# Westercon 68 July 2-5, 2015 • San Diego, California



Cover art for Frederik Pohl's GATEWAY © 2004 John Picacio

## Progress Report 1 • March 2014

## San Diego Convention Fandom

**ConDor** • March 21-23, 2014 • Science Fiction & Fantasy Town & Country Resort Hotel, Mission Valley Author GoH: Gail Carriger www.condorcon.org • facebook.com/condorcon

Anime Conji • April 18-20, 2014 • Anime & Manga Sheraton Harbor and Marina www.animeconji.org • www.facebook.com/animeconji

**Kingdom Con** • April 24-27, 2014 • Gaming: Board, Card, Miniatures, RPG, LARP Crowne Plaza Hotel, Mission Valley www.kingdom-con.com • www.facebook.com/pages/kingdom-con/131288604225

Gaslight Gathering • May 2-4, 2014 • Steampunk and Victoriana Town & Country Resort Hotel, Mission Valley Author GoH: Cherie Priest • Music GoH: Professor Elemental Artist GoH: Ramona Sczcerba • Maker GoH: Dan Benedict www.gaslightgathering.org • www.facebook.com/gaslightgathering

**Gam3rCon** • July 24-27, 2014 • Gaming: Electronic, Board, Card, RPG, plus live geeky theater and music The 10th Ave Theatre, Downtown Gam3rCon.com • www.facebook.com/Gam3rConSD

**Comic-Con International** • July 24-27, 2014 • Pop Culture & Arts San Diego Convention Center www.comic-con.org • www.facebook.com/comiccon

WinkieCon • August 8-10, 2014 • International Wizard of Oz fans Town & Country Resort Hotel, Mission Valley ozconinternational.com • www.facebook.com/pages/Winkie-Con-The-Longest-Running-Wizard-of-Oz-Event/131961676887674

Conjecture • October 10-12, 2014 • Science Fiction & Fantasy ConChord • October 10-12, 2014 • Filk Music Town & Country Resort Hotel, Mission Valley Author GoH: Chelsea Quinn Yarbro Artist GoH: Sue Dawe Music Goh: Bill "the Grim" Roper • Toastmaster: Marilyn Miller Interfilk Guests: Matt Leger & Mary Mulholland www.conjecture.org • facebook.com/conjecturecon www.conchord.org • facebook.com/conchordfilk

San Diego Comic Fest • October 17-19, 2014 • Comics Town & Country Resort Hotel, Mission Valley SF Author GoH: Greg Bear www.sdcomicfest.org • www.facebook.com/pages/San-Diego-Comic-Fest/139148722856535

# Westercon 68

# "New Horizons"

# July 2-5, 2015 Town & Country Resort Hotel San Diego, California

# **Guests of Honor**

Author: Spider Robinson Artist: John Picacio Fan: Seanan McGuire Special Guest: William F. Nolan

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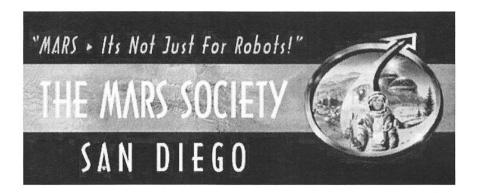
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# **Opting Out of Paper Progress Reports**

At this point, Westercon 68 has not collected information on which of our members do not wish to receive paper copies of our publications, so we have sent you a paper copy of PR #1.

All of our publications, including progress reports and our final program book, will be available for download from our website http://westercon68.org/publications/

If you no longer wish to receive paper copies of our publications, please send an email to opt-out@westercon68. org, including your name, preferred email address, and, optionally, your membership number from this progress report.



### **Convention Chair's Update**

Welcome to the Westercon 68 Progress Report 1. I suppose I should let you know about the progress on Westercon 68.

Well, the honest answer is, we've not gotten a lot done in the months since we won the bid. There are two reasons for this. First, I'm taking the first piece of advice I got about running a Westercon: "don't do much until early next year." Second, I recently finished running the Conjecture part of Conjecture 2013/ConChord 25 – and much of the Westercon 68 staff was involved in that effort.

That said, there are a few things we're starting to work on. While not finalized, our major events plans are coming together.

Thursday evening, after opening, our plan is to have a Guest of Honor concert featuring our Author Guest of Honor, Spider Robinson, and our Fan Guest of Honor, Seanan McGuire. On Friday evening we will hold our masquerade. Both of these events are scheduled for our large stage, which should have seating for most of the convention as well as an expansive green room for masquerade.

