

# LIBERTYCON 27

JULY 11-13, 2008 CHATTANOOGA, TN



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## *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 21 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 21

**JULY 11-13, 2008**

**Thanks for joining us as the  
South's friendliest convention turns 'legal'!**

**LITERARY GUEST**

**HARRY TURTLEDOVE**

**ARTIST GUEST**

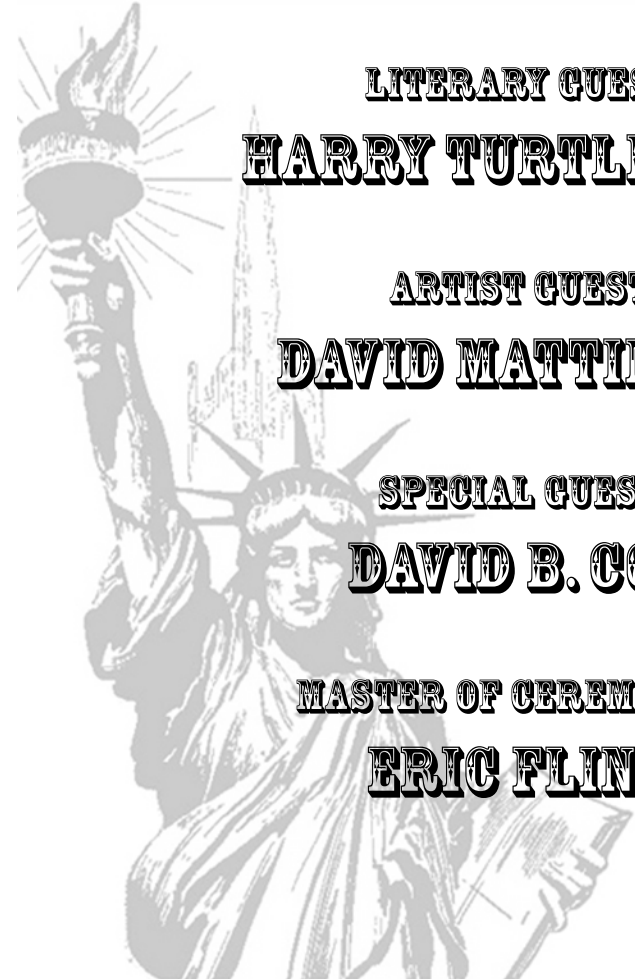
**DAVID MATTINGLY**

**SPECIAL GUEST**

**DAVID B. COE**

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

**ERIC FLINT**



## *Welcome to LibertyCon 21!*

Hello to all of you,

This year, Our Literary Guest of Honor is Mr. Harry Turtledove. I first met Harry many years ago at the Jekyll Island Deep South Con where he was the Guest of Honor and found him to be a pleasant and approachable pro. When his name was mentioned as the possible LGOH for this year, I was in hearty agreement and very enthusiastic about the decision to invite him. I think you will find Mr. Turtledove will be a great LGOH to help us celebrate our coming of age.

Next, our Artist Guest of Honor is Mr. David Mattingly. David is a master artist who has been responsible for some of the most beautiful covers to grace my favorite books in the past few years. David is also responsible for the gorgeous logos on our T-shirts this year and the cover of our program book. It was exactly 10 years ago that David and his lovely wife, Catherine, first visited us. A lot has happened to LibertyCon in the last decade, but I can tell you one thing, David and Catherine are wonderful guests and I know you will enjoy their company as much as I do.

Being the Special Guest at LibertyCon is a very important position, and it is our way of saying thank you to pros who have gone out of their way to support us. David B. Coe is one such pro who has been kicking around LibertyCon for many years and has been an unofficial ambassador for us at other conventions. Actually, it was kind of funny because we have been waiting to make him our special guest for the last couple of years, but circumstances made it impossible, as he has been on a sabbatical in Australia. Can you imagine, he picked living in Australia instead of coming to LibertyCon. Harrumph, harrumph, harrumph! ;^)

Our last featured guest is our Master of Ceremonies, Eric Flint. "Our Man Flint" is an old and valued friend and it is our great fortune to have him as our MC again this year. If you get a chance, check out his new book, TIME SPIKE. It is an extremely interesting time travel book and you might even recognize a character or two in it. ;^)

I could keep on going down the list talking about the rest of the professional writers, artists and editors attending the convention this year, but I would surely get in trouble because I would forget to mention someone. Let me just tell you this, look for the blue badges at the convention and see whom you can identify. LibertyCon is very fortunate in having a large number of professional friends and I want to thank all of them for attending.

Kerry Gilley and his crew have put together three tracks of programming in Rooms A, B and C to keep you amused, entertained and to possibly educate you. We have posted the schedule outside of all of the programming rooms for you. On Saturday morning, Susan Brady will be presenting the ever popular "Make-It-&Take-It" workshop in the gaming area which should appeal to all the crafters out there. Shannon Souvinette and her crew are taking care of the Art Show in the Fitness Center located near the entrance to Hucksters Alley. As is our custom, we will be holding a combined normal and Charity Auction early Saturday evening. The regular art auction is for the benefit of the artists and we are very proud to announce the charity art auction is to benefit the Orange Grove Center in Chattanooga, TN. After that, by special arrangement, the Atlanta Radio Theatre Company is returning on Saturday Evening to entertain you with four different new radio adaptations of SF plays.

