

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT BIOS

Brett Achorn is convinced of one thing after seven years in the animation industry: it's good to be paid to watch (and make) cartoons. When he isn't writing software or beating a troublesome program with a stick, he's watching anime, gaming, or writing. He's been running Cinema Anime at LASFS since 1999, and he's also to blame for the anime room at LOSCON.

Karen Allen is a technical writer and long-time member of the Society for Creative Anachronism. She has received the Society-wide award for costuming and needlework and currently serves as co-president for the Los Angeles coastal area chapter of the SCA.

Karen Anderson is a writer and member of SFWA on her own, but also a writer's wife (now widow) and occasional collaborator by profession: She helped Poul with research, story discussion, wordmaking, cartography, and so on to grammatical nitpicking and proofreading. Karen is interested in daily life throughout history and in different cultures, especially cooking as shaped by culture, available tools, and local or imported ingredients, and her formal education included Latin and Romance languages, classical Greek, and military cartography. Karen has worked on convention committees, helped invent filk singing, and reached master class in masquerade costuming. With Poul and their daughter Astrid (now married to Greg Bear), Karen helped found the Society for Creative Anachronism, where she was once chief herald of the known world. Karen is still active in Holmes fandom, and her active interests run from astronomy to zymurgy.

JP Andrews is a systems engineer for a web development company in Orange County. He has been interested in medieval history since he was a child. For the past 20+ years he has been a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) where he has gained a reputation as a singer and songwriter. Currently he is part of the Barony of Lyondemere.

Priscilla Atwell owns but never wears the button that says: "Don't let the person wearing this button volunteer again". If it's not Boy Scouts, it's So. Cal Ren. Faire, kids schools, church, etc. She just finished a season of high school football snack stand fry cooking and is working with the Boy Scouts and Salvation Army in their annual Scouting For Food canned food drive. Loscon 33 is the next gig on her list, she'll be in the Stitch n'B*tch room for sure and probably sitting a door or two, you'll recognize her by her funky socks she's knitting.

Steve Bartlett is an aerospace engineer by training and has worked on reusable and expendable launch vehicles, space stations, advanced propulsion systems, robotics, composite materials, and a lot of other cool, space-related projects. He's also a businessman, a low-budget filmmaker, a licensed pilot, a pyrotechnician, an amateur rocketeer, a costumer, and an actor. Visit the OASIS booth to talk to him about space activism and the National Space Society.

Tina Beychok is an editor and nonprofit researcher. In her spare time, she knits and swings swords at people for fun and profit. Despite the insistence of several people, she bears no resemblance to Xena. She is only half as scary as legend makes her out to be, except before her morning coffee.

Fr. John R Blaker has been an SF/Fantasy fan for many years. His first convention was the 1975 Westercon in Oakland. He worked as a Unix sysadmin for 9 years before entering the seminary, and has been a Roman Catholic priest for over 10 years. Father John is pastor of a small (300 families) parish in Richmond, CA. A Master level costumer, he has been part of a number of award-winning groups.

Laura Brodian Freas is a radio host of classical music programs in Los Angeles. While married to illustrator Frank Kelly Freas, she had created illustrations for major publishers of books and magazines such as *The Easton Press*, *Analog*, *Weird Tales*, and *TSR, Inc.* A recipient of the Chesley Award [with Frank Kelly Freas] from the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists, she is a quarterly judge for the L. Ron Hubbard Illustrators of the Future Contest.

Stan Burns attended school in Glendale, CA and then USC where he received a BA in psychology with a minor in anthropology. Stan joined LASFS in 1967. "My Ghod, I will have been a member of LASFS for 30 years next year!" He received certificates in analog and digital electronics from Citrus College in 1991, and a teach credential for history and electronics in 2004 after coursework at CSUSB. He has worked as a photographer, lab tech both in a chemical-biological testing lab and a B&W and color film developing lab, consumer electronics tech, camera repair tech, and a draftsman laying out sprinkler systems. Having been active in mystery fandom for over 25 years, Stan publishes a mystery fanzine titled *Who Donut?* He is a member of the only mystery APA - DAPA-EM. He also likes dogs...

Steve Collins is an Attitude Control System engineer for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Currently working on the Mars Science Laboratory project and the Dawn mission to Ceres and Vesta, Steve

has been a flight team member on Mars Observer, Galileo, Deep Space One, MER and last year's Deep Impact project. In flight, he is responsible for keeping the spacecraft pointed in the right direction, performing trajectory corrections and figuring out "what the heck just happened??" When he's not flying spacecraft around the solar system, he can be found playing soccer, jamming on the Theremin or acting in local Shakespeare productions.

Tony Cratz started working on BayCon staff in 1987 as a dedicated gofer for the Tech staff. He has also worked in the following positions: security, Birds of a Feather manager, fan tables coordinator, Program Operations head, Programming division second, Program scheduler, e-mail list maintainer and Chairman for BayCon 2004. Positions he has held at other conventions include ConJose' Admin Division Manager in 2002, Hospitality staff at Conolulu in 2000, Programming Ops staff at ChiCon in 2000, Staff Lounge Manager at ConFransiso '93, Con Suite head at the 1998 World Fantasy Convention, and security for Phil & Ed's Excellent Convention, TimeCon and Silicon, as well as AnimeCon '91.

Before Being the ConJose' Admin Division Manager, he was a member of the Bay Area in 2002 bid committee and has been part of the noted party team in LA, Baltimore, and Seattle. He is a member of the boards of Artistic Solutions, Inc. BayCon's parent corporation, and Society for the Promotion of Fannish Interests, Inc.

Tony is a UNIX and Sendmail expert, but has also worked as a technical support specialist. Some of his other interests include computers, sport shooting, gadgets and collecting photography, art, gems and pens and pencils.

Shawn Crosby is currently employed in the respectable position of Art Director for the world-famous Griffith Observatory. Shawn has been in the past a retail clerk, bartender, video arcade manager, book-seller, motorcycle courier, computer technical support representative, museum docent/caretaker, and telemarketing researcher. More notably he has been a prop builder for Star Trek, a toy designer for Mattel and Playmates, a model maker of museum-quality display and architectural models for the Disney theme parks, and a graphic artist/computer game designer. His resume looks like he has a desire to experience everything at once, but it may just be a really short attention span. Shawn is a founding member of the Enigma Players and Lux Theater, and has been involved in more than 50 productions in venus varying from 35 to 3500 seats. Possessing a knack for voiceover characterizations and mimicry, he has performed over 150

character voices such as Mickey Mouse, Sean Connery, William Shatner and Kermit the Frog for radio, toys, and multimedia software titles. Despite these accomplishments, he will probably forever be best known as the owner of the "H-Wing" Star Wars art car.

