THE MAAURO CHRONICLES

NO MAN MADE THIS MACHINE.
SHE’S A ROBOT.
SHE’S A KILLER.
SHE’S A GIRL.
BY EDWARD MCKEOWN

THE SHA’DAA SERIES

SHA’DAA ARE YOU READY?
ONCE EVERY TEN THOUSAND YEARS,
THE WALLS BETWEEN WORLDS GROW THIN.
THE STARS ALIGN AND HELL IS CLOSE.
IT IS THE TIME OF THE SHA’DAA.

POETRY OF THE DARK

Welcome to the world of shadows.
Cloaked in perpetual starlight, these dark denizens are a mysterious and frightening breed, and these are their poems.

BUY NOW IN HUCKSTER ROOM!

Thank You for Attending
LibertyCon 29
Chattanooga, TN - July 8-10, 2016

Literary Guest of Honor
Jonathan Maberry

Artist Guest of Honor
Todd Lockwood

Science Guest of Honor
Dr. Ben Davis

Special Guest of Honor
Melissa Gay

Master of Ceremony
Gray Rinehart

For full Programming Schedule, please go to www.libertycon.org - click the Programming tab or download the LibertyCon App for Apple or Android.
Welcome to LibertyCon 29!

by Brandy Bolgeo Spraker, Chairman

Welcome, welcome, welcome to LibertyCon 29! It’s hard to believe that it’s been 4 years since I have taken Dad’s place as Chairman of this incredible weekend!

Welcome back (or simply welcome) to the LibertyCon family!

This weekend we have an amazing amount of things to do for a convention capped at 750 paid attendees. If you are new to us, what you might not know is that since we are small, each and every one of our staff members pay full price, as do most of our professionals who are bringing you the fantastic programming events that you go to each year. So these folks are PAYING to work and bring you fantastic programming events.

Why 750 you say? We LOVE, LOVE, LOVE what we do at LC. The thing that we love most is that this is like a family reunion, and when you get more people, it’s harder and harder to keep that ‘personal touch’ that LC is famous for. We are simple folks who love science fiction and everything associated with it. Nothing more, nothing less. And when you have something that works so well, why mess with it???

For most of you, when you arrive at the Choo Choo, your first stop after getting your room will be the Registration tables. Say hello to the staff there and give them a big hug as they try to get you your badge as quickly as possible. And as you get your badge, don’t forget to look at (and buy) the t-shirt created by our Artist Guest of Honor, Todd Lockwood. It is awesome!

With over 250 programming events, there is definitely something for everyone! So it will be chaos… beautiful, beautiful chaos. We have over 150 professionals who participate in programming events over the areas of literature, art, science, and other types of fun fun! I can’t even begin to list the awesomeness that is going to occur, so please take a look at everything that we have to choose from using either the pocket program or the LC29 app.

The Artshow, as always, has work from many of the best artists in the country for sale at prices that you could never match anywhere else. The Art Auction on Saturday night will host the pieces that people are warring over as well as some of the charity pieces. Each year, LibertyCon hosts a local charity who provides valuable services to our community. This year our charity of choice is Lana’s Love.

Lana’s Love began after Lana Beth Webster gained her Angel Wings on November 3, 2006. Jim and Cindy Webster, along with their sons Alan and Cole, started the Lana’s Love Foundation with this simple mission statement: Helping kids with cancer and their families have fun! So come bid on the charity items sold in the Artshow as part of a silent auction, and those bigger items in our Art Auction, an event not to miss!

Our new head of Gaming, Davey, is taking us back to the good old fashion 24 hour a day gaming room. And, if all day and all night gaming isn’t enough for you, how about having the chance to sit down for a few hours and perhaps share a game with Steve Jackson of Steve Jackson Games?

The ConSuite is, as always, a dangerous place to be if you are on a diet. As it was last year, Penn Station will be where you can get your food and drinks to take to our outdoor seating area right outside of party alley. There will be food and beer galore, as well as our annual summer ice cream social. Pull up a chair and enjoy the company! And speaking of room parties, don’t forget to visit ‘Party Alley’ each evening to browse the goodies and drinks that our amazing room party hosts and hostesses are offering.

Our Huckster Room is chocked full of goodies for you to purchase… from leather goods to of course books (because what would LibertyCon be without books??) you will find many things to tempt you and drain your wallet. And remember that the Huckster Room is also host to our author autograph sessions, so keep an eye on the schedule. You don’t want to miss these guys!

As you can see, there really is something for everyone this weekend. And none of it would be possible without our wonderful staff. Each and every one of these people spend their time, effort and love to make this a fun and relaxing weekend. When you see someone with a staff badge, please thank them.

Now let...
The games...

Begin!!!

Brandy Bolgeo Spraker
Chairman, LibertyCon 29
LibertyCon Rules

(aka The Things We Have To Tell You)

“How dreadful...to be caught up in a game and have no idea of the rules.”
- Caroline Stevermer, Sorcery & Cecelia or The Enchanted Chocolate Pot

Attendees 17 Years Old and Under

All convention attendees who are 17 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a Legal Guardian. A Legal Guardian is a person 21 years of age or older who will take financial and legal responsibility for the minor and will sign for each minor person for which he/she is responsible. A parent or Legal Guardian must accompany children under 7 years of age at all times.

Badges

Badges must be worn in plain sight above the waist at all times.

If you have a question or concern, don’t hesitate to ask or talk to STAFF

Bathing

Remember, “If in doubt, take a bath!” Your fellow attendees will appreciate your courteous actions.

Drinking Age is 21! ~ It is the LAW! ~ Not Up for Negotiation!

To get a drinking badge you must produce a Valid military ID or Drivers License with your picture on it to prove that you are at least 21 years of age. Minors caught drinking at LibertyCon will be hung, drawn, quartered, and thrown out of the convention. Also, WE WILL CONTACT YOUR PARENTS AND YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO FUTURE LIBERTYCONS!

Room Parties

If you are having a room party, remember, this is the South. We are friendly and inclusive. Whether your party is in the Consuite or in a hotel room with the door open, the expectation is that it is open to all LibertyCon attendees. If your party is intended to be private, it should not be in the Consuite, and if your party is in your room, please keep your door shut so that misunderstandings and hurt feelings don’t occur. Also, Tennessee State Law does not allow the consumption of alcohol for anyone under 21 years of age. If you are serving alcohol, please check everyone’s ID. YOU are responsible for this no matter where your party is. LibertyCon will not assume any responsibility to check badges for any type of party. Don’t assume if someone has a drinking badge that they are 21 or over... badges can be swapped.

Grills & Outdoor Cooking

No grills are allowed on the hotel premises. The hotel has informed us that this violates their insurance policy. We have a wonderful hotel and would like to keep our great relationship with them.

Ejection from the Convention

If you are ejected from LibertyCon because of violation of the convention rules or Tennessee State Law, your attendance fees will not be refunded.

Lost Badge Policy

If you lose your badge at the convention, you will have to purchase another one at the full admission price of $50. We are sorry to take this rough stance, but incidents with people (Not Fans) purchasing a replacement badge to give/sell to a friend at a reduced price only increases the cost of the convention for real fans and this is the only way we can curb it.

Special Medical Needs

If you have a medical condition, please ask the registration staff for a sticker for the back of your badge. This sticker should contain the nature of your medical condition and any special steps to be taken in an emergency, including the name and phone number of the person to contact should the need arise.

Weapons Policy

All weapons and models of weapons must be “Peace Bonded” by one of our security staff before they may be worn with your costume or normal wearing apparel. This weapons policy will be strictly enforced.

