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October 1, 2011 - January 7, 2012



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# WELCOME TO MARS!

Greetings Fans!

I'll be your liaison to the Colony during your stay with us. We are so glad that Necronomicon has chosen Mars as the site for your 30th Anniversary Convention. From the heights of Olympus Mons to the great thoat herds of the Chryse Plains, you won't find a more amazing location in the solar system.



We have arranged for facilities for you in the decommissioned domes. This area has plenty of space for all your fannish activities, and decompression chances are extremely low. You will be provided with a colored key-card that will grant access to authorized areas. Please keep it on at all times, as Security Turrets have been known to "neutralize" un-badged humans.

We know that you will have quite an experience here on the 4th rock from the sun, and who knows, you may even end up staying with us longer than you expected!

Martin O'Hara  
Bova Colony Liaison

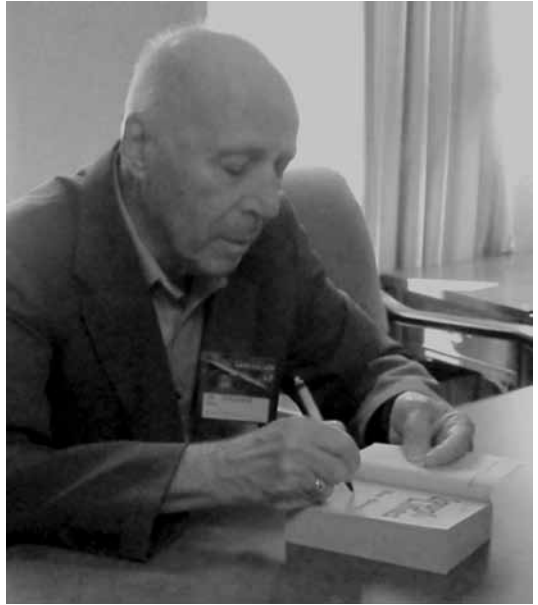
# MARTIAN PROTOCOLS

1. No Smoking - The hotel, State of Florida, and Necronomicon have instituted a no smoking policy. The only places where members may smoke are on designated smoking floors and outside.
2. Weapons - No real weapons, bladed weapons, or simulated weapons that can shoot a projectile are allowed. Also, if it looks like a real gun, it's not allowed. The only exception is for pre-approved Masquerade participants. All hall costume weapons and props must be approved by a member of Necronomicon staff. If you have a weapon on your hall costume, you are NOT allowed to carry it in your hands; it MUST remain in the holster/sheath or similar.
3. Badges - ID badges must be worn prominently on the front of clothing and above the waist at all times. Anyone without a badge will be refused access. If you lose your badge, and you escape the Security Turrets, you must buy a new membership to get another one.
4. Behavior and costumes must adhere to Pinellas County decency laws.
5. Quiet time, except for the first floor, is 10 p.m. to 10 a.m. For the comfort and convenience of all hotel guests, during these hours you are required to keep noise to a minimum on all sleeping floors.
6. Disorderly Conduct - No running in the hotel, yelling, fighting, or damaging of hotel and/or convention property will be tolerated. Drunken or disorderly conduct in Necronomicon function space will result in the member being escorted to his or her room or removed from the hotel.
7. Alcohol shall not be dispensed in public or function areas in the hotel, except by authorized hotel staff.
8. Signs - Signs may not be posted except on convention bulletin boards. No signs may be posted in the elevators, on the walls, or on room doors. Bulletin boards and thumbtacks are available at the registration desk.

Damage to the hotel jeopardizes our ability to put on future conventions. To ensure that there will be another Necronomicon, please report any acts of vandalism to the hotel or convention staff.

# GUEST OF HONOR - BEN BOVA

Ben Bova was born in Philadelphia and worked as a newspaper reporter for several years before joining Project Vanguard. His articles, opinion pieces and reviews have appeared in *Scientific American*, *Nature*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and many other newspapers and magazines. Dr. Bova is a frequent commentator on radio and television and a widely-popular lecturer. Earlier, he was an award-winning editor and an executive in the aerospace industry.



Dr. Ben Bova has written more than 120 futuristic novels and nonfiction books, and has been involved in science and high technology since the beginnings of the space age. President Emeritus of the National Space Society and a past president of Science Fiction Writers of America, Dr. Bova received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Arthur C. Clarke Foundation in 2005 “for fueling mankind’s imagination regarding the wonders of outer space.” His 2006 novel *TITAN* received the John W. Campbell Memorial Award for best novel of the year. In 2008, he won the Robert A. Heinlein Award “for his outstanding body of work in the field of literature.”

His Grand Tour novels, such as *MOONRISE*, *MARS*, and *TITAN* combine romance, adventure, and the highest degree of scientific accuracy to show how the human race will expand through the solar system and the impact this will have on individual human lives and society as a whole.

