

# A Momentary Taste of **WisCon**

Issue #

1

## Welcome to WisCon 29! What's in your pocket program?

By Carrie Ferguson

So you've arrived at WisCon and you've picked up your registration packet. You pull out the Warrior Amazon Sister of the-Mother-of-All-Pocket Programs. The pocket program will now be your constant companion throughout the convention. Why you ask? Well, not only does the Warrior Amazon Sister of the-Mother-of-All-Pocket Programs contain the when, where and who for all the panels, parties, and other special events for WisCon 29, it also includes:

- Why you want to volunteer while at the convention (Hint, hint – see p. 62);
- Locations of the overflow programming room (p. 7), the spontaneous program room (p. 36), and the green room (p.33) (If you don't know what these are, maybe you should, so read on);

### Why "A Momentary Taste of WisCon"?

The title of the WisCon newsletter comes from the James Triptree, Jr. (i.e., Alice Sheldon) short story published in *Warm Worlds and Otherwise* (1975) called "A Momentary Taste of Being."

- Maps of the hotel (Right in the center – so you can quickly locate yourself if you've strayed down the wrong path);
- Lots of information of the children of WisCon – i.e., Triptree, Broad Universe, and the Carl Brandon Society (pp. 63-65);
- What goodies you can find in the Con Suite (p. 68);
- The menu for the Dessert Salon (p. 37);
- Information on exciting publications such as Tiptree anthologies and Extrapolation that avid readers won't want to miss (p. 73);
- Some important rules we all need to abide by so everyone has an enjoyable and safe convention (pp. 70-71)
- What to do if you are mafia (Don't worry, this is only a game...or is it...) (p. 33)
- The ubiquitous much, much more...

In other words, you'll find pretty much everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask. But don't worry, if you want to ask, there are lots of friendly people who will have the answers, so ask away!

### VERY Important Guest of Honor Requests:

- Robin McKinley prefers not to be photographed or videotaped by anyone. So, while cameras are almost ubiquitous these days, please keep yours under control and do not photograph her.
- Please don't mob either Gwyneth or Robin to get your books signed. There will be plenty of opportunities to get their autographs on your reading materials on Sunday (1 p.m.) and at the Sign-Out on Monday.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WisCon 29 ConCom	2
Opening Ceremony	2
Art Show	3
WisCon 30	3
Mad SF	4
Review of Frida	4
WisCon Survey Online	4
Tachyon Publications News	4
Dealers' Room	5
Announcements	6 & 8
ROOO GoH Reception	7
Contribute to Taste	7
Broad's Reading Stunt	8

# WisCon 29 ConCom List

<b>Coordinator</b>	Jim Hudson
<b>Programming:</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Betsy Lundsten
<b>General Staff</b>	Aaron Lichtov, Joanna Lowenstein, Lisa Cohen, Sarah James, Steven Schwartz, Davey Snyder
<b>Program</b>	
<b>Ops/SBB</b>	
<b>Academic</b>	Joan Haran
<b>Sign-Out</b>	Lou Hoffman, Mellen Maynard
<b>Children's</b>	Tom Porter, Susie Kinast-Porter
<b>Scheduling</b>	Jane Hawkins
<b>Green Room</b>	Luke McGuff <i>Staff:</i> Allen Baum, Sara Brodzinsky, Lesley Hall, Peter Hudson, Mary Kay Kare, Donya White, Lisa Cohen
<b>Readings</b>	Justine Larbalestier <i>Staff:</i> Kristin Livdahl
<b>Writers'</b>	Lori Selke
<b>Workshop</b>	
<b>Registration:</b>	
<b>Pre-con</b>	Jim Hudson
<b>Registration</b>	
<b>At-con</b>	Richard S. Russell
<b>Registration</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	Hope Kiefer
<b>Management</b>	
<b>Book</b>	Bill Farina
<b>Distribution &amp;</b>	
<b>Freebies</b>	
<b>Packet Stuffing</b>	Kristin Livdahl
<b>Con Suite</b>	
<b>Head</b>	David Devereaux-Weber
<b>Staff</b>	Hope Kiefer, Victor Raymond
<b>Exhibits:</b>	
<b>Dealers</b>	Hank Luttrell
<b>Art Show</b>	Jim Hudson
<b>Tiptree Display</b>	Jeanne Gomoll, Scott Custis
<b>Internal Services:</b>	
<b>Internet</b>	Bill Humphries <i>Staff:</i> Heather Whipple, Joyce Scrivner, Cliff Winnig, Michael Rawdon, Allen Baum
<b>Childcare</b>	Karen Meisner
<b>Guest Liaison</b>	Kathi Nash
<b>Hotel Liaison,</b>	Scott Custis
<b>Parties</b>	
<b>Mail &amp; Banking</b>	Diane Martin
<b>Operations</b>	Heidi Oliverson, Jennifer White
<b>Safety</b>	Scott Custis <i>Staff:</i> Rachael Hoffman-Dachelet, Nathan & Beth Clarke, Dan Dexter, Jane Hawkins, Victor Raymond, Peter Hudson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Hudson <i>Staff:</i> Diane Martin
<b>Volunteers</b>	Debbie Notkin

<b>Special Events:</b>	
<b>Gathering</b>	Amy Hanson
<b>Dessert Function</b>	Karen Meisner <i>Flowers:</i> Diane Martin
<b>Opening</b>	Jim Nichols, Ruth Nichols
<b>Ceremonies</b>	<i>Staff:</i> James Frenkel, Jim Gussert, Don Helley, Jim Nichols, Bhim Nimgade, Greg Rihn, Georgie Schnobrich, Jennifer White
<b>Tiptree Auction</b>	Jeanne Gomoll <i>Auctioneer:</i> Ellen Klages
<b>Tiptree Bake</b>	Julie Humphries
<b>Sale</b>	
<b>Dead Cow Party</b>	Jennifer White & OddCon
<b>Publications:</b>	
<b>At-Con</b>	Carrie Ferguson, Kristina Solheim
<b>Newsletter</b>	
<b>eCube, Pocket</b>	Jeanne Gomoll
<b>Program,</b>	
<b>Progress</b>	
<b>Reports, Signs</b>	
<b>Publicity</b>	Carrie Ferguson
<b>Restaurant</b>	Richard S. Russell
<b>Guide</b>	
<b>Souvenir Book</b>	Beth Plutchak
<b>Webmistresses</b>	Tracy Benton, Jim, Hudson, Jennifer White

## OPENING CEREMONY -- WORLD PREMIER PERFORMANCE

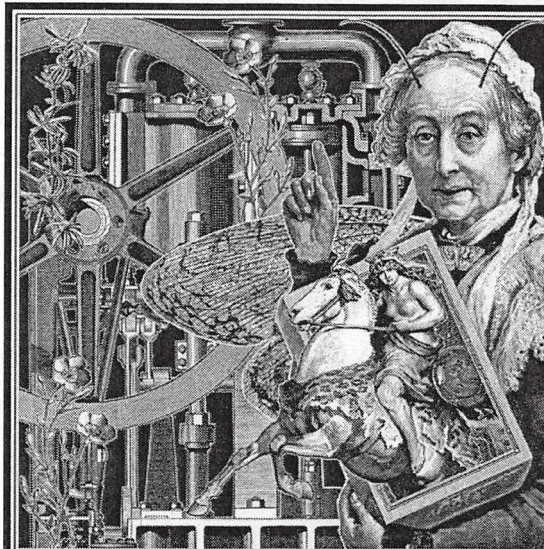
Come join us at Opening Ceremonies at 7:30 Friday for the world premiere production of "How to Succeed in Fandom without Really Trying" by Jim & Ruth Nichols. It breaks ground for WisCon entertainment in two major ways: it's a musical, and they've actually been rehearsing before the start of the convention. The cast includes: Ruth Nichols (Bonnie), Greg Rihn (The Book; Cardinal Palm Pilot), Jim Gussert (Michael; Cardinal Biggles), Georgie Schnobrich (Jan), Jennifer White (Helen Truefen), Bhim Nimgade (Cardinal Laptop; Ferdinand), Don Helley (Jon-Jon Truefen; Cardinal Ximinez), Jim Nichols (Herbert; Sergeant Thesaurus), James Frenkel (Inspector Wordsmith).



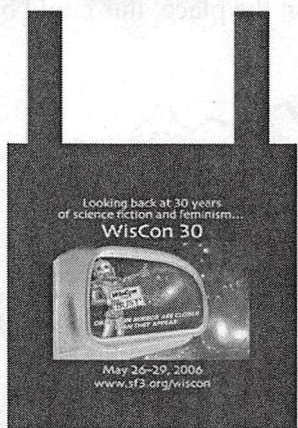
## WISCON 29 ART SHOW:

COME EARLY, COME OFTEN, SO YOU DON'T MISS ANYTHING!

This year, the Art Show (University B) will be open for a preview on Friday evening, and sales will open at 9:30 on Saturday. We'll have Tiptree t-shirts (see design at right), WisCon 30 tote bags (see below), and even more original art than usual. And you'll be able to buy the art immediately, without bidding and waiting. As much as possible, we'd like to leave the art hung until Sunday evening so everyone can see it, but if you're only at the convention for a day, or you have to leave early, you'll be able to take your artwork with you when you go. Note that Tiptree Auction items will be displayed and available for bid but, as usual, will only be sold at the auction.



## James Tiptree Jr. 14th Annual Award



← WisCon totebags will be available for sale in the Art Show/Tiptree Display room. The WisCon totebags are made of heavy-duty black canvas, with long shoulder straps and sport several zipper compartments. The artwork is by Jeanne Gomoll. Price \$10. They will go on sale Saturday morning.

### Artists in the show:

Leslie Adams, Lindsay Archer, K. Tempest Bradford, Michele Bykowski, Janet Chui Kayte Clapham, Moondancer Drake, Beth Hansen, Trinlay Khadro, Chris Klingbeil, Ellen Klages, Joan Malcheski, Elizabeth Falter Minz, MaryAnne Mohanraj, Betsy Mott, Walter Napiorkowski, Mai Q Nguyen, Mary Prince, Mark Rich, Sandra SanTara, Heather Shaw, Kristina Solheim, Ruth Thompson, LA Williams, Deborah Woods, AB Word, Ben Zvan

# WISCON 30 IS COMING!

## HELP US BRING BACK OUR PAST GUESTS OF HONOR FOR WISCON 30

For WisCon 30, we're hoping to bring back as many of our past Guests of Honor as possible. But that's going to be a stretch -- we're looking at potentially paying extra travel costs of \$30,000, equal to our normal budget for a whole WisCon. So we need to raise a lot of money for the event. We're looking for grants, and digging into WisCon's own resources, but we're also going to need help from you. So here's the pledge rap: please give us an extra donation when you register for WisCon 30. It will make a big difference. And, for US taxpayers, we're a nonprofit so your gift will be deductible as a charitable donation.

