

31 Flavors of **CONFUSION**



January 21 - 23, 2005 • Troy, Michigan



Penguicon 3.0

Sheraton Novi, MI

April 22-24, 2005

www.penguicon.org

The world's first Linux and Open Source Expo
& Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention!

Parties • 24 hour Anime • Linux Installfest • Robots
Costumes • Gaming • Wireless Internet • Caffeine
Dealers Room • Snacks • "The Celebrity Frag Fest"

Guests of Honor Will Include

CORY DOCTOROW — Electronic Frontier Foundation, SF author

WIL WHEATON — TechnoGeek, Author, & *Star Trek: TNG*

NAT TORKINGTON — *Perl Cookbook*, O'Reilly editor, perl6 project manager

KEVIN SIEMBIEDA — Palladium Books Founder, *Rifts Megaverse* RPG

Nifty Guests will include: horror/splatterpunk author Kathe Koja, internet software developer Joey deVilla, IP-lawyer Cathy Raymond and Quake champ Alice Taylor. Returning Guests include J.D. "Iliad" Fraser, Eric Raymond, Jon "maddog" Hall, Jeff "Hemos" Bates, Rob "CmdrTaco" Malda

Look for the CafePenguicon room party!

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Welcome (Back)

Hello! Welcome to 31 Flavors of ConFusion! I hope you have a wonderful time.

2004 wasn't exactly an easy year. The community mourned the loss of Iain O'Cain, many people struggled with their employment situation, and the year ended with a devastating tsunami in the Indian Ocean. It was the kind of year that reminds us all to hold our loved ones close, let them know how wonderful they are, and how loved, and renew our vows to support them through their trials and celebrate to the fullest their shining [and weird and silly] moments.

Around the con this weekend you'll see opportunities to help out a particularly beloved member of the community; former ConChair Tracy Worcester is fighting thyroid cancer. If all went as scheduled, she just had surgery to remove the cancer and now faces weeks of recovery and a lifetime of regular treatment. I'm sure she'll appreciate whatever kind of support you can offer.

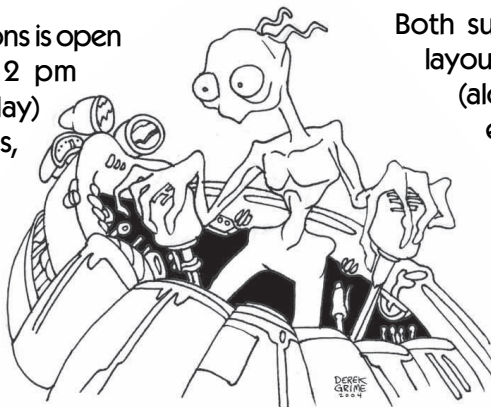
I have found ConFusion to be a gathering of extended family —you know, the family members you choose, not just the ones you were born with— and whether this is your first ConFusion or your 31st, I expect you will find yourself conversing (or dancing) with someone new who also feels vaguely familiar. An old friend you've just met, as the song says. We've aimed to provide plenty of different flavors of activity in which to meet up with friends new and old, and I hope you find (or create!) the flavor that's just right for you.

Best,
—Anne Murphy
ConChair

cover and text illustrations by Derek Grime

Operations

ConFusion Operations is open 24 hours a day (12 pm Friday to 3 pm Sunday) to answer questions, provide assistance, and keep the convention operating smoothly. Ops is the place to come if you're interested in volunteering, signing your little ones up for the pajama party, or to register after hours. We are located in the Coat room, right across from Salon H. Drop in anytime! §



and one non-smoking for your convenience. Both suites will have the usual generous layout of yummy edibles and beverages (alcoholic and non) for your culinary enjoyment. On Saturday evening, come and sample some creative frozen confections at our Ice Cream Social. Come hang out with us for a while. It's a great way to meet people and make new friends. See you there! §

Volunteer Corps

ConFusion is run entirely by an army of volunteers. Why don't you join us, and find out just how much fun throwing a party for 800 of your closest friends can be? As a member of our Volunteer Corps you will be eligible for the following perks:

Volunteer Dollars & Other Rewards

For every hour you work, you will receive one Volunteer Dollar, which can be used like cash in the snack bar in the hotel gift shop or in our Dealers Room. The three volunteers who donate the most hours of work will receive autographed T-shirts featuring ConFusion's Guests of Honor, and as many other notable authors, artists and musicians as we can get to sign them for you. Other special rewards for

all volunteers will be available at the Saturday night pizza party, open to all volunteers who have committed to working six or more hours throughout the weekend.

Volunteer Suite

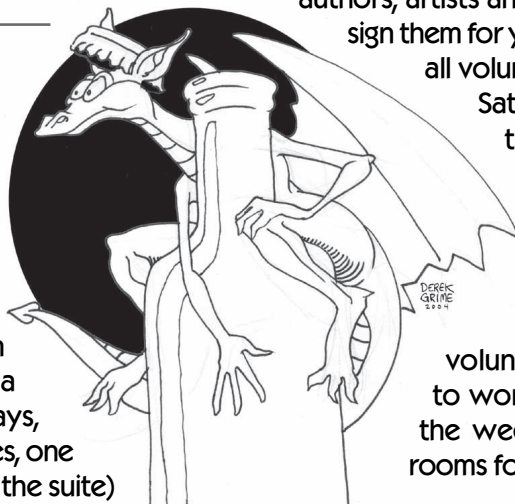
The Volunteer Suite is for volunteers who have committed to working 8 or more hours during the weekend. It will have separate rooms for men and women to sleep in

Reception

Have you been wanting to meet one of this year's Guests of Honor in Real, Live Person for years? Of course you have, and on Friday night at 11:00, Will Shetterly, Emma Bull, Derek Grime, Christian Ready, David Hartwel, Kathryn Cramer, and Steven Brust will be available in the central Mediterranean Room. Dessert and other food and drink will be served while guests and attendees mingle, talk, laugh, and make merry. §

Consuites

Come one, come all to our multi-flavored (well at least 31 of 'em) Consuite, which this year is brought to you by Sarah (the girl with the frog on her head) Lewis and John (that consuite-heart of a guy) Matthews. As always, there will be two consuites, one smoking (the people, not the suite)





throughout the convention, as well as a place to store your gear when you are not sleeping. The suite will be unlocked on an hourly basis during the hours of 10:00 am to 10:00 pm. After hours the key to the volunteer suite will be kept at Operations. The door to the suite will be locked when no one is in the room, but Confusion is not responsible for lost, stolen or misplaced items.

Membership Reimbursement

Once you have worked 8 hours (6 with a valid student identification) you will be eligible for a reimbursement or membership rollover. Simply go to Ops at 2:00 pm on Sunday to fill out the reimbursement paperwork. Memberships will only be reimbursed if the convention makes enough money to do so, and checks will be mailed after the convention. You may instead opt to have your membership roll over to ConFusion 2006.

A lot of our current ConCom members started in the Volunteer Corps. If you think you would like to help us improve next year's party, please contact us at confusion-volunteers@stilyagi.org or talk to the department heads you are assisting at the convention. §

the Return of **BACCHANAL**

August 2005

We're planning much of the classic fun & games from our past, including, but not limited to, great food & drink, interesting people to chat with, a masquerade ball, and, of course, a few games of our own making.

At press time the exact date wasn't set yet for the return of Michigan's Premiere Summertime Relaxacon. This is your opportunity to contact us with your preference. Or just write us to join the list for more information:

bacchanal@earthlink.net

Kidfusion

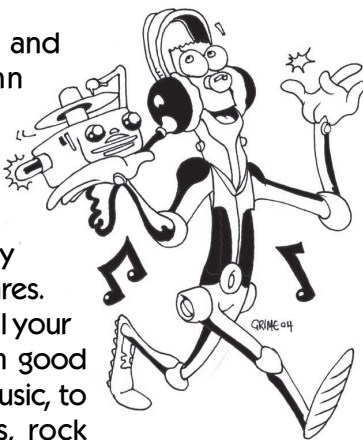
Come join the fun at Kidfusion 2005. We will create monsters, make paper airplanes that really fly, play with balls, balloons, and bubbles, design newspaper fashions, enjoy songs and stories and even **learn** how to belly dance! Kidfusion will run from Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. and will close for dinner and lunch breaks which will be posted. The fun ends Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. See you there! Kids ages 6 through 12 may participate in Kidfusion without a parent present. Children 5 and under must have a parent present as do kids-in-tow.



There will be an optional pajama party, for kids ages 6 through 12, Saturday night with movies, games, crafts and pizza. There will be a cost associated with this event and the children can register for the pajama party at the con prior to noon on Saturday. §

Dance

DJ Blasted Bill and his cohort John Matthews, aka DJ Brick, will be kicking out the tunage old Skool style playing a funky fly mix of all genres. We'll be playing all your favorite hits, from good old 80's dance music, to current favorites, rock classics, hip hop, a bit of techno and many more to make sure you get to



hear the songs you want. All happening in the easy-to-locate Salon F on Saturday at 9:00 pm or whenever the Masquerade ends. §

Filking

Once again, ConFusion is proud to present an excellent line up of musicians for your listening pleasure, and plenty of opportunity for your participation! Come sing a song about Vamps, Food or B-Movies at our themed circles, or about anything you'd like at an open circle. You don't sing? Find out about "found filk" with Steve Simmons, or host an Electronic Guest at Filk for Non-singers. Be prepared for fun and frolic at Sassy and Sarcastic, Guys and Guitars, and Science and Silliness. See a couple of GoH's in concert! And who knows what Tom Smith will have in store for us this year! Follow the melodies down to the Niles Rooms and enjoy. §

Art Show & Auction

The ConFusion 31 Art Show and Auction is one of the highlights of the convention. We have been working hard to expand the variety and quality of art to be displayed at this year's show. If last year was any indicator, we will be *packed* full of great art! Friday evening will offer a tour of the Art Show to be hosted by a guest artist. The Art Auction will be Saturday evening with the new twist (come and see!). We are looking forward to a wonderful show and hope to see you all there! §

S.F.O.H.A.

Wondering who that is recording the panel you're attending? The Science Fiction Oral History Association is recording many things here at ConFusion. We're a group dedicated to capturing the oral history of science fiction — pros, fans, everything — on tape! We have over thirty years of recordings from events like this. If you are on a panel, please make sure to fill out



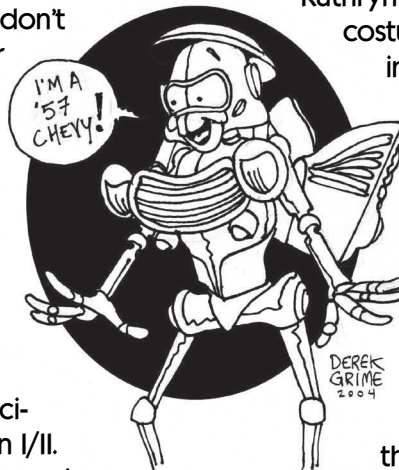
the SFOHA permissions release form in your program participant packet and turn it in at Ops. You can also find copies of those online at www.sfoha.org and mail them to us afterwards. That will allow us to make these recordings available to researchers and the public in the future. If you would like to help — right

now! — please inquire at Ops or ask anyone wearing a SFOHA ribbon. §

Masquerade

Our third formal Masquerade will be held in the Salons F/G/H at 8:00 pm on Saturday. All are invited to participate and to attend! This year our MC is Chuck Firment, aka Bubble Man! For 2005 we are offering a special award for the Masquerade entry judged as the *Best (Bad) B Movie* science fiction or fantasy costume. And new this year is our Non-Competitive Stream. If you have a costume and would like to strut your stuff on stage but don't want to compete for whatever reason, sign up for the Non-Competitive Stream and take a turn under the lights!