Dr. Bova lectures regularly on topics dealing with the prospects for human immortality, the interaction of science and politics, space exploration and development, the craft of writing, and the search for extraterrestrial life. He was editorial director of *Omni* magazine and, earlier, editor of *Analog* magazine. He received the Science Fiction Achievement Award (the "Hugo") for Best Professional Editor six times. In 2001 Dr. Bova was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

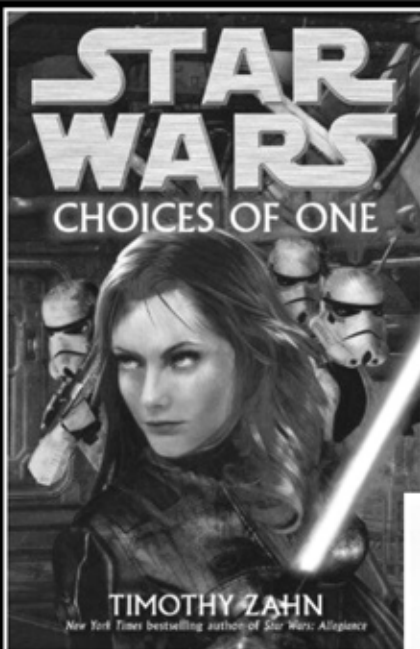
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## OTHER GUESTS

This convention could not be held without the volunteer effort of our other guests, many of whom return year after year. We wish we had enough room to put a bio for each in the program book. Instead, we can only list them here and salute their dedication and effort to make this convention enjoyable to you, the members.

Tracy Akers, Johnny Atomic, Eric Beebe, Chris Berman, Johanna M. Bolton, Jeffrey Breslauer, Richard Lee Byers, Craig Caldwell, Ken Chapman, Berny Clark, Zach Cornett, Brenda Cothorn, Vince Courtney, C.A. Dawson, Nick DiChario, David Dickenson, Tanja Diederich, Glenda Finkelstein, Tony Finkelstein, For Love or Money, Michael R. Fosburg, Chris Harben, Hellview Cemetary, William Hatfield, Chris Helton, Sam Hing, Michael Hinman, MCA Hogarth, Ed Howdershelt, Louise Kleba, Michael L. Joy, Kurt Kuechenberg, Eloy LaSanta, William R. Logan, Will Ludwigsen, Craig D. MacDougal, Elissa Malcohn, Christina McCoy, Christopher McCoy, Jeff Mitchell, William Mize, Kendall D. W. Morris, Kendall F. Morris, Stanley Morrison, K. L. Nappier, Michael Pinsky, Violette Reid, T.S. Robinson, E. Rose Sabin, T. Devon Sharkey (Tampa Fechtschule), Marina Sergeyeve, Rubey Shea, Lakisha Spletzer, Brandy Stark, Jonathan Thompson, John S. Tumlin, Andrea Dean Van Scoyoc, Robert Westerfield, Rick Wilber, Gord Williams, & the Great and Powerful Timothy Zahn.

*Cover art by Joe Martin; some interior art by Allen Koszowski.*



Pick up a good read  
and meet Timothy  
this weekend at  
Necronomicon!

Check out Stone Hill  
and Necronomicon's  
place in history, in the  
**Heir to the Empire**  
**20th Anniversary**  
**Edition** on pages:  
113, 145, 239, 292, 389

## Timothy Zahn

author of 9 Star Wars Novels,  
the Cobra Books,  
the Dragonback Books,  
and the Quadrail Series.

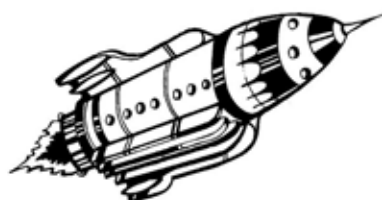


For the latest news about Timothy Zahn,  
see his Facebook page  
*[www.facebook/TimothyZahn](http://www.facebook.com/TimothyZahn)*

The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society Presents  
Its 25th Annual Celebration of Science Fiction and Fantasy

# OASIS 25

May 25-27, 2012



**Writer Guests of Honor**

**L.E. Modesitt Jr.**

**David Weber**

**Artist Guest of Honor**

**Janny Wurts**

**Fan Guests of Honor**

**Pat and Roger Sims**

**Author Signings,  
Costume Contest,  
Live Music and Comedy,  
Anime and Video  
Programs,  
Art Show,  
Informative Panel Talks,  
Artist Demos, Books,  
Cool Stuff for Sale,  
Fun and Games  
Charity Auction**

## **Hotel Information**

\$79/night, single-quad  
through 5/6/12  
Mention OASIS for rate

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# LOCATIONS:

We've provided a number of semi-airtight quarters for different parts of the convention. In these next sections, you will find descriptions of the locations and the activities occurring there. Visitors are reminded that the Colony is almost as old as Necronomicon, so some areas may not be working at optimal levels.

## **Section Bi-4U: Dealer's Room**

Just because you are 225 million km from Earth, doesn't mean you can't get a good deal! Set up in the old Archeology Dome, where ancient Martian remains have been studied for years, you should be able to find Traders who will swap Earth currency for some trinkets, relics or Helium 3. You will find it open on Friday from 12-7, Saturday from 10-7, and Sunday from 10-2.



## **Section PU-36: Anime Video**

When Mars is at aphelion, and the RF interference from Earth is at its weakest, our media specialist Mark D. has discovered that he can pick up video signals from back in time. Using a volatile space modulator, he captures these programs for your enjoyment. You will find them located in the new Pinellas room across from the Art Show. Be on the lookout for a special Video Scavenger Hunt that will be run during the Con. Details at the Video Schedule Board.

## **Section Di-12: Gaming, RPG, LAN, and LARP**

Since facility space is sparse up here, we've had to put the Gamers in the old waste reclamation center. You'll find it next to the Dealers Room. While some weak-minded colonists have allegedly seen a "portal from hell" appearing in the area, the survivors of the UAC security team report that there is nothing to panic about. We are sure that Necro's crack GMs will be up to the task of running RPG &

board games on schedule and fending off Cyberdemons. Check the Schedule board and/or the Gaming Program Book for all the details.