Mark Ormond's Computer Room is located in the Board Room. He has a large number of computers networked together and will be hosting a number of ongoing tournaments to find out who will be LibertyCon's Master Blaster. Rev Bob is in charge of the Game Room (in the Hall) this year. He has told me that he also has a number of tournaments to attract the board gaming crowd. Mark Paulk is in charge of the Killer Cutthroat Spades Tournament (in the Breakfast Area) and the official tournament starts at 11:00 p.m. on Friday. We are going to find out this year who will be the baddest of the bad! Brandy Spraker and her crew will be running Registration outside of Programming A & B, and they promise to get you through the registration ordeal with less fuss than you are used to. Security, headed by Andy Green, will be where you least expect it; and Engineering, headed by John Trieber, will be everywhere our flying little feet will take us.



I'm sad to say, we will miss our Mistress of the ConSuite, Sandy McDade. Michael Ankenbrandt will be heading the ConSuite in room 406 and has promised to maintain the high standards of culinary expertise his predecessor put in place. I plan on lifting a glass or two in Sandy's honor. I'll miss the old broad.

Before I let you go, let me tell you about the most important part of our convention. OUR STAFF! Without them, there would be no LibertyCon. Every member of the staff from the Chairman on down to the newest member pays the same membership as you do. These wonderful people have volunteered their time, effort and energy to bring you one of the best cons in the south. Please take a few minutes to see what they are doing and thank them. As I said many times before, without these wonderful people, there would not be a LibertyCon. They are all just the best and are simply MARVELOUS!

I never imagined when I started LibertyCon 22 years ago we would still be going strong. But here we are and here we stand. We have come of age this year and the board thought that we ought to mark this auspicious occasion by a small gift to all of you who have made this happen. When we thought about it, the gift was obvious to us and we hope you enjoy the shot glasses. I try to end this welcome each year with some catchy line from some popular media presentation. Lately Bill and Ted, from "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure", have been on my mind. I really enjoy their unique look at the English language. So, in their honor I will say,



**"I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO A MOST  
EXCELLENT CONVENTION THIS YEAR! SO  
PARTY ON DUDES!"**

*-Uncle Timmy*

## Make Tracks to the Stars!

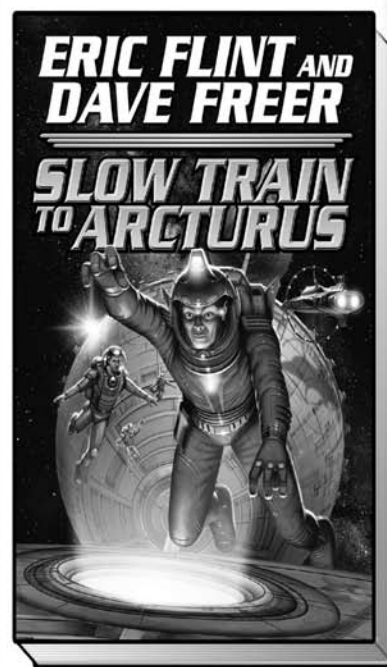
"[T]he sharpest moments in this giddy entertainment are those where [Flint and Freer] blithely skewer human mores."

—Publishers Weekly on  
*Rats, Bats & Vats*

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## Alien Ragnarok!

"[A] charmingly picaresque journey."

—Publishers Weekly on *Pyramid Scheme*

A mysterious pyramid appears in Chicago, oozing fantastic creatures and sucking humans into our own mythological past. Now when a team sent to capture an AWOL government official gets into deep trouble with a certain one-eyed Norse god, mythologist Jerry Lukacs must risk bringing on Ragnarok itself to save human mythology from alien domination!

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## ***LibertyCon 21 is Dedicated to the memory of Sandy McDade (1948 - 2007)***



Do you still remember your first convention? I know I do. It was cold and I lived in Chattanooga, so obviously it was Chat-taCon. And since I was nine, it was Chat-taCon VI. Mom dropped me off there, and I spent the weekend running around the hotel with my cousins Karon and David.... and I had a blast.

So much so that I went back every year after, and for a few years Mom would drop me off on Friday and pick me back up on Sunday. She might walk through the Huckster's Room, but that was about it. The 'Con' was my thing, and she didn't really have much of an interest in them. Well, that lasted for a few years until my aunt Sissie (Phronsie McDade) got talked into helping out in the ConSuite, and in turn talked my mom into helping too. (If there's one motto that my family firmly holds dear, it would be 'If I have to suffer, I'm taking you with me.')

Over the next quarter of a century those two managed to drag their brother Bucky McDade in with them, and together as 'The McDade Trio' they went gallivanting all over the Con scene. They attended and worked as staff at hundreds of conventions from Florida up to Boston and over to Denver, and quite probably ones further out that I don't know about. And, when LibertyCon started up, they of course hopped on staff with that one as well. Considering that they usually helped out in the Art Show, I don't think anyone expected Mom to take over the ConSuite a few years later... but it happened.

I don't have any proof of it, but I personally tend to credit Mom with the way ConSuites are run nowadays in southern fandom. Think back to what the early Chat-taCon and LibertyCon ConSuites were like. If you're like me you'll think of mounds of Little Debbie's and Coke on tap (Well, if you were under 21. If you were over 21 you may not be able to remember it anyway) The Trio had been to northern conventions and kept raving about how the ConSuites were run. So when she had the opportunity, Mom jumped at the

chance to run her own. And over the objections of everyone that "we're a convention, not a restaurant" she ran it the way she wanted. Then she kept doing it... for another 15 years. And it is still run that way today.

But I imagine she'll be remembered for more than the ConSuite. Since the McDade Trio went pretty much everywhere and Mom was the most outspoken of the three, she got to know a lot of pros at the different Cons. Also as a travel agent for almost 20 years, she dealt with many of them on an ongoing basis getting them to and from their various appearances. All the while she'd be chatting them up about LibertyCon, and how they really needed to come down to Chattanooga. ;-)

Obviously there's more to her than heading the ConSuite of our convention... and she was more than 'a third of the McDade Trio.' She was mom to me, Memaw to my kids, Potsie to her family, 'fluffy' to Harlan Ellison, and some things I can't put here to various other people.

