

# **A Momentary Taste of**

## **Issue 1.39, Friday**

### **May 22, 2015**

# **WisCon<sup>39</sup>**

"If it happens at WisCon, it's news to us!"

Welcome, friends! Whether it's your first or your 39th, we welcome you to WisCon. A Momentary Taste of WisCon appears as if by magic every morning to inform and delight. If you have a news item, restaurant review, picture, doodle, or any other item of interest, pass it on to [newsletter@wiscon.info](mailto:newsletter@wiscon.info).

## **Safety First!**

You'll see the phrase "Safety first!" here and there around the convention and that's because our Safety team is one of the first lines of defense against trouble that may arise. They're also your go-to for any help you may need if you feel unsafe.

Safety team members wear neon vests and circulate throughout the hotel. You may see them peeking into panels or moving through parties. If you need help, look for a Safety team member or, of course, make your way to Registration or the Front Desk. If the situation is urgent, please dial 911.

This year, we have a secure report form online at <http://goo.gl/forms/fQJNSiDpE3>. The information you enter on this form will be shared only with the parties absolutely necessary to resolve your issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [safety@wiscon.info](mailto:safety@wiscon.info).

And if you want to help keep the con a safe experience for everyone, we desperately need safety volunteers. If you volunteer for a shift during the Dessert Salon to help take tickets or wrangle the line, you'll get your choice of desserts and reserved seating!

### **Internet Pun**

'...my friend C once made a sock puppet she named Curly Moose.'

> You say 'here at WisCon, in fact'

> You say 'at a sock puppet party'

> You say 'it got rather out of hand.'

## **Get Your Drink On**

Because of the hotel's sixth floor remodel, many parties have moved to the second floor and because of the terms of their liquor license, we are unable to serve alcohol on the second floor.

This is not the end of the world, I promise! You can still have drinks in those rooms, the hosts just can't serve alcohol to you, only a hotel bartender can serve alcohol on the first or second floor. So if you need to get your drink on, there are a few things you can do:

We will have a cash bar at Opening Ceremonies and the Karaoke Party on Friday night. Not only that, the Karaoke Party has free beer! We will also have a cash bar Sunday night at the Dessert Salon.

6<sup>th</sup> floor parties and room parties can still serve alcohol.

You can get drinks at the bar. We love the bar! Not only are they friendly as all get-out, but they have a special drink menu with many drinks put together just for us. See the Drink Menu for more info!

You can buy your own. There's a liquor store on State Street and a second liquor store just down Gorham Street. Of course, if you do you still can't serve it to anyone on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. We are probably just as sorry as you probably are, believe me!

Finally, please remember that we cannot have alcohol outside on the sidewalk or in the smoking area so if you have a drink and find you need a smoke, please find a place to set your drink before heading out there. It's another way the hotel can lose its liquor license.

## **Need To Know**

So you have a thing you need to know about the con and you don't know where to go? The first thing you can do is check out the **Welcome To WisCon!** hand-out on the table by the elevator banks across from Registration. If it's not there or just isn't enough info, you can check the **Pocket Program Book**. Still can't find it or not enough? Ask at Registration or, if nobody is at the desk, find anyone with a badge that says **Ask Me** at the bottom. They're members of the concom and happy to answer your questions.

### **What you need to know today:**

9:30 a.m.: Registration opens.

1 p.m.: The Gathering starts in the Wisconsin Ballroom. Childcare opens.

2 p.m.: Dealer's Room opens.

5:30 p.m.: First WisCon Dinner meets in front of The Wisconsin Ballroom. (It's not just for first-timers!)

6 p.m.: Con Suite scheduled to open. Dealers' Room closes. Childcare closes.

7:30 p.m.: Opening Ceremonies. Important announcements, skits, cash bar, what's not to love?

### **Con Suite Changes**

This year you'll notice many changes in the Con Suite but one of the biggest is that it will no longer be open past bar time.

Hours:

Friday 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Monday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

As usual, it will be closed during Opening Ceremonies, the Tiptree Auction, and the Dessert Salon.

Stop in to say hi and see how we've changed!

## Hotel Notes

Here's a behind-the-scenes thing you may not know. Each year, the hotel staff and con members sit down the Wednesday before the con starts and go over every detail of the convention to make sure we all provide you with the best possible experience. We go over the layout of every room for every function, the specialty drink menu from the bar... pretty much every interaction we have with the hotel and hotel staff.

