' behavior.)*

## Convention Newsletter

To keep you informed of any last-minute news, not to mention party reports and idle gossip, we'll be publishing daily issues of *The Riverboat Packet*. If

you have any news you'd like included in the newsletter, leave it in the container marked for it at the volunteers and information desk, which is located at the west end of the hallway opposite the Mary Room. Deadline for each morning's issue is 9:00 p.m. the previous evening.

## Information Tables

Representatives of some upcoming Worldcons and future convention bidders are expected to be at tables along the hallway near the registration area. They will be happy to provide you with all the information you need in order to make an informed choice in site selection voting. We urge you to take advantage of their expertise.

The Southern Fandom Confederation will be there, too, to offer information and take memberships (see their ad on page 25 of this program book).

## Babysitting

RiverCon's babysitting is staffed by licensed, professional sitters. The hours of operation are listed in your pocket program schedule. This service is free of charge for all children holding RiverCon memberships. Children left at the service must be picked up by closing time (no exceptions) and will be turned over only to a parent or legal guardian or to persons designated in writing by the parent (again, **no exceptions**).

## Children Members

As a reminder to parents, we'd like to ask you that you carefully monitor your children's behavior. If a committee member observes a child seriously misbehaving to the extent that the child is endangering him- or herself or others, or is damaging hotel property, then that child's membership badge will be taken and must then be claimed by the parent at the volunteer desk. If this happens a third time, the child's membership will be revoked and he or she must be removed from the convention area of the hotel.

## RiverCon Online

More and more of you are communicating by e-mail

(we are *science* fiction fans, after all), and RiverCon wants to be able to stay in touch. For the last few years, we've had an e-mail address (RiverConSF@aol.com), and we're pleased to say a lot of you have used it to write to us. We also have a home page on the World Wide Web (<http://members.aol.com/rivercon>) where we've put complete RiverCon information.

For example, you were able to take a look at our program and video schedule several days before the start of the con. Complete information for the art show, masquerade, program book advertising, and gaming room was also available. Links to the Executive West Hotel, Louisville International Airport, and a Louisville restaurant guide provided useful information that would have been impossible to mail to each member. Please let us know if you found the site helpful and what you'd like to see there next year.

## Weapons

Weapons, either real or realistically simulated, may not be worn or carried in the convention areas of the hotel (and we strongly discourage wearing them outside the hotel, too). Dealers may sell weapons in the Huckster's Room provided that they are wrapped securely for removal from the room. Absolutely no demonstrations of weapons in the Huckster Room aisles are allowed.

Weapons may be worn or carried during the hours of the masquerade Saturday night (approximately 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.) if part of a stage costume or bona fide hall costume. This exception applies only to the masquerade time period and *only* to those in full costume. However, please exercise extreme caution at all times when navigating crowded hallways, stairways, and elevators. We ask you to refrain from wearing weapons in the main lobby area at all times.

## Thank You

Just take a look at the list on the right and you'll see that it takes a *lot* of people to put on a convention like RiverCon. The committee would like to offer its sincerest appreciation to everyone whose name is listed, as well as the dozens of others who volunteered later. We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you.

The program book cover is by Artist Guest Gary M. Williams.

The title page art is by O.G. Estes, Jr., from the 1947 Hadley edition of *The Skylark of Space* by Edward E. Smith, Ph.D.

## RiverCon Committee & Staff

### Co-Chairs

Steve Francis  
Sue Francis

### Vice-Chair

Bob Roehm

### Art Show

Lynn Harris  
Kyle Thomas  
Archie Harper  
Ian Harris  
Tim Luke  
Danny McDole  
Shae Morris  
Connie Price  
Ed Reck  
Dave Shockley  
Kyle Thomas  
Gail Walker  
Kevin Ward

### Filksinging

Murray Porath  
Kathy Porath

### Gaming

Sean Reck  
Tony Byrd  
Wolf Holleman  
Chris Howard  
Jake Lovell  
Stuart Posante  
Evan Roberts  
Joe Swanson  
Tony Thompson  
Bob Waters

### Hospitality Suite

Judi Lundy  
Debbie Allen  
Geoff Allen  
Kathy Allen  
Annette Carrico  
Drake  
Ian Harris  
Jack Heazlitt  
Mike Lalor  
Alex Luker  
Jann Melton  
Deborah Oakes  
Donna Rembowski  
Amanda Stevens  
Christi Strattan  
John Stepp  
Jim Woosley

### Huckster Room

David Francis  
Steve Francis  
Jeff Lockridge

### Masquerade

Linda Wyatt  
Lois Wellinghurst  
Richard Wellinghurst  
B.J. Willinger (M.C.)  
Carla Adkins  
Jennifer Adkins  
Janie Broughton  
Sharon Brumfield  
Wayne Brumfield  
Cindi Edwards  
Leah Gadzikowski  
Jeff Lockridge  
Danny McDole  
Chris Stuber  
Daisy Ward  
Mike Ward

### Programming

Joel D. Zakem  
Lynn Harris (art)  
Duryea Edwards  
Janie Broughton  
Marie Miesel

### Publications

Bob Roehm

### Photographer

Jennifer Wilson

### Registration

Laura Gill  
Teddy Laun  
Melissa Dick  
David Francis  
Holly Francis  
Sue Francis  
Paul Gill  
Rick Laun  
Gloria Nugent-Edwards  
Malinda Wickham

### Special Awards

Christa Sinclair, HOKC  
Mike Sinclair, HOKC (ret.)

### Video Program

Mike Townsend  
John LaRue  
Joe Leitsch  
Jeff Lockridge  
Chris Tate

### Volunteers

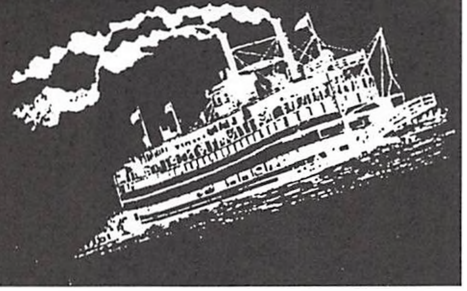
Thomas Samples  
Krista Biggs  
Ken Harper  
Fonda Wilson

### Writers Workshops

Susan Baugh



# Schedule of Events



This schedule is complete as of program book press time, but please check your pocket program, the daily newszine, and the registration area for posted changes and/or additions throughout the convention. (Schedule times are rounded to the next hour, but program items will generally end about five minutes before the next program is scheduled to begin.)

**The RiverCon Hospitality Suites are Rooms 272 (non-smoking) and 475 (smoking).** They open Friday about 12:00 noon and remain open for the duration of the convention. Please remember that only non-alcoholic beverages are available.

**The Information and Volunteers Desk** is located next to the **Registration Desk** at the west end of the hallway leading to the Mary Room. This desk will be staffed during most of the convention. Members wanting to volunteer to work should check in here. Also, the T-shirt exchange and a box for items for the daily newszine is here.

## Friday, July 30

12:00 noon - 12:00 mid. *Registration and information.* (Convention Office)

1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. *Art Show and Print Shop.* (Artists may begin checking in their work at 10:00 a.m.) (King/William/Lion Rooms--second floor)

1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. *Huckster Room* open. (Room opens at 9:00 a.m. for dealer set-up.) (Queen/Scots Room)

1:00 p.m. - *Games program.* Check game room for specific games and starting times. The number of participants is lim-

### Beginning Writer's Workshops

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. *Writing Contests: Are They Worth the Time and Effort?* Find out if writing contests are a possibility in your future. Presented by Ryck Neube, co-winner of the 1994 Barcelona Writing Contest, and Carolyn Clowes, author of *Star Trek: The Pandora Principle.* (Bagpipe Room)

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Writing Creatively for Internet Magazines.* The hottest market in publishing today is the Internet. Discover how you can become a virtual author. Presented by Jean Goldstrom, editor of *Anotherealm* (<http://Anotherealm.com>), a top-rated science-fiction, fantasy and horror e-zine on the Internet. (Bagpipe Room)

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. *Editing Your Novel.* You have a rough draft of a novel. Where do you go from there? Presented by Steven Burgauer, author of *The Grandfather Paradox* and Debra Burgauer, who copyedits Steven's books. (Bagpipe Room)

ited and some require sign up in advance. (Loch/Heather Rooms--second floor)

4:00 p.m. - *Video Program.* Check the pocket program grid in the pocket program for specific titles and starting times. (Tay Room & In-house Ch.13)

5:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. *Japanese Animation Festival.* A video program by Joe Leitsch and John LaRue. Check schedule posted at room for titles and times. (Ruskin Room)

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Obligatory Friday Afternoon Panel.* Potluck programming for those who came early. Jack Heazlitt mod-

erates. (Aberdeen Room)

7:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. *Babysitting available.* Children must be picked up by closing time by authorized adult only. (Room 773)

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. *Real and Unreal Cats.* Fantasy and fandom's attraction to the feline species. Pat Sims (moderator), Esther Friesner, Linda Dunn, and Paula Robinson. (Aberdeen Room)

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. *Old Fashioned Game Night (recommended for ages 4-13).* Games include (time allowing) Drop The Handkerchief, Mother May I, Red Light/Green Light, Blind Man's Bluff, and Simon Says. Parents may arrange to have the children escorted to the ice cream social by the program coordinator and meet them there or pick the children up at the Shannon Room at 8:30. (Shannon Room)

8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. *Opening Ceremonies.* Introduction of our guests, other notables in attendance, important announcements, etc. (Mary Room)

8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. *The RiverCon Ice Cream Social.* All RiverCon members are invited for free ice cream. (The Chapel)

9:30 p.m. - *The RiverCon Dance.* Live DJ! (Mary Room)

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. *The Planet with Three North Poles.* A slide show by Hal Clement. (Shannon Room)

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. *The Truth About Second Fandom.* Is it a real organization and are you eligible to join? Roger Sims

and Mike Resnick have the answers. (**Aberdeen Room**)

10:00 p.m. - *Filking*. (**Edinburgh Room**)

11:00 p.m. - *Alternative Music* (**Aberdeen Room**)

## Saturday, July 31

12:00 a.m. - *Video program* continues. Check pocket program grid for specific titles and starting times. (**Tay Room & In-house Ch.13**)

12:00 a.m. - *Games program* continues. Check game room for specific games and starting times. (**Loch/Heather Rooms—second floor**)

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. *Babysitting* available. (**Room 773**)

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Registration and information*. (**Convention Office**)

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Huckster Room* open. (Hucksters are allowed in room 15 minutes early for set-up.) (**Queen/Scots**)