Costumes should preregister for the Masquerade by 3:00 pm Saturday. Forms are available at Registration and/or Ops. Completed forms should be turned in at Ops. Muster for Masquerade participants is at 7:00 pm in Dennison I/II. Salon doors open for Masquerade



graphics design & desktop publishing
entertainment --
-- dj services
-- slot car racing
photography
videography

dionysianproductions@earthlink.net

seating after 7:30pm. Awards will be announced at 11pm, during the dance.

Hall Costumes

Watch for our judge circulating on Saturday evening looking for hall costumes that deserve special recognition. In addition, our Fan GoH Kathryn Cramer will be our special hall costume judge on Saturday night, looking for the costume with the most outrageous pants in order to bestow the David G. Hartwell Honorary Bad Pants Award!

If you want to be part of a Costume Parade (open to anyone in costume) leading up to the awards announcement on Saturday night, show up near the Salons at 10:45 pm and be ready to play Follow-the-Leader.

continued over

Junk Pile Wars

Ever looked at a winning costume and thought “I could do that, with one hand tied behind my back and only one hour to make it?” Well, here’s your chance to prove it! Once again ConFusion is offering DIY costumers a chance to play Junk Pile Wars. We supply basic tools, a room, and a pile of random supplies. You supply your innate creativity and craft a costume in only one hour. Afterwards, go that one step further and compete in the special popular-vote lightning round at the Masquerade. Junk Pile Wars is scheduled for 6:00 pm Saturday evening to lead you into the Masquerade. You too could win an award with little more than duct tape and inspiration. Junk Pile Wars is limited to 10 participants. §

Tipping and Toeing Through the Hotel

First, wear foot coverings! Health and safety regulations require that hotel guests wear something on their feet in the hotel lobby. Help everyone meet the code, and make our stay here pleasant (and less chilly!) by putting something on your tootsies.

Second, hotel tipping involves being nice to the people who are doing nice things for us. And wow! The Marriott staff are very nice, aren’t they? So here are some guidelines used in our culture for expressing standard amounts of appreciation:

Tip the housekeeper who does the work, daily, \$1 - \$5, depending on how messy you leave your room. Tip the bellman \$.50 - \$1



per bag, depending on weight and awkwardness. Tip the room service staff 15% of the bill (before tax).

What if you forgot to tip someone, and you really want to leave a tip? Great! You can leave it at the front desk. Really. When you’re checking out, ask for an envelope, address it to “Housekeeper, <room number>, <night>,” and fill with whatever you feel appropriate. It will go to the right person, and you will feel like a model citizen. §

Food Options

The hotel has a really good restaurant! Check out the bar, too, which has a modified menu (with modified prices), including the fan favorite: the baked potato!

The hotel will shuttle any hotel guest anyplace within five miles of the hotel. There are lots of restaurants in the area: check out the Restaurant Guide for suggestions. The Restaurant Guide is available near Ops or Registration.

Use your Volunteer Dollars or other cash at the hotel concession stand in the lobby from noon to 3:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. They’ll have cheese or pepperoni pizza for \$2.50 and soda for \$1 per can. The hotel gift shop has sandwiches from the kitchen all week-end long, cookies, brownies, and other yummy stuff, and is open 24 hours.

Remember to eat at least one real meal each day of the weekend! §



ConClave 30



Featuring:
Wen Spencer
Butch Honeck
Steve Collins
Uncle Kage
Tom Smith

October 7-9, 2005

Holiday Inn South-Convention Center
6820 South Cedar St., Lansing, MI

Emma Bull's Schedule

FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H

Opening Ceremonies

FRI 9:00 pm SALON F/G/H

Steven Brust, Emma Bull, and
the Fabulous Lorraine

FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)

Dessert Reception

SAT 1:00 pm DENN I/II

What Makes a Book Good?

SAT 3:00 pm SALON F

Interview

SAT 5:00 pm DENN III

Reading

SUN 11:00 am SALON F

Creating Believable History

Will Shetterly's Schedule

FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H

Opening Ceremonies

FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)

Dessert Reception

SAT 11:00 am DENN III

Reading

SAT 1:00 pm DENN I/II

What Makes a Book Good?

SAT 3:00 pm SALON F

Interview

SAT 5:00 pm SALON F

Writing from a Religious
Viewpoint

Emma Bull and Will Shetterly Author Guests of Honor

by Will Shetterly

Science fiction brought us together. I suppose you could also say that school did: we both graduated from Beloit College in Wisconsin. But we may have never met if we hadn't loved the same books.

In 1975, my girlfriend of the time saw Emma reading one of the Foundation novels, and asked her if it was any good, and said she asked because her boyfriend read a lot of science fiction. Emma assured her that it was, and that very evening, my girlfriend dragged me off to meet a woman who also read science fiction. I wasn't terribly excited at the idea; every reader in the field loves a different subset of books, and I knew the odds were small that this stranger and I would like the same work.

But sometimes the universe is on your side. My girlfriend had found a tall, cheerful, dark-haired woman whose book shelves were stocked with the writers I loved: Delany, Zelazny, LeGuin, Bester, Leiber, Laumer, Heinlein, Asimov—

And we had other things in common. As children, our families had moved often, hers because her father's company kept sending him to new locations, mine because my father kept seeking new occupations when he got bored. We were both taking English Literature and English Composition classes. We both wanted to be writers.

We became best friends quite quickly. We started a literary magazine, an ambitious little thing that came out every three weeks. Inspired by the Society for Creative Anachronism, we threw a Medieval feast. We went to the school's Coughyhouse (a place better known for its beer than its coffee), and listened to music, and talked about art.

After we graduated, Emma and her boyfriend went off to Minneapolis. My girlfriend and I went to Rhode Island. Emma and I kept in touch by letter. My girlfriend and I broke up; I went to New York, worked in publishing as an editorial assistant and a production aide, acted Off-Off-Broadway, and had a tiny part in an atrocious horror film titled *Toxic Zombies*. Emma did technical writing for a computer company and sold articles to a monthly newspaper.

In 1980, I went to visit Minneapolis and fell in love with the

Will Shetterly



Emma Bull



city. I can't say when I realized that I had fallen in love with Emma, but we married on October 17, 1981.

Among the many wonderful things Minneapolis has to offer is a large and supportive science fiction organization, Minn-stf. Through it, Emma and I met others who wanted to write. We put together a writing group, the Scribbles, with Patricia C. Wrede, Steven Brust, Pamela Dean, Nathan Bucklin, and the two of us. Our group was very lucky. Within a few years, we had all sold stories, and added another member who's now published, Kara Dalkey.

Emma's first sale was a short story in *Sword and Sorceress*. Mine was a swords and sorcery novel, *Cats Have No Lord*. Emma's first novel was one of the first works of the urban fantasy sub-genre, *War for the Oaks*, a story about a rock musician caught up in a battle by the forces of Faerie for control of Minneapolis.

Terri Windling was editing for Ace Books then. She noticed that something unusual was happening in Minneapolis. She asked Emma and me to edit a series of "shared world" anthologies

in which many writers would create stories set in the same world. With the help of our fellow Scribbles, we developed the city of Liavek, then invited other writers to help us tell its tales: Gene Wolfe, Jane Yolen, Barry B. Longyear, Alan Moore, Charles de Lint, Walter Jon Williams, and others contributed to the five volumes of life in Liavek.

Though we began our careers with high fantasy, we went on to write science fiction (Emma's *Falcon*; my *The Tangled Lands*), and other things. Emma's *Bone Dance* was a finalist for the Hugo, the Nebula, and the World Fantasy Award—you get to decide where it should be shelved. We've both written novels set in Terri Windling's elf-punk world of the Borderlands (Emma's *Finder*; my *Elsewhere* and *Nevernever*). Then we wrote historical fantasies. Emma's collaboration with Steven Brust, *Freedom and Necessity*, is set in England in 1849. My *Dogland* is set in Florida in the late 'fifties and early 'sixties.

Our interest in new things took us from

continued on page 17



Above: a photo mosaic Derek made out of frames from films he has worked on.

Derek Grime's Schedule

FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H
Opening Ceremonies

FRI 9:00 pm LOBBY
Art Show Tour

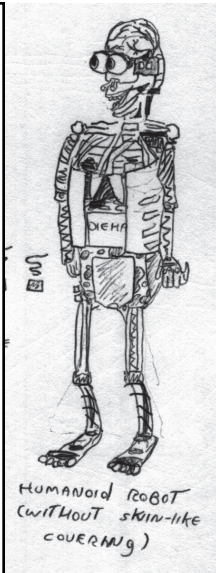
FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)
Dessert Reception

SAT 11:00 am DENN I/II
The "Making Of"

SAT 1:00 pm SALON G
The Future of VFX & CGI

SAT 4:00 pm SALON H
Life Before, During, & After
Digital Art

SUN 11:00 am SALON H
The Art of Illustration



Derek Grime - Artist Guest of Honor

Some kids want to be an astronaut or a writer or a doctor when they grow up. For as long as he can remember, Derek just wanted to draw monsters.

Growing up, his room was filled with monster magazines and monster posters and monster model kits. His schoolbooks were covered with drawings of monsters. His family and teachers were chagrined. They told him "Why don't you draw something nice? You can't make a living drawing monsters!"

Undeterred, Derek held on to his dream of making a career out of drawing monsters. He studied classical animation at college. Pictures were laboriously hand-drawn, hand-traced onto individual sheets of hand-painted celluloid and then shot onto 16mm film. Twelve drawings for every second of motion. But they moved and it was magical!

During this time he contributed to several fanzines as well as displaying his art at many science fiction conventions in the US and Canada, and even winning several ribbons for his fan art.. He met his future wife, SF writer Stephanie Bedwell-Grime at a convention in Toronto in 1979. She was wearing full yellow body makeup, hence the initial attraction...

Following college, he opened his own computer graphics studio in 1985 and it wasn't long before he wondered, "Maybe you can use a computer to make a better monster?" Still, early computers offered their own challenges...

Twenty years ago, home computers ran at a blistering 10 MHZ and displayed a whopping 16 colors. A small workstation was the size of a large refrigerator. Special effects in movies were

done by hand, with scale models or camera tricks or stop-motion animation.