James Stanley Daugherty, M Phil, MFA: camera artist, con-runner, and dilettante. Internationally known for his distinctive figurative work, this award winning artist continually pushes the boundaries of reality with his camera. James has also worked as an archaeologist, postman, technical writer, lab technician, librarian, photo journalist, cat breeder, and international investor. He enjoys excursions into ruined abbeys, ancient temples, and Tiki bars. He lists his current occupation as coconut plantation owner, his current photo project is chronicling the mud cults of naked women in the jungles of Maui, and his current fannish crusade as luring convention fans to the sinful city of Las Vegas.

Kathryn Daugherty has been attending conventions; local, regional, and Worldcons, for over twenty years, and has been helping to run them for almost as long. She has run almost every department, but specializes in Programming. She will be running Programming for the next two Westercons in San Mateo in 2007 and Las Vegas in 2008, and helping with the Hugo Ceremony in Japan for the 2007 Worldcon. She reads over 200 books every year (mostly science fiction and especially British authors such as Banks, MacLeod, Stoss, Reynolds, and Baxter). She also builds houses and does needlework.

Genevieve Dazzo holds a Ph.D. in Theoretical Chemistry and is well versed in many different scientific disciplines. She is currently a computer consultant and also does corporate training in a variety of advanced computer and management skills. During her career she has held senior positions at Software, Pharmaceutical, Telecommunications, and Aerospace companies. She has been active in science fiction fandom in both New York and Los Angeles since the mid-1970s and has worked on many Worldcons and regional conventions. She is currently on the Board of the Southern California Institute for Fan Interests (SCIFI) and was on the committee for L.A.con II, the 1984 Worldcon; L.A.con III, the 1996 Worldcon; Conucopia, the 1999 NASFiC; Noreascon 4, the 2004 Worldcon; and L.A.con IV, the 2006 Worldcon.

John DeChancie has over two dozen SF/fantasy books to his credit, and has published numerous short stories and articles. He has edited one SF/Fantasy anthology, and has contributed to many others. He also publishes and contributes to fanzines. He teaches writing on the

web at Writers Digest Online Workshops. His most recent short story sale was to the Mike Resnick anthology *SPACE CADETS*, published by LAcon IV, the 2006 Worldcon.

Michael Donahue is a Los Angeles based fan and filmmaker. Currently Director of Post Production at Raleigh Studios Hollywood and Manhattan Beach, he is a former board member of both LASFS and SCIFI and is active with Enigma, the UCLA SF Fantasy and Gaming Club. In the early 1980's while a film student at the USC School of Cinema, Mike befriended Jack Williamson and developed a feature screenplay with Jack's blessings for *The Legion of Space*. Mike visited Jack and his wife Blanche at their Portales home and with them toured the Jack Williamson collection at Northeastern New Mexico University. He will share stories about Jack and read brief selected correspondences from their friendship through the years.

Rev. Denise D. Dumars, M.A. is a writer, college instructor, and literary agent. She is the author of *Lovecraft Slept Here*, a collection of science fiction, fantasy, and horror stories published by Wildside Press; *Letting In the Dark*, her latest poetry chapbook, published by Yellow Bat Press; and co-author along with Lori Nyx of *The Dark Archetype: Exploring the Shadow Side of the Divine*, published by New Page. Her latest book, *Be Blessed: Daily Devotions for Busy Wiccans and Pagans*, was published in May, 2006 by New Page. She and Lori Nyx are currently working on the second volume of *The Dark Archetype*, their popular book of comparative mythology. She teaches college English and is a literary agent for the Ashley Grayson Literary Agency in San Pedro, CA, where she specializes in representing writers of metaphysical and New Age nonfiction and authors of dark and unusual fiction. When Denise is not working she is practicing the Craft with her circle, the Iseum of Isis Paedusis, and is an ordained minister in the Fellowship of Isis/Temple of Isis. She also volunteers at the famous Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood! Denise loves to travel and is currently hoping to find a suitable and not easily frightened gentleman to accompany her to such exotic locales as the Mercado Sonora, the giant occult market in Mexico City, and the Catacombs of Paris, France. Find our more at her website: www.geocities.com/eerieaerie/aerie.htm

Bill Ellern has been a fan since the 1950's, and wrote several Lensman stories. Involved in the "Silver Age" of LASFS, he has an extensive collection of SF and Fantasy - Books, Art, Posters, Movies and Movie Memorabilia.

Michael Engelberg - Science Fiction movie producer-physician.

Richard Foss is a journalist, critic, restaurant reviewer, theater director, and recreational historian whose stories have appeared in *Analog* and several anthologies. He has been intermittently involved in fandom for thirty years and has been Chairman of Loscon and Secretary of Lasfs, among various other odd jobs.

Kenne Estes is an imaging tech for film, commercials and TV. He's worked on *X-Files*, *Buffy*, *the Vampire Slayer*, *Star Trek*, *Pleasantville*, *Jurassic Park*, and *Lois & Clark*. He currently works on ABC's *Boston Legal*. He was formerly an assistant sysop of Genie Information Service's SFRT. He hangs out at sff.net and The Magic Castle.

Laura Frankos has sold two stories about Broadway musicals to *Analog*. She's also written fantasy, both adult and YA, and mysteries both modern and historical. Her knowledge of obscure Cole Porter lyrics freaked out even as knowledgeable a Broadway buff as Len Wein.

Christopher J. Garcia is a writer, historian and filmmaker from Santa Clara, Ca. His films *The Last Woman on Earth* and *The Chick Magnet* have shown all around the world. He has edited more than 100 issues of *The Drink Tank* (on eFanzines.com) and is a member of eAPA and FAPA. He is currently the Vice-President for the Bay Area Science Fiction Association, the President of the N3F, and is one of the two current candidates for the TransAtlantic Fan Fund (TAFF). You might want to stop and admire his sign.