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Art Show and Print Shop* open. Several artists' programs and other activities will take place in the King Room throughout the day. Check the schedule for specifics. (**King/William/Lion--second floor**)

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. *Japanese Animation Festival*. Videos programmed by Joe Leitsch and John LaRue. Check schedule posted at room for titles and times. (**Ruskin Room**)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. *Author Reading*. Guest of Honor Esther M. Friesner reads from her work. (**Aberdeen Room**)

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. *SF Jeopardy Preliminary Rounds*. (Advance sign-up required). Test your knowledge. Julee Johnson-Tate and Chris Tate have the answers. (**The Chapel**)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. *SFWA South*

*Central Regional Meeting*. Linda Dunn presides. SFWA members only. (**Shannon Room**)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. *Space Ahoy!* (*recommended for ages 4-13*). As time allows, activities will include Space Traveler Weigh-Ins, Not-So-Silly-Sentences, and Make A Silly Spaceship. (**Bagpipe Room**)

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *Leaving Them Satisfied but Still Wanting More*. Keeping series books independent. Lawrence Watt-Evans, David B. Coe, Linda Reames Fox, Laura Resnick, and Ron Sarti. (**Edinburgh Room**)

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. *The Candid Stuff XVIII*. Dr. Bill Breuer presents his annual slightly skewed look at the space program and other recent scientific advancements. (**Mary Room**)

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *Being an Artist While Holding Down a Nine-to-Five Job*. Can you remain true to your muse while putting food on the table? Gary M. Williams (moderator), Kevin Ward, Nancy Lockyear, Lynn Harris. (**King Room—second floor**)

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. *Author Reading: Stephen Leigh*. (**Gaelic Room**)

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon. *Author Reading: Paula Robinson*. (**Gaelic Room**)

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *Mad Libs* (*recommended for ages 6-13*). Create your own weird and funny story. (**Bagpipe Room**)

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. *What Is SFWA?* Linda Dunn, South Central Regional Director of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, describes the organization and answers questions. Open to all. (**Edinburgh Room**)

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. *Author Reading: Mike Resnick*. (**Aberdeen Room**)

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. *Originality in Media Costumes*. How can you keep your own identity? Josef Matulich, Kit Matulich, B.J. Willinger. (**Shannon Room**)

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. *Personal Journeys*. How the writing life affects the personal life of the writer—and vice-versa. Esther Friesner, Mike Resnick, Stephen Leigh, and Lisa Silverthorne. Paul "Wolf" Holleman moderates. (**Edinburgh Room**)

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. *More Millennium Disasters*. Forget Y2K! What are some of the other social and scientific problems of the upcoming millennium. Ron Collins, Jack Nimersheim, Ryck Neube, Patricia Sayre McCoy, P. Andrew Miller. (**Shannon Room**)

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. *Constructing Your Own Alien* (*recommended for ages 4-13*). RiverCon's Artist Guest, Gary M. Williams, shows you how. (**Bagpipe Room**)

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. *Star Trek's Best Twilight Zones*. Certain episodes of Trek seem more like something that should have been a part of Rod Serling's **The Twilight Zone**. Come and give your opinion on which ones fit into this category. Duryea Edwards leads the discussion. (**Aberdeen Room**)

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. *KAPA 100 Collation*. The Kentucky Amateur Press Association invites you to come and help put together its 100th mailing. (**Gaelic Room**)

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. *Mars, The Next Frontier*. A slide show about the red planet by Steven Burgauer. (**Shannon Room**)

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. *Computer Art: Tool or Terror?* Has the box helped or hindered commercial art? Gary M. Williams, Kevin Ward, Nancy Lockyear. (**King Room—second floor**)

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. *Why Fantasy?* What advantages (and disadvantages) does fantasy have over other genres? Lawrence Watt-Evans, David B. Coe, Lisa Silverthorne, Ron Sarti, Laura Resnick, Linda Reames Fox. (**Edinburgh Room**)

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Illustrating "What's Next In Space"* (*recommended for ages 4-13*). Children draw their own picture book (**Bagpipe Room**)

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Headpieces Work-*

shop. Kit Matulich directs this hands- (or heads-)on workshop. **(Aberdeen Room)**

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Masquerade Practice*. The stage is open for Masquerade participants only. **(Mary Room)**

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Babysitting available* **(Room 773)**

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. *The Moon Landing: 30 Years Later*. What did we learn and where do we go now? Hal Clement, Dr. Bill Breuer, Steve Burgauer, Ryck Neube, Paula Robinson. **(Edinburgh Room)**

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. *SFWA Benefit Auction*. Proceeds go to the SFWA Medical Fund. Come bid on neat stuff. Esther Friesner is the auctioneer. **(Shannon Room)**

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. *Andy's Hour*. Andrew J. Offutt talks and answers questions. **(Aberdeen Room)**

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. *Creating A Styrofoam Dragon* (recommended for ages 4-13). A new use for packing material! **(Bagpipe Room)**

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. *We Got Your Art Resources Right Here*. Advice for the novice artist, including things that are useful and things that should be avoided. Kevin Ward (moderator), Nancy Lockyear, Steve Gilberts. **(King Room—second floor)**

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. *The Oldyweds Game*. Just how well do our couples know each other? Participants include Liz & Gary Williams, Pat & Roger Sims, and Julie Evans & Lawrence Watt-Evans. Joel Zakem is the moderator, with Jennifer Wilson as Vanna White. **(The Chapel, of course)**

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. *Easy Make-Up Tips*. Last minute advice from Josef Matulich. **(Shannon Room)**

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Stress Reduction and Meditation for Young People* (recommended for ages 9-15). Linda Tipton, from Moonbeams And Angel's Wings in Shelbyville, Ky., leads the session. **(Bagpipe Room)**

### Guest Presentations

**5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Guest of Honor Presentations*. Introductions of our guests by Toastmaster Lawrence Watt-Evans, remarks by Esther M. Friesner, Gary M. Williams, and Pat & Roger Sims, plus announcements, lots of awards, and more. (Mary Room)**

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. *The Glen Cook Hour*. Glen Cook escapes from the huckster room to talk about his work and answers questions. **(Shannon Room)**

7:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. *Babysitting available*. **(Room 773)**

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. *Art Auction*. **(King Room—second floor)**

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. *Masquerade Pre-judging*. Masquerade participants, judges, and staff only. **(The Chapel)**

11:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. *RiverCon XXIV Masquerade*. Who will win the Ming Awards this year? B.J. Willinger is the Master of Ceremonies. **(Mary Room)**

10:00 p.m. - *Filksinging*. **(Edinburgh Room)**

10:00 p.m. - *Alternative music*. **(Aberdeen Room)**

## Sunday, Aug. 1

12:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. *Video program*. Check pocket program grid for specific titles and starting times. **(Tay Room and In-house Ch. 13)**

12:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Games program* continues. Check game room for specific games and times. **(Loch/Heather Rooms—second floor)**

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Japanese Animation Festival*. Videos programmed by Joe Leitsch and John LaRue. Check schedule posted at room for titles and times.

**(Ruskin Room)**

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *Art Show* open to pick up purchased art only. **(King/William/Lion--second floor)**

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. *Huckster Room* open. (Dealers must clear the room by 5:00 p.m.) **(Queen/Scots)**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *Cookie Decorating* (recommended for ages 4-13). Create (and later eat!) your own fantastical cookies. **(Bagpipe Room)**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *Fantasy and Religion*. How, why, and should religion interrelate with fantasy and science fiction. Lawrence Watt-Evans, Stephen Leigh, Steven H Silver, Ron Collins, P. Andrew Miller. **(Edinburgh Room)**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *SF Jeopardy Finals*. You must be present to win. **(The Chapel)**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon *T-Shirt Signing*. Gary M. Williams signs his present and past gopher shirts. **(Aberdeen Room)**

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. *Esther Friesner and Lawrence Watt-Evans Autographing*. **(Aberdeen Room)**

1:00 p.m. - *FOSFA Open Meeting*. The Falls of the Ohio Science Fiction Association invites everyone to attend its special annual open meeting. **(Shannon Room)**

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. *Masquerade Round-up*. **(Mary Room)**

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. *RiverCon Debriefing*. Your last chance to tell how what you liked and didn't like about this year's RiverCon. (We're not doing a debriefing next year!) **(Aberdeen Room)**

Thanks for coming. See you next year!





Now we know the way to go...



# SAN JOSÉ

## SAN JOSÉ IN 2002

A bid for the 60th World Science Fiction Convention®  
Thursday, August 29, through Monday, September 2, 2002

San José in 2002 • P.O. Box 61363 • Sunnyvale, CA 94088-1363, USA  
e-mail: BA2002@sfsfc.org • <http://www.sfsfc.org/worldcon/>

For membership rates, check our web site or contact your nearest agent

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### A Note From the Chairman

Well, it has been an interesting few months. At a time when most Worldcon bids are just gearing up for the last lap, we've been playing musical chairs.

As most of you know, a few months back our intended main hotel, the San Francisco Marriott, decided that they no longer wanted our business. Fortunately, most of us are software geeks, and we believe in backups. We had a backup main hotel in San Francisco (the Argent, formerly the ANA, which we used for ConFrancisco), and we had a whole backup site in San José. Being unsure at the time which was the better option, we decided to give fandom the choice. We filed a second bid for the San José site, announced it to the world, and sent all of our pre-supporters a postcard telling them what was happening. We thought it would be fun.

And so it should have been, except just recently, the Argent told us that they had sold our space to another group with more money. Without the Argent, we do not think the San Francisco site is viable for a Worldcon, so, with considerable regret, we have withdrawn it from the vote.

That leaves us with the San José site. Happily, the more we have looked at it over the past few weeks, the better we have gotten to like it. Other people who have checked the site out like it, too. Ben Yalow, one of the most respected con runners around, described it as "a better site for almost everything, and much cheaper than the San Francisco site." What is so good about it? Here

are some examples:

- Lots of hotel space within a block (300 meters/1,000 feet) of the convention center, including two with direct air bridge connections;
- Much cheaper prices than San Francisco (rooms from \$79 to \$120 in today's prices);
- A Convention & Visitor's Bureau that has been very helpful and is very keen to get our business;
- Wide, flat sidewalks and excellent disabled access; and
- An IMAX theatre and technology museum right across the street.

Of course, San José doesn't have quite the same tourism opportunities as San Francisco, but the cities are less than 50 miles apart. If there is enough interest, the Worldcon may even be able to lay on special events for people who want to go sightseeing.