Most computer animation in those early days looked like plastic Tinker Toys moving over checkerboard backgrounds. Shiny chrome

logos spun through space. Nobody had yet been morphed, motion captured, digitized or synthesized. The idea of using a computer for visual effects hadn't really happened yet.

But Derek saw the potential. A new computer called the Amiga had just come out. Derek bought one of the first ones ever sold. He knew little about computers, but soon he was mak-

Christian Ready - Science Guest of Honor

Christian Ready spent his childhood near Philadelphia watching “Star Trek” and reading science fiction. At age five he came to a critical crossroads when he had to decide whether to become an astronomer or a UFO researcher. He chose to study the planets and stars in order to avoid becoming a target for alien abduction, and so far this plan has worked splendidly.

At 13, he was hired at the nearby Sproul Observatory at Swarthmore College, helping to create star catalogs (no, you can’t call up and order your favorite one). He earned his degree in Astronomy & Astrophysics from Villanova University and went to work at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, MD. There he oversaw the implementation of observations with the Hubble Space Telescope. He later worked at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center conducting flight operations on the Fast Auroral Snapshot Explorer (FAST) and on the Transitional Region Coronal Explorer (TRACE), both capturing data on solar activity. A short while later, Christian returned to the business of observation planning and scheduling on the X-Ray Timing Explorer spacecraft. As with most of NASA’s missions, budgets run out and astronomers have to start looking elsewhere for work. Currently, Christian is now a self-employed web developer, pursuing a little something he likes to call “making a living.”

Chris lives in Maryland with his wife, author Jeri Smith-Ready. He is also a Major in the Civil Air Patrol, the civilian auxiliary of the US Air Force, taking part in search and rescue missions, disaster relief, mentoring youth in the cadet program and, best of all, aerospace education.

By far, Christian’s most satisfying work in astronomy has always been giving talks like the ones here at ConFusion. He loves to share his wonder at the universe with audiences around the country and hopes that his presentations can inspire others to learn, create, or even just dream. §



Christian Ready’s Schedule

FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H
Opening Ceremonies

FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)
Dessert Reception

SAT 10:00 am DENN I/II
The Solar System & Star Birth

SAT 12:00 pm DENN I/II
Star Death, Galaxies, and Cosmology

SAT 3:00 pm CONCIERGE
The Solar System & You

SAT 6:00 pm SALON E
Art Auction

David G. Hartwell - The Man Behind The Ties



Fan Guest of Honor

by Patrick O'Leary

It is an honor to pay tribute to a man who has made a profound impact not only on my personal work but on the work of my field of play. David Hartwell is no doubt familiar to many who attend this and other SF cons around the country. He is a fixture. A gaudy fixture. A spin art rainbow run amuck fixture of haberdashery chaos—offensive to all proponents of taste, balance, restraint and coordination. But there is a method to his madness. He inflicts his attire upon all innocent eyeballs for reasons of surpassing logic. Some people make Statements. David wears his. A singular indictment of that most ubiquitous yet corrupt social force: Fashion. Here we have the perfect example of the conscious lifestyle choice: the Socratic precept embodied in wardrobe: a truly Examined Life. Nevertheless, we can clearly see that though this emperor is fully clothed, he is as misguided as any nudist who makes his private agenda public. Here we see that even the most thoughtful response by the most impressive brain can, in spite of itself, result in Total Error. Were it not for the comedy of such a woeful trail of logic, Mister Hartwell's wardrobe would be irredeemable, and he would be subject to litigation, banishment, shunning and yes, in a more stringent era: crucifixion.

But let us move on. A man is more than the sum of his closet no matter how often Walt Disney threw up in it. A man of such stature must be acknowledged no matter how grievous his faults. A voice of such measured opinion should be forgiven his one lapse into excess. An expert so qualified to expound upon the history as well as the trajectory of genre literature should not be held responsible for his genre's marginalization. This is how we dress in our ghetto of choice. And those who know him know that David Hartwell is a treasure and we are most lucky to have him. Colorblind? Perhaps. Dismissible? Nay. Should anyone here

be tempted to tout his palette to cast doubts upon his taste and influence as an editor, let me list just a few of the grateful authors David's hand has guided over the years: Phillip K. Dick, Gene Wolfe, Octavia E. Butler, James Morrow, Nancy Kress, Lisa Goldstein, Kathleen Ann Goonan, Spider Robinson, Michael Bishop—I could go on. It is only a slight exaggeration to say that it would be easier to name those whose work he has not touched than those he has.

Renowned Editor, Noted Anthologist, Publisher of *The New York Review of Science Fiction*, Doctor of Medieval Comparative Literature, Perennial Hugo Nominee, Critic, Panelist, Lover of Books, Son, Husband, Father, Teen Angel Crooner, and Butcher of all that is holy in that most unholy world of Style, New Englander, Suburbanite, Weirdo, Geek and True Blue Fan, we unabashedly and most affectionately salute David G. Hartwell. §

David Hartwell's Schedule

FRI 7:00 pm DENN III/IV
Space Opera

FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H
Opening Ceremonies

FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)
Dessert Reception

SAT 12:00 pm SALON H
What's New at Tor Books?

SAT 4:00 pm SALON G
Signing

SAT 5:00 pm DENN IV
Fan GoH Induction
Ceremony

SUN 10:00 am DENN IV
Coffee

Kathryn Cramer - Fan Guest of Honor

by Steven Silver

When talented families come to mind, names like Barrymore, Leakey, and Bach trip off the tongue. Add to this the name of the Hartwell-Cramer family. Kathryn Cramer's husband, David Hartwell, is a pleasant enough man, although he has abysmal taste in ties and jackets. Her children, Peter and Elizabeth, are more than cute and clever enough for children twice their age. Her father, John Cramer, is a nuclear physicist and has published hard science fiction novels.

However, Kathryn has made her own mark, with numerous award nominations in her own right as well as a World Fantasy Award sitting on her shelf. She has been recognized for her work with the New York Review of Science Fiction (which a) you should read and b) really deserves a Hugo), the anthologies *Walls of Fear*, *The Ascent of Wonder*, and *The Hard SF Renaissance*. Her World Fantasy Award was earned for *The Architecture of Fear*.

Over the last several years, in conjunction with David, Kathryn has been responsible for the HarperPrism *Year's Best SF* and *Year's Best Fantasy* series. These excellent, and affordable, books allow readers to delve into the best short fiction published each year without having a shelf full of magazines and anthologies. Kathryn and David read the dreck so you don't have to.

When she isn't working industriously as the art director for the Hugo Award nominated New York Review of Science Fiction, or putting together anthologies with her aforementioned husband, or raising those wonderful children, Kathryn can be found behind a computer monitor



blogging away at <http://www.kathryncramer.com/wblog/>.

She fills her screen with varied pixels demonstrating her broad range of interests.

More than just an editor, Kathryn holds a BA in mathematics and a Masters in American studies. She taught science fiction and fantasy writing at Harvard during Summer School for five years. In 1990, she was nominated for the Pioneer Award by the Science Fiction Research Association.

She has long had an interest in hypertext and created a hypertext companion to *The Hard SF Renaissance* and a interactive introduction to *The Ascent of Wonder*. Kathryn is an advocate of using hypertextuality to supplement the traditional reading experience.

One of the best things about Kathryn is how easy it is to underestimate her. If you see her sitting in the audience of a panel with Peter and Elizabeth, or walking through the halls, the brilliant mind capable of juggling all her interests and activities may not immediately be apparent. And then, you'll say "Hello," and Kathryn will start talking and you'll understand that you are in the presence of an intellectual giant. §

Kathryn Cramer's Schedule

FRI 7:00 pm DENN III/IV
Space Opera
FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H
Opening Ceremonies
FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)
Dessert Reception
SAT 11:00 am SALON G
Blogging: News,
Opinions, People, Life
SAT 4:00 pm SALON G
Signing



photo by David Dyer-Bennet

Steven Brust's Schedule

FRI 8:00 pm SALON F/G/H
Opening Ceremonies

FRI 9:00 pm SALON F/G/H
Steven Brust, Emma Bull,
and the Fabulous Lorraine

FRI 11:00 pm MED (inner)
Dessert Reception

SAT 1:00 pm DENN I/II
What Makes a Book Good?

SUN 11:00 am SALON F
Creating Believable History

Steven Brust - Toastmaster

A Hungarian Commie in King Arthur's Court
or, The Vicomte d'Adrilanka
or, A Rose for Iconoclastes

by Steven Brust's title-fairy-under-contract, Emma Bull

Let's get the technical details out of the way right at the start. It's Steven with a V. And I know it looks as if it ought to rhyme with "bust," but it doesn't; it's Brust, rhymes with "boost." There, now you know.

I met Steve ... you know, I don't remember when I met Steve. I know it was in Minneapolis. Unless it was in Saint Paul. Well, I'm confident that it was in the context of a meeting of the Minnesota Science Fiction Society. Minn-stf, like any cultural unit, rewards certain kinds of behavior: music-making, for one; being funny, for another; and, for want of a better term, a sort of hybrid vigor of personality that leads to entertaining, theatrical, and sometimes downright erratic behavior. When I found Minn-stf Steve was already in place, with a three-quarter size Martin guitar on his knee, a repertoire of evil-minded funny songs and Bill Cosby voices, and ... It's the hybrid vigor that brings us to the heart of the matter, really, since I don't hang out with Steve merely because he's the only drummer I know. A friend of mine recently defined charm as that quality which keeps its possessor from being pounded into the floor like a nail. The same person suggested that Steve was the most charming person of his acquaintance. You see, along with the entertaining, theatrical, and occasionally erratic behavior, Steve also exhibited traits that Minn-stf found confusing at least, and disconcerting the rest of the time.

I guess what sums it up best is that Steve didn't seem to consider himself finished. He treated himself as a work in progress, and didn't appear to notice that the people around him, having attained legal adulthood, had varnished their tastes and opinions and skills with that clear plastic stuff recommended for sealing bar tops (guaranteed non-porous, inflexible, and chemically non-reactive). No, Steve wanted to argue about any subject that he considered important, because that was part of the process of finding out what his opinion was. He wanted to learn

to do new things, and kept at them even when, like most people learning to do something new, he wasn't good at them yet. And he recognized the difference between not liking things and not knowing about them, and set out to educate himself, in a startling and methodical fashion, about all manner of music, art, literature, food, and drink. I don't remember becoming friends with Steve, either; I don't remember the process. But I know that the above list of traits had a lot to do with it. Which is why I jumped at the chance to start a band with this guy (three times), and

a writers' group (only once, but with the right writers' group, you only need one).

In the course of our acquaintance, Steve has become a good banjo player, a very good drummer, and a very, very good writer, of fiction and of songs. You already know where to find his novels, I hope; you can sample his musical talents on the two albums by Cats Laughing, *Reissue* and *Another Way to Travel*, and on his solo album, *A Rose for Iconoclastes*, as well as on the Flash Girls' albums, where he supplies some tasty percussion. The above-mentioned solo album offers up a whole CD's worth of his singing and songwriting, a thing a lot of us have wanted for a long time.

