

## Balticon 47 Program Participants

JoAnn W. Abbott	A. L. Davroe	Heidi Hooper
Danielle Ackley-McPhail	Susan de Guardiola	Starla Huchton
Lisa Adler-Golden	Donna Dearborn	Kara Hurvitz
D. H. Aire (Barry Nove)	James K. Decker	Michele Hymowitz
Leigh Alexander	Ming Diaz	Eric Hymowitz
Tristan Alexander	Tim Dodge	Christopher Impink
Day Al-Mohamed	Tom Doyle	Noam Izenberg
Scott H. Andrews	Valerie Durham	Mark Jeffrey
Ami Angelwings	James Durham	Leslie Johnston
Catherine A. Asaro	Collin Earl	Paula S. Jordan
John Ashmead	Gaia Eirich	Jason Kalirai
Lisa Ashton	Chris Evans	Amy L. Kaplan
Thomas G. Atkinson	Eric "Dr. Gandalf" Fleischer	Bruce Kaplan
Jason Banks	Halla Fleischer	Debra Kaplan
Brick Barrientos	Judi Fleming	William H. Kennedy
Martin Berman-Gorvine	Doc Frankenfield	Kira
Deja Biernesser	D. Douglas Fratz	James R. Knapp
Steve Biernesser	Nancy C. Frey	Jonah Knight
Joshua Bilmes	Clint Gaige	Beatrice Kondo
Danny Birt	Allison Gamblin	Yoji Kondo (Eric Kotani)
Roxanne Bland	Charles E. Gannon	Brian Koscienski
Art Blumberg	Lia Garrott	A B Kovacs
Sue Bowen	Dr. Pamela L. Gay	Laura E. Kovalcin
Walter H. Boyes, Jr.	Marty Gear	Theodore Krulik
William T. (Tom) Bridgman	Veronica (V.) Giguere	Alessandro La Porta
Alessia Brio	Phil Giunta	Mur Lafferty
J. Sherlock III Brown	Alicia Goranson	Jagi Lamplighter
KT Bryski	James L. Gossard	Grig "Punkie" Larson
Stephanie Burke	Stephen Granade	Marcus Lawrence
Laura Burns	Matthew Granoff	Dina Leacock
Mildred G. Cady	Bob Greenberger	R. Allen Leider
Jack Campbell	Irina Greenman	Neal Levin
Renee Chambliss	Damien Walters Grintalis	Emily Lewis
Christine Chase	Sonya "Patches" Gross	Carey Lisse
Robert R. Chase	Gay Haldeman	ScienceTim Livengood
Bryan Chevalier	Joe Haldeman	Andy Love
Ariel Cinii	Elektra Hammond	Steve Lubs
Carl Cipra	Eric V. Hardenbrook	Perrienne Lurie
Brenda Clough	P.C. Haring	Kristina Lynch
John Cmar	Lauren Harris	Mark MacDicken
Myke Cole	Katie Hartlove	Phoebe Macrae
Doc Coleman	John G. Hemry	Justin R. Macumber
Paul Elard Cooley	Inge Heyer	Helen "Cynical Woman" Madden
Iver Cooper	Merav Hoffman	Zophiel Malfoy
Vonnie Winslow Crist	W. Randy Hoffman	Betsy Marks Delaney
Charlene Taylor D'Alessio	Jeannette Holloman	Gail Z. Martin
Mike D'Ambrosio	Thomas Holtz	Bill Mayhew
Rebecca Davis	Butch Honeck	T. C. McCarthy

## Balticon 47 Program Participants

Joe McLean  
 Mike McPhail  
 Miserau Miserau  
 Bernie Mojzes  
 Shelby Morgen  
 Nate Nelson  
 Matt Neufeld  
 Christine Norris  
 Nutty Nuchtchas  
 Hugh J. O'Donnell  
 Nnedi Okorafor  
 Lance Oszko  
 Kat Otis  
 Ada Palmer  
 Marianne Pease  
 TJ Perkins  
 Marvin Pinkert  
 Sarah Pinsker  
 K T Pinto  
 Chris Pisano  
 Jennifer R. Povey  
 Benjamin Ward Prellwitz  
 Bethlyne Prellwitz  
 Pete Prellwitz  
 Samuel Prellwitz  
 Larry Reclusado  
 Ray Ridenour  
 Betsy Riley  
 Ron Robinson  
 Dave Robison  
 James Daniel Ross  
 Ben Rovik  
 Don Sakers  
 Carol Salemi  
 Kat Sarfati  
 Lee Sarfati  
 Sassafress  
 Erica Satifka  
 Patrick Scaffido  
 Lauren Schiller  
 Karen L. Schnaubelt  
 P.J. Schnyde  
 Darrell C. Schweitzer  
 Science Fiction and Fantasy  
 Writers of America (SFWA)  
 Melissa Scott  
 Eileen Shaivitz  
 H. Paul Shuch (Dr. SETI®)

Alex Shvartsman  
 Scott Sigler  
 Hildy Silverman  
 Kevin Simpson  
 Jennifer Zyren Smith  
 Jeri Smith-Ready  
 Chris Snelgrove  
 Maria V. Snyder  
 Tili Sokolov  
 Josh Soskin  
 Janine Spendlove  
 Jon Sprunk  
 Allen Steele  
 Rick Sternbach  
 B. K. Stevens  
 Matthew Stewart-Fulton  
 Raven Stormbringer  
 Jim Stratton  
 Ian Randal Strock  
 Kate Szkotnicki  
 Ceceilia Tan  
 Robert Terry  
 Patrick Thomas  
 Persis L. Thorndike  
 Talis Thorndike Love  
 Ingeborg i Trondheim

Mark L. Van Name  
 Robin M. Vaughan  
 Michael A. Ventrella  
 Jean Marie Ward  
 Joy Ward  
 Brent Warner  
 Robert E. Waters  
 Alexa Weingarden  
 Diane M. Weinstein  
 Ruth Wejksnora-Garrott  
 Christopher Weuve  
 Robbie Whiplash  
 Sandry Wilkie  
 Ethan Wilson  
 Steven H. Wilson  
 A. C. Wise  
 Leona Wisoker  
 Trisha J. Wooldridge  
 J. Andrew World  
 Phoebe Wray  
 John C. Wright  
 Robyn Wyrick  
 Jeff Young  
 Cindy Young-Turner  
 Marvin Zekowitz



## Baltcon 47 Program Participant Bios

### JoAnn Abbott

“You look great—I can fix that” is the latest motto of JoAnn Abbott, who has had more fun than anyone should creating zombies and horror SFX for local films and TV shows the past three years. She competes in the master class at Masquerades in both Sci-Fi and historical divisions, and is known for her unusual outfits, such as the Root Canal Fairy and Grandma GaGa.

### Danielle Ackley-McPhail



Award-winning author Danielle Ackley-McPhail has worked both sides of the publishing industry for more than 17 years. Currently she is a project editor and promotions manager for Dark Quest Books.

Her published works include four urban fantasy novels: *Yesterday's Dreams*, *Tomorrow's Memories*, *Today's Promise*, *The Halfling's Court: A Bad-Ass Faerie Tale* and its (forthcoming) sequel, *The Redcaps' Queen*. She is also the author of the non-fiction writers' guide *The Literary Handyman* and is the senior editor of the *Bad-Ass Faeries* anthology series *Dragon's Lure* and *In An Iron Cage*. Her work is included in numerous other anthologies and collections.

She is a member of the New Jersey Authors' Network and Broad Universe, a writers' organization focusing on promoting the works of women authors in the speculative genres.

Danielle lives in New Jersey with husband and fellow writer, Mike McPhail, mother-in-law Teresa, and three extremely spoiled cats. She can be found on LiveJournal (damcphail, badassfaeries, darkquestbooks, lit\_handyman), Facebook (Danielle Ackley-McPhail), and Twitter (DAckley-McPhail). To learn more about her work, visit [www.sidhenadaire.com](http://www.sidhenadaire.com), [www.literaryhandyman.com](http://www.literaryhandyman.com), or [www.badassfaeries.com](http://www.badassfaeries.com).

### D.H. Aire

D.H. Aire has walked the ramparts of the Old City of Jerusalem and through an escape tunnel out of a Crusader fortress that Richard the Lionheart once called home. He's toured archeological sites that were hundreds, if not thousands, of years old... experiences that have found expression in his debut novel *Highmage's Plight*. Aire's short stories appeared this year in the ezine *Atomic Avarice* and the anthologies *Reallies*, *Irony of Survival* and *Flights of Fantasy, Vol. 1*. The author is originally from St. Louis, MO, and currently resides in the Washington, DC metro area.

### Leigh Alexander



Leigh Alexander has been dancing since the age of three. She has explored many styles of dance including modern, tap, jazz, hip hop, country line, ballroom, African, & Native American, but her main focus has always been ballet. As a youth, she studied under Towson's Children's Dance Division with Patty Enoch Bond, where she was able to gain a strong foundation in R.A.D. (Royal Academy of Dance). In high school, Leigh was accepted into the dance program at Carver Center for the Arts. After graduation, Leigh went on to receive her Associate of the Arts degree from CCBC (Community College of Baltimore County) in Dance. During her attendance, Leigh was awarded “Outstanding Dancer of the Year” for two consecutive years. In addition, she also received the only scholarships offered in the dance department, both years in attendance. She graduated from Goucher College in 2008, where she earned her BA in Dance Therapy.

Leigh began her teaching career at age 11 as an assistant at Kingsville Recreation Center. After three years she was awarded her own classes. Leigh went on to teach creative movement, ballet, tap, modern, & lyrical to varying age groups around Maryland. She is happy to be a member of the teaching staff at MSBMD (Maryland School of Ballet and Modern Dance).

Leigh's passion in the field of dance has led her in many directions, including costume design. In 2006 she started designing and crafting dance costumes for herself and received several awards for outstanding craftsmanship at local and national conventions. In 2008 she began designing and constructing costumes for several dance companies including Deep Vision Dance Company and Full Circle Dance Company. She has been honored to create and design the costumes for multiple productions for Baltimore Ballet and MSBMD.

### Ami Angelwings

Ami Angelwings is an avid comics enthusiast, and has been blogging about comics, superheroes and sexism in comic books since 2005. She has written more than 300 comic reviews and today runs *Escher Girls*, a popular blog that showcases and discusses the ways women are sexualized, portrayed, distorted and clothed in illustrated popular media. When she's not in her high-tech power suit, she is a social worker and queer rights advocate living in the Toronto metropolitan area.

### John Ashmead



John Ashmead has a BA in physics from Harvard, summa cum laude, and a master's in physics from Princeton. He has worked as an assistant editor at *Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine*, and has been a regular speaker at Philcon and Balticon for many years. He works as a computer consultant, making sure you get your bills and commercials on time

(no thanks necessary: the work is its own reward). He is currently working on a website, [www.mapsndata.com](http://www.mapsndata.com), to make combining maps and data (creating mashups) easy and inexpensive. He is also working on a dissertation, "Time & quantum electrodynamics" about the role of time in quantum mechanics; see [www.timeandquantummechanics.com](http://www.timeandquantummechanics.com). His life's ambition: to create a really practical time machine.

#### Lisa Ashton



Lisa Ashton is a costumer who lives in Maryland. Recent projects include being part of the Best in Show Balticon group last year: "Basic Black"- the "Disney Divas," "Victorian Tiki Calypso," Jo from "Little Women," "rescue" quilts from vintage quilt blocks that were never made, and historical finds exhibited as part of "Miss Lizzy's Traveling Historical Fashion Show." She is also a flea-market goddess, and now that "tis the season," don't get in her way!

#### Jason Banks



Jason spent six years as a soldier with the 1st of the 501st Airborne's Forward Support Company Echo (Easy Company). While in the army he started toward becoming a published author. Since the army he's started a blog, and a podcast talking about all things nerdy.

#### Martin Berman-Gorvine



Martin Berman-Gorvine is the author of three science fiction novels: *Seven Against Mars* (Wildside Press, 2013); *36* (Livingston Press, 2012); and, as Martin Gidron, *The Severed Wing* (Livingston Press, 2002), which received the 2002 Sidewise Award for Alternate History (Long Form) at the

International Science Fiction Convention in Toronto in 2003. His short story "Palestina," set in an alternate history in which Israel lost its war of independence, was published in *Interzone* magazine's May/June 2006 issue, and was a finalist for the Sidewise Award (Short Form), and his short story "The Tallis" appeared in *Jewish Currents* magazine, May 2002. He is a professional journalist, currently serving as a reporter for the Bureau of National Affairs newsletter *Human Resources Report*. His website is [www.martinbermangorvine.com](http://www.martinbermangorvine.com), his Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/martingorvine](http://www.facebook.com/martingorvine), and his musings on politics and life can be found at [rebmordechaiiofchelm.blogspot.com](http://rebmordechaiiofchelm.blogspot.com). He lives in the suburbs of Washington, DC with his wife, two children, two orange tabby cats, two shy kittens, and a sort of Muppet dog.

#### Joshua Bilmes

Joshua Bilmes is President of JABberwocky Literary Agency, the leading agency for SF/fantasy. His clients include *New York Times* bestselling authors Charlaine Harris, Brandon Sanderson,

Peter V. Brett, John Henry (aka Jack Campbell), Simon R. Green, and Elizabeth Moon (also a Compton Crook Award winner). Tanya Huff, Mark Hodder, Myke Cole (the 2013 Compton Crook Award winner) and Joshua Palmatier (aka Benjamin Tate) are other major clients. When he's avoiding work, he might be watching a movie or some tennis.

#### Danny Birt

Danny has been a contributing author and editor to several sci-fi, fantasy, and professional magazines, anthologies, and journals. His first children's/YA novel *Between a Roc and a Hard Place* won The National Parenting Center's 2010 Seal of Approval, *Creative Child Magazine's* 2010 Seal of Excellence, and was named one of Dr. Toy's Best Picks of 2010. Recently, Dark Quest Books began publishing his fantasy series *The Laurian Pentology*.