On Saturday, those who choose to not travel to the bay or Sea World for fireworks can join us in the con suite and on the lawn nearby for our Meet the Guests event.

Other plans are also starting to come together. We will have a shaded outdoor stage for daylight concerts in the courtyard just outside our registration lobby (the Town and Country Resort and Conference Center's Lion Fountain Courtyard). We also have plans for a spacious exhibit room that will hold the art show, the dealers' room, and other functions.

I'm still assembling my staff. A few key positions have been filled, but there are still plenty of opportunities for people from all over to work on. If you are interested in helping out, send an email to chair@westercon68.org, including your name and areas you've worked in or skills you think that you could apply to Westercon 68.

We could also use your help with promotion. If you are going to be at a convention and would like to make sure that there are flyers, send an email to chair@westercon68.org, and we'll make sure that you get flyers to take to the convention, or let you know that someone else is already bringing flyers. If you'd like to do more – like run a fan table – let us know and we'll work with you on that.

Thank you for being members of Westercon 68. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego

Ron Oakes, Chair, Westercon 68

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## The Town & Country Resort Hotel

500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108 (619) 291-7131 www.towncountry.com

Our hotel is located conveniently near the intersection of I-8 and the CA-163 freeways in Mission Valley and is less than three miles from I-5.

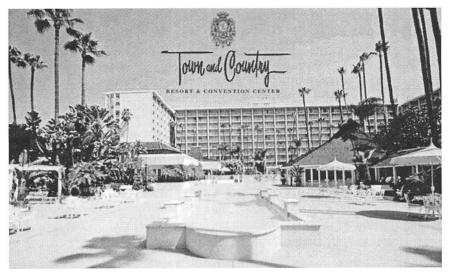
Our hotel is directly connected to the Fashion Valley Transit Center of the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), including a stop on the Green Line trolley. The Green Line serves:

- Mission Valley, with several dining and shopping opportunities
- Old Town, with its historic state park and unique shops and restaurants
- · Little Italy, with even more dining opportunities

• Downtown, including The Gaslamp Quarter, the center of San Diego's nightlife and yet more dining, and Petco Park, the home of the San Diego Padres baseball team

Just beyond the trolley stop is Fashion Valley, San Diego's higher end mall, which contains a food court for quick dining and several fine dining restaurants.

The Town and Country itself features multiple dining outlets ranging from The Sunshine Deli to the high end Trellises.



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### **Our Theme: New Horizons**

We have chosen our theme to honor the New Horizons space probe, which will arrive at the Pluto-Charon system in July 2015.

#### horizon

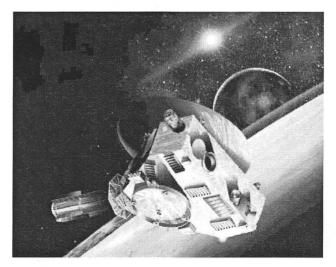
1. the line at which the earth's surface and the sky appear to meet.

2. the limit of a person's mental perception, experience, or interest.

The interesting thing about a horizon is that you can never arrive at it. You can travel toward it, you can travel away from it, but it's always there. Always challenging you, always making you wonder what is just beyond it. Unless you stand still, it is always new.

You can identify a goal and search for it. But when you think you've found your goal, there's something about what you've found that makes you say to yourself, "What is that thing over there on the edge of this?" It's never ending, kind of like surfing the internet. There's always one more link, one more definition, one more cat meme to pursue.

Our theme for this Westercon is meant to stir thought, speculation, and controversy. Individual humans may tend to settle down, but humanity as a species always seems to expand and strive for something farther, just beyond what we already know. Join us in searching for our New Horizons.



# Progress Report 1 • March 2014 Westercon 68 • July 2-5, 2015 Special Guest William F. Nolan



William Francis Nolan has written over 80 books (including 13 novels) and 750 magazine and newspaper pieces. His work – which ranges from poetry to nonfiction to prose – has also appeared in over 375 anthologies and textbooks, including many "Best of the Year" volumes. Perhaps best known for coauthoring the novel *Logan's Run*, with George Clayton Johnson, he has written two sequels alone, *Logan's World* (1977) and *Logan's Search* (1980), and the novelette *Logan's Return*. He teamed up with Bluewater Productions for a comic book series, *Logan's Run: Last Day*,

released in 2010. He is currently writing a third book, *Logan's Journey*, and plans a fourth (to be co-authored with Jason V. Brock). He also authored the screenplay for the 1976 MGM film version and the pilot for the 1977 *Logan's Run* TV series.