As I said, it has been interesting, but we have what we think is an excellent site for a Worldcon in San Jose. We look forward to seeing you there in 2002.

Kevin Standlee, Chairman, Bay Area in 2002

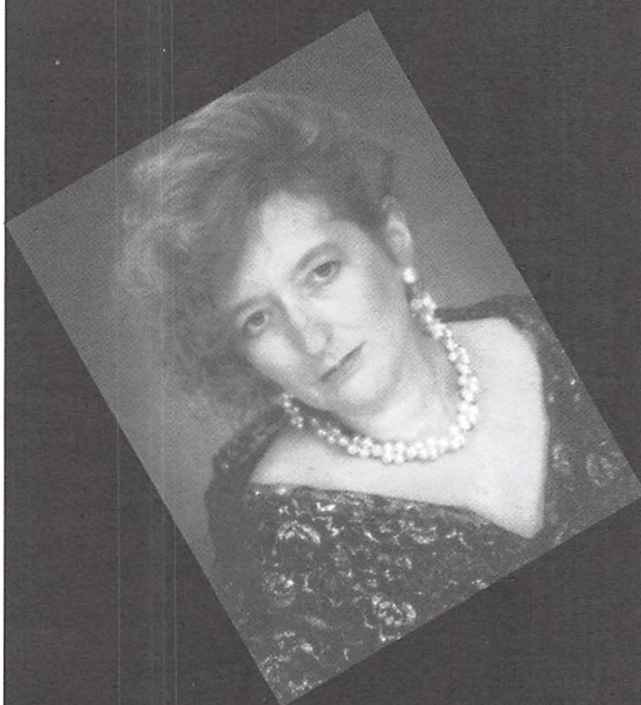


For more information, please check our website.

Bay Area in 2002 is a committee of San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., the people who brought you ConFrancisco<sup>SM</sup>.  
"World Science Fiction Convention" is a registered service mark of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.



Guest of Honor  
**Esther M.  
Friesner**



by  
**Harry Turtledove**

## So Who Is This Esther Friesner Person, Anyway?

**W**HAT CAN I SAY ABOUT ESTHER FRIESNER? Rather more to the point, what can I say about Esther Friesner that won't violate the laws for libel that this country, in its lack of wisdom, has seen fit to enact?

Just the facts, then. (The truth is always a defense. It won't always help, but it's always a defense.) First off, she's a damn fine writer. You don't need to take my word for it—as if you would anyway. We know about people like you. For chrissake, you're at a con. If that doesn't make you a suspicious character, what the devil would?

Esther? Oh yeah, back to Esther. She's got Nebulas she can use for bookends. (I don't know if she *does* use them for bookends, but she can—she's got two of 'em. The reason I don't know whether she does is that she has the misfortune to live on the East Coast while I'm lucky enough to live on the West Coast [you can flipflop those if you're so inclined, and you would be, wouldn't you?], so I don't get to see her as often as I'd like.) She's a multiple Hugo finalist. She can be funny. She can be serious. She can be both at once, which is harder than being one without the other. Her writing speaks for itself. ("So what are you going on and on about it for?" I hear you say—you're like that. I'll show you, I will. I'll talk about something else.)

As near as I can tell, she's a saint. As near as I can tell, she's gonna punt me for saying that. It's true, though. I can prove it. She's had two teenagers at the same time, and she's stayed sane. Hey, I've got two teenagers right now, and look what it's done to, er, *for* me. Her son Michael is twenty now, so one principal stress source has eased . . . a bit.) Esther has equanimity. I've got . . . But you don't want to hear about me. I was at RiverCon last year, and you heard more than you ever wanted to about me then. And what I heard about you—but you don't want to hear about that, either.

And as for her daughter Annie—hey, straight A's are enough to make any parent suspicious: what's the kid *really* up to? I also note that Annie's just sold her first story, in collaboration with Esther. If that's not corrupting the youth of



American, I don't know what is.

Oh, yes, about this hamster thing. Esther has personally assured me that the rumors that she learned cheeblemancy (*Cheeble!* being the cry of the enraged bull hamster) from the *Necronomicon* of Abdul Alhazred (or from any other *Necronomicon*, for that matter) are much exaggerated, and that it's highly unlikely that Cthulhu or Yog-Sothoth or any of the other Elder Ones (those that haven't gone to Florida or Arizona yet) will Come Forth and seize control of the universe during her demonstration of this arcane mystic technique. Of course I believe her. Of course. But still, you might want to go and see for yourself, just in case she had her tentacles—*fingers*; I meant to write *fingers*—crossed.

Down, Nyarlathotep, *down!*

I discover that in my mad quest to mention and defame Esther's whole family, I have yet to get to her estimable husband, Walter (AKA W.J.). Actually, I don't have to estimate. There's precisely one of him. He comes from Los Angeles. Need I say more? He knows ungodly lots of things about computers. I frequently take the name of the Lord in vain when dealing with computers, which strikes me, if no one else, as close enough. (And when you're dealing with computers, invoking the name of the Lord is pretty generally in vain.) Esther and he are coming up on their silver anniversary, which, looking at the two of them, strikes me as pretty solid proof that the child marriage laws aren't so strictly enforced as they ought to be.

So. I've been parenthetical long enough (I suppose). You don't need me to answer the question, "Who is this Esther Friesner person, anyway?" Especially since I'm not even there, and you are, and she is. You can march right up to her and ask, "Who is this Esther Friesner person, anyway?"

I think you'll enjoy the answer.

---

**Harry Turtledove** is the world-famous author of *The Guns of the South*, as well as many other novels of alternate history, most notably the Worldwar series. He is also a master of humorous fantasy and an authority on Byzantine history. Coming out next month are *The Great War: Walk in Hell* and *Household Gods*, a collaboration with Judith Tarr. He was RiverCon's Guest of Honor in 1998.

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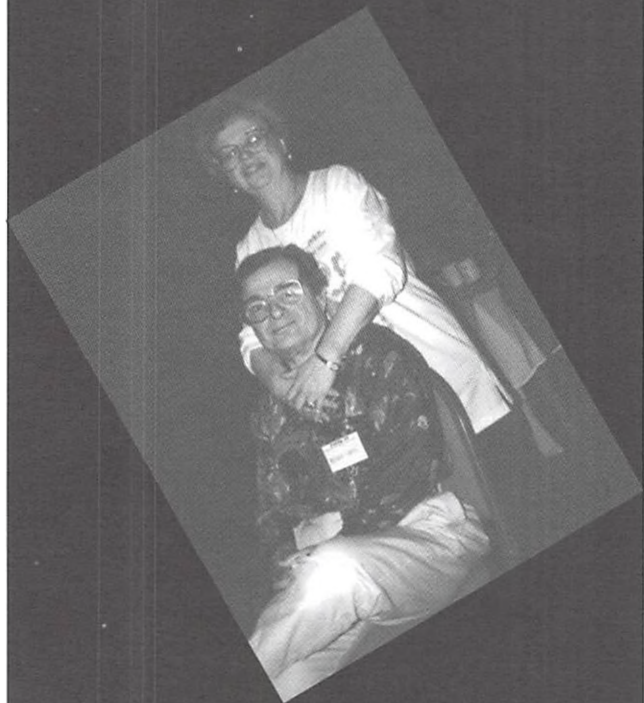
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Fan Guests of Honor  
**Pat & Roger  
Sims**



by **Mike Resnick**

## On the Road with Sims and Sims

**S**TEVE AND SUE FRANCIS (I DON'T MENTION HER first until she starts giving me a backrub a day) want me to tell you about your Fan Guests of Honor, Pat and Roger Sims, and I'm going to. They probably want me to tell you that Roger chaired the 1959 Worldcon, founded Second Fandom (I'll bet you didn't even know it was losted), was Fan Guest of Honor at the 1988 Worldcon, and writes Harlan Ellison anecdotes for fanzines — but I'm not going to tell you about that, any more that I'm going to tell you that Pat is the vital cog that keeps the Cincinnati Fantasy Group viable, or that she's saved half a dozen ineptly-conceived conventions by virtue of her hard work and managerial talents. Or that the two of them were the DUFF winners in 1995 and made the trek to the Australian Nation Convention on behalf of North American fandom.

That stuff's all a matter of record, and it won't tell you a damned thing about the people behind the statistics. You don't really know much about people until you've traveled with them. You may think you know Pat and Roger Sims, and the RiverCon committee may think *they* know Pat and Roger Sims, but take it from me, until you've stared across the breakfast table at them with growing repugnance for 31 days in a row, as I did in 1992 in Kenya, you never truly know someone. However, the following excerpts, each and every one of them true in every respect, will at least give you some slight insights into your Fan Guests of Honor.

### **LAKE BARINGO, KENYA (Sept. 26, 1992):**

*Roger:* Bird!

*Mike:* Where?

*Roger (without pointing):* Over there!

*Mike:* Over where?

*Roger:* Nine o'clock.

*Mike (looking to his right):* There's nothing to my right.

*Roger:* Three o'clock.

*Mike (looking to his left):* Nothing there either. Point to it.

*Roger (points dead ahead):* There — but it's flown away.

*Mike:* Roger, that's twelve o'clock.

*Roger (defensively):* I've got a digital watch.



### **LONDON (April 10, 1985):**



Pat (reading map in back seat): Turn right here.

Mike (dubiously): You're sure?

Pat: Absolutely. Turn east.

Mike: It looks wrong.

Pat: Trust me. How hard is it to read a map?

Mike turns, finds himself facing three lanes of traffic coming at him on a one-way street. Screams. Pulls onto sidewalk, barely avoiding a nanny pushing a baby carriage.

Mike: I thought you said turn east!

Pat (turns map 180 degrees): Oh, we were going south, not north, weren't we? (Shrugs innocently) It's the map's fault; they printed it upside down.



### SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK, TANZANIA (February 20, 1989):

Pat: Aren't warthogs adorable? They're my favorite animal.

The warthog we are watching roots in the dirt, breaks wind, moves his bowels, spreads the stool over a 30-foot-square area with his back legs, stops to scratch at a number of engorged ticks, and rapes two of his daughters.

Pat: Aren't impala adorable? They're my favorite animal.



### CAIRO, EGYPT (February 10, 1989):

Pat: That's a lovely papyrus.

Ali the Merchant: Madam has exquisite taste.

Pat: How much is it?

Ali the Merchant: 300 pounds. But for Madam, 250.

Pat: I don't know...

Ali the Merchant: Because it is a Tuesday, 200.

Pat: Well, maybe...

Ali the Merchant: And because it is after noon, 175.