In addition to literary publication, Danny composes classical and filk music, such as his nonstop hour-long piano solo "Piano Petrissage," and the ever-peculiar album "Warped Children's Songs." Danny's comedy music has been featured on national radio and internet programs such as *The Dr. Demento Show* and *The Funny Music Project*.

For more information on Danny, visit his website: [www.DannyBirt.com](http://www.DannyBirt.com).

#### Elizabeth Black

Elizabeth Black and E. A. Black are the pen names of Trish Wilson, who writes erotica, erotic romance, horror, and dark fiction. Her fiction has been published by Cirlet Press, Xcite Books (UK), Ravenous Romance, Black Curtain Press, Smart Rhino Press, and Stupefying Stories. Her erotic works include "Don't Call Me Baby" and her erotic versions of fairy tales: "Trouble In Thigh High Boots" (Puss In Boots) and "Climbing Her Tower" (Rapunzel). Her short fiction runs the range from science fiction to erotica to horror and fantasy. She has also worked as a gaffer (lighting), scenic artist, and prosthetic makeup artist for concerts, film, stage, and television including *Die Hard With A Vengeance*, *12 Monkeys*, and *Homicide: Life on the Street*. Currently living in Massachusetts by the ocean, she is surrounded by her husband, son, and four cats.

#### Walt Boyes

By day, Walt Boyes is the not-so-mild-mannered chief editor of the award-winning technology magazine *Control*, and a partner in a high-technology consulting firm, Spitzer and Boyes, LLC. Ah, but by night, he transforms into the Bananaslug of Baen's Bar, and begins to write. Walt has written 10 non-fiction books, articles and columns too numerous to count (Bananaslugs have very few fingers anyway) and has published several fiction pieces, including four short stories in the 1632 Universe and some children's stories. Walt is currently working on two non-fiction books, and a novel (of course—doesn't every writer have one stashed somewhere?), and with Joy Ward, is working on *The World of 1632*. Walt was associate editor and marketing director for *Jim Baen's Universe* magazine,

is a member of the editorial board of the *Grantville Gazette*, and is an active member of SFWA (Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Association).

### Alessia Brio



Alessia Brio is the wicked genius behind the *Coming Together* charity erotica series. She has been blessed with a filthy mind which she uses to write, edit, and publish naughty books. While a large portion of her time and energy is devoted to altruistic endeavors, she is mortal and requires food, clothing, and shelter. Hence, she also publishes via her indie label, Purple Prosaic.

### J. Sherlock Brown, III

J. Sherlock Brown, III is a U.S. citizen, water process research designer, rocket propulsion physicist, fueling systems designer, computer chip designer, micromachine designer, large-scale food manufacturing engineer, machinery development engineer, farmer and professional animal trainer.

In 2006 he created [joebrownsience.net](http://joebrownsience.net) and in 2012 he completed the site's final update.

### K.T. Bryski

K.T. Bryski is a Toronto-born author, podcaster, and playwright. Early school reports encouraged her "...to try activities beyond her preferred pastime of quiet reading." Given that she was scribbling down and acting out stories, this was perhaps not entirely fair. She made her podcasting and publishing debut with her novel *Hapax* (Dragon Moon Press, 2012), an apocalyptic fantasy available in print, e-book, and podcast forms. Select playwriting credits include "Dracula" (Northern Secondary School Drama, 2009), various bits of theater for Black Creek Pioneer Village (2011), and "East o' the Sun and West o' the Moon" (Canadian Children's Opera Company, 2014). By the time you read this, she will (hopefully) have achieved her Hon. B.A. in History from the University of Toronto. She still lives in Toronto, where she continues to read, write, and act out stories. She is currently at work on her next novel.

### Stephanie "Flash" Burke



#### Have You Been Flashed?

Stephanie is a multi-published multi-award-winning wife and mother of two whose unparalleled imagination causes her no end of trouble.

From sex-shifting shape-shifting dragons to undersea worlds, up to sexually confused elemental fey and homo-erotic mysteries, all the way to pastel-challenged urban sprites, Stephanie has done it all, and hopes to do more.

Stephanie is an orator on her favorite subject of writing and world-building, a sometimes teacher when you feed her enough coffee and donuts, an anime nut, a costumer, and a frequent guest of various sci-fi and writing cons, where she can be found leading panel discussions or researching more and varied legends and theories to improve her writing skills.

Stephanie is known for her love of the outrageous, strong female characters, believable worlds, male characters filled with depth, and interracial that make the reader sit up and take notice.

Currently Stephanie writes for Changeling Press, Ellora's Cave, Loose Id press, Red Rose, Renaissance E Books, Tease Publishing, Total E Bound, and Beautiful Trouble Publishing, and hopes to add more to her résumé. You can reach Stephanie at [Theflashcat.net](http://Theflashcat.net).

### Laura A. Burns



Laura A. Burns has been a space enthusiast her entire life. She has worked as an engineer with various NASA contractors for almost 15 years. She worked on the James Webb Space Telescope and Landsat 8. She is currently working on the Joint Polar Satellite System.

During the summer of 2007, she spent nine weeks in Beijing, China, at the International Space University ([www.isunet.edu](http://www.isunet.edu)) and has returned as a guest lecturer. She enjoys speaking to the public on space-related topics at conventions and science festivals. She tweets about space and science at [www.twitter.com/moonrangerlaura](http://www.twitter.com/moonrangerlaura). In addition to her interest in space, she is a long-time science fiction and fantasy fan, podcast listener, dancer, board game player, knitter, and an avid book collector. She has had two photo exhibitions at Constellation Books in Reisterstown, MD. Laura is the head of the Parsec Awards Steering Committee and has lent her voice to several podcasts.

### Mildred Cady



Mildred is a gamer, geek, actor, costumer, crafter, nerd, fan, and a writer. She is a lapsed SCAdian (Society for Creative Anachronism) and current steampunk aficionado. She's always been interested in how people spent their time in long-ago cultures, leading to the development of the Victorian Pastimes panels. She's also an über fan of podcast audio fiction, in particular being the librarian of *The Metamor City Podcast*.

### Jack Campbell

Jack Campbell (John G. Henry ) is the author of the *New York Times* best-selling *Lost Fleet* series (*Dauntless*, *Fearless*, *Courageous*, *Valiant*, *Relentless* and *Victorious*). His most recent book is *Guardian*, the latest in the *Lost Fleet—Beyond the Frontier* series (which also includes *Dreadnaught* and *Invincible*). His next book will be *Perilous Shield*, the sequel to *Tarnished Knight* in the *Lost Stars* series. He is also the author

of the *Stark's War* and *Sinclair/JAG in space'* series. His short fiction has appeared in places as varied as the last *Chicks in Chainmail* anthology and *Analog* magazine (most recently "The War of the Worlds-Chapter Eighteen" in the January/February 2013 issue). His alternate American Civil War novella *The Last Full Measure* is being published by Subterranean. He also has stories in the anthologies *Breach the Hull, So it Begins, By Other Means* and *Armored*, as well as the essay "Liberating the Future" in *Teenagers From the Future* (about the Legion of Super Heroes). After retiring from the U.S. Navy and settling in Maryland, John began writing. John lives with his wife (the indomitable 'S') and three great kids. His children are all on the autistic spectrum.

### Christine Chase

Christine Chase (aka Zophiel (Z) Malfoy) has been a consummate fan-girl since she was five years old and fell in love with Mr. Spock (it was the pointy ears). This obsession was fanned to new heights when she discovered anime in high school—and in college the addictive nature of fan-fiction. She has enjoyed watching the anime scene in America explode over the past decade and a half, and has a habit of analyzing anime through various philosophical and theological lenses. Her personal studies of Japanese history and culture are fueling her faltering efforts at writing her own original work, in an attempt to follow in the footsteps of her author-father, Robert R. Chase.

### Robert R. Chase

Robert R. Chase is the author of three published novels including the Compton Crook-nominated *The Game of Fox and Lion* and more than two dozen shorter works, the most recent being "Pictures at an Exhibition" (*Analog*, November 2012). Although his interests range from anime to theological fantasy, he is a staunch proponent of science in science fiction.

### Bryan Chevalier

Bryan Chevalier is a member of Sassafrass, a folk-fantasy a capella group.

### Carl Cipra



Carl started reading F&SF in his pre-teen years and has been hooked ever since. He became involved with fandom back in the 1970s (by way of the Society for Creative Anachronism in Southern California) and is one of the founding members of Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians. He really enjoys moderating discussion panels at conventions and is looking forward to all the fascinating discussions at Balticon this year. Mundanely, Carl is the program manager for instructor-training in a much-maligned, three-letter Government agency.

### Brenda W. Clough



Brenda W. Clough is the author of many science fiction and fantasy novels. She has been a finalist for the Hugo and Nebula awards. Her electronic novels are available through Book View Cafe ([bookviewcafe.com](http://bookviewcafe.com)).

### John Cmar



John Cmar, MD, has been long enthralled with horrible infections that could spell doom for humankind, as well as sanity and skepticism in the practice of medicine. He is currently an Instructor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and the Assistant Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore. He is the lead physician in Sinai's Ryan White initiative, which provides medical care and social assistance to patients with HIV infection who are without medical insurance. In his role as Program Director for the Internal Medicine residency program at Sinai, he teaches an annual course series in evidence-based medicine, among many other duties. He also does infectious diseases outreach in Baltimore television and print media, and is the guest-in-residence on the monthly *Midday on Health* show with Dan Rodericks on 88.1 WYPR radio in Baltimore. John is a science fiction and fantasy fan, avid gamer, and podcast enthusiast. He currently blogs and podcasts on skeptical, medical, and geeky topics on The Secret Lair ([www.theseconclair.com](http://www.theseconclair.com)).

### Doc Coleman



Doc Coleman is a blogger, podcaster, voice actor, and writer. He began in 2010 with his tech review blog *The Nifty Tech Blog*. He soon started podcasting as a regular on *Galley Table*, producing his own podcast, *The Shrinking Man Project*, and as a guest co-host on *The Writer's Round Table*. Next, he took on voice acting, with credits from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Treasure Island*, *Absolution from Scrivener's Circle*, the YA novel *Ginny Dare*, and live performances of *Metamor City* at Balticon 45 and *Stargazers* at Balticon 46. He is part of the newly formed League of Extraordinary Vocalists.

His stories have appeared in the Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences' *Tales From the Archives*, the *Way of the Gun* anthology, and the Steampunk Special Edition of *Flagship* magazine. He is writing a YA novel, *The Bright Lands*, and publishing his first novel, *The Perils of Prague*. Find out about all of Doc's projects at Swimming Cat Studios ([SwimmingCatStudios.com](http://SwimmingCatStudios.com)).

When he isn't juggling projects, making a living, or mainlining podcasts, Doc is a gamer, an avid reader, a motorcyclist, a home brewer and beer lover, a fan of renaissance festivals, and frequently a smart-ass. He lives with his lovely wife and two Maine Coon cats in Germantown, MD.

**Paul E. Cooley**

Paul is a crazed lunatic, possibly homicidal, with a penchant for killing his fans and exploring the furthest reaches of mental illness and delusions for fun—even the ones he doesn't have. When he's not writing twisted tales of psychological torment, he writes enterprise software and applications for the internet and the iPhone.

Paul's Parsec Award-nominated *Fiends* collection and *Garaaga's Children* collection are available for free from [shadowpublications.com](http://shadowpublications.com) and in e-book format from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). Paul is also the creator of MyWrite ([mywriteapp.com](http://mywriteapp.com)), which enables authors to personalize and sign their e-books using tablets and smartphones. In addition, Paul is a co-host of the venerated *Dead Robots' Society* podcast for writers.

You can find the latest information, stories, essays, rants, and reviews on his site. He welcomes comments and interaction and especially enjoys speaking of himself in the third person.

**Iver Cooper**

Iver Cooper has been an active contributor to Eric Flint's "1632" shared universe, with 22 short stories and more than 40 articles published so far. Iver's 1632 Universe braided story anthology *1636: Seas of Fortune* is being published by Baen in January 2014.

Iver is an intellectual property law attorney with Browdy & Neimark, Washington, DC. He has received legal writing awards from the American Patent Law Association, the U.S. Trademark Association, and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and is the sole author of *Biotechnology and the Law*, now in its twenty-something edition. In his spare time, such as may exist, he teaches swing and folk dancing, and participates in local photo club competitions. Iver is married, with a son at George Washington University School of Public Policy, and a daughter working as an advertising agency copywriter.

**Vonnie Winslow Crist**

Vonnie Winslow Crist is author-illustrator of a YA fantasy novel, *The Enchanted Slean*; two collections of speculative fiction, *The Greener Forest* and *Owl Light*; two speculative e-books, *For the Good of the Settlement* and *Blame it on the Trees*; a children's book, *Leprechaun Cake & Other Tales*; and two volumes of myth-based poetry, *River of Stars* and *Essential Fables*. Her writing has earned two Honorable Mentions in L. Ron Hubbard's Writers of the Future Contest, a Maryland State Arts Council Award, and a Pushcart Nomination. Her award-winning art has been featured on the covers of *Bards and Sages Quarterly*, *Aoife's Kiss*, *Scifaikuest*, *Harford's Heart Magazine*, *Lower Than The Angels*, *Through A Glass Darkly*, inside *Faerie Magazine*, and will be exhibited this autumn at Goucher College. Her fiction can be found in many anthologies and magazines including: *Dragon's Lure*, *Zombies for a Cure*, *Ocean Stories*, *Dia de los Muertos*, *Sideshow 2*, *Tales of the Talisman*,

*Cemetery Moon*, and *Shelter of Daylight*. Vonnie has had a life-long interest in reading, writing, art, folktales, fairy tales, and myths; and she believes the world is still filled with mystery, miracles, and magic.

**Mike D'Ambrosio**

Michael resides in the Philadelphia area and has been participating in conventions all over the country for nine years now. With eight novels to his credit, Michael is involved in screenwriting and a new sci-fi story called "Princess Pain." When he isn't writing, Michael works as a nuclear controls technician in a nuclear generating station. Visit Mike's website at [www.fracturedtime.com](http://www.fracturedtime.com) for more details on his work and appearances.