He has also had a long career in the movie industry, primarily working for Dan Curtis, and co-wrote the screenplay for the 1976 horror film *Burnt Offerings*, starring Karen Black and Bette Davis. He has worked on 25 movies of the week, including *The Turn of the Screw, Trilogy of Terror*, and *The Kansas City Massacre*.

Nolan has also been a prolific editor of collections and anthologies, most recently co-editing two anthologies with friend, filmmaker, and writer Jason V Brock: *The Bleeding Edge* (2009), with stories from fellow writers Ray Bradbury, Richard Matheson, George Clayton Johnson, John Shirley, and Dan O'Bannon; and *The Devil's Coattails* (2012), which featured offerings from Ramsey Campbell, S. T. Joshi, Richard Selzer, and Earl Hamner, Jr. He has also developed comics based on two other properties of his for Bluewater: *Tales from William F. Nolan's Dark Universe* (featuring stories adapted by Nolan and Brock), and *Sam Space*. The author of *How to Write Horror Fiction*, Nolan has edited more than two dozen books in the fields of science fiction, horror, westerns, and suspense.

Nolan is also a biographer and historian who has authored books on Charles Beaumont, Ray Bradbury, John Huston, Phil Hill, Barney Oldfield, Ernest Hemingway, and Steve McQueen. As a noted pulp historian, he is a recognized authority on Black Mask, Dashiell Hammett, and Max Brand (Frederick Faust). His historical anthology, *The Black Mask Boys*, is the major work on that legendary magazine of hard-boiled detective fiction. He has written two books on Max Brand

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and three on Dashiell Hammett, plus several pieces on the early pulp fiction of his longtime friend Ray Bradbury. He says, "I began my fiction career too late for the pulps, but I did have letters printed in *Planet Stories* and *Famous Fantastic Mysteries* – and I grew up reading *Argosy* and *Weird Tales*."

Among his many honors, Nolan has been cited for excellence by the American Library Association, has twice received the Edgar Allan Poe Special Award by the Mystery Writers of America, and has won Golden Medallion television awards at two European film festivals. He has received an Honorary Doctorate in Science Fiction and a career commendation from The City of Los Angeles. He was voted a Living Legend in Dark Fantasy by the International Horror Guild in 2002. In 2006, he received the honorary title of Author Emeritus by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA). In 2010, he received the Lifetime Achievement Stoker Award from the Horror Writers Association (HWA).

Nolan was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 6, 1928 to Irish Catholic parents. He attended the Kansas City Art Institute and later worked for Hallmark Cards before moving to California in the late 1940s, where he studied at San Diego State College (now San Diego State University). In 1952, he was introduced to Charles Beaumont, who was instrumental in Nolan becoming an author and who remained a close friend until Beaumont's untimely death at age 38. Moving to the Los Angeles area in 1953, Nolan became, along with Beaumont, Ray Bradbury (who had introduced him to Beaumont), and Richard Matheson, part of the "inner core" of the soon-to-be highly influential "Southern California Group" of writers (known informally as "The Group"). By 1956 Nolan was a full-time writer. Since 1951 he has sold more than 1500 stories, articles, books, and other works.



Greg Bear, William F. Nolan, Jason V. Brock, and G.C. Johnson

Nolan is a vegetarian and loves animals. He has lectured widely, taught a creative writing seminar at Bowling Green State University, and appeared on countless panels and in discussions at conventions. Away from writing, he has raced sports cars, acted in films and TV, and worked as an illustrator and cartoonist. He still writes new material and is active in various literary projects and conventions. He was Guest of Honor at Killer Con in Las Vegas and San Diego's Comic Fest and a guest at Portland's Orycon, as well as the World Horror Convention, World Fantasy Convention, and many others. Though estranged, he has been married since 1970 to writer Cameron Nolan. He lives in Vancouver, Washington in an apartment full of books, pulp magazines, and stuffed animals.

As someone who has helped craft modern horror, Nolan has been called by Joe R. Lansdale "one of the greats of the horror-suspense field," while Stephen King has said that he is "an expert at the art and science of scaring the hell out of people." Ray Bradbury acknowledged his ability "to create an atmosphere of ultimate terror."

With regard to his work, he has stated, "I get excited about something, and I want to write about it."

Information taken from Amazon.com, Wikipedia, Cemetery Dance Publications, williamfnolan.com, and williamfnolan.jasunni.com.