The best part? There are snacks. What better incentive to volunteer your time?

Here are some notes from this year's hotel meeting:

*CIRC's delicious menu of flatbreads, sandwiches, salads, soups, and shared plates can be yours for 20% off with the purchase of a discount card. See the front desk for more details!*



*A truly scintillating picture of the new carpet in the hotel lobby. If you use a mobility device and find this difficult to traverse, just take a left and follow the blue-taped path to get to the elevators.*

- For \$10, you can get 20% off food and drink at CIRC (previously the Dayton Street Grill) and at the hotel bar. See the front desk to buy the card. (Starbucks, unfortunately, is not included in this deal.)

• On that delicious note, the hotel restaurant is now called CIRC and features an updated menu. (But the walleye is still there. YuM!)

• Pool hours have been extended! The pool is open from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. for the duration of the convention.

• As part of the beautiful remodel, the ATM that was previously on the first floor near the bar has been relocated to the second floor coat closet which is currently behind the Reg Desk. You are welcome to use it, especially if you plan to spend some of that cash in our Dealers' Room or Art Show!

• And speaking of the

## Smoking Ban

Smoking is prohibited everywhere in the Concourse and in all restaurants and bars in Wisconsin. In Madison, this ban includes all types of electronic cigarettes. The Concourse's smoking area is outside the double doors to the left of the front desk beyond the Sundries Shop. State Street has at least two smoke shops and last this diva knew there are at least a couple places downtown where you can sit outside and indulge in a hookah.

## Hot Dog

## Withdrawal

## Syndrome

By Jim Leinweber

You may have noticed that this year the con suite doesn't have hot dogs. If you are suffering from HDWS (Hot Dog Withdrawal Syndrome), your best fix may be the "OSS" restaurant at 910 Regent St. It's about 1.2 miles from the Concourse, and has no parking, so your best bet might be either a #6 bus or a Madison B-cycle rental.



## VOLUNTEER DRINKING GAME

Here's a fun game, take a drink (alcoholic or non, we don't care) each time you see or hear the word volunteer this weekend. The restroom is thataway...

That's because WisCon is run by volunteers. Everyone from the president of SF3, our parent organization, down to the person who picks out desserts for the Dessert Salon (which would be me, by the way) is a volunteer as is every moderator, panelist, Con Suite attendant, bake salesperson... pretty much everyone. The only paid positions, in fact, are the childcare workers.

There are many, many opportunities to join in the fun whether you have time at-con or at home. We are always recruiting. At-con you can check out the Volunteer Board near registration then contact [volunteer@wiscon.info](mailto:volunteer@wiscon.info). We need people with all sorts of experience to do all sorts of things. If you see something that suits you this year and volunteer your time, you can earn a beautiful commemorative book with a story from each of our Guests of Honor.

At home, you can check out [blog.wiscon.info/open-concom-positions/](http://blog.wiscon.info/open-concom-positions/) then contact [recruitment@wiscon.info](mailto:recruitment@wiscon.info) if anything listed for WisCon 40 tickles your fancy.

## Access Is Awesome

Less a headline and more a statement of fact, our Access Team works hard every day to make sure you are able to navigate the con safely regardless of your level of ability. From the unscented soaps in the public restrooms to the remote viewing room at the Dessert Salon, they're working every day to make the con accessible to as many people as possible.

- Here are a few notes from your access team:
- If you have difficulty navigating the carpeted area next to the elevator bank on the first floor, use the blue-taped path to the right of the grand staircase past The Cupboard Under The Stairs™ (previously the business center) and around the far side of the elevators.
- We have a sharps disposal container available for your use in the nongendered restroom next to Registration. If you need a personal sharps container, they are available in the hotel's Sundries Shop next to the front desk for \$3.



*I may be able to manage my own interactions, but can I take a decent picture? Nope. Sorry, folks!*

Reason. Blue-taped lanes in hallways show you which side of the hall is for walking or rolling and which side is for hanging out. Blue tape can also indicate where lines should form.

- Interaction badges! If you sometimes have trouble interacting with people, we've got your back! Here's what you need to know:

RED (stop sign symbol) means: STOP don't talk to me! I don't want to talk to anyone right now, or if I do, I will approach you. If I initiate conversation, it's ok to talk back.