**A.L. Davroe**

A.L. Davroe writes both YA and adult speculative fiction. She focuses on revisionist tales in paranormal, romance, steampunk, and fantasy. A number of A.L. Davroe's short stories have been published through small presses and she has completed several novels for publication. A.L. writes erotic literature under the name of Quinn Templeton.

**Susan de Guardiola**

Susan de Guardiola has been active in fandom for more than 30 years as a costumer, masquerade emcee, and all-around fan. She is a social dance historian who may often be found in musty library stacks researching dance from the 16th to the early 20th century, which she teaches at workshops and dance events across the United States and in Russia. In her spare time, she plays high-speed online Scrabble.

**Donna Dearborn**

Donna is a BSFS member, long-time secretary, and Games Club of Maryland (GCOM) host of the Alphabet Soup gaming site. A retired nurse practitioner, she has an interest in games to encourage a healthy brain as you age. Not to mention just for fun!

**Betsy Marks Delaney**

Betsy Marks Delaney is a DC metro-area resident, theatrical impresario, writer, costumer, director, web designer, Unitarian Universalist and long-time (mostly) armchair activist (not necessarily in that order, subject to change without notice). When not attending classes, publishing articles or catching up on the news, Betsy works part-time as the general manager of the Greenbelt Arts Center, where she has been known to design costumes, sets and sound, direct, photograph and otherwise live the starving theater artist life. She is a recipient of the first

Costume-Con Founder's Award, the International Costumers' Guild Lifetime Achievement Award, and competition awards in costume presentation and workmanship since her first Balticon competition in 1985. Betsy is a member of the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild and the Tuesday Night Costumers, and a friend of the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumers' Guild, among others. Follow her on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/aramintamd](http://www.facebook.com/aramintamd)) for the rest of the story.

### Ming Diaz



Ming is a costumer, storyteller of minor note, balloon shaper of lesser note, and an avid facepainter who has been sidetracked for the last 41 years with going to play every day as an electronics tech. His face shows the accumulated years of such suffering; he can't remove the perpetual grin. He wants to eventually grow up and be like Marty Gear.

### Tim Dodge

Tim Dodge is the author of the podcast novels *Acts of Desperation* and *Purgatory*. *Purgatory* was published in print and e-book formats in 2012. Tim is also the host of the bi-weekly podcast *The Geek Side of Life*, an exploration of geek culture one podcast at a time. He has appeared as a voice actor in the podcast productions of Abigail Hilton's *The Guild of the Cowry Catchers*, P.G. Holyfield's *Murder at Avedon Hill*, Chris Lester's *Metamor City Podcast*, and the Facebook Podcast Community's production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. A recent convert to tabletop role-playing gaming, he holds an unshakable belief that his dice hate him. He lives near Syracuse, NY, where he shovels snow, follows Syracuse University sports, and spoils his German shepherd.

### Tom Doyle



Tom Doyle has entered a three-book deal with Tor this past year for a contemporary fantasy series with military and espionage elements. He is a winner of the WSFA (Washington Science Fiction Association) Small Press Award and the Writers of the Future Award. Paper Golem Press has published a collection of his short fiction, *The Wizard of Macatawa and Other Stories*. His fiction has appeared in *Strange Horizons*, *Futurismic*, and *Paradox*, among other publications. His story "Pythian Games" will be appearing in *Daily Science Fiction* later this year.

Tom is a graduate of Clarion, and currently writes fantasy and science fiction in a spooky turret in Washington, DC. To read or listen to his stories, please go to his website, [www.tomdoylewriter.com](http://www.tomdoylewriter.com).

### James Durham

James Durham, writer/producer/composer, is the undead-loving creator of the award-winning FETIDUS (The Foundation for the Ethical Treatment of the Innocently Damned, Undead and Supernatural) and one of the time-twisted minds behind the new sci-fi indie film *95ers*. This strapping young lad produces music by day and writes stories by night. He works in film, new media and sound production while simultaneously singing, dancing, and doing amazing feats of acrobatics. That last part is false. Visit [www.jamesdurham.com](http://www.jamesdurham.com) for more information.

### Valerie Durham

Valerie Durham, MFA, is a Kennedy Center Teaching Artist, dancer, and choreographer specializing in the work of the mother of modern dance, Isadora Duncan. She brings organic movement to thematic explorations of nature, music, mythology and personal expression. Valerie is the executive director of the Isadora Duncan School for Creative Movement and Dance, and the artistic director of Persephone's Circle. Her work has been performed nationally and internationally.

### Judi Fleming



Judi Fleming is one of the strange folk who both writes and does artwork. She is a graduate of Seton Hill University Master of Fine Arts in writing popular fiction program and dabbles with sf/f/ya stories, non-fiction for various magazines, and writes training/instructional design work for the federal government. Judi has been an artist for as long as she can remember, and works in any media/style that suits her fancy, from acrylics, pastels, sculptures to mixed media and more. At the moment, she is using most of them on gourds.

### Doug Fratz



Doug Fratz is best known in the science fiction and fantasy field as a book reviewer who currently writes primarily for *SF Site* and *The New York Review of Science Fiction*. He has been reviewing books and writing about science fiction for more than 35 years, with work appearing in *Science Fiction Age*, *Science Fiction Eye*, *Fantasy Review*, *The Washington Post*, *Science Fiction Weekly/SciFi Wire/Blastr* (all on the SyFy Channel's web site) and elsewhere, including his own literary magazine, *Quantum Science Fiction & Fantasy Review* (formerly *Thrust*). He founded *Thrust* at the University of Maryland, and continued it as a semiprofessional magazine. As publisher and editor of *Thrust/Quantum* (1973-1993), he was nominated for five Hugo Awards. He has attended SF conventions since 1968, appearing on more than 100 panels and other program items. In real life, he is an environmental scientist, and Vice President of Scientific and Technical Affairs for the Consumer Specialty



Products Association in Washington, DC, a trade association representing the formulated consumer products industry, where for more than 30 years he has focused on environmental, health and safety regulations, with a specialty in air quality. He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from the University of Maryland, and his M.S. degree in Environmental Science from The George Washington University. He lives in Gaithersburg, Maryland, with his wife, and has two adult children.

### Clint Gaige

Clint Gaige has been writing and producing video for more than 20 years. As co-owner of Growth Media Services, he has produced corporate videos, training videos and commercials for businesses organizations and government agencies.

He is also a successful writer, with four novels and numerous short stories to his credit. His work has appeared in *Bullet Magazine*, and he was nominated for the Pushcart Prize.

His film work includes the short films *Dogmatic Siblings*, *Brothers* and *Perspective*, the feature length films *Making the Mob* and *Violent Karma* and the educational series *Classroom Moments*.

### Charles E. Gannon



Dr. Charles E. Gannon is a Distinguished Professor (St. Bonaventure University) and was a Fulbright Senior Specialist (2004-2009). His newest novel is *Fire With Fire* (Baen, the first book in his hard-SF interstellar epic *Tales of the Terran Republic*. Also on shelves: *1635: The Papal Stakes* (Baen, with Eric Flint) in the *Ring of Fire* series and *Extremis* (Baen, with S. White) in the *Starfire* series. His novellas have been in series/magazines such as: *Ring of Fire/1632*, *War World*, *Man-Kzin Wars*, *Analog*, and the 20th anniversary anthology of the Honor Harrington universe: *Beginnings* (Baen, 2014). Visit his worlds at [www.charlesegannon.com](http://www.charlesegannon.com).

Dr. Gannon is a member of SIGMA (the "SF think-tank") that advises intelligence and defense agencies (cf. [www.sigmaforum.org](http://www.sigmaforum.org)). He has been featured on Discovery, NPR, Polish National Television, and others. He has written/designed games (GDW's "Traveller," "2300 AD," more) and was a scriptwriter/producer in NYC (clients included: United Nations, World Health Organization).

Dr. Gannon's most recent non-fiction book, *Rumors of War and Infernal Machines*, (now in its 2nd ed.) won the 2006 ALA Choice Award for Outstanding Book. Holding degrees from Brown, Syracuse, and Fordham, Dr. Gannon has been a Fulbright Fellow in England, Scotland, and the Czech Republic, and received Fulbright and Embassy Travel grants to these countries as well as the Netherlands, Slovakia, England, and Italy.

### Lila Garrott

Lila Garrott is a long-time member of Sassafrass, and a staff reviewer at *Strange Horizons*. She has published criticism, poetry, and short fiction in a variety of venues, and has been nominated for the BSFA (British Science Fiction Association) and Rhysling awards. She once read a book every day for a year and wrote a review of each one. Her hair is blue.

### Pamela L. Gay



Dr. Pamela L. Gay is an astronomer, writer, and podcaster focused on using new media to engage people in science and technology. She is most well known for *Astronomy Cast*, a podcast she co-hosts with Fraser Cain (producer of *Universe Today*). Each week, Fraser and Pamela work to take their listeners on a facts-based journey through the cosmos that explores not only what we know about the universe, but how we know it. They are now entering their eighth year of production, and thanks to the constant new discoveries coming out of the space science communities, they have no plans to stop recording anytime soon.

Not satisfied to just teach people astronomy through *Astronomy Cast*, Pamela also works to engage people in doing science through the CosmoQuest Virtual Research Facility, an online portal that invites the public to participate in NASA citizen science projects. Working in partnership with the number of different missions, including the Hubble Space Telescope and Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, she challenges everyday people to help us map our solar system.

In addition to podcasting and building CosmoQuest, she also works to communicate astronomy to the public through her blog [StarStryder.com](http://StarStryder.com), through frequent public talks, and through popular articles. Her writing has appeared in *Astronomy*, *Sky and Telescope*, and *Lightspeed* magazines.

A public school kid through and through, she received a B.S. in astrophysics from Michigan State University in 1996 and a Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Texas in 2002. Today, she teaches at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

### Marty Gear



Marty Gear has been directing the Balticon Masquerade since 1979 and has been its M/C since 1980. (He is on the BSFS Board of Directors, so we can't get rid of him.) As a long-term costumer, make-up artist, masquerade judge, and masquerade director/organizer he has a wealth of experience to contribute and share. (Not to mention bad vampire jokes... please don't mention bad vampire jokes!) When he is not attending cons, working on cons, or negotiating government contracts, he can often be found at "Castle Blood" in western Pennsylvania scaring people. Be afraid, be very afraid.

### Veronica Giguere

Veronica “V.” Giguere is a voice artist and author who has appeared in a variety of audio projects and podcasts covering genres such as science fiction, erotica, fantasy, horror, romance, and steampunk. She is a coauthor of the *Secret World Chronicles* podcast novel series, as well as the narrator and voice for a plethora of heroes and villains therein. She has voiced spoiled supervillains, tempting demons, fierce pirates, anxious technomancers, smart-mouthed shapeshifters, undercover warehouse journalists, Greek goddesses, white foxlings, virus-laden robots, and a young woman facing an odd spider infestation. Her writings range from comics published by Incubator Press to self-published short stories of the psychological thriller and hero varieties. When she isn’t bringing the voices in others’ heads to life, V. masquerades as a mild-mannered academic whose specialties include time management, learning strategies, and preparing for the zombie apocalypse.

### Phil Giunta



A Pennsylvania resident, Phil Giunta graduated from Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia with a B.S. in Information Systems. His first novel, paranormal mystery *Testing the Prisoner*, debuted in March 2010 from Firebringer Press. His second novel in the same genre, *By Your Side*, was released in March 2013.

In August 2012, he was among an exclusive group of authors selected to participate in Crazy 8 Press’s new venture, *ReDeus*, a collection of anthologies and novels depicting the return of all the world’s mythological gods. This series was created by veteran authors Bob Greenberger, Aaron Rosenberg, Paul Kupperberg, and Steven Savile. Phil’s short story about the Celtic gods, “There Be in Dreams No War,” was featured in the premiere anthology, *ReDeus: Divine Tales*. Two additional anthologies are planned for 2013.

Phil is currently editing a short story collection titled *Somewhere in the Middle of Eternity* for Firebringer Press. He is also the narrator of an audio version of *Testing the Prisoner*, which can be heard for free at [Podiobooks.com](http://Podiobooks.com). The audio version of *By Your Side* is forthcoming on the Prometheus Radio Theatre feed: [prometheus.libsynpro.com](http://prometheus.libsynpro.com).

Visit Phil’s website: [www.philgiunta.com](http://www.philgiunta.com)

### Alicia E. Goranson



Something wrong, reader? You come here prepared to find an author, and instead you found a GOD?! Alicia E. Goranson is the reincarnation of Scheherazade, Sei Shōnagon, and all ten muses. She conquered and deconstructed comic books in her novel *Supervillainz*, a 2006 Lambda Literary Award Finalist, and old-time radio in her audio drama *The Mask of Inanna*, winner of the 2012 Parsec

Award at DragonCon, performed with a cast of more than 30 members of The Post-Meridian Radio Players. She differs from the more famous Alicia L. Goranson by being transgendered and diagnosed with Asperger’s syndrome, both of which make her far more awesome and sexy. Charlie Jane Anders, editor of [io9.com](http://io9.com), says, “Alicia Goranson’s superpowers include searing vision, a powerful voice, and the ability to leap over genre boundaries.” Lawrence Raw of *Radio Drama Reviews Online* says, “I thoroughly recommend *The Mask of Inanna* as an original contribution to the ever-expanding canon of serial audio dramas now available online.”

### Jim Gossard

Screenwriter and playwright Jim Gossard is the coauthor of the award-winning screenplays *In Mind* and *Mobtown*. He received the Individual Artist Award from the Maryland State Arts Council and a *Writer’s Digest* Honorable Mention for his stage play, *September Moon*. A journalist, he also writes short stories and novels. He wrote the Cory McCabe novels, *Grizzly Heart* and *Murder on Marias Pass*. Jim freelances for production companies—writing and editing screenplays. He teaches English and science in the Baltimore area and owns a technical writing company. A Takoma Park, MD, native, he grew up inspired by the guitar of John Aloysius Fahey. Today, Jim lives with his wife, Ann, in Ellicott City, MD. He received his M.A. in writing from Johns Hopkins University.