Pat: 175?

Ali the Merchant: To celebrate my daughter's birthday, 150.

Roger approaches from far end of shop.

Roger (to Pat): These shopkeepers love haggling. Whatever price he named, we can get it cheaper.

Pat: But...

Roger (decisively): Go out to the car and wait for me. I'll talk him down.

Pat walks out to car. We can see Roger gesticulating wildly for about five minutes. Finally he shakes Ali the Merchant's hand, money is exchanged, and he emerges with the papyrus.

Roger: I told you they can be talked down.

Pat: What did you pay for it?

Roger (proudly): Only 350 pounds.



### NAIROBI, KENYA (February 17, 1989):

Roger (setting down empty glass): Boy, I needed that!

Mike: What did you have?

Roger: Just water.

Mike: Did you remember what I told you about the water?

Roger: Absolutely. I told the bartender I wanted distilled water from an unopened bottle.

Mike: Right.

Roger (superior smirk): Water's a lot healthier than that beer you're drinking.

Mike: Probably. But they keep the beer in a refrigerator, and I hate drinking warm water on hot days.

Roger: Me, too. That's why I told the bartender to put ice cubes in it.

Mike: Did you ask him where he got the water to make those ice cubes?

Roger looks from Mike to the brown water trickling from the bar's faucet to his water glass, then grabs his stomach and races for the nearest bathroom.



### SOMEWHERE OVER THE ATLANTIC (August 25, 1987):

Roger: What film are they showing?

Mike: *The Black Stallion*.

103 minutes elapse. The horses come onto the track for the climactic race.

Roger: That gray horse is a sharp-looking animal.

Mike: I suppose so.

Roger: I'll bet you five dollars that he beats the black one.

Mike: You're kidding, right?

Roger (pulling out five-dollar bill): Is it a bet or not?

Mike (shrugging): It's a bet.

10 more minutes elapse. *The Black Stallion* wins the race.

Roger (sighing and handing over money): Damn!

Mike: You saw the film last month. You know that the *Black Stallion* won the race.

Roger: True.

Mike: So why did you bet on the gray?

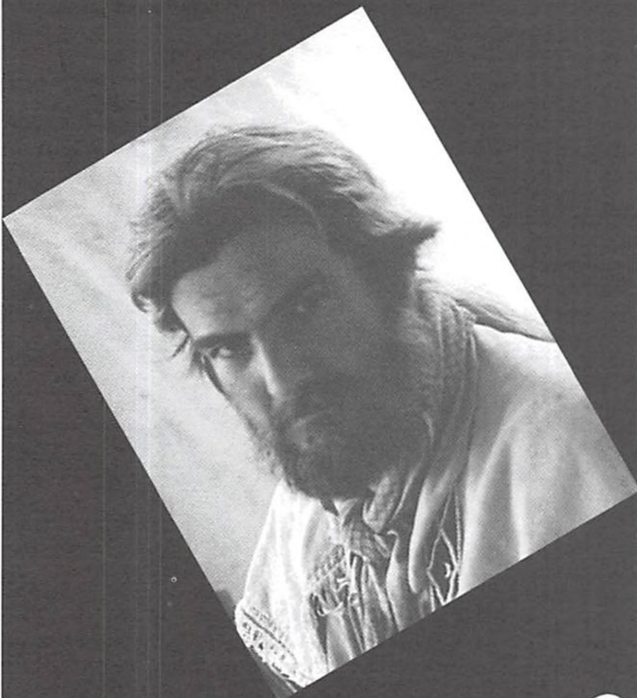
Roger: I thought he looked ready this time.



So there you have it, a handful of real-life scenes from our travels and travails with Sims and Sims. Invite me to do their biographies again next time they're Fan Guests of Honor anywhere and maybe I'll tell you what happened in Heidelberg, Copenhagen, Luxor and Brighton.



Artist Guest  
**Gary M. Williams**



by **Gary R. Robe**  
& **Jeff Lockridge**  
photo by Barbara Lemmons

## How Kingsport, TN, Lost Half Its Fannish Population

by Gary R. Robe

If you don't already know Gary Williams, he is not hard to pick out of a crowd. Just look for a tall, thin guy with a long salt-and-pepper beard who looks like he just stepped out of the East Tennessee Mountains. We are talking here about a guy that looks more like a mountaineer than Fess Parker ever did (I'm showing my age here!). Of course, since that is exactly what Gary is only adds authenticity. The effect is even more striking when Gary dons his Revolutionary War outfit with a flintlock in hand. Although at first sight Gary may seem a bit daunting, that impression is quickly overcome when something strikes him as funny and his wry sense of humor shows through. That usually doesn't take long.

But why am I telling you this? Most of you already know something about Gary through his art. RPG players know Gary from his intricate illustrations in game manuals. One look is all it takes to see that he is one who pays attention to details. SF conventioners all across Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee know Gary from his hundreds of draw-

## Of Tennessee, Gophers, Cheese, and Dead Cows

by Jeff Lockridge

Gary M. Williams doesn't want to be here. Oh, don't misunderstand me, he loves RiverCon—it's one convention he always attends. It's just that here, at Rivercon, we're in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. That means that it's NOT in the State of Tennessee. You see, anywhere other than Tennessee is, for Gary, *not home*. And his current residence—in Southern Indiana—is even more intolerable. Just ask him.

I first met Gary Williams in the mid-1980s at a gaming convention in Evansville where he and his Black Unicorn Productions partner, Shawn McKee, were promoting their collectible card game Hack-N-Slash. Even then, Gary was ahead of his time. They were creating character portraits for the players for a donation to charity. Gary and I began discussing the need for a federally-mandated weight limit for the wearing of spandex. During a break, I treated Gary to a fine domestic beer, and we've friends ever since.

While Gary has held a variety of days jobs, his

ings for convention fliers, program books, and T-shirts. Gary has set the lighthearted tone for Concave's publications for eight years, and created the much-coveted Gopher T-shirt designs for RiverCon volunteer workers. It would be difficult to attend Concave, RiverCon, or Contact over the past decade without at least becoming aware of some of Gary's work.

Gary and Liz have also made a name for themselves as organizers of art shows. They started in Evansville with the shows of the early Contacts, but were soon running the GenCon art show way up in the Yankee Territory. To put this in perspective for non-gaming fans, the GenCon art show often does more sales in one day than the SF Worldcon does in a whole week. For a brief moment of insanity, Gary and Liz were running the Concave, Contact, and GenCon art shows in the same year! They have put most of this work behind them, but many artists owe them for thousands of dollars of sales over the years.

Although I had known Gary and Liz Williams for several years, my relationship with them really took off in late June, 1991, when Corlis and I were preparing to move to Kingsport, TN. One of our

passion is art. He just can't sit still with a piece of paper in front of him and NOT draw. I've lost count of the times we've been sitting in a restaurant, waiting for food, and Gary has flipped over a place mat and begun to create. Gary is, at that time, in his element—as long as that element is with pencil in hand, drawing to kill time while he waits for his dead cow to arrive.

Ahh.. dead cow. Now we've come to another of Gary's passions. Meat. Gary is a carnivore. To make him happiest, feed him meat. Don't dress it up with fancy sauces or, God forbid, cheeses—just give him dead cow. Gary can't just order rare steak, he commands the waitress to "lop its horns off, wipe its ass, and trot it quickly through the kitchen." Gary abhors the merely *ordinary*.

Gary stands out as an individual among individuals in that he is particular. He believes that one should get what one wants, when one wants it. And he's usually pretty specific about just what it is that he wants when he wants it. Having it now is acceptable, but having it ten minutes ago is more what he had in mind.

Gary one of the few people I know that, even after

greatest regrets of leaving Kentucky was the loss of our fannish contacts with the SF groups in Bowling Green, Nashville, Louisville, Evansville, and the steady stream of fans travelling up and down I-65 using our house in Franklin as a stopover point. We were relieved when Steve Francis pointed out that Gary and Liz were living in Kingsport. Our first call when we arrived in Kingsport on an apartment hunting trip was to them. We knew that Cosmic Forces were at work when Gary and Liz arrived a few minutes later at our hotel room and we discovered that Corlis and Liz were at the same point (to-the-day!) in their pregnancies.

I started work in Kingsport in July, but Corlis stayed behind in Franklin to get the house ready for sale and because she didn't want to change doctors in the ninth month of her pregnancy. We had completed three weeks of the six-week Lamaze classes together, but with my move, we could not complete the series. Of course, it turned out that Gary and Liz were at the same point in classes in Kingsport, so I just accompanied them for the last three weeks. OK, now picture a class full of expectant couples when one lady shows up with two men to practice with!

supposedly reaching maturity, has looked forward to getting older. One of my favorite memories is of the time when, just before he turned 40, we were walking along a country road as Gary was expounding on how much he was looking forward to being 40. After all, he said, 40 begins one's middle age. After 40, you're allowed to be a curmudgeon. Of course, Gary's not let age requirements prevent his pursuit of curmudgeonhood, as he's been perfecting his curmudgeonness since he was 12. Now over 40, he revels in all the pleasures that being a curmudgeon allows. At this time, however, I'd like to dispel a nasty rumor about Gary. It's just simply **not** true that Gary has a collection of discarded refrigerators in his back yard with signs reading "Clubhouse" on the doors. Gary doesn't have a back yard.

If you want to stay on Gary's good side, do **not**, under any circumstances, offer him any dairy product. Dairy is to Gary as holy water and a good suntan are to a vampire. (Speaking of vampires, ask Gary about the Williams' Vampiric Abilities Test.) Of course, this made our annual trips to Wisconsin for Gary, along with his long-suffering wife Liz, to run the GenCon Art Show, even more interesting. Wisconsin is, after all, the "cheese



*(Gary Robe, continued from previous page)*

Nick Robe and Kyra Williams were born six days apart at the end of August of 1991, and our two families soon started the Tuesday Night Pizza Ritual.

Any parent knows how valuable it is to have close friends with children the same age as yours. With Gary and Liz in town, not only did we have the ability to share our first-time parenting experiences, we could also share fannish gossip, book and movie discoveries, and long discussions of plot twists in *Babylon 5*. At restaurants during that first year, people would look at Nick and Kyra and say, "Oh how cute! Are they twins?" We got tired enough of this to discuss having T-shirts printed up that said, "No, they're not twins, but they're both Gary's."