Attire

We at LibertyCon love costumes! However three strategically placed seashells does not constitute a costume. Please remember that we are a family friendly convention.

Activities Include:

- 24 hour Gaming
- Discussion Panels
- Electronic Gaming
- Art Gallery
- Charity Auctions
- Hospitality Suite
- Dances and Parties
- Live Concerts
- Cosplay
- And Much More...

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Supporter of the Louisiana State Library
Jonathan Maberry is a writer extraordinaire.

He’s a five time Bram Stoker Award winning author, anthology editor, comic book writer, magazine feature writer, playwright, content creator and writing teacher/lecturer. He was named one of the Today’s Top Ten Horror Writers. His books have been sold to more than two-dozen countries.

Whether writing young adult fiction like his Rot and Ruin series, thrillers like his best-selling Joe Ledger series, or horror like his classic Pine Deep series, one can count on Maberry to deliver a fantastically fun read that will leave one wanting more.

His success has allowed him to do things a lot of writers can only dream of doing such as editing anthologies of fiction in the X-files universe as well as writing a new series of Mulder and Scully adventures for teens, doing the novelizations of films like The Wolf Man, and writing a novel set in the world of Deadlands, the million copy selling roleplaying game.

As an editor, he’s been involved properties like the upcoming anthologies ALIENS BUG HUNT, NIGHTS OF THE LIVING DEAD (with George Romero), and ALTERNATE SHERLOCKS (with Michael Ventrella).

Jonathan Maberry has even had a board game produced that was based on his IDW comic series V-Wars. And V-Wars is far from the only comic he’s written. His work for Marvel Comics has included CAPTAIN AMERICA HAIL HYDRA, BLACK PANTHER POWER, DOOMWAR, WOLVERINE FLIES TO SPIDER, PUNISHER NAKED KILLS, the NY Times bestselling MARVEL ZOMBIES RETURN; as well as his own franchise within Marvel – MARVEL UNIVERSE vs THE PUNISHER, MARVEL UNIVERSE vs WOLVERINE and MARVEL UNIVERSE vs THE AVENGERS. He wrote the Bram Stoker award winning, vampire miniseries BAD BLOOD for Dark Horse.

For all this though, Jonathan Maberry is all about helping other writers. That’s how I met him. Among his numerous nonfiction books is one titled ZOMBIE CSU: The Forensics of the Living Dead. Mr. Maberry and I didn’t know each other at the time but a mutual writing friend brought us into contact with one another. I was at a low point in my career, hadn’t written much for nearly two years due to the birth of my son, and Mr. Maberry opted to interview me in that book about zombies alongside folks like Robert Kirkman. His doing so not only got me into writing again but set me on a path to success to the point of which I had a deal with Simon and Schuster the very next year and had my first movie deal not long thereafter. Jonathan Maberry is much more than just an amazing writer, he has a great heart and passion not just for his craft but for the others who work in it too.

Eric S Brown, author of the Bigfoot War series and War of the World Plus Blood
I think, if I had to be honest, the first time I met Todd Lockwood I was just looking for an excuse to strike up a conversation. What art fan wouldn’t be at least a little bit intimidated? From dragons to Drizzt, from Asimov’s Science Fiction to TSR, his work has earned him numerous awards – including 16 Chesleys – and well-deserved critical and fan acclaim. His name is synonymous with excellence in genre art, in the same way that we recognize the names Vallejo, Whelan or Brom (though Todd himself would likely argue that point). We see a particularly beautiful, well-executed illustration and think, “Now, that’s a Todd Lockwood.”

And so, though I had followed his work from afar for a while, attended his panels at a couple of conventions, stalked his Facebook page – and although we had friends in common – I was a bit flummoxed about what to say to introduce myself that wouldn’t sound weird or downright creepy. So I stood there just a few feet away, flipping through the prints he had for sale (“Just fly casual”) and trying not to get in the way of the “legitimate” fans.

He spoke a great deal about storytelling, and writing – that caught my ear, because it’s not really what you’d expect most artists to talk about (Don Maitz and Janny Wurts, notwithstanding). The customers to whom he was speaking nodded and smiled, commiserating over the problems of finding good editors, getting a decent contract, negotiating the quagmire of rights and responsibilities. I listened with interest, but this was not something I felt I knew a whole lot about at the time. But he clearly did.

And then, I got a lucky break. He mentioned something that I thought I knew a bit about: gardening. I heard him talk about the weather, how the garden was neglected while he traveled to conventions, how he worried about the global trends in rainfall and temperature. His audience meandered away and I immediately stepped up to fill the spot they had vacated. “I couldn’t help overhearing your conversation,” I said. “What kind of plants do you grow in your garden? You live in the Pacific Northwest, right?”

In spite of the awkwardness of this introduction, Todd was gracious, kind and generous with his time. We had a nice little chat about our respective garden plots, and I walked away with a copy of Tales of the Emerald Serpent (a shared-world anthology edited by Scott Taylor that still ranks high on my list of favorites) that included not only Todd’s unmistakable art but also a story he himself had written. “I heard you liked novels,” Todd said. “This one’s different.”

From that simple start I somehow became friends with the storyteller Todd Lockwood. I joined a Facebook gardening group he invited me to and we shared photos of plants and animals. He posted honestly about his work on his own novel and I followed along, amazed that a successful, award-winning artist would be willing to change course mid-career to write a novel or three. Over time, as we chatted at conventions and on Facebook, I came to realize that it wasn’t a course change, so much as a continuation of the course he’d been following all along. Just maybe in a different type of boat.

And now that course has led him to the successful publication of his first novel, The Summer Dragon, Book 1 of The Evertide, which has been hitting the top lists on Amazon and Barnes & Noble since its May debut. And for good reason. I envy you, LibertyCon. Todd Lockwood is all you could wish for in a Guest of Honor – both artist AND author. But best of all are the stories you will have after this weekend. Go on – don’t be shy. Say hello to the storyteller Todd Lockwood.

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April Moore, Art Show Director of JordanCon
Dr. Ben Davis

This year, LibertyCon's Science Guest of Honor is Dr. Ben Davis. Trained as a "nuke," Ben has adjusted his passion for science into a passion for Science Fiction, funny SF con panels... and drinking my Scotch (okay, to be fair, not just mine). In many ways, it is an essential trait in a Scientist - especially one who prides themselves in debunking pseudo-science - to be able to immunize oneself from the idiocy and have a good laugh at their expense.

As any good scientist should, Dr. Ben has a bio and resume (of sorts) posted on his "Ask Dr. Ben" website. Let's have a look, shall we?

Ben Davis, Ph.D. - Check
Male - Check
Scientist - Check

Masters of Science in Nuclear Astrophysics - that's part one of his atomic charm.
Doctor of Philosophy in Nuclear Physics - That's part two.

A good thing, too, since having a true understanding of nuclear physics requires a pretty philosophical approach. Both degrees were earned at the University of Notre Dame... where it is not true that the Hunchback of Notre Dame got that way from carrying Physics textbooks! Dr. Davis taught at the college level for many years, and in many subjects. Astronomy and physics - those subjects make a strange sort of sense, given his academic background, but computer programming and mathematics?

Ben, oh Ben... where did you go wrong?
Unfortunately, it didn't stop there. For going on twenty years, now, Ben has succumbed to the Dark Side and taken up a career in software development. He has been an industrial controls engineer, worked in the biometrics industry and homeland security. There are those who suspect (well, really just me) that Dr. Ben used his Nuclear Astrophysical superpowers to peel back the edge of the cosmos and sneak a glimpse at the nameless horrors coming our way. His current career path could only be explained by an innate desire to ensure positive identification of those nameless horrors before they can wreak havoc in our world!