Steve's religious affiliation was always Hungarian; he owns a Hungarian vest, is on his second Hungarian dog, and has a fine hand with chicken paprikash. His other religious convictions derive from and center around poker, which

has proved to be an inexhaustible source of philosophical insight. He appreciates the most extreme and esoteric of single-malt scotches (such as Laphroig, otherwise known as "dead bodies and seaweed"), though he still says that really good beer is wasted on him. He hates accordions, introductions to songs that explain what the song is about, fiction that preaches, and he hates it when the Adrilanka Jhereg don't make it to the playoffs in the board game football league.

He's still a work in progress. He refuses to write the same book twice, and sets himself a new creative hurdle to get over with each story. And he still has to argue about the really important stuff, to find out what he believes. The only thing I know of that he fears is boredom.

Steven, pour me some Talisker. [clink.] Thank you. Here's to works in progress, and no end, thank God, in sight. §

Will Shetterly & Emma Bull, continued from 11

Minneapolis to Los Angeles in 1996. Screenwriting appealed to us, so we loaded up the truck and moved to Beverly--uh, Studio City, that is. We sold some screenplays and proposals. Whether any will be produced, we can't say; Hollywood is the land where many scripts are optioned and few are made. But we loved L.A. as much as Minneapolis, perhaps because they're as different as two American cities can be, and the challenges presented by screenwriting were as interesting as those presented by novels.

And then we tired of cities. We went to a lot of towns that people said were good places for artists. We realized at a certain point that we were comparing them all to Bisbee, Arizona, so we moved there.

What else should you know?

In 1994, I ran for governor of Minnesota on the Grassroots Party ticket and came in third in

a field of six.

Emma is a musician. She was in Cats Laughing, a band that included Steven Brust, and then in the Flash Girls, an acoustic goth-folk duo that won the 1995 Minnesota Music Award for Best World Folk Group.

I wrote some comic books, including the alternate-universe tale of Captain Confederacy, which focused on an interracial couple in a world in which the Confederacy won the Civil War. We've both been vegetarians for about ten years, though we'll happily reminisce about the joys of eating barbecue with our flesh-eating friends.

In L.A., we joined the Unitarian-Universalist church, perhaps the only form of organized religion I can endorse since they don't ask their members to believe in anything more than respecting the beliefs of others.

And you can find our web page at www.qwertyranch.com if this isn't enough.

We're honored to be your guests. We hope

Derek Grime, continued from 12 ing his monsters move on the computer. He'd discovered the monster in the box.

Since then, he has contributed visual effects to over 20 feature films, 12 cable features, 85 television episodes and 36 commercials.

He has worked on movies such as "Fight Club", "Existenz", "Bride of Chucky", "The Tuxedo", "Bulletproof Monk" and even "Thomas and the Magic Railroad".

His television work includes *Tekwar*, *Lexx* and *John Woo's Once a Thief*.

Derek has also supervised the 3D animation on numerous commercials, including 3 of the well-known Robaxacet spots featuring the dancing marionettes.

He has been awarded a Gemini for his work on the Tekwar series. The Gemini is Canada's equivalent to the Emmy. That Gemini was the first ever awarded for "Visual Effects". He also won a Monitor Award for the pilot episode of the series.

Monsters have been good to Derek. They haven't let him down yet!

In his spare time he enjoys more analog pursuits, like painting monsters in Acrylics and Oils and listening to vinyl records on a vacuum tube amplifier. You can visit some of his monsters at <http://www3.sympatico.ca/gridwell/painting.htm>

— Stephanie Bedwell-Grime §

Confusion Policies

Please Wear Your Con Badge in all convention function areas. We can't remember everyone's face. Any badge without a number is NOT a legitimate badge and will not be recognize as one. Please don't lend your badge to anyone. Doing so will get both you and your borrower asked to leave the convention without a refund.

Please notify the ConCom of any problems or concerns you may have about the convention. We can't provide a remedy if we don't know one is needed. On the flip side, please let us know what you liked and what you'd like to see added for next year. Come to "What Did We Do Right, and What Can We Do Better" on Sunday at 3 pm in the Theater for your best opportunity to be heard.

The Confusion Convention

Committee reserves the right to expel you without a refund should you forget the common sense rules of respect, tolerance and peaceful conditions for others attending the convention. Don't make us have to.

The age of consent is still 16. We all know what 15 will get you...

Controlled & Illegal Substances -

You know what could get you busted. So do we. So do the authorities. Do us all a favor and just don't go there. Because if you do, we won't follow or come get you.

Michigan's minimum drinking age is 21. No exceptions will be made, so please don't ask, and please be understanding if we ask you to show your ID. Our consuite barkeeps also reserve the right to serve those who appear to have had enough, or too much.

Alcohol and Room Parties - If you're holding a room party, please make sure that you are not serving alcohol to anyone under 21. This includes minors serving themselves. Any party found to be serving to minors, or letting them serve themselves will be closed down immediately. No exceptions.

Drinking and Driving -

Michigan has a very tough drinking-and-driving law. Anyone pulled over for driving while intoxicated who fails or refuses to submit to a breathalyzer test will have his or her license cut up. A temporary permit will be issued, good for 77 days or until the case is resolved in court. If you are convicted of DWI the law requires a six-month suspension of your license, and you will not be able to get a limited driving license at all for the first 30 days. There are also much heavier penalties for subsequent convictions and accidents when the driver is under the influence of alcohol. Please Don't Drink and Drive!

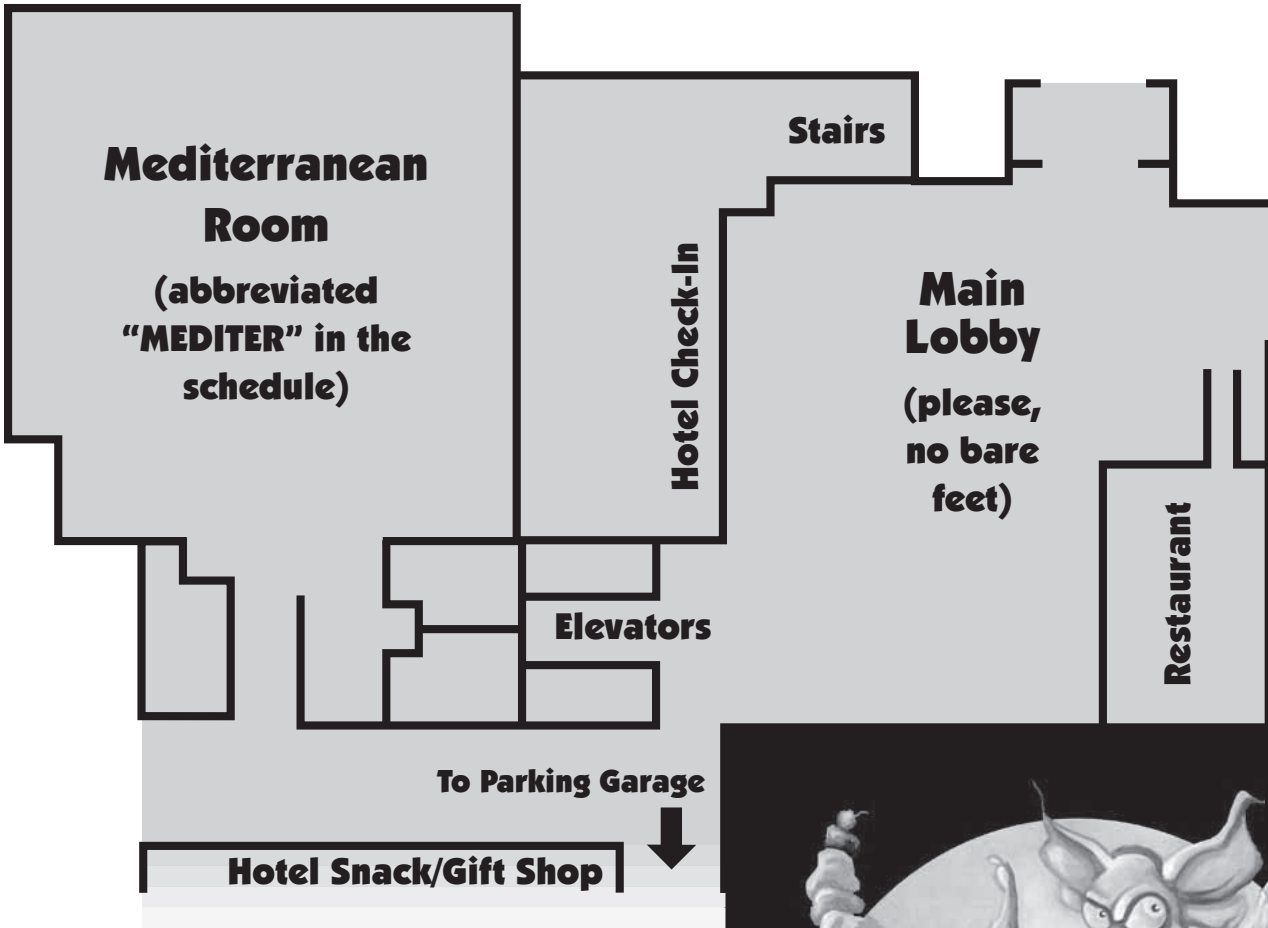
Weapons Policy - ConFusion recognizes that weapons can be the finishing touches on many costumes. In order to allow fans to continue this tradition, we ask that all weapons, of any kind, be peacebonded. Come to Operations to get red yarn to mark your peacebonded weapon - if you say you won't draw your weapon, we're prepared to believe you. However... ConFusion's policy is: If it looks

like a real weapon, it IS a real weapon. Real or realistic-looking firearms are NOT permitted even if peacebonded. A blade longer than 3 inches is illegal too, but will be allowed in the convention's function space as part of a costume if peacebonded. No one should use a weapon - sword, staff, martial arts device, or whatever, for anything but leaning on. If a convention attendee annoys, frightens, or fights with others, the Con reserves the right to eject that attendee without refund of membership. If you want to show your support of the option of peacebonding you're invited to stop by Operations and get your Con Badge peacebonded!



BDSM Policy - Similarly, ConFusion recognizes that many fans enjoy the opportunity to flaunt their leather, lace and PVC in their costuming activities. However, please keep in mind that "Safe, Sane and Consensual" includes bystanders.

