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CONvergence 2006  
**SOUVENIR BOOK**

JONES  
 2006



## THERE'S MORE THAN ONE FINAL FRONTIER.

THERE IS A SPIRIT OF EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY IN EVERY EXPERIENCE, in every new person met, in every new place travelled. It's not just the destination, but the journey. It's the nature of life and the secret of the universe. The journey can be epic or intimate. The discovery can be one for all mankind, or for each individual traveller. Enjoy the trek.

WELCOME TO CONVERGENCE 2006

### ANNUAL THEME

Jeremy Stomberg introduced the theme of this year's convention in his remarks at Closing Ceremonies of CONvergence 2005 thusly: "Space exploration takes the bravest men and women the world has ever known... 2006 is the 20th anniversary of the Challenger disaster, but it is quite a bit more. It is also the 25th anniversary of Young and Crippen taking Columbia for her maiden voyage, the 30th anniversary of Viking landing on Mars, and it is the 45th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin and Alan Shepard first taking their respective countries into space. And it's the 40th anniversary of *Star Trek*. Blah, blah, blah."

CONvergence 2006 celebrates space exploration, both factual and fictional. We have a variety of panels and events planned to celebrate 40 years of *Star Trek* and the heroes and history of real space exploration.

We hope you enjoy the fun of this weekend's convention, but we hope you also take a moment to remember these visionaries who imagined a future among the stars, as well as those who labored to make it a reality. And a special remembrance for those brave pioneers who lost their lives daring to take those first fledgling steps into the great beyond.

Take a moment to remember them all, and then honor them by helping continue their quest. New frontiers await. **Boldly Go.**

### IN MEMORIUM

MICHAEL SHEARD, CONVERGENCE GUEST OF HONOR IN BOTH 2001 AND 2003 DIED IN AUGUST OF 2005 AT THE AGE OF 65.

TV and film fans know Michael best for his roles as Mr. Bronson on the long running *Grange Hill* series, for his appearances on *Dr. Who*, and for his roles as Admiral Ozzel in *The Empire Strikes Back* and Adolf Hitler in *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*.

CONvergence members will remember Michael for his charm, his infectious energy, his love of scotch, and his love of fandom. Michael enjoyed his first year at CONvergence in 2001 so much that he called for CONvergence to become a five day convention at the Closing Ceremony on Sunday. The chant of "Five Days" has become a recurring joke of the convention.

Another memorable Michael Sheard moment resulted from Michael's countless stories of his good-natured disdain for "that f-ing dog" (the infamously difficult to work with *Doctor Who* companion K-9). A mock-up of K-9 was secretly prepared to be offered up to Michael at the 2003 Closing Ceremony for him to destroy with a cricket bat. Before the mock-up K-9 had been revealed, Michael was asked to share with the Closing Ceremony audience his thoughts on the robotic dog, to which Michael responded "If he were here right now, I would jump up and down on him." You can't ask for a better cue than that. Out came K-9, and Michael did indeed stomp K-9 to bits. K-9's head currently resides in the CONvergence 2003 Time Capsule.

So raise a glass for Michael Sheard. We'll do it together at CONvergence 2006.

# CONVERGENCE 2006

## BOLDLY GO.

A PRESENTATION OF THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY FOR INTEREST IN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY (MISFITS)

MISFITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Windy Bowsby, Christopher Jones, Perrin Klumpp, Jeremy Stomberg, Pat Wick, Tim Wick, and Ishmael Williams

CONVERGENCE 2006 SOUVENIR BOOK

Editors: Chris Bowsby, Christopher Jones

Illustrations: Christopher Jones

Photography: Peter Verrant

Proofreaders: Kelly Belich, Windy Bowsby, Christopher Jones, Lex Larson, Erica Lewerenz and David Pisa

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# OPERATIONS ■ POLICIES

THE FUNCTION OF OPERATIONS IS THREE FOLD:

- Communications
- Information Accumulation and Dispersal
- Problem Resolution

Operations is the main communications center and point of contact for individual departments of the convention to interact with each other, and for attendees of the convention to interact with the Convention Committee.

## The Operations Bridge

"The Bridge" is open 24 hours a day during the convention and is located in Verandas 1 & 2. You can reach the Operations Bridge from any hotel phone at extension x7215.

## Wandering Hosts

In addition to The Bridge, Operations extends its presence out into the convention in the form of Wandering Hosts, who are available to answer questions, give directions, and help to resolve problems. If a Wandering Host does not know the answer to your question, they can help you find someone who does.

Here are some of the key CONvergence policies you should be aware of during the convention weekend. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit the Operations Bridge.

### 1. Animal Policy

Sentient beings only. The exception is working animals like guide dogs/seeing eye dogs. Please do not bring your animals to the convention. If you do, you will be asked to leave, without refund.

### 2. Adhesive Posts (Stickers) Policy

Neither the convention hotel nor CONvergence will tolerate the application of stickers or high-tack tape to hotel surfaces. Their removal is damaging to the hotel, and therefore considered unacceptable. Incidents of this kind will be treated as vandalism.

You may post non-adhesive signs with masking tape **only**, on walls and surfaces that won't be damaged by removal, such as tile and metal. If you don't have acceptable tape, come to The Bridge. We're happy to share ours.

### 3. Badge Policy

Your convention badge is necessary for your participation in the convention. It allows you access to the convention and indicates that you are a member in good standing. However, CONvergence reserves the right to revoke the membership of any member who breaks our house rules, or behaves in such a manner as is deemed unsafe or unacceptable.

### 4. City, County, State and Federal Laws

Please remember - whatever applies outside, still applies inside the hotel and the convention.

### 5. Litter

Please pick up after yourself. There are trash containers around the hotel. It makes a big difference if we try to keep things clean.

### 6. Smoking

As of March of 2005 the entire hotel is now non-smoking with one exception. **The only place that smoking is allowed is inside the sleeping rooms.** This includes the suite and cabanas. Smoking on the patios and balconies is not allowed. You can smoke only **inside** the room.

### 7. Weapons Policy

We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable time while at CONvergence, so please leave your weapons in your quarters. Otherwise, please adhere to the following policy, or risk being 'uninvited' to the convention, without refund from the convention or the hotel.

- Firearms are not allowed, nor are working projectile weapons. If a guest is found with a weapon, we will request that they take it off the premises and escort them to the door. Just taking it to the guest's room or putting it in the Hotel Safe is not acceptable.
- Bladed weapons must be sheathed and peace-bonded and cannot be drawn under any circumstances.
- Realistic looking firearms must be holstered and peace-bonded and cannot be drawn under any circumstances. If they cannot be peace-bonded, they are not allowed.
- Non-realistic looking firearms must be holstered and peace-bonded if possible.
- Non-realistic looking firearms that cannot be holstered cannot be pointed at any other member of the convention under any circumstances. These weapons must be marked.
- Any costume that contains realistic looking firearms and gives the appearance of a member of law enforcement or the military will not be permitted as the potential is too great to create confusion for other members of the convention.
- Costumes such as those listed in (f) or accompanied by weaponry that would not be permitted under the other rules may be worn when the wearer is participating in

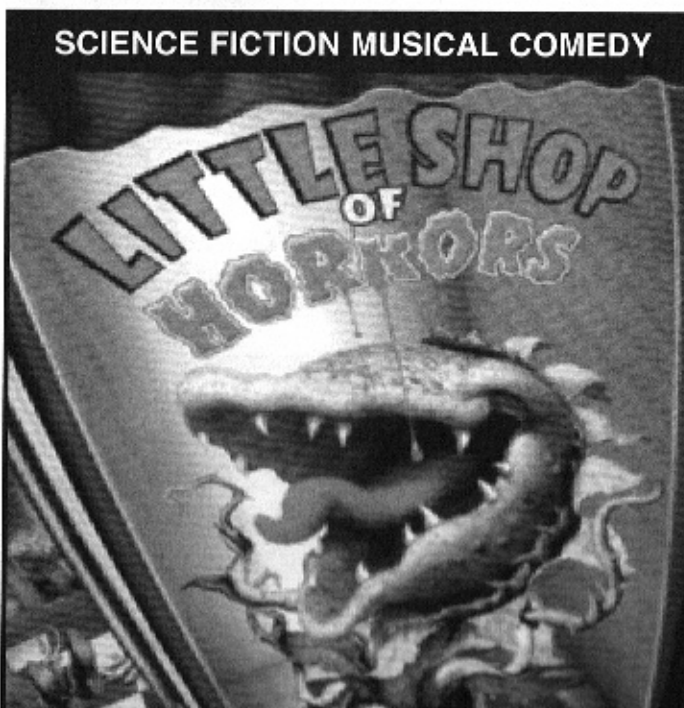
a convention function or programming item such as the Masquerade or other programming item. **They may be worn only for the duration of the function.**

- Non-realistic looking firearms that cannot be holstered under rule (e) will have peace-bonding material tied to the weapon as a visible sign that it's been checked out and approved by the Exec or one of the Heads of Operations. We will have marking material available on The Bridge for those who need it.
- The CONvergence Board of Directors reserves the right to amend these policies without prior notice. Any ruling made by the Board of Directors is final.

### 8. Clarifications

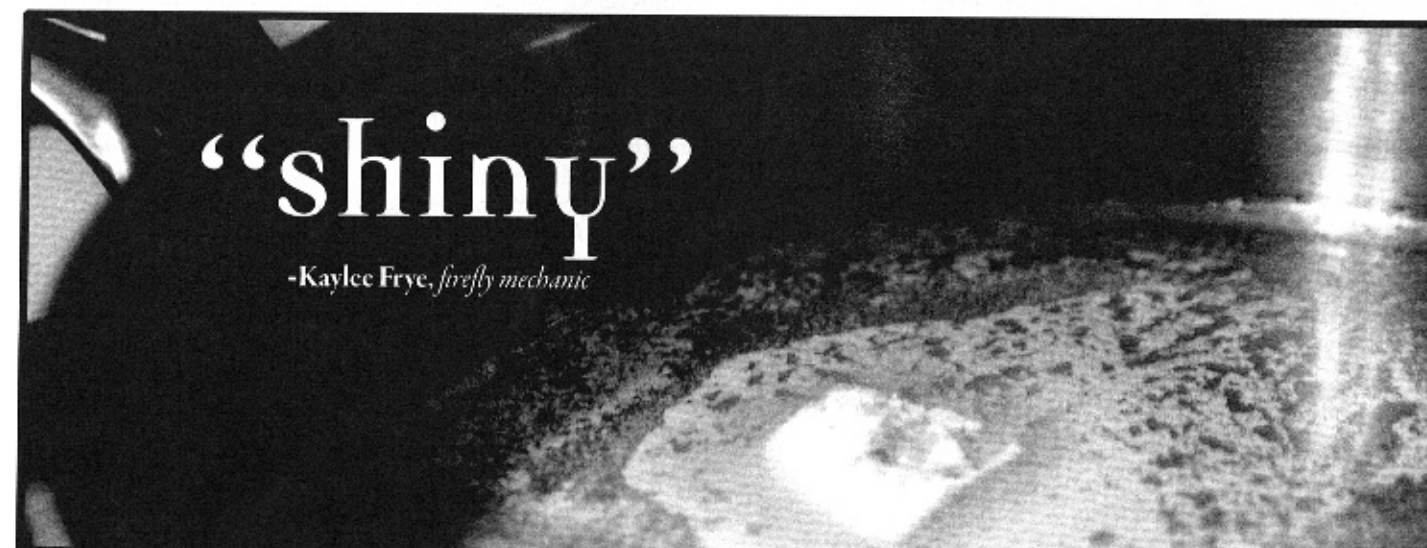
- Projectile weapons - If it projects a solid, liquid, gas or energy, it is considered a working projectile weapon. Laser-light pistols emit a beam that can be damaging to the corneas. Under this policy, it is a working projectile weapon. Water pistols are allowed only if they are empty and must be holstered and peace-bonded or marked according to rules (c), (d) and (e). Tasers and other stun guns are considered projectile weapons.
- Peace-bonding - A peace-bonded weapon is one tied to its sheath, holster or container with a functional, decorative binding. It prevents someone else from taking your weapon without permission. It is a traditional and visible sign to everyone that you are a responsible person. We will have peace-bonding material on The Bridge for those who need it.