As a lifelong fan of science fiction, his main avocations now involve history, futurism and skepticism. The aforementioned "Ask Dr. Ben" Facebook page is set up to answer everyday questions about science. He truly does love Science, and should never be confused with those Science groupies who simply enjoy looking at Science's cute little fundamental principles as they wiggle on by!

Dr. Ben is a regular participant in science panels at cons, particularly the "Ask a Scientist" variety and LibertyCon's own "Mad Scientist's Roundtable." He also enjoys hunting for true psychics, ghosts and other paranormal phenomenon - when he doesn't find them, he is reluctantly forced to debunk them. It's a thankless job, but someone's got to do it!

When not traveling with his wife Annie, playing with his dogs, climbing rocks, or attending cons, he spends his spare time pondering general relativity, the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, quantum physics & quantum computing, and the effects of antimatter on the dark matter/dark energy problem... and drinking Scotch. He made me promise that I would bring something special to LibertyCon for him this year. He's Science GoH - how could I refuse? Oh yeah, BTDT. Here Ben, you're going to need this!

Cheers!

Rob Hampson, LibertyCon 28 Science GoH
Melissa Gay

Melissa is full of energy.
I am not just talking about the bright, wonderful energy she fills a room with when she enters.

I am not just talking about the energy she spends for family and friends.

This is about her art, so it is mainly about the energy she puts out into the art world. Though the vitality that she brings to the world around her definitely shines through in her artwork.

Melissa has worked for everyone, and in all genres. In fact, I am not sure if she has the ability to say no to any art job. And because of this, it is hard to pin down what to say about her art.

Except, it is easy to say that her art is as much a part of her as her arm or leg. She tackles any problem thrown at her with vigor and excitement. She brings a childlike energy to making art, instead of being jaded or cynical, she raises her brush and with a big smile says, let’s do this!

A quick look through her portfolio shows that she is just as wide ranging with her media as she is with her subjects. Delicate pencil work, expressive inks, and paintings that travel through space and time.

In an art world where most people say you need to focus on one subject and medium, it is refreshing to see someone who breaks from the norm. If Melissa did try and limit her work to one style, I think the art world would suffer because of it.

Michael Bielaczyc, Aradani Studios, Inc.- Founder
Master of Ceremonies

Gray Rinehart

In New Scientist magazine there is a column in the back pages devoted to pointing out weird, odd, or blatantly false science and technology. The authors will often point out the pseudo-scientific claims of “quantum water” or the product labels of things like dishwashing detergent claiming “less chemicals.” And they also for many years ran items all the time with data supporting “nominative determinism,” i.e. the theory that your name is your destiny. Check it out. When you look for it, it’s all over the place. Obstetricians named “Kinder,” podiatrists named “Foot,” lawyers named “Counsel,” and in a quick perusal of my own Yellow Pages “Wille Woodward”—construction. (You’re welcome, now you can’t unsee this phenomena—New Scientist had to limit its columns on the topic they were getting so many examples.)

So when you encounter someone with a first name “Gray,” you have to wonder. Will this person be bland, boring, un-colorful? With Gray Rinehart, the answer is determinedly “no.” Physically, he is stealthy, and could be the model for Eric Flint’s super-spy in the Honorverse, Victor Cachat (though even with his many years service in the Air Force, Gray does lack Victor’s thousand-yard-stare). But in his soul and in his deeds Gray is a rainbow.

His website will tell you, “he is the only person to have commanded an Air Force satellite tracking station, written speeches for Presidential appointees, and had music on the Dr. Demento show.” We can add to that run for local office as the Anti-Candidate—and garnered 3.5% of the vote while spending nearly no money to do so, and indeed encouraging people to vote for other candidates.

Aside from the hundreds of speeches for government officials, and nonfiction on technical topics like “U.S. Superiority in Space—Considering Propulsion and Power,” Gray is a writer of fiction specifically he’s a hard SF guy. He’s got stories published in Analog magazine and everything. But also Asimov’s, the military fantasy anthology Shattered Shields, a short story presented to the Chicamcomico Lifesaving Station, and many others in all sort of publications—you just can’t pigeonhole him. His first novel, Walking on the Sea of Clouds, will be coming out WordFire Press (whose ebooks are available at Baen.com, I will casually mention).

As a filker, Gray is if anything even more eclectic, writing and performing everything from rousing Star Wars songs, like “Tauntauns to Glory,” to the sensitive “Monster Hunter Ballad” (as featured on the Baen Free Radio Hour podcast, and many convention filking sessions). My favorite, of course, is “The Books we Call Baen” (as inspired by Adam Baldwin and Firefly). He’s got two albums out available for download and purchase, Distorted Vision and Truths and Lies and Make-Believe.

He’s a Clemson graduate and sports partisan. We don’t hold that against him—at least it’s ACC. Go, Tigers (except against SEC teams)! He’s a dedicated husband and father, even unto taking his kids to Dragoncon, and not making his wife go to Clemson football games in the freezing cold unless she really wants to.

In his professional life he’s done everything from sell furniture to nurture aerospace companies for NC State. In his twenty-year career in the Air Force, Gray’s accomplishments went from serving as the Crew Commander and Flight Commander for the 4th Space Operations Squadron to commanding the Thule Tracking Station in Greenland—brr—and beyond.

And last, but not least, Gray is Baen’s Slushmaster General, and has been for many years now. His eyeballs are the reader’s first line of defense against bad SF. We all owe him a debt for his dedicated service there. But a great slushmaster—and Gray is a great slushmaster—not only rejects the obviously bad, he nurtures the potentially great. His critiques are some of the most detailed, thoughtful, and helpful I have ever seen. If you are lucky enough to receive one, I hope you are able to appreciate all the time, care, and experience that has gone into his analysis of your work.

And I’ve only just touched a few of the more obvious aspects to Gray. For more information, check him out on the web. He’s got a thoughtful blog at http://www.graymanwrites.com/blog/. Or sign up for his newsletter, buy one of his albums, review one of his stories. Your world will be the more colorful for it.

Toni Weisskopf, Publisher of Baen Books
Atlanta Radio Theater Company  ARTC is a professional troupe that brings "new old-time radio", complete with lush soundscapes, stirring music, and original stories guaranteed to remind you that...There is Adventure in Sound!

Arlan Andrews  Dr. Arlan Andrews, Sr. has been an SF fan since age 10, an SF writer for 35 years, and a retired engineer for 3 years. He is also a futurism consultant and the founder of SIGMA, the science fiction think tank. He and Joyce are the proud grandparents of 11.

Lou Antonelli  Lou Antonelli has had 95 short stories and three collections published in the past 12 years. He was a finalist in 2013 for the Sidewise Award in Alternate History for "Great White Ship" (Daily Science Fiction – May 2012). He was a two-time Hugo nominee (Short Story and Best Related Work) in 2015.

Michael R. Ault  Mike has extensive background in nuclear technology, compute programming and Oracle database technology. He has been writing since he was a teenager and has published extensively in the computer field. Mike has published several short stories in the science fiction and horror genres and self-published action-adventure, science fiction and fantasy.

Jonathan David Baird  Jonathan David Baird has worked as an archaeologist for the past fifteen years. Jonathan has master’s degrees in English literature and American History from Fort Hays State University. He is also the editor and a major contributor to NukeMars.com and has written for and edited several anthology collections.

Glenn Baggott  Glenn has been a Grade IV water operator for 7 years with West Wilson Utility District. He also is head of the Decontamination Team and is in charge of maintaining the self-containment breathing apparatus (SCBA) the X-File type suits as well as the breathing gear.