### Bob Greenberger

Bob Greenberger began his professional career at Starlog Press, where he created *Comics Scene*, then joined DC Comics as assistant editor before switching to the administrative side of the company, rising to the role of Manager—Editorial Operations.

In 2000, Bob left DC for a job as producer at Gist Communications and then returned to comics in 2001, as Marvel Comics’ Director—Publishing Operations. In 2002, he went back to DC Comics as a senior editor in its collected editions department. Bob joined *Weekly World News* as managing editor until its demise in 2007. Since then he has been a full-time freelance writer and editor. Along the way he helped relaunch *Famous Monsters of Filmland* as an entity and served as news editor at [www.ComicMix.com](http://www.ComicMix.com). He is the co-founder of Crazy 8 Press, a digital publishing hub.

As a freelancer, Bob has written numerous *Star Trek* novels and short fiction in addition to short works of science fiction and fantasy. His adult nonfiction includes the award-winning novelization of *Hellboy II: The Golden Army*, *The Essential Batman Encyclopedia*, *Iron Man: Femme Fatales* (DelRey) and *Star Trek: The Unauthorized Complete History*. He also coauthored *Stan Lee’s How to Write Comics*.

Coming this year are works tying in to June’s *After Earth* film. First are two solo e-books followed by *A Perfect Beast*, a collaboration with Peter David and Michael Jan Friedman, all from Random House. In June, his *Colonial Ranger Survival Manual* will be released by Insight Editions.

**Gay Haldeman**

Gay Haldeman (Mary Gay Potter Haldeman) has an M.A. in Spanish literature from the University of Maryland and another in linguistics from the University of Iowa. She has taught in the Writing Center at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) every fall since 1983, specializing in English as a second language. The rest of the year she resides in Florida, where she manages science fiction Grand Master Joe Haldeman's career, dealing with editors, answering correspondence (in Spanish and French as well as English), serving as travel agent, answering the phone, typing and filing, arranging publicity, selling Joe's out-of-print books, etc. She was part of the group that founded SFLIS and then ICON back in the seventies and has been club and con Mommy and Mommy Emeritus ever since. For more than 30 years, across the U.S. and in several other countries, she did a panel with Rusty Hevelin called "How to Enjoy Your First Convention." In 2011 she was given the Big Heart Award at the World SF Convention in Reno, NV. She's been going to SF conventions since 1963 (so has Joe) and loves to meet new people. After 47 years of marriage, she still thinks Joe's the best thing that ever happened to her.

**Elektra Hammond**

Elektra Hammond emulates her multi-sided idol Buckaroo Banzai by going in several directions at once. She's been involved in the copy-editing and proofreading end of publishing since the 1990s for presses small and large and nowadays concocts anthologies, is an editor and movie reviewer at [buzzymag.com](http://buzzymag.com), and is acquisitions editor for Sparkito Press. Her steampunk story "The Case of the Duchess's Dog" appears in the anthology *In An Iron Cage: The Magic of Steampunk*.

Elektra lives in Delaware with her husband, Mike, and the cat herd of BlueBlaze/Benegesserit catteries. Find Elektra on Facebook (Elektra Hammond), Twitter (elektraUM), LiveJournal (elektra\_h), and building her website at [www.untilmidnight.com](http://www.untilmidnight.com).

**Eric Hardenbrook**

Eric freely admits that he creates because it is cheaper and more effective than therapy or shock treatment. He resides in central Pennsylvania with his wife and daughter, but was born and raised in New England.

Eric served in the U.S. Army in the early 1990s and is currently a project manager for an architectural firm. He is a fan, author and artist—usually in that order. He has been part of the team running the Watch The Skies science fiction and fantasy group and publishing the *Watch The Skies* fanzine for the past decade. When not working on a project, he enjoys the occasional video game, board games and is an old-school role player.

**P.C. Haring**

Award-winning author and podcaster P.C. Haring made his book debut on 01/01/10 with *Cybrosis*. This Cyberpunk adventure propelled to number four on the [Podiobooks.com](http://Podiobooks.com) top ten list when it was re-launched there that October. He has written for several short story anthologies including "Hamzah Haring" (*The Crypt: Book 1—The Crew*, edited by Scott Sigler), "The First Day" (*Chronicles of the Order*, edited by Philippa Ballantine), and "The Seven" (*Tales from the Archives*, co-edited by Tee Morris and Philippa Ballantine), the latter of which earned him the 2012 Parsec award in the "best large cast" category. When he's not writing, podcasting, driving himself mad with CPA studies, or preparing for the day his robot army takes over the world, P.C. puts his degree in accounting and his MBA to good use as an accountant for a company in suburban Chicago. He also works as both the accountant and publisher for Escape Artists Incorporated where he helps to oversee the weekly podcast publications of *Escape Pod*, as well as its sister magazines *Pseudopod* and *Pod Castle*.

**Lauren Harris**

Lauren "Scribe" Harris is a fantasy writer, voice actress, and the co-creator of the 2012 Parsec Finalist podcast for aspiring writers of genre fiction, *Pendragon Variety*. She writes a bi-monthly fantasy book review column for Orson Scott Card's *Intergalactic Medicine Show* and blogs about her writing discoveries at *Ink-Stained Scribe*. Her voice acting can be heard on podcasts such as *EscapePod*, *The Dunesteeff Audio Fiction Magazine*, *The Drabblecast B-Sides*, and *Guild of the Cowry Catchers*.

**Inge Heyer**

Inge Heyer was born and raised in Berlin, Germany. She completed her secondary education there, after which she accepted a scholarship to attend Tenri University in Tenri, Japan. Following a life-long dream, she studied martial arts and the Japanese language, and traveled extensively in this fascinating country. After two years she decided to follow her interest in astronomy (fueled by watching way too much *Star Trek*), and came to the U.S. to pursue an undergraduate degree at Smith College in Massachusetts.

With a B.A. in physics and astronomy, Inge then attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where she obtained a master's degree in astronomy, and pursued many years of research, which often took her to the observatories atop beautiful Mauna Kea. From 1992 to 2005 Inge was a senior data analyst working on images obtained by the Hubble Space Telescope.

In 2006 Inge moved back to Hawaii to lead the science education and outreach efforts for the Joint Astronomy Centre in Hilo. After five years there she moved to Wyoming and obtained her doctoral degree in Science Education in 2012. Since August of 2012 she has been a visiting assistant professor in the physics department of Loyola University Maryland teaching astronomy and physics, and she is also a guest science blogger on [StarTrek.com](http://StarTrek.com).

And in case you were wondering how the Hubble images got into episodes of *Babylon 5* and *Star Trek*, you're looking at the troublemaker who instigated that...

### Jeannette Holloman

Jeannette is a part of the "Ron and Jeannette" costuming team. Over the years they've participated in several WorldCon and CostumeCon winning costumes. They have been costuming for more than 30 years.

### Thomas R. Holtz, Jr.



Dr. Thomas R. Holtz, Jr., is a dinosaur paleontologist specializing in the origin, evolution, adaptations, and paleobiology of carnivorous dinosaurs (especially *Tyrannosaurus* and its kin). He is a faculty member of the department of geology at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Recent works include several chapters in University of California Press' *The Dinosauria*, Second Edition (the bible of dinosaur research) and the second edition of *The Complete Dinosaur* (Indiana University Press). In addition to his technical publications, Dr. Holtz has written several books for children and the general public, and has been a consultant on numerous TV documentaries and museum exhibits.

Dr. Holtz is the faculty director of the College Park Scholars: Earth, Life & Time Program ([www.geol.umd.edu/~jmerck/eltsite/](http://www.geol.umd.edu/~jmerck/eltsite/)), a living-learning program for freshmen and sophomores interested in natural history. He lives in Upper Marlboro with his wife (long-time Balticon costumer Sue Shambaugh) and a couple of cats.

### Heidi Hooper



Heidi Hooper is the "dryer lint lady," believe it or not! Her dryer lint work has been seen in galleries around the country and has been featured in Ripley's museums and books. Consumer Reports calls her "The Andy Warhol of Dryer Lint." Her B.A. in sculpture is from Virginia Commonwealth University and her master's is from the Massachusetts College of Art. She has competed in Costume Cons and has been a costuming judge at Worldcon, RavenCon, and Philcon. Heidi is also one of the founders of modern American fantasy LARPs and is co-owner of Alliance LARP. Her web page is [www.HeidiHooper.com](http://www.HeidiHooper.com).

### Starla Huchton



Starla Huchton released her first novel, *The Dreamer's Thread*, as a full cast production beginning in August 2009. Her first foray into podcasting went on to become a finalist for the 2010 Parsec Awards. Since her debut, Starla's voice has appeared in other podcasts including *The Drabblecast*, *The Dunesteef*

*Audio Magazine*, *The Guild of the Cowry Catchers*, and *Space Casey 2*. She is also a voice talent for DarkFire Productions, and narrates several of their projects, including *The Emperor's Edge* series. Her writing has appeared in the *Erotica a la Carte* podcast, the anthology *Farrago: The Michael Bekemeyer Project*, a short story for *The Gearheart* and an episode of the *Tales From the Archives* podcast, which garnered her a second finalist badge from the 2012 Parsec Awards. Her second novel, a steampunk adventure titled *Antigone's Wrath*, won first place in the Fantasy/Science Fiction category of the Crested Butte Writers annual contest, *The Sandy*. She has also been commissioned to write a companion novella to the *Galactic Football League* series by *New York Times* Bestselling author Scott Sigler, slated for release in 2013.

After completing her degree in graphic arts at Monterey Peninsula College, Starla opened up shop as a freelance graphic designer focusing on creating beautiful book covers for independent authors and publishers, including books for Entangled Publishing, which are now being distributed by Macmillan and St. Martin's Press.

### Walter H. Hunt



Walter H. Hunt is a science fiction and historical fiction writer. His first four novels, *The Dark Wing* (2001), *The Dark Path* (2002), *The Dark Ascent* (2003) and *The Dark Crusade* (2004), were published by Tor, and the first two have been re-released by Fantastic Books. His historical mystery *A Song In Stone* (2008) is also available from Fantastic Books, and a sequel is in preparation. He is currently writing in the 1632 Universe with Eric Flint; his first 1632 novel will appear in 2014. He is an active Freemason and lives in Massachusetts with his wife and daughter.

### Kara Hurvitz

Kara Hurvitz is an advocate, social worker, and performer who hails from the Boston area. By day, Kara advocates for folks with disabilities and substance abuse issues within the Massachusetts criminal justice system. By night, Kara is the musical director for the Boston chapter of Sassafrass, a folk fantasy vocal group that likes to sing about Norse guys. In her spare time, Kara likes piña colodas and getting caught in the rain. She's not too into yoga, though.

### Victor Hutcherson

Victor is an avid gamer. He plays board games, dice games, card games (notice a trend).

### Noam Izenberg

Noam Izenberg has been a planetary scientist with the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics lab for 16 years. He's been an instrument scientist and science team member on several NASA missions, including NEAR Shoemaker and

the ongoing MESSENGER mission to Mercury. He also dabbles in tabletop sci-fi wargaming and starship combat game and universe design.

### Mark Jeffrey

Mark Jeffrey is an author and serial technology entrepreneur. He has written four novels and co-founded five internet companies.

His first novel, *Max Quick: The Pocket and the Pendant* (Harper Collins 2011) was initially podcast as a series of episodic mp3s and received more than 2.5 million downloads. His other novels include *Max Quick: The Two Travelers*, *Age of Aether* and *Armand Ptolemy and the Golden Aleph*. He is currently working on *Max Quick: The Bane of the Bondsman*.

Most recently, Mark co-founded [Glossi.com](http://Glossi.com), a new site where anyone can easily create digital magazines suitable for tablets and other devices. Many authors are now using [Glossi.com](http://Glossi.com) to publish rich media samplers of their books, including Margaret Atwood, Douglas Rushkoff, Pip Ballantine and Tee Morris.

Previous to Glossi, Mark co-founded web television network [ThisWeekIn.com](http://ThisWeekIn.com) with comedian Kevin Pollak and Jason Calacanis. He also co-founded ZeroDegrees, SuperSig and [ThePalace.com](http://ThePalace.com), Inc.

Mark has been named one of "50 to Watch" by *Variety* magazine, a "Hero of Multimedia" by *Entertainment Weekly*, and was a featured speaker at the very first Harvard Conference on the Internet and Society. Mark Jeffrey holds a B.S. in computer science from the University of New Hampshire.

### Paula S. Jordan



Paula's work usually tends toward the hard-SF end of the spectrum, as witness two stories in *Analog*, most recently "Two Look at Two" in the April 2011 issue. Blame it on the physics degree and the 13 years and 30-plus science and weather missions as an orbit analyst with NASA and NOAA. Still, she does love to stray off into fantasy, frequently as a reader and every now and then with a story of her own. Blame that on the history and drama degrees and too many years writing advertising! Now retired, she's at work on more stories and an SF novel set in southern Appalachia. She blogs regularly on SF, fantasy, history, and other curiosities at [darkcargo.com](http://darkcargo.com).

### Jason Kalirai

Dr. Jason Kalirai is a research astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, MD. He obtained his Ph.D. in astrophysics in 2004 from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. His research interests include studying the formation and evolution of stars and nearby galaxies using both ground and space-based telescopes. Dr. Kalirai is also the Deputy Project Scientist for the James Webb Space Telescope. More information is available on his website at [www.jasonkalirai.com](http://www.jasonkalirai.com). Follow Jason at [twitter.com/JasonKalirai](https://twitter.com/JasonKalirai).

