

# LIBERTYCON'S 20th ANNIVERSARY

JULY 27-29, 2007

LSOH JACK McDEVITT

AGOH VINCENT DI FATE

SPECIAL GUEST

DR. GREG MATLOFF

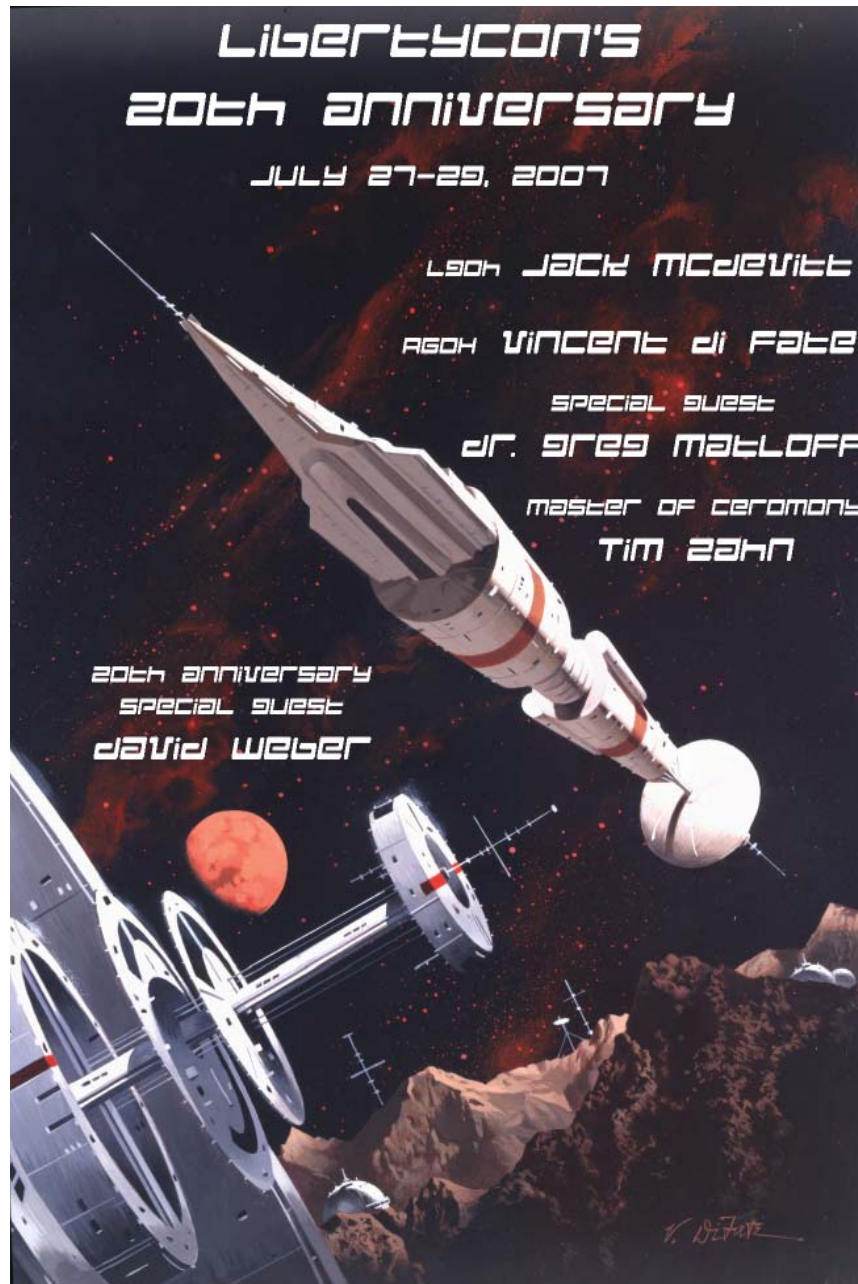
MASTER OF CEREMONY

TIM ZAHN

20th ANNIVERSARY

SPECIAL GUEST

DAVID WEBER



Comfort Inn & Suites

# *LibertyCon Rules*

**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.

**BATHING:** Remember, **"If in doubt, take a bath!"** Your fellow attendees will appreciate your courteous actions.

**DRINKING AGE:** 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!***

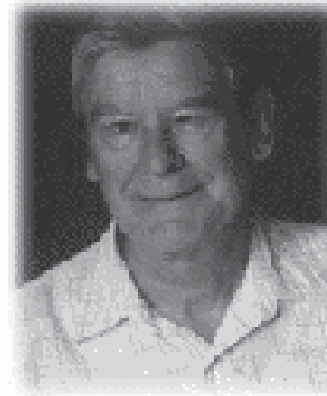
**EJECTION FROM THE CONVENTION:** If you are ejected from LibertyCon 17 because of violation of the convention rules or Tennessee State Law, your attendance fees will not be refunded.

**LOST BADGE POLICY:** If you lose your badge at the convention, you will have to purchase another one at the full admission price of \$45. 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.

**NO DRINKING OR EATING IS ALLOWED IN THE HOTEL CONVENTION CENTER:** The Hotel management has requested that no food or drink be brought into the Hotel Convention Center. However, it is permissible to have victuals in the lobby area and the grassy area out by the pool.

**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.



**LibertyCon 20 is Dedicated to the  
Memory of**

**Wilson "Bob" Tucker**

November 23, 1914 - October 6, 2006

Wilson "Bob" Tucker, a few weeks before turning 92, passed away Friday, October 6, 2006 in a Florida hospital. Wilson Tucker, "Bob" and "Pop", will be remembered by many as a father, friend and mentor.

By Linda L. Bolgeo

I don't remember where or when I first met Wilson "Bob" Tucker but I do know that over the years he became not just a dear friend that we would see at many conventions, but part of our family. We were not his only convention family though, he had special people all over the United States that he would spend time with either before or after a convention. We were fortunate to be one of those families.

So many years, so many stories and so many good times. Most years started with my neighbor Diana and I picking him up at the airport where almost every year we waited on the luggage that never showed up until the next day when Delta would bring it to our house. He would begin his morning ritual with a breakfast of coffee, toast, raisin bran and a grapefruit. After breakfast you could always find he and our son Jason on the back deck doing crossword puzzles. After school, Bob was always giving our daughter Brandy, who is now LibertyCon's Registrar, grandfatherly advice. He once even visited her school and gave a talk and that was why he was so special to us. And in the evenings, you could still Bob out on the deck where he was now sipping on a small glass of Beam's Choice, served neat of course, and he always would tell us he was taking the "moose census." When asked where the moose were, Bob would say, "I'm still waiting to count the first one."