## COLLECTING PROGRAMMING IDEAS FOR NEXT YEAR

It seems that we haven't burned out Jane Hawkins nearly as thoroughly as we usually do, because after finishing up the schedule for this year, she immediately started working on the on-line version of next year's schedule input pages. Jane writes: "We're starting to plan for WisCon 30 and would very much appreciate your help. We want this to be a truly great convention, the kind that changes lives and opens minds and sets a new standard for future feminist conventions." Go to:

<http://www.hawkinsprogramming.com/WisConWeb/ProgramPlanning.aspx?project=0000007316>

## Madison-Area Fans!

Do you suffer WisCon withdrawal? Ever wonder how to feed your fannish habit the other 51 weeks of the year? Enjoy the camaraderie of WisCon and wish you could get some more of it? Fear not! The Internet once again rides to the rescue.

There's an on-line newsgroup just for Madison-area science-fiction fans. It's called (not surprisingly) MadSF, and you can check out its website at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MadSF/>

More to the point, YOU can join for practically no cost at all - just the time it takes you to read maybe 2-3 e-mails a day, most of them describing upcoming events such as the regular Wednesday-night social gathering, book discussions, or movie nights. To subscribe to the group, send an email to:

[MadSF-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MadSF-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

and be sure to include a little something personal about yourself so we can tell you're not a spambot trolling for addresses.

- Richard S. Russell

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK -- ONLINE!

This year's WisCon Survey is electronic only -- we're using SurveyMonkey to help us get the information sooner and analyze it more easily. On Monday (remember, we have computer stations to access the internet available if you so desire), or after you leave the convention, please go to <http://www.sf3.org/wiscon> and take the link to the WisCon Survey. It'll only take a few minutes to fill out, and the information will help us plan future WisCons.

## Review of Frida

By Betsy Lundsten

If you turn left on State Street instead of turning right, you will see a layout of tables and chairs across the street in front of a large Mexican restaurant named Frida, for Frida Kahlo. The food was not bad, but not particularly exciting. There were at least a few vegetarian entrees, but not very many of the more authentic carnivorous entrees-- I only saw carnitas offered in one item, and chorizo offered as an option for one of the appetizers. Final verdict: They have streamers across the ceiling advertising for the Cuervo Nation, and if you are a citizen of said nation and would like to try some Mexican food that is different from the Mexican food in the small family run joints back home where you're the only English speaker in the place, this could be your restaurant.



## Nebula Award Unveiling at Tachyon Publications/Aqueduct Press Party

Tachyon Publications authors Eileen Gunn and Ellen Klages will appear at the Tachyon/Aqueduct party with their newly-won 2004 Nebula Awards. Eileen received the Best Short Story Nebula for her short story "Coming to Terms," which appears in the Tachyon collection *Stable Strategies and Others*. Ellen, author of *Time Gypsy*, received her Nebula in the Best Novelette category, for "Basement Magic." The Nebula unveiling will be at 9:00 p.m. Additionally, there will be food & drink, giveaways, and Michael Swanwick impersonators. Tachyon Publications/Aqueduct Press Party--Friday night, Room 629, 8:45PM-1:00AM.

## Tachyon Book Signings

Tachyon Publications is pleased to announce a series of Tachyon author book-signings during WisCon. All signings will take place in the Dealer's Room at the Tachyon Publications table, and we will have sale copies available. You are--of course--welcome to bring your own copies for signing.

### Saturday

Pat Murphy (*The Shadow Hunter, A Flock of Lawn Flamingos*) 3PM-4PM

### Sunday

Ellen Klages (*Time Gypsy*) 11AM-12PM

Carol Emshwiller (*I Live with You*) 3PM-4PM

Eileen Gunn (*Stable Strategies and Others*) 4PM-5PM

Suzu McKee Charnas (*Stagestruck Vampires and Other Phantasms*) TBD



Ellen Klages & Eileen Gunn

## WHO'S IN THE DEALERS' ROOM AT WISCON 29?

*Many of these dealers have copies of books, magazines, anthologies, CD's, and other items. created by the participants at Monday's SignOut!*

**A Room of One's Own**  
307 West Johnson Street  
Madison, Wisconsin

### **Aqueduct Press**

Dedicated to publishing challenging, feminist science fiction. Launching the Conversation Pieces series subscription: 4 new titles plus 3 fall 2004 releases available on site. New Releases: *Alanya to Alanya*, the first book in L. Timmel Duchamp's 5-volume Marq'ssan Cycle; *Life* by Gwyneth Jones, winner of the 2004 Philip K. Dick Award, short-listed for the 2004 James Tiptree, Jr. Award; *Love's Body Dancing in Time* by L. Timmel Duchamp, short-listed for the 2004 Tiptree Award. Kath Wilham Managing Editor Aqueduct Press  
editor@aqueductpress.com  
www.aqueductpress.com

### **Broad Universe Dealer's Table**

Phoebe Wray, coordinator: (978) 772-9560; zozie@aol.com  
Grace O'Malley  
Books by our members, women who write s/f/h, many of whom will also be at the table to sign books.

### **Darlene Coltrain**

Jewelry, beadwork, hand painted silk.  
http://orionworks.com/shop/

### **DreamHaven Books**

Greg Ketter / Elizabeth LaVelle  
Science fiction, fantasy, horror, erotica  
612-823-6161  
dream@dreamhavenbooks.com

### **Ganesha's Treasures**

Judy Lynn Seidl & Timothy Kozinski  
Clothing, jewelry, and books relating to the exotic cultures of India  
(414) 442-1172 or  
GanshasTreasure@wi.rr.com

### **Rick Gellman**

### **Steven Vincent Johnson**

**Kiss Machine and No Media Kings**  
Emily Pohl-Weary and Jim Munroe

We'll be selling our magazines, DVD zines, indie comix, novels and other assorted publications. Visit  
www.kissmachine.org,  
emily.openflows.org and  
www.nomediakings.org

### **Lioness: jewelry & ornament for people & places**

Elise Matthesen, metal-bender and keeper of shiny things, named necklaces and other treasures  
elise@lioness.net

### **Sherrie Ludwig**

### **Mudcat Studio**

Christina Collins  
Handmade functional pottery hand decorated with fantasy, animal and floral themes.  
fyrchat@mudcatstudio.com

### **Nonie Rider**

### **Small Beer Press**

Gavin J. Grant  
413-584-2662  
info@lcrw.net

### **Spirits Unwrapped**

Daniel Braum- Editor  
bronzedan@yahoo.com  
Chapbook of modern mummy tales featuring stories by Brendan Day, Rudi Dornemann, Catherine Dybeic Holm, and Sharon E. Woods.

### **Studio K**

Kathleen Madigan  
Plus size art clothing and jewelry  
(630) 739-3178  
cadyem@yahoo.com

### **Kathryn Ann Sullivan**

Books -- THE CRYSTAL THRONE and AGENT'S & ADEPTS as well as anthologies  
mcgyver6@hotmail.com

### **Tachyon Publications**

Jill Roberts

### **Traditional Treasures**

Machesney Park, IL  
Betsy & Warren Urbik  
815-282-2506; email  
paulus@rockriver.net.  
Featuring jewelry, used and rare books, and gifts from history and the

goddess for your heart and your home.

### **20th Century Books**

Hank Luttrell  
1421 South Park  
Madison, WI 53715  
Books, comics, toys  
(608)441-1957  
bkseller@execpc.com

### **Virtual Parnassus**

Joseph (Joe) Weinberg  
SF/Fantasy books, HC and PB, assorted feminist books and fiction; silver jewelry; Goddess Art  
(608) 251-2821  
jwaassoc@chorus.net

### **WHEATLAND PRESS AND RAW DOG SCREAMING PRESS**

WHEATLAND PRESS publishes the critically acclaimed Polyphony anthology series and other works of literary fantasy and science fiction. Deborah Layne, Publisher  
503-701-5464(cell phone) or  
deborahlayne@wheatlandpress.com  
RAW DOG SCREAMING PRESS  
RDSP publishes literature from the fringe with a dark bent including imaginative anthologies, collections and novels.  
Forrest Aguirre  
www.rawdogscreeaming.com,  
books@rawdogscreeaming.com

### **WHITE HAWK PRESS**

James P. Roberts, editor/publisher  
324 Kedzie St. Apt. #30  
Madison, WI 53704  
(608) 242-7340  
Specializing in science fiction/fantasy/horror, poetry, literary non-fiction, baseball and books by and about August Derleth.

### **DEALERS' ROOM HOURS:**

**Friday** 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
**Saturday** 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**Sunday** 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**Monday** 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.





# Announcements



## Salad Bar Saturday

This year for the first time, the hotel's Dayton Street Cafe and Bakery will offer their Salad Bar at lunch time on Saturday of the convention. The price will be \$6.95. This is the large salad bar they have on weekdays, but don't usually offer on Saturdays or Sundays. This will be a fast and easy lunch option for our members and should help reduce the wait during the busy Saturday lunch hour.



## WisCon Badge Holders

Sink of your hangee (badge holder that is)? Trade it in for pinee or clipee (otherwise known as a lanyard) at the Registration desk!

## Volunteers Wanted!

Come and spend an hour in WisCon's happiest room. Childcare gets very busy over the weekend, so if you are a kid-friendly person who's comfortable with children ages 0-6, drop in to Room 619 on Saturday or Sunday and see if help is needed.

## WISCON ON LIVE JOURNAL.COM

If you're writing about WisCon in your weblogs and public LiveJournals, add a 'tag' to your posts so we can round them up.

The syntax is easy. Add this to your WisCon related posts:

`<a href="http://technorati.com/tag/wiscon" rel="tag">wiscon</a>`

Your post will be picked up on Technorati, which will automatically generate one big con report on one page.

If you tag your public Flickr photos with 'wiscon' they'll also appear on the page.