Gaming on our MAN (Mars Area Network) is limited to this planet. However, with the help of SEADS, our great gaming gurus, we will have all manner of computer mayhem for your enjoyment. Visit them in the meteor shielded HTC-2 room.

Finally, Live Action Role Playing will be headquartered in room HTC-1. You may totally recall that LARPing is where you pretend to be another character in real life, and hopefully you aren't a double agent pretending to be a gamer. Because, no matter how hard you look, you won't find the mutants.

### **Section OU-812: Con-Suite**

Unlike previous Conventions, the Con-Suite will NOT be in the upper floors of the Tripod Tower. This year, it will be (for good or ill) located in the HTC Section. Room HTC-4 will be open serving soda, snacks and such. As the convention will be bringing all the goodies that will be served, health regulations require that the rations be consumed only in the Con-Suite. We wouldn't want to give any of the locals a cold or virus.

### **Section 4S-AL: Art Show**

A standard section of most Cons is the Art Show. Here, artists from around the solar system show off their craft in as many forms as there are moons (166). Of particular note is the works of those artists who arrived here months ago to work with the indigenous population. How well they grokked Martian life is reflected in the art of those who survived. These artists were inspired by bungee jumping in Vallis Marins, polar ice skiing, and giant sandstorms scouring the plains. Just plunk a sandworm into the picture and call it Dune. To see these works of genius, visit during the duty cycles of Friday 12-7, Saturday 9-6 and Sunday 9-4.

# EVENTS:

## **Section i8-2mch:**

### **Buffet Dinner & Guest of Honor Speech**

As a career bureaucrat, I've had more formal meals than Mars has had sandstorms, but you can bet your antennae that I'll be in St. Pete 3 on Friday at 6pm. Dr. Ben Bova will be giving his Guest of Honor speech following the meal. If you did not pre-order tickets, you are still allowed to come into the room for Dr. Bova's speech.

## **Section IG-YG: Beer Tasting Party**

A perennial favorite of veteran convention goers, the Igor/Ygor party will be held on Friday night at 10pm in the Con Suite, downstairs in HTC-4. This event will feature a beer tasting supplied by some of the finest Phobos breweries. You must be at least 12 years old to sample the beers. (That's in Martian years; 21 in Earth years.)



## **Section GO-BGs:**

### **NecronomiProm: A Martian Fantasy**

Long ago, the sands of Mars knew the grandeur of battles waged, glorious deeds, and heroic rescues! Join us Saturday night at 9pm for a return to the splendor of Mars past, present, and future. The St. Pete ballroom will rock with those vying for the King and Queen of Mars. No duels to the death allowed, as they will be chosen by audience acclaim.

## **Section IC-u2: Native Costumes**

Mars is known for its eclectic mix of historical outfits, and our Costume Contest on Saturday at 8pm will do its best to showcase them. Whether you are dressed as a warlord, an astronaut, or have a push broom whisk on your helmet, it doesn't matter. You all will have a chance to woo our judges as you stride the stage. Contestants need to sign up at Registration by 5pm Saturday. Audience seating will begin at 7:30.

## **Section UC-mE2: Hall Costumes**

For those with wonderful costumes to share, but without the frontier spirit to climb onto the stage, you can show off in the Hall Costume Contest. Just wander into the NecronomiProm and secret judges will award prizes to those they like.

## **Section Hi-IQ: Trivia Contests**

Since only the best and the brightest can make it on the Mars Colony, even our janitors have multiple PhDs, so the competition will be brutal at this year's Contests.

- First up will be Movie One-Liners on Friday at 9pm in St. Pete 1. Just show up and you can compete or read lines to the panels. Beads and candy will be awarded for random reasons.
- The Trivia Inquisition will be the one that can crack the braincase of the toughest egghead. Sign up at Registration for this team event held Saturday at 2pm in St. Pete 2.
- The final challenge will be Saturday evening at 10pm for SF Name that Tune. Just show up and be ready to say "Oh, oh! I almost know that one...."

## **Section Db-120: Filking**

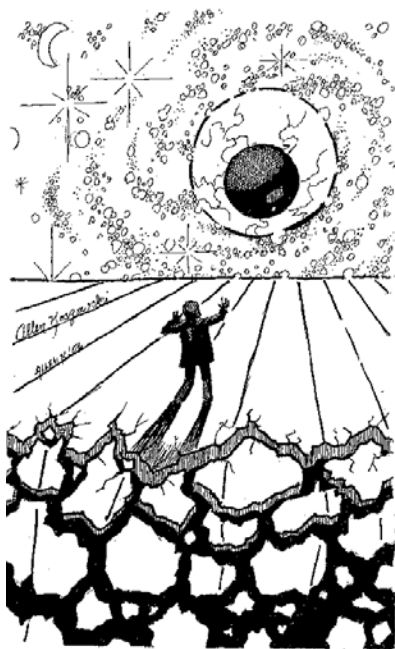
While sitting around a campfire of burning oxygen rocks and singing to keep up spirits through the cold Martian night SEEMS cozy, I don't recommend you try it. Ever. Located in the semi-detached, sound proofed Jeff Wayne Memorial physics lab. This is for the locals, whose craniums have been known to pop with the wrong vocal tunes. For those that do like joyous voices raised in

chorus, you will find them in St. Pete 1 on Friday at 1pm and later at 1am. Saturday will be in the Demens Room at 10pm. All members of the con will be searched for contraband Slim Whitman music, as that is considered a weapon of Mass Destruction on Mars.