We always had so many people over to our house after the convention when word spread that Bob would be there. He would sit on the deck entertaining everyone with his many stories while watching for moose. He might have been just a author to you, or a convention friend, or like most of us, a grandfather. We will always miss him and all the stories. Somehow it seems comforting to think of him in heaven "smoothing with the angels." Sleep peacefully grandfather.

It is with great pleasure that the Board of Directors of LibertyCon voted to dedicate LibertyCon 20 to one of the most influential authors of our time and who was a guiding light in the founding of this convention, Mr. Wilson

## *WELCOME TO LIBERTYCON's 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY*

Hello and welcome to LibertyCon 20. You've heard the expression that "time flies when you are having fun"? Well, the past 20 years have zoomed by like a rocket because this year marks LibertyCon's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! In July of 1987 we held our first convention at the Comfort Hotel (now the Clarion) in Downtown Chattanooga. Approximately 425 fans attended the festivities and we all had a ball. Our guests for that year were LGOH's L. Sprague and Catherine de Camp, Vincent Di Fate was the AGOH and Wilson "Bob" Tucker was our Master of Ceremonies. Since then, Sprague, Catherine and Bob have passed away and I miss them, I still think about them all the time and they will never be truly gone as long as I live. But, Vinnie is alive, well and with us this year to help us celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> family reunion.

LibertyCon 20 has a superb line up of guests for your enjoyment this weekend. I have already mentioned Vinnie, that's Vincent Di Fate for those of you who have never met him. It is an understatement to say that he is one of the truly great Science Fiction Artists of the World. I have been very fortunate in my life to have met the best of the best SF Artists in the world and they all have something in common, they are nice people. But Vincent Di Fate has to be one of the nicest.

Our Literary Guest of Honor is a true southern gentleman by the name of Jack McDevitt. Jack recently won the "Nebula" for his book "Seeker" at this year's World Fantasy Convention, Jack has been to a few LibertyCons in the past and we are happy to welcome him back.

Our Special Guest is Greg Matloff. Greg is a scientist that has been coming to LibertyCon in the past few years and has helped to upgrade our science programming. As a matter of fact, LibertyCon actually has a larger track of science programming than most of the recent WorldCons. No brag, just fact, and Greg is one of the people you can blame for this.

Our Master of Ceremonies is Hugo Award winning author Timothy Zahn who is one of the LibertyCon family. Tim and his wife, Anna, have been with us from the beginning. Even though they moved to Oregon, they pop in from time to time to keep us straight. We chose Tim to fill Wilson "Bob" Tucker's shoes for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Tim (and Anna), welcome home!

Normally we only have 4 featured guests for our convention, but for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we thought 5 would be better. But who should we get? We wanted someone from the LibertyCon family, with sufficient name recognition to help draw people to our 20<sup>th</sup>, and to add an element of class to this event. But, we picked David M. Weber anyway so that I could have someone to play Killer Cutthroat Spades with. ;^ ) But David also happens to be these things as well as being my friend.

When we started LibertyCon, one of our main ideas was to limit the size of the convention so that we could enjoy it ourselves. I'll tell you a secret about conventions, the advanced work for a convention for 1,000 people or 400 people takes about the same amount of time, effort and energy. But a large convention takes more work at the convention than a small one. That's why we decided to keep LibertyCon small. One of the best benefits of this small convention philosophy is the fans actually get to meet and talk to the guests. Don't waste this opportunity because we have one of the best lineups in years and all of them are super people.

We have a ton of programming events and activities planned for you this year with three tracks of programming to keep you amused, entertained and to possibly educate you. (Check out the science track this year, it is astounding!) LibertyCon will be hosting a mass autograph session on Friday evening. Standing in line for autographs makes you a little hot and hungry, well never fear, the ICE CREAM SOCIAL starts at 8:00 p.m. in the lobby! Shannon Hickey will be DJ for the dance on Friday Evening and will be playing some of her best "get-down and boogie" music.

Susan Brady will have her famous "Make-It-&Take-It" workshop on Saturday morning to appeal to all the crafters out there. This year we will be combining the Art and Charity Auction Saturday evening. The charity auction will benefit the Chattanooga Area Special Olympics. After that, by special arrangement, the Atlanta Radio Theatre Company will entertain you Saturday Evening with a radio adaptation of Robert A. Heinlein's "All You Zombies".

This year you can also look forward to the Computer Room (in the Board Room), the Game Room (in the Hall), the Art Show (in the Hotel's Fitness Center), the Consuite in Room 406, the Killer Cutthroat Spades Tournament (in the Breakfast Area), Registration (outside of Programming A & B), Security where you least expect it, and Engineering where ever our flying little feet will take us.

LibertyCon first, last and always has been a convention put together and run by fans and our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention is no difference. The entire staff pays a membership for the privilege of busting our humps to put on a good con for you. So, when you get a chance, take a good look at the people who are working here and thank them for their good work because they deserve to be appreciated.

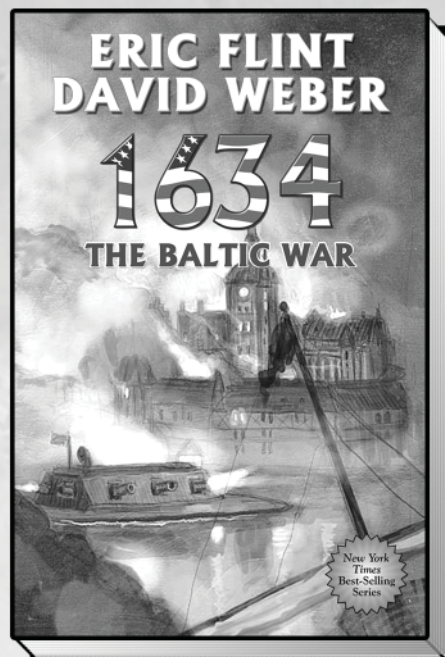
I love to steal a catchy line from some popular media presentation. So, to close out this message to you I will steal the immortal words of Abraham Lincoln from "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure",

*"LET'S PARTY ON DUDES!"*

*Uncle Timmy*



"This is a thoughtful and exciting look at just how powerful are the ideals we sometimes take for granted, and is highly recommended." — *Publishers Weekly*



1-4165-2102-X \* 448pp \* \$26.00/34.99

of ironclads, the introduction of special force tactics during a spectacular rescue operation at the Tower of London – the up-timers plan to use every trick in the time traveler's book to avoid a defeat that will send Europe back to a new Dark Age!

Two *New York Times* bestselling authors team up to tell that tale of the little town that remade a continent and rang in freedom for a battle-ravaged land.