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-Kaylee Frye, *firefly mechanic*

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November 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
WWW.OMEGACON.ORG





## ATTENDING PROFESSIONALS

The following is a list of local professionals and returning guests who are expected to be in attendance at CONvergence 2006. Many of them are on panels, or will be doing readings or signings during the weekend. Keep an eye out for these talented people. Former CONvergence Guests of Honor are designated as "GoH" and the year in which they were a guest.

**Eleanor Arnason** 2001 GoH – Award-winning author; *A Woman of the Iron People*

**Crist Ballas** 2004 GoH – Make-up/Physical effects artist

**Ruth Berman** SF&F and non-fiction author

**Dylan Birtolo** Author; *The Shadow Chaser*

**Christian Colquhoun** 2004 GoH – Prop builder/Physical effects artist

**Karen Engelsen** Book shepherdess for non-fiction publisher – ask her for more details!

**Denise Garner** 2004 GoH – Romantic fantasy artist

**Andre Guirard** Author and radio scriptwriter for *Star of Vengeance*

**Eric Heideman** Author/Editor; *Tales of the Unanticipated*

**Christopher Jones** Comic book artist; *The Batman Strikes!*, *Dr. Blink*

**Pam Keesey** 1999 GoH – Author; *Vamps!*

**Jaye Lawrence** Author and Tiptree Award nominee in 2004

**May Lee** Hmong American poet, playwright, and short story writer

**Shoua Lee** Hmong American poet

**Sandra Lindow** Poet; *Walking the Labyrinth: Poetry of Conflict and Resolution*

**Catherine Lundoff** Author/Columnist; *Nuts and Bolts: Building a Better Story*

**Pacyinz Lyfoung** Hmong American poet, dancer, and short story writer

**Rebecca Marjesdatter** poet; member of Lady Poetesses from Hell

**Kelly McCullough** Author; *WebMage*, *Winter of Discontent*

**Hilary Moon Murphy** Author; *Nine-Fingered Maria*, *The Grand Cheat*

**Juliana Pegues** Taiwanese American poet and actress

**Bao Phi** Vietnamese American poet and writer

**Nick Pollotta** Author; *Illegal Aliens*, *Bureau 13* novels

**Ruth Souther** Author; *The Death of Innocence*

**Adam Stemple** Author/Musician; *Singer of Souls*

**Katherine Sullivan** Science fiction and fantasy author

**Vincent Truitner** 2004 GoH – CGI/animation artist; *Spider-man 2*

**Ka Vang** Hmong American writer and columnist

**Joan Marie Verba** Author; *Autumn World*, *Boldly Writing*

**Jason Wittman** Author; *On Bookstores*, *Burners*, and *Origami*

**Bryan Thao Worra** Laotian American poet and writer

**Peter Yang** Hmong American poet, actor, short story writer

## PERFORMANCES & PERFORMERS

### MAINSTAGE

#### FRIDAY

##### 6:00pm **Mark Time Radio Show**

"The Jewel of the 12th Generation"

Everyone has heard of the legendary "Great Treasure Out There", but no one knows where or what it is. Incorrigible con-artists, Professor Pangborn and Larry (who knows whose side he's on?) land on a trivia-laden 300-year-old encyclopedia starship, the *SS Irwin Corey*. Partly they are looking for the treasure, and partly they are hiding out from the Pirate Queen. What they discover will make them want to boldly leave as soon as possible.

Starring David Ossman of the **Firesign Theatre**, and featuring CONvergence's own Windy Bowlsby and Tim Wick.

Past **Mark Time Radio** shows on compact disc are available at the concessions table, including *Peter Galaxy: Interstellar Envoy*, starring Michael Sheard and David Ossman, from CONvergence 2003.

##### 7:00pm **Opening Ceremonies**

Come meet the CONvergence 2006 Guests of Honor. There will be the annual opening sketch and announcements about the weekend's events. Included will be a tribute to two-time CONvergence Guest of Honor Michael Sheard, who passed away last year.

##### 10:00pm **Live Concert**

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF

•**Milkbar** – Formed in Spring 2005 by bassist Spike, Milkbar has since grown into a formidable five-member project. With an Electropunk sound reminiscent of Garbage or Curve, Milkbar creates music based on hot rhythms and electro beats. Then they add some rock'n'roll, a bunch of notes, and infuse it with pop.

•**Signal & Report** – **Signal & Report** make music for the 3:00am hour, full of mystery, doubt, fear and cold sweat. Although sometimes dark, their music never broods—this is no navel-gazing melancholia. Instead of vague adolescent notions of pain or alienation, the songs trade in themes of a larger scope with a more literary bent. Live, the group has a compelling intensity that challenges its audience rather than condescending to patronize them. A mix of ringing guitar and sighing synths soar over pulsing rhythms of rolling tom toms and slippery basslines, creating a towering sound of depth and dynamic tension. Amongst all of it is a deep and resonant voice communicating a range of anxiety, terror, and empathy with equal parts croak and croon.

**Signal & Report** was formed in Minneapolis in 2000 by Chris Hall (guitar/vocals), Noah Miller (bass/vocals), Christian Herro (keyboards), and Mike Cain (drums/saxophone). After recording *Marchlands*, Miller left for New York in late '03 to do design work (he has done all of the group's album artwork). Mark Pakulski, from the **Psychedelicates**, took over on bass, and the group has been writing material for the forthcoming EP, *The Sound of Hope*, and an eventual third album. [www.signalandreport.com](http://www.signalandreport.com)

•**DJs Stryfe and Neko** – We'll be spinning dance music between live band sets, and late into the night... and early into the morning...

#### SATURDAY

##### 7:00pm **Masquerade**

Featuring a wide variety of local costumers and performers. All are invited to sign up to present their costumes. Sign-up begins at 3:00pm Friday in CONvergence Central.

##### **Masquerade Halftime Show - SOYLENT THEATER!**

Once again, entertainment during the judging of the Masquerade entries will be provided by **Soylent Theater: A comedy troupe made of people**. Specifically, those people are: Kelvin Hatle, Jen Scott, Joseph Scrimshaw, Joshua Scrimshaw, and Tim Uren.

##### 11:00pm **DJ Dance & Masquerade Ball**

Again the first hour is dedicated to **The Strobe-Free Sci-Fi Music Hour**. The rest of the wee hours will feature mixes of Retro, Funk, Pop, Disco, Noise, Techno, Trance and so much more. Brought to you by DJs **Oxygen**, **Nitrogen**, **Star5**, and **noise**.

#### SUNDAY

##### 5:00pm **Closing Ceremonies**

Come say farewell to the CONvergence 2006 Guests of Honor. There will be the annual closing sketch by the MISFITS Board and Officers and announcements about the weekend's events.

### HARMONIC CONVERGENCE

#### FRIDAY

##### 8:00pm—9:00pm **Mark Time Radio**

Mark Time Award-winning audio programs

##### 9:30pm—10:30pm **Gary Schulte**

Fiddle and Guitar

##### 11:00pm—Midnight **Lorraine, Paul and John**

Lorraine from **Lorraine A'Malena**, Paul Score and John Sjogren

##### Midnight—1:00am **Lorraine A'Malena**

Gothic folk hasn't produced a group as enchanting as this since well, never until NOW!

#### SATURDAY

##### Noon—1:00pm **Mark Time Radio**

Mark Time Award-winning audio programs

##### 1:00pm—2:00pm **Run at the Dog**

Playing sci-fi themes from film and TV in addition to original material

##### 2:30pm—3:30pm **Reve Du Faun**

The Irish band with the French name. [www.revedufaun.com](http://www.revedufaun.com)

##### 4:00pm—5:00pm **Riverfolk**

Vocals and guitar by Becca Allen and Chas Somdahl, with Andy Anda on fiddle & mandolin and Rody Tate on Guitar. [www.riverfolk.net](http://www.riverfolk.net)

##### 5:30pm—7:00pm **3 Pints Gone**

Celtic traditional-style folk songs, [www.3pintsgone.com](http://www.3pintsgone.com)

##### 7:00pm—9:00pm **Closed during Masquerade**

##### 9:00pm—10:00pm **10 Seconds of Harmony**

A high energy adult-humored a cappella comedy show. [www.tensecondsofharmony.com](http://www.tensecondsofharmony.com)

10:30pm-11:30pm **Misplaced**  
Celtic and bluegrass

Midnight—1:00am **The Dregs**  
Irish / Folk Music

#### SUNDAY

Noon—1:00pm **Mark Time Radio**  
Mark Time Award-winning audio programs

1:00pm—2:00pm **The Great Luke Ski**  
Fan comedy and musical parodies

2:30pm—3:00pm **Damian Sheridan**  
Spoken Word

3:30pm—4:30pm **Adam Stemple**  
Irish Music

5:00pm—6:00pm **Lorraine A'Malena**  
Gothic folk hasn't produced a group as enchanting as this since well, never until NOW! (Or at least since Friday night.)

### CONNIE'S SPACE LOUNGE

#### SATURDAY

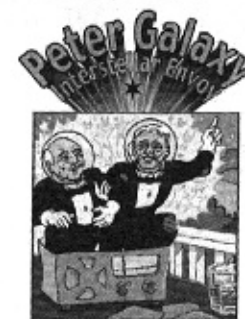
After the Masquerade: **The Great Luke Ski**  
Fan comedy and musical parodies

Need something highly entertaining for that long drive home from Convergence? Try silly science fiction audio from the Great Northern Audio Theatre.

## Mark Time Radio Shows

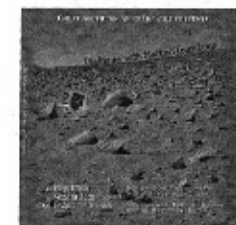
Starring  
**Michael Sheard**  
**David Ossman**

Featuring  
**Windy Bowlsby**  
**Tim Wick**



Recorded at  
CONvergence 2003

Dialogue with  
**Martian Trombone**



Recorded at  
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# DEALERS & MERCHANTS MARK TIME & OGLE AWARDS

FOR SCIENCE  
FICTION AND  
FANTASY AUDIO

Once again, the CONvergence Dealers Room is filled merchants & vendors with designs on separating you from your hard-earned dollars. The following merchants can be found (with their tantalizing goodies) in the 2006 Dealers' Room.