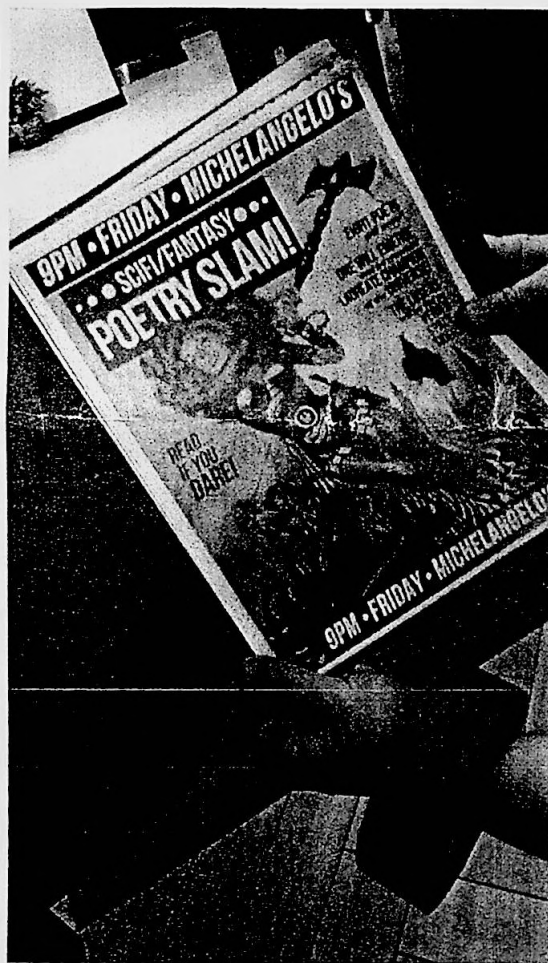
YELLOW (triangle symbol) means: I only want to talk to people I know, not to strangers and not to people I only know from the internet. If I initiate conversation, it's ok to talk back, but please don't approach me unless you know me.

GREEN (circle symbol): I would like to be approached by people interested in talking. I may have trouble initiating conversation.

WHITE (square symbol): I can manage my own social interactions. How can we help make the convention more accessible for you? You can always contact us at [access@wiscon.info](mailto:access@wiscon.info).



*Your Newsletter Lady hard at work, wearing her Newsletter tiara. Because everything is more fun in a tiara, even losing your work at 3 a.m. and having to start all over again. Good thing she's a night owl!*



## Errata for Friday, May 22, 2015

3B Impostor Syndrome Training Exercise  
Power, Privilege, and Oppression • Conference 3 •  
Friday, 9:00 am-12:00 pm  
Leigh Honeywell and Skud were unable to attend Wis-  
Con.

18 The Purpose of Human Beings in an Extensively  
Automated World  
Science and Technology • Senate B • Friday, 2:30-  
3:45 pm  
Amelia Dudley is no longer a panelist.  
Tamora Kimmitt has been added as a panelist.

43 WisCon After Dark 101: How to Flirt with Respect  
Fandom as a Way of Life • Senate B • Friday, 9:00-  
10:15 pm  
Na'amen Gobert Tilahun has been added as a panelist.

*Our own Jackie M. hosts the SFF Poetry Slam Fri-  
day night at 9 p.m. at Michelangelo's. Kick back,  
drink a delicious caffeinated beverage, and watch  
as eight fabulous poets duke it out for the title. Au-  
dience members will choose the winner. Amazing  
artwork by Jeremy Parker.*

*(Want your panel here? [newsletter@wiscon.info](mailto:newsletter@wiscon.info)!)*

## Where is WisCon coming from?

*By Bronwyn B*

As ever, this year at WisCon 39 we have members coming from  
around the globe! The countries represented this year are:

- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- England
- India
- Japan
- Malaysia
- Nigeria
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

...and, as ever, the United States, which is where most of our  
members hail from.

Have you travelled far to attend WisCon this year? Consider  
sharing your story with the Newsletter, telling us what brings  
you to Madison!

## Sasquan Sale!

20% off this weekend only!

Register at <http://sasquan.swoc.us/>  
for at least a supporting membership  
for next year's Worldcon and you will  
be able to download the Hugo read-  
ing packet, vote in the Hugos, and  
nominate for next year's Hugos.