Scott W. Baker  Scott W. Baker's students think it's weird that he teaches math and writes. To him, it's a natural fit. His short stories span the speculative genres and have appeared in places like Escape Pod, Daily Science Fiction, and Writers of the Future. He lives in Nashville and online at scottwbaker.net

Griffin Barber  A veteran police officer, Griffin Barber is also a lifelong Speculative Fiction fan and avid gamer. He's had several short stories published in the Granville Gazette and penned a well-received novella for RSI’s website called A Separate Law. 1636 Mission to the Mughals, co-authored with Eric Flint, is forthcoming. http://therantinggriffin.blogspot.com

Jim Beall  Jim Beall (BS-Math, MBA, PE) has been a nuclear engineer for 40+ years, a wargamer for 50+, and an avid reader of science fiction for even longer. Experience operations (nuclear officer USN), design (Duke Power), construction (United Engineers & Constructors), inspection (USNRC), and energy policy (USNRC Commissioner Reactors Assistant).

Rod S. Belcher  R.S. Belcher is author of the Golgotha series (Six-Gun Tarot, the Shotgun Arcana and the Queen of Swords, which is currently in production), the Nightwise Series, and the Brotherhood of the Wheel Series—all published by Tor Books. He lives in Roanoke Virginia with his children, Jonathan and Emily.

Michael Bielaczyc  Michael Bielaczyc has been making art his whole life. In fact, he doesn't spend much time not creating new things. He is a founder and lead make up FX artist at Aradani Studios, creating masks and appliances for people all across the world. He is also a painter, designer and writer. See his work at michaelbielaczyc.com

Paul Bielaczyc  Chesley Award winning artist Paul Bielaczyc co-owns Aradani Studios with his brother Mike, a costuming and art company founded in 2002. Based in Nashville, they travel mostly in the Southeast United States, to various conventions and Renaissance Festivals, selling (in their words) "our art, and our ears".

Tom Biondolillo  Tom Biondolillo is currently adapting the fanged and furry summer camp horror story- Frenzy (Hyperion/Disney Books) - with creator/author Rob Lettrick into a graphic novel form. An illustrator, comic artist, concept artist, storyboard artist and writer for almost two decades, Tom has worked on comic, books, trading cards, toys, RPGs, video games for many well known companies.

Rick Boatright  Rick Boatright has been the "tech guy" for the 1632 series since 2001. He's published in the hardcover Granville-Gazettes as well as the E-Zine. Rick's common activities at cons feature his "Weird Tech" presentation, which he insists has nothing to do with steampunk. Outside of the SF universe, Rick is a partner in a small software development firm.

Paul Bobberg  Paul Bobberg, AKA "Engineer", will present a panel on steam power including a display of a working rotary steam motor. Covered in the presentation will be how a steam engine works and the problems that anyone in a steak punk world would face working with similar devices.

David Bogen  David Bogen has been active in many aspects of fandom from ConCom for many conventions to managing art shows across the country. But he is better known in his professional community as a leader in implementing future looking analytics and processes that are transforming the electric industry.

Karen Bogen  K.B. Bogen has a head for technology, a knack for humor, and a taste for the macabre. A native Texan, she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Engineering from UT Arlington. Her written works include "Go Quest, Young Man" from TSR Books, and "Good Help" from Dracula in London. Her Facebook address is www.facebook.com/KBBogen.

Richard T. Bolgeo  "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo is the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of LibertyCon. A retired Electrical Engineer from TVA, he is a Rebel Award Winner, Pundit and Editor-in-Chief of the weekly Ezine "The Revenge of Hump Day"! He was Fan GOH at MidSouthCon 32.

http://www.concarolinas.org/
Scott Bragg
Scott Bragg, is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. His head in the clouds, earning his keep building clouds for IT companies. An amateur photographer, he prefers shooting people who generally don’t shoot back. He is kept sane and well-grounded by his wife, the always-awesome Wendi Bragg.

Nick Braker
Nick Braker graduated with a BS in computing science from the University of Evansville before launching a career in computer programming, engineering, and management. Married and a father of two, Braker is also an avid table tennis player and role playing gamer.

Brett Brooks
Brett has written comics for both Dark Horse and Techno Comics, as well as working on White Wolf’s World of Darkness RPG. He also published the cult-favorite RPG Kraxul and the kid-friendly RPG Meddling Kids. His most recent ventures include the fantasy novel series The Champions of Elan.

Robert Buettner
National best-selling author Robert Buettner’s Orphanage, Quill Award nominee as 2004’s best SF/Fantasy/Horror novel, is considered a modern military science fiction classic. Baen releases Robert’s ninth novel, The Golden Gate, in December, 2016. A former intelligence officer, paleontologist, and attorney, he lives in Georgia with his family and more bicycles than grownups need.

David L. Burkhead
Indianapolis writer David L. Burkhead has recently ventured into self publishing with the electronic releases of his novel “Survival Test” and novelettes “Live to Tell,” “EMT,” and others. He has previously published stories in various markets. He is a physicist working in Atomic Force Microscopy and surface science.

Daniel Allen Butler
Daniel Allen Butler is a best-selling author, historian, and college-educated semi-professional beach bum. After a stint in the United States Army and later working as a wage-slave, he became a full-time author. When not writing, he’s a woodworker, gearhead, and model builder, noted for his love of single malt and cigars.

Paul Cagle
Paul Cagle is the host of the Emen Project radio show and the administrative coordinator for the Southern Paranormal Society located in Chattanooga, TN. His first novel, Shadow Born, is now available on Amazon. You can find out more about Shadow Born at www.shadow-borne.com.

Anna Grace Carpenter
A.G. Carpenter writes fiction of (and for) all sorts. The Weather’s Always Fine in Paradise, a collection of short stories and novelettes, is available now. Her novella Of Lips and Tongue, the first book in the Southern Gothic Touch trilogy, is forthcoming from Falstaff Books.

Julie Cochrane
Julie Cochrane has been writing stories since age five. She has three novels co-authored with John Ringo in his Legacy of the Aldenata series, by Baen Books, and a story in Rogues in Hell, by Perseid. Her background includes psychology, chemistry, IT, and martial arts.

David B. Ccoe/D.B. Jackson
David B. Ccoe/D.B. Jackson is the award-winning author of nineteen fantasy novels. As David B. Ccoe he writes the Case Files of Justis Fearsson, a contemporary urban fantasy. As D.B. Jackson he writes the Thieftaker Chronicles, a blend of urban fantasy, mystery, and historical fiction.

Jason Cordova
Author Jason Cordova’s first solo novel, Corrupted, was published in November of 2010 by Twilight Times Books. A former teacher and military veteran, he has circled the globe at least once. He currently resides in Virginia and is the “International Ambassador of the Kaiju Awareness Foundation”. His web site is http://www.jasoncordova.com

Larry Correia
Larry Correia is the New York Times bestselling author of the Monster Hunter International series, the Grimnoir Chronicles trilogy, the Dead Six military thrillers, and the Saga of the Forgotten Warrior epic fantasy series.

Doug Dandridge
Doug Dandridge has over twenty books online, including the Amazon Best Selling series Exodus Empires at War. He lives in Tallahassee, Florida, the hottest place on Earth, and is constantly writing. Doug is a US Army and Guard veteran (infantry) and is a military history buff in his spare time.