Alsado, Inc	Infinite Diversity	Reaction Figures
Crimson Chain Leather Works	Inland Sea Lapidary Arts	Rick's Place for SF
David Christenson Bookseller	James Garr/Dave Terres	Riders Dolls
Dragon's Den Jewelry	Kyril's Cavern	SaraCure Silver
Draken Masks	La Gazza Pazza	SLR Ltd.
Dreamhaven Books	Leo Watrin	Sofi's Stitches Inc.
Emerald's Emporium	Loch Design - Fyne Leather	The Source Comics and Games
Fantasy Blades/Captive Elements	LSVSL	Steamer Trunk Clothing
For Collectors Only	Marks of Distinction	Tarot by Annie
FTL Publications	Monkey in a Dryer	The Tarot Garden
FWD Computing and Audio	M'Or Designs	20th Century Books
Games by James	Odalisque	Worlds Within Reach Studios
Honeck Sculpture	Off World Designs	X-centricities

THE **MARK TIME** AWARD IS GIVEN EACH YEAR TO HONOR THE BEST SCIENCE FICTION Audio Production on the Planet. The **Ogle Award** is for the best Fantasy Audio Production of the Year. Fantasy includes magical "high" fantasy, sword and sorcery, horror, modern urban fantasy, and other things that don't fall under the criteria of Science Fiction. Winners are announced each year at CONvergence, and are awarded a wood and brass plaque with the image of Mark Time or Charles Ogle.

For more information on the Mark Time Awards and Ogle Awards, visit [www.greatnorthernaudio.com/MarkTime/MarkTime.html](http://www.greatnorthernaudio.com/MarkTime/MarkTime.html).

*Jerry Stearns, Coordinator, Mark Time Awards.*

## WINNERS FOR THE 2005 PRODUCTION YEAR

### MARK TIME AWARDS for Science Fiction Audio

#### GOLD –

**ANNE MANX ON AMAZONIA**  
Radio Repertory Company of America  
Angelo Panetta, producer. Written by Larry Weiner.  
[www.rcca.com](http://www.rcca.com)

#### SILVER –

**STEVE THE SECOND**  
CBC Radio A & E  
Joe Mahoney, producer. Written by Matt Watts.  
[www.assortednonsense.com](http://www.assortednonsense.com)

#### HONORABLE MENTION –

**STRAWBERRY AUTOMATIC**  
Richard Sellers, producer. Written by T. Ray Gordon.  
[www.apexaudiotheatre.com](http://www.apexaudiotheatre.com)

### OGLE AWARDS for Fantasy/Horror Audio

#### GOLD – Tie

**THE CONFESSIONS OF DR. JECKYL AND MR. HYDE**  
Willamette Radio Workshop  
Sam A. Mowry, producer. Written by William S. Gregory.  
[www.radiowork.com](http://www.radiowork.com)

**THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW**  
The Colonial Radio Theatre On the Air  
Jerry Robbins, producer/writer.  
[www.colonialradio.com](http://www.colonialradio.com)

#### SILVER –

**A LONG VACATION**  
Birke Duncan, producer. Written by Garrett Vance & Birke Duncan.

**The Monster of Phantom Lake**

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
TWIN CITIES  
UNDERGROUND  
FILM FESTIVAL  
2006

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
FAUX FILM  
FESTIVAL  
2006

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
3rd ANNUAL  
FLINT FILM  
FESTIVAL

"... a hilarious parody of grade-D horror/sci-fi films of the 1950s ... full of cheesy dialogue, improbable plot turns and a dead-on performance by Josh Craig as a stuffy "man of science" who has none of the right answers but can strum a rock 'n' roll song on his handy guitar."

— Ed Bradley,  
The Flint Journal

VISIT  
[monsterofphantomlake.com](http://monsterofphantomlake.com)  
for more information!

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Musical Direction by Steve Quesnel

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# MARS CON 2007

Arriving on Earth at the "Holiday Inn Select" March 2-4

Actor Guests of Honor from *Stargate SG-1*

Don S. Davis "General Hammond" and Gary Jones "Walter"

Artist Guest of Honor  
Todd Lockwood

*Dungeons & Dragons*  
*Magic: the Gathering*

Author Guest of Honor  
Eleanor Arnason

*Ring of Swords*

Other guests  
to be announced!

Media-Fan Guest of Honor  
Eric Larson

visit [www.marscon.org](http://www.marscon.org) for details and updates... ©2006 FenSI



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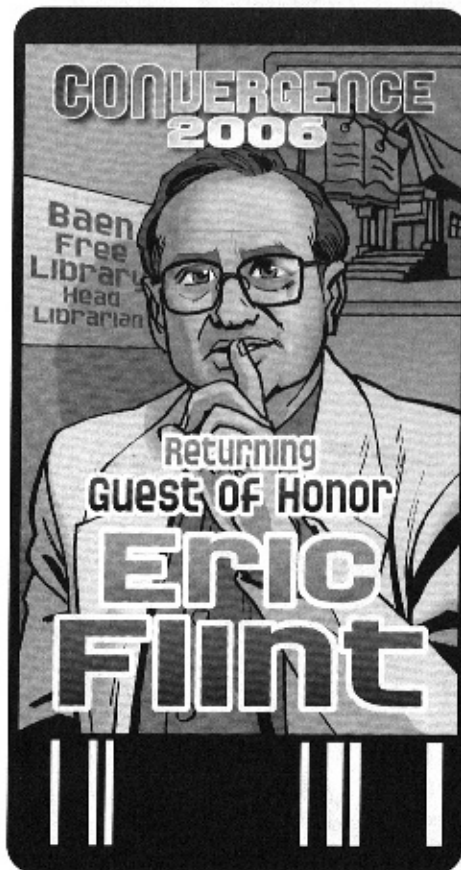


## ERIC FLINT



ERIC FLINT

Introduction by Heather Wuori



TO ME, THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT of a story isn't the plot. There is far more satisfaction in a weak plot with characters that you love like a friend or hate like your own worst enemy than in a well-crafted plot with wooden characters. True joy is when you find that rare juxtaposition of plot and character that leaves you near tears just because you finished the book and you aren't sure when you'll get to read the next one in the series. Or when it's 3am and you run to grab the next book because you can't stop reading.

When I first started noticing Eric Flint's name, it was alongside others like David Weber, Mercedes Lackey, and David Drake. Perusing my favorite aisle at the bookstore, his name popped up often. That piqued my curiosity. If he's writing alongside people like that, he must write his own books, too, right? And sure enough, there he was!

Picking up an Eric Flint novel is often like handling a little piece of skewed history. His stories are imaginative, but have a realism that really makes you believe in the tale. Characters become people that you know personally, some of them making you feel altruistic or murderous. I have long appreciated his philosophical and historical takes, but I never really knew why until I found out that I would be his liaison. Research ensued and the more information that came to light, the more it all made sense.

Eric has a master's degree in history, specializing in West Africa. The only reason he doesn't have a doctorate is that his socialist political views became more important to him. He was published in the *Journal of African History* in 1970, and perhaps that is where he got the real bite to write, despite it being more than 20 years before he got truly down-and-dirty serious about it.

During the interim, he was a longshoreman, a laborer, and a machinist at various times. But being a person who never seems to have too much on his plate, his interest in politics led him to become a labor organizer. This had the happy side effect of introducing him to his wife, Lucille.

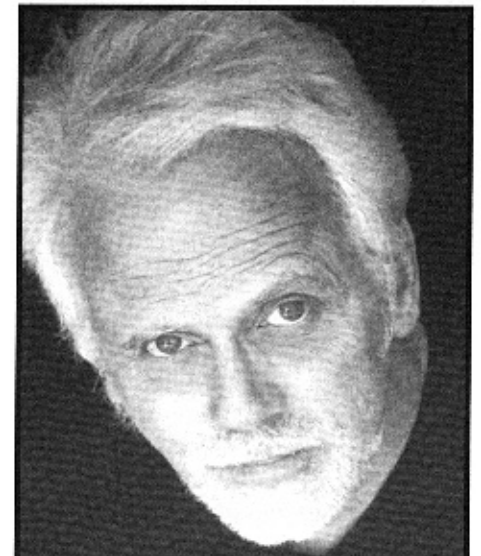
Now that he is a serious (note I didn't say full-time) writer, Eric juggles so many balls that I have no idea how he finds time to sleep, much less write more novels. His views on internet downloading led him to found the Baen Free Library, where he's proven quite soundly that freebies lead to buying. Although, when you have a product as addictive as good sci-fi/fantasy, the conclusion is practically foregone. The proof is in the fact that Baen has not only continued with the Library, but also started offering subscriptions to bundled works on a monthly basis... oh, and the fact that the books are selling better than ever.

Besides that, research, collaborating with other authors, keeping up to date with Baen's Bar forums, editing and repackaging classic SF authors' works, and organizing the self-funding eMagazine *Grantville Gazette* keep Eric occupied in those moments when he isn't writing.

As a CONvergence Guest of Honor in 2003, he gave generously of his time, talking for hours with many attendees. It must be refreshing for him to mingle with fans. I hope our convention allows him some relaxation along with a few days off from the whirlwind.

*Heather Wuori is a CONvergence volunteer, and is the Guest Liaison for Eric Flint.*

## J.G. HERTZLER



J.G. HERTZLER

Introduction by STANISLAV

BORN INTO A FAMILY WHOSE roots go back eight generations in the small Pennsylvania town of Port Royal, J.G. Hertzler was raised on various foreign and domestic Air Force bases, from El Paso to Casablanca.

Before turning to theatre as a profession, J.G. played outside linebacker at Bucknell University. After college, he worked in the Nixon Administration in an office that was created by the National Environmental Protection Act within GSA. He was deeply involved in environmental affairs in college and has remained so for the last 30-plus years. Currently, he is a strong proponent of bio-mass fuels to eliminate continued dependence on importation of foreign oil, and thereby reduce US involvement in Middle Eastern wars.

In television, some of his best-known work was the Klingon General Martok on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. He also appeared in *Voyager* and *Enterprise*. Other television credits include *Seinfeld*, *Roswell*, *Six Feet Under*, *Touched by an Angel*, *Charmed*, *Dr. Quinn*, *Diagnosis Murder*, *Quantum Leap*, *The Highlander*, *Fortune Hunter*, *Brisco County Jr.*, *Lois and Clark*, *General Hospital*, *One Life to Live*, *Movin' On*, *Partners in Crime*, *Ultraman*, and over 50 episodes on the *New Zorro* series as Alcalde Ignacio DeSoto. In the Fall of 1997, he was featured with Jennifer Beals and Christopher Walken in the film *Prophecy 2*. A co-star in many movies of the week, J.G. can be seen sword fighting his way through Anthony Zerbe in *Treasure Island*, and most recently appearing as Ridley Scott in the *Pirates Of Silicon Valley*. He has appeared with Al Pacino in the Barry Levinson/Norman Jewison classic film, *...And Justice For All*.

In theatre, Mr. Hertzler was recently seen playing opposite

Academy Award winning actress Holly Hunter in a new Irish play, *By the Bog of Cats*, for San Jose Repertory Theatre. On Broadway, he appeared opposite Irene Pappas in the controversial production of the classic *The Bacchae*, directed by Michael Coccyannis. He had the distinct honor of performing with Oscar-winning actor Roddy MacDowall in the 1996 national tour of *Dial M For Murder*. Other theatre credits include leading roles with the finest regional theatres in the U.S., including the title roles of *Richard II* and *The Admirable Crichton* for ACT in San Francisco, appearances at The Guthrie, The Folger Theatre, Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, Cincinnati Playhouse, San Jose Repertory Theatre, and St. Louis Rep., among many others.

As a stage director, Mr. Hertzler has staged works for The Guthrie, ACT, Off-Broadway in New York City, The New Playwrights' Theatre of Washington, The Camden Shakespeare Festival, and several productions in the LA area including the much acclaimed American premier of Australian Kenneth Ross's award-winning play, *Breaker Morant*.

Having completed post-graduate work at UCLA in Screenwriting, Mr. Hertzler has optioned three of his scripts, *Prometheus*, *Dancing With Sancho Panza*, and *French Toast*. In 2003, his two-part novel, *Left Hand Of Destiny*, based on his character Martok of *Deep Space 9*, was published by Simon and Schuster.