She was someone who owned and ran a video store for a decade because she liked meeting and talking to people. She was also the type of mom to hand her 16 year old son a book that she'd gotten autographed for him by Anne McCaffrey one day, and a couple of porn star publicity stills that she'd gotten personalized to him at CES the next. She was the only grandmother I've ever heard of who was banned from reading her grandchildren bedtime stories (if you had ever heard her versions you would understand), and was absolutely incorrigible when it came to trying to spoil those kids.

But most of the people who might read this won't know about that side of her, and the ones that do probably don't need for me to run down more of it. So instead, I'll just ask that when you go to the ConSuite and get something to eat, give a thought for her.

In case you hadn't heard the news, I'm writing this because Sandy McDade passed away last November from a post-operative blood clot. As far as I can remember, this will be the first LibertyCon that she missed.

I just wish she hadn't started now.

*-Derek Spraker*

*LibertyCon 21 is also dedicated to the memory of  
Hank Reinhardt (1934-2007)*



There were three of us.

Jerry Burge, Hank Reinhardt and myself were drawn together in the decade of the 1950s, amid the rubble of the old Atlanta Science Fiction Organization, but mostly because we shared a lot of interests, notably a very similar outlook toward life, friendship and science fiction.

Hank's favorite SF/F writers were Leigh Brackett, Robert E. Howard and Jack Vance. His favorite SF

magazine was the pulp 'Planet Stories' where, in the 1940s he first read Brackett's evocative stories of Mars and Venus, as well as the adventures of her iconic hero Eric John Stark. He admired Howard's Conan stories, disliked the attempts of most other writers to continue those adventures. He loved the Flash Gordon comic strip during the Alex Raymond period, and Planet Stories' companion Planet Comics. The three of us regarded Murphy Anderson's Star Pirate strip in Planet Comics as the very pinnacle of comic book space opera. Hank was delighted when I wrote a story called "Corsairs of the Cosmic Legion" and it was published in issue 6 of Shelby Vick's Planetary Stories([www.planetarystories.com](http://www.planetarystories.com)) and dedicated to him, because several of the characters were thinly veiled references to characters in Planet Comics. Hank helped Shelby Vick with Planetary Stories by selecting the winning letter in each issue's letter column for the webzine's ongoing letter contest.

For years I worked near the area of Atlanta where Hank grew up and on occasion we would have lunch together and go on walking tours of the places that had impressed him most when he was growing up. He would tell me stories of fights he had, people he knew, the things he saw, and events that stirred his sense of wonder, and his love of adventure. He had the soul of an adventurer.

Though he had a moment or two, he never truly had the life of an adventurer. His marriage to Janet left him, on her death, with the responsibility of raising two beautiful daughters by himself. To Hank, the responsibilities of parenthood were more challenging and important than his desire to find adventure.

Friendship was the other thing important to Hank. He had more friends, probably than he could count. But that didn't matter. His memory was better than his counting, and he never forgot about a friend.

And his friends will never forget about him.

-Gerald Page

## **LIBERTYCON 21 GUESTS & ATTENDING PROS**

### **Authors:**

**Harry Turtledove - LGOH**

**David B. Coe - Special Guest**

**Eric Flint – Master of Ceremony**

Mark Berry

C. J. Cantrell

Stephen E. Cobb

Julie Cochrane

Sara Harvey

Dan Hollifield (Editor)

Danielle Ackley-McPhail

Mike McPhail

John Ringo

Toni Weisskopf (Author & Editor)

### **Artists**

**David Mattingly - AGOH**

Mark Fults

Kurt Miller

James Ward

### **Scientists**

Greg Matloff (Scientist & Author)

Les Johnson (Scientist & Author)

Travis Taylor (Scientist & Author)

### **Other**

Atlanta Radio Theater Company

Paducah Paranormal Society



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**Harry Turtledove**  
**Literary Guest of Honor**

Harry Turtledove was born in Los Angeles, California. After dropping out during his freshman year at Caltech, he attended UCLA, where he received a Ph.D. in Byzantine history in 1977. His dissertation was entitled 'The Immediate Successors of Justinian: A Study of the Persian Problem and of Continuity and Change in Internal Secular Affairs in the Later Roman Empire During the Reigns of Justin II and Tiberius II Constantine (AD 565–582)'.



In 1979, Turtledove published his first two novels, 'Wereblood' and 'Werenight', under the pseudonym "Eric G. Iverson." Turtledove later explained that his editor at Belmont Tower did not think people would believe the author's real name was "Turtledove" and came up with something more Nordic. He continued to use the "Iverson" name until 1985, when he published his 'Herbig-Haro' and 'And So to Bed' under his real name. Another early pseudonym was "Mark Gordian." Turtledove has recently begun publishing historical novels under the pseudonym "H.N. Turteltaub" (Turteltaube means turtle dove in German). He published three books as "Dan Chernenko" (the Scepter of Mercy series).

Throughout the late 1970s and early 1980s, Turtledove worked as a technical writer for the Los Angeles County Office of Education. In 1991, he left the LACOE and turned to writing full time. From 1986 to 1987, he served as the Treasurer for the Science Fiction Writers of America.

He has written several works in collaboration, including 'The Two Georges' with Richard Dreyfuss, 'Household Gods' with Judith Tarr, and others with Susan Schwartz, S.M. Stirling and Kevin R. Sandes.