**MAY  
2007**

www.baen.com  
Baen Books  
is distributed by  
Simon & Schuster



## **Fight for Freedom in a Dark and Bloody Age!**

After a cosmic accident sets the modern West Virginia town of Grantsville down in war-torn 17th century Europe, the United States of Europe is forged in the fire of battle. The Baltic War reaches a climax as France, Spain, England, and Denmark besiege the U.S.E. in the Prussian stronghold of Lubeck. The invention

## **LIBERTYCON'S 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GUESTS & ATTENDING PRO's**

### **Authors:**

Jack McDevitt - LGOH  
David M. Weber - 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Guest  
Tim Zahn – Master of Ceremony  
Michael Banks  
Christine Barber  
Mark Berry  
Stephen E. Cobb  
Julie Cochrane  
Eric Flint (Author & Editor)  
Darwin Garison  
Sara Hoyt  
Katherine Kurtz  
John Ringo  
Travis Taylor  
Toni Weisskopf (Author & Editor)  
Michael Z. Williamson

### **Artists**

Vincent DiFate - AGOH  
Debbie Allison  
C. Bangs  
Mark Fults  
Lady Hilary  
Julia Morgan-Scott  
James Ward

### **Scientists**

Greg Matloff – Special Guest (Scientist & Author)  
C. Banks  
Bob Boan  
Dan Hoyt  
Les Johnson (Scientist & Author)  
Dr Masibindi

### **Other**

Atlanta Radio Theater  
Hank Reinhart



## Jack McDevitt

While looking at Jack McDevitt's web page, I ran across the best bio I had ever seen on Jack. I contacted Jack and asked if I could use this bio for our LibertyCon Program book. Since it was written by Michael Swanwick (first appeared in MileHiCon 34 Program Book in 2002) Jack said he would get permission from Michael which he did. The bio follows with one note.

Klon Newell

If you want to know what Jack McDevitt is like - *really* like, down deep and to the bone - you could hardly do better than to read a few of his books. By this I don't mean to suggest that he is particularly like this or that character. Ignore them for the moment. Listen to that narrative voice: intelligent, warm, shrewd, lucid, good-hearted but not

sentimental... Imagine what the sort of man who sounds like that, plots like that, thinks like that, would be like. That's Jack.

I credit a lot of this to his being a Philadelphia boy. Jack lives in Brunswick, Georgia now, but he was born and brought up in Philly and went to South Catholic High and then to La Salle University on Olney Avenue. He even worked here as a cab driver for a time. This place is a part of him.

If you know the city, then all I have to say is that Jack has all the Philadelphia virtues without any of the faults. Which is to say that he's what we call a stand-up guy - level-headed, skeptical, hard-working, and ready to lend a hand to a stranger in need. But where your typical Philadelphian will bust your chops as soon as look at you (this is the town, after all, where sports fans boo Santa Claus), Jack is the soul of tolerance and restraints. He knows exactly how big a fool you're making of yourself, but he's too much of a gent to mention it.

You can thank the United States government for Jack's becoming a science fiction writer. Or, rather, you can thank the Customs Service. Jack put in umpty-ump years, working there as a motivational trainer, trying to encourage a supervisory attitude in which managers recognized they were only as good as their subordinates. Do this and this and this, he'd say, and your subordinates will be happier and more content. And consequently more productive. The people at the upper levels of the organization would stare at him in bewilderment and grumble about touchy-feely.

It was an occasional strain, and there was a fair degree of repetitiveness to the work. So, way back in 1980, Jack's wife Maureen (and everything good that can be said about Jack applies equally well to Maureen, who also hails from - guess where - Philadelphia) suggested he try his hand at a science fiction story, just as an antidote to the routine environment at work.

That story would be "The Emerson Effect," I believe. It was the first of a distinguished series of stories including such works as "Melville on Iapetus," "To Hell With the Stars" (the fact that he threw my name into a list of writers whose work accidentally survives centuries into the future has, I swear, *nothing* to do with my enthusiasm for it!), "The Fort Moxie Branch," "Standard Candles," and "Time Travelers Never Die." If you don't already own a copy of his collection, *Standard Candles*, I urge you to check it out, so you can admire for yourself his crisp, sure plotting and clean, clear prose. Jack's first novel, *The Hercules Text*, appeared in 1986 as an Ace Special, putting him in the august company of such luminaries as William Gibson, Kim Stanley Robinson, and Lucius Shepard. It was a good book. His second novel, *A Talent for War*, was better. His third... Well, to be honest, my favorite McDevitt novel changes with each new book. Not long ago, it was *Ancient Shores*, with that wonderful image of flying along the vanished coasts of the North American Interior Sea. Then it was *Infinity Beach*, with its terrifying alien threat. Right now it's *Deepsix*, with its harrowing spit-and-bailing-wire space scoop rescue scene. But I haven't read *Chindi* yet, and it's been getting glowing - nay, fawning and groveling - reviews. So who knows? Jack simply gets better with every book. (Ed Note: These novels followed *Chindi*, [Omega](#), Ace, 2003 [Polaris](#), Ace, 2004 [Seeker](#), Ace, [Odyssey](#), Ace, 2006 and [Cauldron](#) is forthcoming)

If only all writers did that!

One pleasant side effect of a career that appears to be going pretty darned well is that it enabled Jack to take early retirement from Customs. These days he's a full-time writer and connoisseur of the good things of life, be they baseball, Maggie and Jiggs cartoons, old radio serials, or whatever.

So now you get to hang out with Jack for a weekend. I envy you that. The man is world-class good company. Don't forget to pick up a couple of his books in the huckster room. They're extremely pleasant company as well.

But then, they would be.

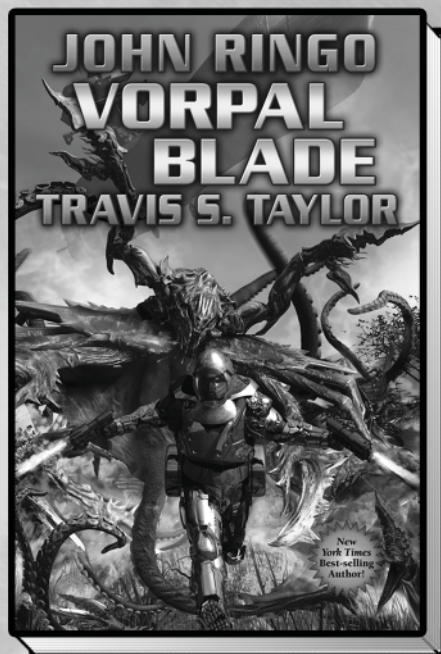
Consider the source.