### Rahul Kanakia

Rahul Kanakia is a science fiction writer who has sold stories to *Clarkesworld*, *the Intergalactic Medicine Show*, *Apex Magazine*, *Nature*, and *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*. He currently lives in Baltimore, where he is enrolled in the Master of Fine Arts program in creative writing at Johns Hopkins University. He graduated from Stanford in 2008 with a B.A. in economics and he used to work as an international development consultant. If you want to know more about him, please visit his blog at [www.blotter-paper.com](http://www.blotter-paper.com) or follow him on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/rahkana](https://www.twitter.com/rahkana).

### William Kennedy



In his professional life, William Kennedy is a social worker with the Department of Children and Families in Weymouth, MA. By night he is a costume designer and works for several professional Haunted Attractions, creating costumes and sets to terrify. William is currently employed by Haunted Overload located in Lee, NH. Haunted Overload was recently voted in the top five Halloween Haunts by the Weather Channel 2012 as well as *Top Haunts Magazine* Top 13 in the World. His alterego Tickles the Clown can be found on Facebook under Tickles for President in 2016. William is currently a craftsman level costumer and has won several awards for workmanship and presentation at the Balticon, Lunacon and Arisia masquerades.

### Daniel M. Kimmel



Daniel M. Kimmel is past president of the Boston Society of Film Critics and founding co-chair of the Boston Online Film Critics Association. His reviews appeared in the *Worcester Telegram and Gazette* for 25 years and can now be found at [Northshoremovies.net](http://Northshoremovies.net). He writes on science fiction films for the [SciFiMoviePage.com](http://SciFiMoviePage.com) and *Space and Time* magazine, and has appeared in *Cinefantastique*, *Clarkesworld* and the *Internet Review of Science Fiction* and *Strange Horizons*. He was nominated for a Hugo Award for *Jar Jar Binks Must Die... and Other Observations about Science Fiction Movies*. His latest book is his first novel, *Shh! It's a Secret: a novel about Aliens, Hollywood, and the Bartender's Guide*. Both are available from Fantastic Books.

### Brian Koscienski



Brian Koscienski developed his love of writing from countless hours of reading comic books, losing himself in the different worlds and adventures within the colorful pages. He had minor successes early in his career by getting a few short stories published in independent 'zines, but found more success in

partnering with Chris Pisano. As a writing team, they have had stories, articles, graphic novels, and poetry published, and most recently their debut novel, *The Shattered Visage Lies*, by Post Mortem Press.

#### A B Kovacs



A B Kovacs is co-owner and Director of Døøm at Dark Øverlord Media, blogger at [Skepchick.org](http://Skepchick.org), and a founding partner at Audacity Events, a management company that builds community events such as the San Diego Science Festival and plots tours and fan fests for the likes of George Hrab and Scott Sigler. Prior to all of this, A was a clinical research chemist focused on “lifestyle” drugs to treat things-that-won’t-kill-you such as hay fever and erectile dysfunction. A is a rabid movie geek, *Doctor Who* fan, skeptic and science nerd. She volunteers in several women-forward and science-oriented organizations in San Diego (where she lives), and doesn’t like chocolate all that much.

#### Theodore Krulik



Theodore Krulik’s concordance of Roger Zelazny’s 10 *Amber* novels, *The Complete Amber Sourcebook*, is still the most exhaustive reference book on that revered series. Through Krulik’s literary biography *Roger Zelazny*, the personal and literary concerns of the late author had been made accessible to the SF enthusiast. For the first time, aficionados discovered the sources in Zelazny’s own life that inspired his writing.

Mr. Krulik, a former high school English teacher in New York City, is currently working on short stories with an eye on writing an autobiographical novel.

#### Mur Lafferty



Mur Lafferty is a podcaster and author. Her award-winning show, *I Should Be Writing*, has been helping new writers since 2005. Her book *The Shambling Guide to New York City* will premiere at Balticon 47.

#### L. Jagi Lamplighter

L. Jagi Lamplighter is the author of *Prospero Lost*, *Prospero In Hell* and *Prospero Regained*. She is also one of the editors of the *Bad-Ass Faeries* anthology series. When not writing, she reverts to her secret identity as an at-home mother in Centreville, VA, where she lives with her husband, author John C. Wright, and their four children, Orville, Ping-Ping, Roland Wilbur, and Justinian Oberon.

#### Grig Larson



Grig “Punkie” Larson was born in Cyprus on British soil, the only son of a pair of Swedish-American descendants. He grew up in Northern Virginia, finding fandom through D&D, FanTek, and *Rocky Horror*. He works as a systems administrator by day, and by night he’s an author, open-source advocate, President of Katsucon Entertainment, Inc., and works for the DC Rollergirls. A staple in VA/DC/MD science fiction and anime fandom since the 1980s, he’s been a panelist, moderator, emcee, actor, sketch writer, convention adviser, narrator, and the kind of sub-fame that keeps people from asking, “Hey, how’d HE get in here?” He’s done everything from chair a convention to being the guy who vacuums the staff suite. In no particular order.

In 1993, his first book, *The Saga of Punk Walrus*, became a cult classic. Since then he’s been published in *Gateways*, several short story anthologies, and written several sketches and spoofs for various acting venues. You can often see him at Balticon, Katsucon, Anime Mid-Atlantic, and DC Rollergirl home bouts. He is a Redditor and also seen posting on the Ars Technica forums as “Punk Walrus.”

*Trolley* was his first published steampunk/horror novel in 2011. *Space Bitch*, a dark sci-fi comedy, is premiering at Balticon 47.

#### Marcus Lawrence

Marcus Lawrence has been playing music and acting in the DC metro area for more than 10 years. Known as the “Indie King of the Southeast” to many who know him, his résumé includes multiple professional theater productions, commercials, films and TV productions.

He started his theater career in avant-garde theater productions such as the often controversial Cherry Red Productions *Kenneth*, *What Is the Frequency?* and Cinema Verite and even appeared nude in their popular event Day-Old Plays.

He then moved into more classic American Theater, appearing in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *Harvey*, as well as stretching his range with VpStart Crow Productions ranging from Steinbeck and Dickens to August Strindberg’s *The Ghost Sonata*. He would go on to do Greek in Richmond (*Agamemnon’s Daughters*), Shakespeare in Fredericksburg (*Twelfth Night*), and most notably Dionysus in *The Bacchae* at The Capitol Fringe Fest.

Amid all of his theater work, Marcus also built his film résumé. A frequent collaborator with Clint Gage of Growth Media Services, Marcus starred in and produced crime noir films *Violent Karma* and *Perspective*, as well as numerous short films and commercials. He has shown a more comedic side in Old Virginia Film’s *Lily’s Thorn*, appearing as Lily’s buffoonish ex-husband, and then as a French bank robber in Old Dominion’s TV Show *From the Files of Interpol* for the Discovery Channel.

**Dina Leacock**

Writing under the name Diane Arrelle, Dina Leacock has had almost 200 short stories published and she has two published books: *Just A Drop In The Cup*, a collection of short-short stories, and *Elements of the Short Story, How to Write a Selling Story*. She lives on the edge of the Pine Barrens (home of the Jersey Devil) in southern New Jersey with her husband, sometimes her sons and of course her obligatory cat. She's proud to be one of the founding members as well as the second president of the Garden State Horror Writers and also the past president of the Philadelphia Writers' Conference.

Growing up extremely rural and listening nightly to the ghostly tales her older siblings forced upon her, Dina naturally turned to horror, since she is basically afraid of everything.

To support her writing habit over the decades, she has held a wide variety of jobs including teacher, school bus driver, mystery shopper, newspaper correspondent, municipal senior citizen center director and was even that annoying person who stood around in department stores burning vanilla-tinged milk and cooking tasteless crepes to sell nonstick pots and pans.

**Neal Levin**

Author, Editor, Game Designer, Publisher. It would seem that his head grows with each successive hat he must learn to wear, but the hats are really to cover the horns. Born and bred in the wilds of New Jersey, he hasn't quite learned to escape its denizens. As a short-story author he has work in anthologies from many publishers, but most suggest he shouldn't hold his breath waiting on a response. Sympathy for those with a lack of breath may be a reason he started writing about mer people, zombies, and vampires. He is the current vice-president of the Garden State Speculative Fiction Writers.

**Emily Lewis**

Emily Lewis is a Latin teacher in Massachusetts. She's also a history geek, especially for ancient history. She loves anything education and is also very, very interested in gaming. In her copious spare time, she works with The Pericles Group ([www.practomime.com](http://www.practomime.com)) to develop a game called Operation LAPIS, an online Latin "textbook" that plays like a video game. The game objectives are the same as the learning objectives, and students have had lots of success with it. When she is not teaching or helping build Operation LAPIS, Emily is an active member of the singing group Sassafrass (which brings her to Balticon this year), an energetic sponsor in Junior Classical League at both the Massachusetts and National levels, an avid scifi/fantasy fan, a semi-competitive Swing and Salsa dancer, and an ice hockey player. Her musical background, as well as her history background, also allows her to find fantastic historical songs to use with her students.

**Carey M. Lisse**

Dr. Carey M. Lisse is a Senior Research Scientist at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

**Tim Livengood**

Tim Livengood is a planetary scientist who studies atmospheres using infrared and ultraviolet light, but these days he counts neutrons from the moon with the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission, to investigate where water ice may be hidden. He was a co-investigator with NASA's EPOXI mission, and was the education and public outreach team deputy leader.

Tim graduated from Towson Senior High School in 1980. He completed undergraduate studies at Washington University in St. Louis in 1984, majoring in physics, minoring in mathematics, and dabbling in classics and archaeology. He spent idyllic college summers in an underground office that used to be a bathroom, killing rats and various cell cultures using a linear accelerator, to Make America Safe. He received a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1992 for a dissertation on the ultraviolet aurorae of Jupiter. Tim is a professional storyteller, using his life in science as inspiration for stories. He is an occasional writer, photographer, and silent actor in astronomy-themed music videos. Tim does not recommend drinking antifreeze, which can kill you—slowly.

**Andrew Love**

Andrew Love is an engineer and fan. In 2001, he won the Webs of Wonder ([www.analogsf.com/wow](http://www.analogsf.com/wow)) award for his website encouraging the use of science fiction in the classroom, and has been giving science talks at Balticon since 2000. He's married to the children's author Pamela Love (author of *A Loon Alone* and several other books) and they have a 14-year-old son. When Andy's not reading or working, you'll often find him juggling or discussing physics.

**Perrienne Lurie**

Perrienne Lurie is a long-time fan and life member of BSFS. She's run the Balticon Green Room for way too long, and has worked on numerous other conventions. She ran the Hugo Ceremony at Torcon, was Deputy Program Department Head for Buccconeer, and was the e-mail liaison and newsletter editor for the Baltimore in 1998 Worldcon bid.

She watches way too much television and lots of movies. She's an active European strategy boardgamer, and has been a game master at Congress of Gamers and Euroquest. For her day job, she's a public health physician and infectious disease epidemiologist with the Pennsylvania Department of Health in Harrisburg.

### Kristina Lynch

Kristina has been an avid board gamer and all-things-zombie-lover for years.

### Mark MacDicken



Professional entertainer for over 30 years, Mark MacDicken performs comedy magic as the eccentric wizard “Flabbergast.” As well as being an accomplished actor and comedy magician, Mark is also a top-notch puppeteer and balloon sculptor. Often seen as Spiffy the Clown, he has performed at hundreds of birthday parties, as well as theme parks, fairs and festivals, company picnics, summer recreation programs, mall events, and on local television.

When he’s not dressing up in costumes and playing with his toys, Mark is a special education teacher at an elementary school. He has a B.F.A. in drama from the University of Southern California, and a master of education degree in special education from George Mason University. Mark lives with his wife, son, daughter, and cat in northern Virginia.

### Phoebe Macrae

Dr. Phoebe Macrae is a post-doctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University. She is originally from New Zealand, and has been in the U.S. for one year. Her area of research is swallowing and swallowing disorders. She worked as a speech and language therapist before returning to complete her Ph.D. She worked with patients with swallowing disorders caused by stroke, neurodegenerative diseases, traumatic brain injury, and other acquired neurogenic disorders.

### Justin R. Macumber



Justin R. Macumber is a writer and podcaster. He is the author of *Haywire*, a science fiction novel from Gryphonwood Press, and *A Minor Magic*, a YA urban fantasy from Crescent Moon Press. He co-hosts the *Dead Robots’ Society* podcast, which has been broadcasting for more than

six years and has three times been a Parsec Award Finalist. He lives with his wife Krista in north Texas.

### Gail Z. Martin



Gail Z. Martin’s newest series, *The Ascendant Kingdoms Saga* (Orbit Books) begins with *Ice Forged* in 2013. In addition to *Ice Forged*, she is the author of *The Chronicles of The Necromancer* series (*The Summoner*, *The Blood King*, *Dark Haven* and *Dark Lady’s Chosen*) from Solaris Books and *The Fallen Kings Cycle* from Orbit Books (*Book One: The Sworn* and *Book Two: The Dread*). For book updates, tour information and contact details, visit [www.AscendantKingdoms.com](http://www.AscendantKingdoms.com).

Gail is the host of the *Ghost in the Machine* fantasy podcast, and blogs at [DisquietingVisions.com](http://DisquietingVisions.com). You can find her on Facebook (The Winter Kingdoms), GoodReads, Pinterest, Shelfari and Twitter (@GailZMartin). Gail’s short fiction has been featured in anthologies including *Rum and Runestones* and *Spells and Swashbucklers* from Dragon Moon Press, *The Bitten Word* from New Con Press (UK), *Magic* from Solaris Books (UK) and *The Mammoth Book of Ghost Stories by Women* (UK).

You can find Gail’s books in bookstores worldwide, as well as on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [BarnesandNoble.com](http://BarnesandNoble.com), [Indigo.ca](http://Indigo.ca), [Waterstones.com](http://Waterstones.com) and everywhere books are sold.

### Bill Mayhew

Bill Mayhew is a teller, not a writer. He tells stories from this planet, mostly from the past.