### **Section Gi-Ve: Kids & Canines**

We were hoping that Necro would work with a local charity, Fix Your FlatCat, but we have a commitment to Kids & Canines. This is an Earth organization that works with at-risk school kids and teaches them how to train service dogs. The work enhances the students' social skills and academic performance, and the dogs go on to assist the disabled with their daily needs. Necronomicon is proud to sponsor this organization and donates a portion of the proceeds to help support them.

Donations can be made at registration, and a raffle will be drawn at the Masquerade Saturday night. There will also be a table set up Yard-Sale style at the Eye-Scream Social with bargain basement prices on all types of items. You never know what you might find there!



### **3rd Annul Cthulhu Memorial Eye-Scream Social**

Over 42 tons of supplies were shipped to Mars to help run this convention, including the ice-cream for the Social on Sunday at 2pm in St. Pete 2. But efficiency had to apply to everything shipped, and this year the ice cream will be in the form of ChocTacos, Klondike Bars and Ice Cream Sandwiches. For those that have endured the weekend, this should be a little slice of home, which you won't see for 6 more months of cryo-sleep.



NECROMANCY

CELEBRATING

ITS 30TH

ANNIVERSARY





CONMICON



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# SPECIAL EVENTS:

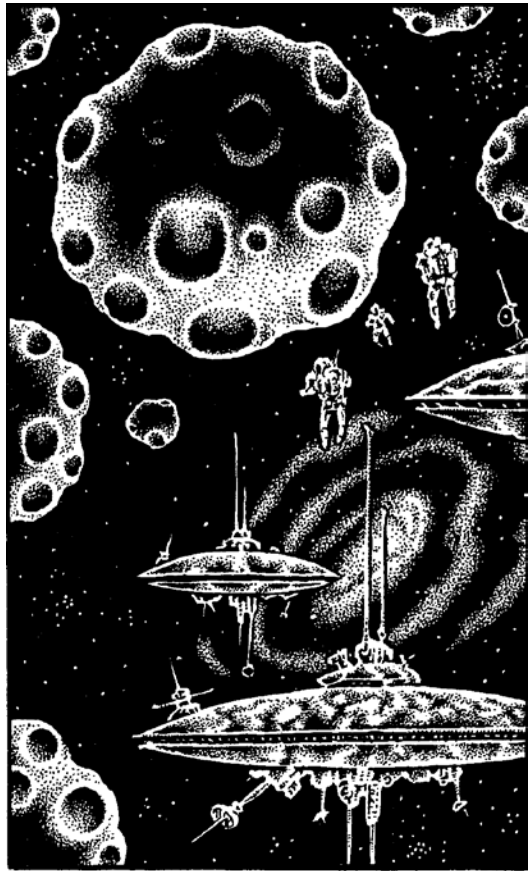
There are a number of Special Programs that will be occurring around the complex during the weekend.

## **Star Party-Jupiter Viewing**

Join with astronomers Diederich and Dickinson on Friday at 8pm outside for a telescopic view of the gentle giant of our solar system. EVA suits are recommended.

## **Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog – Last Chance:**

Next year, we'll be hosting "Repo", but for this one last time, you can sing-along to what has become a Joss Whedon classic. This promises to be a bigger hit than Shoemaker-Levy 9. Be in St. Pete 1&2 on Friday at 11pm.



## **International Space Station Slide Show:**

Find out what's going on with that quaint little space station back in Earth orbit. Jeff Mitchel will give a slide show at 9pm Friday in St. Pete 2.

## **Medieval Martial Arts Workshops:**

Long to fight like John Carter? Here's your chance to give it a go. Join members of Tampa Fechtschule for a martial arts workshop on Saturday at 2pm in St. Pete 3. Loincloths are not optional.



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & PANELS

## FRIDAY

### 12:00 PM

- St. Pete 1 **Intro to Gaming at Necronomicon:** Love to game? Find out what we have in store for you this weekend. - *D. Dryer, J. Faber* -H: *H. Dryer*
- St. Pete 2 **Writing Across Genres:** What are the advantages & pitfalls in cross-genre writing or in writing in two or more genres? - *Byers, Robinson, Hogarth, Hatfield* -H: *Joy*
- St. Pete 3 **Writing for the Younger Set:** Young Adult book authors discuss what makes a book appropriate for YA readers. - *Sabin, Nappier, Akers* -H: *Sears*

### 1:00 PM

- St. Pete 1 **Intro to Filk & Open Filk:** Love to sing? There is science fiction singing. Join in the fun! - *Bruns*
- St. Pete 2 **Promoting Yourself:** Your work is published. Now, how do you sell it to the public? - *Van Scoyoc, Nappier, Cothorn, Byers* -H: *Caldwell*
- St. Pete 3 **How to be a Successful LARPER:** LARP is make-believe for adults. Learn how you can play with us. -H: *J. Faber*

### 2:00 PM

- St. Pete 1 **Gamemastering 101:** Experienced gamers and game designers give tips to make you a great GM. - *LaSanta, Helton, Thompson, Cothorn* -H: *J. Faber*
- St. Pete 2 **How to Train to be An Actor:** Want to act? Our panel will give you the inside scoop on how to get started. - *G. Finkelstein, T. Finkelstein, Breslauer* -H: *Van Scoyoc*
- St. Pete 3 **Setting Rules for Magic in Fiction:** Our panel talks about how you create a system of magic for your work. - *Sabin, Robinson, Akers* -H: *Nappier*