Other convention members did not consent to see you flogging your partner in the hallway. For this reason, we will be peacebonding all BDSM implements with purple string. Please come to Operations to show your support and have your floggers, cats, and crops peacebonded. What you do with them in your hotel room is up to you (as long as you don't bind your toys to the sprinkler system), but please refrain from demonstrating in the function space. §

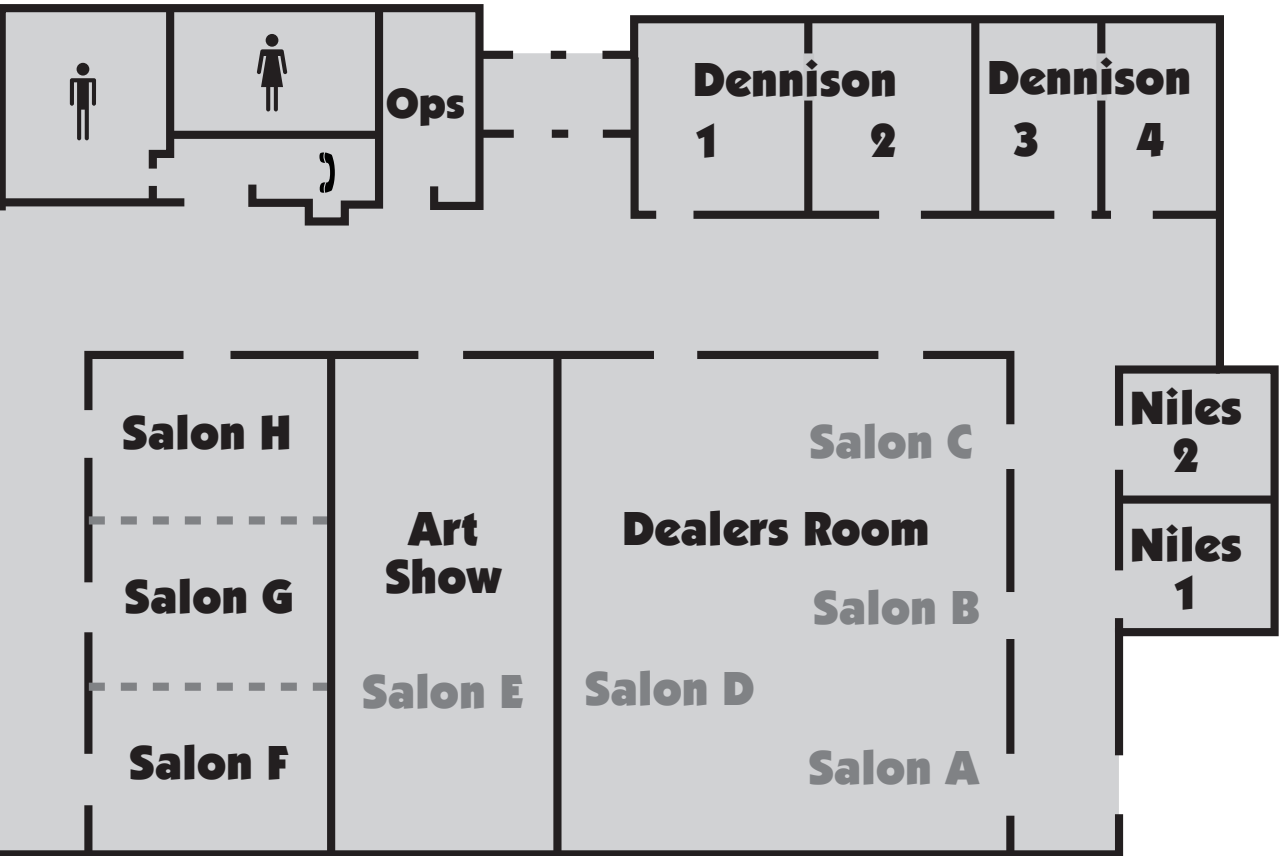


Pool: 2nd floor.

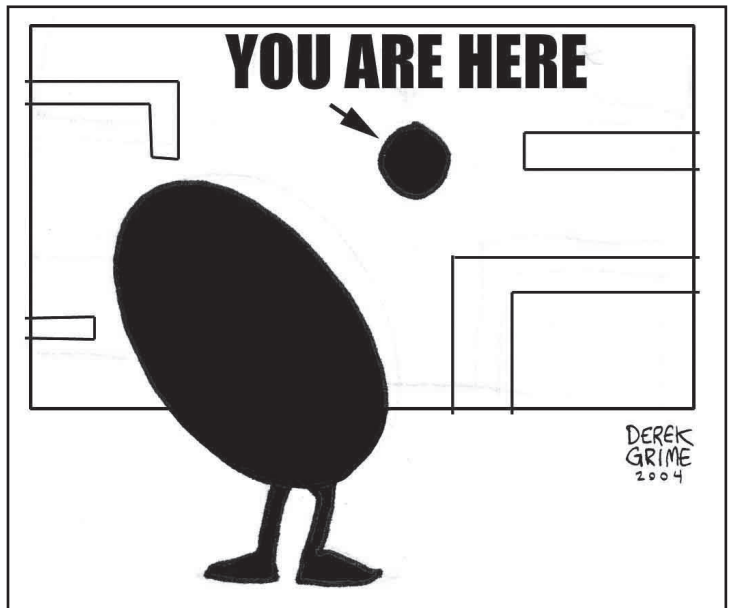
KidFusion/Concierge Room: 12th floor. Follow signs.

Smoking Consuite: 14th floor. Hospitality Parlor 1412 including guest rooms 1410 and 1416.

Non-smoking Consuite: 15th floor. Hospitality Parlor 1512 including guest rooms 1510 & 1516.



Dealers Room Hours:
 Fri 4-8, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-3



MARCON 40

Memorial Day Weekend, May 27 - 29, 2005
Hyatt Regency Columbus, Ohio

Join us for a Fannish Family Reunion!

In celebration of 40 years of fun, fantasy, science fiction and filk
Marcon welcomes back **LARRY NIVEN** as our **Guest of Honor!**

Other Guests of Honor include:

Toastmaster: MIKE RESNICK

Artist: LARRY ELMORE

Filk: TOM SMITH

Fan: HOWARD DEVORE

Featured Fan Group:

FIRST FANDOM

Costuming: ANIMAL X

Editor: STEVE SAFFEL of Del Rey

Gaming: STEVE JACKSON

Science: GEOFFREY LANDIS

Comics GOH/Featured Gaming:

JOHN KOVALIC

GOHst: ROGER ZELAZNY

Marcon offers a variety of programming including writer workshops, Masquerade, Art Show, Dealers Room, concerts, children's activities, and seminars on science fiction & fantasy literature, art, science, film & TV, plus costuming, make-up & special effects

2 Ways to SAVE!

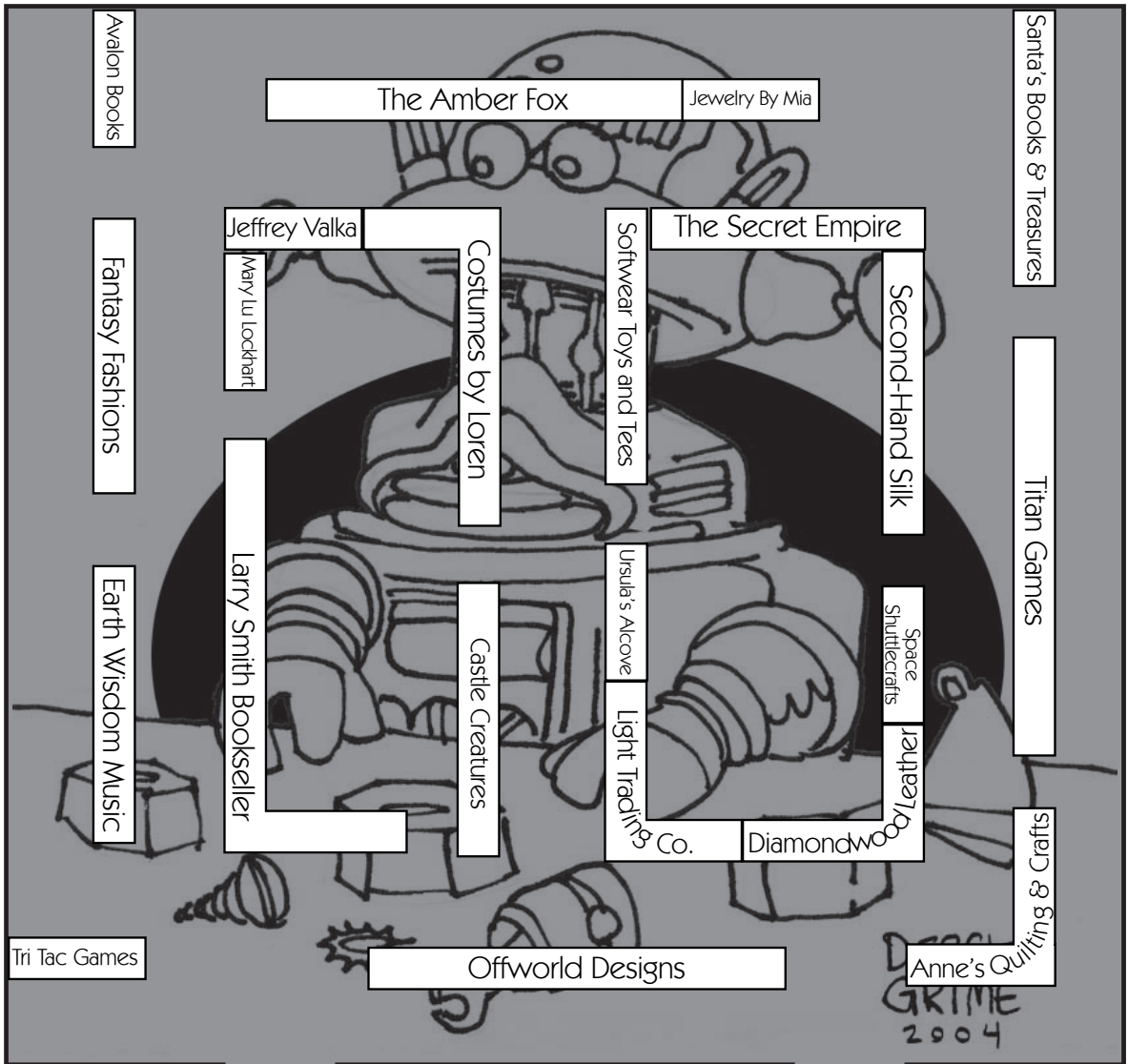
Group Registration: 10 or more registrations, at one time, in one envelope, save \$5 for EACH registration!

Stay at the Hyatt and SAVE: Each registrant at the door who brings a room registration for the convention at the Hyatt with their name on it will receive a \$5 credit against their registration! To be verified after the convention.

For updates and more information, write
MARCON, P.O. Box 141414, Columbus, Ohio 43214

or visit www.marcon.org





Dealers Room Hours:

Fri 4-8
 Sat 10-6
 Sun 11-3

Dealers List

Anne's Quilting & Crafts
 Avalon Books
 Castle Creatures
 Costumes By Loren
 Diamondwood Leather

Earth Wisdom Music
 Fantasy Fashions
 Jeffrey Valka
 Jewelry By Mia
 Larry Smith Bookseller
 Light Trading Co.
 Mary Lu Lockhart

Offworld Designs
 Santa's Books and Treasures
 Second-Hand Silk
 Space Shuttlecrafts
 Software Toys & Tees

Titan Games
 The Amber Fox
 The Secret Empire
 Tri Tac Games
 Ursula's Alcove

Schedule of Events



Key: Concierge is KidFusion except for Chocolate Ritual. "Mediter": Mediterranean Room

FRIDAY

6:00 pm

CONCIERGE **KidFusion: Cartooning for Kids - Monsters** Kurt Erichsen
Cartoon your own a monster as well as a collaborative one that will be used to build a balloon sculpture.