K. S. Daniels
K. S. Daniels writes dystopian and military SF. Her novel, The Valkyrie Profiles, was a quarter-finalist in Amazon’s 2013 Breakthrough Novel Award, and the trilogy’s next book will release in 2014. Her first horror short story “Chimera”, will appear in the Luna’s Children anthology by Dark Oak Press, in mid-2014.

Karen Evans
Karen Evans has been writing SFF with her husband for almost 10 years, and enjoying the roller-coaster. When not writing, she enjoys crocheting, embroidery, and other busy-hand activities so she can listen to the voices in her head. She lives in New Mexico with her husband, a dog and a variable number of cats.
Kevin Evans
Kevin H. Evans has been writing since 2006; other interests include vintage locomotive restorations, hot air ballooning, SCA combat, gunsmithing, tool and die making.

Robert S. Evans
Robert S. Evans is a film writer and director. He attended the New York Film Academy and has learned under industry veteran Jeff Burr. He has won several awards including Best Original Story and Best Director at several film fests. His latest project tackles the struggle of depression and suicide.

Kacey Ezel
Captain Kacey Ezel is an active duty USAF instructor pilot with 2000+ hours in the UH-1N Huey and 122 combat hours flying the Mi-171 in Iraq. When not teaching young pilots to beat the air into submission, she writes sci-fi/fantasy/horror fiction. She is married with two daughters.

Bill Fawcett
Bill Fawcett has been writing and editing SF since his years at Mayfair Games in the early 80s. He has edited over 40 Science Fiction anthologies, co-authored the Mycroft Holmes and Madame Vernet mystery novels, edited two oral histories of the US Navy SEALs and a number of books on Mistakes in History. He is also a board and computer game designer.

Jack Finley
It has been said that Jack can be reasonably entertaining under just the right circumstances. Samples of just the right circumstances can be obtained in the Rogues in Hell, Dreamers in Hell and Poets in Hell volumes of Janet and Chris Morris’ revived Heroes in Hell series, and the horror anthology “Terror by Gaslight” by Iron Clad Press.

Declan Finn
Declan Finn is the author of Honor At Stake, an urban fantasy novel published by Eternal Press (tagline Welcome to New York City, where vampires don’t sparkle, they burn). He also writes thrillers, video game reviews, and works for six blogs.

Declan Finnis
Declan Finn is the author of Honor At Stake, an urban fantasy novel published by Eternal Press, part of Damnation Books. He also writes thrillers, video game reviews, and works for six blogs. Other books he has written includes the comedy-thriller It Was Only on Stun!, SF espionage novel Codename: Winterborn (co-author), and is most proud of The Pius Trilogy.

Sam Flegal
Sam’s been a freelance Illustrator since 2009. Working for both book covers and hobby games, his art is described as “stylized realism,” portraying fantastical things in a graphic manner, but with an eye towards real life. He loves to focus on exaggerated expressions, vibrant colors, and villainess activity.

Stephen Fleming
Stephen Fleming has been paid to be an optical physicist, laser fabricator, software developer, field engineer, product manager, corporate trainer, marketing executive, salesman, general manager, entrepreneur, author, venture capitalist, board member, investment banker, consultant, angel investor, public speaker, adjunct university faculty, commercial landlord, academic bureaucrat, and economic developer.

Kevin FRITZ Fotovich
In his non-con day job, Fritz is a non-starving artist masquerading as a logistics engineer contracting for the United States Government. He is a Steve Jackson MIB and will be assisting with Large Dice Gaming as well as MCing LC29’s Celebrity Jeopardy and Live Action Trivial Pursuit games. Oh yeah, he has art in the Art Show. Check it out!

Mark Fults
Been busy finishing "The Voiled Unknown" tarot and two graphic novels, one of which will be displayed at Liberty. Last year the Iron Artist panel inspired me to do a character based on Lady Liberty with a Wonder Woman twist - now she's got chops! My next book 'Chattanooga Chills Scream Louder' is in production and I'll be sharing stories!

Charles E. Gannon
Caine’s Mutiny is Chuck’s next novel in the thrice-Nebula-nominated Caine Riordan series. He collaborates with Eric Flint (1832), Steve White (Starfire), and has appeared in many magazines, imprints, and shared universes. His background includes game design/writing, scriptwriting/producing, five years as a Fulbright Senior Specialist, and being a subject matter expert for NPR, Discovery Channel, and many government agencies.

Amie Gibbons
Amie was born and raised in Utah, flew south for school and stayed. She lawyers, writes, dances, sings, and calls-erangues, and does some better than others. She lives with a picture snapping cat trapped in a man’s body, and a man trapped in a cat’s body, who misses opposable thumbs.

Peter Grant
Peter Grant was born and raised in South Africa, serving in the military and working in the IT industry and humanitarian concerns before being ordained as a pastor. He immigrated to the USA in 1997, later marrying a pilot from Alaska. They live in Tennessee, where he writes full-time.
Robby Hilliard  
Robby Hilliard, a native of Chattanooga TN who now resides in Marietta GA, writes horror, science-fiction,  
and fantasy. His first published short story, “Cold Case”, can be found in the Sha’Daa Shared-World, Dark-Fantasy  
Universe published by Copper Dog Publishing.

Taylor S Hoch  
Taylor S Hoch has been creating other worlds for people to experience since 1996—is the author of the  
Prospero/Clydesdale O’Saughnessy YA fantasy series with three books out and a fourth due out next year. Taylor holds  
master’s degrees in English Literature and Creative Writing, is an avid gamer and SF/Fantasy fan.

Dan Hollifield  
I run Aphelion Webzine, online since 1997, as a writer's workshop freeze. I've made a few pro sales of my  
writing so far, but the biggest being an upcoming collection of my spaceship war short stories from Dark Oak Press. I have  
3 music albums out, and am an Atlanta-area steampunk.

John Holmes  
John F. Holmes served for 22 years in the Regular Army and ANG before trading his rifle for the pen. He has written 13 books, covering Young Adult, Fantasy, Space Opera, Techno-thriller and Humor. His most  
popular is the 7 book "Zombie Killers" series. He is the creator of the popular military comic strip "Power Point Ranger".

Rob Howell  
A reformed medieval academic who uses that experience in his writing, Rob has also been an IT  
professional and a soda jerk. As a child, his parents discovered books were the only way to keep him quiet. Without  
books, either he or his parents would not have survived. Possibly both.

Daniel M. Hoyt  
Daniel M. Hoyt is a systems architect for rocket trajectory software, when not writing or wrangling  
royalty calculations. Dan has appeared in many magazines and anthologies, notably Witch Way to the Mail, Strip Mauled,  
and Fangs for the Mammaries (Baen); Mike Brotherton’s Diamonds in the Sky; and has edited Fantastic and Better  
Off Undead for DAW. His debut space opera, Ninth Euclid’s Prince, launched in 2015; sequels are underway.

Robert A. Hoyt  
Bob is a military student and author living in Colorado. His books "Cat's Paw," and "Ratskiller" can be found on Amazon, and he has a new anthology of short stories coming out soon. He's continuing, in his  
copious spare time, to work on writing projects.

Sarah A. Hoyt  
Sarah is a bestselling Science Fiction/Fantasy author and speaker, Chris Kennedy is a former naval aviator  
with over 3,000 hours flying attack and reconnaissance aircraft, an elementary school principal and an instructional  
systems designer for the Navy. He has also coached hundreds of beginning authors and budding novelists on how to  
self-publish their stories at a variety of conferences, conventions and writing guild presentations.
Darin Kennedy

Darin Kennedy, doctor by day and novelist by night, lives, writes, and practices medicine in Charlotte, North Carolina. His debut novel, a paranormal thriller titled The Mussorgsky Riddle, was born from a fusion of two of his lifelong loves: classical music and world mythology. Find him online at darinkennedy.com as well as on Facebook, Twitter, and Goodreads.