Janice Gelb blew into fandom at the appropriately nicknamed HurriCon (SunCon, the 1977 Worldcon). Since then, she has participated in numerous APAs, wasted many hours on the fannish Internet, and worked many conventions, notably running Program Operations at worldcons in 1992 (MagiCon), 2001 (Millenium Philcon), 2004 (Noreascon Four), and 2005 (Interaction); serving as Assistant Division Head of Events at ConFrancisco (1993), and running the Hugo ceremony at LAcon III (1996). She was the 1999 DUFF (Down Under Fan Fund) North American representative at the Aussiecon 3 worldcon, where in a fit of madness, she also agreed to run Program Ops. In the "Real World", she is a senior developmental editor at Sun Microsystems and lives in Melbourne, Australia.

David Gerrold returns to Loscon every year. It's a necessary feeding stop on his annual migratory flight. As soon as he fills up on chocolate, he leaves.

Suzanne Gibson originally hails from Northern California but for the last 25 years has lived and worked in the Southland where she is a producer and art director for film and print advertising. Since the mid-90's she has also been the Producer and on-air presence on Mike Hodel's *Hour 25*, first on local radio and now in the show's on-line existence. She lives in Altadena with her husband Warren James where they try and find the answer to the eternal question, "Just where are we going to put all these books?"

Zelda Gilbert first discovered SF Fantasy costuming at the 1984 World Con. "I was entranced and wanted to try it myself. I haven't looked back." Since then Zelda has competed from the local to the international level and is a successful Master Class costumer.

Mel Gilden is the author of over 50 books. *Outer Space and All That Junk*, and *The Planetoid of Amazement*, among many other children's books, have received rave reviews in such places as School Library Journal and Booklist, and are frequently recommended for reluctant middle-grade and young adult readers. His multi-part stories appear frequently on the "Kids Reading Room" Page of *The Los Angeles Times*. Popular novels for adults such as *Surfing Samurai Robots* have received good reviews in the Washington Post and other publications. Licensed properties include adaptations of feature films, and of TV shows such as *Beverly Hills, 90210*. He has also written original stories based in the *Star Trek* universe. He has written cartoons for TV, and has helped develop new shows, He consulted at Disney and Universal, helping develop theme park attractions. Gilden spent five years as co-host of the science-fiction interview radio program, Hour-25.

Dr. Susan "Arizona" Gleason received her doctorate in Anthropology/Archaeology from the University of California, Riverside, in 2001. She has focused her research on various aspects of primitive technology, including flintknapping (the art of making stone tools) and ethnobotany (how people interact with plants). As an artist, she has worked the products of this research into a unique line of arrowhead jewelry which she has shown in art shows across the west coast for the past five years. This artwork and a line of educational materials provides the basis of her business, Phoenix Obsidian Designs. Recently, in recognition of these accomplishments, she was honored to be Science Guest of Honor at Radcon in Pasco, Washington. As a fan she has been attending and working conventions for an even longer period of time. In 2007, Dr. Arizona will be chair of Loscon 34: The Dig with a theme of archaeology in science fiction.

Diana Glycer has been working conventions since 1975. She chaired the 1998 C. S. Lewis Centenary Conference in Wheaton, Illinois. She has published numerous articles and contributed to the *C. S. Lewis Reader's Encyclopedia*. Her latest book is *The Company They Keep: J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis as Writers in Community*; it is due out in February 2007. When she isn't writing, painting, gardening, entertaining her daughter, Sierra, or reading *File 770*, Diana teaches English at Azusa Pacific University

Mike Glycer publishes the fan newzine *File 770*, winner of five Hugos as Best Fanzine. He also has won three Hugos as Best Fan Writer. Mike chaired L.A.Con III, the 1996 Worldcon held in Anaheim, CA. He has worked innumerable jobs at Worldcons since 1980, such as editing the daily newzine, editing the progress reports, and organizing the program. He also co-chaired Loscon 3 in 1977 and Westercon 31 in Los Angeles in 1978. He has been an active member of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy since 1970, frequently serving as club secretary. He even made one pro fiction sale -- "The Men Who Corflued Mohammed," a fannish homage to Alfred Bester's "Man Who Murdered Mohammed." It appeared in *Alternate Worldcons* edited by Mike Resnick.

Barry Gold was named to the Filk Hall of Fame in 1997. His filksinging includes the paleofilk of the 1950s and 1960s, his wife Lee's songs, and many current filksongs. He's also interested in roleplaying and sometimes has time to look at furry art. He's a unix kernel and web page programmer.

Lee Gold was named to The Filk Hall of Fame in 1997. She edits the bimonthly filkzine *Xenofilkia*. Her best-known filksong is "You Bash the Balrog." Her roleplaying games include *Land of the Rising Sun*, *Gurps Japan*, and *Vikings (Iron Crown)*. She edits *Alarums and Excursions*, which won an Origins Award in 2000 and 2001. Her interests include science fiction, Kipling, Judaism, Cabell, Arthuriana, Celtic, Norse and Japanese folklore and the Japanese language. She has an MA in English Literature.

John Goodwin is the President and Publisher of Galaxy Press, the publisher of the fiction works of L. Ron Hubbard and the Writers of the Future series. He has been involved with the publishing industry since 1986.

Robert Gounley is a systems engineer for both the Dawn Mission to Vesta/Ceres and the Space Interferometer Mission (SIM) at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). He served interplanetary missions

in many roles including Engineering Team Lead for Mars Exploration Rover, Flight Director for the Deep Space 1 Mission (testing ion propulsion), and Deputy Engineering Team Chief for the Galileo Mission to Jupiter. NASA awarded Bob its Exceptional Service and Exceptional Achievement medals. He holds a bachelor degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, and a master degree in aeronautics/astronautics from MIT.

Ed Green has been a fan for thirty-four years. You think he would have learned by now.

Barbara Hambly, since her first published fantasy in 1982 - *The Time of the Dark*, has touched pretty much all the bases in genre fiction, including historical murder mysteries, fantasy, science fiction, comic books, and scripts for Saturday morning cartoon shows. In the upcoming year she'll catch a couple that she's missed: a "contemporary occult romance novella" for Harlequin, and a straight historical novel about the life of Mary Todd Lincoln, *The Emancipator's Wife*. Born in 1951, she grew up on science fiction and fantasy in Southern California, and attended the University of California where she received a Master's degree in Medieval History, and a black belt in karate. She attended the University of Bordeaux and traveled in Europe in 1971-72, and held the usual assortment of day-jobs before being published: teacher, secretary, liquor-store clerk. Barbara married science-fiction writer George Alec Effinger in 1998 and lived part-time in New Orleans for a number of years. Hambly's interests include historical research, dance, hiking, costuming, and carpentry. Now a widow, she shares a house in Los Angeles with several small carnivores.