"[A] thoroughly enjoyable ride [that] should appeal to techno-thriller fans as well as to military SF buffs."—*Publishers Weekly* on best-seller John Ringo's *Into the Looking Glass*

1-4165-2129-1 \* 416pp \* \$25.00/\$32.00



Behold the *Vorpall Blade*: humanity's first FTL ship, cobbled together with alien technology and the kind of engineering intuition, grit and ingenuity that only humans can provide. Crewed by the best and brightest . . . warrior nerds. Commanded by smart-mouthing, gun-toting, swashbuckling . . . scientists. Given teeth with a special ops contingent that can simultaneously obliterate alien monstrosities and save extraterrestrial civilizations precisely because they *can* tell the difference between a fermion and a boson.

**SEPTEMBER 2007**



Baen Books is distributed by Simon & Schuster [www.baen.com](http://www.baen.com)

## VINCENT DI FATE

LIBERTYCON'S 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR

Copyright 2004 Vincent Di Fate

For more than three decades Vincent Di Fate has held an international reputation as one of the world's leading artistic visionaries of the future. People Magazine has said that he is "One of the top illustrators of science fiction, Di Fate is not all hard-edge and airbrush slickness. His works are always paintings — a bit of his brushwork shows — and they are all the better because of it." And Omni Magazine has made the observation that "Moody and powerful, the paintings of Vincent Di Fate depict mechanical marvels and far frontiers of a future technocracy built on complicated machinery and human resourcefulness. Di Fate is something of a grand old man in the highly specialized field of technological space art. Stirring images of far-flung environments have been his trademark." In his prolific career, he has produced art of science fiction, astronomical and aerospace subjects for such clients as IBM, The Reader's Digest, The National Geographic Society, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Di Fate has received many awards for his paintings, including the Frank R. Paul Award for Outstanding Achievement in Science Fiction Illustration (1978), the Hugo Award (Science Fiction Achievement Award) for Best Professional Artist (1979), the Skylark Award for Imaginative Fiction (1987), the Lensman Award for Lifetime Contribution to the Science Fiction Field (1990), and the Chesley Award from the Association of Science Fiction/Fantasy Artists for Lifetime Artistic Achievement (1998). He was also Guest of Honor at the 50th World Science Fiction Convention in Orlando, Florida in 1992 and has been an honored guest at numerous regional SF and fantasy conventions throughout the U.S. since the late 1960s.

The artist has had his paintings exhibited in numerous group and one-man shows at museums and galleries throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Japan. These include important solo exhibitions at the Reading Museum in Pennsylvania, the Museum of Science and Natural History in St. Louis, Missouri, and at the Hayden Planetarium (American Museum of Natural History) in New York City. His work is included in the collections of the National Air and Space Museum (Smithsonian Institution) and the U. S. Air Force Art Collection in Washington, D. C., the Society of Illustrators in New York City, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at Cape Canaveral, Florida, the New Britain Museum of American Art in Connecticut, and in the University of Kansas Center for Science Fiction Studies at Lawrence. He was commissioned by NASA in 1985 to create the official painting of the International Space Station currently being assembled in Earth orbit.



Photo by Murray Lindebaum

That painting, completed in 1987, is now on display at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral. His art is also present in many corporate collections.