It is evident from Gary's work that he is a perfectionist. Gary does not respond well to fools, uncertainty or creative lapses. Just before Concave in 1997, Gary was complaining to me that he had no ideas for next year's flier. I was thinking more of getting to the next Monday morning at the time. Of course, that was the year of the Great

*(Jeff Lockridge, continued from previous page)*

state." These trips had many strikes against them. One, they meant that Gary had to leave Tennessee. Two, you couldn't swing a dead cat (another of Gary's hobbies—don't ask) without hitting cheese, or some sort of dairy product. Three, these trips meant long hours in a car, which is hard on Gary's back, injured in an automobile wreck when he was a teenager. All these factors combined to make Gary's usually acid wit even more deadly. Stopping to eat at a McDonald's, he specifically ordered "a hamburger, no cheese, just a hamburger." Gary was then asked that perennial Wisconsin question, "You want cheese on that?" Gary's response can't be reprinted here, although I can report that the poor young thing nearly wet her pants and should finally be done with her psychological counseling later this year.

Gary so dislikes Wisconsin—in fact, this is the way he views most of the country north of the Mason-Dixon line—that when Liz was pregnant with their daughter Kyra, Liz lied to Gary about her due date so Gary would make the trip. Gary didn't want, as he put it, "no cheese-eatin' baby" and would have refused to leave Tennessee to insure that Kyra was born in the right state. That right state being Tennessee, of course. Those of us with Gary and Liz were well rehearsed on how to distract Gary in

Concave Deluge and the Midnight Blackout. When the lights went out, I started roaming the halls looking for trouble spots. (I have no idea where that pool full of naked people came from five minutes into the blackout.) When I met up with Gary, he was levitating about six inches off the floor with a big grin on his face, and exclaiming, "I have my theme!"

All good things must come to an end, and unfortunately for us a job change forced Gary and Liz to move back to Evansville two years ago. Far Eastern Tennessee is now a black hole for fandom. Various attempts have been made over the years to start fannish organizations, but have just never managed to reach critical mass. With Gary and Liz's move to Evansville, Kingsport, TN lost half of its fannish population in one stroke. We always look forward to RiverCon as one of our few opportunities to catch back up with Gary and Liz. I hope you all take this opportunity to get to know Gary and Liz a bit better, and to thank them for their many contributions to fandom as we celebrate Gary Williams as this year's RiverCon Artist Guest of Honor!

—June 20, 1999, Sao Paulo, Brazil

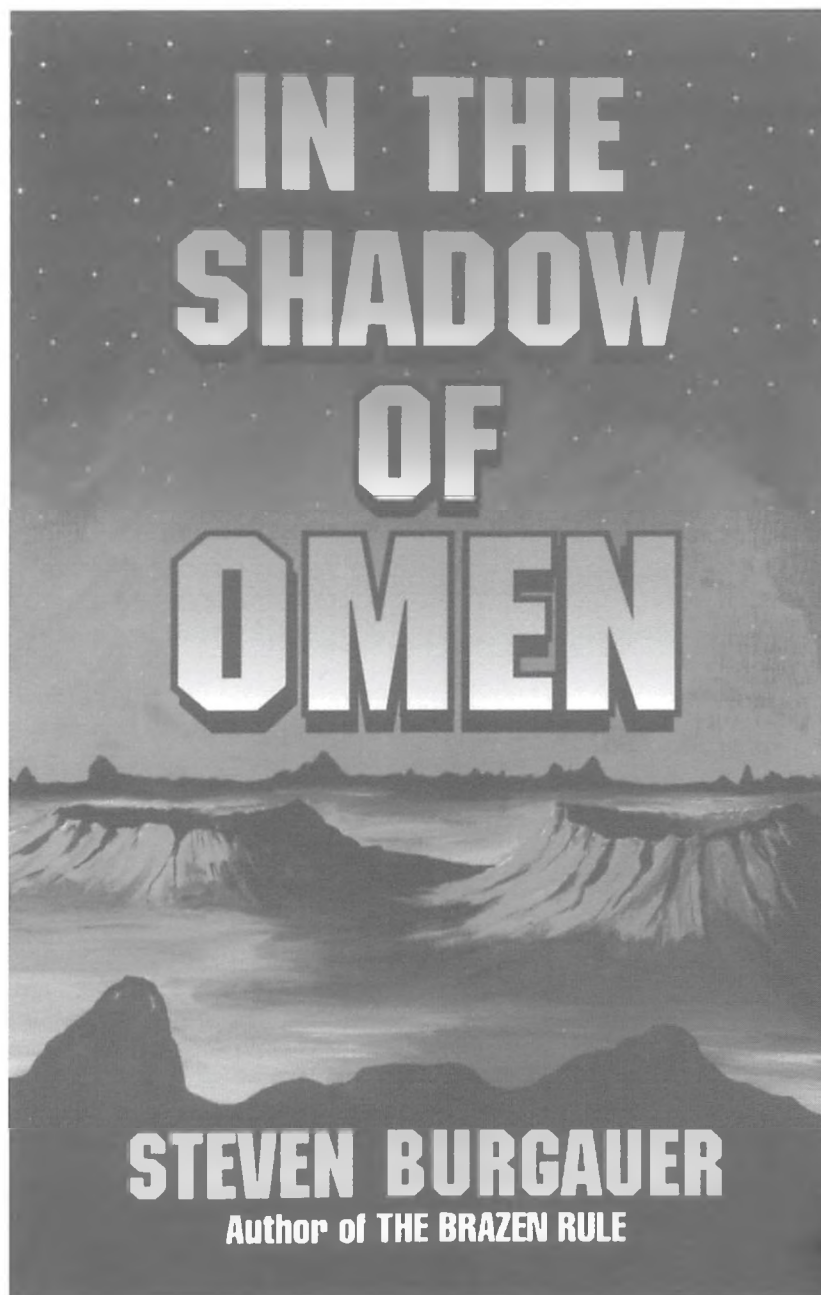
the event that Liz went into labor. Fortunately for all of us, Kyra wasn't born until Liz and Gary were safely ensconced back in Kingsport.

Gary is probably best known to RiverCon fans for his wonderful designs for the T-shirts RiverCon uses to reward its volunteers. The Gopher design is distinctive, well-thought out, usually tied into that year's RiverCon GoH, and immediately identifiable as Gary Williams' artwork. Gary has been designing the RiverCon shirts since 1992, and his artwork has proven so popular that he is routinely asked to autograph Gopher T-shirts.

Gary's artwork has appeared in several gaming magazines and as illustrations for games. He is currently producing artwork for the game *Compact Combat*. For that game, he has branched out into producing templates for stand-ups of buildings and ships as gaming aids. Gary has worked with Bob Giadrosich, and his cartoon-style artwork has appeared in art shows in the Midwest and upper South.

Gary currently resides (under protest) in Evansville with Liz and Kyra, where he is looking for a home to buy with a back yard large enough for several refrigerators.

—June 15, Evansville, Indiana



Welcome to RiverCon! Be sure to stop in and see **Steven Burgauer's** slide show: **Mars, The Next Frontier**. The first 50 attendees to the program get a free copy of Steve's first book *Fornax*. His other books will be for sale afterwards, including his newest, a time-travel story:

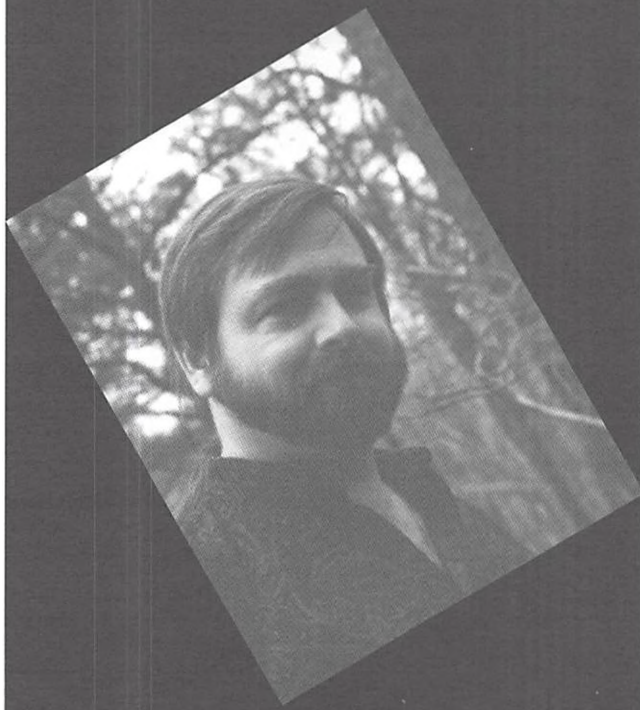
***THE GRANDFATHER PARADOX***

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# Toastmaster Lawrence Watt-Evans



by  
**Esther Friesner**  
photo by Julie F. Evans

## The Uncanny Luck of the Pirate-King

**A** FAIR WIND BLOWS OFF THE PORT BOW AS Lawrence Watt-Evans, the Scourge of the Seven Seas, heaves into view. There be a cutlass in his left hand and a copy of *Strunk & White* in his right, and he captains an argosy of so many excellent books that ofttimes it behooves him to hand over the command of some to his second-in-command, the doughty Nathan Archer.

All right, all right, so he's not a pirate-king. But he ought to be. He's got the look, he's got the swashbuckling down to an art, and by golly, he's even got the shirt for the job! He's also got a Hugo for "Why I Left Harry's All-Night Hamburgers," the lucky sea-dog. Arrrrh!

Maybe I shouldn't call him lucky, though. I mean, sure, he married his high school sweetheart, Julie, who really is a sweetheart of a lady and yeah, they've got two great kids, Kiri and Julian, who are likewise highly talented (check out his daughter's manga-inspired artwork some time when you're at a convention where she's taken an art show panel), and right, he's even latched onto *my* notion of the American Dream (or a fragment thereof) by owning part of a comic book store, but can you really call him lucky once you know his dark, hidden secret?

He thinks like me. Talk about a fate worse than an I.R.S. audit.

Oops. I guess that kind of doesn't make it a secret any more, huh? But the public has the Right to Know. It transpired thus: At a convention very much like this, in another place, another time, in a galaxy far, far—no, waitaminnit, delete that—we broached the subject of collaborating on a fantasy novel. I believe it was the Friday of that convention when the notion first struck, and we agreed to let the idea percolate in our individual brainplaces for awhile. Came Saturday night and the two of us greeted one another with the nigh simultaneous exclamation: "I had a great idea for the book!" As it turned out, they were both effectively the same great idea. Coincidence, serendipity, separated at birth or alien plot? You be the judge.

By the the way, if you need more evidence

before you feel you're able to render a verdict, pick up a copy of *Split Heirs*. Me, I'm voting for the "alien plot" option, but only because I'm using it as Fox Mulder bait.)