John Hertz is probably best known for infecting fandom with English Regency ballroom dancing. At cons, he can be found moderating panels, leading Art Show tours, judging or M.C.'ing the Masquerade; he ran the Fanzine Lounge at the 2004 Worldcon, and was a 2006 Hugo nominee for Best Fanwriter. He was given the Big Heart Award in 2003. Two anthologies of his fanwriting have been published, *Dancing and Joking* and *West of the Moon*. His fanzine is *Vanamonde*. His favorite non-SF authors are Chuang Tzu, Maimonides, Nabokov, and Sayers. By profession he is a lawyer. He drinks Talisker.

Eric Hoffman, born in the darkest reaches of Brooklyn, New York, has given presentations or been involved in panels at LosCon for the last several years. A dyed-in-the-werewolf movie fan since the early days of television, he has written articles on the horror and science-

fiction genres. He enjoys collecting and watching movies ("Damn dvds keep multiplying like rabbits!") as well as movie material, reading whatever catches his fancy, writing, music, singing and performing, interesting people and other things that might fit into the category of "things man was not meant to know!".

Charles Lee Jackson, II, artist, film historian, perpetual student, and teacher, is a long-time LASFS member, editor-publisher of *Extra Added Attractions* magazine, and still manages to have the occasional Amazing Adventure.

Warren W. James has been the host, and now also web master, of Mike Hodel's *Hour 25* since the early-90's. He also has a more than full time job as an engineer at a major aerospace firm in Southern California where he does trajectory design/orbital mechanics and systems engineering. Since this leaves a couple of hours not accounted for during his day, he is also a one-man science department at Columbia College Hollywood where he teaches classes in Astronomy, Geology, Space Science and Science Fiction. He lives in Altadena with his wife Suzanne Gibson where they try and find the answer to the eternal question, "Just where are we going to put all these books?".

Todd Johnson McCaffrey wrote his first science-fiction story when he was twelve and has been writing on and off ever since. His works include the Pern books *Dragonsblood*, *Dragon's Kin* (with Anne McCaffrey), the New York Times Bestselling *Dragon's Fire* (also with Anne McCaffrey), and the non-fiction work, *Dragonholder*. He is currently collaborating on *Dragon's Heart*. Visit his website at <http://www.toddmccaffrey.org>

Fruma Klass was born in Boston, raised in New York, and a graduate of The Bronx High School of Science. Fruma Klass has been a lab technician, a medical editor, a teacher of writing at Penn State, and a technical writer; she is currently a freelance copy editor. She has been married to Phil Klass, who writes science fiction under the pen name of William Tenn, since 1957.

Fruma's first story, "Before the Rainbow," appeared in 1988 in the anthology *Synergy 3*, edited by George Zebrowski. Its sequel, "After the Rainbow," won a Writers of the Future second prize and appears in *Writers of the Future Vol. XII* (1996). Her more recent work includes "Jennifer's Turn" (*Gathering the Bones*, Tor Books, 2003) and "Two More for Tolstoi," *Synergy New SF*, Five Star, 2004). Her essay "Streets of Mud, Streets of Gold" (not science fiction) won a \$25,000 award from the Power of Purpose international essay contest, spon-

sored by the Templeton Foundation. She tells people that she is currently at work on a novel.

Brad Linaweaver is an award winning science fiction writer whose novel *Moon of Ice* was endorsed by Robert Heinlein, Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, and William F. Buckley, Jr. Before collaborating with Richard Hatch on three *Battlestar Galactica* novels he hit the bestseller lists as co-author (with Dafydd ab Hugh) of four novels based on the *Doom* video game—the game that inspired the movie starring The Rock. Linaweaver also wrote the *Sliders* novel based on the Universal television series created by Tracy Torme, and is a prolific writer of short stories and articles. He has original story credits on some films, as well as two non fiction books to his credit, co-edited a major science fiction anthology, *Free Space*, with Ed Kramer, and also publishes a magazine, *Mondo Cult*. Of special interest to L.A. fandom is that Kelly Freas did his final cover for *Anarquía*, a novel by Brad and newcomer J. Kent Hastings.

Lynn Maudlin was born in Los Angeles to a physicist and an aspiring concert pianist and flung into SF by her older brother when he gave her a subscription to Analog in her early teens, but she didn't find fandom until 1982 when she landed at Mythcon XIII. Lynn spent 10 years on the Mythopoeic Society board of directors and co-founded their fiction zine, *The Mythic Circle*, with Sherwood Smith; she served four years as the North American Booking Officer for the Tolkien Centenary Conference (Keble College, Oxford, 1992) and has served on numerous other con coms. Lynn is a singer/songwriter, an artist, a writer, an editor, and a film producer. She loves to laugh but doesn't remember jokes, is easily pulled into deep conversations about God and the Bible, and appreciates the obsession that is costuming. Lynn is proud she survived the 60's with most of her brain intact. She loves good food, good wine, and chocolate!

Craig Miller is a well-known writer/producer and consultant in the animation and games industry. He has over 150 produced credits on projects ranging from *The Smurfs* to *GI Joe* to *Curious George* and *Trollz* (currently airing on PBS and CBS, respectively). Other recent work includes developing and writing animated series for Australia and China. He's been a guest speaker at events like the International Conference on Television Animation (Positano, Italy), the Annecy Animation Festival (Annecy, France) and the Interactive Games Festival (Edinburgh, Scotland). He is a member of the Writers Guild of America, the Writers Guild of Canada, and the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, among other organizations. He's also been involved with science fiction fandom for way too long, including over-

seeing the program for the 2006 World Science Fiction Convention.

Jess Miller has been involved in costuming for close to thirty years. She started by being involved with the Society for Creative Anachronism and the Northern Renaissance Faire and has proceeded merrily through the historical, science fiction and fantasy landscape. She has a B.A. in Art, with an emphasis on textiles, and further coursework in Anthropology, which only makes her that much more confused. She is a Dean Emeritus of Costume College and is the masquerade director for Loscon 33. Her most recent piece was "Rune of Eloquence" for Worldcon 2006, based on the artwork of Brian Froud.