Robert Kennedy


Jeb Kinnison

Jeb Kinnison studied computer and cognitive science at MIT, and wrote programs modeling the behavior of simulated stock traders and the population dynamics of economic agents. Later he did supercomputer work at a think tank that developed parts of the early Internet. He retired and began writing science fiction with the Substrate Wars series.

Dorothy Klapp

Dorothy Klapp was born to a military family, went to Alaska on a whim and learned to fly before she could drive. She ran into a former South African, and agreed with him that the merger of Northern cold and Southern heat would result in a match made in heaven. She and Peter married in 2010 and settled in Nashville, Tennessee. She is an active partner with her husband in independent publishing.

Tom Kratman

Tom Kratman is a retired infantry lieutenant colonel and retired civil lawyer who writes full time for Baen, Castalia, and Defy Media. Originally from the Peoples Republic of Massachusetts, he defected from there to the Army in 1974, at the age of seventeen. He and his wife currently call Virginia home.

Becky Kyle

Born on Friday 13, Rebecca developed an early love for the unusual. Dragons, vampires and magical beings stir her to the keyboard. She currently lives between the Smoky and Cumberland mountains with her husband and four cats. Her first YA novel, Fanny & Dice, was released on Halloween 2015.

Michael Lackey

A believer in things most found silly, Michael Lackey has always been a dreamer. Now in his forties, Michael’s stories and love for fantasy come alive on the pages of The Bad Seed. Join Michael on his fantasy-filled quest to tell the story of the brave Zachery Morely and his adventures on Amundiss.

Dina Leacock

Diane Arrelle, the pen name of Dina Leacock, has sold more than 150 short stories and 2 books. When not writing she is a senior citizen center director. She resides with her husband, her younger son and her cat on the edge of the Pine Barrens in Southern New Jersey (home of the Jersey Devil).

PK Levine

PK has been a diehard gamer since he GM’ed his first RPG at age 12. Now he edits, writes, and produces supplements for Steve Jackson Games, as the Assistant GURPS Line Editor - one of his latest books is GURPS Mars Attacks. In his spare time, he geeks out to everything from obscure music to Transformers.

Jeremy Levitt

Jeremy “Cubby’s Handler” Levitt is a retired Marine trucker who served in Afghanistan. He is an avid Military Sci-Fi reader and has been voted “Most likely to egg-on the Apocalypse” by his friends. He currently works as a machinist and lives in East Tennessee with his 4 goats, 3 chicken, 2 cats and service dog/attention hound Penny.

Tamara Lowery

Tamara A. Lowery is functionally insane; a prerequisite for being a multi-genre author. She is local to the Chattanooga area, writes adventure-horror, dabbles in steampunk, works full time in the auto industry, resides with one husband and two cats known as the Rottentots, and still manages to remain at large.

Cindy MacLeod

I do many things, and here are some of them Vice-Chair, AnachroCon; Former Director of the Alternate History Track, Dragon*Con (2009-11); Author of “The Big Golden Apple”, published in DREAMS OF STEAM 2 OF BOLTS AND BRASS, 2011; Author of the novel SOME UNFORESEEN EVENT, serialized in Steampunk Tales Magazine.

Terry Maggert


Geoffrey Mandragora

Geoffrey Mandragora is the pen name for Brent Mehring. He is currently completing three years of rehab following a twenty year addiction to historical re-enactment. After decades of arguing with people about what is “period,” his first novel, The Thunderbolt Affair sets the argument, “What is Steampunk?”
De Anna Manning

The stated goal of Iron Clad Press is to introduce “Tomorrow’s Writers Today.” However, Iron Clad Press does more than this, featuring many distinguished writers as well. Started by the late John P. Manning, Jr., John’s dream is being carried on by his widow, De Anna Manning.

Gail Z. Martin

Gail Z. Martin is the author of Vendetta A Deadly Curiosities Novel in her urban fantasy series set in Charleston, SC (Dec. 2015, Solaris Books); Shadow and Flame the fourth and final book in the Ascendant Kingdoms Saga (Orbit Books); and Iron and Blood a new Steampunk series (Solaris Books) co-authored with Larry N. Martin.

Mike Massa

Mike Massa has lived an adventurous life, including stints as Navy SEAL officer, working surface aboard destroyers and amphibious ships, as well as teaching and assisting with research into electromagnetic weapons and ballistic missile defense. An SFWA-qualifying short story author with 7 pro and semi-pro short stories published since 2009, A Sword Into Darkness is his first published novel.

Todd McCaffrey

Todd J. McCaffrey is a US Army veteran, a cross-continent pilot, a computer geek, and a New York Times bestselling author. He is also the son of Nebula Grandmaster Anne McCaffrey and grew up in the world of s-f/f publishing and editing. In 1992 he attended Clarion West and has subsequently run several short writing workshops of his own. His near-future AI thriller, City of Angels, will be published in May by WordFire Press.

Holly McClure

Founder of Sullivan Maxx Literary Agency which was recently acquired by Lexium Entertainment & Talent Agency and reorganized as the literary and film division of the company. Holly stayed on as president of that division. She is published internationally in both fiction and nonfiction, writing thrillers, YA, mystery and inspirational.

Joe McKeel

Joe “JoeDog” McKeel is a paranormal investigator turned advocate for the safety of investigators, and spokesperson for The Dangers of The Paranormal Project. He promotes the use of training in personal safety, prior knowledge of layout and hazards on investigation locations, common legalities and use of some basic common sense.

Laura Montgomery

Laura Montgomery is a space lawyer and science fiction writer. By day she works for the Federal Aviation Administration on the licensing and regulation of commercial space transportation. Nights and weekends, she writes hard science fiction, legal science fiction, and space opera.

Nan Monroe

Gilded Dragonfly Books has published four of my short stories, “Sybilla diSante and the Sepia World” (Haunting Tales of Spirit Lake), “Christmas Rose” (A Stone Mountain Christmas), “Neighbor Haint” (Finding Love’s Magic), and “Firegale at the Festival” (Legends of the Dragon, Vol. 1). My first novel, Atterwald, was published Dec. 2014. As Kelley Ceccato she has written several audio dramas for ARTC.

Stacy Morgan

Stacy grew up painting and drawing on anything that would sit still. Attending high school at Alabama School of Fine Arts and receiving her BFA from the University of Montevallo with a concentration in painting and ceramics, Stacy has had a lifelong obsession with creating art. Now working as a full-time potter, Stacy focuses on making beautiful, functional stoneware pottery including dinnerware, skull jars, sculpture, home decor and knitting bowls that bring the beauty of art to everyday life. When her hands aren’t covered in clay, Stacy spends her time painting, gardening, and obeying her cats.

Bobby Nash

When he’s not out fighting crime or watching TV, Bobby Nash writes novels, comic books, short stories, novellas, graphic novels, and the occasional screenplay. He has won a few awards for his writing and is member of the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers and International Thriller Writers. www.bobbynash.com

Jody Lynn Nye

Jody Lynn Nye lists her main career activity as “spoiling cats.” She lives near Chicago with her current cat, Jeremy, and husband, Bill. She has published 45 books, including The Ship Who Won with Anne McCaffrey, a humorous anthology about mothers. Don’t Forget Your Spacesuit, Deaf! and over 140 short stories. Her latest books are Myth-Quoted (Ace), Rhythm of the Imperium (Baen), and Wishing On a Star (Arc Manor).
Darrell "Doc" Osborn

Controlled chaos ensues when Darrell "Doc" Osborn takes over the Con! Trapped in a time that is not his own, he is bent on Complete World Domination through the use of haphazardly flaky experiments and uses convention attendees as laboratory rats to carry-out his diabolic schemes! Warning! Doctor Osborn will be unleashing his Balloon Animals of Evil!