### 3:00 PM

- St. Pete 1 **Writing Filk:** Prolific filk author Perry Bruns answers your questions and gives you tips for creating your own filk songs. - *Bruns* -H: *Bruns*
- St. Pete 2 **Science & Math in Everyday Life:** This is the clue store where you can buy the clues about how we benefit from and use math & science in life every day. - *K.F. Morris, Caldwell, Bova* -H: *T. Sears*
- St. Pete 3 **What Has Social Media Done for You Lately:** Can social media enrich your life in more substantial ways than just playing games and poking friends? - *LaSanta, Malcoln* -H: *Helton*

#### 4:00 PM

Hall B

St. Pete 1 **Autograph Session: - Ben Bova, Timothy Zahn**  
**Using Historical Facts in Your Fiction:** Making your fiction "real" with historical references. - *Logan, Nappier, Sabin -H: Joy*

St. Pete 2 **Creating Costumes from The Things You Find at Home:** Can't sew? No money? You can still costume and here's how. - *A. Morris, M. Stubkjaer*

St. Pete 3 **Character Creation for Gaming:** Some characters work better than others. Our panelists give tips on how to create effective characters for NPCs & PCs. *Hing, Thompson, Berny Clark H: Helton*

#### 5:00 PM

Hall B

St. Pete 2 **Rock Paper Scissors Lizard Spock:** You heard about this on "Big Bang Theory." Now, come play it with us. - *D. Dryer, A. Morris*

St. Pete 2 **That Doesn't Mean What You Think It Means:** It's fun to use "fancy" words in your fiction but beware that you don't have someone buttering his sweetbreads. -*Hicks, Byers, Breslauer, Wilber -H: T. Sears*

St. Pete 3 **Why Is the Paranormal So Popular?:** Just about everyone loves a good ghost story. Why do we find the supernatural so fascinating? - *Stark, Cothorn, Spletzer, Van Scoyoc -H: Joy*

#### 6:00 PM

St. Pete 1

**Guest of Honor Buffet**

St. Pete 2 **Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Pet Peeves:** What makes you crazy when you read or see it onscreen? Our panel tells you what gets them up in arms & lets you air your peeves too. - *Dawson, Breslauer, Van Scoyoc -H: Caldwell*

St. Pete 3 **Cover Art & Editing for Self Published Writers:** Maybe you shouldn't judge a book by its cover but we all do. The panel discusses what a good cover does and how to get one. - *Helm, Dawson, Spletzer, Williams -H: Shea*

#### 7:00 PM

St. Pete 1

**Opening Ceremony & Guest of Honor Speech: - Ben Bova**

#### 8:00 PM

Outside

**Star Party-Jupiter Viewing:** Jupiter will be in view (weather permitting) and you can see it up close and personal. - *Diederich, Dickinson*

St. Pete 1 **British TV~ Beyond Dr. Who:** Yeah, we know you love The Doctor but there's some other great British television you might want to try. - *Sears, OZ, A. Morris -H: Hinman*

St. Pete 2 **Westerfield Studios Computer Animation:** Learn about this local film company and how they created Twisted Tales. - *Westerfield*



St. Pete 3 **Writing Dialogue:** Tips from the Pros: It's not as easy as it may seem to make your characters speak. Authors give their advice for making dialogue seem natural. - *LaSanta, Robinson, Berman -H: Shea*

#### 9:00 PM

St. Pete 1 **Movie One-Liners:** Our annual movie quotes trivia game. Richard Byers will defend his trivia master title for yet another year. - *Lung, A. Morris*

St. Pete 2 **ISS Update:** Slide show & news of the International Space Station. - *Mitchell*

St. Pete 3 **Just How Do You Write a Sex Scene?:** Our panelists discuss how they handle sex and romance in their fiction. - *Van Scoyoc, Cothorn, Bolton -H: Berman*

#### 10:00 PM

HTC 4 **Ygor Party:** Ygor/Igor! Join us for our gourmet bheer tasting and lab assistant name battle. - *Carroll, K.F. Morris*

HTC 3 **How to Watch Anime:** Chibis and other tropes of anime could have you confused, but our panel will help straighten things out for you. - *Kloetzer, Hollingsworth, Meredith -H: Hicks*

## 11:00 PM

HTC 3

### **Jumping the Shark: Is it Necessarily a Bad Thing?:**

The Doctor is now in Hawaii and has a talking dolphin for a companion but is that really a bad thing? Maybe not. Come join the discussion. - *S. Powers, Hollingsworth, Meredith -H: Sears*

St. Pete 1 **LARP till Dawn:** Live Action Role Play until the sun is visible above the eastern horizon.

St Pete 2-3 **Dr. Horrible Sing-Along: Last Chance:** Next year, we'll be hosting "Repo" but for this one last time, you can sing-along to what has become a Joss Whedon classic. - *Stone Hill*

## 12:00 AM

HTC 3

**All the Naughty Bits: Fanfic & Video:** This is not for kids. There will be talk of tentacle sex, slashy goodness, and whatever other naughty bits you like in your fanfic & songvids. - *Kloetzer, Hollingsworth, Meredith*

## 1:00 AM

HTC 3

**Open Filk:** Sing till dawn if you feel like it. The filk room is OPEN!

# SATURDAY

## 10:00 AM

HTC 3

**YA: It's Not Just for Kids Anymore:** Adults are reading Harry Potter and Twilight. How do you write for tweens, teens, and adults? - *Courtney, Sabin, Nappier, Akers -H: Helm*

St. Pete 1 **How Science Literacy Affects Your Perception of the World:** Knowing a bit of science changes how you see the world around you but just how does it change it? - *MacDougal, Mitchell, Diederich, K.D. Morris -H: Caldwell*