June Moffatt was bitten by the publishing bug at an early age, she found her niche in science fiction fandom as writer, publisher and proofreader. She and Len published *Moonshine* for FAPA, in which her column was entitled "Moonshine is a Brighter Thing Than Fog". She has written and published *De Jueves* for APA-L, the unofficial apa of LASFS, for more than 1500 weeks. She and Len were given a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 1999 BoucherCon, the World Mystery Convention, which they helped start (with Bruce Pelz) thirty-six years ago. They have been active in LASFS since the 1940s as members, procedural officers and board members and have worked on several local, regional and world s-f conventions over the years. They are both members of Bruce Pelz's Captain Bligh Appreciation Society.

Len Moffatt - A writer of prose, poetry, parody, and personal publications for more than sixty five years, his first professional sales were to the latter day pulps. While working at various jobs in the packaging industry he discovered that he could make more money writing non-fiction and did so for more than thirty years. Meanwhile, his early short stories (s-f and fantasy) were reprinted in Australia, France and Mexico. One of them, a vampire satire, has also been reprinted in a hard cover anthology more than fifty years after its first appearance in the original *Weird Tales* magazine. He has been active in s-f fandom since the 1930s and in mystery fiction fandom since the 1960s. And he would rather write semi-fake bios than straight ones like this.

Kate Morgenstern's mother taught her to embroider at age 3, and since then she has tried most techniques for fabric manipulation, with varying degrees of success. Now a Master level costumer, she makes science fiction, fantasy and historical costumes-sometimes all in the same outfit. Co-founder of the Association for Costumers, Related Oddities, Ninjas and Yak Merchants, she does her best to live up to their motto, "Doing Our Part To Make Your Life A Little More Surreal."

Anne Morrel - Long time SF fan, married to longer time fan, a life member of LASFS. For several years, Anne has been in charge of Hall Costume Awards, and editor of the LASFS recommended reading list for children and young adults.

Vera Nazarian is a writer, artist, and now, publisher of Norilana Books. Ancient myth, moral fables, eclectic philosophy, and her Armenian and Russian ethnic heritage play a strong part in all her work, combining the essences of things and places long gone into a rich evocation of wonder. Most recent credits include her debut collection *Salt of the Air*, with an introduction by Gene Wolfe (Prime Books, September 2006.), and YA omnibus *Mayhem at Grant-Williams High* (YA Angst, October 2006).

Visit her website at www.veranazarian.com.

Steve Niles is one of the writers responsible for bringing horror comics back to prominence, and was recently named by Fangoria magazine as one of its "13 rising talents who promise to keep us terrified for the next 25 years." Niles is currently working for the four top American comic publishers - Marvel, DC, Image and Dark Horse. Currently ongoing at Image is the creator-owned series *Bad Planet* with co-writer Thomas Jane and *The Cryptics* with artist Ben Roman. Everyone's favorite monster hunter Cal McDonald returns in the monthly *Criminal Macabre* series from Dark Horse. And later this year, continuing *30 Days of Night* spin-offs and *American Freakshow* return to IDW Publishing. In 2002, the success of *30 Days of Night* sparked renewed interest in the horror genre, and is being developed as a major motion picture with "Spiderman's" Sam Raimi producing and David Slade directing. Niles had a part in writing the screenplay. The film is due to hit theaters in 2007. In June of 2005, Niles and actor Thomas Jane (*The Punisher*) formed the production company Raw Entertainment, which has a first-look deal with Lions Gate Films. Raw's first production is *The Lurkers*, with a screenplay to be written by Niles, and to be produced by both Niles and Jane. Niles and his *Bigfoot* co-creator, rocker Rob Zombie, have sold the film rights to Paramount Pictures. Niles will be handling script duties. Also in development are adaptations of *Wake the Dead*, *Hyde*, *Aleister Arcane* and *Criminal Macabre*. Niles got his start in the industry when he formed his own publishing company called Arcane Comix, where he published, edited and adapted several comics and anthologies for Eclipse Comics. His adaptations include works by Clive Barker, Richard Matheson and Harlan Ellison. IDW released a hardcover and softcover collection of Niles' adaptation of Richard Matheson's *I Am Legend*. Steve resides in Los Angeles in his bachelor pad with one cat. While there's no crawlspace, there is a questionable closet in one cor-

ner and no one is quite sure what is hidden in there...but we have an idea.

Larry Niven was born April 30, 1938, in Los Angeles, California, USA, to Waldemar Van Cott Niven and Lucy Estelle Doheny Niven (now Washington.) Raised in Beverly Hills, California. Hawthorne Public School (Beverly Hills,) Cate School (Carpinteria.) California Institute of Technology, September 1956 to February 1958. Flunked out after discovering a book store jammed with used science fiction magazines. Honest employment: gas station attendant, summer 1960. Graduated Washburn University, Kansas, June 1962: BA in Mathematics with a Minor in Psychology. Half the university was scattered to the winds by a tornado a month after I left. They later gave me a D. Litt., an honorary doctorate in Letters. First story publication: "The Coldest Place", *Worlds of If*, December 1964. Met Marilyn Joyce Wisowaty at the Nycon World Science Fiction Convention, 1967. Married September 6, 1969. No children. We reside in Chatsworth, California. Larry has written fiction at every length, and speculative articles, speeches for high schools and colleges and conventions, television scripts, political action in support of the conquest of space, graphic novels, and a couple of comic book universes. I've collaborated with a wide variety of writers. Larry's interests vary from science fiction conventions to role playing games - live and computer, AAAS meetings and other gatherings of people at the cutting edges of science, comics, folk singing, yoga and other approaches to longevity, hiking and racquetball, saving civilization, making a little money, moving mankind into space by any means, but particularly by making space endeavors attractive to commercial interests. In 1980 Jerry Pournelle talked Larry and Marilyn into hosting a gathering of the top minds in the space industry in an attempt to write a space program for the Reagan government, with goals, timetables, and costs. The Citizens Advisory Council for a National Space Policy met four times during the Reagan Administration, and twice since, for harrowing three day weekends. Attendees have included spacecraft designers, businessmen, NASA personnel, astronauts, and lawyers. "Adding science fiction writers turns out to be stunningly effective. We can translate! We can force these guys to speak English." They've had some effect on the space program. SDI (Space Defense Initiative, or Star Wars) was drafted at the Niven house in Tarzana. In '93 they watched the DC-X1 fly. It was a toy version of a single-stage ground-to-orbit spacecraft, and the Council generated it. Their design lost out to the current Skunk Works X-33, but the Council caused the revival of the X Program itself. Larry grew up with dogs: Keeshonds, the breed his mother raised and shaped for sixty years. He currently lives with a cat, but borrows dogs to hike with. He also has a passing

acquaintance with raccoons and ferrets. "Associating with nonhumans has certainly gained me insight into alien intelligences." Larry has written on computers since 1978.