### Sou'Westercon (Westercon 5, 1952) Return to San Diego a remembrance from William F. Nolan

This convention has a special meaning for me. I have strong bonds with San Diego. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, I lived in this city, working as freelance professional artist (I was in my twenties). Art was huge in my life back then. Out of high school, I had worked as an artist for Hallmark Cards in my home town of Kansas City, MO – and when I moved to California, I set up a studio in Balboa Park's Spanish Village. In 1949, my one-man show won praise from the head of the San Diego Fine Arts Gallery. I went on to sell watercolors and outdoor murals.

I was headed for a full time career in commercial art when I sold a story I'd written in an hour one Sunday to Playboy for \$500. The jig was up! I turned from art to writing and never looked back.

By 1950, I was an avid science fiction and fantasy buff, and in the following year, with author Cleve Cartmill, I co-founded the San Diego

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Science-Fantasy Society. With the help of local artist Tom Gould along with the late Roger Nelson, I functioned as co-chairman of the Fifth Westercon, held at the U. S. Grand Hotel in downtown San Diego in June of 1952.

Having edited and published the Ray Bradbury Review earlier that year, I invited Ray to be Guest of Honor (his first such invitation). He happily accepted (I vividly recall his striding into the hotel in a neatlypressed white ice-cream suit). Anthony Boucher came down from San Francisco, and Fredric Brown left New Mexico to attend the event.

The two-day con was a solid success and propelled me into my life as a professional writer. Now, after all these long years, I am returning to my SF roots in San Diego for the 68th annual Westercon. (My computer tells me that San Diego also hosted the event 1966, 1986, 1998, and 2006.)

Onstage for the '52 event, I created (and recited) a zany verse designed to celebrate my early passion for S/F. It is pure schmaltz!

#### **Thank You, Science Fiction**

Oh, thank you science fiction For rocket ships and stars For swift electric cars For time machines And rogue queens And robots playing guitars

Oh thanks for the memories Of bug-eyed monsters who Chase screaming gals in blue For Bonestell And Frederick Fell And even Shasta, too Oh thanks for the memories Of trips into deep space To some god-awful place Where BEMs and things With scaly wings Become the master race

Oh thanks for the memories Of going to bed at night Of turning off the light And dreaming dreams Of rocket beams And silver ships in flight

Oh thanks for the memories Of tales our favorites wrote From Heinlein to van Vogt For Bradbury And Galaxy From which we often quote

So... I am here, this time around, as Special Guest, a singular honor for which I humbly thank the Westercon committee.

Let me add a final comment:

It feels good to be back!

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## Other Guests of Honor

### Author: Spider Robinson

Since he began writing in 1972, Spider Robinson has won 3 Hugos, a Nebula, and numerous other international awards. His 35 books are available in 10 languages. His short work has appeared in countless magazines and anthologies. In 2006 he was invited to the National Book Festival in Washington, where he dined with the President and First Lady and read from his novel *Variable Star* on the National Mall. In 2008 he received the Robert A. Heinlein Award for Outstanding Body of Work in the Field of Literature. His most recent novel is *Very Hard Choices*. He was married for 35 years to Jeanne Robinson, who died of biliary cancer in 2010. Born in the Bronx, he has lived in Canada since 1974, currently in British Columbia.

### Artist: John Picacio

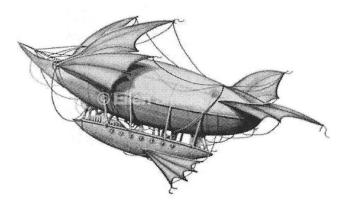
John Picacio is the 2012 and 2013 Hugo Award winner for Best Professional Artist. His other accolades include the World Fantasy Award, the Locus Award, five Chesley Awards, and two International Horror Guild Awards, all in the Artist category. His artwork is noted for its diversity and range, often combining traditional drawing and painting with digital finishes, as well as exploring methods such as hand-made assemblages. His works have illustrated the covers of books by Harlan Ellison, Robert Silverberg, L.E. Modesitt, Jr., Dan Simmons, Frederik Pohl, and James Tiptree, Jr. He has produced definitive bodies of artwork for Michael Moorcock's legendary fantasy icon Elric of Melniboné, and George R. R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire series.