## Palm Version of Wiscon 29 Program Schedule Available

Dean Gahlon has created a Palm application with which you can view WisCon 29's program on your Palm. This is the same Palm application that Dean has provided for the past several Worldcons, plus other cons including Boskone, Arisia, Lunacon, Capricon, Minicon, Convergence, and LACon. Thanks Dean!

For the application and the Palm-readable program database go to:

<http://software-eng.net/Wiscon29/>

## No Clothing Exchange This Year

There won't be a Clothing Exchange at this year's WisCon. (Unless someone decides to run one as part of spontaneous programming, of course.)

## Calling All Authors

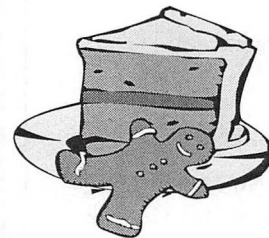
Join friends and fans for Wiscon's signing party and "fare well till next year" event, the SignOut, Monday morning 10 to noon. It's laughter and pens, balloons and fun -- all to make autographing a fantastic close to your weekend. If you haven't signed up yet, contact Mellen ASAP -- [mizcon@direcway.com](mailto:mizcon@direcway.com) See you there.

*Happy One-Year Anniversary to Phoenix & Lyn, with love from Aaron, Molly & Sarah*

## Tiptree Bake Sale

The Tiptree back sale will be held Saturday in Room #627, starting at 11:30 a.m. and running all afternoon. If you are bringing items for the bake sale, please try to get them to me before the bake sale begins. I'll be in Room #627 for much of Friday afternoon and evening, and Saturday morning around 9:00. If the door is shut, don't hesitate to knock -- I'll probably be in there setting up. Thanks again to everyone bringing treats this year. I'm getting hungry already....

— Julie Humphries



## Room of One's Own Guest of Honor Reception

By Carrie Ferguson

On Thursday night, many of us who were in town headed over to A Room of One's Own Bookstore where we were treated to readings by WisCon 29 Guests of Honor Gwyneth Jones and Robin McKinley. O.k., so technically, the readings were not in A Room of One's Own this year. Actually, we arrived at this great feminist Madison bookstore and we were ushered through a secret doorway, down through a hallway, and into a wonderous otherworldly realm... Well, maybe not otherworldly, but definitely a great space for the event. This realm happened to be the Madison Center for Creative & Cultural Arts (MCCCA).

After some welcoming announcements from WisCon 29 coordinator Jim Hudson and some additional announcements from Jeanne Gomoll, the readings began. Gwyneth led off with parts of both *Midnight Lamp* and *Castles Made of Sand*, the third and second books respectively in her rockstar fantasy series that began with *Bold As Love*. She noted that it was alleged that the fourth book of that series, *Band of Gypsies*, would be available in the United States in October. So, it looks like we'll have to be patient, unless we have good connections overseas.

Next, Robin McKinley came to the podium and explained that a few years back, she wrote the collection of short stories *Water: Tales of Elemental Spirits* with her husband, Peter Dickinson which was intended to be the first in a series of collections of stories, each centered around a different elemental spirit. However, she admitted that her attempts to write her portion of the stories for the next few books have taken awhile, mainly because it seems that her stories failed to stay short. For instance, she noted her recent novel *Sunshine* actually started as a short work for the Fire portion of this elemental series. Robin indicated that she does have a few Fire stories that have stayed short, and she read us the beginning of one called "Chalice" that she noted "looks like it's going to stay short" followed closely by the comment that these were "famous last words".

When the readings concluded, people were free to roam about the MCCCA to view its current art exhibit – Epidemic Peace Images. Gwyneth and Robin also graciously remained at A Room of One's Own for awhile to sign books for interested fans. Then, it was on to the Angelic Brewing Company for a relaxing meal to close out the evening for many of us, before we headed off to bed to get ready for a great WisCon 29.

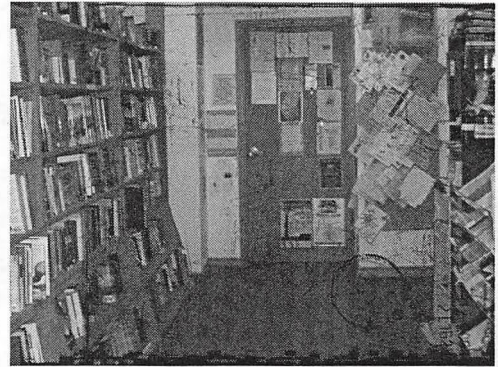


Photo: "Secret" doorway in A Room of One's Own leading to the MCCCA

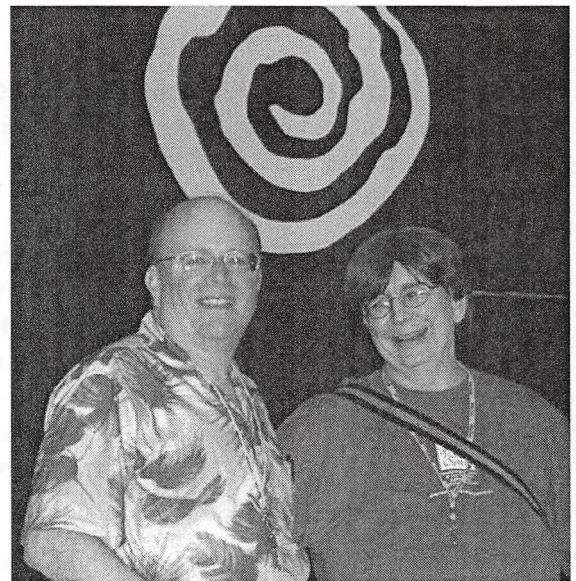
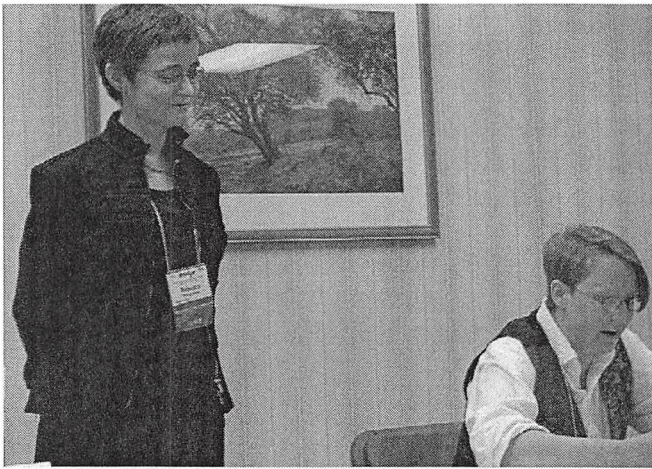


Photo: Jim and Jeanne kick off the event

### Contribute to the Newsletter!

On the table at the top of the curved stairway sits a lonely box. This celestial-papered box needs your comments, suggestions, reviews, anecdotes. The box needs your help. Overhear a hilarious bit in the bathroom? Have a brilliant spontaneous programming idea? Looking for a dark alley game of Mafia? Drop a note in the box. The newsletter editors will retrieve the day's notes by 10 pm each night. Sign your name and see it in print the next day!



## Broad's Reading Stunt Inspires Pedagogical Tip

By Deb Stone

At last year's BroadUniverse RapidFire Reading, BroadUniverse member and author Lyda Morehouse made innovative use of a "stunt reader," who stood by to read words Lyda feared she might mispronounce.

A photo of Lyda and her stunt reader Rebecca inspired Chicago special education teacher David Stone, who was looking for new ways to encourage reading aloud in his classroom. (David, supportive spouse and parent of WisCon attendees, stays at home with the family pets during WisCon and relies upon photos, program books, and the few details surrendered by his family members to keep up with WisCon happenings.)

Prior attempts to get his students to read aloud had failed. Each time David asked his students to read aloud, they would refuse, fearing that any attempt at reading aloud would expose deficient reading skills. But David saw in Lyda's "stunt reader" solution a means of building up students' confidence in their ability to read aloud. He began to ask volunteers to serve as "stunt doubles" for other students, providing backup pronunciation skills whenever asked. The technique proved so successful that other teachers at David's school began to adopt it.

David wrote up his experience for the American Federation of Teachers' monthly magazine, *American Teacher*, giving full credit to Lyda for her innovation. This spring, *American Teacher* accepted David's tip, publishing it in the May/June 2005 issue as a "Try It!" item in the section of the magazine focused on improving classroom instruction. David plans to donate his freelancer's fee to WisCon and the Tiptree Award, and will be avidly looking through future WisCon photos for additional ideas to use in his classroom.

<sup>1</sup> David's family members firmly believe that "what happens at WisCon, stays at WisCon."

## WIRELESS FACILITIES

The Concourse provides a wireless (wifi/802.11/etc) network for guests to connect to the Internet. Connection information will be in your registration packet. The Concourse's connection has been upgraded to 3Mb. There are two networks. The net on the first and second floors uses Wireless Encryption Protocol (WEP.) You'll receive a help card from the Concourse in your registration packet. The network in guest rooms does not require WEP.

We will provide a Windows Box, a Mac mini, an inkjet printer, and a hub for people without WiFi cards to connect to the internet.



## ARE YOU COMPUTER SAVVY?

Bill Humphries needs volunteers to help people at the Internet area by the Art Show room. You need to be able to answer questions about using Windows and Mac OS, connecting laptops to the hotel's network using 802.11b or Ethernet, printing from Office, and general internet. Shifts will be 2-3 hours. To volunteer, please contact him directly at [bill@whump.com](mailto:bill@whump.com).

## Numerology Demystified

By Richard S. Russell

What do those symbols on the name badges mean? They are decoded below. The number in parentheses represent the numbers of pre-registrants for WisCon 29 that have these codes on their name badges.