Awards

Hugos - (or Science Fiction Achievement Awards) for "Neutron Star", 1966; *Ringworld*, 1970; "Inconstant Moon", 1971; "The Hole Man", 1974; and "The Borderland of Sol", 1975.

Nebula - for Best Novel: *Ringworld*, 1970.

Ditmars - (Best International Science Fiction, Australian) for *Ringworld*, 1972, and *Protector*, 1974.

Japanese awards for *Ringworld* and "Inconstant Moon", both 1979. Inkpot, 1979, from the San Diego Comic Convention.

On the stands:

Scatterbrain, a retrospective anthology

Forthcoming:

Burning Tower with Jerry Pournelle

Creation Myth with Brenda Cooper

Ringworld's Child

The Draco Tavern, 21 ultrashort stories

"Other work clamors to be written, as if I had the time. Greg Benford has challenged me to return to short stories, and I've done that."

Selina Phanara's first convention was Aquacon 1981, and she hasn't been the same since. Ms. Phanara had been selling art and showing her work since 1990 but only for public consumption. After becoming a card carrying member of the LASFS in 1994, she garnered the courage to show her work to other fans. This allowed her expand from the commissions for florals and landscapes to doing award winning Robots, Rocket ships and most recently a series of Sunbursts. She is currently quite happy with her time well divided between working at Griffith Observatory and doing her unique style of cut paper collage.

Tim Powers is the author of a dozen science fiction and fantasy novels, including *The Anubis Gates* and *Dinner At Deviant's Palace* (both winners of the Philip K. Dick Memorial Award) and *Last Call* and *Declare* (both winners of the World Fantasy Award). His newest novel is *Three Days to Never*. Powers lives with his wife, Serena, in San Bernardino, California.

Jerry E. Pournelle, Ph.D., earned his Bachelors in Psychology and Mathematics, his Masters in Experimental Statistics and Systems Engineering, and his Doctorates in Psychology and Political Science all from the University of Washington.

An excellent SF author, he's also a noted lecturer, consultant and computer columnist (senior consulting editor at BYTE Magazine) and chairs the Citizen's Advisory Council on National Space Policy and The Lunar Society, Inc. He has served as Advisor on Space Policy to the Republican Congressional Leadership and as a Board Member of the L-5 Society.

A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, British Interplanetary Society, Royal Astronomical Society and the Operations Research Society of America, he is also a Senior Member of the American Astronautical Society and the American Institute of Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineers. He has served as a past President of the Science Fiction Writers of America and as Science Editor for *Twin Circle Magazine* and *Galaxy SF*, and as a columnist for *Analog Science Fiction* and *Infoworld Magazine*. His other writing associations include membership in the Author's Guild, National Association of Science Writers, Aviation/Space Writers' Association and the Mystery Writers of America.

With Larry Niven he's written the #1 New York Times Bestseller *Footfall*, widely considered one of the best novels of alien invasion ever written, and *The Mote In God's Eye*, now in 45 US printings and among the very best first-contact novels ever written, *Lucifer's Hammer* (probably the best "here-comes-a-big-comet-kaboom!" novel ever written), *The Gripping Hand*, *Fallen Angels*, *Oath of Fealty* (set in a giant arcology) and *Inferno*, a retelling of Dante's classic tale.

His other novels and science-fact works include *A Step Farther Out*, *Adventures in Microland*, *Prince of Sparta*, *The Endless Frontier*, *King David's Spaceship*, *The Mercenary*, *A Spaceship For the King*, *West of Honor*, *Birth of Fire*, *High Justice*, *Janissaries*, *Clan and Crown: Janissaries II*, *Storms of Victory: Janissaries III*, *Prince of Mercenaries*, *Falkenberg's Legion*, *Go Tell the Spartans* and *Strategy of Technology*. With Larry Niven and Steven Barnes he wrote *Beowulf's Children* and *The Legacy of Heorot*.

Jerry created and edits the bestselling essay and fiction series *There Will Be War* and *Imperial Stars*. He was the first winner of the John W. Campbell Award in 1974. He's had over a dozen nominations for Nebula and Hugo Awards. He was nominated for TABA in 1980, and remains a frequent guest of honor at science fiction, literary, and computer conventions.

Jerry was one of the first authors to use a computer for writing both fiction and non-fiction (see "Writing With Computers" in *Computing Magazine* way back in the summer of 1979). A conservationist and

author of numerous articles on interaction of technology with conservation, he remains a staunch advocate of technology as a means of preserving both humanity and nature.

He is a Knight Commander, Military and Hospitaller Order of St. George in Karinthia and a Commander of the Knights of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem; other affiliations include the Noble Company of the Rose, Companion with Star, Orthodox Order of Hospitalers and he's a Fellow in the Augustan Society. He served as Knight-Marshal of the West, Society for Creative Anachronism, 1972-1976 and on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS) from 1978 to 1985. Jerry also was been awarded the Evans-Freehaffer Award for service to the LASFS, as well as the Forry Award For Lifetime Achievement in the Field of Science Fiction and Fantasy.

Jerry's first personal computer, EZEKIEL, is on display in the Museum of American History, History of Computing and Communications exhibit, at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC.

He was born in Shreveport, Louisiana but now lives in Studio City, California. Married in 1959 to Roberta Jane ne Isdell, he has four sons and one daughter.

Adam Rakunas's first story (written at age 6) was about the California Angels beating the pants off the Toronto Blue Jays, clearly demonstrating his talent for fantastic fiction. The owner of an ever-growing collection of rejection slips, Adam lives in Santa Monica with his wife Anne, who beats him in two out of three triathlon events. He's been working on his personal website since 1996, which makes him an old man in Internet years. So keep the hell off his lawn.

Karen M. Roberts is a member of the Clarion West class of 2005. As such, she still suffers from sleep deprivation and glitter pen withdrawal. Her fiction has been published in *Farthing*, *Say...*, and *Andromeda Spaceways*. One of her ambitions is to coin a phrase into the common usage.