If you are unfamiliar with the contro-  
versy surrounding the Hugo awards  
(lucky you!) you can check out the  
coverage on [file770.com](http://file770.com) and on the  
blog of our very own Alexandra Erin  
at [www.alexandraerin.com](http://www.alexandraerin.com).



# Special Spacebabe Edition

a momentary  
taste of  
**WisCon<sup>39</sup>**

Issue 2.39, Saturday,  
May 23, 2015

“WisCon 39: Get all your  
hugs for the year right here!”

## Need To Know

Eatstreet.com is offering us %10 off through May 25 with the code WCON10. Good for any order!

Here's what you need to know today:

8 a.m.: Con Suite opens. Childcare opens.

9:30 a.m.: Registration opens.

10 a.m.: Children's Programming begins. Dealers' Room opens.

11:15 a.m.: Tiptree Bake Sale begins.

11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Childcare closes for lunch.

3:45 p.m.: Tiptree Bake Sale ends. (Unless everything is gone before then.)

6 p.m.: Childcare closes. Dealers' Room closes. Art Show Award voting ends.

6:30 p.m.: Registration closes.

7:30 p.m.: Tiptree Auction Begins

11 p.m.: Con Suite closes.

@EllenKushner tweeted:

**LUNCH RECC.: KABUL (Afghan) @ 540 State St. is not on Restau. list. GO THERE!!! Great home-cooked +Veggie options. \$ lunch.**

## Tiptree Auction Preview

At yesterday's Gathering, Auction coordinator Nevenah Smith displayed a collection of items available at this year's Tiptree Auction.

As usual, items ran the gamut from the merely mundane to the truly... quirky. A knitted uterus included a note from Ellen Klages that read “No



backsies!” and a prerelease copy of the next Kim Stanley Robinson book was garnering a good bit of interest.

Further investigation of the art show revealed treasures like a Spacebabe cookie jar complete with spaceship handle, a fierce and beautifully drawn Spacebabe poster by artist Jeremy Parker (next page), and this amazing Ellen Klages Auctioneer Barbie which is sure to fetch a high price.

Even with Ellen Klages's retirement (blog.wiscon.info/2015/04/ellen-klages-and-the-tiptree-auction/), this looks to be a fun and exiting year for the Tiptree Auction and while Ellen might not be the whole show any longer, we promise you a great time.

As a strong reminder, the ATM is located in the coat closet behind registration and we accept cash, check, charge... Whatever you can convince them to

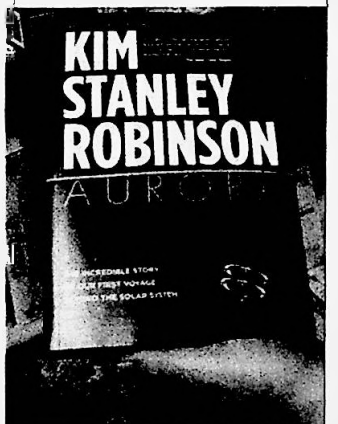


*Cookie jar or funeral urn? Spacebabe will defend your best baked goods (or your worldly cremains) in style.*

accept in payment, we will take.

So bring your money and your funny(bone)! See you at 7:30!

