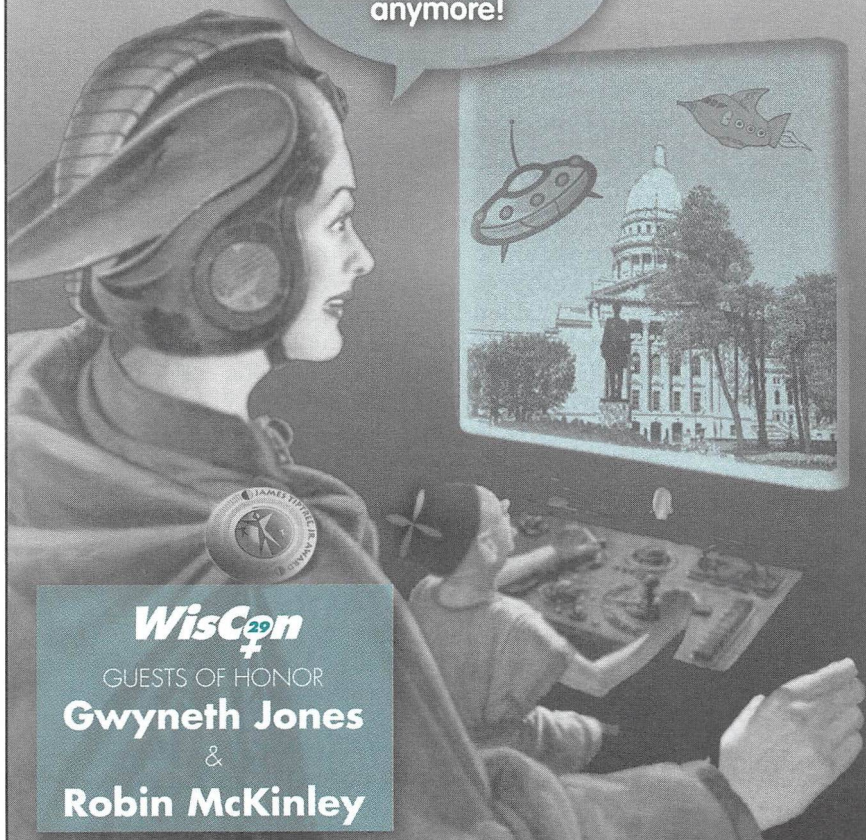


MAY
27-30
2005

AMAZING WisCon

Toto,
I don't think
we're on Krypton
anymore!



WisCon

GUESTS OF HONOR

Gwyneth Jones

&

Robin McKinley

WORLD'S ONLY FEMINIST SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

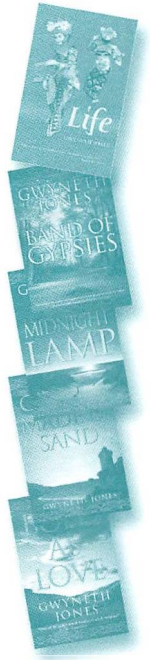


Robin McKinley

Robin McKinley recently won the Mythopoeic for Adult Literature for her novel *Sunshine*, which Neil Gaiman describes as

“A gripping, funny, page-turning pretty much perfect work of magical literature that exists more or less at the unlikely crossroads of *Chocolat*, *Interview With a Vampire*, *Misery* and the tale of Beauty and the Beast. It’s not quite SF, and it’s not really horror, and only kind of a love story, and it’s all three while still being solidly Fantastique. It also does that nice thing where the author assumes the readers are smart, and she treats us like we’re smart, and we purr and get smarter and work harder for all that.”

But her work has **always** been for smart readers. She’s written heroic fantasy in *The Blue Sword* and *The Hero and the Crown* (which won the Newbery Award) and major retellings of fairy tales such as *Spindle’s End*, *Rose Daughter*, and *Deerskin*. Her feminist take on the Robin Hood cycle, in *The Outlaws of Sherwood*, shouldn’t be missed. She’s also an active gardener, with over 500 rose bushes. So we’re sure she will fit in perfectly at WisCon.



Gwyneth Jones

Gwyneth Jones is a WisCon veteran, and an intensely talented writer. She was one of the first winners of the Tiptree Award, for *White Queen*, and has consistently written outstanding science fiction that deals with feminism, class, gender, race, and all those other issues that get hidden in some conventional SF. Her most recent novel is *Life*, a fictional biography of the brilliant Anna Senoz, a scientist who makes a momentous discovery about the X and Y chromosomes. Anna’s discovery provokes widespread sexual rage and impacts cruelly on her career, her marriage, and her child.