- Number in dotted box = sequence number used to match your name badge to your other registration materials; used only this year, no lasting significance
- Number in solid oval = Hop Code (named for Adm. Grace Hopper, inventor of COBOL), your permanent identifying number in our database
- GoH ## = guest of honor at WisCon ## (14)
- SG ## = special guest at WisCon ## (1)
- CC = member of the convention committee (60)
- PP = program participant (253)
- WW = writers' workshop (38)



# WisCon 29 Program Change List

5/27/2005

The Role of the Witch	Friday, 8:45-10:00 p.m.	Conference Room 4	Stephanie Elizabeth Burgis	panelist added
The Role of the Witch	Friday, 8:45-10:00 p.m.	Conference Room 4	Elizabeth Barrette	panelist added
The Business of Publishing	Sunday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate A	Shana Cohen	panelist added
Real World Politics and Fandom	Sunday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate B	Deborah Stone	panelist added
Real World Politics and Fandom	Sunday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate B	Michael James Lowrey	panelist added
The Invisibility of Women SF Authors: What Are We, Chopped Liver?	Sunday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Conference Room 3	Debbie Notkin	panelist added
The Canon That Dare Not Speak Its Name	Sunday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Capitol A	Michael Marc Levy	panelist added
Is Everything Interstitial?	Sunday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Capitol B	Elizabeth Bear	panelist added
Is Everything Interstitial?	Sunday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Capitol B	Ellen Kushner	panelist added
Gender-Bending in Gwyneth Jones' Work	Sunday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Conference Room 5	Nisi Shawl	panelist added
What about Xander?—Strength and Gender in SF&F	Sunday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Senate A	Michael James Lowrey	panelist added
What about Xander?—Strength and Gender in SF&F	Sunday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Senate A	Melissa Swihart	panelist added
I Said Get Your Coat, Witch!: The Buffyverse and Fairy Tales	Sunday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Conference Room 5	Catherynne M. Valente	panelist added
Women on "Sci Fi Friday"	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Senate A	Phoebe Wray	panelist added
"Rewrite" is a Four-Letter Word	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 3	Katya Reimann	panelist deleted
Fannish Clutter	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 4	Elise Anna Matthesen	panelist added
What did Buffy Ever See in Angel, Anyway?	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 5	Janice M. Eisen	panelist added
The Transformation of Sexuality	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	607	Lori A. Selke	panelist added
The Transformation of Sexuality	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	607	Jed E. Hartman	panelist deleted
SF&F as a Teaching Tool	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	634	Victoria Gaydosik	panelist deleted
SF&F as a Teaching Tool	Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	634	Pat York	panelist deleted

Back to Basics: World Building	Sunday, 10:00-11:15 p.m.	Assembly	Sarah Monette	panelist added
Outsourcing the Wife	Monday, 8:30-9:45 a.m.	Assembly	Davey Snyder	panelist added
Fantasy and History—A Marriage Made in Heaven?	Monday, 8:30-9:45 a.m.	Senate A		room changed
Abstinence-only Sex Education: Bad or Really Bad Tool of the Patriarchs?	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate A	Melissa Swihart	panelist deleted
Archetypes in Fantasy: The Evil Stepmother	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate B	Ellen Klages	panelist added
Archetypes in Fantasy: The Evil Stepmother	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate B	Heidi Anne Heiner	panelist deleted
Archetypes in Fantasy: The Evil Stepmother	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Senate B		room changed
Thursday Next: Welcome to the Book World	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Conference Room 5	Joanna Lowenstein	panelist added
Thursday Next: Welcome to the Book World	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Conference Room 5	Karen Babich	panelist added
Thursday Next: Welcome to the Book World	Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Conference Room 5	Marsha J. Valance	panelist deleted
Computers and Gadgets and Technolust, Oh My!	Monday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Senate B	Gregory G. Rihn	panelist added
Computers and Gadgets and Technolust, Oh My!	Monday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Senate B	Candra K. Gill	panelist added
Can We Be Equal on the Web?	Monday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Conference Room 3		room changed
Post-Mortem	Monday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Assembly		room changed
Why Men Hate Sex	Saturday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Conference Room 5	Aaron Etan Lichtov	panelist deleted
Why Men Hate Sex	Saturday, 10:00-11:15 a.m.	Conference Room 5	Anne Harris	panelist deleted
What Will We Be in 2023?	Saturday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Senate A	Alyson L. Abramowitz	panelist added
Disappearing the Body	Saturday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Wisconsin	Jim Munroe	panelist added
Disappearing the Body	Saturday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Wisconsin	Steven E. Schwartz	panelist added
Disappearing the Body	Saturday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	Wisconsin	Vicki Rosenzweig	panelist added
Recovering Lost Treasures	Saturday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.	623	Schelly Renee Steelman	panelist added
As Nature Made Him: The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl	Saturday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Senate B	BC Holmes	panelist added
As Nature Made Him: The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl	Saturday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Senate B	David D. Levine	panelist added

Believable Evil	Saturday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.	Wisconsin	Ellen Kushner	panelist deleted
Common Neo-Pro Mistakes	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Assembly	Theodora Goss	panelist added
Common Neo-Pro Mistakes	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Assembly	Schelly Renee Steelman	panelist added
Working in the Same World Over a Period of Time	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Capitol B	Katya Reimann	panelist deleted
Working in the Same World Over a Period of Time	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Capitol B	Ellen Kushner	panelist added
"If I Were A Network Executive..."	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 3	Deborah Stone	panelist added
"If I Were A Network Executive..."	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 3	Rob Gates	panelist added
Political Correctness, Creative Integrity, Social Responsibility—How Do We Maintain a Balance?	Friday, 8:45-10:00 p.m.	Senate B	Pamela K. Taylor	panelist added
Zombies: Revolution or Just the End of the World?	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 4	Jim Munroe	panelist added
Zombies: Revolution or Just the End of the World?	Saturday, 4:00-5:15 p.m.	Conference Room 4	Merrie Haskell	panelist added
Constructed Languages in Science Fiction	Saturday, 9:00-10:15 p.m.	Wisconsin	Amy Thomson	panelist added
Constructed Languages in Science Fiction	Saturday, 9:00-10:15 p.m.	Wisconsin	Victor Raymond	panelist added
Championing Adaptations	Saturday, 9:00-10:15 p.m.	Conference Room 5	S. N. Arly	panelist added

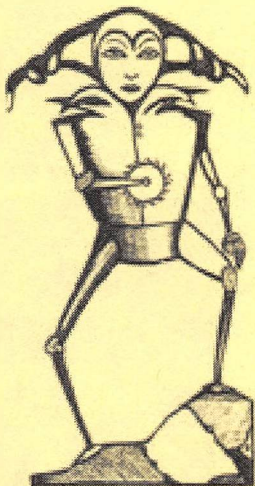


# A Momentary Taste of WisCon<sup>29</sup>

## Using Lesser Known Mythologies

A Panel Review by Kristina Solheim  
*Panelists: Suzanne Alles Blom, Jane E. Hawkins, Marie Jakober, Victor Raymond*

“The advantage to being on a panel is that you automatically get a chair.” This started off a terrific panel. All seats and floor space were filled and folks stood in the back. I think perhaps it shows just how many people are seeking diversity in the literature they read and how many people just plain enjoy mythology. I chose to attend this panel because I seek to use “lesser known mythologies” in my writing. Partially in response to a life-altering remark by Ursula K. Le Guin at Wiscon 27. She was discussing the differences between fantasy and science fiction and remarked that there was very little fantasy written that did not base its world-building on European culture.



The Caucus room was full of people passionate about culture and mythology and eager to discuss writing. Jane said she reads with the eye to the different ways people see the world and how they overlap. For example, in the Norse world view, we all die in the end. This is contrary to popular American storytelling where we live happily ever after and go to heaven. Other comparisons of world culture dotted the rest of the hour. Panelists suggested great books to read as well which I compiled in a list at the end of this review. Marie talked more about Germanic mythology, saying that she got interested in that region after feeling “celted to death” by much of the fantasy literature. She said most Germanic myths are about “gathering around wisdom” rather than battle. Jane picked up on that theme when she mentioned a book of Korean folktales. Most of the main characters are warriors, but the real heroes are the scholars. Marie also noted that most pantheons don’t have a god of Justice, which Germanic mythology does.

Suzanne said that writers do a disservice to themselves and their readers (when writing about mythology) if they do not read a lot about it. The panel went on to discuss the huge array of resources available both in print and on the internet. Audience members questioned the accuracy of these resources and the panelists discussed the bias of the translator as well as politics in how source material is translated and canonized.

The panel ran out of time before the discussion was over and I started to wonder if the undercurrent of the discussion was a connection between European mythology and American culture and the dissatisfaction with the current state of affairs. The panel intimated that the European myth of the hero and the central role that war plays in those mythologies is not the view the rest of the world holds and that “lesser known mythologies” favor scholarly pursuits of knowledge and wisdom. I wondered, if time hadn’t been limited, if discussion would have unearthed these dissatisfactions and provided a forum for imagining a desirable new mythology. As an audience member said, mythologies are constantly evolving. Perhaps a new mythology could be born at Wiscon.

### Panelists’ Suggested Book List:

Invaders by John Kessel (Incas- space opera)  
 Quest Crosstime by Andre Norton (Aztecs- alternate history)  
 The Indians Won by Martin Cruz Smith (Native American mythology)  
 The Gods and Myths of Northern Europe by H.R. Ellis Davidson (Norse mythology)  
 The Poetic Edda- Mythological Poems  
 Vampires Burial and Death by Paul Barber (vampire history)  
 Beowolf- a New Verse Translation by Seamus Heaney  
 Dark is Rising by Susan Cooper  
 Bridge Of Birds : A Novel Of An Ancient China That Never Was by Barry Hughart

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1 A Panel Review
- 2 The Gathering
- 2 Opening Ceremony
- 3 Wiscon on TV
- 4 Programming Changes
- 4 Lost and Found
- 4 General Announcements

Newsletter Editors:  
Carrie Ferguson, Content  
Kristina Solheim, Design

Don't forget to submit your article to the newsletter either via email ([newsletter29@sf3.org](mailto:newsletter29@sf3.org)) or in one of the boxes on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor!

## A Few Words About the Opening Ceremony

Both newsletter editors hesitated to write about the musical skit performed at the Opening Ceremony. We felt we could not do it justice. You honestly had to have been there.

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK - ONLINE!

This year's WisCon Survey is electronic only — we're using SurveyMonkey to help us get the information sooner and analyze it more easily. On Monday (remember, we have computer stations to access the internet available if you so desire), or after you leave the convention, please go to <http://www.sf3.org/wiscon> and take the link to the WisCon Survey. It'll only take a few minutes to fill out, and the information will help us plan future WisCons.

## The Gathering

Wiscon 29 kicked off Friday with The Gathering. There were many wonderful tables with fun things to do. There was rubber stamping with Carrie Ferguson, tarot readings by Magenta and Suzy McKee Charnas, palmistry, Desperado Poetry, hair braiding, Galley Ho (a benefit), and a cow-tipp(tree)ing booth for Oddysey Con VI. A sneak peek at the items for the Tiptree Auction drew many fans. I suspect the crown jewel will be a work of art in two pieces by Ellen Klages. It is the book cover for a novel about Space Babe, before she became Space Babe. The design is lovely with simple lines and subtle colors with the figure of a woman clutching her suitcase in front of the Academy of the Secret Feminist Cabel. No one will want to miss Saturday night's Tiptree auction!