Di Fate has published four major books, Di Fate's Catalog of Science Fiction Hardware (Workman Publishing Co, 1980), Infinite Worlds: The Fantastic Visions of Science Fiction Art (Penguin Studio Books, 1997), The Science Fiction Art of Vincent Di Fate (March 2002) and Giants from Eternity (Lost Wellman) (with Manly Wade, May 13, 2005). The award winning Infinite Worlds is the first comprehensive history of science fiction art in America. In addition, Di Fate has lectured extensively about the methods, meaning and history of his craft and has been a consultant for MCA/Universal, 20th Century Fox and MGM/United Artists. He is an Adjunct Professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology (State University of New York) in New York City, where he teaches courses in the history of illustration and in science fiction and fantasy art. He served two terms as president of the Society of Illustrators (1995-1997), an organization of which he is a Life Member, chaired the Permanent Collection Committee for the Museum of America Illustration (SI) from 1985 to 1995, and has served on the Illustration Committee for the Sanford Low Collection of the New Britain Museum of American Art since 1993. Mr. Di Fate has received a Masters Degree from Syracuse University, and is presently a full professor and chair of the MA in Illustration program at FIT (State University of New York). He is also a founding member and a past president of the Association of Science Fiction/Fantasy Artists.

~~~~~  
When I first sat down to write Vincent Di Fate's bio for the LibertyCon 20 Program Book, the first place I went to was his website, <http://www.vincentdifate.com/>, to take a look at his bio. After I read it, I found out that you can't improve on perfection. But I can share with you a few personal observations on the man.

I met Vinnie about 25 years ago at Khen Moore's Kubla Khan in Nashville, TN. It was actually kind of funny how I met him. We were just standing around at a party on a Friday evening and started talking, neither knew who the other was. He just knew I was some fan named Uncle Timmy, because of the name stenciled on my T-shirt, and I knew he was some fan named Vinnie. I had a great time that evening and when we parted, we shook hands and promised to run into each other the next day. The next evening when I was running around, I ran into Vinnie again and we had a great time just shooting the bull. That went on for a few minutes and then he had to leave because he had another appointment.

About 30 minutes later when someone came up to me and wanted me to tell them where the Artist Guest of Honor was. I said, "How in the world should I know, I don't even know who the AGOH is."

The other person looked at me and laughed and said, "You honestly don't know do you?"

I said, "Know what?"

The other person was laughing so hard that he could barely get out, "You have been talking to him for the past two days. Vinnie is Vincent Di Fate, the Artist Guest of Honor!"

Others who witnessed this event have told me that the look on my face was priceless.

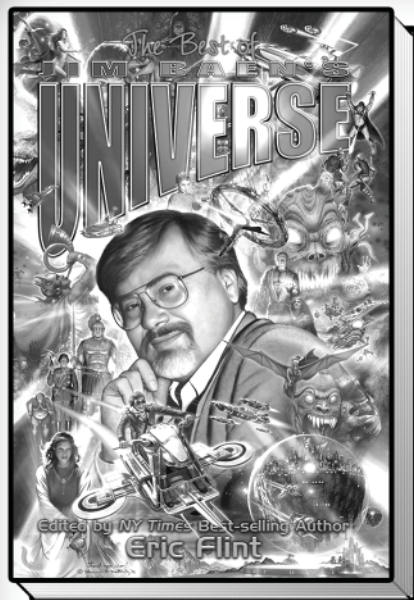
And that, my children, is the true story of my introduction to the Artist Guest of Honor for LibertyCon's 20th Anniversary.

Richard T. Bolgeo, aka Tim Bolgeo, aka Uncle Timmy

P.S. When I created LibertyCon 20 years ago, there was no doubt in my mind who I wanted to be my first Artist Guest of Honor. I'll let you guess who it was. ;^)







1-4165-2136-4 \* 416pp \* \$25.00/29.99

**"[T]he story comes first and foremost."  
—Eric Flint,  
*Jim Baen's Universe*  
Editor-in-Chief**

**Tell the truth: you flat-out love science fiction and fantasy. Time travel. Space opera. Alternate history. Doesn't matter. What you love is the *story*. The great idea. The adventure and action.**

**That good old-fashioned science fiction staple, the Sense of Wonder.**

**We know exactly how you feel. Here's the best of the best: new science fiction tales told by the likes of David Drake, Gregory Benford, Gene Wolfe, Esther Friesner, Mike Resnick, John Barnes, and L. E. Modesitt, Jr. The list of award-winning story-tellers and brilliant new talent goes on and on.**

**Edited by *New York Times* best-seller and creator of the hugely-popular "Ring of Fire" series, Eric Flint, a master storyteller in his own right, these tales are all taken from the e-pages of *Jim Baen's Universe*, the new standard in science fiction storytelling, created and inspired by publisher and editor Jim Baen, whose nose for a great story made him a science fiction legend!**

**JULY 2007**



Baen Books is distributed by Simon & Schuster [www.baen.com](http://www.baen.com)

*LibertyCon's 20th Anniversary Special Guest:*

**David M. Weber**

by Tim Bolgeo



David M. Weber was born at a very early age on October 24, 1952, in Cleveland, Ohio. Even though he was born on the wrong side of the Mason Dixon Line, we won't hold it against him too much. After receiving a BS in History from Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, North Carolina, David has parleyed his degree into a career of looking at future history through the eyes of the past. Just in case you might not believe me, check out how C. S. Forrester's *Horatio Hornblower Stories* have influenced his *Honorverse*. Even though most fans think that David's most successful series, *Honor Harrington* is his best, I beg to differ. The *Mutineer's Moon Series* brings back the days of golden age Science Fiction (ala. E. E. 'Doc' Smith) to me and reminds me of why I love Science Fiction so much.

David is a very versatile writer. Not only is his willing to spend long days of solitude writing SF&F stories for the fans, he also has been know to partner with a number of the top names in science fiction to bring his readers thrills and excitement. From the *CRUSADE Series* with Steven White, to the *MARCHING TO THE STARS Series* with John Ringo and now with Eric Flint in their latest 1632 adventure, "1634: The Baltic War" [By the way, Flint and Weber's "1633" wasn't half bad either.], David has shown is versatility.