He is married to mystery and SF writer Laura Frankos and his brother-in-law is fantasy author Steven Frankos. Turtledove won the Homer Award for Short Story in 1990 for 'Designated Hitter,' the John Esten

Cooke Award for Southern Fiction in 1993 for 'The Guns of the South', the Hugo Award for Novella in 1994 for 'Down in the Bottomlands.' 'Must and Shall' was nominated for the 1996 Hugo Award for Best Novelette, the 1996 Nebula Award for Best Novelette and received an honorable mention for the 1995 Sidewise Award for Alternate History. 'The Two Georges' also received an honorable mention for the 1995 Sidewise Award for Alternate History. 'The Worldwar' series received a Sidewise Award for Alternate History Honorable Mention in 1996. In 1998, the novel 'How Few Remain' won the Sidewise Award for Alternate History. He won his second Sidewise Award in 2003 for the novel 'Ruled Britannia.' On August 1, 1998, Turtledove was named honorary Kentucky Colonel while Guest of Honor at Rivercon XXIII in Louisville, Kentucky. He has also served as the toastmaster for Chicon 2000, the 58th World Science Fiction Convention.

Turtledove has been dubbed "The Master of Alternative History". Within that genre he is known both for creating original alternative history scenarios [for example the survival of the Byzantine Empire or an alien invasion in the middle of the Second World War] and for giving a fresh and original treatment to themes previously dealt with by many others, such as the victory of the South in the American Civil War and of Nazi Germany in the Second World War.

A recurring theme in Turtledove's fiction is the realistic description of war from the point of view of ordinary soldiers. Turtledove's soldiers are usually depicted sympathetically, though far from uncritically — with the same character who perpetrated acts of appalling cruelty in one episode shown under different circumstances to be capable of compassion and generosity. The above is true also for soldiers fighting for the villain of the piece, such as Nazi Germany and its numerous alternate history and Fantasy analogues in Turtledove's fiction. His depiction of war often includes civilians whose life is affected as well as soldiers on the battlefield itself.

Even manifest arch-villains, such as people involved in genocide, are hardly ever cardboard villains in Turtledove's books. In some series the reader can follow, step by step from book to book, the slippery slope by which an originally decent character gets to the point of committing mass murder.

In a passage of the "Darkness" series, a character, going in disguise into the camp of his arch-enemies which he had hitherto known only as cruel oppressors, is surprised to see that among themselves they behave much as he and his friends behave. He observes that "no one

is a villain in his own story" (which does not stop him from continuing to fight and kill them). This clearly seems to reflect Turtledove's own attitude.

Turtledove's books are almost invariably written in the third person. The omniscient author is always present to a degree more characteristic of 19th century literature than in most other contemporary works. Turtledove often goes to the trouble of explaining to the reader details of a historical, linguistic or technological theme which are relevant to the scene, but are far from the viewpoint character's mind. To cite a recent example, in chapter 18 of 'Drive to the East,' an infantry unit is forced to retreat in a hurry in danger of being surrounded and becoming exposed to enfilading fire — when above the din of battle Turtledove's professorial voice is suddenly heard remarking that "Taking enfilading fire is like getting your T crossed in a naval battle..."

Turtledove is also in the frequent habit of mildly criticizing his characters for exhibiting a prejudice and/or being taken in by propaganda, such criticism is typically prefaced by the words "It did not cross his [or her] mind that..."

When the characters' English dialogue is meant to represent another language, Turtledove makes an effort to give the flavour of the original — whether an actual language or an invented one. For example, French-speaking characters say "You have reason" — a literal translation of the French "vous avez raison" meaning "You are right". And in the "Darkness" series, Kaunian characters — speaking their language which is described as particularly precise — invariably address each other in every sentence of their conversation as "My Grandfather", "My Granddaughter " (or whatever else the relationship might be). In 'Between the Rivers,' this takes the form of many phrases repeated three times, as often happens in the poetry of the Sumerian period which the setting emulates.

Much of Turtledove's work consists of long series with multiple point of view characters, all going through the same major experience (mostly a big war), whose parallel experiences, occasional meetings, clashes with each other serve to draw a wide canvas. A greater realism is achieved by Turtledove's habit of occasionally killing off a viewpoint character — sometimes a sympathetic one which the reader has gotten attached to. Deaths of such prominent protagonists sometimes occur in a meaningless accident or trivial skirmish (which often happens in a real war and in real life in general, but much less often in literature), abruptly and without warning in the middle of the book.





# Chattacon XXXIV

January 23rd -25th, 2009

## **Featured Guests Include:**

- Guest of Honor: David Weber**
- Guest of Honor : Katherine Kurtz**
- Artist GOH: Rowena**
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- Toastmaster: Tom Smith**

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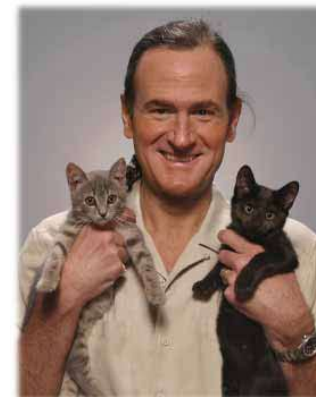


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## **David Mattingly** **Artist Guest of Honor**

1989 was a big year for me. I got married, left my home, my family in England, moved to New York city to start a new chapter in my life, and met David Mattingly.



I can remember it as if it was yesterday. I was sharing a studio in the down town area of Manhattan on Lafayette Street with another Illustrator , Jerry LoFaro. David had been invited down to Jerry's studio for a visit. He came striding in, all 6 feet 3 of him with enough personality and enthusiasm to redo the Sistine chapel ceiling... with space ships and robots. I liked him immediately, and we have been good friends ever since.