CONVERGENCE  
2006DAQ TAH...  
JOQ...  
...LINE!GUEST OF HONOR  
J.G.  
Hertzler



# KENNETH HITE

I WANT TO BE KEN HITE WHEN I grow up. Better yet, I want to be Ken Hite now.

Ken's been working in the gaming industry about as long as I have - ten years, to be more or less precise. Ken's usually more precise; I, less so.

What Muskrats and cartoon characters with three fingers are to me, though, the world of elder gods, shadowy conspiracies, secret handshakes, alternate earths and Hawkesmoor churches are to Ken.

I hesitate to call Ken the sharpest mind in the gaming industry, if only because I've yet to meet all the minds in the gaming industry. But I can hardly imagine one more knowledgeable of, well, just about anything. Ken is the world's Phone-A-Friend, a font of knowledge both trivial and crucial, arcane and mundane, surprising and gob-smacking.

His gaming credits read like a "who's who" of some of the industry's most important and critically acclaimed tomes: dare I mention the likes of *Nephilm* (he authored "Secret Societies" for the system), or *GURPS Alternate Earths?* And these were the books that started his career.

His regular columns in *Pyramid Magazine* ("Suppressed Transmissions") and [www.gamingreport.com](http://www.gamingreport.com) ("Out of the Box") are much-loved must-reads on a biweekly basis for thousands of gamers. Whether constructing elaborate links between, say, the Bavarian Illuminati and Corn Pops, or simply coming up with another sparkling overview of recent releases, his prose is seldom less than addictive. Many writers have a way with words; Ken has a way, means and motive. He also knows where the body was dumped.

Calling Ken the high priest of high weirdness, though, only scratches

one of his many surfaces. For the full Hite experience, you need to sit across the table from him, as wild-eyed Argentinean waiters serve meat on swords (one of relatively few world cuisines with the serious ability to cause mortal wounds). You could also stay up late, late into the night talking politics, conspiracy theories, or just about anything else that comes to his mind (a phrase that encompasses much, when, Marvin-like, you realize he most likely has a brain the size of a planet).

In fact, perhaps the only hope for humanity is Ken's willingness - nay, glee - in killing off more than a few of these brain cells, along with his ever-suffering liver, on spectacular cocktails, like those served at London's Match Bar. Here, a few heady summers ago, James Wallis, Phil Masters, Ken and I spent a marvelous sum of money ordering far too many alcohol-based exotics, thoroughly enjoying loosing our wallets of what otherwise could have been called "rent" in a glorious bacchanal of epic proportions.

This stopped him not in becoming *Nephilm* Line Developer, editing various *In Nomine* books, writing *Nightmares Of Mine* for Iron Crown, *The Cainite Heresy* for *Vampire: The Dark Ages*, and other such endeavors, including the core book for *Mage: The Sorcerers Crusade*.

Ken co-designed the Origins-Award-winning *Star Trek: The Next Generation* RPG, scaled the dizzy heights of high-concept magical horror with *GURPS Cabal*, and saw his "Suppressed Transmission" column collected into not one but two books for Steve Jackson Games. That there's a market for such mind-blowing weirdness should scare us all. That that market is sated by one who's never met a Hawaiian shirt he didn't like makes it all just that much

more fuggly.

That Ken can waft rhapsodic on Spring-Heeled Jack one moment, and the joys of the perfect Chicago-style hot dog the next should make you love him that much more. As should the fact that he's authored or contributed to well over 60 gaming books and supplements. The guy's charming, to boot (most of the best scoundrels are).

If you manage to pin him down, you may be lucky enough to discover he's also a rollicking storyteller.

Doing so over meat on a sword, or a really spectacular martini, will only heighten (if you'll pardon the phrase) the experience that is Ken Hite.

*CONvergence 2003 Guest of Honor John Kovalic is co-founder and co-owner of Out of the Box Games (producers of the best-selling, multi-award-winning Apples to Apples). He's also worked on games such as Munchkin and Chez Geek and is the writer/artist of the comic book Dork Tower.*

CONVERGENCE 2006

Guest of Honor  
**Kenneth Hite**

**KENNETH HITE**  
Introduction by John Kovalic

# BRIDGET LANDRY

GOH 20060708bl



**BRIDGET LANDRY**  
Introduction by Alex Larson

I GREW UP A SECOND GENERATION geek. My parents were science fiction fans, so I developed a thirst for knowledge and love of science at an early age. A natural fascination with space, its exploration and the possibility of deep space travel sprang from my exposure to science fiction literature, movies and television. My favorite *Star Trek* character was Spock, of course. I loved science class in school, especially astronomy and biology. I enjoyed finding constellations in the night sky, and memorized the mythology behind them.

One summer, my mother told me about an opportunity to go to the Space Academy. At the time, it seemed like a normal thing to do. Some kids went to summer camp at a lake; I went to Space Academy. I guess that's what you come to think of as "normal" when you're raised by geeks! When we arrived at the Space Academy we took an exam to determine the kind of job we'd have on our mock missions. I tested well in the science questions, so I was made a Mission Specialist in charge of overseeing the science experiments conducted on our missions. My team mates called me "Chief Science Officer" and I was thrilled to finally be Spock. I took my role in our missions seriously, and drew a bemused grin from one of our leaders when I asked if I could get the results of our artificial experiments.

After that, I thought for a while that I'd become a scientist. But, like so many girls, I drifted away from science into other areas of study. At the time there weren't many women in science I could look to as a role model, either. However, I still fondly recall my closest brush with the space program all these many years later. When I heard CONvergence planned to invite a scientist from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, I jumped at the chance to serve as

guest liaison. When I learned that scientist was a woman, I was even more excited to meet her.

Bridget Landry is the rocket scientist who I'd consider my long-lost role model. In college, Bridget studied chemistry and planetary science, going on to work on the Hubble Space Telescope, the oceanographic satellite Topex and the Mars Pathfinder project. Bridget is now continuing her work at JPL as a team member for the Cassini Mission to Saturn. Bridget's training as a scientist brings a different perspective to her work as an engineer. It's clear from her writings about her work that the thrill of scientific discovery is one of the highlights of her job.

But, in addition to her hard-science job, Bridget loves science fiction. She's been a fan since she was 13, and is an avid convention-goer. She's been a convention volunteer, panelist and speaker. Best of all, Bridget is an award-winning costumer, both in presentation and workmanship, with some notable pieces being *Computer Pirates*, the *Strauss Waltz Assault Team* (aka SWAT) and *When Dominatrixes Go Good*. Bridget's already agreed to be a judge at the Masquerade, and I'm looking forward to her reaction to this year's costume lineup.

Getting to know a little about Bridget has been anything but rocket science. In the short time I've been corresponding with her, Bridget has been genuine, friendly and open. I've already discovered more than a few common interests, besides our mutual love of space. I'm sure almost everyone will find something in common with this warm and talented woman.

*Alex Larson is a Space Camp alumna, a long-time CONvergence volunteer and guest liaison, and is liaison for Bridget Landry.*

CONVERGENCE 2006

THE NAME-PLATE READS 'CA'NINI.'

AGAIN! FIRST V'GER, NON THIS.

WHO'S PROGRAMMING THESE THINGS?

Guest of Honor  
**Bridget Landry**

Introduction by Alex Larson



# ROBERT O'REILLY

GOH 20060708



**ROBERT O'REILLY**

Introduction by Perrin Klumpp

MANY PEOPLE WOULD PROBABLY assume that Robert O'Reilly's first words were spoken in Klingon. And, given his stellar performance in the *Star Trek* Universe as Chancellor Gowron over the course of almost a decade, one can understand why. However, Robert has played far, far more than just the beloved and hated, slightly mad leader of the Klingons.

For the last 30 years, he has been an actor and director at the Colony Theater in Los Angeles, where his directing has either won or been nominated for numerous awards. In 1989, he directed the world premier of Dennis Clontz's *Generations* which was cited by the American Theater Critics' Association as one of the best new plays produced outside of New York. He has also played the roles of Hamlet/Fortinbras in Charles Marowitz's interpretation of *Hamlet* and Edmund in *King Lear* in Los Angeles and performed in Broadway and off-Broadway productions in New York including Carnegie Hall.

In addition to his stage career, Robert has appeared in a vast number of television episodes and about ten movies, as well as lending his voice to several computer games. While *Star Trek* is what he is best known for (to those reading this anyway) I've enjoyed looking at the variety of roles he has had on many well known SF shows including *The Incredible Hulk*, *Knight Rider*, *Max Headroom*, *The Adventures of Brisco County Jr.* and *The Flash*. Though it isn't science fiction, I would also include his appearance on *Cop Rock* as being on a television show based in fantasy.

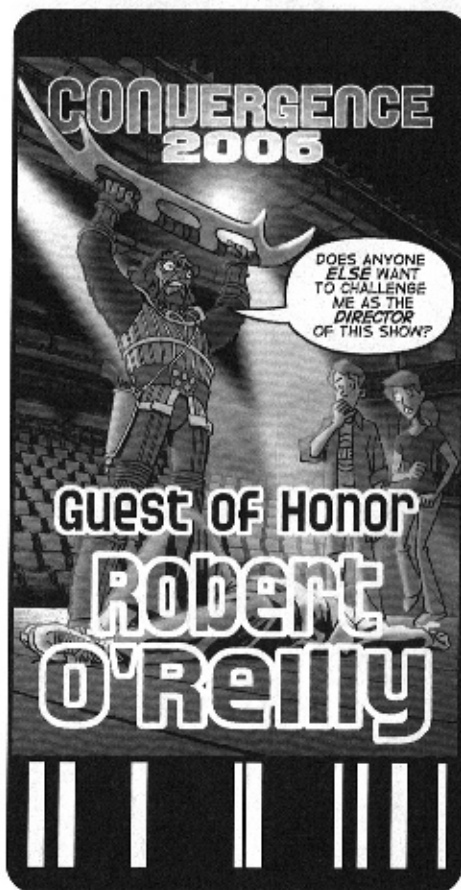
His non-sci-fi shows include *Hill Street Blues*, *In The Heat of the Night*, *Cheers*, *Numb3rs*, *NYPD Blue*, *Falcon Crest* and *MacGyver*. OK, maybe *MacGyver* belongs in the sci-fi group too. However, to those of you reading this, you probably know

him best as Gowron. As Gowron, he's become Chancellor, put down a Klingon civil war, attacked Cardassia, attacked DS9, fought the Dominion and was finally killed by Worf. Quite the over-achiever if you ask me.

I happened to be flipping channels recently and there was Robert, glaring in all his Klingon glory at the son of Duras (If you don't know the reference, bad geek, no biscuit! Go rent the series or watch the reruns, this is great stuff!) and all I could think is "Wow, I hope he enjoys himself at CONvergence, he looks like he could rip out my spleen with his teeth!"

In reality though, I have found Robert to be a very kind and friendly man. He has been generous with his time, and that's really something when you have three young boys (triplets I might add). Having him as a guest at CONvergence will be quite the treat, and I thank his wife Judy for letting us have him for the weekend. I look forward to finding out how such a nice guy can portray such ruthless people. Oh wait, that's right, it's called acting and that's something that Robert does with great skill.