Another recent creation has been the *Bold As Love* series, so far including *Bold As Love*, *Castles Made of Sand*, *Midnight Lamp* and *Band of Gypsies*. The first of those books won the Arthur Clarke award; she’s also received two World Fantasy awards, among many other honors. Her YA work is published as “Ann Halam.” She’s also an active SF critic, and was even a scriptwriter for the 1980’s cartoon series *The Telebugs*.

What happens when?

ALL EVENTS AT THE CONCOURSE HOTEL EXCEPT THURSDAY RECEPTION AT ROOM OF ONE'S OWN

Packet Stuffing.....	4:30–6 P.M. Thursday	Opening Ceremonies.....	7:30–8 P.M. Friday
Room of One's Own reception		Programming.....	2 P.M.–1 A.M. Friday
307 W. Johnson St.....	6:30 P.M. Thursday		10 A.M.–1 A.M. Saturday & Sunday
Writer's Workshop	9 A.M.–2:30 P.M. Friday		10 A.M.–2 P.M. Monday
Registration	1 P.M.–Midnight Friday	Lunch breaks	11:30 A.M.–1 P.M.
	9 A.M.–9 P.M. Saturday	Dinner breaks	5:30–7:30 P.M.
	9 A.M.–Noon Sunday	Tiptree Auction	8:30 P.M. Saturday
	10 A.M.–2 P.M. Monday	Dessert Salon.....	7:30 P.M. Sunday
The Gathering	2–5:30 P.M. Friday	GoH speeches.....	8:30 P.M. Sunday
Dealers' Room.....	3–7 P.M. Friday	Sign-Out	11:30 A.M.–1 P.M. Monday
	10 A.M.–6 P.M. Saturday & Sunday	Dead Dog Party.....	5 P.M. Monday
	10 A.M.–1 P.M. Monday		

The Gathering

Join us on Friday, 2–5:30 P.M. as we chat, relax, and have an afternoon of “me” time. Make a bead necklace for your nametag, get your Tarot cards read, have your hair braided, get writerly advice and a balloon hat, decorate postcards to send to absent friends, have a button made from a photo of your puppy, browse the hand-me-down clothing racks, and make a memory book for autographs and notes. Hug friends you haven't seen since last year as you grab a couple chairs and sit down to gossip over coffee, tea and cookies.

After successfully organizing The Gathering for two years, Broad Universe is moving on to other projects. The Gathering will evolve in some new directions, including more free booths. You are invited to suggest an idea for a booth and sign up to run it on the Programming Sign-Up form.

The Gathering will evolve in some new directions, including many more free activities. So please watch eCube and the web site for details.



Karen Schaffer buys Sri Lankan spice from Mary Anne Mohanraj at WisCon 28's Gathering. Photo by Michael Ward.

Where does WisCon get all its (programming) ideas?

From **you!** We collect ideas for panels and other programming events from WisCon attendees. Five to ten tracks of programs typically run concurrently during the convention (about 150 panels total). That's a lot of panels for a convention with about 800 members. But programming is central to WisCon.

We will contact everyone who sent us program ideas as well as everyone who tells us they want to participate on panels. We'll be asking which panels interest you the most and will collect information about your availability and preferences. If you want to make sure we contact you when the *sign-up form* goes on-line, make sure you check the programming box on your registration form. It is very important that all panelists complete this *sign-up form*.

After we've collected panel ideas and panelists' names, we will narrow down the number of panels which will actually be scheduled. Panelists will receive a list of programs they have been tentatively assigned to in early April. A program schedule (subject to change) will be published online in mid-May.

Readings

There are two Reading Streams: the General Readings and the special Midnight Reading Sessions. If you want you may sign up for both a general reading and a midnight session.

Readings at WisCon are organized thematically into 75 minute sessions of three or four readers with catchy titles. Some past examples include: New Wave YA, Snazzitude!, Sex in the City, Night Owls and Zombies, Trouble is My Business and Awkward Ages. The aim is to put together sessions of a common theme, style, or premise and thus attract bigger audiences. So far, so good.

Every year more people want to read from their novels and short stories than we have space for. With that in mind we give priority to a) people who have a new publication out that they're promoting, b) people who have organized themselves into a group of three or four (poetry sessions may have more people, but we don't recommend any more than four for a prose session).