You can tell a lot about a man by the thing he loves. You know that David is a lover of fine weapons by the way he lustfully describes the weapons in all of his books. In his own bio, David has admitted to being an avid Historical gamer (Napoleonics, US Civil War, World War II, age of sail tactical gaming, etc.) who later branched out into fantasy role-playing games (*Dungeons & Dragons* & similar role-playing game systems) and then into RPG and board science fiction games (*Star Fleet Battles*, *Traveler*, etc.). But I'll bet that he hasn't had much time for gaming in the past few years because he has been kept busy by Toni Weiskopf, editor of Baen Books, who has been cracking the lash on him to write more. As of this date, David has written over 45 books and the majority of them were published at Baen. But I will tell you this about "The Weber", you can really tell that he loves to play cards by the "character assassination" style of writing he did on the crew of the HMS Cutthroat in "Ashes of Honor". [In other words, do not try to pound him into sand over the card table unless you are willing to take the heat.☺]

Another way to take the measure of a man is by the passions in his life. David's main passion is his lovely wife Sharon who is also know as SHE



met my wife, SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED (SWMBO) and my daughter Brandy, SWMBO Jr., I think she took a liking to the concept and adopted as her own. I will not say that Sharon rules the roost at the Castilio Weber, but I will say that David is a very smart man who knows when it is wise not to push it. Just a few years ago David became the father of three beautiful children. And, he pulled that one off in a period of less than two months. Honest injun. I'll let him to tell you how he did it.

I originally met David many years ago at MocCon in Greenville, South Carolina. David was signing autographs with Steven White at that time and I had just started reading their Crusade Series. When I went up to get his autograph, I thought that he looked awful familiar. Over the next few years we started meeting each other at conventions and we developed a friendship and a rivalry over the card table. [Yes children, David, like I, is addicted to that evil card game, "Killer Cutthroat Spades"!]. Something in the back of my mind kept bothering me the entire time because even though I knew him then, he still looked familiar in another way. Finally the light dawned on me one day when he was talking about his ex-sister-in-law, Susan Philips. I instantly realized at that time that one of the first fans I met 30 years ago was Mike Weber in at Atlanta and that Mike Weber was his brother. The funny part was that as I looked at David, I realized how much they looked alike. This is truly a small world.

Over the years, I can truthfully say that I have had an interesting friendship with David and with his lovely bride Sharon. But there is one thing that I would really like to know. How is it that when both David and I are at the same convention, Sharon make me responsible for seeing that he doesn't get into too much trouble and goes to bed at reasonable times. Maybe it has something to do that when he is not on a panel, or writing in his room, you will see him locked in Mortal Combat over the card table from yours truly (and the rest of the crew from the Good Ship Cutthroat) playing Killer Cutthroat Spades.

This is LibertyCon's actual 20th Anniversary and when it came time to pick the person who was going to be our 20th Anniversary Special Guest, there was only one choice to be made.

*DAVID M. WEBER, LibertyCon's Anniversary Special Guest*



# StellarCon 32 & DeepSouthCon 46

**Toni Weiskopf**  
Literary Guest of Honor

**Cheralyn Lambeth**  
Fan Guest of Honor

**Jennie Breedan**  
Special Webcomics Guest

**Chris Ayers**  
Special Anime Guest

**Previous Phoenix and Rebel Award Winners**

Doug Chaffee - Jack McDevill - Hank Reinhardt

**Plus:**

|                |                   |                 |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Levy Beauchamp | Ben Vandendale    | Marc Rainer     |
| Kellie Ingram  | James Vasey       | James Roberts   |
| Marilyn Dyerly | Steven McCullough | Tony Ruggiero   |
| Den Johnson    | Joe Morris        | Kristy Tallman  |
| Paula Jordan   | Aly Watson        | Laura Underwood |
| Kelly Lockhart | Nike Pederson     | Alan Wohl       |

Panels • Readings • Signings  
Dealer Room • Art Show • Gaming  
Nightclub • Anime Show • IARPs  
Quiz/ Auction • Costume Contest  
Friday Night Dance • Cabaret  
AMV Contest • Filming

**Featured  
Guests**

**Radisson Hotel**  
**Downtown High Point, NC**  
**March 14-16, 2008**  
[www.stellarcon.org](http://www.stellarcon.org)

## Con\*Stellation XXVI:

### Ophiuchus

12-14 October 2007  
Huntsville Alabama

For all inquiries send an e-mail to:  
[constell@con-stellation.org](mailto:constell@con-stellation.org),

or write to:

Con\*Stellation XXVI: Ophiuchus  
P.O.Box 4857  
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

Copyright © 2007 NASFA All Rights Reserved



October 26th-28th 2007

Comfort Inn  
Chattanooga, TN

*Avast ye hearties, Ye need ta be grabbin yer 'ats and yer cutlasses and join us aboard the Jamaican Princess, once again, fer all the Pirates ye would ever care ta 'ave. Our theme fer this year be "Pirates of the Undead", but we be a bit 'eavy on the Pirate end with all the fine Pirate flix we 'ave pillaged during these 'ere past two years. So break out yer finest Undead Pirate garb and pillage an' plunder the weekend away with all the ale, grog and food ye care to consume. Just fill out the accord on the back side of this 'ere paper and send it in to be added ta our passenger list.*