Looking back at David's accomplishments one hardly knows where to begin.

From his impressive days at Disney, as one of the youngest matt painters and studio heads, to the enormous amount of cover art he's created for literally a who's who of Science Fiction and Fantasy writers. Matt painting for the movie industry as well as television, now he has added teaching to his list of accomplishments. Over his artistic career you get a sense that David is not someone who just meanders through life. He has a conviction and steadfastness to his character that is quite admirable. None more so than to the way he carries out any art related assignment.

His approach, as I've seen over the years of knowing him, is one of tireless perfection. He wears you out just trying to keep up with him. This does not surprise me. Since he tried forcing his way past me while we raced each other on a go-cart track in Florida during Magicon in 92, some 15 years ago. He won the race with brute determination. He is a great competitor, but also a scholar and a gentleman, through and through, to put an Englishman's phrase to

good use. Except when he's in a go-cart race with you, then watch out! I nicknamed him "Mattingly, the maniac" for a good reason.

I have also become very aware of the care he takes in deciding what to do for a book cover. Many an author would tell you that they would give up their first born to have someone as conscientious and thoughtful as David doing their cover. He is an artist who reads the manuscript and bothers to capture the author's universe, instead of using the book as a staging ground for a chance to do his or her own thing and get paid for it. Some artists have no care or thought for the writer who spent God knows how long writing a novel only to see a character or world butchered into some quasi-barbaric theme. (I wonder how many readers are nodding their heads right now)

Capturing the flavor, the personality and texture of a book has always been of great importance to the way he sees a cover, and David has always been careful to capture the writer's world and bring it to life. He is always conscious of the individual worlds he illustrates and applies his talents to give each book what it deserves: its own individuality. He never gets lazy and is always trying different compositions and ideas for his covers. Many artists stick to a formula and take the easy way out by hiding behind a particular look and style. David jumps in and holds nothing back. A 'typical' Mattingly cover might be a beautiful futuristic cityscape with a monumental amount of detail and inhabited by numerous figures that makes you draw breath at how exhausting it must have been to create. But this is the thing; he can just as easily change gears and create the most simple of covers that's just as effective as any of his more beautifully detailed and complex works. I've seen him change direction faster than a college freshman bolting off to spring break. The first time I visited David's house he had a painting hanging that I just loved, and still do. It's a painting titled 'Time Wars: The Ivanhoe Gambit'. It consists of a knight holding a shield in one hand and a machine gun in the other. The knight appears to be fading in and out of the background in a gestalt like manner and a glowing red light is seen through the knight's visor. The piece is very elegant and extremely effective.

David also has a knack for being able to do quirky covers with a somewhat humorous slant to them... something I confess to never tangle with and for the most part avoid like the plague. The one and

only time I came across such an endeavor was back in the early nineties. I received a call from an art director asking me to do this cover with a humorous feel to it. It was to portray an Albert Einstein like character, floating in space outside a space capsule, and give a humorous feel to it. Not feeling like I could do the job I made up some excuse that I was too busy. The art director asked me if I knew anyone who was able to do this kind of cover, and I immediately suggested David. I knew he would not only enjoy doing the cover but was far better suited than I was. He was hired for the job and not surprisingly he did a perfect cover titled 'Dr Dimension'.

Many people never understand the commitment and conviction an artist undertakes illustrating covers. The readers are unaware of what it takes to create a great cover that you look back on and remember with fondness.

David's art is a testament of a great cover artist. He has boldly given much to the world of science fiction and fantasy that we have shared and still treasure. His quirky style and approach distinguishes his look and sets him apart from other artists.

Over the years, visiting his home and studio, going out to dinner and hanging out at conventions, I've become increasingly aware of how fortunate I am to have been part of his life, both as a friend and a fellow artist. I'm also aware of how much David has accomplished as an artist and as a person.

Always striding ever forward to further his artistic endeavors and look for new frontiers, we should be thankful we have him.

*-Stephen Youll*



The rousing conclusion to the  
**Winds of the Forelands**  
series from LibertyCon Special Guest

# David B. Coe

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## David B. Coe LibertyCon 21 Special Guest



So, Hi. I'm David B. Coe. Some of you have heard of me. Some of you have lost to me at Hearts. The rest of you might not know me from Adam. That's okay. I'm a pretty approachable guy, particularly when offered a beer, so if you see me around this weekend, come on over and say hello.

The folks here at LibertyCon thought that I should have some sort of a bio in the program, since I'm a Special Guest and all.

But Timmy tends to like his Medieval fantasy with space ships in it, and a few of the other guys thought that since I tend to show up at LibertyCon whenever I don't have someplace better to be (like Colorado, or Alaska, or Australia....) everyone knows me and the bio wasn't necessary. That's okay, too. Epic fantasy, which is my specialty, doesn't appeal to everyone. And as long as the beer is flowing I'll keep on showing up. But I still needed a bio.

I thought it might be fun to ask my daughters to write the bio. They're thirteen and nine, and they're both very creative and very smart (they take after their mother). I thought they'd come up with something entertaining. Turns out they had other things to keep them busy: Facebook, computer games, Netflix movies, Disney Channel, painting their nails, doing up their hair, kicking the boys' butts up and down a soccer field, winning swim meets -- that sort of thing. And that's okay, too.

I thought about asking my wife to write it, but she's a pretty high powered scientist and she has way more important things to do with her time than come up with a list of my meager literary accomplishments. And that had better be okay, because I'm not going to be the one who tells her it's not.

Hence, you're stuck with me.