Lawrence's "luck" must also be called into question when you consider that he served the Horror Writers of America ably and well for several years as our president. It is the humble opinion of this writer that he did the organization a world of good. However, it is not mere opinion, but a truth generally acknowledged, that linking the words *organization* and *writers* is a task fit to stymie even an administrative Hercules. Knowing that little fact kind of makes you want to treat Lawrence with even more respect than ever, aye.

Mind you, he's got his ruthless, brutal, blood-thirsty side too. He killed me once. Yup, in a "Tuckerization" in a graphic anthology, poor ol' Doc Friesner bit the dust. But I hold no grudges, and the fact that I named a trio of village idiots Lorrenz, Wat, and Evon is another one of those wacky coincidences, you betcha. That's my story and I'm sticking to it, especially in this weather.

He names his cats, his cars, and his computers. This proclivity on his part leads me to believe that he is the motivating force behind his son's tendency to bestow some of the most creative monikers I've ever heard upon his collection of stuffed lobsters. (No, not the kind of stuffed lobster you eat, unless you happen to be a moth, or just plain weird. These are *toy* stuffed lobsters. If you see a neat one hereabouts, let Lawrence know.)

He is widely travelled, a bon vivant, a gracious gentleman, and just plain cool. You ought to go now and buy his books and have him sign them for you, because they're cool, too. And if he feels like being the Terror of the Spanish Main, the Pride of Far Tortuga, and the Scourge of the Seven Seas, I say we *let* him.

Arrrrh!

**Esther M. Friesner**, in case you haven't noticed it yet, is this year's RiverCon Guest of Honor (and two-time Nebula winner). You'll have another chance to sample her wit when she serves as Toastmaster at the Millennium Philcon, the 2001 WorldCon in Philadelphia.

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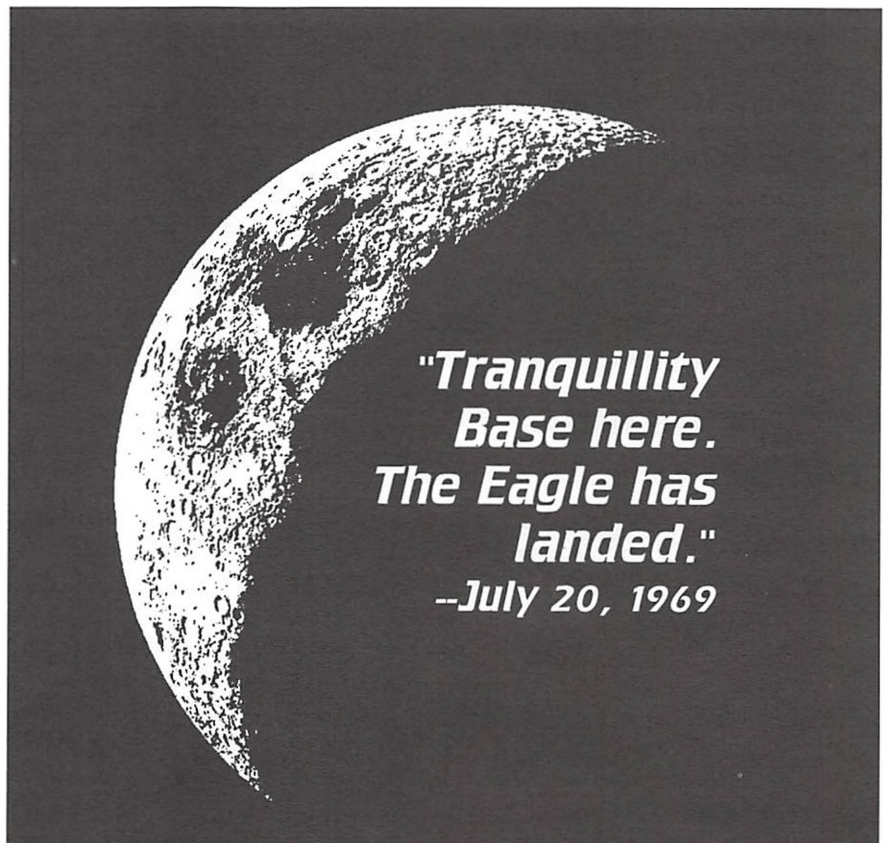
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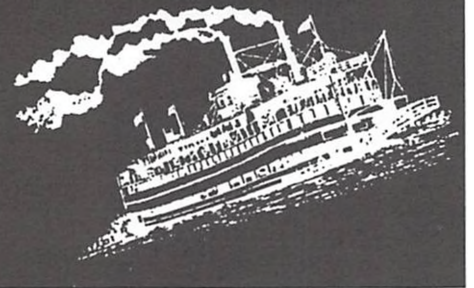
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# Other Guests



◆**Dr. Bill Breuer**, science humorist and writer, has been doing presentations for SF conventions for nearly two decades. Bill is the director of a unique multidisciplinary medical center that provides mainstream as well as alternative healthcare with state-of-the-art approaches. A member of the National Association of Science Writers, Bill has written and produced shows for the media and for educational institutions and museums, and has published articles not just in science but on a wealth of other subjects. His long-term projects have been a medieval historical novel and a play.

◆**Roberta Simpson Brown** is a storyteller and Middle school teacher in Louisville. She is a favorite at the Corn Island Storytelling Festival and the Kentucky Book Fair. She has published three books: *The Walking Trees and Other Scary Stories*, *Queen of the Cold-Blooded Tales*, and *Scared in School*. She has also produced and performed two original audio tapes, *Scariest Stories Ever* and *Scary Stories for All Ages*.

◆**Steven Burgauer**—avid hiker, Eagle Scout, founder of a successful mutual fund, winner of the coveted Mathematics and Science Award from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute—lives in Illinois with his family. A graduate of Illinois State University, Mr. Burgauer currently writes science fiction and teaches Business Finance for Eureka College (the alma mater of former President Ronald Reagan) and for Bradley University. His science fiction titles include *Fornax* (1994), *The Brazen Rule* (1995), *The Last American* (1996), *In the Shadow of Omen* (1997), and *The Grandfather Paradox* (1998). In addition to writing science fiction, Mr. Burgauer has written extensively on business topics in the

fields of investment management, finance, and economics. He recently completed work on an investment primer, *The Wealth Builder's Guide*.

◆**Hal Clement**, the pseudonym of **Harry C. Stubbs**, is widely know as the author of the classic hard SF novel *Mission of Gravity* (1954). Beginning with his first published story in 1942, Harry's hallmark has always been the accurate scientific speculation that provides the centerpiece of every story. Volume one of *The Essential Hal Clement: Trio for Slide Rule & Typewriter* (containing *Needle*, *Iceworld*, and *Close to Critical*) was recently published by NESFA Press, with two more volumes forthcoming. And next month will see the long-awaited publication of a new novel, *Half Life* (Tor).

◆**David B. Coe** grew up in the suburbs just outside of New York City. He attended Brown University as an undergraduate and received a Ph.D. in history from Stanford University in 1993. He briefly considered a career as an academic, but wisely thought better of it. David is the author of *Children of Amarith* and *The Outlanders*, both published by Tor Books. In March 1999, he received the William L. Crawford Memorial Fantasy Award. His third novel, *Eagle-Sage*, the final installment of The LonTobyn Chronicle, is scheduled for release in February, 2000. David is currently at work on a new fantasy project that is such a well-kept secret he himself has no idea what it's about. His wife, Nancy J. Berner, is a biology professor at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. They have two daughters, Alex, who is four years old, and Erin, who was born in March 1999.

◆**Ron Collins** grew up in Louisville, and cur-

rently resides in Columbus, Indiana, with his wife and their daughter. He is a *Writers of the Future* prizewinner, and has sold stories to *Analog*, *Dragon*, and several original anthologies. Among others, this fall will see his work in *Artemis*, *Quantum SF*, Mercedes Lackey's original anthology *Flights of Fantasy*, as well as the Australian magazine *Altair*. Ron holds a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Louisville and develops engine control systems for a large company.

◆**Glen Cook** has been writing SF and fantasy for more than twenty years. Among his works are the Black Company, Dread Empire, Starfishers, and Darkwar series. His newest books include *Bleak Seasons* (Tor, 1996), *She Is Darkness* (Tor, 1997), *Faded Steel Heart* (Roc, 1999), and *Water Sleeps* (Tor, 1999). Now retired, Glen worked in the automotive industry for many years and now finds time to be a bookseller at several conventions every year, which is why you'll find him in the dealer's room most of the time at RiverCon.

◆**Juanita Coulson** is a RiverCon mainstay. She and her late husband **Buck** were RiverCon's first fan guests of honor in 1975 and they repeated the honor at the 20th anniversary in 1995. Juanita is an accomplished filker, with many compositions to her credit, and she has also published several novels in the SF and gothic fields, including *Web of Wizardry*, *Fire of the Andes*, *Fear Stalks the Bayou*, *Star Sister*, and the *Children of the Stars* series. The Coulsons won the Best Fanzine Hugo in 1965 for their long-running 'zine *Yandro*.

◆**Linda Dunn** is a SF/F/H writer with about two dozen short fiction credits. By day, she's a computer specialist at a government facility and has a home computer network of Macs and PCs. She is currently serving as the South/Central regional director of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America.

◆**Linda Reames Fox** is a fantasy writer living in Bloomington, Indiana. Under the pseudonym **Jocelin Foxe** she has written two novels with Joyce Cottrell—*The Wild Hunt: Vengeance Moon* (Avon Eos) and *The Wild Hunt 2: Child of Fire* (forthcoming in December). Linda has been an member of the Society for Creative Anachronism for 25 years and is a Laurel for

her work in costume research.

◆**Stephen Leigh** lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, with his family. He is the author of fifteen sf/fantasy novels and several short stories. He was a regular contributor to the Hugo-nominated *Wild Cards* series of books, edited by George R.R. Martin. His most recent novels are *Dark Water's Embrace* (Avon Eos, 1998; Spectrum Award finalist, Tiptree Award Long List, *Locus*' 1998 Recommended Reading List) and *Speaking Stones* (Avon Eos, 1999). He has recently completed another novel, *Silence*, which will also be an Avon Eos title, and is currently at work on his next project. His other interests include aikido, in which he hold a second degree black belt rank, music, and art. Hand him three objects, and he'll generally juggle them.