7:00 pm

CONCIERGE **KidFusion: Belly Dancing Workshop for Kids & Parents** Karen Everson
Parents and kids learn the basics of belly dancing.

DENNISON I/II **Attending Your First ConFusion**

Erik Kauppi, Jim Overmyer, Juana Overmyer, Lady Sarah
Go to this panel to find out more about the convention. These people know lots - ask them anything about ConFusion, Stilyagi, or, heck, ask 'em anything and see what they say!

DENNISON III/IV **Space Opera** David Hartwell, Kathryn Cramer
The state of this historical sub-genre in today's literature.

MEDITER (outer) **Lunch Money Wandering Tournament** Eric McGlohon
Start with three tokens. Wander the convention, calling out other players for impromptu lunch money battles to win one of their tokens. The player with the most tokens at 2pm Sunday wins! Bring your own copy if you can, games provided if you can't.

NILES I/II **Filk Free for All**
For those filkers that just can't wait... grab a space and see who else shows up!

8:00 pm

CONCIERGE **KidFusion: Harry Potter Trivia Hour** Kenn Ferguson, Lisa Ragsdale
Come test your knowledge of Harry Potter Trivia.

NILES I/II **Filk for Non-Singers** Martha Bay
So, you don't sing, but you love filk? Bring down your favorite CD's and share them with friends! Share a classic from an absent performer! Tell us about someone new that we "just have to hear!" No singing required! Moderated.

SALON F/G/H Opening Ceremonies

Al Bogdan, Brynna Ramin, Christian Ready,

David Hartwell, Derek Grime, Emma Bull, Kathryn Cramer, Steven Brust, Will Shetterly

Introductions to the Guests of Honor, and welcome to all ConFusion attendees.

9:00 pm**DENNISON I/II Universe Happenings with Brother Guy**

Br. Guy Consolmagno

Brother Guy Consolmagno, the Vatican Astronomer and previous Science Guest of Honor, presents the current events in the space surrounding us.

DENNISON III/IV Clothing & Character

Deirdre McDaniel, Kenneth Darden,

Randy Asplund, Sarah Zettel

Costumers, an author, and an artist get together to talk about we can communicate information about a character through their costume in a variety of media.

LOBBY Art Show Tour

Derek Grime

The best way to tour the Art Show would be with the Artist Guest of Honor ...

MEDITER (outer) Open Gaming (9pm - 12am)

Eric McGlohon, Walter Schirmacher

Come play your favorite games, or learn new ones!

MEDITER (outer) Munchkin Vs.

Eric McGlohon

Like Munchkin? Played Munchkin in a Blender but think it's a bit chaotic? This time you get one set to play with (Munckin, Star Munchkin, Munchkin Fu, or Munchkin Bites), and play exclusively from that set. It's still chaotic, but different and fun!

MEDITER (outer) Ninja Burger (2 hours)

Walter Schirmacher

Join the elite Ninja Burger delivery team! You will learn to deliver tasty burgers and fries anywhere in 30 minutes or less. You will bring honor to your franchise. Failure is not an option. SJ Games MIB event. (2 hours)

SALON F/G/H Steven Brust, Emma Bull, and the Fabulous Lorraine

Get your ears in here! One of our Pro Guests of Honor, the Toastmaster, and a very special person - and half of Flash Girls - combine and recombine their talents.

10:00 pm**DENNISON I/II Horrible Things about Horrific Fantasy**

Jacqueline Carey, Kelley Armstrong, Stephanie Bedwell-Grime, Steve Climer

Why do some shun horror? What makes it so irresistible to others? Is it taboo? Or just good, suspenseful writing?

DENNISON III/IV Media Year in Review

Cathy Raymond, Kiel Phegley,

John Scalzi, Steve Nagy

We discuss the movies, television, and comics of the past year.

FRIDAY CONTINUED

10:30 pm

NILES I/II **Themed Filk - Vamp Vamp Vamp** Marty Fabish, Susan Moerdyk
Vampires, vampy, vampiricilly inclined ... any and all welcome to our little nest. You know it's really night time at the con when the filkers awaken ...

11:00 pm

CONCIERGE **Chocolate Ritual** Lady Sarah
The irresistible flavor is worshipped again this year.

MEDITER (inner) **Dessert Reception with the GoHs** Christian Ready, David Hartwell,
Derek Grime, Emma Bull, Kathryn Cramer, Steven Brust, Will Shetterly
This is a great opportunity to walk right up to your particularly favorite Guest of Honor for a quick chat. GoHs and food and drink will be on hand until either or both run out.

NILES I/II **Open Filk**
From B-Movies to who knows what, and singing until who knows when ... have fun folks!

11:30 pm

DENNISON III/IV **Smoked! - Open Circle**
For those of you so inclined, the ConcertMistress invites you to our first ever smoking room for late night musical mayhem. Rumor has it that our Toastmaster, Steven Brust, will be arriving when his duties for the day are done!

SATURDAY

10:00 am

DENNISON I/II **The Solar System and Star Birth** Christian Ready
Hubble observations of planetary nebulae, supernova remnants, colliding galaxies, gravitational lenses, and quasars. Also of the Ultra Deep Field, which looks towards the galaxies that formed when the universe was less than 1 billion years old.

DENNISON IV **Writers' Workshop (3 hours)** Catherine Shaffer, Jim C Hines
If you submitted a manuscript, you will benefit immensely from critiquing provided by highly qualified panelists.

LOBBY **Build a Balloon Monster** Bill Murphy
Using the design from Friday night's collaborative cartoon, build a monster sculpture with balloons in the lobby of the hotel.

MEDITER (inner) Steven Brust Honorary Hat Decoration Workshop

Evelyn Baker, Jennifer Dye

Decorate your own hat, or take potluck and decorate one of ours! Wear your creation around the convention in honor of Steven Brust, Toastmaster for ConFusion 31.

MEDITER (outer) Munchkin in a blender (2 hours)

Eric McGlohon

Munchkin combines all of your favorite role-playing games into a hilarious card game. Munchkin in a Blender combines Munchkin, Space Munchkin, and Munchkin Fu for those who just can't get enough Munchkin! (2 hours)

MEDITER (outer) Giant Settlers of Cataan

William Niebling

The Settlers you know and love, but GIANT size!

MEDITER (outer) Open Gaming (10am - 5pm)

Gaming staff

Come play your favorite games, or learn new ones!

SALON F Inside the Characters of SF/F Anne Harris, Jeri Smith-Ready, M Keaton,

Steven Harper Piziks

Romance and mystery genres give their characters deep motivations as well as fleshing their stories with plot and setting. Where is the depth of character in science fiction? Is it needed?

11:00 am

DENNISON I/II The "Making Of"

Derek Grime

The Artist Guest of Honor gives a "behind the scenes" look at how special visual effects are created in the movies and tv shows.

DENNISON III Reading: Will Shetterly

Will Shetterly

LOBBY KidFusion Tour of Art Show

Charles Urbach, Matt Ragsdale

Tour the ConFusion Art Show and present special awards for artists.

MEDITER (inner) Belly Dancing (2 hours)

Karen Everson

This ever-popular workshop teaches you to appreciate and move your body.

MEDITER (outer) James Earnest's Diceland

Scott Ikel-Johnson

Tactical combat with giant dice! Come play a game that combines the physics of billiards with the tactics of tabletop combat. We will also have the giant Ogre die for the truly battle hungry.

NILES I/II Mainstream Filk

Steve Simmons

Did you know that there is filk all around you? It's even on the radio stations that you listen to every day, and from performers that you may not expect. Come take a musical tour and find out who does it, and why we call it filk. (No singing required.)

SALON F Books: Why Bother?

Andrew Jones, M Keaton,

Stephanie Bedwell-Grime, Steven Leigh

We all read books. Why? Why write books? What's so great about them? And is paper necessary to make it a real book?

SATURDAY 11 AM CONTINUED

SALON G **Blogging: News, Opinions, People, Life** Jeri Smith-Ready, John Scalzi, Kathryn Cramer, Larry Kestenbaum

Blogging as a replacement for actually seeing people. Blogging to tell people your opinions and ideas. Blogging to get the news. Blogging is here, but what does it accomplish?

SALON H **Anime-Style Art** Gabriel Cantu

What is anime? Okay, think you know? An artist talks about his work and experience in the field.

12:00 pm

DENNISON I/II **Star Death, Galaxies, and Cosmology** Christian Ready

Our Science Guest of Honor shows us Hubble and its capabilities. He will show us images from the solar system, star birth in nebulae and even planetary disk formation as observed by Hubble.

DENNISON III **Reading: Kelley Armstrong** Kelley Armstrong

MEDITER (outer) **Lunch Money Noontime Smackdown** Bill Korsak

Engage in some fun Lunch Money smackdown! A great place for players of the wandering tournament to get some tokens, or for anyone who wants to kick some

SALON F **Writing About Issues While Telling a Story**

Anne Harris, Michele Letica, Sarah Zettel, Steven Harper Piziks
Speculative fiction pushes all kinds of boundaries. Should it push those of social issues? How can an author do that and still tell an effective science fiction story? Which is more important?

SALON G **Costuming 101**

Elizabeth (Shay) VanZwoll, Jennifer Dye, Kenneth Darden, Sylvia Rissell
Basics of costuming. Hints on how to & where to find supplies & why people like to do this anyway.

SALON H **What's New at Tor Books?**

David Hartwell, one of our Fan Guests of Honor and an editor at Tor Books, gives us the details from the publisher.

David Hartwell

12:30 pm

POOL **KidFusion POOL TIME (12:30 - 2:30)**

Meet in the pool to swim and play games with other young fen.

1:00 pm

DENNISON I/II **What Makes a Book Good?**

Emma Bull, Jacqueline Carey, Steven Brust, Will Shetterly
Can anyone really answer this question? Are there elements that must exist in order for a book to be good? Are there any books that "everyone" considers good? Our Guests of Honor, our

Toastmaster, and one of our published participants talk together.

DENNISON III Reading: **Robert J. Sawyer**

DENNISON IV **Attending Your First Confusion**

Jim Overmyer, Juana Overmyer, Lady Sarah

Go to this panel to find out more about the convention. These people know lots - ask them anything about Confusion, Stilyagi, or, heck, ask 'em anything and see what they say!

LOBBY **High Weirdness in the Dealer's Room**

Gerri Sullivan

Our tour guides find the truly odd and whimsical in our otherwise "ordinary" dealer's room. This repeat of last year's tour is brought back by demand.