### Fan: Seanan McGuire

The 2010 winner of the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer, Seanan McGuire writes things for a living, sometimes under her own name, and sometimes under the name Mira Grant. She is the first woman ever to be nominated for five Hugo Awards in a single year (2013). In her fannish life, she has run Music Programming for a Worldcon, chaired BayCon in San Jose, and drawn way too many pictures for an *ElfQuest* fanzine. She collects comic books, creepy dolls, and machetes, and shares her home with three ridiculously large cats.

### **GASLIGHT GATHERING 4**

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### WRITER: CHERIE PRIEST

AUTHOR OF THE BONESHAKER SERIES

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March 21-23, 2014 San Diego, California Town & Country Resort Hotel

### Guest of Honor GAIL CARRIGER author of the Parasol Protectorate series

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### Membership of Westercon 68 as of 2/28/14

S1852 - Todd Allis (ashi) A7955 - Carol Alves (Darklighter) A7957 - James Alves A4402 - Pete Amend S7630 - David Anderson S7854 - Mary Barnes A7465 - Kristine Bauer A7909 - Kuma Bear S7958 - Adam Beaton A7892 - Cathy Beckstead A7959 - Judith Bemis A7961 - Laura Beraha A7964 - Steven Beraha S7623 - Joanna Beu S2278 - Dave Bloom S2195 - Stella Bloom S7608 - Andre Bougher S7614 - Cheryl Brin S1776 - David Brin A7893 - Christine Brockway A8208 - Alexandra Brown A8207 - Grant Brown A8205 - Jordan Brown A8206 - Kim Brown A8209 - Troy Brown S4364 - Michael Butler A7830 - Chuck Cadv A7829 - Tasha Cady A8214 - Melissa Campbell A7859 - Amy Carpenter (Amy Cat) A7965 - Craig Carter A7963 - Lee Carter A7966 - Morgan Carter

- A7842 Jane Cassidy-Curtis
- A7841 Timothy Cassidy-Curtis A7895 - Elonda Castro (Katigra) A7894 - Gregg Castro S7968 - Andrew Clark A7912 - David Clark S7622 - Jared Cloud A7969 - Craig Cook A1375 - Joni Dashoff A4464 - James Daugherty A7869 - Dennis Davis S5332 - Phil Davis A7870 - Linda Deneroff A4611 - Jane Dennis A4610 - Scott Dennis A7871 - Patricia Diggs A2470 - Laura Domitz A7621 - Jacqueline Elderkin S8011 - Barney Evans S2199 - Kate Evans S7425 - Robert Evans A1292 - Sandra Faulkner (Lady Pixie Dust 007) S3259 - Gary Feldbaum S1391 - Sheila Finch S4686 - Peter Flynn A7461 - Vanessa Franco (Roseblush) A6353 - Greg Frederickson (Love Bug Orange) S7611 - Manoa Friedsan (Emjay)
  - S7970 Charles Galway
  - A7872 Glenn Glazer
  - S7613 Bill Glover
  - S7612 Jerri Glover

A2459 - Jean Goddin A7874 - Barry Gold (Ursus Aureus) A7873 - Lee Gold A7615 - Lynn Gold A7971 - Sarah Goodman S7867 - Lorien Gray A7876 - Brandy Grote A7877 - Michael Grote S7972 - Jamie Hanrahan S7858 - Lori Hanrahan A7878 - Harold Harrigan A7875 - Lisa Harrigan (Auntie M) A7879 - Harold Harrigan III (Pika dude No 1) S7379 - James Hay S4482 - Nancy Hay A7908 - Lisa Hayes A7973 - John Hedtke A7974 - Marilyn Hedtke A7850 - Caitlin Heller A7849 - Hope Heller A8197 - Jill Heller A8196 - Robert Heller A1355 - Judith Herman S7975 - Allison Hershev A7911 - John Hertz A8211 - Pamela Hoover A7889 - Michael Jhon A7899 - Bonnie Jones A7896 - Lamont Jones A7897 - Mitzi Jones A7898 - Winona Jones (Winona Danger) S7619 - Jordan Kare A1365 - Mary Kay Kare S7624 - Keith Kato