Stephanie Osborn

Two-decade veteran of civilian and military space programs, Stephanie Osborn worked numerous Space Shuttle flights and International Space Station, including training astronauts, Spacelab and ISS operations, variable star astrophysics, Martian aeronaut geophysics, radiation physics, NBC weapons effects, Stephanie holds graduate and undergraduate degrees in astronomy, physics, chemistry and mathematics and is “fluent” in geology, meteorology, and anatomy.

Sevan Paris

When Sevan Paris isn’t involved in things UTCish, he is writing something incredibly geeky, probably involving superheroes. His titles include thirteen volumes of the Superheroes in Prose series and Space Pulp! He enjoys all things comics, Transformers, Science Fiction, and anything George Lucas related prior to 1999.

David E. Pacoè

is a ne'er-do-well of broad interests and little focus. David is a naval veteran, and is unable to contain his writing to any particular subgenre. He writes space opera, dark fantasy, urban AND rural fantasy, high fantasy, and military SF. For now...

Beth Patterson

Beth Patterson has been a self-employed musician, songwriter, and recording artist for over two decades, before sidestepping into the world of writing fiction. She currently resides in the French Quarter of New Orleans, where she partakes of good food, observes the absurd, and attempts to blend in with the shrubbery.

Mark Paulk

Mark Paulk is a faculty member at the University of Texas at Dallas. Before UTD, he was with Carnegie Mellon University for nearly 25 years, researching and teaching best practices for software engineering and service management. He is best known for his work on the Capability Maturity Model for Software at the Software Engineering Institute.

pdmac

pdmac is the author of the epic SF adventure series Wolf 359, which garnered 2nd place in Science Fiction in the Books2读.com Prize Writer of the year 2015 competition. His most recent publication is a Steampunk Western Foil's Gold. He is presently in the final editing phase of a dystopian novel called Rebirth of Angels scheduled for release in May.

Rocky Perry

Rocky P. Perry was born in 1975 in Flintstone, Georgia. Diagnosed with dyslexia at the age of six, he spent the first years of his life learning in a classroom away from his peers. He first learned to read on his own at the age of ten and was allowed to join his classmates in middle school. His struggles with reading left him without any ability to explore the world inside books like other readers. This gave him a drive to explore worlds in his mind. He loved to look at comic books and make up his own stories, which eventually led to him becoming a storyteller.

Gary Poole

Gary Poole has been in the entertainment and publishing industry for nearly thirty years. He’s worked directly with John Ringo on over a dozen novels, and has adapted several of them into screenplays (all of which remain in development). When not working with Ringo, he is the managing editor of a successful alternative newsweekly in Tennessee and has been on various LibertyCon science panels in the past, and is looking forward to meeting other crafting fans at the Sit and Stitch session.

L. R. Barrett-Durham Powell

L. R. Barrett-Durham is taking the reading world by storm with over half a dozen novels varying in genres of epic fantasy, paranormal romance, sci-fi, horror, and children’s literature. She’s a ‘Jane-of-all-Trades’ and is best known for her Geeky Stained Glass, a new twist on an old world trade.

Martin Powell

Martin Powell has written hundreds of stories in numerous genres for Disney, Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, Capstone Books, & others, to include such popular characters as Superman, Batman, Popeye the Sailor, and Tarzan of the Apes. Nominated for the Eisner Award for his work with Sherlock Holmes, he is also co-creator/editor of the critically-acclaimed Halloween Legion, & recently joined the Monsterverse staff as Editorial Director.

Kevin Pulliam

Kevin Pulliam is an Engineer with the U.S. Army in Huntsville AL and has earned degrees in both Rocket Science and Helicopter Engineering. He is an occasional volunteer editor at the Internet Science Fiction Database (isfdb.org) and has been making beer in his kitchen/garage since 2007.

Reinhardt Legacy Fight Team

Reinhardt Legacy Fight Team is a weapons demonstration team of former friends and students of swordsmanship authority Hank Reinhardt. They demonstrate the use of classical weapons with cutting demonstrations and full contact sparing.

John Ringo

New York Times best-selling author John Ringo created the military-SF series The Posleen Wars, with over a million copies in print. He is author of The Council War SF-adventure saga; contemporary fantasies Princess of Wizards and Queen of Wands; and national best-selling techno-thrillers The Last Centurion and the Ghost series. New works include Under a Graveyard and Black Tide Rising.

Miriam Ringo


Bobby Roberts

Dr. Bobby Roberts is the brain scientist behind the science fiction! A neuroscientist with 35 years’ experience in laboratory and clinical research as well as public speaking, he writes science articles for Baen Books, short fiction for the SFF/F audience and advises authors on cutting edge science for their novels.

Ken Roy

Ken Roy is an engineer who lives and works amid the relics of the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge. He has published technology speculation pieces in such venues as the Journal for the British Planetary Society, and the United States Naval Institute Proceedings. His current interests include terraforming and geengineering.

Jay Roye

Jay Roye is owner of a global consulting firm providing consulting on Real Time Drilling Control Centers. He has over 35 years’ experience in the oil & gas business, onshore, offshore and space, and some 16+ countries. Jay holds graduate and undergraduate degrees in several disciplines Mechanical Engineering, Mathematics, Information Technology and Business.

Dave Schroeder

Dave Schroeder is a retired IT executive from Atlanta who enjoys performing with the Atlanta Radio Theatre Company. He’s written three SF humor novels, Xenotech Rising, Xenotech Queen’s Gambit, and Xenotech What Happens, about an entrepreneur supporting alien technology after Earth joins the Galactic Free Trade Association.

Gary Shelton

Agronomy Degree from Auburn University. Worked at the USDA-Agricultural research service as an Agronomist since 1990. Edits a yearly report that includes Soybean research from the Southern States. Currently working on genetic modifications of Soybeans in the Crop genetics Research Unit Stoneville, MS.

Stephen J. Simmons

Stephen J. Simmons started writing shortly after he retired from the Navy, primarily because his children had outgrown bedtime stories and the cats never laughed at the funny bits. He has sold over a dozen flash-fiction stories and his first novel, The Galileo Syndrome, was released in 2014.

Brad Sinor

Brad Sinor has written five/sixths of his life, and has written many short stories, most of them in a variety of anthologies and three short story collections. He lives in Tulsa, OK, with his wife (writer and copy-editor) Sue Sinor.

Sue Sinor

Sue Sinor has several short stories and 2 chapbooks (Playing With Secrets and Bubba Fables) published by Yard Dog Press, as well-as a story in Granville Gazette 41 and the DAW anthology ‘Rotten Relations’, both written with husband Brad. They live in Tulsa, OK, with 4 cats.

Cathe Smith

Cathe Smith completed her Master’s Degree in Entomology at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. She has been on various LibertyCon science panels in the past, and is looking forward to meeting other crafting fans at the Sit and Stitch session.