## PALM VERSION OF WISCON 29 PROGRAM SCHEDULE AVAILABLE

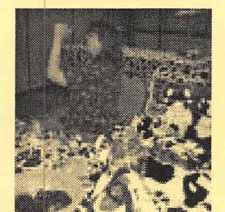
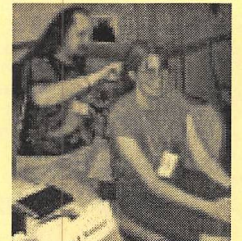
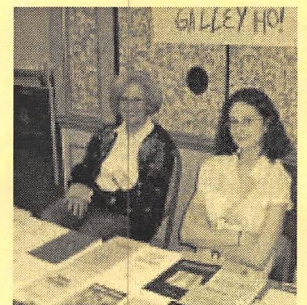
Dean Gahlon has created a Palm application with which you can view WisCon 29's program on your Palm. This is the same Palm application that Dean has provided for the past several Worldcons, plus other cons including Boskone, Arisia, Lunacon, Capricon, Minicon, Convergence, and LACon. Thanks Dean! For the application and the Palm-readable program database go to:

<http://software-eng.net/Wiscon29/>

## COLLECTING PROGRAMMING IDEAS FOR NEXT YEAR

It seems that we haven't burned out Jane Hawkins nearly as thoroughly as we usually do, because after finishing up the schedule for this year, she immediately started working on the on-line version of next year's schedule input pages. Jane writes: "We're starting to plan for WisCon 30 and would very much appreciate your help. We want this to be a truly great convention, the kind that changes lives and opens minds and sets a new standard for future feminist conventions." Go to:

<http://www.hawkinsprogramming.com/WisConWeb/ProgramPlanning.aspx?project=0000007316>



## Overheard

"I just finished hanging four artists." Art Show volunteer to Scott Custis

"That's my big plan, to get laryngitis by Sunday. And if no one's in the room when I read, that would reduce the stress immensely."

Pat Murphy reminiscing about Wiscon to her seat mate on inbound Madison flight: "There was the pirate party last year... we went around taking shots of brandy. By the end of the night, my voice was so raw from saying har har. But there aren't usually costumes at Wiscon."

"I'm not really a good writer, I'm enthusiastic." Jane Hawkins prefacing her statement that she did some writing.

"An HTML link can be used for good or evil." An opinion of the wealth of inaccurate information on the internet.

"Stealth librarians are the future of America as far as I'm concerned." A quote from Delia Sherman referring to the fact that librarians will often put the books kids should be reading (but might not otherwise hear about) into their hands.

## ARE YOU COMPUTER SAVVY?

Bill Humphries needs volunteers to help people at the Internet area by the Art Show room. You need to be able to answer questions about using Windows and Mac OS, connecting laptops to the hotel's network using 802.11b or Ethernet, printing from Office, and general internet. Shifts will be 2-3 hours. To volunteer, please contact him directly at [bill@whump.com](mailto:bill@whump.com).

## Volunteers Wanted!

Come and spend an hour in WisCon's happiest room. Childcare gets very busy over the weekend, so if you are a kid-friendly person who's comfortable with children ages 0-6, drop in to Room 619 on Saturday or Sunday and see if help is needed.

## Salad Bar Saturday

This year for the first time, the hotel's Dayton Street Cafe and Bakery will offer their Salad Bar at lunch time on Saturday of the convention. The price will be \$6.95. This is the large salad bar they have on weekdays, but don't usually offer on Saturdays or Sundays. This will be a fast and easy lunch option for our members and should help reduce the wait during the busy Saturday lunch hour.

## WisCon 29 on TV

In case you notice a woman coming to panels with video equipment in hand – this is Lucie Ferrari. She is filming portions of WisCon 29 to include in an episode of her show *I Kind of Like Lucie* which airs Mondays at 7 p.m. (with some additional airings on Mondays at 2 p.m.) on WYOU Channel 4 in Madison. If she arrives at your panel but you prefer not to be filmed, she will respect that wish.

Lucie expects that the WisCon show will air late June or early July, and she indicated the show would be aired multiple times. So please check your local listings (<http://www.msn.fullfeed.com/~wyou/SchedulePage.htm>). In fact, if you are fortunate enough to be local, you may find that other episodes of her show would be of interest. If you don't live in Madison, Lucie stated she will be providing WisCon with a clip of the show to put on our website.

## Tip the Maids!

The person who makes up your room on Saturday probably isn't the same person who does it on Monday. Please tip the maids daily. A good rule of thumb is \$2 per person staying the room per day. If you just leave it on the pillow, they'll be able to figure it out.

## Calling All Authors

Join friends and fans for Wiscon's signing party and "fare well till next year" event, the SignOut, Monday morning 10 to noon. It's laughter and pens, balloons and fun — all to make autographing a fantastic close to your weekend. If you haven't signed up yet, contact Mellen ASAP — [mizcon@direcway.com](mailto:mizcon@direcway.com)  
See you there.

*The wonderful First Wiscon Dinner at Noodles.*



## Programming Changes

Ellen Kushner will not be on panel 62 "Believable Evil" on Saturday.

The Pocket Program was accidentally missing the bio for one of our panelists, so we've published it here:

### Ellen Kushner

Former WisCon GoH, author of the novels *The Fall of the Kings* (with Delia Sherman), *Swordspoint* and *Thomas the Rhymer*, and host of the national public radio series *Sound & Spirit*.

Addendum to Broad Universe signing: it will not begin right at 9:00 am because the room isn't open. We apologize for the error.

Could be the first Wiscon concert ever! Pan Morigan- "Speculative Songs" Saturday night 10:00 PM- Caucus Room

Gathering in memory of Pat York- writer, teacher, Wiscon regular- who died in a car accident on May 21. What: Share recollections and stories and raise a glass in her honor and memory

When: Saturday, 5:30 - 7:00 pm

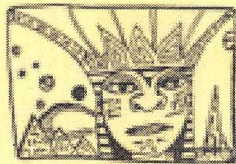
Where: Room 607

For more information, contact Becky Maines via voodoo message board.

### Lost and Found

Help! Mislplace a child's plush toy penguin! Please call Tinlay 414-807-7786. We'll meet at registration. Last seen in the Art Room.

I've lost my house pin! Missing: Huffelpuff pin (metal with enamel "England" version) Have you found it? Melissa Sloule room 828



### Broad Universe

Authors will be signing books at the Broad Universe table in the Dealer's Room:

Saturday

11-1 Alma Alexander & Anne Harris

1-3 Delia Sherman & Nancy Jane Moore

3-5 Suzy McKee Charnas & Kathie Carlson

Sunday

9-11 Amy Axt Hanson

11-1 Pamela Taylor

Broad Universe is a group supporting and promoting women writers of science fiction, fantasy and horror.

### Tachyon Book Signings

Tachyon Publications is pleased to announce a series of Tachyon author book-signings during WisCon. All signings will take place in the Dealer's

Room at the Tachyon Publications table, and we will have sale copies available. You are—of course—welcome to bring your own copies for signing.

Saturday

Pat Murphy (The Shadow Hunter, A Flock of Lawn Flamingos) 3PM-4PM

Sunday

Ellen Klages (Time Gypsy) 11AM-12PM

Carol Emshwiller (I Live with You) 3PM-4PM

Eileen Gunn (Stable Strategies and Others) 4PM-5PM

Suzy McKee Charnas (Stagestruck Vampires and Other Phantasms) TBD

*The art featured in this issue of the newsletter is by Tracy Moore*  
<http://www.zettiology.com>

## HELP US BRING BACK OUR PAST GUESTS OF HONOR FOR WISCON 30

For WisCon 30, we're hoping to bring back as many of our past Guests of Honor as possible. But that's going to be a stretch — we're looking at potentially paying extra travel costs of \$30,000, equal to our normal budget for a whole WisCon. So we need to raise a lot of money for the event. We're looking for grants, and digging into WisCon's own resources, but we're also going to need help from you. So here's the pledge rap: please give us an extra donation when you register for WisCon 30. It will make a big difference. And, for US taxpayers, we're a nonprofit so your gift will be deductible as a charitable donation.

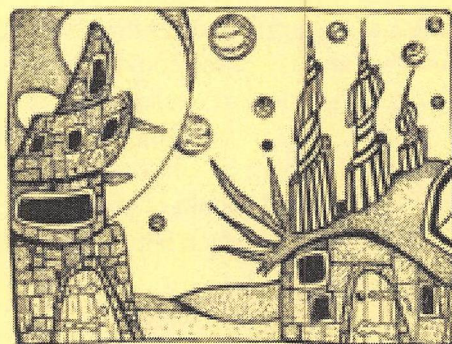
### Draw a Squid contest

Looking for squid designs for a tattoo. It could be yours! Something that would go around my navel. Maybe stylized and in a band. If you want to draw something composition-sized for a square or rectangle, go ahead- Valencia Street Books in San Francisco would love a wall of squid! Give squids to Alex Z

### Addition to Art Show

Emerald's Emporium

Jodi Parrish Napiorkowski and Walter Napiorkowski. Fairy Fossils in the Art Show. Windstone collectibles, jewelry, stones and toys in the Dealer's Room. Shipping available.





# A Momentary Taste of WisCon<sup>29</sup>

## Tiptree Auction - Revenge of the Feminists!

by Carrie Ferguson

Jeanne Gomoll began to the auction by calling up a woman that needed no introduction – Ellen Klages. Of course, the audience had to click their heels together three times to summon its fearless auctioneer – or maybe we should say, fear-inducing.

After the clicking ensued, Ellen strode up the aisle of the Capital Room in full Darth Vader regalia (including the voice changing mask!) through which she hissed, “I am your mother. Use the books Luke!” After a few more sinister steps on stage, Ellen added, “Bring me something to sell. Quickly – because I cannot breathe in here. I cannot see either.”