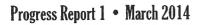
- A3446 James Kelly (Joseph Kelly) A7880 - Diana Koivunen A3434 - Nellie Korn A7881 - Rick Kovalcik A7728 - Bill Laubenheimer S7603 - Dr. Fragano Ledgister S7976 - Jacqueline Lichtenberg A7882 - Marie Lim S7977 - Mark Linneman A8217 - Marie Lofton (Ratmammy) S3236 - Allison Lonsdale S7631 - Robert Luoma A4496 - Bradford Lvau A7883 - Aubrey Lyons ('K'K) A7884 - Dennis Lyons (Obi Wan) A7885 - Derek Lyons (Fargos) A4600 - Gloria Magid S2551 - Jon Mann S7211 - Margaret Mannatt A7900 - Jim Manning A7901 - Sandy Manning A2772 - Beth Marble S2771 - Chris Marble S7610 - Gail Mathews-Bailey S7978 - Cheryl McCombs A2902 - Christian McGuire A7979 - Stephanie Metz S4684 - Harry Meyer S4683 - Stephanie Meyer S7981 - Anthony Miles A7635 - Rick Moen S7980 - June Moffatt S7982 - Fred Moulton S2726 - Cathy Mullican (Nolly)
  - S7607 Ramez Naam

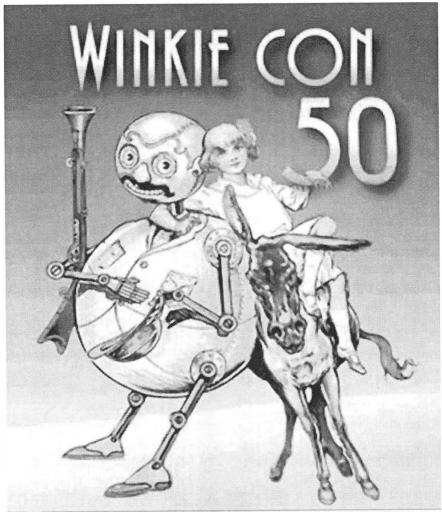
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- S7625 Clydene Nee
- S7983 Ardis Nesbitt
- S7857 Dave O'Brien
- S7609 Dawn O'Bryan-Lamb (Dawn)
- A7902 Christina O'Halloran (Chris O)
- A7903 John O'Halloran (John O)
- A8215 Dorothy O'Hare
- A2476 Ron Oakes (RonO)
- A8114 Tara Oakes
- S1350 Ron Ontell
- S1349 Val Ontell
- S7249 Bill Paley
- A7729 Carole Parker
- A7960 Tony Parker
- A8210 Bill Paul
- A7904 Elayne Pelz
- A7984 Sharon Pierce
- S7634 Denney Pistole
- S114 Jack Plummer (CelticBear)
- S5193 Eylat Poliner
- S7831 Jonathan Post
- A7905 Nora Rankin
- S1219 Suzanne Raymond
- S8204 Corwin Reynante
- S7411 Gregg Reynante
- A8061 Regina Reynante
- S7985 Jo Rhett
- A7604 Linda Robinett
- A7888 Arlin Robins
- S7626 Jennifer Roth
- A3404 Deirdre Saoirse Moen
- A7890 Sharon Sbarsky
- A7995 Karen Schaffer
- A7986 David Schlosser
- S7987 Karen Schnaubelt

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- A7906 Gene Schneider (Pharaoh Kaires)
- A4421 Eric Scott
- S7868 Heath Sides
- A7967 Elizabeth Siemanski
- A7988 Michael Siladi
- A7990 Nathan Slemmer
- S7703 Nick Smith
- S7602 Seldon Spitzer
- A7907 Kevin Standlee
- A7989 Alison Stern
- S7991 Ioanna Stern
- A7992 Paul Stratton
- A7633 Bill Taylor
- S7993 Katrina Templeton
- A7627 Sherilynn Thagard
- A8213 Becky Thomson
- S2156 Adam Tilghman
- S7844 Michael Toman
- A7910 Patricia Turner
- S4424 Brian Van De Walker
- S4422 Karen Van De Walker
- S4425 Kirk Van De Walker (Kai Wolf)
- S4423 Ray Van De Walker
- S4426 Roxanne Van De Walker (Roxy)
- A7620 Tom Veal
- S7605 Alex Von Thorn
- S7853 Mitchell Walker
- A7994 Michael Ward
- S7860 Jesse Weinstein
- A7996 Chris Welborn
- A2469 Mike Willmoth
- A7632 Sally Woehrle
- S7531 William Wu
- A7891 Ben Yalow





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Conjecture 2014 ConChord 26

Guests of Honor Author: Chelsea Quinn Yarbro Artist: Sue Dawe Music: Bill Roper Toastmaster: Marilyn Miller Interfilk Guests Matt Leger & Mary Mulholland

Celebrate the stories of Saint-Germain and all manner of other immortals!

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