*Perrin Klumpp is the Director of Guest Relations for CONvergence and a member of the MISFITS Board of Directors.*



# MILES TEVES:

GOH 20060708mt



**MILES TEVES**

Introduction by Jody L. Wurl

## THE STORY OF AN ARTIST AS A MAD MAN.

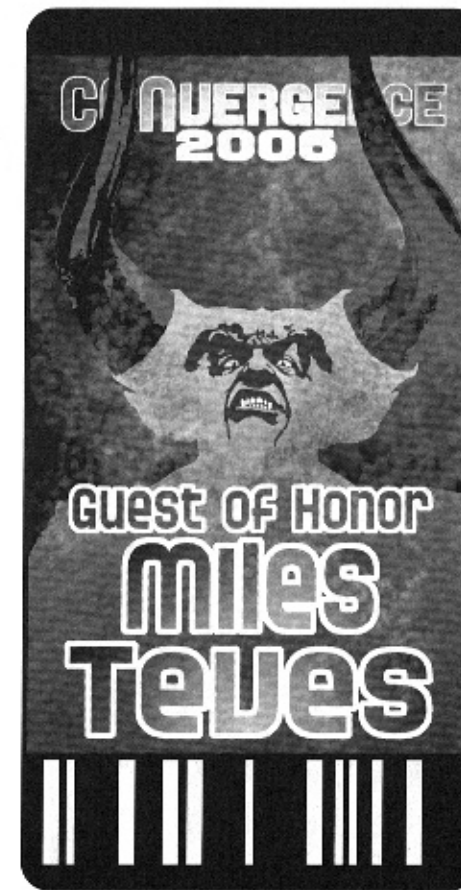
WE WILL BEGIN THE TALE OF Miles Teves with his own words: "Once upon a time, on the verdant central coast of mythical California, in a backwards place called Salinas, a town plagued by dime store Cowboys, disgruntled Cholos, and fields of stinking cabbage, an artist was born. The very same Salinas fled by John Steinbeck just as soon as he was able. It was 1963, and it would be another 18 years before Miles could leave this idyllic and nurturing cultural paradise, so he quickly got down to the business of growing up." You can read the rest of this illuminating autobiography on his web site at [www.milesteves.com](http://www.milesteves.com) but all you really need to know about his early childhood is that *Batman*, *Godzilla*, *Star Trek*, and *Monty Python* warped his malleable young mind and the repercussions can be seen today.

Miles himself fled Salinas in 1983 for Los Angeles, where he attended the Art Center College of Design as an illustration major. He was lured away from school to become a concept illustrator for the film *Legend* and never went back. He worked in film for a while, then digressed from illustration to explore the world of sculpture, and ended up making robotic dinosaurs for museums. Seduced by the thought of Big Money, he also tried his hand at designing a computer game but his hopes and finances were cruelly dashed. Soldiering on, he found a true vocation in designing characters and special effects for film.

They say in true genius madness lies. If you look at this man's resume you can see the man is utterly barking mad and howling at the moon. Films like *X3*, *Slither*, *King Kong*, *The Passion of the Christ*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Galaxy*

*Quest*, *Men in Black*, *The Witches of Eastwick*, and *Robocop* have his inimitable touch, and these are just a sampling of his work. He's currently working on multiple projects such as *The Benjamin Button*, an unusual epic love story featuring Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, and Marvel's *Iron Man* which is just starting production. His talented wife Malena Teves, an actress, model and singer in the band *Lorraine a'Malena*, may be the only thing keeping him mostly sane. I think we can all agree, however, that we need to keep Miles just a little bit on the edge. Our new favorite movies wouldn't be half as cool without his artistic stamp.

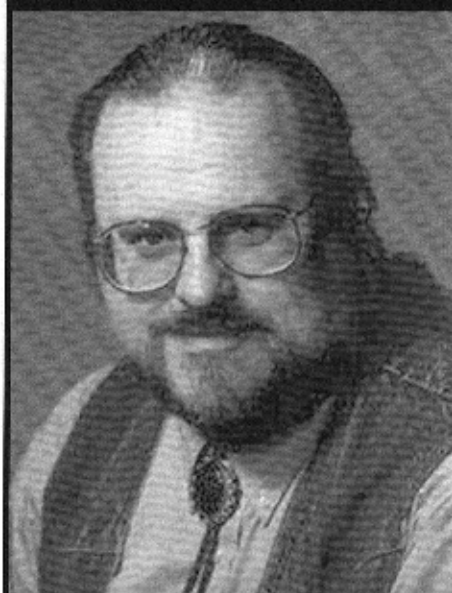
*Jody L. Wurl is a long-time CONvergence volunteer and guest liaison. When not getting her geek on, Jody works for the Hennepin County Library system.*





GOH 20060708dw

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**DAVID WEBER**  
Introduction by Anton Peterson

WHEN YOU THINK OF GREAT military science fiction authors one name springs immediately to mind. That name, of course, is CONvergence 2006 guest of honor David Weber.

When asked what is important in writing military science-fiction, a portion of the reply given by David Weber was "...sanitized military science fiction is in many respects the worst form of pornography: Military fiction in which people are hit by high-powered weapons and either die instantly and cleanly or suffer minor wounds, and only the characters that you didn't care a lot about were killed." He went on to elaborate that one way to impress upon others the vileness of war was to overload them with every splash of gore; the other, a more minimalist approach which hits the reader with an occasional gory incident, and good people can die.

David has spent considerable amounts of time on the study of military history, diplomacy, and political science. He has used this vast array of knowledge to create one of the best-known series in science fiction today. I don't believe I need to go on about how this series is compared to C.S. Forester's Horatio Hornblower series, or the compelling descriptions of space combat. If you have not already done so, you need to pick up the first book in the Honor Harrington universe called *On Basilisk Station*. After you have been sucked into the incredible story of Honor Harrington you can then enjoy the ten other novels, four collections, and two books that take place in the same universe. Once you have caught up then, like me, you just have to wait for the next one.

I like to spend my time waiting for the next book in the series by reading one of the other fantastic novels he has written. One of my favorites is the War God series that tells the

story of Bahzell, a Horse Stealer Hradani. I think what appeals to me the most is Bahzell's complete and utter lack of interest in actually being a chosen one of the gods. It is a fantasy story about an unlikely and unwilling hero who thinks he is on the receiving end of the War gods sense of humor.

If a fantasy book doesn't strike your fancy right now, then maybe a collaboration series would interest you. There is the Starfire series written with Steve White and is based on the game of the same name. Or the popular Empire of Man series with John Ringo. One of the best choices might be to read *1633*, his collaboration with Eric Flint. This is the sequel to *1632*, which is about a small town in contemporary America being sent back to the year 1632, and all of the ramifications to our current history that entails. Eric, of course, is also a guest at CONvergence this year, and I am sure you can see the advantage of reading a book they wrote together. I am now starting to read one of his newer books called *Bolo!* This takes place in Keith Laumer's universe about gigantic robotic tanks with artificial intelligence. I look forward to reading his unique perspective on the universe of *Bolo*.

There are many other books not mentioned here that are well worth your picking up and reading. I hope that you all get a chance to say hello to David and his wife Sharon as they experience the wonderful convention known as CONvergence.

*Anton Peterson is a long-time CONvergence volunteer, and has helped forge the CONvergence model of what a convention's guest liaison should be.*

I HAVEN'T MET GREG WEISMAN. In spite of the fact that we've actually "worked together," I haven't yet met the man. That's one of the funny things about working in comics. You can collaborate with people on a project without ever meeting them, or even talking to them via phone or email. Often, you do your part of the job without knowing who is going to follow you to do the remaining steps. It's like an assembly line, where the other people on the line often aren't in the same building as you, or even the same state. Why would anyone work in a crazy business like that? Ha. You assume we have a choice. How adorable.

Greg's no stranger to the world of comics. He's best known to comics fans for his run as the writer of *Captain Atom* for DC Comics in the late 1980's. Apparently, Greg thought he could flee from the singularity-like pull of comics by escaping into the glamorous life-in-the-fastlane world of television animation. Greg went to work in 1989 for Walt Disney Television Animation, rising through the ranks to become the Director of Series Development. It was in this capacity that Greg helped conceive his most famous creation: *Disney's Gargoyles*.

"I've been fascinated by gargoyles since at least my college days," says Greg. "But someone else at Disney made the suggestion to do a show about gargoyles. That's all they gave me. That one word. Gargoyles. I ran with it. Though I had a LOT of help. It was a real team effort."

The resulting series that debuted on October 24, 1994 was hailed for its complex story arcs and drama, a rarity in television animation of the time. *Gargoyles* quickly found itself popular with an older demographic and building a faithful, cult audience.

Greg acted as Supervising Producer and Supervising Story Editor of the first 66 episodes of

*Gargoyles*, overseeing complex character arcs and stories meshed with medieval Scottish history. Despite all this success, a steady paycheck, and rubbing elbows with glamorous Hollywood types like *Gargoyles* voice actors Keith David, Jonathan Frakes and Marina Sirtis, Greg couldn't resist the siren call of comics completely.

I "worked with" Greg in 2000 to the extent that I had the pleasure of penciling a ten-page story that Greg wrote (not having any idea who would draw it). The story featured Captain Atom and other oddball members of DC's Justice League Europe team meeting a group of enchanted, rooftop-dwelling creatures that may or may not have borne a certain resemblance to characters from a certain Disney animated series.

But again, he thought he could escape.

Greg has worked as the story editor of season two of Disney's *W.I.T.C.H.*, and has written for several recent animated series including *Men in Black*, *Roughnecks: The Starship Troopers Chronicles*, *Max Steele*, *Buzz Lightyear of Star Command*, and *Kim Possible*. Greg also wrote the two-part season one finale of *The Batman*, which featured the introduction of Clayface, heralded by many as the best and most character-driven story seen on that series to date.

But it wasn't enough. Oh no. Just when he thought he was out, they pulled him back IN!

Greg is writing the new ongoing *Gargoyles* comic from Slave Labor Graphics, the first issue of which came out in June. The comic book picks up where season two of the TV series left off, continuing the storylines of Goliath, Angela, Brooklyn and the other Gargoyles. "I'm tremendously excited—and vaguely terrified at the same time," Greg said. "I know a lot of people



**GREG WEISMAN**  
Introduction by Christopher Jones

have been waiting a long time for this[...] I've got ten years' worth of story ideas that I'm just dying to tell."

So I still haven't met Greg Weisman, although I look forward to changing that this weekend. I want to talk to him and learn if he's resigned to his fate now. He can work on other things from time to time, but comics never let you go. Maybe I can convince him that if he stops struggling it won't hurt at all.

*Christopher Jones is the Director of Publications for CONvergence as well as the artist on The Batman Strikes for DC Comics and of Dr. Blink, Superhero Shrink with co-creator and former CONvergence Guest of Honor John Kovalic.*



THE INDEPENDENT FANTASY MOVIE EVENT OF THE YEAR

# MIDNIGHT CHRONICLES

In early 2005, the Minnesota based publisher Fantasy Flight Games established Landroval Studios: A division whose goal was the creation of a live action film based on FFG's award-winning "Midnight" fantasy role playing game. It is our hopes that the success of this film will enable FFG to launch the episodic live-action fantasy series *Midnight Chronicles*.

Production of this locally shot film began in April 2006, and a fantastic team of Minnesota talent and crew has enabled this ambitious project to take form with an expected completion date in the fall of 2006.

We are proud to make CONVERGENCE 2006 the official venue for this announcement and to give its attendees the first sneak preview of the film. Anyone interested may attend the following MIDNIGHT CHRONICLES events:

World Premiere of the Midnight Chronicles Preview:	Panel Discussion with the Midnight Chronicles Creators:
Cinema Rex, Plaza 4 11 pm, Saturday	Plaza 1 11 am, Sunday

*You can help MIDNIGHT CHRONICLES succeed by purchasing the "Midnight" role-playing books (available in game stores everywhere). Thank you for your support!*

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# DAVID WEBER

CONvergence Guest of Honor 2006

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As the crew of the Firefly supports Captain Reynolds, so does Connie support Professor Misfit

**THE CONVERGENCE CONVENTION** IS A FUNDRAISER FOR **The Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy (MISFITS)**, a non-profit organization with a mission of increasing literacy, community service, and community building.