MEDITER (inner) **Advanced Paper Airplanes**

Catherine Herne

Creating flying objects out of plain paper. Ages 10 and up. Paper provided.

MEDITER (outer) **Giant Settlers of Cataan**

William Niebling

The Settlers you know and love, but GIANT size!

MEDITER (outer) **GURPS 4e Fantasy: Here There Be Dragons**

Walter Schirmacher

An exiled prince and his followers have settled on a mysterious island chain. Your band of explorers must unravel the secrets of this new land. Will you find your fortunes, or destruction? SJ Games MIB event. (4 hours)

NILES I/II **Guys & Guitars**

Eric Coleman, Graham Leathers, Chas Somdahl

You've heard about "boys and their toys", right? Well, in our case it's "guys and guitars". Come here these talented Guys as they play their beloved Guitars for your entertainment. Warning: Bragging may ensue.

SALON F **Signing: Stephanie Bedwell-Grime & Jeri Smith-Ready**

SALON G **The Future of VFX & CGI**

Derek Grime

Our Artist Guest of Honor talks about where he sees visual effects moving in the future. His work in the movies and television gives him an expert opinion, so be the first to know by coming to this panel!

SALON H **The Dearth of Televised Sci-Fi**

Deirdre McDaniel, Jason Ahlquist,
Kiel Phegley, Steve Simmons

Two years ago, there was more sci-fi on tv than one could fit on a tape in a week. Now all the good shows are gone. Or are they? Our experts discuss television and science fiction.

2:00 pm

DENNISON I/II **Titan**

Bill Higgins, Br. Guy Consolmagno

By the time Confusion opens, NASA's Cassini should have passed Titan and the European Huygens probe should have parachuted to a landing on the haze-shrouded moon. Find out the latest results from this frigid cauldron of organic chemicals.

DENNISON III **Reading: Patrick O'Leary**

SATURDAY 2 PM CONTINUED

DENNISON IV **6 Weeks at Clarion** Al Bogdan, Brynna Ramin, Kiel Phegley, Michele Leticia
Recent Clarion graduates discuss and reminisce about the intensive experience of the Clarion Writers' Workshop, a science fiction writers' workshop in Lansing, Michigan.

MEDITER (inner) **Regency Dance Workshop (2 hours)** Jennifer Dye
A wonderful opportunity to learn great technique from a pro. For beginners as well as intermediate dancers.

MEDITER (outer) **Dungeons & Dragons Adventure (3 hours)** Luke MacDonald
Come enjoy an old-fashioned D&D romp! (3 hours)

NILES I/II **Anything But Guitar** Robin Nakkula
Once again ConFusion offers a chance for those of us that aren't guitar players to strut our stuff. Bring your instrument of choice (even if it's only your voice - that counts!) and come jam with us! (or just listening is good, too!) Moderated.

MEDITER (outer) **Live Action GreedQuest** Bill Korsak
6 adventurers race to the center of the dungeon to get to the horde, but the fun does not end there since you also have to get back to the tavern where you started. Did we mention it's all life-size? Forget piddling little boards!

SALON F **Unused or Unusable Settings and Scenes in SF/F**
Steve Climer, Steven Harper Piziks, Steven Leigh, Tobias Buckell
Writing about Kansas. Or Idaho. Or Pluto. Or the cracks between one's toes. Some locations just seem wrong, but have been done, and done well. Others, well, they can't be done. Or can they?

SALON G **The Science of Illustration** Cat Nerbonne, Charles Urbach, Gabriel Cantu, Randy Asplund
What kinds of tech are used in illustration? What counts as "tech"? What improvements have been made in the past few years to improve the different aspects of creating art, and are they really useful?

SALON H **Fanzine in an Hour** Geri Sullivan, Jason Ahlquist, Mike Glicksohn, Lenny Bailes
Write, draw, photograph the con - and put it into a fanzine, now! Experience (quick!) fanzine creation with experts, and learn as you do. No experience necessary, experience will be welcomed, fun will be had.

3:00 pm

CONCIERGE **KidFusion: The Solar System and You** Christian Ready
Learn about the planets in our solar system and demonstrate your understanding of them through acting.

DENNISON III **Reading: Stephanie Bedwell-Grime**

DENNISON IV AASFA Board Meeting

Erik Kauppi, Kathy Becker

Everyone is invited to this open meeting of the Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association board of directors (the officers of the corporation behind ConFusion).

NILES I/II Themed Filk - Food, Glorious Food

Susan Moerdyk

OK - we just all ate more food for the holidays than we even want to think about - now it's time to sing. Find your favorite food melody and come share it with the rest of us! Participating is low carb and has no calories! Listeners welcome! Moderated.

SALON F Interview: Emma Bull & Will Shetterly

Emma Bull, Steve Simmons, Will Shetterly

Our own Steve Simmons interviews our Pro Guests of Honor, asking everything we've always wanted to know, and some things we haven't thought of asking.

SALON G Scientific Accuracy in Science Fiction

Anne Harris, Karen Cooper,
Patrick O'Leary, Robert J Sawyer

How accurate does the science need to be in a good sci-fi story? The authors discuss this, and whether the current demand for accuracy is killing the creativity in the genre.

SALON H Great Books You Should Read

Cat Nerbonne, Susan Manchester,
Tim Smith, Tobias Buckell

A very popular panel last year, panelists talk about books they think you must read. Any genre is fair game!

MEDITER (outer) Giant Settlers of Cataan

William Niebling

The Settlers you know and love, but GIANT size!

4:00 pm

CONCIERGE KidFusion: Newspaper Fashion Show

Geri Sullivan

Design a hat and other garments using only newspaper and tape.

DENNISON III Reading: Jim Hines

DENNISON IV The Real Meaning of Stilyagi

Erik Kauppi, Jeff Beeler, Kathy Becker, Larry Tucker

Where does "stilyagi" come from? What is it now? Why are we even talking about this word? Members of the Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association's social club talk about history and the future.

MEDITER (outer) Live Action GreedQuest

Bill Korsak

6 adventurers race to the center of the dungeon to get to the horde, but the fun does not end there since you also have to get back to the tavern where you started. Did we mention it's all life-size? Forget piddling little boards!

SALON F Poetry is Not Just Really Short Fiction

Carolyn Clink, Patrick O'Leary, Susan Manchester

Poetry authors talk about the fun of writing poetry, and the misconceptions people have about it.

SATURDAY 4 PM CONTINUED

SALON G **Signing: Kathryn Cramer & David Hartwell**

SALON H **Life Before, During, and After Digital Art**

Charles Urbach, Derek Grime, Kurt Erichsen, Tomak

Artists discuss the effects, if any, that digital media have had on the way their art has been impacted, and the impact on art as a business.

4:30 pm

DENNISON I/II **Sassy & Sarcastic**

Eric Coleman, Sandy Adina, Lorraine Garland

Watch out fans – these folks might burst out in song on just about anything! They're witty, fun and somewhat unpredictable. Come help welcome these excellent musicians to ConFusion!

MEDITER (inner) **Fun with Physics Workshop**

Catherine Herne

Never thought "fun" and "physics" ought to be in the same sentence? Come to this workshop and share the enthusiasm of our panelist, who will explain the physics behind some "ordinary" and cool experiments.

5:00 pm

CONCIERGE **KidFusion: Mask Making and Mime**

Kenn Ferguson, Lisa Ragsdale

Design a mask and develop an act that you can mime using the mask.

DENNISON III **Reading: Emma Bull**

DENNISON IV **Fan GoH Induction Ceremony**

David Hartwell, Kathryn Cramer, Larry Tucker

Previous Fan Guests of Honor welcome the newest to their ranks.

SALON F **Writing from a Religious Viewpoint**

Br. Guy Consolmagno,

Jacqueline Carey, Steven Leigh, Will Shetterly

How does one walk the fine line of writing a story and including the right amount of detail? Does one add in religion? How does the author's religion influence writing the story? Should it?

SALON G **Creative Expression in Fandom**

Ben Yalow, Cat Nerbonne,

Charles Urbach, Randy Asplund

Authors, artists, and others talk about the different ways fans find to express themselves, and what counts as creativity, anyway.

SALON H **LJ Meet-Up**

Deirdre McDaniel

Welcome to everyone on LiveJournal, and other webloggers. Anyone who'd like to meet up, show up and exchange info.

5:30 pm

DENNISON I/II Tom Smith in Concert (5:30)

Do we really need to say more??? If you don't know who Tom is - then you need to! Circle this one in your pocket program so you don't miss this solo performance by one of Filk's sharpest musicians.

6:00 pm

MEDITER (inner) Junk Pile Wars

Elizabeth (Shay) VanZwoll, Junk Pile Wars

One room, one hour, one pile of junk... Can you make and compete a costume under those constraints?

Salon E Art Auction

Christian Ready

In the Art Show room, Christian Ready will be auctioneering the fast-paced, instant-type auctions for any items not snapped up during the days preceding the event.

6:30 pm

CONCIERGE KidFusion: Pizza and Pajama Party (6:30)

Kenn Ferguson, Lisa Ragsdale

Movies, popcorn, pizza and pajamas...

7:00 pm

DENNISON I/II Masquerade Muster

Evelyn Baker, Kim Kofmel

Muster for masquerade. Final sign in, history photography, workmanship judging and preparation for staging of masquerade.

ALL AREAS Hall Costume Judging

Michael (Freon) Andaluz, Kathryn Cramer

Judges begin circulating to honor the finest Hall Costumes and search for the winner of the special David G. Hartwell Honorary Bad Pants Award. Winners announced at 11pm with Masquerade winners.

8:00 pm

NILES I/II Riverfolk

Becca Allen, Chas Somdahl

They play a little bit of folk, a little bit of blues, a little bit of country, and they always have fun. It's contagious! Join this energetic duo and kick off Saturday night right.

SALON F/G/H Masquerade

MC: Chuck Firment, Director: Kim Kofmel, Judges: TBA

ConFusion's third formal masquerade! Depending on entries, the Masquerade will start with a Lightning Round (costumes from Junk Pile Wars), followed by a Juniors round (all 13 and under), followed by an Adults round (all 14 and over).

9:00 pm

MEDITER (outer) Open Gaming (9pm - ??)

Gaming staff

Come play your favorite games, or learn new ones!

SATURDAY 9 PM CONTINUED

MEDITER (outer) Euchre Tournament

Scott Ikel-Johnson

Back by popular demand! Come test your Euchre skills in this great ConFusion tradition. (2 hours)

NILES I/II Science and Silliness

Graham Leathers, Robin Nakkula, Sandy Adina

Believe it or not there are songs about science! There are even songs about science that are silly! And some songs are simply silly. Come on in, have a seat, and be ready to giggle and grin.

SALON F Dance (when Masquerade finishes)

DJ Blasted Bill Putt spins the tunes for our annual dance. Requests accepted and encouraged.

10:00 pm

DENNISON III Good Ol' Boys

Dave Clement, Fred Levy Haskell

B-Movies isn't your thing? Blues, folk, and rock more your style? Enjoy the rich tones of these Good Ol' Boys.