There are no sessions of fewer than three people. This means the longest reading possible is 20 minutes.

How to take part in the readings programming

Step 1: Invite your writerly friends to form a group of three or four and read selections that have a common theme, style, or premise. Do you all have stories in the second person? The future tense? Have you all written an alternate history, an Ursula Le Guin homage, or an elvish wedding scene?

For those of you without a coven, coterie or club, when you fill out participant *sign-up form* give us a clue about what you'll be reading, and we'll try our best to group you with the like-minded and like-genred. We're not trying to pigeonhole you, just get you together with birds of a feather. Like any dating service, the more info you give us, the more likely you'll get lucky.

Step 2: The most important step of all. Sign up via our participant *sign-up form*. Important: If you do not sign up via this form you will not be given a reading slot. If you do not sign up via this form *before* the cut-off date for participation you will not be given a reading slot. Every member of a reading session *must* sign up via the participant *sign-up form*.

The sign up form is where we collect data about who wants to read with whom, what they want their session called, and their description of it. For people without a group it's where we

collect all the information that will allow us to figure out which reading session to put you in. The more information you give us the better placed you will be. It is essential that everyone who wants to read at WisCon fills it out.

Important: If you have any difficulties with the sign up form or do not receive notification that your form has been processed contact us straight away so we can solve the problem and make sure that you get a reading slot.

Step 3: This one's optional. Let people know when you're going to read and invite them along. Make posters, give away chocolates to people who attend. Last year reading sessions that employed advertising and/or bribery were packed out. We recommend it!

Midnight Reading Sessions

This year the three midnight sessions (on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights) will not be part of the general reading series. They will be reserved for any group/person who wants to tell bedtime stories, ghost stories or any other midnight-appropriate material. Yes, you can sign up for both a general reading and a midnight reading session. Remember because there are only three sessions these slots will be limited. Priority will go to a) the group/person with the most interesting midnight-themed ideas b) people with a midnight-related (i.e. scary or bedtime) book to promote.

How to take part in the midnight readings

The procedure is the same as for a general reading session, but when doing Step 2 make sure you tick the box for a midnight slot and tell us why you should get a midnight session.

Important: if you do not fill out the participant *sign-up form* and tell us you want a midnight reading slot you will not get one.

Book Signings: Sign Out

This year at WisCon, authors will be available to sign books in a grand party, the "Sign Out," 11:30 A.M.–1:30 P.M. Monday. Attendees will have all weekend to discover new authors and new books, and to buy them in the Dealer's Room. Then we'll gather together in the ballrooms to get our books signed, sign each others' pocket program books, and hug our friends goodbye until next year. You'll want to plan your travel accordingly in order to attend this Monday event. Guests of Honor will have an extra signing event after their readings earlier in the convention, for the convenience of their many fans.

Academic Programming

WisCon has a single stream of academic programming open to undergraduates, graduates and scholars inside and outside the academy. Over the years people have presented papers on fantasy, horror, and science fiction literature, media and fandom, examining (among many others) issues of feminism, gender, sexuality, race, and class. The papers have ranged from historical accounts to ranting polemics. We especially welcome papers on the work of the guests of honor.

The due date for proposals of 50–100 words is Friday, February 28, 2005. They should be sent to Joan Haran, the convener of academic programming (see email addresses on page 6).

One of the aims of having academic programming at WisCon is to strengthen the links between the feminist science fiction community and those students and scholars working on feminist SF and fantasy and related fields.

Each year the science fiction journal *Extrapolation* distributes a special WisCon issue in which the best papers of the previous year's WisCon are published. *Extrapolation* encourages

scholarly work on science fiction culture and history, on the communities that make science fiction conventions, such as WisCon, possible; work about the interactions between fans and pros; work that moves beyond readings of specific texts to the context of their production and consumption, and work on feminist science fiction.

For subscription information go to:

<http://fp.dl.kent.edu/extrap/>

With this in mind, *Extrapolation* issues a call for papers every year asking those who gave papers at the previous year's WisCon to revise them for publication and submit them. They also send out a general call for articles on science fiction culture and feminist science fiction. The due date is usually in October.

The Writer's Workshop

The Workshop takes place Friday morning before the convention gets rolling. Participants work in small groups with one professional: a published writer, an editor, or an agent. The submission deadline for chapters and short stories is April 1. Participants MUST register in advance. There is no at-the-door registration for the Writers' Workshop. For submission guidelines and more information about the Workshop, check the workshop box on the registration form, or send an email to us.