MISFITS also serves as a forum and foundation for celebrating diversity and works to promote the appreciation of, and interest in, Science Fiction and Fantasy. The seven-member MISFITS Board of Directors are elected by the MISFITS voting membership, oversee the organization as a whole, and are directly responsible for the running of the various divisions of CONvergence.

The current MISFITS Board Members (and their CONvergence divisions) are: **Windy Bowlsby** (Communications), **Christopher Jones** (Publications), **Perrin Klumpp** (Community Relations), **Jeremy Stomberg** (Marketing), **Pat Wick** (Finance), **Tim Wick** (Events), and **Ishmael Williams** (Facilities). The MISFITS Board selects Officers to oversee the operations of other MISFITS clubs, programs and events. The 2005-2006 MISFITS Officers are: **Jodie Gustafson** (President), **Peter Verrant** (Vice-president), **Matt Savelkoul** (Secretary), **Thomas Keeley** (Treasurer), **Erica Zaffke** (Officer at Large).

Anyone can be a member of MISFITS. Voting membership is earned with volunteer time and meeting attendance. For more information on MISFITS elections, becoming a Board Member, Officer, or voting member, visit the MISFITS web site: [www.misfit.org](http://www.misfit.org).

## MISFITS CLUBS

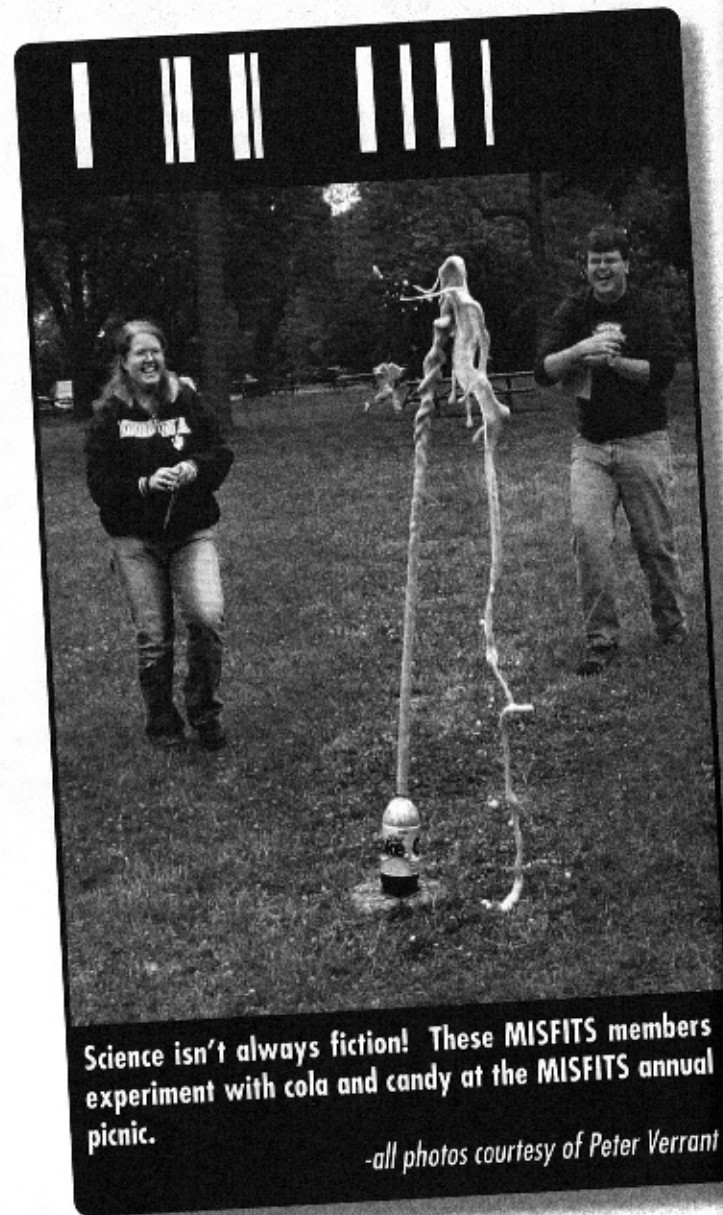
More information on all our clubs, including upcoming meetings, is available on our web site.

### Geeks Read!

Our newest club, Geeks Read, is a smashing success. It is a book discussion group that meets once a month. Our July meeting will be held at CONvergence (in the Dorian Grey Literary Lounge) and will feature the book *1632* by Eric Flint with the author himself checking out the discussion!

### Read the Book / See the Movie

The MISFITS Read the Book/See the Movie Club was the first club formed by our organization. The club's goal was to expand our reading and film horizons by comparing and contrasting films to their source material. We have read books by H.G. Wells, Robert Heinlein, Mark Twain, Jane Austen and other well-known authors. We have also strayed from classic novels and short stories to read such works as plays by William Shakespeare and the original screenplay for



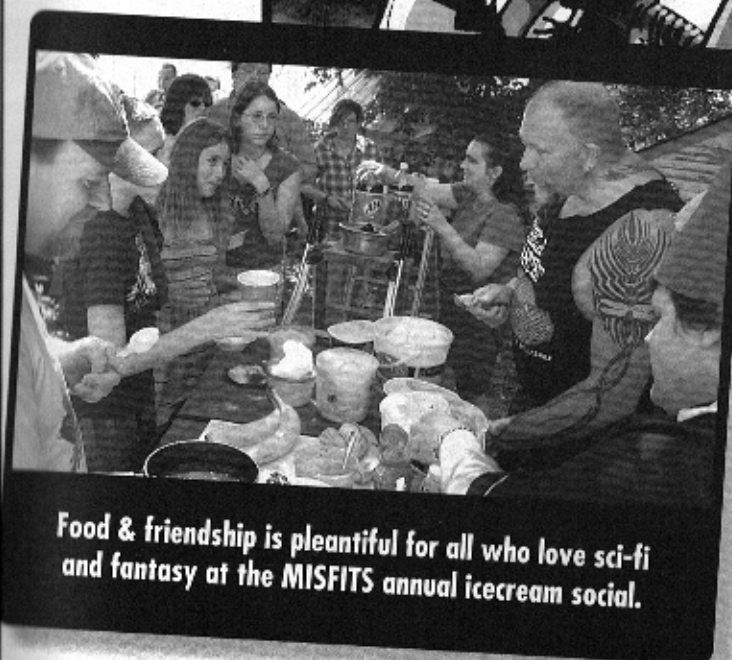
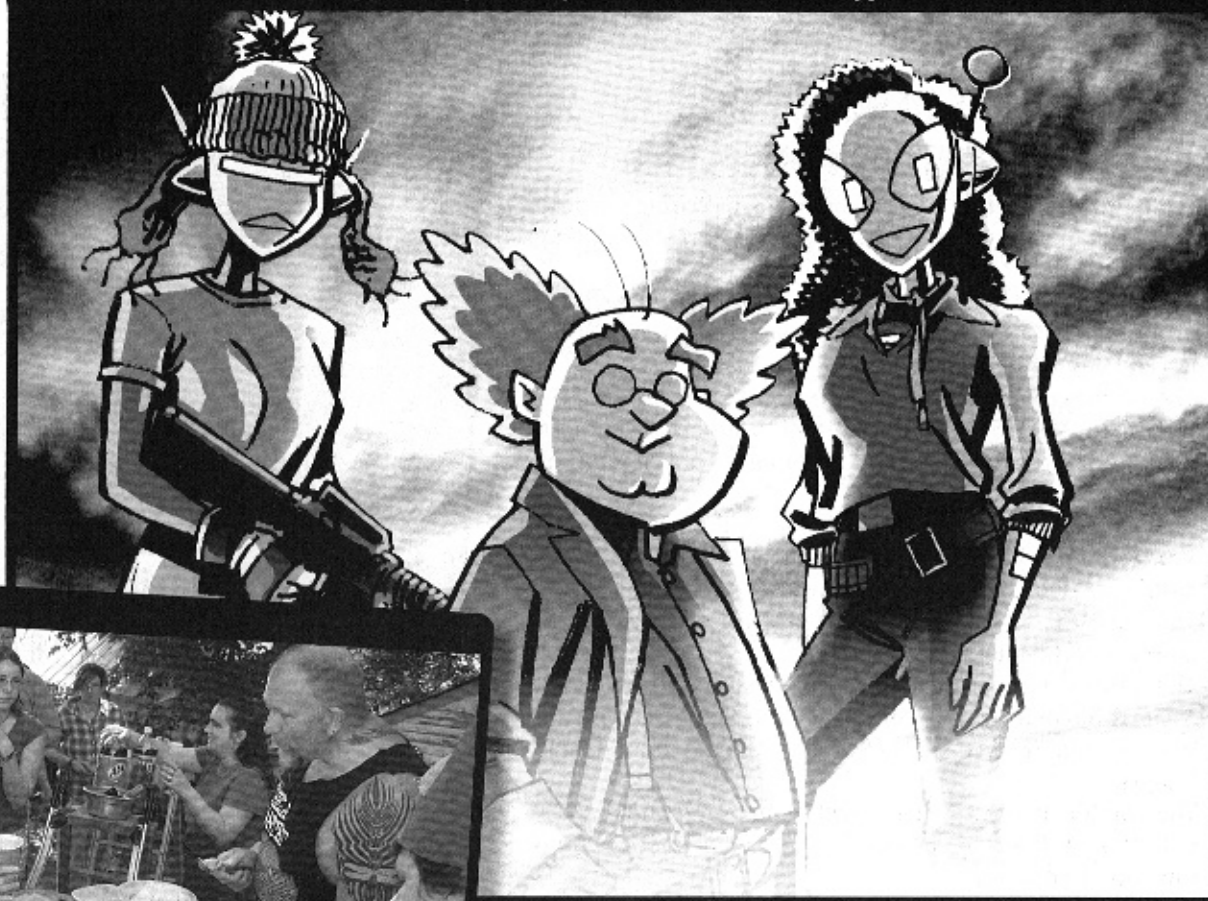
Science isn't always fiction! These MISFITS members experiment with cola and candy at the MISFITS annual picnic.

-all photos courtesy of Peter Verrant

the *Batman* feature film. The club has become an education in literary and film history as well as an education in how the film industry adapts written material. We've also had a lot of fun!

### Geek Physique

Our weekly walks gearing up for the summer season continue. If you are interested in some cardio exercise with a geek-flavored social atmosphere, check out Geek Physique! We also touch on diabetic support issues. [www.misfit.org/geekphysique/index.html](http://www.misfit.org/geekphysique/index.html)



Food & friendship is plentiful for all who love sci-fi and fantasy at the MISFITS annual icecream social.

### Working Meeting

Do you have suggestions for future MISFITS activities? Are you interested in volunteering at any of our upcoming events or helping out with running room parties at local conventions? Come and see what all the fun is about at our monthly planning meetings. Our next one is on Thursday, July 2ynd, at 7:00 PM at our office on 1437 Marshall Avenue in St. Paul. Hope to see you there!

### Crafty Geek

A group where geeky crafters can get together to socialize, learn, share and show off. Crafty Geek meets monthly at Crafty Planet, located in North East Minneapolis near the corner of Stinson at 2318 Lowry Ave.