*A shiny, new pre-release copy of Kim Stanley Robinson's Aurora could be yours!*



**Breakfast Buffet Change**

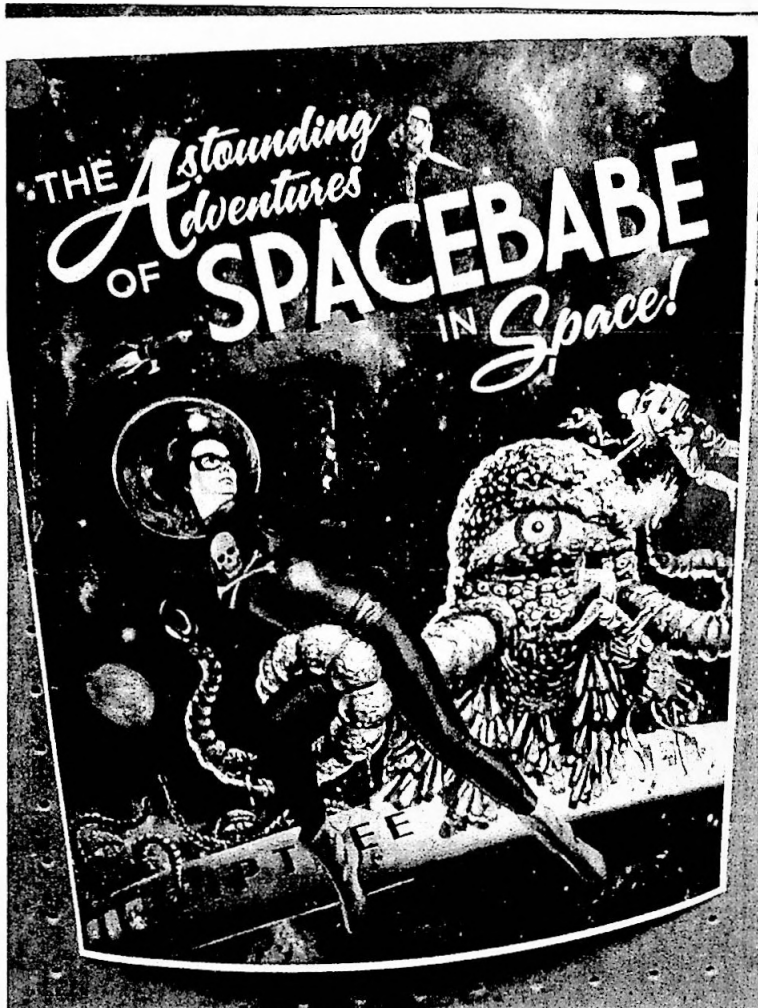
In years past, the Concourse offered a breakfast buffet that included hot items in steam trays. Now, if you would like hot breakfast items, you order them from your server. While this may seem to complicate the process, it means your hot breakfast items are hotter and fresher when they get to you!

**Errata for Saturday, May 23**

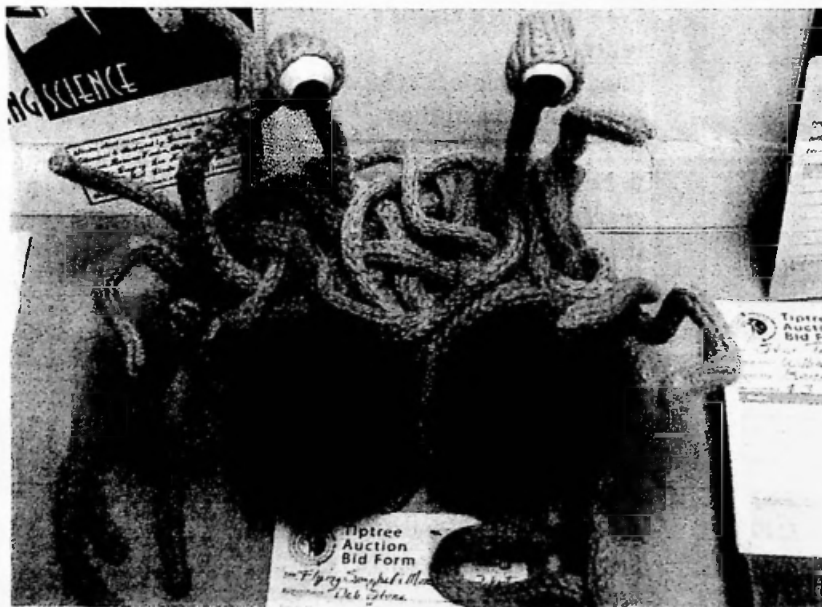
54 Wikipedia Edit Jam  
Science and Technology • Conference 1 • Saturday, 8:30–9:45 am  
Liz Henry was unable to attend WisCon.

61 Fixing Policing  
Feminism and Other Social Change Movements • Capitol A • Saturday, 10:00–11:15 am  
Michelle Murrain has been added as a panelist. Naomi Kritzer is no longer a panelist.

75 Bridging the Generation Gap at WisCon  
Feminism and Other Social Change Movements • Capitol A • Saturday, 1:00–2:15 pm  
Jaymee Goh has been added as a panelist.



*This gorgeous Spacebabe poster by artist Jeremy Parker deserves to be viewed in brilliant full color. Get your paddles ready!*



93 Feminine Agencies in Steampunk, Anime, and Video Games  
Academic • Conference 3 • Saturday, 2:30–3:45 pm  
Saba Razvi was unable to attend WisCon.