Ellen was promptly handed a Monster Women lunchbox, and she commented, “Look, Darth Vader with a lunch box – isn’t that special.” As the bids grew in size, Ellen suggested that Spam and Twinkies might be appropriate contents for the lunch box, but when reminded that this was Wisconsin, she amended her suggestion to cheese curds. After the bidding increased again, our beloved auctioneer reminded the audience that there is no such thing as a free lunch. Eventually, the bids reached \$85, which was immediately followed by a bid of \$86. Ellen put her foot down and said that \$1 increments were not acceptable. So the same bidder hopefully suggested \$87 instead. The price climbed further, and just as Ellen was pronouncing the word “sold” a male bidder called out \$100. Ellen’s response: “This is a feminist auction. Are you going to let a guy get the first item?” The lunchbox eventually sold for \$115 – to a woman!

A picture of *Space Babe Entering the Secret Feminist Academy* and its companion piece *Space Babe on the Secret Feminist Trail* shows this lovely feminist heroine just as she is embarking on what would become her path to “rid the world of oppression and outdated gender roles in speculative fiction.” Ellen reminded one bidder on these works: “It’s Space Babe, and we all want her. You are buying this as an heirloom for your daughter.” The pieces almost sold for \$130, until the audience informed our auctioneer that there had been a very quiet \$150 from the other side of the room. Ellen suggested a procrastination premium, but eventually, that \$150 stealth bid was successful.

(continued on pg 2)

## How Fortune-ate are You?

Have you tried the fortune cookies up in the Con Suite? Some of the fortunes that people have received and shared with us are as follows:

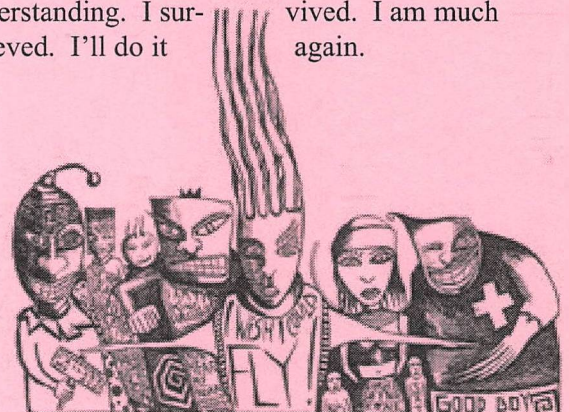
- Your future holds an encounter with a beautiful woman who does not need to be rescued.
- End User License Agreement: By breaking open this fortune cookie you agree to any and all strictures we keep in a filing cabinet in our basement.
- You will soon be called on to help a blonde friend in trouble. Wear a crucifix, carry a wooden stake, and say something sarcastic.

We’d love to share more. Unfortunately, we are now on the run from the Pun Police as a result of the title of this article. If you value your newsletter, please don’t turn us in to Detective Inspector Wordsmith or Sergeant Thesaurus.

## The Writer’s Respite

by David Haseman

Tension, apprehension, fear, cold sweat. These were all there Friday morning when we met in conference room 2. I had sent my first two chapters off months before the con. Just after, I found the many spelling and grammar errors that my cat must have put in sometime after my last spellcheck, yet before I hit print. The fellows in the room were gentle, accurate, compassionate and very understanding. I survived. I am much relieved. I’ll do it again.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1 Tiptree Auction
- 1 Fortune-ate
- 2 Call for Book List
- 3 Restaurant Review
- 3 Tiptree Gallery
- 3 Overheard
- 4 Announcements

Newsletter Editors:  
Carrie Ferguson,  
Content  
Kristina Solheim,  
Design  
newsletter29@sf3.org



### (Tiptree Auction- continued)

Another item was the seminal (or ovular, as an audience member pointed out) feminist work *How to Suppress Women's Writing* by Joanna Russ book. Ellen wasn't sure why a manual was actually required, since it unfortunately seems far too easy for such suppression to occur. Ellen then got the audience's hopes up by saying that Joanna Russ might be attending WisCon 30. However, WisCon 30 co-Chair Jeanne Gomoll sadly had to correct Ellen, revealing that when she'd talked with Joanna on the phone, Joanna had wanted to come to WisCon next year but could not due to illness. But...Jeanne told us that Joanna followed that disappointing bit of news by asking if someone might want to interview her over the phone during WisCon as a substitute for her actual presence. In telling us this wonderful piece of news, Jeanne acted as if she actually had to think about how to reply to Joanna's suggestion, which garnered several laughs. We all know Jeanne's reply was a very excited yes!!!!

Soon, a lovely vest created by professional textile artist Kate Schaefer came up for bid. Already,

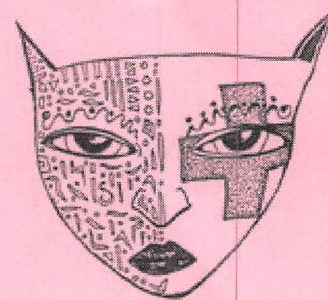
while preparing the Tiptree display at the Gathering on Friday afternoon, Jeanne Gomoll had been wearing another vest that she already owned created by Kate. At that time, she'd pointed out that this year's Kate Schaefer original just happened to be her size, and Jeanne predicted that she would be going home from the auction either very poor or very sad. She had tried to convince the Tiptree display volunteers at the Gathering to put a sign on the vest saying that no one else could bid on it, but this tactic failed. When the vest came up for bid, Ellen did not trust Jeanne to model it (she, too, knew how much Jeanne wanted it).

But Jeanne was not the only person eyeing this clothing treasure. Mary Kay Place also wanted the vest quite badly, and she began to bid against Jeanne. As a result, Ellen called them both up on the stage for a "smack-down." Mary tried to bribe Ellen with seduction, but to no avail. Jeanne tried her own bribe, saying that she thought she would put on a much better WisCon 30 if she won the vest. Mary Kay tried a couple of more bids, but the vest eventually sold to Jeanne for \$275.

The rest of the evening went by with equally hilarious moments including Ellen Klages and David Levine in a precarious position. But you really had to be there to understand that one! There was a serenade of an Irish song in response to the sale of a bottle of medicinal herbal compound. All in all, a wonderful event and more funding for world domination!

Some other exciting items auctioned included:

- email address at "spacebabe.org"
- bottle of *Rose Daughter* Rosé wine (to be drunk while curled up with a Robin McKinley book).
- WisCon Barbie Poster, which was a life-size mock-up made during the Saturday afternoon Barbie panel and decorated in children's programming.



- Opera CD by soprano Gwyneth Jones, signed by our own Gwyneth Jones
- Art depicting bare-breasted women in a duel donated by Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman- the piece raised \$400!

All in all, a wonderful event and more funding for world domination!

Note: At midnight your faithful newsletter editors, slaving away into the night to bring you this newsletter, received word from Jim Hudson that the final tally for the Tiptree Auction is \$6500.00! Congratulations and a big thank you to Ellen Klages for yet another wonderfully entertaining evening.

## BOOK LIST

Submit your favorite book titles to the newsletter and we'll print a comprehensive book recommendation list in Monday's newsletter which you can take home with you. This should alleviate Wiscon withdrawal in the weeks to come. Please write title and author clearly so the newsletter editor doesn't have to use her imagination to figure it out. If you can't remember one or the other, we can find it for you. Include author, title and perhaps one sentence about why you recommend this book. Drop it in one of the two newsletter submission boxes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor by 10 PM Sunday evening. Space Babe would approve.

## Restaurant Review: Brocach

By Anonymous

Tired of the crowds on State street? Try Madison's version of the Irish pub: Brocach (pronounced "brokaw") on the Capital Square, just a short walk from the Concourse. Brocach's owners did a bang-up job of recreating a true pub atmosphere, preserving many of the century-old architectural details of the building. It looks smoky, even though it isn't.

The food lives up to the surroundings more than satisfactorily. Try a cup of homemade potato-leek soup, or, if you're lucky, the soup of the day will be a flavorful turnip soup or a hearty beef-barley. Salads include a roasted beet offering as well as the more common varieties, and appetizers include steamed mussels. Brocach offers five "Irish Specialities," among them Shepherd's Pie (hearty and satisfying), Guinness Irish Stew, Bangers & Mash (heavenly- we think their sausages may be made on the premises) and an excellent platter of fish and chips. Their list of entrees also includes more traditional dishes like salmon, chicken and a Guinness-braised steak. For non-meat-eaters, there is a simply delicious vegetable tart. And, of course, you can get a lovely pint of Guinness to accompany your meal, or a Harp lager if your tastes run lighter.

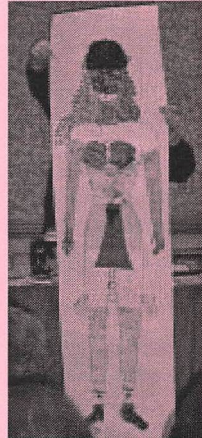
All in all, Brocach (Gaelic for badger) provides a great alternative to the hungry Wiscon fan! Prices \$9.95-18.95 entrees, \$4.00-6.95 for salads. Credit cards welcome.

## SQUIDS

Remember? I'm looking for squid pictures to turn into a tattoo. I've gotten a few promises of submissions, but they don't have "proper" materials here. Don't worry. You can mail it to: Squid c/o Valencia Street Book, 569 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 Give us your permission, and we will add it to our Wall of Squid, or to a future Squid Scrapbook. We will send you a postcard acknowledgement that has our cat on it and maybe some other spiffy prize too.



Tiptree  
Auction  
Gallery



The newsletter editors  
humbly suggest the  
following squid  
imagery from  
Tonmo.com  
Cephalopod Image  
Gallery  
([http://  
www.tonmo.com/  
gallery/  
index.php?cat=2](http://www.tonmo.com/gallery/index.php?cat=2)):



or



from Microsoft clipart  
gallery.

## Overheard

"It's okay, no cowboys were harmed in the making of this poem." Laruel Winter, Lady Poetess

At the start of the *Women on the Edge* readings (featuring Theodora Goss, Karen Meisner, Haddayr Copley-Woods, and Maureen F. McHugh), Theodora provided the audience with a monster bag of chocolate for their enjoyment, and said "If you don't like our readings, you may pelt us with chocolate." *Needless to say, no pelting ensued as the readings were excellent!*

(Overseen?) Bumper sticker on a car spotted on the way to Wiscon: Real women drive fire trucks!

"I'm going to smash the patriarchy and then I'm going to bed."

"What DID the voices in my head say, last time I listened to them?"

Long pause- seems to really be trying to remember-

"Clouds have no cholesterol."

"True, really true, but not advice I can take to the bank."