Thomas Safer is a self-taught expert on animated cartoons. He has a large collection of over 4000 different theatrical cartoons and animated feature films from Warner Brothers, MGM, Paramount, Disney, UPA, Screen Gems, and Terrytoons as well as television cartoons from Jay Ward, Total Television, and Hanna Barbara. These cartoons come from video tape, laser disc and DVDs that he has bought or traded for over the last 21 years. He is very happy to share

these special programs and he hopes the audience will have as much fun watching them as he had putting them together.

Steve Savitzky is a hacker/songwriter who learned both hacking and folksinging back in the 1960's; he discovered organized fandom and filkdom in 1978, and wrote his first "real" filksong shortly thereafter. About half of his recorded songs are about computers. In his professional interests include web publishing and open source.

Michael Siladi has been an active fan for, well, a lot of years. He has been involved in all areas of convention operations, and is currently Chairman of Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound, being held in San Mateo in July 2007. He was Programming Division Manager for BayCon 2006, and he served as Chairman of BayCon 2005. Michael enjoys teaching others how to run conventions, and recently lead the first Conventional Wisdom, the San Francisco Bay Area Convention College. He served three times as Chairman of Construction, a predecessor to Conventional Wisdom. He was the Chairman of SMOFcon 17, the international science fiction and fantasy convention organizer's convention, held in New Orleans in December of 1999. He serves on the Boards of Directors of a number of fan-related corporations, including: Artistic Solutions, Inc. (parent of BayCon), the Society for the Promotion of Fannish Interests, Inc. (parent of Westercon 60 and of Conventional Wisdom), the San Diego Speculative Fiction Society, Inc. (parent of Conjecture.) Michael has been involved in the computer industry since high school, and has been an avid computer hobbyist since the dawn of the PC era. He is currently employed as a senior information technology professional for the University of California at Santa Cruz. In his spare time, his other hobbies include astronomy, photography, and petting his cats.

Milt Stevens joined fandom in 1960 and has been Chairman of Loscon I (LA 2000), which was actually in 1975, a past worldcon chairman, and a past Westercon chairman. Milt writes all sorts of stuff for fanzines, and is usually a member of a couple of amateur press associations at any given moment. Milt is currently the official editor of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA).

Jason Stoddard is, by day, president of an advertising agency. His clients are more likely to be involved in nanotechnology, atomic mapping, or advanced communications than fast food, so you can't blame him for America's obesity problem. At night, he writes science fiction that has been seen in *SciFiction*, *Interzone*, *Strange Horizons*, *Futurismic*, among others. He was a finalist in 2003's Writers of the Future contest and won first prize for the first year's quarter.

Unfortunately, none of the agents or editors have yet believed his line that if he had a book deal, there would be less advertising in this world. A founding member of the Fictionados writing group, he lives in Newhall, CA with his wife, Lisa (also a Fictionado), who writes romantica under the name Ashleigh Raine. They share the house with five turtles, three tortoises, and several cars in varying states of repair.

T.N. Todaro is a writer, designer and consultant, with a background in art, music, and education. Tony is the author of the "Lightrider" novels which include *True Light* and *Nexus of Swords*, and is developing the "Lightrider Saga" as a motion picture franchise. Tony has also designed hundreds of websites, including the new LASFS.ORG site and the main title design and banner for LOSCON.ORG. When not chained to his computers, he can be found snorkeling in Hawaii.

Tadao Tomomatsu - Jack-of-most-trades, entertainer, actor, Oscar (Mayer!) Nominee, former Loscon chair. A long time Midwest fan, Tadao moved to California to further his acting career. He has worked on such projects as *Friends*, *Babylon 5*, *JAG*, *Inspector Gadget*, *Charlie's Angels Full Throttle*, and most recently on the NBC series *Heroes*. He is also well known for his role on Banzai as "Mr Shake Hands Man".

Harry Turtledove is an escaped Byzantine historian who writes alternate history, other sf, fantasy, and historical fiction. His recent books include *Fort Pillow*, *Crosstime Traffic: The Disunited States of America*, and *Settling Accounts: The Grapple*.

Laurraine Tutihasi has been reading sf&f since 1951 and discovered fandom in 1973 after attending her first convention, a worldcon. She has published fanzines, attended and worked on numerous conventions, participated in local clubs, belonged to numerous APAs, written reviews and other things for fanzines, and even sold some artwork. She is currently a member of FAPA and two electronic APAs, belongs to the LASFS, publishes a newsletter and is the web reviews coordinator for Sime~Gen Inc. In her other life, she has been a librarian, a programmer and is currently engaged in editing and writing.

George Van Wagner is a freelance writer, musician, and recording engineer who is cursed with being interested in almost everything, but especially technology, music, literature of all sorts, history, science, and the nocturnal habits of quantum particles. To compound the curse, he is also the current President and member of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society.

Vanessa Van Wagner credits science fiction with saving her from inner-city brain rot. She is a former adult basic education teacher and literacy program manager. Though no longer in the classroom - she's now a technical editor - she maintains a commitment to promoting reading to disadvantaged families. Winner of the Baycon Iron Poet contest, her fannish activities include writing poetry, publishing a fanzine (*This Thing of Ours*), and relentless blogging. She also publishes *Hope and Groans*, a guide for families coping with chronic illness. She is married to LASFS president George Van Wagner.

M. Christine Valada is a professional photographer and an entertainment attorney who survived six years as the outside general counsel for the Science Fiction Writers of America, Inc. She also teaches photography and currently works in an administrative position at Pierce College in Woodland Hills. When she's not out in the company of her Arabian prince, she spends much of her free time trying to figure out how to fit more of husband Len Wein's comic book stuff into his version of the Collyer house.

Bill Warren has been writing about SF and other movies for almost 40 years, including for a variety of magazines and collections, and Leonard Maltin's *Movie Guide*, in addition to several books of his own, including *Keep Watching the Skies*. He's been a member of LASFS since 1966, and was on the Board of Directors for several years. He lives with his wife Beverly in what may be the Silver Lake district of Los Angeles..

Richard Wadholm has, since graduating from the Clarion West Writers' Workshop in 1997, sold stories to *Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine*, one of which, "Green Tea," was a finalist for the year 2000 Theodore Sturgeon Award for best SF story of the year and another of which, "From Here You Can See the Sunquists" ended up in the Robert Silverberg-edited *Science Fiction: The Best Of 2001*, and has also had stories included in *Polyphony 5* and *Polyphony 6*. Rick lives in Southern California, where he's spent most of his life.