Briefly, then: I'm the author of nine published fantasy novels, all of them put out by Tor Books. The first three -- CHILDREN OF AMARID (1997), THE OUTLANDERS (1998), and EAGLE-SAGE (2000) -- comprised my LonTobyn Chronicle, which won the Crawford Fantasy Award as the best first work by a new author. It's not a big award -- more Rookie of the Year than Most Valuable Player -- but it was nice nevertheless. Next I published the five books of my Winds of the Forelands series: RULES OF ASCENSION (2002), SEEDS OF BETRAYAL (2003), BONDS OF VENGEANCE (2005), SHAPERS OF DARKNESS (2005), and WEAVERS OF WAR (2007). And finally, in December 2007, I published the first novel of my Blood of the Southlands trilogy, THE SORCERERS' PLAGUE. The second book in the series, THE HORSEMEN'S GAMBIT, will be out in January 2009. I'm currently writing book three.

I've also published a few short stories, including "Cassie's Story", which can be found in the current issue of Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show, and "The Lost Children", which will be out later this year in Black Gate. My novels have been translated into French, German, Dutch, Spanish, Russian, and a couple of other languages, none of which I can read, so I don't know if the translators got any of it right. When I'm not writing, I'm being a Dad or a husband, and when I'm not doing any of that, I'll be off birdwatching or playing with my camera.


It's a pretty good life, and I can't imagine doing anything else. Which is saying something, because I have a pretty good imagination.

*Editor's Note: In our defense, who else are you going to write about a guy who puts "My needs are pretty simple and should be fairly easy for the con to accommodate (so long as you have access to a trampoline, six Albanian fire eaters, a dozen Sports Illustrated swimsuit models, two cases of Wild Turkey, and a hot air balloon.)" in his email of 'Guest Requirements'.*

*Of course we later found out he was just joking... which we knew all along... really...*

*Err... on a totally unrelated note, everyone should stay out of Room 119.*

*For no reason, you understand.*



*Guests of Honor:* **Annie & Tim Walker**

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*Honored Listener:* **Jan Dimasi**

*Interfilk Guest:* **Sybil Machat**

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## Eric Flint

### Master of Ceremony



Eric Flint (born California, USA, 1947) is an American science fiction and fantasy author and editor. Some of his main works are alternate history science fiction, but he also writes humorous fantasy adventures.

Eric Flint has a Master's Degree in history specializing in West African history. He left his doctoral program over political

issues and supported himself from that time until age 50 as a laborer, machinist and labor organizer. A long-time leftist political activist, Flint worked as a member of the Socialist Workers Party. After winning the 1993 Writers of the Future contest, he published his first novel in 1997 and moved to full time writing in 1999. Additionally, he has been editing the works of several classic SF authors, and repackaging their short stories into collections and fix-up novels. Although some of his edits have engendered some controversy, the resulting story collections have been commercially successful and have succeeded in returning out-of-print authors to print.

As of 2004 he lives with his wife Lucille (also an ex-labor organizer) in East Chicago, Indiana.

Eric Flint is noted as the editor of the Baen Free Library which was an experiment in electronic publishing (e-books in multiple unencrypted formats) where Flint and Jim Baen convinced authors to post entirely unprotected free copies of various works for download over the internet. Begun as an experiment to see if this increased the sales of their paper or (for-pay) electronic editions, Baen First Librarian, Flint published semi-periodically during its first two years a series of essays - part blog and part letters to the editor tracking the experiment and championing the practice.

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Designed By Garrett W. Vance

# ***Keep an eye out for these guys too!***

**Here are some of the other pros scheduled to attend LibertyCon 21 as of printing, though this list is subject to change without notice.**

---

## ***C. J. Cantrell***

Cynthia Cantrell lives in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee. She has a special affinity for animals and includes them in all of her novels. Cynthia has lived in many places, growing up in a military family. She graduated high school on Guam, USA in the late 70's, spent many years near the beaches of South Carolina, and will be visiting many of these childhood stomping grounds in future books.

## ***Stephen Euin Cobb***

Stephen Euin Cobb is an author, futurist and host of the award-winning podcast "The Future And You" (which recently teamed with "Jim Baen's Universe," the SF&F online magazine from Baen Books, where he now writes a regular column). He is also an essayist, artist, game designer and transhumanist. *Bones Burnt Black* (2004) is Stephen's most widely read novel, and is being serialized as an audio book within each episode of his podcast. His essays (in print and in his show) generally deal with the future or with science.

## ***Julie Cochrane***

Julie Cochrane was born in Ohio and grew up in New York and South Carolina, with a lot of time in Alabama along the way. She wrote her first stories at five years old, and made her first attempts at novels in junior high and high school when she had more appetite for science fiction and fantasy than money for books. Initially studying Chemistry

at Georgia Tech, she got her bachelors in Psychology and promptly decided that Computer Science really would have been a better way to earn a living. She spent a number of years as an Oracle Database Programmer and Usenet Addict. After leaving the cubicle jungle to homeschool her daughter, she discovered more time to write fiction and the wonderful world of Baen's Bar. She lives in the Atlanta Metro area with her husband, their daughter, one very enthusiastic German Shepherd, and the gerbil custodian of the secrets of the universe.

## ***Mark Fults***

Mark Fults is a native Chattanooga known for years as an artist, but who has recently added 'Psychic' and 'Author' to his list of credentials with the publishing of his book 'Chattanooga Chills'.