Heard at the Grammar Game Show, on the subject of the grammar checker in MS Word: "You don't trust Microsoft with your computer security, why would you trust it with your grammar?" [Editor's note: *Oddly enough, while typing the above comment into Word for the newsletter, we, of course, received a grammar warning that this was a sentence fragment. Thank you Bill Gates!*]

A youngster in Child Care said "My other favorite character is Yoda." The listener found this fascinating as Yoda wasn't anyone's favorite in her youth.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WisCon 29 Program Change List 5/28/2005, 8pm

What about Xander?—Strength and Gender in SF&F

Sunday, 2:30-3:45 p.m. Senate A Michael

James Lowrey person deleted

The Taboo Topic of Slash

Sunday, 2:30-3:45 p.m. Capitol A Beth Friedmar

person added

What did Buffy Ever See in Angel, Anyway?

Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m. Conference Room 5

Marie Jakober person added

The Transformation of Sexuality

Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m. rm 607 Lori A. Selke

person added

SF&F as a Teaching Tool

Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m. rm 634 David B.

Haseman person added

SF&F as a Teaching Tool

Sunday, 4:00-5:15 p.m. rm 634 Rebecca Maines

person added

Archetypes in Fantasy: The Evil Stepmother

Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m. Senate B Helen

Pilinovsky person added

Thursday Next: Welcome to the Book World

Monday, 10:00-11:15 a.m. Conference Room 5

Madeleine Reardon Dimond person added

Computers and Gadgets and Technolust, Oh My

Monday, 1:00-2:15 p.m. Senate B Bill

Humphries person deleted

Can We Be Equal on the Web?

Monday, 1:00-2:15 p.m. Conference Room 3

Bill Humphries person added

## Changes in the Dealers Room:

Kathleen and Megan's Studio K (clothing and jewelry) and A Room of One's Own Bookstore will be leaving Wiscon on Sunday evening, so you won't be able to see their exhibits on Monday.

AROOO's store near by on 307 West Johnson will be open noon-5:00 Monday. On the other hand, Pat Gross Galaxy Gigs will set up and exhibit stationary and cards on Monday only.

**The public agrees! A big thanks goes to Jeanne Gomell for an excellent, easy to use program book!**



## The Truth about the Sign-Out

It's Monday at 11:30 (not 10 AM). Signers, please try to be there by 11:15 so you can get your cool balloon name/place marker. If you aren't signed up for the Sign-Out, you can do that in the Green Room until Sunday at 9:00 AM. You can just show up, but you might not get a balloon. Mellen is not here this year, so don't try to email her. If you have any questions, leave them at the message board (2<sup>nd</sup> floor lobby) for Lou Hoffman. If you want to help set up for the Sign-Out, come to Capital A at 10:00 AM. We also need volunteers to cater to the Signers during the event- a great way to meet everyone! If you would like to try your hand at catering, come at about 11:15 as well. Thanks everyone! Lou (who's a little nervous about doing this without Mel!)

## Spontaneous Programming:

The Grammar of Global Destruction

Current theories of human behavior don't work.

They don't yield accurate, testable predictions.

They contain untenable assumptions which promote non-survival behavior. Can we develop a theory that works? That prevents further global destruction? Andy thinks so. Come listen; come help. Sunday 2:30 PM, Conference Room 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

## Classifieds

Wisconsin Speculative Fiction Writers Online Community

All writers of science fiction, fantasy, horror and "other" unclassifiable genres are welcome at this little corner of the web.

This group exists for support and feedback. Please consider joining and jump right in. <http://groups.yahoo.com/wissfandfwriters>

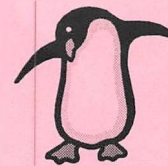
Milwaukee area writers (east side?): Looking to form a writers' group. Beer, brats and deathless prose. Contact Chris Klingbiel in room 516.

Have you taken notes of good books to read? May I photocopy them? Need books to read! Contact A.L. Speher in rm 437.

Found my way back to my girl after a bit of an adventure on my own at the con. I hope to put up a live journal report of my fun. I love my fan club. Thank you. Sushi Penguin

Blonde streak, glasses, circuit tattoo feminist – we talked Elric in line, should have gotten name and room number – meet at weapons demo?

Special for  
Carrie:



# A Momentary Taste of WisCon<sup>29</sup> ♀

## Guests of Honor Ceremony by Carrie Ferguson

Some of us came early for dessert. Others arrived later for the just the festivities. Jim Hudson, our fearless WisCon Chair arrived on stage and thanked everyone – the ConCom, the volunteers, the panelists, the Concourse, and similar conventions. He even thanked the elevator lady, and commented that he hoped next year, the announcements would be fine-tuned so that the elevator woman would say things like “sixth floor – Con Suite”. His final group of thanks went out to WisCon’s children and other sister organizations, and as part of those thanks, representatives from each group were asked to come up on stage.

First, Debbie Notkin told us more about Tiptree and made a call for volunteers to help out more with the organization. Anyone interested should seek out a member of the Tiptree Motherboard or e-mail them at [tiptree@tiptree.org](mailto:tiptree@tiptree.org) (see also their website at: <http://www.tiptree.org/>).

Ellen Kushner then came to the stage to talk about the Interstitial Arts Foundation (IAF). After informing us all that the IAF was no longer dormant, she also advised those interested in helping with the movement to check out the IAF’s become involved (<http://www.interstitialarts.org/>).

Next, Amy Hanson discussed Broad Universe, which had originally been formed at the *World Domination 101*

panel back in 2000 at WisCon. She also indicated that in addition to everything Broad Universe is already doing, it is hoping to expand its activities. It is looking for both suggestions on what else it should be doing and volunteers to help perform those activities. Anyone with ideas should consider e-mailing them at [info@broaduniverse.org](mailto:info@broaduniverse.org) (see also their website at <http://www.broaduniverse.org/>).

Mari Kotani was the next representative to come to the stage. She revealed that there will now be a Japanese Tiptree award – the “Sense of Gender” award. It looks like world domination is truly getting closer.

The final group that took the stage was the Carl Brandon Society. Their most exciting news was the announcement of two awards: (1) an award of \$1,000 for a work of fiction that explores and expands issues of race and ethnicity in the speculative genre, and (2) an award of \$1,000 to the best speculative fiction work by a non-white author. In addition, membership was also discussed, and it was clarified that there was no requirement that someone be a person of color in order to join the Carl Brandon Society. Membership could be obtained at the Carl Brandon Society party Sunday night (though a few very enthusiastic people actually came running up from the audience). Otherwise, membership will be available as discussed on the Carl

Brandon Society website: <http://www.carlbrandon.org/>.

The last portion of the announcements involved Jeanne Gomoll and Scott Custis coming to the stage to thank Jim and remind everyone about all the hats he really does wear – WisCon 29 coordinator, pre-con registration, treasurer for WisCon, treasurer for SF<sup>3</sup>, Art Show coordinator, and last (but not least) one of the WisCon webmistresses. As Jeanne and Scott listed off each of Jim’s jobs, they placed actual hats upon his head, until they came to webmistress – for that, they topped Jim off with a tiara. *(continued on pg 2)*

## Fortune-ate

Excellent! You win the much-coveted Monday-morning cleanup shift in the con suite. (Your intrepid newsletter editor will not fess up to receiving this fortune!)

Glorious Galactic Overlords: I have been successfully monitoring the planet Earth, cleverly disguised as what its denizens refer to as a “fortune coo-”

This fortune cookie was manufactured in the year 2037. Trust us, you don’t want to know what happens to you.

Although replication is the goal for all experimentation, the wise woman will not clone a tribble.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1 GoH Ceremony
- 1 Fortune-ate
- 2 My First Panel
- 2 Wiscon, Phone Home
- 3 Canon Review
- 3 Book List
- 4 Overheard
- 4 Announcements

### Newsletter Editors:

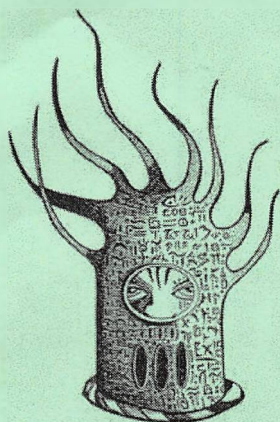
Carrie Ferguson, Content  
Kristina Solheim, Design  
newsletter29@sf3.org

*(GoH Ceremony- continued)*

With the announcements portion over, Jim turned the evening over to our guests of honor – Gwyneth Jones and Robin McKinley. Gwyneth started off with a speech about science fiction, madness and feminism, and at one point she indicated, “I’m lucky. I’ve always managed to pass for sane,” which was followed, after a short pause, by “More or less.” I’m guessing many of us in the audience have had that same feeling.

Next, Robin McKinley took the stage and presented the “wrong” speech, in which she thought she would speak about “homeopathy, bell ringing, vampires, and magic.” At one point in the speech, she warned, “Never come it conclusions – it’s way too dangerous.”

I won’t comment more on the excellent speeches that our guests of honor shared with us, since my words won’t do their insightful comments justice. Instead, I will eagerly await coming to WisCon 30 to pick up a copy of the academic journal *Extrapolation* (see page 73 of your pocket program for more information or the journal’s website: <http://fp.dl.kent.edu/extrap/> to see them in print.



And speaking of next year, after the guest of honor speeches concluded, Jeanne and Scott came to the stage again to discuss WisCon 30. Jim provided them with the appropriate hats, since Jeanne and Scott will be the WisCon 30 co-Chairs. Jeanne and Scott then briefly announced just a few of our exciting plans for WisCon 30 – one of which was inviting back all of our past guests of honor. And they reminded both Gwyneth and Robin that we hoped to see them back again next year as two of those past guests of honor! The other was the announcement of next year’s Guests of Honor: Kate Wilhelm and Jane Yolen. More information can be found at <http://www.sf2.org/wiscon>. As of Sunday evening, 112 memberships for Wiscon 30 have been sold! Get yours soon!

*Your very tired newsletter editor apologizes for the lack of photos in this issue. They will be on the Wiscon website.*

## Thoughts on My First Panel

by David Haseman

Just after the sweat dried and the hypertension induced by attending my very first ever Writer’s Respite dropped, I felt the anxiety rise again for my first ever WisCon panel. I signed up to sit with folks who know a LOT about The Feminist Ideal and the Female Warrior. My fellow panelists were informed, and passionate about the topic. They were also gracious and understanding when I strayed from the topic. I now know why the program committee prints the topic on the Panelist’s side of the name card.