For all the latest information on our Guests, Events and Attractions please check our web-site at  
[www.hallowcon.com](http://www.hallowcon.com).

## Greg Matloff

With a BA in Physics (Queens College, 1965), an MS in Astronautical engineering (NYU, 1969) and a Ph.D. in Planetary Atmospheres (1976), Greg Matloff has worked in aerospace engineering; academic research, teaching and consulting for over 30 years. He has written more than 100 scientific papers dealing with spacecraft design, astronomy, and planetary atmospheres. These have been published in journals including Acta Astronautica, Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Applied Optics, AIAA Journal, Icarus, Journal of the American Astronautical Society, Journal of Energy, Journal of the British Interplanetary Society, Mercury, and SPIE Journal and Spaceflight as well in the proceedings of numerous international, national, and NASA conferences. Dr. Matloff has also authored five books dealing with astronautics and astronomy: The Starflight Handbook (Wiley, NY, 1989), The Urban Astronomer (Wiley, NY, 1991), Telescope Power (Wiley, NY, 1993), More Telescope Power (Wiley, NY, 2001), and Deep-Space Probes, (Springer/Praxis, Chichester, UK, 2000). The second edition of Deep-Space Probes was published in April 2005. His latest book, Living Off the Land in Space, co-authored with Les Johnson, art by C Bangs, was published by Springer in June 2007.



At present, Dr. Matloff teaches physics and astronomy as an Assistant Professor at New York City Technical College, CUNY. Greg pioneered the application of gossamer spacecraft to deep-space exploration and has served as a Faculty Fellow in summer 1999, 2000, and 2001 at NASA Marshall Spaceflight Center (MSFC), Huntsville AL. He has participated there on a design team planning interstellar missions propelled by solar sails unfurled Sunward of the Earth. Dr. Matloff was Guest Professor at University of Siena, Italy, in summer 1994; is listed in many Who's Whos, is a Fellow of The British Interplanetary Society; a member of The Interstellar Exploration Committee of The International Academy of Astronautics, an Associate of the American Museum of Natural History, and co-chaired the Interstellar Exploration Session at the 50th Congress of The International Astronautical Federation, in Amsterdam, Oct. 1999.

Greg is also very personable and absolutely loves to discuss space travel and how humanity might someday explore the galaxy. He is a long-time science fiction fan and I am very pleased to call him my friend.

Les Johnson





## ***The Man Who Saved LibertyCon's DSC*** *(or at least the life of one fan)*

First, the facts: Although best known by Star Wars fans as the author of several very fine Star Wars novels and most importantly as the creator of Mara Jade, Timothy Zahn is also an award winning author of several science fiction stories, novels, and novellas. He was nominated for a Hugo in 1983 for "Pawn's Gambit" and the next year won a Hugo for "Cascade Point".

Timothy Zahn was born on September 1, 1951 in Chicago, Illinois. He is the son of Herbert William Zahn (an attorney) and Marilou Webb Zahn (also an attorney). He earned a B.S. in Physics from the University of Michigan in 1973 and an M.S. in Physics from the University of Illinois in 1975. Zahn began writing science fiction in 1975 as a hobby. As he worked towards his doctorate in physics, he began to devote more of his time to writing. In 1978, he sold his first short story to Analog. He was considering taking a year off to write after his doctorate when his thesis advisor died suddenly in mid-1979 (coincidentally, the same day he sold his second story). On August 4, 1979, he married Anna L. Romo and afterwards embarked on his new career as a full time writer. They now live in Oregon and have a wonderful son named Corwin.

Now the story: When we won the Deep South Con bid for LibertyCon 16, I had heard tales that it was cursed, that the convention who hosts the DSC is plagued with problems. Being an engineer, I scoffed in the face of this curse, thinking that organization and planning can solve any problem. That was my first mistake. On top of that, I was eight weeks away from giving birth to my second child, Elizabeth. Tennessee's ninety degree plus temperatures in July and an Italian pregnant woman under stress do not mix.

It was Sunday, July 27, 2003. LibertyCon 16, Deep South Con, was drawing to a close. We were at the Ramada Inn South, which had been home to LC for many years. The previous year, part of the hotel had burnt down and the owners had promptly taken the insurance money and sold the hotel. The hotel was (as those of you who were there can attest) less than adequate. Some of the problems included double room charges, uncleanly rooms and some of our guests being bitten by bugs. The banquet, being held in the now defunct restaurant, was catered by a very reputable country restaurant. Although the food was good, it was an hour late. Which would be why a very pregnant woman was frantically motioning from the back of the restaurant to the guests to stretch out their speeches. If long banquet speeches are your main reason for coming to a convention, you got your money's worth that year.