St. Pete 2 **What's New in Gaming?:** Find out what the gaming companies have in store for you. - *Hing, Berny Clark, Thompson -H: J. Faber*

St. Pete 3 **Romance in Science Fiction:** How authors put the romance in science fiction and paranormal tales. - *Spletzer, Reid, Bolton, Berman -H: G. Finkelstein*

## 11:00 AM

Boardroom

**Focus Group: Alternative Costumed Activities:** Focus group for serious costumers who want to know how they can find more opportunities to attend costumed events. - *Sharkey*

HTC 3

**Making It as a Freelancer in Tough Times:** The panelists discuss strategies for paying the bills when you don't have a regular job. - *Morrison, Atomic, Chapman, Breslauer -H: Shea*

# STRANGE PULP

## TALES OF SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

### WANTED: SCI-FI/FANTASY SHORT STORIES

Strange Pulp, a pocket-sized, print-only publication with a focus on adventure-oriented sci-fi/fantasy in the tradition of the pulps of the '30s, '40s and '50s, is looking for short stories for its May edition. Submissions should be less than 4,000 words, be in Standard Manuscript Format and submitted as a .rtf, .doc or .txt file attached to the email. Include your name and contact information on the manuscript itself and a brief, two- to three-sentence bio in the body of your email message. Submit your work to [strangepulppublication@gmail.com](mailto:strangepulppublication@gmail.com) with the email subject line in the following format: FICTION SUB: "Your title here." The staff will not open or read any submissions that do not have an appropriate subject line. Payment is \$50 via PayPal on acceptance. We are purchasing one-time rights for the May 2012 print edition of Strange Pulp only. Deadline for fiction submissions is Jan. 1, 2012.

- St. Pete 1 **Teaching Science, the Challenges & Rewards:** Our panel of past & present teachers talks about the state of science education today. - *K.F. Morris, K.D. Morris, MacDougal, Dickinson -H: Bolton*
- St. Pete 2 **How to Haunt Your House:** Want to make your home into a spooky house? You'll find out how to do just that here. - *Hellview Cemetary*
- St. Pete 3 **D & D Roundtable:** This is the game that started it all. The panel talks about D&D and how it changed pop culture and gaming. - *Thompson, Byers, Berny Clark -H: J. Faber*
- 12:00 PM**
- HTC 3 **Airlock Alpha News and Q&A:** Get the scoop on AirlockAlpha online news, reviews, and features magazine. - *Hinman*
- St. Pete 1 **Women in Science:** Science is less a man's world than it used to be. These women discuss the joys and trials that differ from those men experience in the field. - *Kleba, Kloetzer, Hollingsworth, Sergeyeva -H: Diederich*
- St. Pete 2 **Game Design Tips & Tricks:** Game design pros tell you how you can create great game scenarios & settings. - *Chis McCoy, Hing, Berny Clark, Thompson -H: LaSanta*

St. Pete 3 **Have Vampires Lost Their Bite:** Zombies are in vogue and werewolves are on the rise. Have we seen the last of vampires in fiction for a while? - *Courtney, Ludwigsen, Robinson, Spletzer -H: Van Scoyoc*

## 1:00 PM

HTC 3 **Quidditch is Alive and Well and You Can Play:** Find out from USF Quidditch team members how the game is played in real life and how you can get involved. -*H: Cornett*

St. Pete 1 **Why We Love Superheroes:** It's the year of superhero movies. We love the super-powered folks. Some of our author guests tell you why they are fans too. - *Reid, Spletzer, Byers, Berny Clark -H: Joy*

St. Pete 2 **Ghosthunting in the TBA Q&A:** Ask paranormal expert Brandy Stark everything you want to know about ghost hunting in our area. - *Stark*

Boardroom **Costuming Swap/Giveaway:** Want to add to your costume stash? Want to get rid of some of your stash. Come to our costume swap & giveaway. - *A. Morris*

St. Pete 3 **What Makes Fiction Science Fiction?:** It's not enough to put a rocket ship in your story and call it science fiction. Panelists discuss what elements really make a story a science fiction tale. - *Hatfield, Logan, Hogarth, Sabin -H: Nappier*

## 2:00 PM

HTC 3 **Pros & Cons of Pen & Ink Publishing:** With e-books on the rise, are print books going out of style? Should you still publish your work in print, or should you go strictly to e-format? - *Cothorn, Howdershelt*

St. Pete 1 **What is Science's Responsibility to Society?:** What do we have a right to expect of scientists, and conversely, what should they be able to expect of us. - *K.F. Morris, Bova, Sergeyeva, Kleba -H: Caldwell*

St. Pete 2 **Trivia:** Test your knowledge of useless but fun things in our annual trivia challenge. - *Jones, Dryer, Bruns, C. Zahn -H: T. Zahn*

St. Pete 3 **Tampa Fechtschule Workshop:** Long to fight like a fantasy hero? Here's your chance to give it a go. Join members of Tampa Fechtschule for a martial arts workshop. - *Karrer, C. Sharkey, Dwyer, Bill Clark -H: D. Sharkey*

## 3:00 PM

Boardroom **Focus Group: Self Publishing:** A complete primer on self publishing. This is limited to 12 people, so get there early. - *Mize, Van Scoyoc*

HTC 3 **You Too Can Be an Astronomer:** Astronomy is one area of science where it's easy to be involved as a lay person. Find out what you need to know to get started. - *MacDougal, Dickinson, Diederich -H: Mitchell*