Living Rooms

The Living Rooms are informal discussions with professionals about the challenges and rewards of writing. They are limited in attendance to those who sign up for them at the con. Anyone who would like to learn more about the craft of writing may sign up for a Living Room.

Parties: How can I reserve a parlor for my party?

Sign up now for one of the free party parlors on the 6th floor. There are a limited number of party rooms available each night. WisCon assigns them to groups and individuals that want to throw parties open to all attendees of the convention. You get the use of a large parlor for one night (Friday, Saturday, or Sunday) on the "Party Floor" at no cost to yourself or your group. Check off the Party box on your registration form and let us know which night would be best for you!

How long do programs last?

Programs run for one hour and 15 minutes (75 minutes). Every program is followed by a 15-minute hiatus between it and the next program. Well, except for the last program of the day, of course, which is followed by a somewhat longer hiatus. And the last program of the convention on Monday, which is followed by a really, really long hiatus that will last until next year's WisCon.

Should I make my hotel reservation soon?

Yes! In recent years, the hotel has always filled up well before the convention. Here's the information you need:

Concourse Hotel, 1 W. Dayton Street, Madison, WI 53703, 1-800-356-8293.

Room rates are a flat \$90 per night for up to four persons. Governor's Club rates are \$115. Remember to mention "WisCon 29" when you call. The Concourse is a handicapped accessible hotel; call for specific information about accessibility. Smoke-free rooms are available upon request. For more information, go to:

<http://www.concoursehotel.com/>

The hotel's Internet system is set up to take group reservations online. You will need WisCon's Group/Event ID number in order to take advantage of WisCon's special room rates. To access just go to the Madison Concourse website, click on Reserve a Room, and type in the number 18097.

Child Care, Kids' & Teens' Programming

Child Care

Child care is baby-sitting for little kids—ages 0-6. It's available for the nominal charge of \$1 to children in the care of any registered WisCon members during daytime programming hours. Use as much or as little as you want. But **you must contact WisCon by April 30** and get your child's name on the child care list! WisCon hires professional child care staff, and we need to know the number and ages of children to expect.

Kids' Programs

Kids' Programs are for older children—ages 7-12 and teens. Children who are not yet 12 need to be signed in and out by a parent or responsible adult. Older kids and teens can come and go without parents. This is a separate track of WisCon programming aimed especially at kids. Expect craft activities, supervised swimming, story-telling, and games. We also plan to have some discussion groups and interaction with the teens.

Teens

Teens are welcome to participate in the kids' programming but also have a separate room for more complicated activities, puzzles, gaming, videos, music, and video games. Teens will help develop the schedule of activities for their room. The teen room will be open from 8:30 P.M. to 11 P.M., as well as during the regular kids' room hours.

The teen room provides space for teens, and, except for the room moderators, is off-limits to both adults and younger kids.

Should I volunteer?

WisCon isn't just a convention, it's a family reunion where every year we get to hang with all these incredible people whom we've adopted into our lives. But this also makes it hard on the organizers because they have people they love and want to be with, too, and it's no fun for them to get stuck with all the work. Since this is the kind of family that starts awards and organizations, let's put in a little time for the convention, too. Fifteen minutes volunteered by a dozen people at setup or teardown will save Diane three whole hours of work. One hour of your time in the con suite means that Dave can get out and take a breather. A little bit of everybody's time will make the con a great deal easier for the organizers and ensure that everybody ends the weekend exhausted in a rejuvenated sort of way, rather than burned out from too much toting and fetching.

Art Show

The WisCon 29 Art Show and Tiptree Award Auction items will be displayed in the same room.

Artists, please request art show information now. You need to reserve space as soon as possible in order to guarantee a place to hang your work.

We'll be experimenting with a new process for buying art at WisCon 29. In the old approach, it was pretty complicated. You looked through the Art Show, found the pieces you were interested in, went into contortions to write your name on the bid sheet, then waited until Sunday evening to see if you were the high bidder. Most people returned several times to check.

For WisCon 29, it's going to be more like a store. We'll hang the art on Friday and open the show for viewing only Friday evening. And, starting when we open on Saturday morning, if you want a piece you can buy it. Right then, no hassles. Just bring the "purchase" part of the tag to the Art Show desk and give them your money. And it's yours.

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.

So please come by, any time during the convention, look at the art, and buy some.