101 Where Is WisCon Going?  
Fandom as a Way of Life • Senate B • Saturday, 4:00–5:15 pm  
s.e. smith is no longer a panelist. Bronwyn B., Kristin Livdahl, and Sandy Sasha\_feather have been added as panelists.

*This hand-knitted Flying Spaghetti Monster is the perfect gift for the Pastafarian in your life.*

"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO... FIT ON THIS PAGE."

# A MOMENTARY TASTE OF...

ISSUE 3.39 SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2015

## ART SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

### HOTEL REGISTRATION OPENS FOR WISCON 40

As usual, hotel registration opens at 9 a.m. on Sunday morning. You can call the reservation line and tell them you want the WisCon block, you can visit the link that appears on the WisCon website at 9 a.m. in the morning, or you can visit the desk in person and line up. This year, reservations are being taken at the front desk at the station closest to the grand staircase. There will be an area for queuing demarcated with blue tape.

### THE AUCTION ITEMS ITEM

If you bid on and won an item in the auction and have not yet paid for it, you can find it in the Art Show on the display tables for the Tiptree Auction. The winning bid and bidder will be circled on the item's tag. Simply take it to the front and hand over your cash. There are also Buy It Now items still available.

Learn about **The Mechanics of WisCon** Sunday morning at 10:15. Related: We still need volunteers all over the place, especially for Safety for the Dessert Salon!

While not, perhaps, actually art, Tahlia D.'s redesign of the art show layout is spacious and delightful. As a person with a visual impairment, I often feel like a bull in a china shop, so the wide aisles make me feel safe enough to actually stop and appreciate the art. Granted, I snuck in in the middle of the night... Regardless, it's a space that feels spacious and lends itself to stopping and really appreciating the works of art being displayed and, as usual, they cover a wide range of media, subjects, and styles.

While voting ended last night for the "Best of..." awards, you can still vote with your pocketbooks and take some of this beautiful craftsmanship home with you.

"Where is WisCon Going?"



The **Where Is WisCon Going?** panel on Saturday quickly opened the floor to audience members to ask questions and offer suggestions about the future of WisCon. Some excellent dialogue was exchanged and really good ideas were offered and Mary Prince (whose work you can find in the Art Show, check it out!) doodled this picture of panelists Bronwyn Bjorkman, Sandy-sashafeather, and Jacquelyn Gill while we all enjoyed a session of Q & A. Not pictured, Kristin Livdahl and Shayla D (me!).

## NEED TO KNOW

We have several items in the Lost and Found at Registration.

\* \* \*

There is an error in the listed hours in the program book. **The Con Suite will be closing at 1 p.m. on Monday.** However, we have been assured that the Disjunction Function will continue to function from 8:30 p.m. until your function has been thoroughly disjuncted. You heard it here first.

\* \* \*

What you need to know today:

8 a.m.: Con Suite and Childcare open.

9 a.m.: Hotel registration opens for WisCon 40.

9:30 a.m.: Registration opens.

10 a.m.: Art Show and Dealers' Room open.

6 p.m.: Childcare and Dealers' Room close.

7:30 p.m.: Con Suite closes, Dessert Salon opens.

8:30 p.m.: Guest of Honor speeches begin.

Mary P. recs Mirch Masala at 449 State St on the corner of Broom. They have a lunch buffet from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday; however it is upstairs and may not be accessible.

## DESSERT SALON BOURSE

by Lenore Jones

What do I do if my plans change at the last minute, and I suddenly want to go / can't go to the dessert salon? Come by Reg if it's before 4:30 to buy / sell your ticket. If it's after that, don't despair! There will be a Dessert Salon Bourse as usual, for last-minute buys and sells of dessert tickets. The Bourse will open at 5:15 and close at 7:00, at the Reg Desk. No ticket buy-backs or sales after 7, so hurry on in if your plans change!

Tickets purchased at the bourse will be \$20 each.

## LIGHTEARTED SHORTHAND SANS FAIL

Panelist Jeanne Mealy brings these highlights from the **Light-hearted Shorthand Sans Fail** panel.