### GOT Edutainment

GOT Edutainment (familiarly known as "Geeks on the Town") gathers local SF fans together for a variety of fun and/or educational outings throughout the year. If you'd like to be on the mailing list (no obligation to buy!), simply email us at [edutainment@misfit.org](mailto:edutainment@misfit.org) and let us know. Even better, if you have some happening event, some local curiosity, some long forlorn civic treasure to share - email and let us know!

### 2006 SCAVENGER HUNT

Once again we challenged local geeks to scrounge for items to show off their geek cred!

On Saturday, May 6, four teams scoured the Twin Cities for items to photograph or bring back with them to the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel to out-geek their competitors and win eternal fame and an odd assortment of swag of moderate value.

Winners:

- **We Just Came for the Hot Tub** (1545 points)
- **Behr'Ak - Melykson** (1270 points)
- **Mostly Cool** (1220 points)
- **Cinema Rex** (1140 points)

Thanks to everyone who made the event happen and who came out to play.



## 2006 MISFITS SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY WRITING CONTEST

Our 8th Annual Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing Contest, and had our highest number of submissions ever, a whopping 74 entries!

- The winning entry in each Division will be published and distributed at CONvergence 2006 (available at the MISFITS Room Party while supplies last).
- The winning entries will also be posted on the MISFITS web site. MISFITS reserves the right to republish contest-winning stories and poems in a "volume of contest-winning writings" at a future time.
- The winner of each Youth Division will receive a \$75 **Amazon.com** gift certificate, with a second \$75 gift certificate being awarded to the winner's school.
- The Poetry Division winner will receive a \$75 **Amazon.com** gift certificate.
- The general winner of the Open Division will receive a \$125 **Amazon.com** gift certificate. The Scott Imes Award Winner will receive a \$125 gift certificate from Uncle Hugo's
- The winners in each division will be honored and authors will receive their award during the CONvergence 2006 Opening Ceremony.

Visit [www.misfit.org/writingcontest/](http://www.misfit.org/writingcontest/) for more information on the contest, and to learn how you can enter in 2007.

### 2006 WINNING ENTRIES

#### OPEN DIVISION AWARDS

- Scott Imes Award: *The Closet War* by Nicole Lorenz
- 1st Place: *The Brimstone Beast* by Sarah Harding
- 2nd Place: *The Roustabout* by Ben Lindstrom
- 3rd Place: *In the Weft* by Damian Sheridan

#### POETRY DIVISION AWARDS

- 1st Place: *Space* by EV Baldwin
- 2nd Place: *The Silver Pool* by Lauren N. Daumler
- 3rd Place: *A Beautiful Creature* by Joanne Ashley London

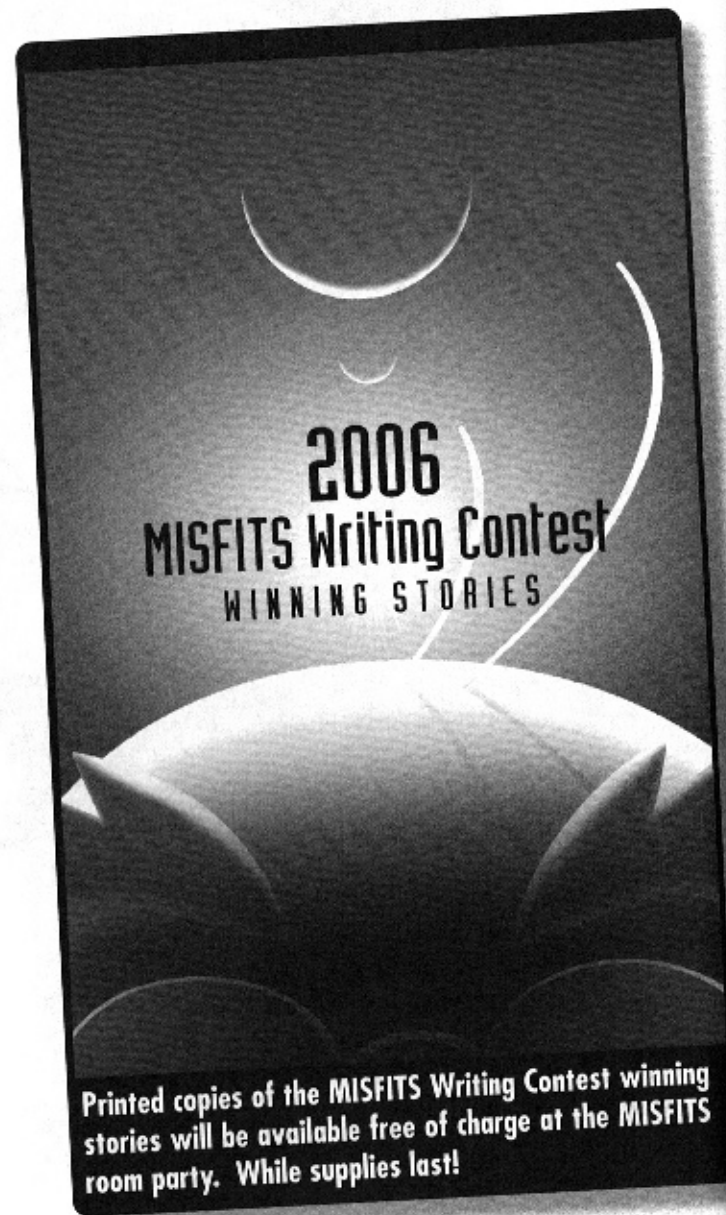
#### YOUTH DIVISION AWARDS

##### Division 1 – Ages 10 and Under

- 1st Place: *A Fight Over a Pearl* by Connie Lee North Pointe Elementary School, Houston TX
- 2nd Place: *James* by Sora Oizumi Spanaway Elementary School, Spanaway WA
- 3rd Place: *Ton-Tails* by Gabriel Steeves Spanaway Elementary School, Spanaway WA

##### DIVISION 2 – AGES 11-13

- 1st Place: *The Buried Future* by Kimmy Trauner Sunset Middle School, Longmont CO



- 2nd Place: *Kodac's Quest* by Michael R. DeMore East Hampton Middle School, East Hampton CT
- 3rd Place: *Kari's Kandies* by Meg Thornbury Sunset Middle School, Longmont CO

##### DIVISION 3 – AGES 14-16

- 1st Place: *The Most Unlikely of Companions* by Caitlin Crowley Carroll High School, Southlake TX
- 2nd Place: *The Sea* by Kari Finseth St. Paul Central Senior High, St. Paul MN
- 3rd Place: *A Time to Fight* by Hokan Holmquist Frenchtown Junior High School, Frenchtown MT

## MISFITS TEAM TRIVIA CHALLENGE

The Eighth Annual MISFITS TEAM TRIVIA CHALLENGE was held Saturday, April 1 at the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel. Eight teams of four members each faced off to test their science fiction and fantasy knowledge on a variety of topics ranging from movies to comics to television to science and more.

Team **M.E.R.D.** took the top prize, while 2004 champs Team **Dolemite** took second. More details about the contest and the outcome will be on the MISFITS website soon. The Trivia Challenge trophy will be presented to the winners at **Opening Ceremonies at CONvergence 2006.**

Our thanks go out to everyone who helped make the Trivia Challenge happen, who came to participate as players, or just watch.

Learn more about the MISFITS Team Trivia Challenge and join the challenge in 2007! Visit [www.misfit.org/trivia/index.htm](http://www.misfit.org/trivia/index.htm).



## IN THE SCHOOLS

### 2005-2006 SCHOOLYEAR

The MISFITS program that reaches the most people is the In The Schools program. Developed and initiated in 1999, the program started by sponsoring local, published author visits to the St. Paul School system. Since then, the program has expanded both in the locations served, and in the scope of the programs.

MISFITS has been working with the University of Minnesota Raptor Center's educational program, sponsoring visits to the schools by Raptor Center educators with owls, hawks and falcons from the center. In the past year, MISFITS sponsored visits by the Raptor Center to Phalen Elementary School, Jackson Elementary School, Farnsworth Aerospace Elementary School, and World Cultures Elementary/American Indian Magnet School in St. Paul, Loring Elementary School in Minneapolis, and Stride Academy in St. Cloud.

In the 2005-2006 school year, the In The Schools program has sponsored Robotics demonstrations at Farnsworth School in St. Paul, and Roseville Area Middle School in Roseville, Reptile demonstrations at CrossRoads Elementary School and Prosperity Heights Elementary School in St. Paul, and NASA demonstrations at Concord Elementary School Carnival in Edina.

To find out how to obtain this MISFITS service for your schools or library please contact MISFITS "In The Schools" Program at [intheschools@misfit.org](mailto:intheschools@misfit.org).

Questions, concerns, or comments?  
Please contact us!

[www.misfit.org](http://www.misfit.org)

1437 Marshall Avenue, Suite 203  
St. Paul, MN 55104

eMail: [info@misfit.org](mailto:info@misfit.org)

24-hour voicemail: 651.647.3487





# CONVENTION COMMITTEE

## COMMUNICATIONS

Windy Bowlsby	Director
Guy Bock	Photographer
Danielle Preston-McKay	Photographer
Peter Verrant	Photographer
Jim Verrant	Photographer
Stephanie Lindorff	Registration Co-head
Andy Murphy	Registration Co-head
David Benhart	Registration Sub-head
Alicia LaMunion	Registration Sub-head
Paula Merns	Registration Sub-head
Michelle Reeves	Registration Sub-head
Tony Spears	Registration Sub-head
Michael Stroh	Registration Sub-head
Tony Karna	Videography Head
Jay Curry	Volunteers Head
Linda Petersen	Volunteers Sub-head
DuAnn Thompson	Volunteers Sub-head
Ben Tucker	Webmaster

## EVENTS

Tim Wick	Director
Jody Wurl	Local Pro Liaison
John Grams	Cinema Rex Co-head
Eric Knight	Cinema Rex Co-head
Michael MacDonald	Cinema Rex Co-head
Lauren Lenzen	CoF2E2 Co-head
Jesse Richardson	CoF2E2 Co-head
Amanda Greenheart	CoF2E2 Sub-head
Andrew Masters	CoF2E2 Sub-head
Emily Stull	CoF2E2 Sub-head
Cali Mastny	Connie's Space Lounge Co-head
Caly McMorrow	Connie's Space Lounge Co-head
Aaron Prust	Connie's Space Lounge Co-head
Jon Olsen	Connie's Space Lounge Sub-head
Scott Raleigh	Connie's Space Lounge Sub-head
Jeff Hildebrand	Consuite Co-head
Teresa "Tae" Kidd	Consuite Co-head
Ellie Yoder	Consuite Co-head

Eryn Hildebrand	Consuite	Sub-head
David Kingsley	Consuite	Sub-head
John Thompson	Consuite	Sub-head
Sara Warner	Consuite	Sub-head
Charlotte Nickerson	Consuite	Sub-head
David Rust	Gaming	Head
Don Hackett	Gaming	Sub-head (board)
Lisa Pepin	Gaming	Sub-head (RPG)
Geoffrey Fretham	Gaming	Sub-head
Matthew Wuori	Harmonic CONvergence	Head
Eric Heideman	Krushenko's	Head
Jody Wurl	Literary Lounge	Co-head
David Rust	Literary Lounge	Co-head
LeXI Erwin	Mainstage	Co-head
Skaht Hansen	Mainstage	Co-head
Anthony Karna	Mainstage	Co-head
Shaun Kluz	Mainstage	Sub-head
Jerry Stearns	Mark Time Awards	Head
Erin Kasper	Masquerade	Head
Michael Lee	Programming	Co-head
Thaadd Powell	Programming	Co-head
Romeo Azar	Programming	Sub-head
Ed Eastman	Programming	Sub-head
Margaret Eastman	Programming	Sub-head
Amada Marquez	Programming	Sub-head
Matthew Savelkoul	Programming	Sub-head
Ben Huset	Science Room	Head
David Buth	Science Room	Sub-head
Rich Brown	Science Room	Sub-head
Rick Weller	Science Room	Sub-head
Elliott James	Special Events	Coordinator
Tom Harty	Theatre Nippon	Head
Lindsey Carlson	Theatre Nippon	Sub-head
Mara Kapp	Theatre Nippon	Sub-head
Andy Mills	Theatre Nippon	Sub-head
Jose Rivera	Theatre Nippon	Sub-head
Peter Smith	Theatre Nippon	Sub-head