Chris Smith

Chris began writing fiction in 2012. His first story, ‘Bad Blood and Old Silver,’ appears in the ‘Luna’s Children Stranger Worlds’ anthology, from Dark Oak Press. Other stories to soon be released ‘What Manner of Fool,’ in Michael Hanson’s ‘Sha’Da’Inked’ anthology; ‘Isaac Crane and the Ancient Hunger’ in Fantom Enterprise’s ‘Dark Corners’ anthology; and ‘150 Miles to Huntsville’ in Baen’s Black Tide Rising anthology. He co-authored (with Jason Cordova) ‘Kraken Mare’ from Severed Press.
Jacob Spriggs

Jacob “Kal” Spriggs is a science fiction and fantasy author. He currently has three series in print: The Renegades space opera and space exploration series, The Shadow Space Chronicles military science fiction and space opera series, and the Eoriel Saga epic fantasy series.

Brad Strickland

Brad Strickland has written 80 books, including The Whistle, the Grave, and the Ghost, Wicked Will, and The Secret of the Sealed Room (the last two as Bailey Macdonald). Recently he co-wrote a major historical novel with a mysterious celebrity. As Ken McKee, he writes e-book mysteries. He and his wife Barbara live in Snellville, Georgia.

James J. Sullos, Jr.

James J. Sullos, Jr. is the president of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., the entity that owns all copyrights and trademarks related to the works of Edgar Rice Burroughs. During Jim’s tenure Walt Disney’s John Carter (2012), Warner Bros.’ The Legend of Tarzan (2016), the original Netflix animated television series Tarzan and Jane (Fall, 2016), were released as well as new novels, comics, apparel, and merchandise.

S. Andrew Swann

S. Andrew Swann is the pen name of Steven Swinianski. He’s married and lives in the Greater Cleveland area. He has published 25 novels since 1993, which include science fiction, fantasy and horror. He has recently completed the Dragon* series of light fantasy novels for DAW books, consisting of Dragon*Princess, Dragon*Thief, and Dragon*Wizard.

Bill Swears

Bill Swears wrote Zook Country while recovering from injuries received trying to fly an experimental airplane from Hawaii to San Francisco. He’s an Alaskan husband and father, technical writer/editor, PhD student, and dog breeder, and was a college professor, a USCG (rescue) and Army helicopter pilot (also, less savoy things).

Bill Thomasson

Bill Thomasson helps biomedical researchers write their journal articles and grant applications, but he has a broad interest in all areas of science and both social/political and technological aspects of possible futures. His legal blindness spurrs an interest in disability issues and implications of assistive technology.

Dan Thompson

Dan Thompson was born in Texas but grew up in the Midwest. After leaving the US Army in 1980, he worked in applied research in infrared optics, high energy lasers and digital instrumentation. He is now retired from the DoD. His hobbies include scale modeling and writing (fiction and non-fiction).

Tom Trumpinski

Author Tom Trumpinski is a retired teacher (college chemistry) and scientist (built particle detectors for Fermilab). He’s currently in two anthologies, Fae Fatales and Allusion of Innocence, and the online pulp magazine Latchkey Tales #1. He’s been married a lot and has four children ages 42-14. He lives in a old-folks commune in Champaign, Illinois.

Patrick Vanner

Patrick A. Vanner was born into a Marine family, and, after attending Penn State University, majoring in aerospace and electrical engineering, he enlisted in the Marine Corps. After a successful military tour, he earned a degree in network administration and began a career in telecommunications and information technology. Patrick currently lives with the love of his life, Heather, and six insane cats.

Mark Wandrey

Located in rural Tennessee, Mark Wandrey has been creating new worlds since he was old enough to write. After penning countless short stories, he realized novels were his real calling and hasn’t looked back since. His current works include the “Earth Song” series, an epic space opera published by Henchman Press with 5 books out so far. Coming soon is A Time to Die, Mark’s take on the immensely popular Zombicide Apocalypse megatrend.

James Ward

James Ward is an excellent Chattanooga based artist who is well known not for putting paint on canvas, but more for putting paint on anything else that’s not bolted down. You can find his artwork on everything from feathers to floppy disks, and lately he has branched out with the creation of costume and Cosplay and lighting lamps accessories and own art business. James is also an accomplished puppeteer, and gives performances during the convention to entertain our young (or young at heart) attendees.

David Weber

David Mark Weber is an American science fiction and fantasy author. To date, David currently has seventy two book titles and twenty one separate series that he has written or co-written. David currently lives in Greenville, SC with his wife Sharon, their three children, three dogs and four cats.

Toni Weisskopf

Toni Weisskopf Reinhardt is the publisher of Baen Books. Under the name T.K.F. Weisskopf with Josephine Sherman she compiled and annotated the definitive volume of subjective children’s folklore, Greasy Grimy Gopher Guts. A graduate of Oberlin College with a degree in anthropology, she is the mother of a delightful daughter. She lives in a balanced household of three cats and three dogs.

M.B. Weston

M.B. Weston is an award-winning fantasy, pulp; and paranormal author. Her attention to procedure and detail gives her works an authentic, gritty military feel that takes an adventure tale to the level of a true page-turner. Weston is also a radio host for The Final Cut in Movies on tmvcafe.com.

Rich Weyand

Rich Weyand is a computer consultant and digital forensic analyst, with undergraduate and graduate education in Physics. He is currently heading up the launch of a computer software start-up. The June 2016 publication of his anthology of Hard-SF and Fantasy shorts, Adamat and other stories, is his first published fiction.

Cathy Wilbanks

Cathy Wilbanks joined Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. as a warehouse clerk when she was still in high school. She worked closely with Danton Burroughs (the author’s grandson), and was promoted to archivist in 2008 after Danton’s death. Today she assists Jim Sullos in overseeing the many media and print projects licensing Tarzan of the Apes, John Carter of Mars, and the company’s other franchises.

Whit Williams

Whit Williams is a writer, a medic, and a protégé of the great Hank Reinhardt. His published work includes the short story Lion Country and the interstitial chapters of Hank Reinhardt’s Book of Knives. Currently he is working on a new book, The Reinhardt Method of Rapier & Dagger, the first in a series of four books about sword technique.

Michael Z. Williamson

Michael Z. Williamson is an SF author, military consultant, and Editor at Large for Survivalblog. His novels include the popular Freehold universe, and “The Hero” (with John Ringo). He has consulted for productions on Discovery Networks, the Outdoor Channel, and National Geographic. He can be found online at www.MichaelZWilliamson.com

Philip Wohlrab

Philip Wohlrab is a serving medic in the Virginia Army National Guard, he earned the title Doc the hard way while on his two tours in Iraq serving as a line medic embedded in infantry companies. He has a Masters of Public Health from Liberty University. He currently serves as an instructor in combat medicine, basic lifesaving skills, advanced lifesaving skills (military), and is the NCOIC of the Field Sanitation program.

Anita C. Young

Anita C. Young is a Medical Laboratory Scientist who spends her free time thinking of ways to explain the supernatural and unexplained through science. She loves animals and is an intensely introverted person who coined the phrase “Caution when approaching introverts; they startle easily and may flee into traffic”.

James Young

James Young is a Missouri native who escaped small town life via service to the Republic. Currently living in the Midwest with his loving, kind, and beautiful spouse, Mr. Young spends his time researching history and plotting new and interesting ways to torment characters.
## LibertyCon 29 Charity of Choice

We don’t know of anyone that has not been affected by cancer... whether it be a relative, friend, or co-worker. To have a child stricken with cancer is beyond description. Lana Beth was not the only one with cancer...we all felt we had the disease as well.

Cindy and I talked many times, as bad as having a child with cancer is, it would be 100 times worse if we did not have some resources. Many people have to make a decision to go to work or to stay at the hospital with their sick child taking chemo. There is no money left for presents or to just have fun. Lana’s Love was created so those kids can have fun.

Jim & Cindy Webster

[lanaslove.com](http://lanaslove.com)