## ***Sara M. Harvey***

Sara M. Harvey hails from Nashville, TN these days, but she's lived in California, New York, and many places in between. Her debut novel, *A Year and a Day*, is considered by many to be her "love letter to New York City." She also has short fiction published with Circle Dark Publishing and has a horror novella, *The Convent of the Pure*, due out in spring 2009 with Apex Books. Sara has a master's degree in costume history and teaches fashion design at the International Academy of Design and Technology. She shares her life with her fiancé and fellow author, Matt, and their two dramatic dogs, Guinevere and Eowyn.

## ***Dan Hollifield***

"My name's Dan, and I'm an amateur SF writer, e-zine editor, and e-zine publisher. I run *Aphelion Webzine*, one of the planet's oldest free e-zines & writer's workshops. When I'm not writing or editing or reviewing, I find myself forced into a life of involuntary servitude in a local factory in order to pay the bills."



## Les Johnson

Les Johnson is a NASA physicist, manager, author, husband and father. By day, he serves as the Deputy Manager for the Advanced Concepts Office at the NASA George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. In his spare time he writes popular science books and articles, reads science fiction, and fulfills the role of husband and father to his two children.

## Greg Matloff

Dr. Greg Matloff, FBIS, is a leading expert in possibilities for interstellar propulsion and is a tenured astronomy professor with the physics department of New York City College of Technology, CUNY, a consultant with NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, a Hayden Associate of the American Museum of Natural History and a Corresponding Member of the International Academy of Astronautics. He has authored and co-authored quite a number of astronomy and interstellar travel. His papers on interstellar travel, the search for extraterrestrial artifacts, and methods of protecting Earth from asteroid impacts have been published in JBIS, Acta Astronautica, Spaceflight, Journal of Astronautical Sciences, and Mercury. His popular articles have appeared in many publications, including Analog. In 1998, he won a \$5000 prize in the international essay contest on ETI sponsored by the National Institute for Discovery Science.

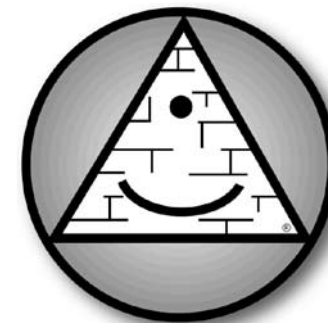
## Danielle Ackley-McPhail

Danielle Ackley-McPhail has worked both sides of the publishing industry for over a decade. She has used her talent and her passion for writing to expand her knowledge of the rich mythology of her Celtic heritage and to make her mark in the world of fantasy. Danielle lives in New Jersey with husband and fellow writer, Mike McPhail, mother-in-law Teresa, and three extremely spoiled cats.

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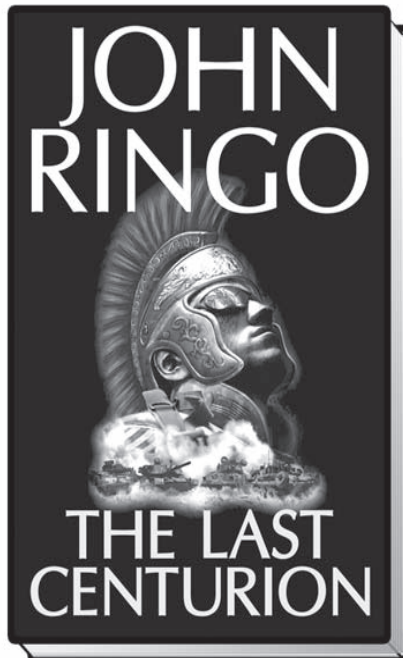
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## Mike McPhail

Born into a military / engineering family, Mike McPhail's lifelong dream was to join NASA and become a mission specialist; to that end, he attended the Academy of Aeronautics in New York, as well as enlisting in the Air National Guard. While working towards his goal, a sudden illness brought a halt to his dreams. After recovering, he came to grips with his new reality; so he chose to put his hard-earned technical skills and imagination to use as an artist, writer and game designer.

## Kurt Miller

Kurt Miller currently resides in York, Pennsylvania with his beloved wife Elena and his two dogs Willy and Cyan. He graduated from Maryland Institute College of Art with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Visual Communication and with an Award of Merit for Outstanding Achievement in Illustration. He has been in the visual communication field since 1990, going back to the days before the 3D generation; 8 of those years Kurt spent illustrating in the gaming entertainment industry.

## John Ringo

John Ringo is a New York Times bestselling author of science fiction and thriller novels with over one million novels in print. John Ringo had visited 23 countries and attended 14 schools by the time he graduated high school. This left him with a wonderful appreciation of the oneness of humanity and a permanent aversion to foreign food. The author chose to study marine biology and really liked it. Unfortunately the pay is for beans, so he turned to database management where the pay was much better. His highest hopes were to someday upgrade to SQL Server at which point, he thought, his life would be complete. But then Fate took a hand: John became a professional science fiction writer and since his publisher assured him that all science fiction authors became immensely successful, he was given the standard "rich and famous" contract. Somewhat confused by the fine print, he nonetheless signed in blood.

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## Travis Taylor

Travis Shane Taylor is a born and bred southerner and resides just outside Huntsville, Alabama. He has a Doctorate in Optical Science and Engineering, a Master's degree in Physics, a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering, all from the University of Alabama in Huntsville; a Master's degree in Astronomy from the Univ. of Western Sydney, and a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Auburn University. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Alabama.

Dr. Taylor has worked on various programs for the Department of Defense and NASA for the past sixteen years. He is currently working on several advanced propulsion concepts, very large space telescopes, space based beamed energy systems, future combat technologies and systems, and next generation space launch concepts. He is also involved with multiple MASINT, SIGINT, IMINT, and HUMINT concept studies.

Oh yeah, and he also writes Science Fiction.