"The moderator is laughing too hard to moderate," said Sumana Harihareswara at one point and Heidi Waterhouse says she won't soon be getting over the "douche industrial complex."

The alternatives to terms like "you guys," that we perhaps unconsciously use all the time, were (and may still be) posted outside of Capitol A (on the second floor to the left of Registration).

## ERRATA

134 Call-out Culture II: Follow-up to the Discussion Held at W38 Feminism and Other Social Change Movements • Senate A • Sunday, 10:00–11:15 am

Riley is no longer a panelist.

156 Triple the Strength, Triple the Power!

## WHAT I DO: DESSERT DIVA

(First in a one-part series.)

Okay, okay, so that's not the *actual* title, but it's a lot more fun than Dessert Salon Coordinator, don't you think? Plus, it comes with a sash. Seriously.

*So what does a Dessert Diva do?*

It starts at the beginning of the year when I contact our hotel's banquet coordinator and ask for a list of desserts and prices. They talk to the pastry chef and eventually I get a list of 25 or 26 options from which I choose 20. I make sure we have a variety of flavors and textures and I make sure that we have plenty of vegan, nut-free, and gluten-free items. Then I start crunching numbers. Did you know we order 822 individual desserts each year? (A secret: We order 7 dozen chocolate-covered strawberries.) I not only have to balance flavors, textures, and allergens but I have to make sure that we order the right amounts. I order a lot of chocolatey desserts and a few of each of the vegan offerings. I don't want you to be disappointed and we don't want a lot of one thing left over because I ordered too much. I also want to make sure that everyone feels like they have plenty to choose from, even those with the strictest diets.

Once I decide on amounts of things—including the coffee, tea, and milk—I put it all on a spreadsheet which tells me how much it will all cost. If that isn't too heart-stopping, I send it back to the hotel and then I kick back and answer your questions about allergens—which are sent from me to the hotel banquet coordinator to the pastry chef to the hotel banquet coordinator and then back to me—until the night of the Dessert Salon when I dress up, make sure you don't have any questions or concerns, and order more beverages if we run out before the speeches start. The number of desserts I make off with is a closely-guarded secret. (Six, okay? I tried six last year. Don't judge me!)

Did you know I can hold a dessert or two for you if you have allergies and want to make sure you get something that you'll be able to eat? That's part of my job, too. I even have an email address: [dessert@wiscon.info](mailto:dessert@wiscon.info)

After the con, I contact the hotel's banquet coordinator again and they tell me which desserts were left over and which disappeared really fast so I have an idea for the next year of how to better balance the order. Voila! Job done!

*How did you become the Dessert Diva?*

Well, in this case, it was all about who I knew. I had a friend who wanted to take a break and I just happened to be ready to take on a little responsibility. But you don't have to know someone to get in on the action! When we have volunteer opportunities we post them on our blog at [blog.wiscon.info](http://blog.wiscon.info). You can also check our at-con volunteer board on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for at-con volunteer opportunities.

It's a delicious job, but somebody's got to do it!

Reading • Conference  
2 • Sunday, 1:00–2:15 pm  
Laura Lis Scott was unable to attend WisCon.

163 Don't You Think He Looks Tired: Strategies for de-Moffatting *Doctor Who*  
Reading, Viewing, and Critiquing Science Fiction • Caucus • Sunday, 2:30–3:45 pm

Christopher Hatton has been added as a panel-

ist.  
166 Communities and Languages: A Dialogue Across Worlds

Feminism and Other Social Change Movements • Wisconsin • Sunday, 2:30–3:45 pm  
Kimberley Long-Ewing is no longer a panelist.

172 Intersectional Body-Positivity  
Power, Privilege, and Oppression • Conference  
4 • Sunday, 2:30–3:45

pm  
The Rotund is no longer a panelist.  
173 Elim Garak's Weird Cardassian Penis  
Reading, Viewing, and Critiquing Science Fiction • Conference 5 • Sunday, 2:30–3:45 pm  
Christopher Hatton is no longer a panelist.

179 Identity outside the United States  
Power, Privilege, and Oppression • Senate A •

Sunday, 4:00–5:15 pm  
Ashok Banker was unable to attend WisCon.

186 Historical Vampires and Buzzfeed Monsters  
Academic • Conference  
3 • Sunday, 4:00–5:15 pm  
Tassie Gniady was unable to attend WisCon.