Chris Weber has twenty years experience as a writing pro, often with his wife and partner Karen Willson. Together they've written over 50 episodes of animation for television, working for Disney, Filmation, Hanna-Barbera, DIC, and CBS Entertainment among others. He's also written comic books, a syndicated comic strip, magazine material, filk, and technical documentation. Wielding his M.A. in Communication Arts, Chris teaches an annual film studies class starting each August at Webster University in San Diego.

Len Wein is the writer/creator of *Swamp Thing*, *The Human Target*, *Brother Voodoo*, *Wolverine* and the *New X-Men*, and many other characters. He has been Editor-in-Chief of Marvel Comics, Disney Comics, and Top Cow Comics, as well as Senior Editor at DC Comics, and is noted for long runs writing almost every major character, from *Superman*, *Batman*, *Wonder Woman*, and *Justice League* at DC, to *Spider-Man*, *The Hulk*, *Thor*, *The Fantastic Four*, and *Wolverine* and *The X-Men* at Marvel. Len has written the screenplay for a new big-budget live-action *Swamp Thing* feature for producer Joel Silver. He has also written in the *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* Universes. In television, Len developed the award-winning CGI-animated series *War Planets: Shadow Raiders*, and served as Story Editor for all 26 episodes of the latter. He has scripted over 60 episodes of such varied live-action and animated series as *Hypernauts*, *Conan*, *X-Men*, *Godzilla*, *Spider-Man*, *Action Man*, *Street Fighter*, *Beast Wars*, *Beast Machines*, *Exosquad*, *Pocket Dragon Adventures*, and others. Len also received Emmy honors for his work on *Batman: The Animated Series*.

Lee Whiteside has been following science fiction TV since the early days of color TV. He's been writing about the genre for 15+years in *ConNotations* and has been keeping track of it online since the early 80's and with SFTV.org since the mid-1990's. He's also chaired two CopperCons, one LepreCon, the 2006 Nebula Awards Weekend, and has been committee for the majority of the Arizona SF/F conventions since the early 1990's. In his spare time, he is a network engineer in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Michael Z. Williamson is an immigrant from the UK and Canada, a veteran of the US Army and US Air Force, a bladesmith and a writer. He dotes on children and cats while writing tales of horrific destruction. A candidate for World Dictator in 2008, he can be found online at www.MichaelZWilliamson.com and www.SharpPointyThings.com

Karen Willson is the creator and publisher of "A Girl's World Online Clubhouse®" and Babysittingclass.com. Her love of working with children and young adults started in high school. Karen's after school job was to teach drama, dance and baton classes in the City of West Covina. In college, Karen managed to take an ordinarily dry degree program (BA in History at UCLA, Magna Cum Laude) and turn it into something fun for kids and families. Karen produced and performed in dramatic recreations of masques, madrigals and dances to the delight of families and guests at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire and at special UCLA History Department events. Karen also created and produced "Prince or Princess for a Day" events, raising thousands of dollars for the Los Angeles "Make-a-Wish" Foundation, and making a

special dream come true for terminally ill children and their families. Her education wasn't all play: Karen's Honors College thesis on the "Power and Influence of Women in Elizabeth's Court" won the coveted Mary Beard History Prize at UCLA, and earned Karen a Distinguished Scholar Award.

As an Air Force Colonel's daughter, Karen's natural organizational skills earned her a spot in several motion picture and television studios as a Production Manager, supervising and supporting special effects crews for hundreds of commercials, television shows and features. She used what she'd learned about filmmaking to write and produce a 20-minute video documentary, *Piece of Sky*, starring Walter Koenig of Star Trek fame. This documentary was used to raise funds for "Ahead With Horses," a therapeutic riding organization in Los Angeles which works with children who are gravely disabled.

Animation was always one of Karen's great loves. So when the opportunity presented itself to move from production to writing, she teamed up with her writing partner and husband, Chris Weber, to script more than fifty children's television episodes. Karen and Chris created the Emmy and Humanitas Award winning *Dink the Little Dinosaur* for CBS Television. In live action, she wrote with Steven Barnes for the revamped *Twilight Zone* series. Karen also served as a feature interviewer and West Coast Editor for *Starlog Magazine*. She put that experience to good work as the supervising editor for AGW's *Talking About...* series of six advice books for and by girls.

Karen's hobby is writing and performing music. As a musician and member of ASCAP, Karen combined her love of animation and music by writing original songs and lyrics for several animated musical shows for Film Roman and Films By Jove. Karen's CD of original music, *Children of the Future* is available from DAG Productions. The title song was used as a theme by the Special Olympics of Los Angeles. She performs weekly as a cantor at the 200 year old Mission San Luis Rey Church and enjoys occasional stints as a folk concert artist at venues around the country.

Marv Wolfman (Writer/Editor) has been the writer-creator of more comic book characters that have gone onto movies, TV & animation than any writer since Stan Lee, including *Blade*, *Bullseye*, *Black Cat*, *The Teen Titans* and hundreds of others. Among others, he has been founding editor of *Disney Adventures* magazine, senior editor of DC Comics and Editor-in-chief of Marvel Comics. Marv's novels include *Crisis on Infinite Earths* and the novelization of *Superman Returns*. His direct-to-DVD animated movie, *Condor* will be released in early 2007, and he is currently writing the direct-to-DVD movie, *Teen*

Titans: The Judas Contract.

Jim Young is a retired U.S. diplomat who served in eastern Europe and Africa. He's the author of a couple of novels and several short stories, and he's just turned in his first suspense novel, *The Company of the Damned*, which deals with the next phase of Islamic terrorism. Young is also an actor who has appeared in a number of TV shows, and most recently as a truly nasty bad guy in a short film by Giovanni Cuarez called "Lost Dolls," which will be making its way through the festival circuit in 2008.

Martin Young is a useless toad. Prior to becoming a warty amphibian of no discernable purpose, he was born in England. He later obtained a Ph D at UC Irvine, and certification in philosophical counseling at a location he has forgotten. Apart from that, his only achievement is his wonderful daughter, who recently had a dwarf planet named after her. He earns his meager living by teaching philosophy at community colleges, and dreams of one day saving the world by teaching people how to think critically. (Don't roll your eyes! I saw you.) He is also an aspiring writer, which is yet another reason people find him annoying. On top of that, he thinks he's funny. On the plus side, some people think he's scary looking, which is a real advantage in the classroom, I can tell you.