Anyway, back to my story. By Sunday, I was exhausted, irritated and ready to cause another fire in that dang hotel. (Not that we caused the first one, mind you, but if there had been a second one that weekend the police would have probably found me very quickly.) I had already threatened the life of the hotel manager if he pretended not to speak English to one more hotel guest and was walking down a corridor on my way to yet another emergency. Half way down the hallway, I was accosted by a fan who had several complaints about the hotel. As I explained to him that everyone was having these problems and that we would assuredly be moved to another hotel by next year, he grew more irate. Just as I was about to smash his brains out with my security radio (I'm not naming any names, but you know who you are, and you now know how close to death you came, buddy!) this wonderful voice behind me says, "Perhaps I can help you." Now it has been four years since this incident, and I swear to you, this is exactly what he said. The scene is forever etched in my memory. Tim Zahn stepped in front of me and within five minutes not only was this guy happy as a clam, he was running around trying to calm others! From that moment on, Tim did not leave my side until late in the evening when I was finally ready to call it a day. This wonderful guest, instead of sitting there basking in the glory of his adoring fans, worked his fanny off helping to draw the convention to a close. He was the calming influence in the midst of the storm.

This is just one example of what a wonderful guest Tim is to have around. When it came to voting for the Master of Ceremonies for our 20th anniversary convention, it was a natural choice to ask one of our own, Mr. Timothy Zahn.



# Grantville Gazette

*In the novel 1632, 3500 residents of a small town in West Virginia were swept up by a cosmic accident and plunked down in the middle of the bloody and ruthless Thirty Years' War in Germany, with only what they had with them for resources. Grantville's story has now been continued in five novels, two collections of short stories, and a professional magazine, Grantville Gazette where the stories of uptimers and downtimers are told. In the Gazette you don't see the main characters or the big battles. You see the everyday people living their lives as the town from the future reshapes its past and changes the present and the future.*

*Join Us! Enjoy Them!*  
[www.grantvillegazette.com](http://www.grantvillegazette.com)

## DEALER'S ALLEY

| Room | Dealer                | Supplies & Goods for Sale |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 200  | Klon Newell           | Collectable Books         |
| 201  | Karen Boyd            | Comics & Collectables     |
| 202A | Glennis LeBlanc       | Collectable Books         |
| 202B | Melissa Browning      | New & Used CDs            |
| 203  | Larry Smith           | New Books                 |
| 204  | B. & A. Garrett       | Crystal Creations         |
| 205  | Frank Dietz           | Used Paperbacks           |
| 206  | Roger Lee             | Autographed Books         |
| 207  | Michael Z. Williamson | Sharp Pointy Things       |
| 208  | Scott Thorne          | Gaming Equipment          |
| 209  | Melanie Hogue         | Library Books             |
| 210  | Michael Green         | T-Shirts                  |
| 211  | Jack Gonzalas         | Collectable Books         |





# FantaSciCon '08

## Outlaw Heroes vs. Super Heroes

**Comfort Inn  
Chattanooga TN  
March 21-23, 2008**

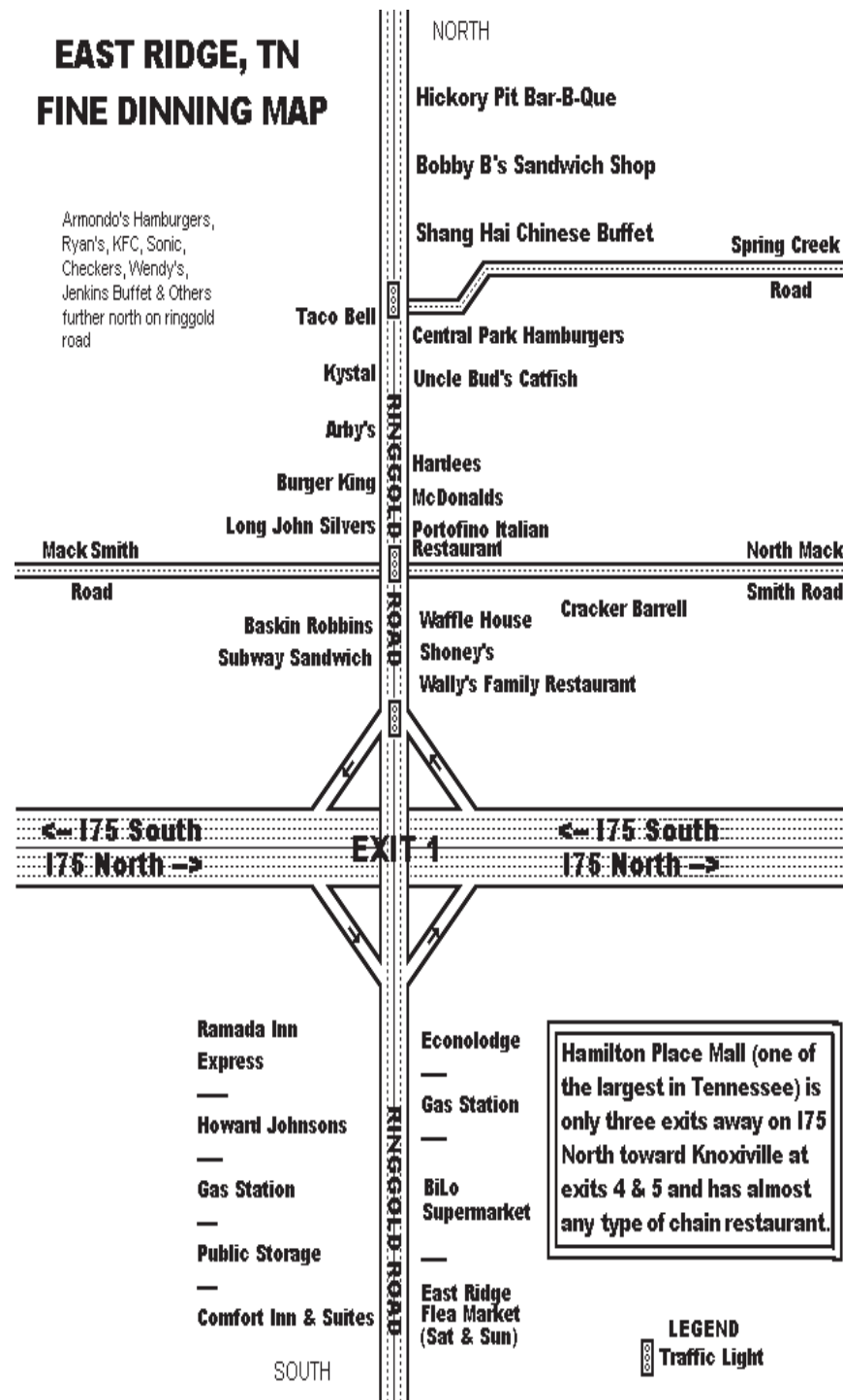
There have been many heroes down through the ages but the most outstanding are those who have defended the downtrodden to the point of being persecuted, relentlessly, or have had to hide their true identity to protect others from the forces of evil. So the video list for this theme will include Zorro, Robin Hood, Riddick, The Three Musketeers, Conan and Kull the Conqueror as well as Superman, Batman, The X Men, Spiderman, the Hulk ad infinitum.

For all the latest information on our Guests, Events and Attractions please check out our web-site at:

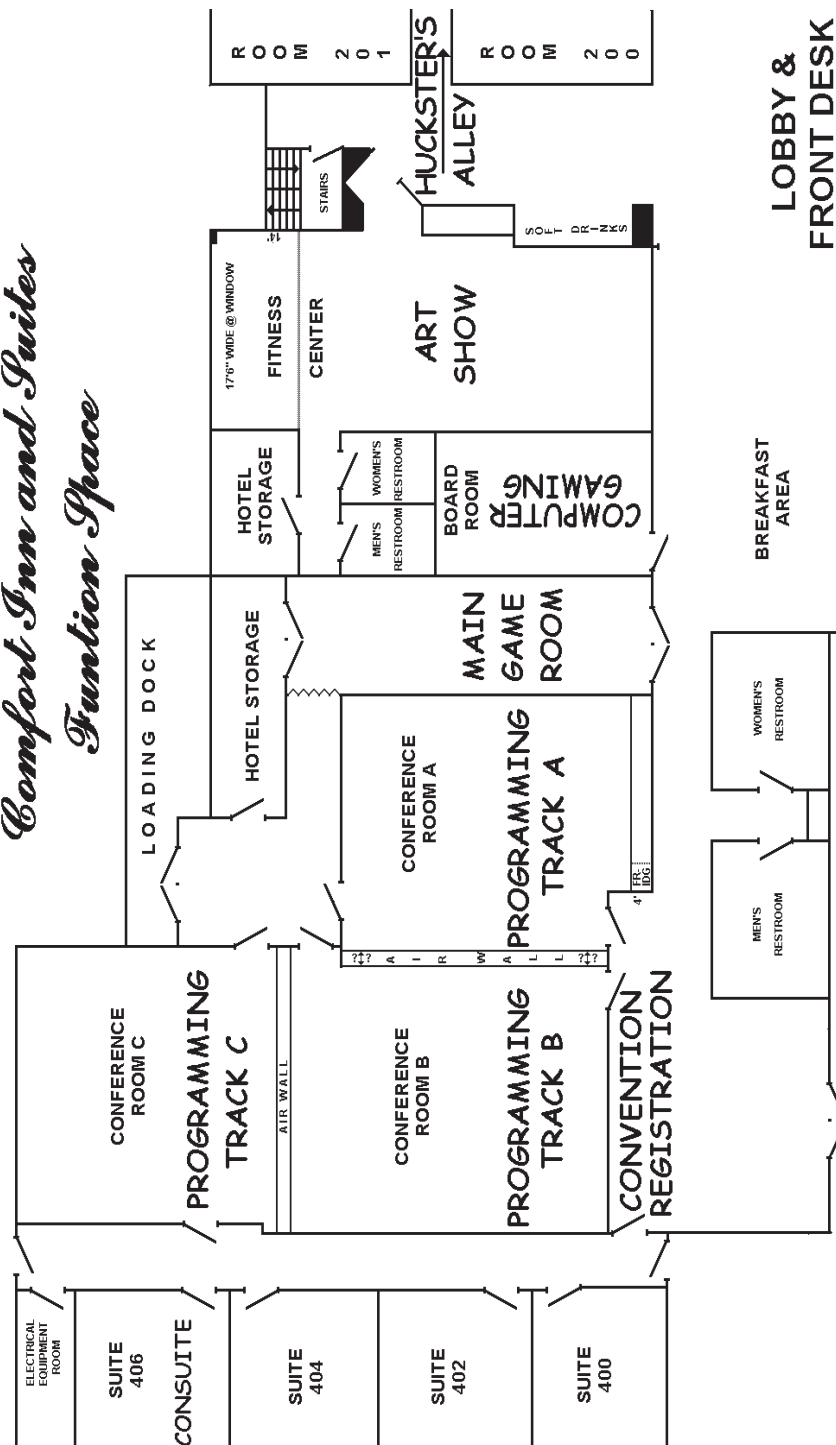
[www.fantascicon.com](http://www.fantascicon.com)

### EAST RIDGE, TN FINE DINNING MAP

Armondo's Hamburgers,  
Ryan's, KFC, Sonic,  
Checkers, Wendy's,  
Jenkins Buffet & Others  
further north on Ringgold  
road



# Comfort Inn and Suites Function Space



## LIBERTYCON 20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|              |                    |             |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Chairman     | Timmy Bolgeo       | Vice Chair  | Ron Hogue          |
| Registration | Brandy Spraker     | Hospitality | Sandy McDade       |
| Programing   | Kerry Gilley       | Art Show    | Shannon Souvinette |
| Treasurer    | Melvin Baumgardner | Secretary   | Phronsie McDade    |

The LibertyCon Board of Directors would like to thank the

## LIBERTYCON 20 STAFF

### OPERATIONS

Timmy Bolgeo  
Ron Hogue  
Bob Bolgeo  
Bruce Butler  
Gary Shelton  
Mike Townsend  
**Engineering**  
John Trieber  
Melvin Baumgardner  
**Gaming**  
Heather Smarekar  
Robert Hood  
Holly Smarekar  
**Computer Gaming**  
Derek Spraker  
Mark Ormond  
Rick Baldwin  
**Spades Co-ordinator**  
Mark Paulk  
**Head Huckster**  
Klon Newell  
**Security**  
Andy Green  
Dave Argust  
Leigh Boros  
Chris Brady  
Chris Hogue  
Andrew Souvinette

### HOSPITALITY

Sandy McDade  
Michael Anklebrandt  
Bill Durkin  
Martin Hickey  
Mickey Kilgory  
Regina Kirby  
Martha Knowles  
Bucky McDade  
Mark Ormond  
Ken Roy  
Stina Seaman  
John Stewart  
Jeff Wormsley  
Bill & Linda Zielke  
**PROGRAMMING**  
Kerry Gilley  
Sandy Anklebrandt  
De Anna Atwood  
DeAnn Baldwin  
Marla Baldwin  
Karen Boyd  
Ann Robards

### REGISTRATION

Brandy Spraker  
Linda Bolgeo  
Barbara Durkin  
Starr Roberts  
Ann Darwin  
Peg Smarkar  
Connie Price  
Jewel Berg

### ART SHOW

Shannon Souvinette  
Elayna Little  
Leigh Boros  
Phyllis Boros  
Jeremy Cook  
Don Puckett  
Ginger Williams  
Sean Souvinette  
John Wooden





*Discover new stories by major authors,  
new authors, and great art, all in*

# JIM BAEN'S UNIVERSE

*Earth's Premier SF&F Online Magazine*

*The First One's FREE...*

*Online Preview at*

*<http://preview.baens-universe.com>*

**Two Hugo nominations. a Locus  
nomination, and four Year's Best  
SF picks in our first year-- find out  
what we're doing for an encore!**

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

***<http://www.baensuniverse.com>***