◆**Josef Matulich** is a Special Effects Artist and writer. Josef's art takes many forms, from sculpting, Henna Tattooing, drawing, and painting to designing and fabric decisions for the costuming end of Dalmatian Alley Studios. Josef has been the FX artist for numerous independent productions and films and two feature-length productions as well as many theatre and commercial projects. He also is the author of two gaming modules *In the Musical Vein* and *Destroy Prometheus* from the Nightlife game world, and is the creator and self-publisher of *Psychic Solider*, an RPG based on psychics vs near future normals. Josef sculpts and hand pours a full line of prosthetics (alien, horror, and just plain sick ones) sold under the name of Kreatureparts.

◆**Kit Matulich** is the Costumer and *Pitch Woman* for Dalmatian Alley. She is a Master costumer with numerous awards for her costumes at SF and Fantasy conventions. She also costumed productions of *The King and I* and many special events, such as 1960s parties, Medieval Weddings, and even Klingon/Star Trek Bar-Mitzvahs! Oh, and those cute teddy bears....you know, Klingon bears, Centeddies, Mimbearies, Gabbearial.. and more, those are her creations too! Kit and Josef have three children and live in Worthington, Ohio. Ask Kit how she and Josef met at a SF con more than a dozen years ago!

◆**P. Andrew Miller's** stories have been published in *Dragon Magazine*, *Sword & Sorceress #13*, *Twice Upon a Time*, *Valkyrie*, *Odyssey*



#13, *Twice Upon a Time*, *Valkyrie*, *Odyssey* and other smaller magazines. Although his work is predominately traditional fantasy, he also writes contemporary ("urban") fantasy and humor. Andrew teaches creative writing and literature at Northern Kentucky University, where he currently teaching a literature class on Cincinnati area writers, using works from at least four authors attending RiverCon. He also occassionally writes and publishes poetry.

◆**R. Neube** began his professional writing career by ghosting college term papers. He grew up in the Appalachian area of Kentucky and currently lives near the Ohio River. One of his novels won half the gold prize in the University of Catalonia (Barcelona) Science Fiction Competition. Another novel has been published in Poland, and his short fiction is appearing with greater frequency, most recently in *Asimov's*. Ryck is currently vice-president of the Cincinnati Writers Project.

◆**Jack Nimersheim** is the author of two dozen books in the computer field (e.g., *In Plain English: Microsoft Word for Windows 6.0*, *Windows 95: Explanations You Can Use and Understand*, etc.), and he has published over 20 short stories in a number of anthologies, including *Alternate Presidents*, *Secret Prophecies of Nostradamus*, *Sherlock Holmes in Orbit*, *Alternate Outlaws*, and *Alternate Tyrants*. Three collections of his stories have been published, most recently *A Whole in the Space of Time*.

◆**Andrew J. Offutt** might be called the elder statesman of Kentucky SF and fantasy (though he would surely bridle at being called an "elder" anything). Nevertheless, he has produced far more of our kind of literature than anyone else who ever lived in our fair Commonwealth. Among his many works are *The Castle Keeps*, *My Lord Barbarian*, 19 volumes of the space opera series *Spaceways* (under the name John Cleve), plus several works based on the characters of Robert E. Howard, and the five-volume *Swords Against Darkness* series of anthologies of heroic fantasy. Nowadays, he observes the world from atop his mountain in eastern Kentucky and likes to be known as the father of writer Chris Offutt.

◆**Jodie Offutt** is a well-known fan writer and convention bon vivant who always seems to

know how to find the best parties. Married to Andy (see above) for thirtysomething years, they are the parents of Chris, Scottie, Jeff, and Missy. Jodie currently works in a law office in Morehead, Kentucky. She was the Fan Guest of Honor at RiverCon II.

◆**Laura Resnick**, after having made her name (well, **Laura Leone's** name, anyway) in the romance field, decided to join the ranks of fantasy in a big way with *In Legend Born* (Tor). Author of some three dozen SF short stories, Laura has also published *A Blonde in Africa*, a (sometimes hilarious, always fascinating) account of an African safari. She is currently at work on *In Fire Forged*.

◆**Mike Resnick** has won and been nominated for more awards all over the world than anyone we know. He has also edited quite a number of original SF anthologies, among them *Alternate Presidents*, *Alternate Kennedys*, and *Alternate Tyrants*, and many others. *The Widowmaker Unleashed*, sequel to *The Widowmaker* and *The Widowmaker Reborn*, was published recently by Bantam. A collection of Mike's acclaimed Kirinyaga stories was published last year by Del Rey. His newest novel is *A Hunger in the Soul* (Tor), and an omnibus volume of his Tales of the Galactic Midway series will be out soon from Alexander Books. Mike and wife Carol are longtime Cincinnati residents, though they often travel to Africa, Florida, Hollywood, and other exotic locales.

◆**Paula Robinson** made her first sale to *Dimension Z* comics in 1985, along with her husband-to-be, artist Rick McCollum. Paula attended the 1988 Clarion workshop, and started selling stories professionally shortly thereafter. She's had about a dozen stories in *Analog*, the most recent about a severely goofy race of aliens known as the Segoori. She has a new short story in *Infinite Realities*.

◆**Ron Sarti** is the author of *The Chronicles of Scar*, *Legacy of the Ancients*, and *The Lanterns of God* (all from Avon Eos). He is currently working on a novel unrelated to the Scar series. Ron lives in Dayton, OH.

◆**Steven H Silver** is a Quality Assurance Analyst with Ameritech. He holds a Master's degree in Medieval History from Indiana University and is the founder of the Sidewise

(<http://www.sfsite/~silverag/>) contains dozens of reviews of current SF, as well as pages devoted to Harry Turtledove, baseball in science fiction, Murray Leinster, and Jewish SF, among many other topics. Steve and Elaine are the parents of one-year-old Robin Batya Silver.

◆**Lisa Silverthorne** has had over thirty stories published in publications including Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Sword & Sorceress* anthologies, *Bending the Landscape: Fantasy*, and *Prom Night*. She has work soon-to-appear in the anthologies: *Treachery and Treason* (Roc) and *The Age of Reason* (SFFNET) as well as the magazine, *Quantum SF*. Lisa dreams of becoming a novelist and has several manuscripts making the rounds. When she isn't writing, Lisa enjoys whale-watching in the Pacific Northwest and making jewelry. You can visit her web site at: <http://laf.cioe.com/~lisa>.

◆**Kevin Ward**, artist guest at last year's RiverCon, has been painting professionally since the mid-eighties. His work has appeared on several book and magazine covers, as well as a long-term association with TSR, for whom he created art for *Dragon Magazine*, game modules and collectible cards. Kevin is particularly proud of his work for NASA. Currently he divides his time between managing a retail store and working in the Other Side Studio and Gallery in Nashville, which he co-owns with Lynn Harris. His latest professional assignment has been creating a new edition of his work in the *Legend of the Five Rings* card set for Wizards of the Coast.

## In Memoriam

**Buck Coulson**  
Fan Guest of Honor, 1975, 1995

**Paul Lehr**  
Artist Guest, 1994

**John Millard**  
Fan Guest of Honor, 1985

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# Son of BeachCon



DeepSouthCon 38  
May 19 - 21, 2000  
Jekyll Inn,  
Jekyll Island, Georgia

Jekyll Island is located on the Southeast coast of Georgia, half-way between Jacksonville, Florida and Savannah, Georgia. Jekyll Inn room rates are: Island side, \$79; Ocean view, \$89; Ocean front, \$99; 1-bedroom Villa, \$119; 2-bedroom Villa, \$139. These rates are good from Thursday, 5/18/2000 through Monday, 5/22/2000. Reservations must be made by April 15, 2000, after which the room bloc will be released to the public. The hotel phone numbers are (800)736-1046 and (912)635-2531.

Guest of Honor: Jack McDevitt  
Fan Guests: P L Caruthers-Montgomery  
and Larry Montgomery  
Artist Guest of Honor: Ron Walotsky  
Toastmaster: Jack Haldeman  
Special Guest: Allen Steele

*Son of BeachCon will feature all of the usual DSC trappings:*

The Hearts Tournament of the Known Universe.  
The Rebel/Phoenix/Rubble Awards on Saturday evening.  
The Sunday morning SFC Business meeting & DSC 40 site selection for 2002.  
The ever-popular Sand Castle (Mermaid) contest on Saturday (between the tides).  
Plus: Con Suite, Huckster Room, Art Show, children's activities,  
and miles of beach with jellyfish and sunburn (bring your Sunblock 5000).

Memberships: \$20.00 thru Aug. 8, 1999 (DSC 37)  
\$25.00 from Aug 8, 1999 to Apr. 30, 2000  
\$35.00 thereafter and at the door

Send memberships to: Steve Francis, 5503 Matterhorn Drive,  
Louisville, KY 40216-1326

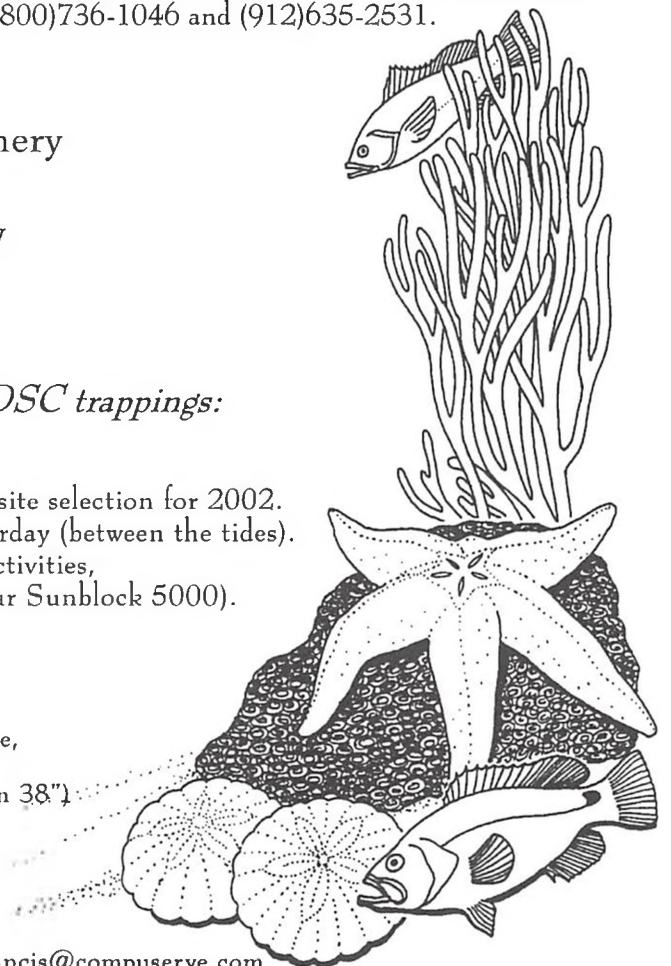
(Make out checks or money orders to "DeepSouthCon 38")

Hucksters Room: Klon Newell, 305 Stoneland Dr.,  
Athens, GA 30606-2455

Art Show: Carolyn Morgan, 360 Brockington Dr.,  
St. Simon's Island, GA 31522-1668

General Information: Son of BeachCon (DSC 38),

P. O. Box 1271, Brunswick, GA 31521-1271. E-mail: wcf Francis@compuserve.com





## A Statement About the Future of RiverCon

**A**S THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM APPROACHES, we have decided to retire RiverCon, Louisville's annual science fiction and fantasy convention, after the 25th convention in the year 2000.