Convention members will have the opportunity to vote on the Art Show awards again this year. WisCon 29's Art Show will continue to focus on feminist art, art by women, and art by Midwestern artists. For art show information please check the box on the registration form or visit the WisCon web site.

Tiptree Bake Sale

"World Domination through Bake Sales!" That's one of the slogans at Tiptree Juggernaut Headquarters. The Tiptree Award supports gender-bending SF/F, publishes, auctions, and loves chocolate chip cookies! A wide variety of cookies, breads, cakes, pies, and delectables are baked and donated by Tiptree supporters. If you'd like to prepare some baked goods or other treats for the bake sale, please check the box on the registration form or contact WisCon and we will tell you where to bring your goodies.

Baked goods can be purchased by the plate at the Tiptree Bake Sale starting at Saturday, 11:30 A.M. All proceeds are donated to the Tiptree Award. Yum!

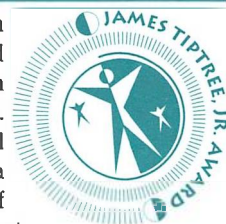
Tiptree Display & Auction

Tiptree Auction items are handled differently than Art Show items. Tiptree items will be held over for a future auction if they are not sold at

the Saturday night auction. If we run out of time, or if only minor interest is shown in an item, it may not be sold, even if it has a written bid.

There will also be some non-auction Tiptree items available for direct purchase. Look for t-shirts, books, Space Babe tattoos, and Tiptree Award publications.

You won't want to miss another in the amazingly entertaining series of Ellen Klages' Live Auction Performances. The Tiptree Award will receive all proceeds from donated items in addition to a commission on art show items. Contact us if you'd like to mail auction items.



Will WisCon 29 host the Tiptree Ceremony?

No. The 14th annual James Tiptree, Jr. Award Ceremony will take place in Boston at Gaylaxicon, July 1-4, 2005. For more information, go to:

<http://www.gaylaxians.org/gaylaxicon2005/>

No winner has yet been announced. The judges are: Margaret McBride (chair), Judith Clute, Alan DeNiro, and Ursula K. LeGuin. The winner will be announced in eCube as soon as the judges announce their decision.

The Tiptree Award will return to Madison in 2006 for WisCon 30.

Getting here from there

Flights to Chicago or Milwaukee are sometimes easier to get and almost always cheaper than direct flights to Madison. If your airline of choice flies into Chicago or Milwaukee, there are two excellent bus routes: Chicago O'Hare Airport to Madison (Van Galder, 3 hrs), and Milwaukee General Mitchell International Airport to Madison (Badger Bus, 1.5 hrs.). Buses operated by both these companies make only

a few stops and are comfortable and inexpensive. Check out schedules on their web pages when you make your travel plans.

<http://www.vangalderbus.com/>
<http://www.badgerbus.com/>

The last progress report will contain extensive, up-to-date specifics about ways to travel to and around Madison.

At-con newsletter — A Momentary Taste of WisCon

For a convention as program-intensive as WisCon, a newsletter is a necessity. Besides offering you important program changes and party announcements, WisCon's newsletter will also offer you fascinating tidbits about our guests of honor and other attendees, and will inform you about the parts of the convention you miss. Make sure you pick up the latest issue each day!

If you would like to join the newsletter staff, we encourage you to submit articles by e-mail, before and during the con. We will also accept electronic photos (high resolution TIFFs or JPGs,

please). Look for the submission box (for non-electronic text and graphics) on the registration table. Or consider volunteering as a reporter, assigned to sniff out and write about WisCon news and gossip!

We'd love to hear about programs that you found fascinating. Jot down that funny quote you overheard. Provide a critique of that great restaurant you ate at during the convention. Just read a novel, piece of short fiction, article or poetry by a WisCon attendee? We'd love to publish your review.

Decoding your mailing label

After your name on your mailing label, you may find a number and a cryptic code. The number is your "Hop Code." When you send in your registration, it helps us quickly find your existing information and update it. The letter codes are all about your registration:

- | | |
|---|--|
| A You are an attending (Adult) member of WisCon 28 | S You're a Supporting member |
| G You're one of our Guests of Honor | X You get in free for some other reason |
| P You're a past Guest of Honor | D# (D1, D2, D3, etc.) You've purchased that many dessert tickets. |
| Y You're a Youth member | |
| C You're a Child member | |
- And if you don't see anything, **please** join.