### Mike McPhail



Story-engineer and graphic artist Mike McPhail is best known as the editor of the award-winning *Defending The Future* (DTF) series of military science fiction anthologies. Currently he is the administrator for the Dark Quest Books Imprint DTF Publications, which includes the DTF series and related works, such as David Sherman’s *DemonTech* and *Issue In Doubt*, Phoebe Wray’s *Jemma*, and James Daniel Ross’ *Radiation Angels*.

As a member of the Military Writers Society of America, he is dedicated to helping his fellow service members (and deserving civilians) in their efforts to become authors, as well as supporting related organizations in their efforts to help those “who have given their all for us.”

### Bernie Mojzes



Bernie Mojzes writes under the name “Bernie Mojzes,” which confuses some people, though it really shouldn’t. His stories have appeared in numerous markets, online and in print; a full listing can be found at [www.kappamaki.com](http://www.kappamaki.com). In his copious free time, he co-edits the *Journal of Unlikely Entomology* and its unlikely spawn.

### Nate Nelson

Former professional wrestler, video gamer and avid comic book collector, Nate Nelson is a well-rounded geek. Nate graduated from the Illinois Center for Broadcasting and was hired as the producer for the *Mackay in the Morning* show at a suburban Chicago radio station. While in radio, he found a passion for voice acting and audio production, occasionally taking on the role of assistant production director at the station. In 2009, Nate moved to Baltimore and stepped in front of the camera as the co-host of the Baltimore-based



TV show *Godamus Game Review*. Since moving to Baltimore, Nate has been expanding his résumé to include audio dramas, commercials, films and two other web series: *Hamilton Street* and *Rebels and Rejects*.

### Matt Neufeld

Matt Neufeld is a local journalist, actor, writer, critic and magician who has written, acted, critiqued and performed magic throughout the Baltimore and DC areas for many years. Among the many venues Matt has performed magic at are: the Baltimore Ravens Spring Fan Fest, the Orioles Fan Fest, the Fells Point Fun Festival, the Howard County Fair, the Preakness Hot Air Balloon Festival and the Catonsville Arts and Crafts Festival. Matt is also a local film actor, and he has appeared in more than 70 films of all types. Matt is currently the news editor for Carroll Publishing in Bethesda.

### Christine Norris

Christine Norris is the author of several works for tweens and teens, including the *Library of Athena* series and the *Zandria* duology. When she's not out saving the world one story at a time, she is disguised as a mild-mannered school librarian, mother, and wife. She cares for her family of one husband-creature, a son-animal, and two felines who function as Guardian of the Bathtub and Official Lap Warmer. She currently resides somewhere in southern New Jersey and is represented by Terrie Wolf of AKA Literary.

### Nuchtchas

Artist by day, blogger and podcaster by night, Nuchtchas (Artist, blogger, podcaster, gamer, roleplayer, and self-professed "Geek Queen") is the host/producer of the *Nutty Bites Podcast* and a co-host on [Specficmedia.com](http://Specficmedia.com)'s *Beyond the Wall: A Game of Thrones Podcast*. She also runs the website [nimlas.org](http://nimlas.org) (NIMLAS Studios). A New Yorker at heart, she currently resides in New Brunswick, Canada with her spouse and Dragon (the inspiration for her upcoming children's book, *Rory goes to the Dentist*).

### Hugh J. O'Donnell

Hugh J. O'Donnell is a writer and podcaster living in western New York. He is the host and editor of the *Way of the Buffalo* podcast, which features short fiction and interviews with writers, artists, and podcasters. His short fiction has appeared in *Flagship Magazine*, *Every Photo Tells*, and other venues.

### Kat Otis

Kat Otis lives a peripatetic life with a pair of cats who enjoy riding in the car as long as there's no country music involved. Her fiction has appeared in Orson Scott Card's *Intergalactic Medicine Show*, *Daily Science Fiction* and *Marion Zimmer Bradley's Sword & Sorceress XXVI*. She can be found online at [katotis.com](http://katotis.com) or on Twitter as @kat\_otis.

### Partners in K'RHyme (W. Randy Hoffman and Kira)



Partners in K'RHyme is the duo of W. Randy Hoffman and Kira. Randy has been writing and performing filk since shortly after dragging his college buddies Rand Bellavia and Adam English (from the band Ookla the Mok) into the scene in 1993. Kira has been performing (and sometimes writing) filk since joining the cast of the first production of the Confluence filk travesty "Dune: The Soft Rock Musical" in the early 1990s. They've been singing together for more than four years, with concert performances at conventions throughout North America. *Photo by Keith Polivka-Rohrer.*

### Marianne Pease



Marianne Pease is a master craftsman costumer and all-around geek. She wavers between doing fantasy and historical costumes, and occasionally mashes the two together when the mood strikes.

### TJ Perkins



TJ Perkins is a gifted and well-respected author in the mystery/suspense genre. A member of the Maryland Writers Association and Sisters In Crime, her short stories for young readers have appeared in the Ohio State 6th Grade Proficiency Test Preparation Book *Kids Highway Magazine*, and webzine *New Works Review* with illustrations provided by Dennis Anfuso, just to name a few. She's placed four times in the CNW/FFWA chapter book competition.

*Art of the Ninja: Earth* (May 2011) is the first installment of a five-book series, *Shadow Legacy*, by publisher Silver Leaf Books ([www.silverleafbooks.com](http://www.silverleafbooks.com)). Previously self-published, her achievements have been greatly recognized and Perkins is also conducting speaking engagements at colleges and libraries, offering advice to others. *Shadow Legacy* will be her first Silver Leaf Books series.

### Marvin Pinkert

Marvin Pinkert was made executive director of the Jewish Museum of Maryland in June 2012. The museum is both an interactive learning center and one of Baltimore's most important historic sites—it includes the third oldest synagogue in the U.S. The museum is currently the host of "Zap! Pow! Bam! The Superhero: The Golden Age of Comic Books, 1938-1950." Prior to joining JMM, Marvin was the founding director of the National Archives Experience in Washington, DC, producer of award-winning projects such as the Public Vaults and Docs Teach. In the 1990s, Marvin was vice president for programs at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry.

### Sarah Pinsker

Sarah Pinsker is a Baltimore-based writer and singer/songwriter. She has three albums on various indie labels and a fourth forthcoming. Her short stories have been published in *Daily Science Fiction* and *Stupefying Stories*, among others, and she has a story upcoming in *Strange Horizons*.

### KT Pinto



KT Pinto—2013's Dare to be Different winner—writes about vampyres, mutants, witches, merfolk, werebeasts, zombies, deities, courtesans, criminals, and pop stars...sometimes all in the same story. For more information, go to [www.ktpinto.com](http://www.ktpinto.com).

### Christopher J. Pisano



Chris Pisano was discouraged by his tenth grade English teacher from reading H. P. Lovecraft. Being naturally disobedient, Chris has been a fan ever since. He had minor successes early in his career by getting a few poems published, but found more success in partnering with Brian Koscienski. As a writing team, they have had stories, articles, graphic novels, and poetry published, and most recently their debut novel, *The Shattered Visage Lies*, by Post Mortem Press.

### Jennifer R. Povey



Jennifer R. Povey is in her late thirties, and lives in northern Virginia with her husband. She writes a variety of speculative fiction, while following current affairs and occasionally indulging in horse riding and role-playing games. She has sold fiction to a number of markets including *Analog*, *Digital Science Fiction*, and *Cosmos*. Her first novel, *Transpacial*, was published by Musa Publishing in April 2013.

### Bethlynn Prellwitz

Bethlynn has been attending science fiction conventions with her family for a number of years. She has a master's in English and does part-time editing for Double Dragon, the company that publishes her husband Pete's e-books. Bethlynn says, "We've raised five geeky sons. In fact, one of our geeky sons introduced us to *Doctor Who* and the other guided us to *The Walking Dead*."

### Peter Prellwitz



Peter Prellwitz is the IT Director for a precious metals refining company located in Philadelphia. Peter has been writing stories, plays and skits since the fourth grade. As a child and young adult, Peter saw limited publication/production of three plays and two series of children's puppet skits.

Presently, Pete has a total of nine novels published in trade paperback and e-book format, all by Double Dragon Publishing (DDP). His novel *Horizons* was selected by Mike Resnick as Best Science Fiction and awarded DDP's 2003 Draco Award. Four of his short stories appear in the anthology *Twisted Tails*, which won the 2006 Dream Realms Award. Peter also has short stories in *By Other Means* and *Best Laid Plans* (Dark Quest, LLC) and *Twisted Tails VI* (DDP). He continues writing novels and short stories, as well as dabbling in web comics.

Together with more than three dozen short stories located on his site, Peter's novels help weave a tapestry of mankind's exploration and settling of the galaxy over the next two and a half millennia.

A native Arizonan, Peter has also lived in Wisconsin, California, Hawaii, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania, where he now lives with his wife, Bethlynn, and four of their five sons. In addition to writing, Peter enjoys history, backpacking, and languages. His website is [ShardsUniverse.net](http://ShardsUniverse.net).

### Ray Ridenour



Ray Ridenour has been an artist for 50 years, and a Balticon participant since 1967. At art shows he's exhibited paintings, drawings and stained glass windows. He's been in fannish plays, and has sat on many diverse panels at cons, moderating often.

Outside of fandom, he's spent 20 years as a professional artist and community liaison for two Baltimore City housing departments. He's built commercial props for display firms and department stores and done editorial illustrations for the *Baltimore Sun*. He's acted in two horror movies, one as a featured player, with actual speaking lines yet.

### Betsy A. Riley

Betsy A. Riley is a multi-genre author, artist, and poet who lives in Maryland. She writes under several pen names and has published stories, poems, and illustrations in several magazines and anthologies.

### Ron Robinson

Ron is a part of the "Ron and Jeannette" costuming team. Over the years they've participated in several WorldCon and CostumeCon winning costumes. They have been costuming for more than 30 years.

**James Daniel Ross**

James is a new author who is continuing to gain steam all the time. His credits include anthologies, next to some of the biggest names in the industry, as well as his own works: *The Radiation Angels*, *The Legacy of Fox Crow* and *The Last Dragoon*, as well as other novels and novellas. A mercenary artist at heart, he is willing to take on any paying job, no matter how outlandish, in order to bring it to fruition.

**Don Sakers**

Don Sakers was launched the same month as Sputnik One, so it was perhaps inevitable that he should become a science fiction writer. A Navy brat by birth, he spent his childhood in such far-off lands as Japan, Scotland, Hawaii, and California. In California, rather like a latter-day Mowgli, he was raised by dogs.

As a writer and editor, he has explored the thoughts of sapient trees (*The Leaves of October*), brought ghosts to life (*Carmen Miranda's Ghost is Haunting Space Station Three*), and beaten the "Cold Equations" scenario (*The Cold Solution*). He is best-known for his *Scattered Worlds* series.

In 2009, Don took up the position of book reviewer for *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, where he writes the "Reference Library" column in every issue.

In his day job, Don works for the Anne Arundel County Public Library.

Don lives at Meerkat Meade with his spouse, costumer Thomas Atkinson.

**Carol Salemi**

Carol Salemi costumes at the master level and has been involved in all aspects of costuming for more than 30 years, trying her hand at everything from teaching, creating, and competing to judging and masquerade directing. Each competition costume usually involves some new, fun, or challenging technique that keeps it fresh. While best known for media recreations and Native American clothing, her most recent headpiece was seen on *My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding*. Carol has enjoyed working as a medical massage therapist for 23 years, and works part-time for Regal Cinemas, Disney/Mosaic and Sondra Celli Designs with seasonal jobs in the Haunt Industry. She now has a growing interest in steampunk accessories and fashion...so check out her jewelry in the art show!

**Erica L. Satifka**

Erica L. Satifka's short fiction has appeared in such venues as *Clarkesworld Magazine*, *Ideomancer*, and *PodCastle*. She lives in Hampden, Baltimore, with her husband Rob and three cats.

**Patrick Scaffido**

Patrick Scaffido is a podcaster, author, and musician. In 2011 he released the first 19 episodes of the musical horror surrealist podcast *The Horde* before a freak accident replaced his guitar hand with an evil robot hand. This year he's the Balticon coordinator for New Media and is producing the spoken word and print versions of *The Horde* while sporadically updating a blog at [thousandheads.com](http://thousandheads.com). He is currently trying to find a priest who performs robot hand exorcisms and likes to call himself a poet while other people snicker.

**Lauren Schiller**

Lauren is one of the founding members of Sassafrass and loves singing. She likes to do a lot of different things, though writing bios is not one of them. She works at the rare books library at Texas A&M University, where she can use the science fiction and fantasy research collection whenever she wants. She has a master's in library and information science and is still trying to figure out what other degrees she might want to get. Lauren is on the board of the Pride Community Center, which tries to support and empower individuals of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions and to provide education and outreach, leading to greater understanding and respect. She enjoys anime and has staffed at anime conventions running cosplay and gameshow events.

**Melissa Scott**

Melissa Scott was born and raised in Little Rock, AR, and studied history at Harvard College, where she was involved with the now-defunct college-sanctioned SF 'zine that spawned the Harvard/Radcliffe Science Fiction Association, and was introduced to a new round of media SF, particularly *Dr. Who*. She earned her Ph.D. from Brandeis University in the comparative history program with a dissertation titled "The Victory of the Ancients: Tactics, Technology, and the Use of Classical Precedent." She also sold her first novel, *The Game Beyond*, and quickly became a part-time graduate student and an—almost—full-time writer.

Over the next 28 years, Melissa published 30 original novels and a handful of short stories, most with queer themes and characters. She won the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 1986, and won Lambda Literary Awards for *Trouble and Her Friends*, *Shadow Man*, and *Point of Dreams*, the last written with long-time partner and collaborator, the late Lisa A. Barnett. She has also been shortlisted for the Tiptree Award. She won a Spectrum Award for *Shadow Man* and again in 2010 for the short story "The Rocky Side of the Sky." Her most recent novel, *Lost Things*, written with Jo Graham, was published in 2012, and its sequel, *Steel Blues*, will be available for Balticon. Also scheduled to be out in time for Balticon is *Death by Silver*, a gay Victorian mystery with magic, written with Amy Griswold. Scott can be found on LiveJournal at [mescott.livejournal.com](http://mescott.livejournal.com).