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- St. Pete 1 **How Science Fiction Influences Our World:** "Star Trek" and "Star Wars" changed how many people thought about science fiction. They just didn't realize it. The panel talks about the public perception of SF & F. - *Stark, Pinsky, Hinman* -H: Joy
- St. Pete 3 **Three or More:** Series authors discuss how you plot and plan for more than one book about a set of characters and a big story arc. - *Logan, Akers, Byers, Malcohn* -H: Wilber
- 4:00 PM**
- Hall B **Autograph Session:** - *Zahn, Bova*
- HTC 3 **Training to be a Professional Artist:** Pros tell you how you make the move from hobbyist to professional artist. - *Morrison, Atomic, Shea, Hogarth* -H: Chapman
- St. Pete 1 **How Science Fiction Stays Ahead of Real Science:** As fast as science progresses now, it's a challenge to keep up, let alone stay ahead but authors do it and they tell you how. - *Berman, Logan, Hatfield, Robinson* -H: Mitchell
- St. Pete 2 **History of Science Fiction Anime:** New to anime? Want to know more about the history and get it all in one whack? Here's your chance. - *Sanmiguel, Dmuchowski*
- St. Pete 3 **Intro to Writing Poetry:** Our panel of poets (love that alliteration) presents tips and tricks for budding poets. - *Fosburg, Tumlin, Wilber, Bolton* -H: Malcohn

## 5:00 PM

- HTC 3 **Anime Scavenger Hunt Round-up:** If you participated in the anime scavenger hunt, find out how you fared here. - *Dmuchowski*
- Outside **Solar Viewing:** Take your chance to view our star through a telescopic lens. (weather permitting) - *Dickinson, Diederich*
- St. Pete 1 **Editors, Publishers & Agents: What They Do:** You've heard of these professionals but do you know what they really do? Find out now. - *Beebe, Bova, Williams -H: Helm*
- St. Pete 2 **Being the New Kid on the Block: Q&A:** Ask our panel how they got started, what they did right, what they did wrong, and whatever else you want to know about entering the writing profession. - *Robinson, Spletzer, Reid -H: Joy*
- St. Pete 3 **Trust Me, I'm the Doctor:** Join us to talk about your fave Doctors, companions, and pretty much everything Whovian. - *Hinman, Hicks, Sears, OZ -H: A. Morris*

## 6:00 PM

- HTC 3 **Making Your Aliens Believable:** If it's SF, it's got to have aliens at least some of the time and our authors tell you how they make you believe in ETs. - *G. Finkelstein, Logan, DiChario -H: Caldwell*

## 7:00 PM

- HTC 3 **Costume Contest Line-up:** - *A. Morris, Sanmiguel*

## 8:00 PM

- HTC 3 **Breaking Into the Gaming Industry:** You'd like to move from amateur to pro game designer—find out how you make a place for yourself in the gaming industry. - *Berny Clark, Hing -H: Helton*
- St Pete 1-3 **Costume Contest:** - *Podolak, Caldwell, Byers, Van Scoyoc -H: A. Morris*

## 9:00 PM

- Ballroom **NecronomiProm: Martian Fantasy:** Come dance with us and find out if you are King, Queen, or Other for this year's NecronomiProm: Martian Fantasy. - *Stubkjaer, Sears*
- HTC 3 **Why Can't the Movies Get It Right?:** The science is stupid and the characters wouldn't do that. How SF authors would change the movies if they could. - *Zahn, Bova, Breslauer, Berman -H: Hinman*

## 10:00 PM

- Demens **Open Filk:** Sing the night away!
- HTC 3 **SF Name That Tune:** Think you know SF music? Come give a try at winning our annual science fiction music trivia challenge. -*H: Harben*

## 11:00 PM

- HTC 3 **Where to Find Good FanFic & SongVids:** - *S. Powers, Hicks*



# In 2012, Necronconicon and the Great Old Ones Return for the End of the World.

October 19-21, 2012

More at [www.stonehill.org](http://www.stonehill.org)

**1:00 AM**

St Pete 1-3 **LARP till Dawn:** Live Action Role Play until it's really late.

## SUNDAY

**10:00 AM**

HTC 3 **Creating an AtmosFear:** How authors create a world that is eerie, spooky and just plain scary. - *Ludwigsen, Byers, Robinson, Hatfield* -H: Joy

St. Pete 1 **Games the Gaming Gurus Play:** Gaming gurus like to play games and they'll tell us what games they like in their leisure time. - *LaSanta, Helton, Berny Clark* -H: J. Faber

St. Pete 2 **Researching Immortality:** Our panelists discuss research into life extension and what we can expect in our lifetimes. - *Bova, Segeyev, K.D. Morris, Berman* -H: Caldwell

St. Pete 3 **SF & Paranormal Romance: The New Golden Children:** Romance is all the rage. Find out why from our panel. - *Reid, Spletzer, Bolton* -H: Stark

**11:00 AM**

HTC 3 **Working in Film While Living in FL:** It's easier to get into film if you live in L.A., but you can get started here in Florida. Our panel tells you how. - *Westerfield, Breslauer, G. Finkelstein, T. Finkelstein* -H: Hinman

St. Pete 1 **What Will We Do When We Get to Mars:** We've gotten to Mars. Will it be just a visit or are we going to make it a home? The panelists give you their predictions. - *Kleba, MacDougal, Sergeyeva, Mitchell* -H: *Caldwell*

St. Pete 2 **Wait Wait Don't Tell Me: News from Mars:** Our take on the popular NPR show. - *Byers, Nappier, Sears, Wilber* -H: *Bruns/Dryer*

