

Party on  
our 15th  
year!

# MarsCon 2013

March 1-3, 2013

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## View from the Chair

It looks like we are going to have a fantastic MarsCon this year! A new writing contest for High School and

Undergraduate students, two nights of DJ dance plus our Dementia Track as planned by "The great Luke Ski"!

The lovely **Claudia Christian** is signed for the convention as our media Guest of Honor.

We have the even more lovely **Harry Turtledove** as our Author Guest of Honor. Artist guests of honor are the very creative **W.C. Carani** and a MarsCon Art Show favorite **Sarah Clemens**. Fan guest of Honor are the **Thrift Brothers**, and we look forward to welcoming them and all our guests of honor to MarsCon!

Our gaming head is working on getting sponsors for gaming contests so we can start promoting them as well as MarsCon as a whole.

Join us for a great MarsCon with activities and programming for everyone as we **THRIVE into the future!**

### Vote for a charity

We vote on charities at the October planning meeting and all ConCom meetings are open to the public. Anyone who attends may vote or make a last minute pitch for his/her favorite charity.

### Make a donation

Surely you have a book, toy, service or other treasure that another fan would appreciate. Drop it off at a planning meeting or at the convention prior to the charity auction.

# Thrive into the future

MarsCon has been hosting charity auctions and food/clothing drives since we began. Through the generous contributions of attendees, we have been able to help Camp Heartland, the Alzheimer's Association, Kids Need to Read, Twin Cities Second Harvest Heartland, Family Circuits, the Gordy Dickson Memorial Scholarship Fund, Standing Rock Reservation and Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans.

### Please Do What You Can to Help a Charity in Need. Here's How:

#### Nominate a charity

Send us an email, call somebody on ConCom, or post a facebook message with your choice of designated charity for MarsCon 2013. Tell us a little bit about the charity and provide a web link if there is one.

#### Volunteer

You can help with setting up the charity auction. We will need runners and tabulators during the auction. Volunteers may also be needed to keep track of party nominations and update a giving chart. After the convention, we may also need drivers to transport food/clothing drive donations.

#### Show up and bid

We have auctioned off some pretty fantastic things in past years, including autographed pictures and programs, hand-crafted jewelry and even Dr. Demento's top hat. There are always books, comics, T-shirts and other collectibles from which to choose. Those who participate in the auction get some incredible deals, and ...

**it's all for a great cause.**

Time to Vote for Your Favorite Charity!



Who knows what fun is in store?

**MarsCon  
Masquerade Ball  
November 3rd, 2012  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Saturday,  
November 3, 2012  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
and Suites, Bloomington  
6pm Meet & Greet  
7-11pm Dance &  
Costume Contest  
\$10 at the door**

# The A/V Room

The A/V room is happy to team up with the Geek Partnership Society.

We will bring you the great cult classics, great geeky films and a few surprises along the way. The A/V needs your help—if you love films, please help out the A/V room by volunteering!

We have had some trouble with our genetic replicator so please stay away from the yellow oozing goo of our failed experiments. The best we have been able to do so far is to turn volunteers into minions. We have also been able to turn minions into department heads.

Marscon is looking for volunteers to become Marscon Minions. A Marscon Minion gets a Minion T-shirt. Our Minions have their own Minion hangout where they can chill, play, and graze. After 5 minion hours you get one meal in Snarky's Café.

Register now to be a Marscon Minion.

# MarsCon Minions

Here at Marscon Labs we have been researching the difference between volunteers and Minions. Minions have been a recent development in the volunteer program's spectrum.

We have been doing genetic modeling of volunteers for years. As minions first started to appear on our radar we started to do genetic modeling on them as well for a comparison study. We found that minions have more ownership and more pride in what they do.

concept/picture from beginning to complete costume? Want to learn some tips and tricks of being on stage?

THEN COME TO THE MARSCON MASQUERADE LOUNGE! We are ALL about helping you become the best costumer/cosplayer you can be!

If there is a special costume-related panel YOU'D like to see, then contact us with your suggestions. Even better, if you'd like to share your knowledge of props, costumes—whatever! Then please contact us too!

# Calling all Costumers

## The MarsCon Masquerade Lounge WANTS YOU!

For panels, demos, exhibitions, and general 'How did you DO that?' Workshops!

The MarsCon Masquerade Lounge programming track is quickly gaining a reputation for being THE con in the Midwest for costume related programming; some 20-plus hours of basic and advanced costuming tips, tricks and demos. BUT THERE'S MORE

We don't just stop at costuming. We go on to 'The Care and Feeding of Wigs and Hair' (traditional and anime styles), prop making (including wings, etc.) Basic Make-up 101, and more. Want to learn about El wire and lighting up your costume? Want an intro to 'wonderflex'? How do you take a

[marscon.org/2013/masquerade-lounge.php](http://marscon.org/2013/masquerade-lounge.php)

We also want to hear from you if you've ever won 'BEST OF SHOW' at previous MarsCon Masquerade contests. We are in the process of creating the Masquerade Lounge, Wall of Fame with framed pictures of previous winners. However, we can't do this without your help—records from previous years are incomplete and we don't have names or pictures of all the winners. Do contact us, and—even better—send us a picture of you in your award-winning costume. Don't forget your full name, name of your character and the year. We want to show you off!