## Toni Weisskopf

Toni Weisskopf is a science fiction editor and the publisher of Baen Books. Ms. Weisskopf is an alumna of Oberlin College, from which she graduated in 1987. She was immediately employed by Baen Books, where she served as executive editor up until the death of founder Jim Baen in 2006, at which point she took over as publisher. She has edited a number of their anthologies under the name T.K.F. Weisskopf, and she won the Phoenix Award in 1994 for excellence in Science Fiction.





## Atlanta Radio Theatre Company

ARTC performs live audio drama at a wide variety of events, often with a very specific focus on Science Fiction, Horror or Fantasy. They have been performing roughly 24 years, and have performed at such notable venues as DragonCon, Mythic Journeys, Stone Mountain, and the World Fantasy Convention.

Some of their more noteworthy adaptations include several works by masters such as H. P. Lovecraft, H. G. Wells, Robert A. Heinlein, James P. Hogan, and Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman.

Over the years, various members of ARTC have participated in or taught classes for various workshops, including the MidWest Radio Theatre Workshop and its successor organization National Audio Theater Festivals, The Himan Brown Workshop at the University of Georgia, and in Macon and Cartersville, Georgia. Their writers continue to teach radio drama writing at science fiction conventions around the country.

Here at LibertyCon we are excited that ARTC will not be doing one presentation, but instead will be performing four of them. These include:

**Katherine Kurtz's 'The Gargoyles Shadow'**

**Rory Rammer episode, 'The Atomic Graveyard'**

**Desmond Warzel's 'Wiki History'**

**Thomas Berry's 'Haunted Hunters'**

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203	Glennis LeBlanc	Collectable Books
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205	Frank Dietz	Used Paperbacks
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*The LibertyCon Board of Directors would like to thank the*

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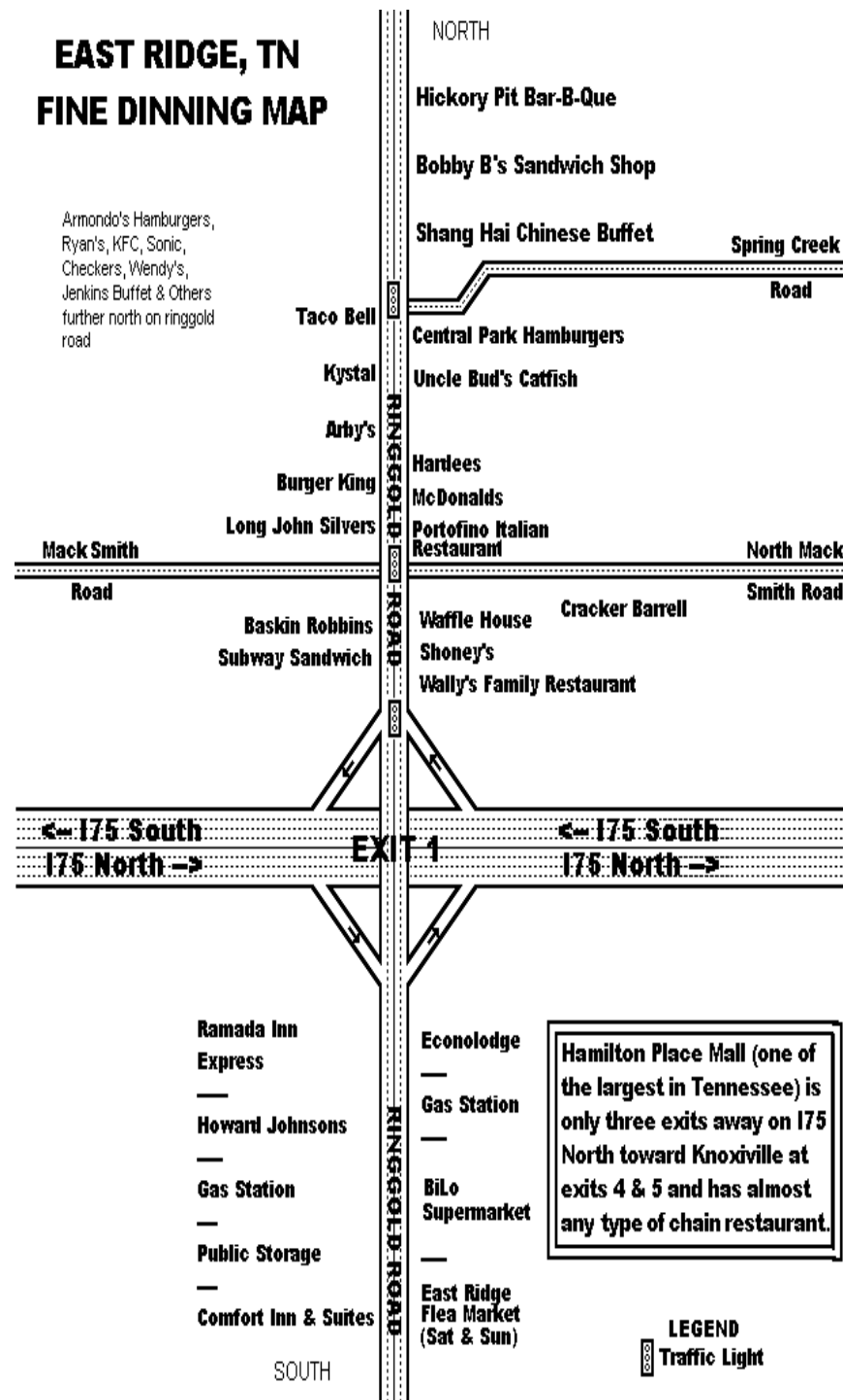
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## EAST RIDGE, TN FINE DINNING MAP

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



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