St. Pete 3 **The Liquid State of Publishing:** Things are quite a muddle these days in publishing. The panel discusses how they think things will all shake out. - *Beebe, Helm* -H: *Malcoln*

## 12:00 PM

St. Pete 1 **The View: Strong Female Point of View That Is:** Science fiction and fantasy used to be a man's world. This is no longer true. Authors talk about writing from the female perspective. - *G. Finkelstein, Sabin, Nappier, Akers* -H: *Stark*

St. Pete 2 **Starship Smackdown:** Experts in SF and audience members choose the Starship most likely to win in a whiz bang space battle. - *Bova, Byers, Zahn* -H: *D. Dryer*

St. Pete 3 **Connecting Science Fiction with Poetry & Song:** Poetry doesn't have to be about flowers and raindrops. It can be about rockets and orbits. Come find out how and why. - *Fosburg, Malcoln, Bolton, Tumlin* -H: *Wilber*

## 1:00 PM

HTC 3 **Representing Fictional Languages in English:** How to indicate "alien" or "fantasy" languages in your writing and when you should and should not do so. - *G. Finkelstein, Logan, Bolton* -H: *Sabin*

St. Pete 2 **Leftovers:** The questions we discarded and the prizes we found in our closets. Yep. Leftovers again. Have a bit of trivial fun. - *Bruns*

St. Pete 3 **Visions of Mars: Our Favorite Martians:** Our guests tell you about literature and film that made them love men from Mars. - *Byers, Mitchell, Bova, MacDougal* -H: *Pinsky*

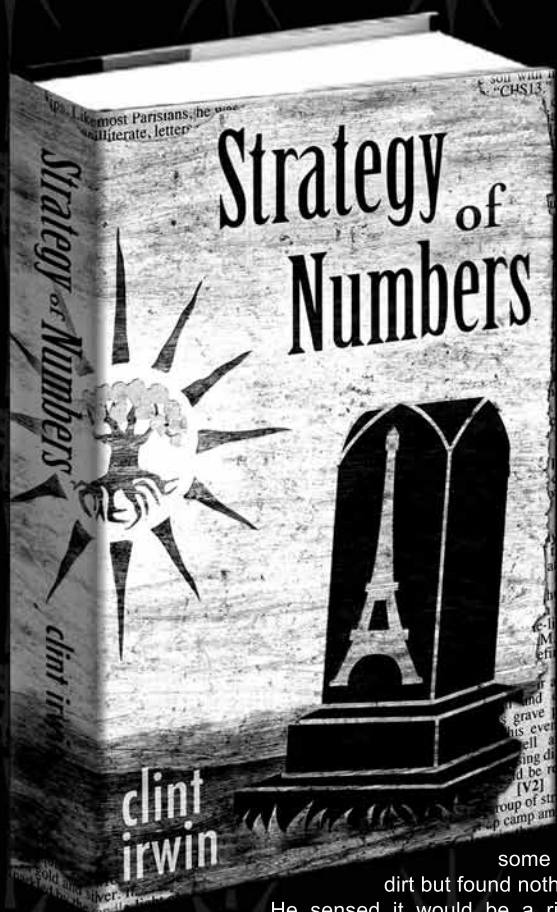
## 2:00 PM

HTC 3 **The Importance of Being Earnest:** Lawrence Block has called writing "Telling Lies for Fun and Profit." Our authors tell you how they make you think the things they write are being told in earnest. - *Spletzer, Hatfield, Ludwigsen, Robinson* -H: *Joy*

St Pete 1-2 **Yard Sale & Eye Scream Social:** Come, be parted with your cash. Buy stuff. Eat ice cream treats.

St. Pete 3 **How Star Trek Changed the World:** This one is for all you closeted and not so closeted Trek fans. Let's Disch. - *Hinman, A. Morris, Pinsky, Breslauer* -H: *Caldwell*

# It was the Second Dark Age...



## In a cemetery on the outskirts of Paris, a grave

digger was working in a hole two meters deep when he smacked his shovel against something solid. He saw a peculiar glow embedded in the ground and put his shovel aside. He held up a lantern for a moment, then moved in closer and squatted to brush away more dirt with his fingers. It was a slab of the smoothest stone he had ever seen. In all his years digging graves, he had never come upon anything that shimmered like it. He pushed away more soil with his hand and found a cryptogram: "CHS13."

He traced the contours of the code with his fingertips. Like most Parisians, he was illiterate, letters and numbers like a code of magic, voices of the dead etched in stone, which only the Councillors, who ruled from Notre Dame Cathedral, could understand. He had seen them on headstones, crypts and mausoleums before and knew how they usually came in the familiar pattern of a name, a date and

some sort of motto. He pushed away more

dirt but found nothing like this, nothing but "CHS13."

He sensed it would be a riddle even to the Councillors. The procedure was supposed to be clear from here: if it seemed like it might be a Relic of the Ancestors, report it to the Council Relics Office. But something very quiet and insistent took hold of him, the tender root of a seed of obsession. What if it wasn't anything worth reporting? He didn't want to go to the Relics Office and embarrass himself. No, best to make sure. He stood up, grabbed his shovel and began clearing away more of the earth. Best to make sure.

**It was a small decision, a tiny little ripple in a private little life, but the consequences would become a tidal wave...**

*Strategy of Numbers* is the first book in the *Tree in the Sun* trilogy by Clint Irwin. Meet the author and pick up a signed copy at the dealer's tables. Print and ebook copies also available at [clintirwin.com](http://clintirwin.com).

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