**PJ Schnyder**

Author of sci-fi and paranormal romance, steampunk and urban fantasy, PJ Schnyder spent her childhood pretending to study for the SATs by reading every fantasy and sci-fi novel she could borrow from local and school libraries. She scored fairly high in the verbal portion.

She was introduced to the wonderful world of romance a decade later by her best friend at an anime convention in Seattle.

She now lives somewhere temperate watching the seasons go by with her two dogs and super stealthy ninja kitty, writing her stories.

**H. Paul Shuch**

Dr. SETI® is the stage name of the blatant exhibitionist who inhabits the body of noted author and educator Dr. H. Paul Shuch (rhymes with luck). A cross between Tom Lehrer and Carl Sagan, it is said that Dr. SETI sings like Sagan and lectures like

Lehrer. Armed with a laptop computer and an acoustical guitar, Dr. SETI travels the world making the search for life in space accessible to audiences as diverse as humanity itself.

Since the formation of the nonprofit, membership-supported SETI League in 1994, H. Paul Shuch has served as its executive director (now emeritus), coordinating its science mission and delivering hundreds of Dr. SETI presentations to thousands of enthusiasts, in dozens of countries on six continents.

At college campuses, science centers, public lecture halls, and on television and radio, Dr. SETI's unique mix of science and song seeks to educate as well as entertain. He compels the listener to contemplate a fundamental question which has haunted humankind since first we realized that the points of light in the night sky are other suns:

Are We Alone?

**Alex Shvartsman**

Alex Shvartsman is a writer, editor, translator, and game designer from Brooklyn, NY. His short stories have appeared in more than two dozen magazines and anthologies. He edited *Unidentified Funny Objects*, an anthology of humorous SF/F released in 2012.

**Scott Sigler**

*New York Times* best-selling novelist Scott Sigler is the author of *Nocturnal*, *Ancestor*, *Infected*, *Contagious*, and *Pandemic*, hardcover thrillers from Crown Publishing, and is the co-owner of Dark Overlord Media, which publishes his *Galactic Football League* series (*The Rookie*, *The Starter*, *The All-Pro*, and *The MVP*).

Before he was published, Scott built a large online following by giving away his self-recorded audiobooks as free, serialized podcasts. His loyal fans, who named themselves "Junkies," have downloaded more than 15 million individual episodes of his stories and interact daily with Scott and each other in the social media space.

**Hildy Silverman**

Hildy Silverman is the publisher of *Space and Time*, a 45-year-old magazine featuring fantasy, horror, and science fiction. She is also the author of several works of short fiction, including "The Six Million Dollar Mermaid" (2012, *Mermaids 13*, French, ed.), "The Vampire Escalator of the Passaic Promenade" (2010, *New Blood*, Thomas, ed.), and "Sappy Meals" (2010, *Fangs for the Mammaries*, Friesner, ed.). In the "real" world, she is a digital marketing specialist at Siemens Hearing Instruments, Inc.

**Kevin Simpson**

Kevin Simpson fell to Earth in a meteorite and was found as a baby with nothing but a red cape. He was found by a pack of feral 20-sided dice, who adopted him and raised him as his own. They taught him to laugh, to love, and most importantly, to game. These days he mostly spends his time looking for crazy new games and trying to spread as much fun as possible across the world, like some kind of probability-obsessed *Rainbow Brite*. He also greatly enjoys literature, science, and the arts. In his spare time, he dresses up like a goat and hits people with padded sticks.

**Jeri Smith-Ready**

Jeri Smith-Ready has been writing fiction since the night she had her first double espresso. A steady stream of caffeine has resulted in 11 published novels, including RT Reviewers Choice-winning fantasy *Eyes of Crow*; as well as the PRISM award-winning *Wicked Game* and *Shade*.

In 2012, Jeri wrapped up both her adult and teen paranormal series. She's currently writing a contemporary YA novel due out in spring 2014 and producing a slew of short fiction for publication in 2013 and 2014.

Jeri lives in the rolling hills of Maryland with her husband and two cats. When not writing, she can be found, well, thinking about writing, or on Twitter. You can find her at her website, [www.jerismithready.com](http://www.jerismithready.com) or on Twitter at [twitter.com/jerismithready](https://twitter.com/jerismithready). Photo © 2006 Szemere Photography.

**Maria V. Snyder**

Meteorologist-turned-*New York Times* bestselling novelist, Maria V. Snyder's been writing fantasy and science fiction since her son was born. Seventeen years, 10 published novels, and a dozen short stories later, Maria's learned a thing or three about writing, and she's been happily sharing her knowledge with the M.F.A. students at Seton Hill University. She also enjoys creating new worlds where horses and swords rule, 'cause let's face it, they're cool, although she's been known to trap her poor characters in a giant metal cube and let them figure out how to get out.

**Tili Sokolov**

Tili, a Sassafrass member since summer 2012, studies English and Women, Gender, and Sexuality as a Harvard undergraduate. She is a board member of the Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association and of Vericon, Harvard's annual science fiction convention. She loves LARPing, mocking terrible movies, knitting, and reading, especially comics. She has also performed with the Harvard College Madrigal Singers and the Harvard Noteables.

**Josh Soskin**

Director Josh Soskin grew up in a small surf town in central California. He began his directing career in the documentary world where he produced and directed hundreds of short docs for Current TV including a half hour special, *Modern Day Pirates*, that won him national attention. In 2007 he left Current to travel around the world, co-founded Houseblend Media and began directing TV, commercials, and film in earnest.

Josh has directed three short films, *Love Stinks* (2009), *Moving Takahashi* (2011) and *Milk Run* (2013). Takahashi has been broadcast on Virgin Air TV, Indieflix and was recently picked up in France and Switzerland for broadcast. It was selected for several festivals worldwide including the Santa Barbara Film Festival, won "Short of the Week's" Best Production 2012 award, and was also named one of Vimeo's Best 12 of 2012. His first major music video, "Amalgam," a short film/musical hybrid, won Best Music Video at the 2011 OC Music Awards.

Josh has also stood out as a budding talent in the commercial realm. His web spot for Starbucks, "Journey," became their most viewed web spot ever. He has also taken home three grand prize awards for his spec work. His spot "Detention" took the grand prize for Microsoft's competition at Tribeca. "Treasure" took grand prize for Vitamin Water's competition at Cannes Lion, and most recently his spot "Zombie Ride" won grand prize at Chevy Volt's Barcelona competition. "Zombie Ride" was also picked up by Chevy to be broadcast internationally throughout Europe.

Josh's commercial clients have included PepsiCo, Newsday, IBM, Starbucks, Toyota, Nissan and Earthbound Farms. He is now finishing a feature script which he aims to direct in 2013. He currently resides in Venice, California.

**Janine K. Spendlove**

Janine K. Spendlove is a KC-130 pilot in the United States Marine Corps. Her bestselling first novel, *War of the Seasons, Book One: The Human*, was published in June 2011 and her second novel, *War of the Seasons, Book Two: The Half-blood*, was released in June 2012. She's also had several short stories published in various anthologies. A graduate of Brigham Young University in 1999 with a B.A. in history teaching, she is an avid runner and enjoys knitting, playing Beatles tunes on her guitar and spending time with her family. She resides with her husband and daughter in Washington, DC. She is currently at work on her next novel. Find out more at [JanineSpendlove.com](http://JanineSpendlove.com).

**Jon Sprunk**

Jon Sprunk is the author of the *Shadow Fantasy* series from Pyr Books. His first novel, *Shadow's Son*, was a finalist for the 2010 Compton Crook Award. He is currently at work on a new epic fantasy series to begin in 2014.

**B.K. Stevens**

B.K. (Bonnie) Stevens has published 40 short stories, most in *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*. Her dark crime story, "No Good Deed," is in the anthology *To Hell in a Fast Car*, published by Dark Quest Books. *One Shot*, a satirical e-novella from Untreed Reads, takes on issues ranging from gun control to reality shows. Awards and nominations include an Agatha nomination for Best Short Story of 2012, a Derringer award for Best Long Story of 2010, and first place in a suspense-writing contest judged by Mary Higgins Clark. B.K. and her husband, Dennis, live in Virginia. Her website is [www.bkstevensmysteries.com](http://www.bkstevensmysteries.com).

**Matthew Stewart-Fulton**

Matthew is a native of Ann Arbor, MI, where he still lives, works and plays. He is a social worker with a background in public safety and professional interests in psychotherapy, bullying prevention, crisis management and adventure therapy.

Outside the office, he is a long-time martial artist with a passion for German long-sword traditions of the 14th and 15th centuries. His preferred leisure pursuits consist of consuming podcasts and enjoying science fiction and fantasy in a variety of formats.

**Jim Stratton**

Jim Stratton is a chameleon. By day, he is a mild-mannered government lawyer specializing in the field of child-abuse prosecutions. But he's been an avid fan of speculative fiction all his life, and began writing genre fiction more than 20 years ago. He lives with his wife and children in southern Delaware.

In recent years Jim's been forging his dark alter ego of genre-fiction author through publication of his tales in venues such as *Dragons, Knights & Angels* magazine, *Ennea* (published in Athens, Greece) and *Nth Degree* magazine. The appearance of his first foray into the world of poetry in *The Broadkill Review* is but another step in his master plan. In 2012, he stepped into the light when his stories appeared in *Big Pulp* E-zine and the *Rum and Runestones* anthology. His appearance as co-editor and co-author in *Fantastic Fantasy 13* (to be released at Balticon 47) is yet another step in his master plan. His final reveal, the novels *Loki's Gambit* and *Dokkalfar's Ploy*, are under review for publication in 2014.

#### Ian Randal Strock

Ian Randal Strock is the owner and publisher of Fantastic Books and the editor of [SFscope.com](http://SFscope.com) (the news of the speculative fiction fields). When he's not working on other people's writing, he's a writer of short fiction (most of his stories have appeared in *Nature* and *Analog*, from which he won two AnLab Awards) and non-fiction (Random House published his *The Presidential Book of Lists* in 2008). And he also hangs out on the web, writing about the Presidents at [uspresidents.livejournal.com](http://uspresidents.livejournal.com), and about anything else at [ianrandalstrock.livejournal.com](http://ianrandalstrock.livejournal.com) and on Facebook. His previous professional incarnations included editorial positions at *Analog*, *Artemis*, *Asimov's*, Baen, the *Daily Free Press*, and *Science Fiction Chronicle*. He was a founder of the Artemis Project, and worked for several years on Wall Street.

#### Kate Szkotnicki

Kate has recently come back to the world of costuming after obtaining a Pennsylvania teaching certificate (and is certified to teach sewing!). She primarily does anime costumes, but can also be found in the crafting world, making pillows for Desert Bus for Hope.

When she's not sewing, Kate enjoys photography, yoga, and her cat Othello.

#### Cecilia Tan



Cecilia Tan is "simply one of the most important writers, editors, and innovators in contemporary American erotic literature," according to Susie Bright. "It was her revolutionary, genre-breaking efforts decades ago that brought science fiction, fantasy, and erotic communities into the same literary room together." In 1992 Tan founded Circler Press, an independent press that mixes science fiction/fantasy with erotica. Tan is the author of many books, including *Mind Games*, *The Prince's Boy*, and the *Magic University* series. Her short stories have appeared in *Ms. Magazine*, *Nerve*, *Best American Erotica*, *Asimov's Science Fiction*, and tons of other places. She has also edited anthologies for other publishers including Riverdale Avenue Books, Ravenous Romance, Alyson Books, and Thunders Mouth Press. She was inducted into the Saints & Sinners Hall of Fame

for GLBT writers in 2010, was a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Leather Association in 2001, and won the inaugural Rose & Bay Awards for crowdfunded fiction in 2010 for *Daron's Guitar Chronicles*. She lives in the Boston area with her lifelong partner Corwin and three cats.

#### Robert E. Terry

Robert E. Terry received a B.S. degree in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, followed by M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, in 1968, 1975, and 1978, respectively. He is currently a senior research physicist with Enig Associates of Bethesda, MD.

From 1985 to 2007, Dr. Terry worked with the Radiation Hydrodynamics Branch of the Plasma Physics Division, Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). From 1979 to 1984 he worked with the theoretical physics division of Jaycor, Inc. in Alexandria, VA. Joining NRL in 1985, he has worked on plasma radiation source (PRS) dynamics, power flow, plasma flow and reflex triode switches, magnetic interlayer pinches, gyrokinetic flows and microturbulence, RF discharge theory, plasma chemistry, and specialized wire z-pinch models. His current research interests include novel fluid particle models, polywell fusion schemes, in-situ fuel production for Mars, and Mars sample return missions. He is the principal investigator on a DARPA-sponsored research effort in high-altitude heat rejection.

A founding and lifetime member of the Mars Society, he works as the Director of Aerospace Education for the Maryland Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. Dr. Terry maintains a local web discussion list focused on Mars exploration.

#### Lady Ingeborg i Trondheim

Lady Ingeborg i Trondheim is the Chatelaine (welcomer) of the local Barony of Bright Hills of the Kingdom of Atlantia, apart of the worldwide Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. ([SCA.org](http://SCA.org)). Atlantia stretches from Virginia to the Delaware border, and Augusta, GA to the Pennsylvania border. The members of this nonprofit educational group enjoy learning and sharing how to recreate the good parts of the Middle Ages, from 600 to 1600, with Vikings and Celts, Mongols and Japanese warriors, all of the Known World up through Queen Elizabeth I. Ingeborg enjoys making her own Medieval Viking garb, weaving Viking wire weaving jewelry, and shooting Medieval-themed archery targets with her recurve bow.

Her partner at Balticon, Baroness Barbara Giomaria diRoberto, Assistant Chatelaine of the Barony, is a garb-maker, herb-grower, and wife of noted 14<sup>th</sup>-century warrior and armourer Heinrich. Some of Heinrich's armour will be on display in the lower hall at the SCA table.