NILES I/II Themed Filk - Old (and New) B-Movies

Tom Smith

Remember when spaceships shook? When monsters smashed city blocks? When superheroes reigned supreme? What does happen when filkers translate B-Movies into song? Come find out! Moderated.

11:00 pm

DENNISON III Smoked, Too - Open Circle

And again, the ConcertMistress invites any and all music makers and listeners who prefer a smoking environment to find hospitality here. Bring those instruments and enjoy! Maybe there'll even be a Toastmaster sighting!

LOBBY Costume Parade

Elizabeth (Shay) VanZwoll, Kim Kofmel

Open parade for anyone in costume. Convenes in lobby shortly before 11pm and enters Salons FGH at 11pm for short parade preceding announcement of masquerade and hall costume awards. Convenes in lobby at 10:45 pm

NILES I/II Open Filk

From B-Movies to who knows what, and singing until who knows when.....have fun folks!

POOL SMOFing in the Hot Tub (late!)

Geri Sullivan

Well, we're going to SMOF anyway, so we may as well be comfortable. And warm.

SUNDAY

10:00 am

CONCIERGE KidFusion: Balls, Balloons and Bubbles

Bill Murphy

Play with Balls, Balloons and Bubbles.

DENNISON III Writers' Workshop (3 hours)

Catherine Shaffer, Jim C Hines

If you submitted a manuscript, you will benefit immensely from critiquing provided by highly qualified panelists.

DENNISON IV Coffee with: David Hartwell & Kathryn Cramer

David Hartwell, Kathryn Cramer

Sign up in Ops to have coffee with the Guests of Honor.

MEDITER (outer) Open Gaming (10am - 2pm)

Gaming staff

Come play your favorite games, or learn new ones!

SALON G Sunday Morning Meditation Time (2 Hours)

Those of you who practice a meditative art may find this time useful for practice or even sharing with others who may arrive, seeking.

11:00 am

CONCIERGE KidFusion: Kinderfilk

Susan Moerdyk

Enjoy a performance by filkers and sing along...

DENNISON I/II SFOHA Meeting

The Science Fiction Oral History Association will hold its monthly meeting in an open format.

DENNISON IV Coffee with: Christian Ready

Christian Ready

Sign up in Ops to have coffee with the Guest of Honor.

MEDITER (inner) Whip Demonstration

Gery Deer

Gery Deer has consulted for stunt whip scenes for stage, screen, and even books! His demonstration of interesting whip techniques will have plenty of time for question and answers.

MEDITER (outer) Burn in Hell (2 hours)

Walter Schirmacher

Collect the souls of the damned! Assemble the tastiest "Circles" of history's sinners: Mass Murderers, Cannibals, or even Clerics. Trade souls with your rivals ... or steal the ones you need. (2 hours)

MEDITER (outer) Giant Settlers of Cataan

William Niebling

The Settlers you know and love, but GIANT size!

NILES I/II Drum Jam

Graham Leathers

Calling all drummers! You've been waiting all weekend to cut loose! Here's your chance! Facilitated.

SALON F Creating Believable HistoryEmma Bull, Karen Everson,
Rebecca Meluch, Steven Brust

Fictionalizing history requires balancing a fine line. It is important to maintain believability for those who know the history, while creating the new experience. How does the author create a consistent new experience within an old tradition?

SUNDAY 11 AM CONTINUED

SALON H The Art of Illustration

Charles Urbach, Derek Grime,
Gabriel Cantu, Kurt Erichsen

Is all art illustration? Is all illustration art? The artists discuss murals, book jackets, and bus signs, as well as their own art, as they discuss the art of illustration.

12:00 pm

CONCIERGE Paper Airplanes that Really Fly

Catherine Herne

Did you know that you can create airplanes with paper that really fly? Come see how!

DENNISON I/II Repairing Hubble

Bill Higgins, Br. Guy Consolmagno, Christian Ready, Tim Smith

Four experts talk about whether Hubble should be repaired and, if so, how we should go about doing it best.

DENNISON IV Coffee with: Derek Grime

Sign up in Ops to have coffee with the Guest of Honor.

MEDITER (inner) Beginning Balloon Animals Workshop

Bill Murphy

Creating basic animals out of "animal" balloons. You've always wanted to try it - come on over!

MEDITER (outer) Lunch Money Noontime Smackdown

Bill Korsak

Engage in some fun Lunch Money smackdown! A great place for players of the wandering tournament to get some tokens, or for anyone who wants to kick some butt.

SALON G Necessary & Good Villians

Anne Harris, Jacqueline Carey,
Rebecca Meluch, Stephanie Bedwell-Grime

We hate the villain! But we need the tension created by the conflict between the heroine and the villain. How do you create a great villain without alienating your audience? Some experts discuss this topic.

1:00 pm

CONCIERGE KookieKlatch Story Hour

Steve Clime

Come enjoy cookies and juice while listening to stories read by guest readers.

DENNISON I/II Massless Drives

Gerald Jackson

The use of antimatter in deep-space propulsion applications is being studied with funding from NASA and the DOE. Sound like science fiction? Come find out why it isn't!

DENNISON III Coffee with: Emma Bull & Will Shetterly

Sign up in Ops to have coffee with the Guests of Honor.

DENNISON IV Coffee with: Steven Brust

Sign up in Ops to have coffee with the Guest of Honor.

MEDITER (inner) Self-Defense for Fans

Cathy Raymond, Eric Raymond

Fans teach fans some basics. Previous Guest of Honor and very fannish, Cathy and Eric bring back their popular workshop.

SALON F I Want Art in My Convention!

Karen Cooper, Kathy Becker, Randy Asplund

What is the purpose of the Art Show in today's convention? How is art in science fiction different from art anywhere else? Is it?

SALON H The Author-Editor Relationship

David Hartwell, Robert J Sawyer, Sarah Zettel, Patrick Neilsen Hayden

What is this mysterious relationship? How does it affect the author, the work in progress, and the editor? What secrets can we find out from our experts?

1:30 pm**NILES I/II Filk Finale**

Dave Clement

If you haven't had enough yet, come join us in one last musical fling. Facilitated.

2:00 pm**CONCIERGE KidFusion: Sci Fi/Fantasy Pictionary Relay**

Kenn Ferguson, Lisa Ragsdale

Test your knowledge of science fiction and fantasy by playing Pictionary in race format.

MEDITER (outer) Lunch Money Tournament Completion

Bill Korsak

Check in and see who has the largest pile of tokens!

SALON F Signing: Will Shetterly & Emma Bull**SALON G The Art of Derek Grime**

Derek Grime

The Artist Guest of Honor discusses his other kind of art - the kind of art that may not require a computer. Derek talks about using more traditional media and shows his art in this panel.

SALON H Funny Would be Nice

Jim C Hines, Karen Cooper, Steven Brust

Science fiction, well, it often lacks humor. Why? Experts discuss the use of humor in science fiction and fantasy.

3:00 pm**DENNISON I/II Feedback Session**

Please come and let us know what we did well, and what needs improvement. All are welcome to say what they will. Much of the ConCom, as well as hotel staff, will be on hand.

4:00 pm**CONSUIE Dead Dog Party**

When your feet are tired, and you want to put them up somewhere, come up to the 15th floor and hang out past when the rest of the fen have gone home.

31 Flavors of ConFusion ConCom and Staff List

ConChair:

Anne KG Murphy

Assistant ConChair:

Roxanne Meida King

Art Show:

Matthew Ragsdale

Staff:

Dale Mazzola

Judy Miller

Chris Moore

Jim Hayter

Shari Sylvester

Don Wenzel

Auctioneer:

Christian Ready

ConSuite:

Sarah Lewis

John Matthews

Staff:

Matthew Landry

Eric Stark

Karen Markstein

Mjit

Diane Frkan

Jennifer Dye

Topher

Chris Gordon

Greg Barker

Chris Wurtsmith

Kelly McRae

Markell Lynch

Sara Shurmer

Dealer's Room:

Tom Barber

Staff:

Richard Tucholka D.I.

Shelley Dougan

Heather Whitter

Chris Pullen

Katherine Hunt D.I.

Jessica Zerwas

Assistance by:

Mia Tokatlian

Ann Sterling

Amy Hughes

Green Room:

Roxanne Meida King
(Head)

Marah Searle-
Kovacevic (Second)

Guest Liaisons

Christian Ready:

Chad Childers

Derek Grime:

Jeff Beeler

David Hartwell &

Kathryn Cramer:

Lisa Leutheuser

Emma Bull &

Will Shetterly:

Kathy Becker

Steven Brust:

Rennie Wasielewski

Hotel Liaison:

Krysta December

Programming

Wrangler:

Krysta December

Operations:

Alex von Thorn

Matt Fanny

Gaming:

Scott Iekel-Johnson

Staff:

Bill Korsak

Eric McGlohon

Walter Schirmacher

Will Niebling

William Niebling

Alex Yeager

Filk:

Susan Moerdyk

Staff:

Martha Bay

KidFusion:

Lisa Garrison

Ragsdale

Staff:

Kenn Ferguson

Bill Murphy

Writing Workshop:

Catherine Shaffer

and Jim C. Hines

Masquerade:

Kim Kofmel (Director)

Staff:

Evelyn Baker

(Muster Manager)

Mark B. Hall

(House Manager)

Elizabeth (Shay)

VanZwoll

(Masquerade

Assistant)

Bill Putt (Sound)

Master of Ceremonies:

Chuck Firment

Judges:

Jennifer Dye

others TBA

Freon (Hall

Costumes)

Kathryn Cramer

(Special Hall

Costume Award)

Operations:

Bill Su

Staff:

Karen Roe

Susan Hope Dundas

Dennis Tabaczewski

Tracey Callison

Gail Christopherson

John Guest

Publications:

Matt Arnold

Web Page:

Eric Snyder

Anne Murphy

Restaurant Guide:

Sarah Lewis

John Matthews

Dance DJ:

"Blasted" Bill Putt

Publicity:

Diane Frkan

Registration:

Tammy Coxen

Room Party

Coordinator:

Tammy Coxen

Transportation:

Jordan Malokofski

Treasurer:

Brendan Durrett

Volunteers:

Chuck Firment

Coming In 2006: **Confusion 32**

The Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association and the Stilyagi Air Corps will proudly present our thirty-second annual science fiction & fantasy convention

January 20 through 22, 2006

The Troy Marriott - Troy, Michigan

Author Guest of Honor: Vernor Vinge

Artist Guest of Honor: Steve Stiles

Scientist GoH: Mitchell Burnside Clapp

Fan Guest of Honor: Chuck Firment

Toastmaster: Heather Alexander

Room rate: \$84/night. Registration: \$25 this weekend,
\$30 until Nov 15, 2005 (\$15 for KidFusion)

Confusion 32, PO Box 8284, Ann Arbor, MI 48107

confusion@stilyagi.org • www.stilyagi.org/cons/2006