## FACILITIES

Ishmael Williams	Director
Kerry Boese	Admin
Erik McInroy	Dockmaster
Amy McInroy	Gravediggers Admin
Loki Ekstrom	Gravediggers Head
Larry Andrie	Gravediggers Sub-head
Jennifer JoPeck	Gravediggers Sub-head
Michael Alexander	Hotel Co-head
Linda Paul	Hotel Co-head
Katy Duffy	Hotel Hotel Two
Christina Facchin	Hotel Hotel Two
Brit Hefty	Hotel Hotel Two
Charles Piehl	Hotel Hotel Two
Pat Ward	Hotel Hotel Two
Erica Zaffke	Hotel Hotel Two
Jules Raberding	Hotel Support
Emily Stewart	Meeting Childcare Coordinator
Diane Stewart	Meeting Childcare Staff
Samantha Thompson	Meeting Childcare Staff
Rhonda Danielson	Operations Co-head
Thomas Keeley	Operations Co-head
Doug Kirks	Operations Co-head
Pamela Crawford	Operations Sub-head
John Gunther	Operations Sub-head
Elliott James	Operations Sub-head
Nadim Khalidi	Operations Sub-head
Ann Roubik	Operations Sub-head
Bridget Kromhout	Parties Head
Samantha Thomas	Parties Sub-head
Linda Paul	Resume Head
Jen Manna	Resume Sub-head
Amy Purdes	Resume Sub-head
Brooke Ekola	Resume Sub-head

## FINANCE

Patricia Wick	Director
Jenni Klumpp	Finance Support
Bruce Yoder	Finance Support

## GUESTS & FUNDRAISING

Perrin Klumpp	Director
Melissa Wuori	Guests Coordinator
Bridget Riversmith	Guests Coordinator Asst.
David Cuneo Justin	Guests Liaison
Lisa Pepin	Guests Liaison
Anton Petersen	Guests Liaison
Amanda Tempel	Guests Liaison
Mark Tempel	Guests Liaison
Heather Wuori	Guests Liaison
Jody Wurl	Guests Liaison
Lex Larson	Guests Liaison
Judy Byers	Silent Auction Head
Marty Byers	Silent Auction Sub-head
Lisa Horton	Silent Auction Sub-head
TJ Starbuck	Silent Auction Sub-head
Hellen Ferguson	Silent Auction Sub-head

## MARKETING

Jeremy Stomberg	Director
Amy Tucker	Advertising Head
Charles Piehl	Art Show Auctioneer
Charlie Horne	Art Show Head
Teresa Knipp	Art Show Sub-head
James Thomas Jr.	Art Show Sub-head
Mary McKinley	Dealers Room Head
Herb Lindorff	Dealers Room Sub-head
Michael Fanslow	Merchandise Head
Sue Bloyer	Merchandise Sub-head

## PUBLICATIONS

Christopher Jones	Director
Lex Larson	Content Coordinator
Melissa Kaercher	Programming Guide
Chris Bowlsby	Souvenir Book



## SPECIAL THANKS

# CONVERGENCE & THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY FOR INTEREST IN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

would like to thank everyone who helped to make CONvergence 2006 happen. That includes the members of our **Convention Committee**, the **MISFITS Officers and Staff**, our **volunteers**, anyone who **sat a panel**, **entered the Masquerade**, **performed on stage**, **held a room party** or **otherwise participated** in the weekend's events.

We would like to thank our wonderful guests: **Eric Flint, J.G. Hertzler, Kenneth Hite, Bridget Landry, Robert O'Reilly, Miles Teves, David Weber, & Greg Weisman.**

Thank you to the **staff of the Sheraton Bloomington South** for all their help and assistance, and for continuing to make this hotel feel like home.

Thank you to **Sophie McNutt** and **FUNimation Entertainment** for their contributions to Theater Nippon.

Thank you to the **Escape Pod** podcast for allowing us to share their programs with our members. Thank you to **Louis Frank, Fantasy Flight Games**, and the **Source Comics and Games** for their help with CONvergence Gaming.

Thank you to **PA Gear** and **Keith Badour** for their contributions to Harmonic CONvergence.

Thank you to **Romeo Azar, Amada Marquez, Tony Kar-na,** and **Scott Kever** for their assistance with the video portion of our Opening Ceremonies Sketch this year.

Thank you to **Frost and his team** for their work in designing and constructing this year's MainStage Façade.

Thank you to all the **attendees** who became members of CONvergence 2006. **And finally, our sincere thanks (and apologies) to anyone we forgot.** If you know someone who should be on this list, please let us know. There's still time to give credit where credit is due, both on our web site and in our Post Mortem Report published in a couple of months.



AND THE QUESTION WAS...

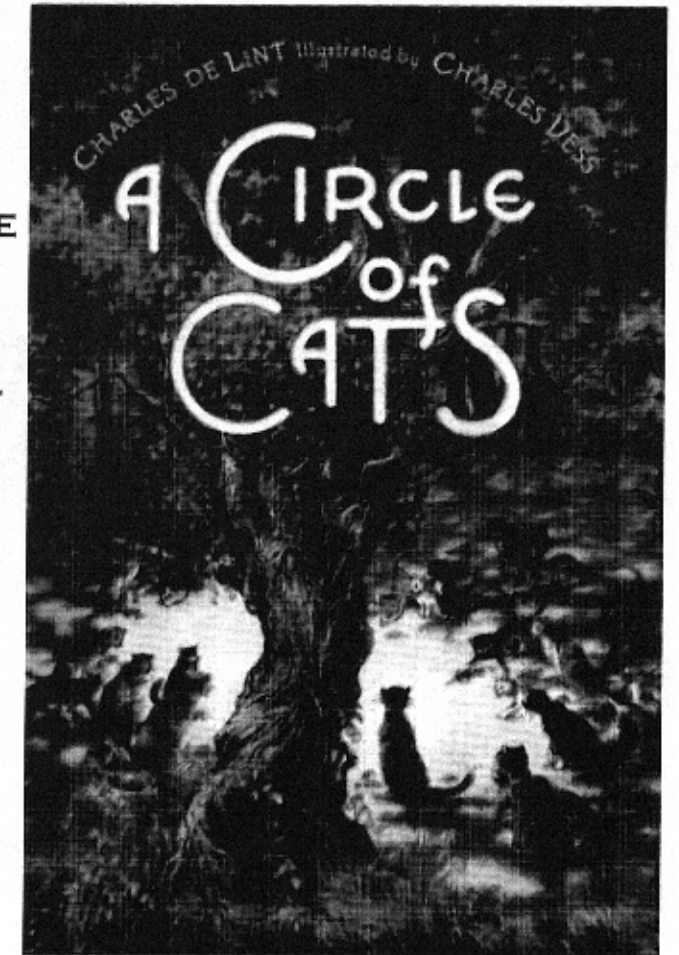
# MINICON 42

APRIL 6-8, 2007 (EASTER WEEKEND)

SHERATON BLOOMINGTON HOTEL (FORMERLY THE RADISSON SOUTH)

## GUESTS OF HONOR CHARLES DE LINT CHARLES VESS

MINICON CONTINUES ITS PROUD TRADITION OF FINDING THE TRUE SILLINESS OF ART AND LIFE. FROM A OVERHEAD FLIGHT OF DODOS TO THE KAZOO THAT WILL NEVER CALL RETREAT, WE EXPLORE THE UNIQUE, THE WONDEROUS, AND THE NEW AND OLD. COME JOIN US.





# PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

## CONVERGENCE 2007 CREATURE FEATURE

July 6-8

Sheraton Bloomington South  
Bloomington, MN  
A Convention for Fans of  
Science Fiction and Fantasy

Check the box that will apply on the dates of the convention:

- Adult Badge (18 & over)  
 13 - 17 Years Old  
 6 - 12 Years Old  
 5 and Under

You **must** specify one of the age levels above.

People wishing adult badges will be asked to show a picture ID showing that they are at least 18 years old at the time they pick up their badge. That means that if you're not 18 now but will be by the time the convention is held, you can still request an adult badge.

**Required** - These fields **MUST** be filled out for us to process your registration.

↑ Full Name

↑ Street Address

↑ City, State, ZIP Code, Country (if not USA)

↑ Phone (Home and/or Work) - at least one is required

**NOT Required** - An e-mail address is **NOT** required but will speed up the process of confirming your registration and providing you with information about the convention. Badge names are also not required.

↑ E-mail address

↑ Badge Name (If different from Full Name)

### Registration Rates

Adult Membership until Dec. 31, 2006	<b>\$30</b>
Adult Membership until May 15, 2007	<b>\$40</b>
Adult Membership At the Door	<b>\$55</b>
Supporting Membership until May 15, 2007 (\$20 now plus \$20 at the door)	<b>\$20 + \$20</b>
Kids Age 6-12 until May 15, 2007	<b>\$15</b>
Kids Age 6-12 At the Door	<b>\$20</b>
Kids 5 & under	<b>Free</b>

I am interested in volunteering in the following areas: (check all that apply)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art Show           | <input type="checkbox"/> Connie's Space Lounge | <input type="checkbox"/> Registration         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Badgers/Gophers    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaming                | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming Panelist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CoF2E2 Free Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravediggers          | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming Staff    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ConSuite           | <input type="checkbox"/> Operations            | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers           |

- I would like to volunteer wherever I am needed  
 I would like information about entering the Art Show

You may like to know that I'm a professional in the field of:

Complete this form and send it  
(with check or money order, US funds only) to:

**CONvergence**  
1437 Marshall Ave, Suite 203  
St. Paul, MN 55104

Make checks or money orders payable to **CONvergence**.

Thank you for your interest in and support of **CONvergence**, brought to you by the Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy (MISFITS). If you provide us with an e-mail address, your registration confirmation will be sent to you via e-mail as soon as it is entered into our database. If we do not have your e-mail address, confirmation will be sent upon our next scheduled US Mailing cycle. Any confirmation given is pending the clearing of payment. Please note that we keep our information private and will not share your personal information with anyone. If you have questions or need to contact us for any reason, please use the contact information at right. **Information provided is proprietary to CONvergence/MISFITS.**

**US Mail:** 1437 Marshall Ave, Suite 203  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
**Phone:** 651-647-3487 / 651-MISFITS  
(24-hour voicemail)  
**E-Mail:** info@convergence-con.org  
**Web:** www.convergence-con.org

# CONVERGENCE 2007 CREATURE FEATURE

THE THRILLS WILL  
EXCITE YOU!

THE CHILLS WILL  
DELIGHT YOU!

OH, NO...  
NOT AGAIN!



**GUESTS**  
SCHEDULED TO APPEAR:

HORROR AUTHOR  
**Brian Keene**

FILMMAKER  
**emily m. Hagins**

ARTIST  
**Bernie Wrightson**

and more to  
(be announced!)

**JULY 6, 7, 8** at THE SHERATON  
BLOOMINGTON SOUTH

**www.convergence-con.org**