Register with PayPal

WisCon is pleased to offer PayPal as a registration payment option. This means you can register online! Our online registration is very similar to many familiar shopping carts. The only difference is that we use PayPal to handle our secure payment transactions. PayPal is free, easy to use, and a safe way to make payments online. With PayPal, you can pay using a credit card or bank transfer. If you don't already have a PayPal account, you'll find it simple and painless to set up one. We recommend that you register for WisCon soon. To register online, simply go to our registration page.

<http://www.sf3.org/registration.html>

Or, if you prefer, mail us the registration form enclosed in this mailing. To find out more about PayPal, go to

<http://www.paypal.com>

Stay Up to Date on WisCon News

Do you want to be reminded that a program participant deadline is approaching or get updates on the list of attending luminaries? We will publish this information in progress reports, but you can get more information, more quickly, if you subscribe to the electronic WisCon newsletter. We call it **eCube** and it's absolutely free. Just go to:

<http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/news.html>

For more info...

WisCon 28

P.O. Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701-1624

www.sf3.org/wiscon/

E-mail addresses

Academic Programming: academic@sf3.org

Art Show: artshow@sf3.org

Childcare: childcare29@sf3.org

Concom: concom29@sf3.org

Dealers Room: dealers@sf3.org

Living Rooms: livingrooms@sf3.org

Mailing Address Updates: maillist@sf3.org

Newsletter (At-Con): newsletter29@sf3.org

Parties: parties29@sf3.org

Programming: program29@sf3.org

Readings: readings@sf3.org

Registration: reg@sf3.org

Souvenir Book: souvenirbook@sf3.org

Tiptree Bakesale: bakesale@sf3.org

Tiptree Auction: auction@sf3.org

Treasurer: payment@sf3.org

Volunteers: volunteer@sf3.org

Web Page: [web@sf3.org](http://www.sf3.org)

Writers' Workshop: workshop29@sf3.org

WisCon 29 Registration Form

If registrants have different postal addresses, please copy this form and complete separate registrations.

Name — person #1	Badge name (person #1) *
Name — person #2	Badge name (person #2) *
Name — person #3	Badge name (person #3) *
Street address	Email address (person #1)
City, State/province	Email address (person #2)
Zip/Postal code	Country
Phone (day)	Phone (eves, weekends)
* Optional badge names. Normally we print your first and last names on your badge in large type. If you have a special name or "handle" you would like instead, please provide in "badge name" field. We can only accept standard alphabetic characters.	

Person #1	Person #2	Person #3	PAID memberships: Please fill in the correct amount for each attending person listed above.
\$	\$	\$	Adult (age 13 & up): \$40 through April 30; \$50 at the door
\$	\$	\$	Youth (age 7-12): \$20 through April 30; \$25 at the door
\$	\$	\$	Supporting (non-attending, receive publications only) \$15; available anytime.

<input type="checkbox"/> years old	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> years old	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> years old	\$	Childcare (age 0-6) \$1 if signed up by April 30. Please fill in the age of each child to be enrolled in childcare.
------------------------------------	----	------------------------------------	----	------------------------------------	----	--

_____ tickets	\$ _____	Dessert Tickets (Sunday night) \$10 each
_____ tables	\$ _____	Dealers' Room tables \$30 per table. Limit = 3 tables Dealers must have WisCon memberships.
\$ _____		Total amount
\$ _____		Tax-deductible donation
\$ _____		Total payment

Person #1	Person #2	Person #3	FREE memberships: Please check appropriate boxes. (We need this info to prepare your nametag.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Former WisCon Guest-of-Honor Free (check box)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kid-in-Tow (age 0-6) Free (kid stays with parent); available anytime. (check box)

No registrations accepted May 1–26.

Subscribe to **eCube** and receive WisCon updates via email.
Get yourself onto the **eCube** mailing list at:

<http://www.sf3.org/ecube>



Mail by **April 30, 2005** to:
WisCon 29, PO Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701-1624

Please check those items that apply:

- I would like to volunteer.
- I have already arranged to volunteer at WisCon with _____
(name of department or concom member)
- I would like to participate in the Writer's Workshop. (Deadline April 1, 2005)
- I would like to be part of programming.
- I would like to display my artwork in the Art Show.
- I would like to advertise in WisCon publications.
- I will bake something for the Tiptree Bake Sale.
- Please sign me up for one of the 6th floor party suites for one night. I would prefer _____ (Friday, Saturday or Sunday).

Please make checks payable to WisCon



P.O. Box 1624
Madison, WI
53701-1624

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Madison, WI
Permit 2414