The only difference between sitting on one side of the panel table or the other is where the nametags are. The folks attending the late night panel from 2215-2330hrs (10:15 to 11:30pm) were equally passionate, informed and interested in the topic. They/we had a lot to say and ask about the topic. I learned a lot from the session.

If you’ve a passion for some topic in science fiction and feminism, consider offering it as a panel topic, sitting on the panel, and having a good time teaching and learning during the session. I’ll do it again.

## Wiscon, Phone Home...

By Linda Shore & Richard Russell

Are we alone, and if we’re not, why don’t they ever call? That was the question being pondered by panelists Richard Russell, Linda Shore and participants of the “How Rare is Earth” session. As part of this panel, the audience was introduced to the Drake Equation, invented by astronomer Frank Drake to help scientists estimate the number of intelligent civilizations in our galaxy capable and interested in communicating with us Earthlings. Participants, engaging in a bit of speculative fiction themselves, came up with the following educated guesses for the variables that make up the Drake Equation:

$R^*$  = rate of star formation = 10/year

$f_p$  = fraction of those stars with planets = 0.5

$n_e$  = number of those planets that could support life = 2.5

$f_e$  = fraction of those planets that develop life = 0.6

$f_i$  = fraction of those that develop intelligence = 0.25

$f_c$  = fraction of those that can/want to communicate = 0.70

$L$  = lifetime of these civilizations = 10,000 years

Number of civilizations that could communicate:

$R^* \times f_p \times n_e \times f_i \times f_c \times L = 13,125$

So, here at Wiscon, we estimate there are 13,125 civilizations in the galaxy waiting for a call.

## The Canon That Dare Not Speak Its Name

by Kristina Solheim

I have to tell the truth, I was a little annoyed during this panel. I attended hoping to hear about the seminal (ovular!) works of feminist SFF, wanting to fill in any blanks in my own reading. I also wanted to hear what new books I should be reading. As a bit of a loner, I prefer working behind the scenes and so don't overhear all the fascinating conversations at parties and such about what books folks are reading. I imagine there are others like me, who attend Wiscon to increase their understanding of the genre and their knowledge of its history and future.

Unfortunately, the panelists spent much of the time arguing about why canons are bad ideas, and recommended reading lists are even worse. This bothered me as I had come to the panel for such a list. And I had just suggested in Sunday's newsletter that more of us might be interested in recommendations. They referenced a canon I was not aware of but apparently happened last year. The panelists went on in detail about the different possible, flexible canons such as "This is what you should have read." "This is what you're required to read in order to carry on a conversation at Wiscon." And "This is what we suggest reading in addition to the other canons." Over the course of the hour or so, many metaphors were thrown out about these possible canons from a museum, to a tree, to a search engine. Several members of the audience appeared to be as confused as I was.

But, the hour was not wasted, for the panelists decided to write some titles on the wall. These appeared to be recommended titles of important feminist SFF from 1990 and on (though half-way through, they threw

out the year requirement). I scribbled down the titles as fast as I could and both Liz and Lori offered to post the list on their livejournals, but as of 1 AM, nothing has been posted so you'll have to go with what I've got. (Though I did find a cool site with the Feminism Test at <http://www.okcupid.com/tests/take?testid=13341448526907772086> - I scored as Liberal.) They also decided that a canon could be a history of our genre and our community.

### Titles of Books of Significance to Feminist SFF:

Illicit Passage by Alice Nun  
Her Smoke Rose Up Forever by James Tiptree Jr.  
"Houston, Houston, Do You Read?" by James Tiptree Jr.  
The Female Man by Joanna Russ  
The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula K. Le Guin  
Walk to the End of the Earth/  
Motherlines/Furies by Suzy McKee Charnas  
The Gate to Women's Country by Sheri S. Tepper  
On the Shore of Women by Pamela Sargent  
The Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison  
"Stories for Men" by John Kessel  
Dust Tracks on the Road- an  
Autobiography by Zora Neale Hurston  
(Quicksand and Passing by Nella Larsen)  
Childhood's End by Arthur C. Clarke  
The Iron Dragon's Daughter — by Michael Swanwick  
Life During Wartime by Lucius Shepard  
Camp Concentration by Thomas M. Disch  
The Anubis Gates — by Tim Powers  
A Woman of the Iron People by Eleanor Arnason  
Ammonite and Slow River both by Nicola Griffith  
Mission Child by Maureen McHugh  
A Door into Ocean by Joan Slonczewski  
Tehanu by Ursula K. Le Guin



Paradigm of Earth by Wine by  
Candas Jane Doyle  
Sarah Canary and "What I Didn't See"  
by Karen Joy Fowler  
"Little Faces" by Joan Vinge  
The Mount and Carmen Dog by Carol  
Emschwiller  
Maul by Tricia Sullivan  
"The Girl Detective" by Kelly Wake (?)  
"Travels with the Snow Queen" by  
Kelly Link  
Ring of Swords by Eleanor Arnason  
My Mother: Demonology and Puss,  
King of the Pirates by Kathy Acker  
Everything written by Octavia Butler  
Dreamsnake by Vonda McIntyre  
Solitaire by Kelly Eckridge  
Panelists also suggested the incredible  
database at <http://www.feministsf.org/femsf/> and Liz Heny suggested posting  
lists at <http://www.livejournal.com/~whileaway>

*On a related note, several handouts with book recommendations from panels were submitted to the newsletter box but were too long to be reprinted here. I will scan them when I get home to CA and have them posted to the Wiscon website. These included a list of SFF mystery novels and the handout from the Karen Axness Memorial Panel. Thank you to everyone who had suggestions!*

### Book Recommendations

*submitted by con-goers*  
Sabriel, Lirael, Abhorsen by Garth Nix  
Sunshine by Robin McKinley  
Tithe by Holly Black  
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke  
Tricksters' Choice by Tamora Pierce  
Hollow Kingdom by Clare Dunkle  
The Princess Tales I & II by Gail Carson Levine  
City of Pearl by Karen Traviss  
The Aware by Glenda Larke  
The Secrets of Jin Shei by Alma Alexander  
Firethorn by Sarah Michlin  
Black Juice - Margo Lanagan - stories  
Tooth and Claw - Jo Walton  
Autumn Castle - Kim Wilkins  
The Aware - Glenda Larke  
Covenants - Lorna Freeman  
Alanya to Alanya - Timmi Duchamp  
Trash Sex Magic - Jennifer Stevenson

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Programming Changes

Because she has a plane to catch, Ellen Kushner will only be signing on Monday from 11:30-12:00 at the Sign-Out.

Panel 191: Computers and Gadgets and Technolust, Oh My!, Senate B, Monday 1:00-2:15 p.m., Cynthia Gonsalves has been added as a panelist

### Correction notice:

Our source for the full name of the woman who bid against Jeanne Gomoll for the coveted Kate Schaefer vest at the Tiptree auction last evening was incorrect. Her name is Mary Kay Kare, not Mary Kay Place. We apologize for the error.

## Classifieds

The newsletter editors puzzled over a cryptic submission today. "Salma desperately seeking that handsome devil in the Carter TUSM shirt." Unfortunately, "Salma" gave no further indication of what she'd like to see that "handsome devil" do (i.e., no contact info!). Oh well!

Diversicon 13 "The Evolution Will Not Be Televised" August 19-21, 2005 Holiday Inn Select International Airport- Mall of America. 3 Appletree Square, Bloomington, MN; 1-800-HOTELS Guest of Honor: Sheree R. Thomas; Special Guest: Minister Faust. For further info, <http://www.diversicon.org>, [info@diversicon.org](mailto:info@diversicon.org).

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK - ONLINE!

This year's WisCon Survey is electronic only — we're using SurveyMonkey to help us get the information sooner and analyze it more easily. On Monday (remember, we have computer stations to access the internet available if you so desire), or after you leave the convention, please go to <http://www.sf3.org/wiscon> and take the link to the WisCon Survey. It'll only take a few minutes to fill out, and the information will help us plan future WisCons.

## Buzzy, Muffy Awards Announced

The Incredibles won the Buzzy Award as the top movie in the "SF&F Films of 2004" panel Sunday morning. Squatting at the opposite end of the 9-1 (superlatik to execrable) spectrum was the Muffy Award winner Yu-Gi-Oh, the movie Pyramid of Light. The awards are given annually by panel moderator Richard S. Russell. He said that one movie (Monty Python's Life of Brian) actually scored a 9, but as a re-release, it wasn't eligible for the Buzzy. The Incredibles tied at 8 with Shrek 2 and Spider-Man 2 but edged them out for the Buzzy by dint of being an original screenplay, rather than a sequel. A list of Russell's complete SF&F film ratings will be posted on the Wiscon website.

## Overheard

"I try not to anthropomorphize things, because some stuff just don't like it." Elise Matheson, Clutter Panel.

"The little coffee machine in our room has this neat little explode-o feature." Catherine Lundoff at the Morning Words panel.

"Do you see what I see?" an artist in the Art Show to a bystander.

"There is no karmic benefit in being mean." Justine Larbalestier during Promoting Your Novel.

"If your mayonnaise is sparkly, just eat it; it's a present from the fairies." — Ellen Klages

## COLLECTING PROGRAMMING IDEAS FOR NEXT YEAR

It seems that we haven't burned out Jane Hawkins nearly as thoroughly as we usually do, because after finishing up the schedule for this year, she immediately started working on the on-line version of next year's schedule input pages. Jane writes: "We're starting to plan for WisCon 30 and would very much appreciate your help. We want this to be a truly great convention, the kind that changes lives and opens minds and sets a new standard for future feminist conventions." Go to: <http://www.hawkinsprogramming.com/WisConWeb/ProgramPlanning.aspx?project=0000007316>

## HELP US BRING BACK OUR PAST GUESTS OF HONOR FOR WISCON 30

For WisCon 30, we're hoping to bring back as many of our past Guests of Honor as possible. But that's going to be a stretch — we're looking at potentially paying extra travel costs of \$30,000, equal to our normal budget for a whole WisCon. So we need to raise a lot of money for the event. We're looking for grants, and digging into WisCon's own resources, but we're also going to need help from you. So here's the pledge rap: please give us an extra donation when you register for WisCon 30. It will make a big difference. And, for US taxpayers, we're a nonprofit so your gift will be deductible as a charitable donation.