After much consideration, we based this decision on two main factors. The first, and foremost, was that we do not wish to continue running RiverCon beyond that time when we can do it with enthusiasm and fresh ideas. We want RiverCon to end on a high note as a successful and enjoyable convention, not only for the members who attend each year but also for those running it as well.

The second factor relates to our committee members. We have enjoyed an association with a fine group of talented and dedicated people who have been working on and supporting RiverCon for many years. However, it is obvious that this same group of people cannot continue to run RiverCon indefinitely. Replacing retiring committee members, department heads, and even staff has become increasingly difficult. By establishing an ending date, we have hopefully provided that "light at the end of the tunnel" that will give all our committee members (and ourselves!) the incentive to stay with RiverCon through the very last one.

The RiverCon name and distinctive logo will be retired with the convention. The names "RiverCon" and "NorthAmeriCon" are service marks of the Louisville Science Fiction Association, Inc., and cannot be used without the express written permission of the Association's Board of Directors.

Any group that wishes to begin a new SF convention in Louisville does so with our best wishes. If asked, we will be happy to offer any advice, wisdom, and guidance our cumulative decades have given us. We want to make it clear, however, that any new Louisville SF convention will be completely independent of RiverCon and its present committee, even if there is an overlap of individual members.

We sincerely hope that the many people who have attended and enjoyed RiverCon over the years will continue to do so through the year 2000. We and the RiverCon committee offer our thanks and appreciation to all those who have given us their support and enriched our lives since RiverCon began its long voyage way back in 1975.

We cordially invite you to attend RiverCon XXV, July 28 - 30, 2000. A splendid time is guaranteed for all.

*Steve and Sue Francis,  
RiverCon Co-Chairs  
July 31, 1998*



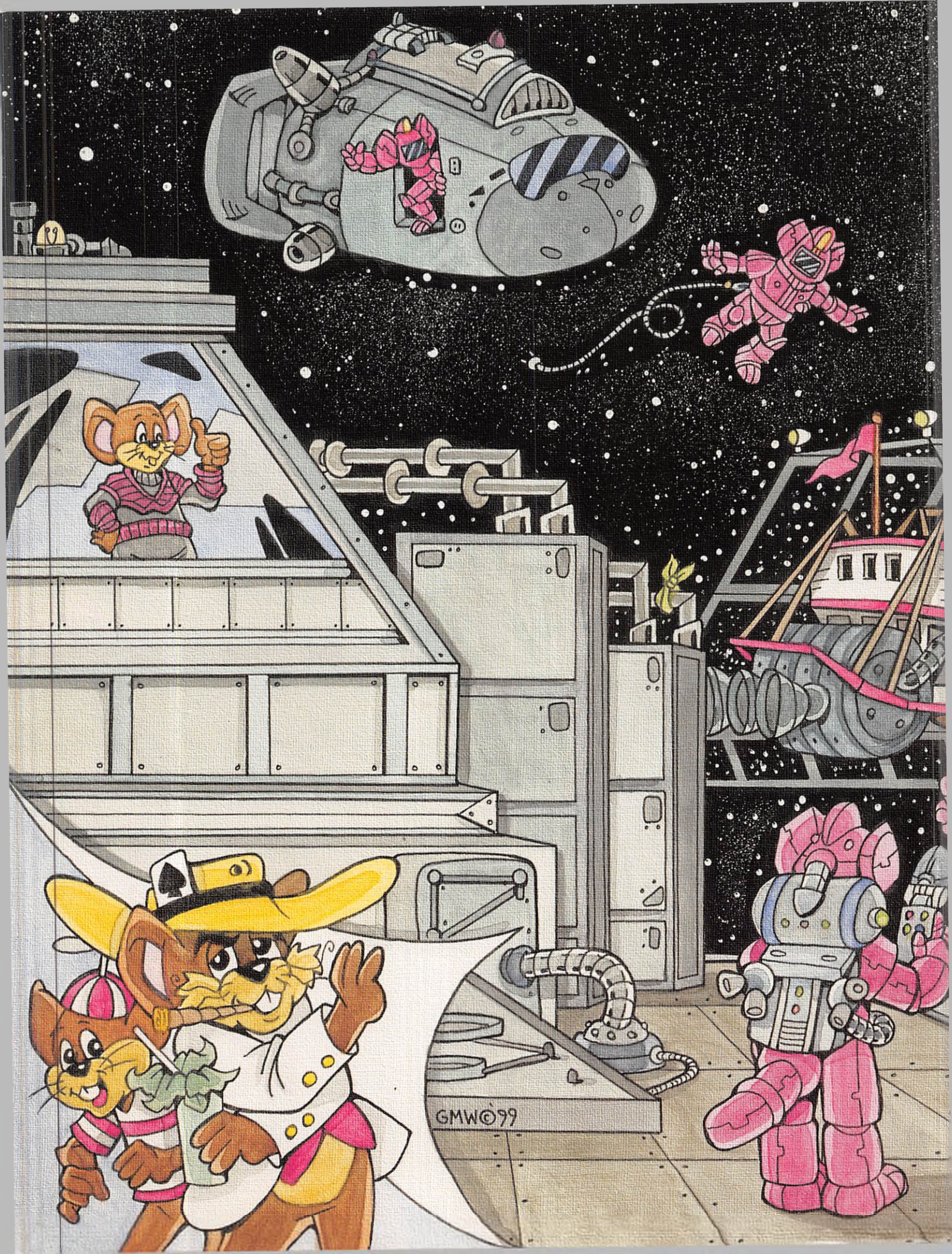
# ✻ A HISTORY OF RIVERCON ✻

Year	Name	Guests	Hotel	Attendance
1975	RiverCon 75/ DeepSouthCon XIII	GoH: Philip José Farmer FGoH: Robert & Juanita Coulson TM: andrew j offutt	Stouffer's Louisville Inn	545
1976	RiverCon II	GoH: Poul Anderson FGoH: Jodie Offutt TM: Kelly Freas	Stouffer's Louisville Inn	374
1977	RiverCon III	GoH: Larry Niven* FGoH: Sandra Miesel TM: Joe L. Hensley	Stouffer's Louisville Inn	621
1978	RiverCon IV	GoH: Robert Bloch FGoH: Ned Brooks TM: Bob Tucker	Executive West Hotel	592
1980	RiverCon V	GoH: Roger Zelazny FGoH: Lou Tabakow TM: Vincent Di Fate	The Galt House	747
1981	RiverCon VI	GoH: Jack Williamson FGoH: Mike & Carol Resnick TM: Frank M. Robinson	The Galt House	783
1982	RiverCon VII	GoH: Gordon R. Dickson FGoH: Dave Kyle TM: jan howard finder	The Galt House	836
1983	RiverCon VIII	GoH: L. Sprague & Catherine de Camp FGoH: Rusty Hevelin TM: Bob Tucker	The Galt House	747
1984	RiverCon IX	GoH: andrew j. offutt FGoH: Don & Jill Eastlake TM: Charles L. Grant	The Galt House	874
1985	RiverCon X	GoH: George R.R. Martin FGoH: John Millard TM: Mike Glicksohn	The Galt House	970
1986	RiverCon XI	GoH: C.J. Cherryh FGoH: Dick & Nikki Lynch TM: Sharon Webb	The Galt House	834
1987	RiverCon XII	GoH: Bob Shaw FGoH: Ken Moore TM: Michael Banks	The Galt House	881
1988	RiverCon XIII	GoH: Kelly Freas FGoH: Samanda b Jeudé TM: Sontow Sucharitkul	Holiday Inn Downtown**	770
1989	RiverCon XIV	GoH: Jack L. Chalker FGoH: Dick Spelman TM: Arlan Andrews	Holiday Inn Downtown**	744
1990	RiverCon XV	GoH: Mike Resnick FGoH: George "Lan" Laskowski TM: George Alec Effinger	Hyatt Regency	847
1991	RiverCon XVI	GoH: Lois McMaster Bujold FGoH: Leslie Turek Artist: Debbie Hughes TM: Emma Bull	Hyatt Regency	769
1992	RiverCon XVII	GoH: Mercedes Lackey FGoH: Laurie Mann Artist: Doug Chaffee TM: Bruce Pelz	Hyatt Regency	853
1993	RiverCon XVIII	GoH: Joe Haldeman FGoH: Jane & Scott Dennis Artist: Vincent Di Fate TM: Bob Tucker	Hurstbourne Hotel	824
1994	RiverCon XIX	GoH: Forrest J Ackerman FGoH: Verna Smith Trestrail Artist: Paul Lehr TM: Julius Schwartz	Executive West Hotel	768
1995	RiverCon XX	GoH: Philip José Farmer FGoH: Robert & Juanita Coulson Artists: Alan Clark, Debbie Hughes, Mark Maxwell, Kevin Ward TM: Andrew J. Offutt	Executive West Hotel	900
1996	RiverCon XXI	GoH: Nancy Kress FGoH: Annette Carrico Artist: Darryl Elliott TM: Allen Steele	Executive West Hotel	903
1997	RiverCon XXII	GoH: Terry Bisson FGoH: Barry & Sally Childs-Helton Artist: Larry Elmore TM: David G. Hartwell	Executive West Hotel	787
1998	RiverCon XXIII	GoH: Harry Turtledove FGoH: Julee Johnson-Tate & Chris Tate Artist: Kevin Ward TM: Hal Clement	Executive West Hotel	843

\* Larry Niven was unable to attend due to illness, and Gordon Dickson substituted. Niven attended the following RiverCon.

\*\* Formerly Stouffer's Louisville Inn. Cliff Amos chaired RiverCon I - VII; Steve and Sue Francis have co-chaired RiverCon since VIII.





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