The SCA teaches Medieval arts such as sword-fighting, fencing with foils, cooking with Medieval recipes, mead-making, weaving, story-telling, making music, equestrian skills and woodworking—oh, so many arts and sports. Ingeborg and Barbara invite teens to make a Viking pouch or make a jewelry chain with Viking wire weaving in classes at this Balticon.

**Mark L. Van Name**

Mark L. Van Name is a writer, technologist, and spoken-word performer. As a science fiction author, he has published five novels (*One Jump Ahead*, *Slanted Jack*, *Overthrowing Heaven*, *Children No More*, and *No Going Back*), as well as an omnibus collection of his first two books (*Jump Gate Twist*); edited or co-edited three anthologies (*Intersections: The Sycamore Hill Anthology*, *Transhuman*, and *The Wild Side*), and written many short stories. Those stories have appeared in a wide variety of books and magazines, including *Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine*, many original anthologies, and *The Year's Best Science Fiction*.

As a technologist, he is the CEO of a fact-based marketing and technology assessment firm, Principled Technologies, Inc., that is based in the Research Triangle area of North Carolina. He has worked with computer technology for his entire professional career and has published more than a thousand articles in the computer trade press, as well as a broad assortment of essays and reviews.

As a spoken-word artist, he has created and performed three shows—*Science Magic Sex*; *Wake Up Horny*, *Wake Up Angry*; and *Mr. Poor Choices*—and also frequently leads humor panels at SF conventions.

**Robin M. Vaughan**

Robin M. Vaughan is a member of the principal professional staff in the Mission Design, Guidance and Control (SEG) Group of the Space Department of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, MD. At APL, Robin has served as the attitude control lead engineer for the MESSENGER, Radiation Belts Storm Probes, and now the Solar Probe Plus missions. Prior to joining APL in 2000, Robin spent 13 years navigating interplanetary missions such as Voyager and Mars Pathfinder at JPL in Pasadena, CA. Robin has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tulane University and master's and Ph.D. degrees in aerospace engineering from M.I.T.

**Michael A. Ventrella**

Fantasy author and editor Michael A. Ventrella is author of the fantasy novels *Arch Enemies* and *The Axes of Evil*. He edits the *Tales of Fortannis* anthologies, and his short stories have appeared in the anthologies *Rum and Runestones*, *Cutlass and Musket* and *Twisted Tails*. Michael founded and runs Alliance LARP, one of the largest fantasy medieval live-action role-playing groups in North America. His Rule Books and Players' Guides can be found in good gaming stores everywhere. He founded *Animato* magazine and has been quoted as an animation expert in numerous books and magazines. Authors, editors, and agents are interviewed on the blog at his web page: [www.MichaelAVentrella.com](http://www.MichaelAVentrella.com). In his spare time, he is a lawyer.

**Jean Marie Ward**

After working more than a decade in government public relations, Jean Marie Ward decided to tell honest lies for a change. Her first novel (*With Nine You Get Vanyr*, written with the late Teri Smith) was a finalist in both the Science Fiction/Fantasy and Humor/Comedy categories of the 2008 Indie Book Awards. Her short fiction appears in numerous anthologies, ranging from the Eppie- and WSFA Small Press Award-nominated *Dragon's Lure* to the Rainbow Award-winning *Hellebore & Rue* to *The Modern Fae's Guide to Surviving Humanity* from DAW. Her nonfiction credits include two art books, eight years editing the popular web magazine *Crescent Blues* and video interviews for *Buzzy Magazine*. She can be found on the web at [JeanMarieWard.com](http://JeanMarieWard.com).

**Joy Ward**

Joy Ward is the author of *Haint: A Tale of Extraterrestrial Intervention and Love Across Time and Space* and coauthor of *Interviews from the Ark*. She is also known as the editor emeritus of Dogster's *For the Love of Dog* blog. When not writing or hanging out with her canine pack in St. Louis, Joy is a consumer-psychology consultant.

**Robert E. Waters**

Robert E. Waters is a science fiction and fantasy writer. Since 1994, he has worked in the computer and board gaming industry as technical writer, editor, designer, and producer. A member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, his first professional fiction publication came in 2003 with the story "The Assassin's Retirement Party," *Weird Tales*, issue #332. Since then he has sold stories to *Nth Degree*, *Nth Zine*, Black Library Publishing (Games Workshop), Dark Quest Books, Padwolf Publishing, Mundania Press, Dragon Moon Press, Rogue Blades Entertainment, and the *Grantville Gazette* (for Baen Books' *1632/Ring of Fire* alternate history series). Between the years of 1998 and 2006, he also served as an assistant editor to *Weird Tales*, and is still a frequent contributor to *Tangent Online*, a short-fiction review site. Robert currently lives in Baltimore, Maryland, with his wife Beth, their son Jason, and their cat Buzz.

**Alexa Weingarden**

Alexa Weingarden is an M.D./Ph.D. student at the University of Minnesota, currently working on her Ph.D. in microbiology, immunology, and cancer biology. In addition to singing with Sassafrass, Alexa has recently appeared in *Nunsense* (Sister Mary Leo), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), and *Annie* (Grace Farrell). Beyond her professional and artistic interests, she also fences, plays far too much Skyrim, and gives lots of pettings and love to her dog Frey.

### Diane Weinstein

Diane Weinstein was assistant editor and art director for *Weird Tales* magazine for 15 years. She was also a jack-of-all-trades at Wildside Press for several years and has been the art editor of *Space and Time Magazine* since 2007. She has attended Balticon since 1980.

### Ruth Wejksnora-Garrott

Ruth Wejksnora-Garrott is a member of Sassafrass, and has sung about Norse mythology and other such things since 2008. When not singing, she's a psychotherapist, specializing in working with fans, gamers, GLBTQIA folks, furies and pagans and all sorts of people who want to talk about their actual problems, rather than their therapist making an issue of the "alternative" parts of their lives. She lives and woks in Somerville, MA.

### Christopher Weuve

Christopher Weuve is a professional naval analyst and wargame designer. He spent the first few years of the 21st century at the Center for Naval Analyses, where he accrued 87 days of sea time on warships (he notes the Combat Information Center of an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer would make an excellent starship bridge), and then spent five years on the research faculty of the U.S. Naval War College, specializing in the use of wargaming as a research tool. Outside the day job, he was the "military expert" for the Discovery Channel's *Curiosity (Alien Invasion)* show, and is (to the best of his knowledge) the only person ever interviewed by the journal *Foreign Policy* about science fiction warships—twice! A member of BuNine, he was an editor for the forthcoming *House of Steel: The Honorverse Companion*, in which he also co-authored (with David Weber) the "Building a Navy" chapter. An avid science fiction fan since before he was old enough to read, he spends his time pondering the differences between Real-World(tm) naval warfare and how similar subjects are represented in science fiction. He still describes himself as an Iowan, more than two decades after he moved east.

### Robbie Whiplash

Robbie began making music at the age of 13, learning every instrument that was put in front of him, and teaching himself drums, keyboard, guitar and bass. Having belonged to many bands, his most successful ventures have been with his current bands Machines of Living Death (vocals) and The Recently Deceased (drums/guitar) and Omnislash (drums). Having toured the country and supporting many national acts and making connections in the industry, he decided to pursue a hidden passion of his musically ... scoring soundtracks.

With songs featured in such films/shows as *Ninjas vs. Monsters* and web series *Rebels and Rejects*, Robbie plans to bring on the full effect with *Shotgun Mythos*, fusing everything from mechanical industrial sounds to full symphonic scoring. Symphonies, machines, choirs, metal/rock give this already gritty action drama even more edge.

### Sandry Wilkie

Sandry Wilkie is an IT professional, largely because she didn't want to pursue a career as a penniless orchestral flutist. Originally hailing from New York, she's now a stout Boston advocate who spends spare time singing/playing/composing with dark folk band Stranger Ways, singing with the a capella group Sassafrass, and making sarcastic commentary.

### A.C. Wise

A.C. Wise is an author whose short fiction has appeared in print and online in publications such as *Clarkesworld*, *Lightspeed*, *Apex*, and *The Best Horror of the Year: Volume Four*, among others. She is also the co-editor of the *Journal of Unlikely Entomology*, an online publication dedicated to fiction and art relating to bugs.

### Leona Wisoker



Leona Wisoker is the author of the *Children of the Desert* series. Her short stories have been published in *Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine*, Michael Hanson's *Sha'daa: Pawns*, and the Dark Quest anthology *Galactic Creatures*, among other places. She teaches writing classes at The Muse Writers Center in Norfolk, VA, writes and edits for *Sleeping Hedgehog*, and blogs about living a creative life at *The Writing of a Wisoker on the Loose*. Past and current careers include, in no particular order: filing clerk, CAD jockey, graphic designer, massage therapist, editor, computer teacher, and clothing retail. Current fixations involve a search for the perfect cup of coffee and a hopeless quest to pull her characters out of some very squirrely corners without breaking the Rules of Established Reality. She lives in eastern Virginia with her husband and two large dogs, all of whom routinely try—and usually fail—to drag her away from the computer for long, rambling walks.

### Trisha J. Wooldridge



Trisha J. Wooldridge is the current president of Broad Universe ([www.broaduniverse.org](http://www.broaduniverse.org)), as well as a member of New England Horror Writers, the Horror Writers Association, and the Worcester Writers Collaborative. She is a senior editor at Spencer Hill Press and has co-produced the Spencer Hill Press *UnCONventional* (January 2012) and *Doorways to Extra Time* (August 2013) anthologies. Her writing can be found in the EPIC award-winning *Bad-Ass Faeries* anthologies; *Journal of New England Horror Writer's Epitaphs* anthology; *Corrupts Absolutely?* from Damnation Press; *Once Upon an Apocalypse* anthology; and *Poetry Locksmith*. She also gets paid to review food, play with horses, and interview chefs, bands and people who make movies. Her first novel, *The Kelpie*, will be available December 2013 from Spencer Hill Press. She also has a very



patient Husband-of-Awesome, a calico horse, a tabby cat, and two Giant Baby Bunnies. Her official website is [www.anovelfriend.com](http://www.anovelfriend.com).

#### J. Andrew World



J. Andrew World is the writer and illustrator of the progressive political webcomics *Right About Now* and *Word Salad*. He also designs eye-catching graphics highlighting inspirational, thought-provoking, and sometimes controversial quotes. He is committed to using his talents for raising awareness of community challenges and for encouraging open and respectful debate.

In addition to his political interests, J. Andrew has a nearly life-long love of science fiction and fantasy, especially as a source of artistic inspiration. Seeing the work of Michael Whelan, in particular, inspired him to become an illustrator and he has put those skills to use in aid of projects such as *Nth Zine* and the *FuMP*.

When not creating art or writing, J. Andrew does his best to remember to spend time with his wife, their very silly daughters, and their cats.

#### John Wright

John Wright is a retired attorney, newspaperman and newspaper editor. His works include *The Golden Age* series, *The War of the Dreaming* series, the *Chronicles of Chaos* series, *Null-A Continuum*, *Count to a Trillion*, and *The Hermetic Millennia*; as well as several short stories in *Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine*, a number of *Year's Best* anthologies, and the *Night Land's* website/anthology. He lives in fairy-tale-like happiness with his wife, the authoress L. Jagi Lamplighter, and their four children, Orville, Ping-Ping, Roland and Just Wright.

#### Robyn Wyrick

Robyn Wyrick is the author of *Eviction Notice*, a science fiction adventure packed with comic mash-ups, alien abductions, romantic revivals, space battles, mystical fairies, invisible lawyers, and rednecks with super powers.

Robyn Wyrick is a novelist and screenwriter. *Eviction Notice* is his first novel. In his day job he runs a software development company.

#### Jeff Young



Jeff Young is a bookseller first and a writer second—although he wouldn't mind a reversal of fortune.

He received a Writers of the Future award for "Written in Light," which appears in *L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future, Volume XXVI*. He's been published in *Realms*, *Neuronet*, *Trail of Indiscretion*, *Cemetery Moon*, *Realms Beyond* and *Carbon14*. Jeff has contributed to

the anthologies *Fantastic Futures 13*, *By Other Means*, *Best Laid Plans*, and *In an Iron Cage: The Magic of Steampunk*, and has stories in the forthcoming *Clockwork Chaos*, *Ministry of Extraordinary Weapons*, *TV Gods* and *Gaslight and Grimm*. He also serves as an editor for Fortress Publishing on their *Drunken Comic Book Monkeys* line. Jeff has led the Watch the Skies SF&F discussion group for more than 12 years.

#### Cindy Young-Turner



Cindy Young-Turner has been writing for most of her life. At age 12, she won her first writing contest, a local contest in her small hometown in Massachusetts calling for stories written in the style of Edgar Allan Poe. Thus began her love of stories that are dark and fantastical. She believes genre fiction can be just as well-written and valuable as literature. The universal themes of love, hate, revenge, and redemption are present regardless of whether characters live in the distant future, on other planets, or in fantastical realms.

By day she edits and does business development for international development projects. In her free time, she works on inspiring her characters to fight for change and justice in their imaginary worlds. Her published works include the fantasy novel *Thief of Hope* and a short prequel, *Journey to Hope*.

#### Marv Zelkowitz

Marvin Zelkowitz is a professor emeritus of computer science at the University of Maryland College Park. His research interests are in experimental software engineering and technology transfer, where he has studied the introduction of new computer technology into organizations such as NASA and the Department of Defense. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE), a Golden Core member of the Computer Society, and has published more than 160 conference and journal papers on aspects of computer technology (none intentionally science fiction).

His interests include skepticism (he is president of the National Capital Area Skeptics), bible studies (who wrote those books and why?), and reading science fiction, which he has been doing since the Golden Age of Science Fiction (i.e., since he was 12). As an aging Geek, he used to totally understand how gadgets like the original IBM PC worked, can still set the clock on his home DVD player, but doesn't understand who or why anyone wants an iPhone.

For the most current list of  
Balticon 47 program participants  
and their bios, see:  
[www.balticon.org/participants.html](http://www.balticon.org/participants.html)