If you need more info about the Masquerade contest itself, please contact Bill Hedrick. To request a panel, or volunteer for one, or if you just want to help out in the Lounge, please contact Rae Lundquist (also known as the DreamStitcher) through the MarsCon link or at [costume13@marscon.org](mailto:costume13@marscon.org).

Can't wait to hear from you!

Rae

# MarsCon FAQ

## What is it?

**MarsCon is a fun, volunteer run, Family oriented Science Fiction / fantasy convention.**

★ The Propatorium offers a large prop collection from sci-fi and fantasy movies and tv shows, screen used, fan made and official license props, from a number of prop collections and makers.

★ A reknowned cosplay and costume mavin meeting place, MarsCon has over 20 hours of costume-related programming.

*What can we do there?*



★ Film Room brings in films from the classics, to cult classics, local independent films and independent films from around the world.

*Register NOW!  
help us reach our goal  
of 1000 members!!*

**Luke Ski**, our intrepid Dementia Track Chair, is hard at work trying to book a Music Guest Of Honor of comedy music renown.

# Dementia Track

While a GoH hasn't been secured yet, he can report that MarsCon 2013 will host the 3rd Annual Logan Whitehurst Memorial Awards for Excellence In Comedy Music. Logan was a brilliant and hilarious musician who was taken from us far too soon in 2006.

Rob Balder wanted to create an award that celebrated the best in comedy music, so with the permission of Logan's family, "The Logan Awards" were founded in cooperation with the FuMP dot com (The Funny Music Project). The first Logan Awards were held in Akron, OH at Con on the Cob 2011, and the second at DeepSouthCon 2012 in Huntsville, AL hosted by Dr. Demento himself, who is also a permanent juror.

## Snarky's Café

Snarky's is catered food (solid meals) for people who help run our MarsCon convention. ConCom Members, Dealers, People running Room Parties, People running Programming and Volunteers who do at least 5 hours of work at MarsCon or for MarsCon. It is a way to avoid having to run out for food or bring and prepare food in your room.

For the low cost of \$35 until December 1, then \$40 until February 25 and \$45 at door (maybe limited options at the door) you can be part of Snarky's for the whole weekend.

We serve breakfast, lunch and supper and are open from just after 7:00 am to 11:30 or so. We have options for vegetarians, gluten free & also offer food cooked to stay away from food allergies.

Guests of Honor have memberships provided as part of their package, but anyone who is assisting them can buy into Snarky's too. None of the food in Snarky's is paid for out of the MarsCon budget. Ingredients for cooked food is purchased well ahead of time with funds from people buying into Snarky's. The fresh fruit, breads and veggies are purchased the day before MarsCon starts, hence the limitations for at-the-door purchases. The higher price is to encourage buying into Snarky's early. Plus early membership helps defray any food cost increases in the future.

Don't want to or can't afford to buy a weekend membership to Snarky's? Volunteer anyway and after a minimum of 5 hours you can eat one meal in Snarky's.

Registration forms are available on the MarsCon website.

Full Menus available on request.

**What Chocolate is your Passion? Come and take time in your busy Con schedule to relax, enjoy and discover the Chocolates that inspire Passions with Simply Cooking's Chocolatier Pat Kandaki. Look for more info in PR 2.**



# Rue Morgue

MarsCon is again opening the Massage Room to all convention members. We call it the Morgue because we bring the dead back to life with reflexology, massage, manual stretching, Electro-herbalism and Reiki. Our Reiki Master Teacher does do training and gives attunements.

# ATTENTION GAMERS!

Hello once again from MarsCon Gaming! Last year was awesome, and we've already got a lot in store for the coming year as well. Gaming will once again run as late as people want it to. If you missed any of the events, many are returning for MarsCon 2013, plus some new ones that are sure to please!

Game requests are always welcome at [games13@marscon.org](mailto:games13@marscon.org) or follow the link on the web site. Space for scheduled events is limited. People can sign up for any block of time to host whatever games they want, no matter how ridiculous. Any open space remaining will allow Open Gaming. The casual format of open gaming has worked well for us in the past, so we're sticking with it. Thanks for the continued support.

We've brought back the Reaper Miniatures Paint and Take this year after the huge success of last year. We're also planning on several Magic events, including the free tournament!

Something new, we're running a gaming event for the younger generation; Dungeons & Dragons for kids. Bring your kids down for a light-hearted version of the classic role playing game.

So keep checking the website for updates as the convention approaches. Now, get your pencils, dice, cards or board games ready! 2013 is going to be another awesome year in the Gaming Room!

Something to keep in mind: Gaming is not "con" for child care. We are not baby sitters, we are not here to look after your children and we are not certified to do this.

**Matthew Hellendrung and Brian LaBounty**  
**Gaming Czars Marscon 2013**

The Dealers Room will be in the same location, as in previous years. We will have some previous Dealers, and some new, with the usual "great variety of merchandise"! So start saving your \$\$\$ for that great one of a kind purchase... or that "JUST HAVE TO HAVE!!!"

# Dealers Room

## Sales

This is MarsCon's 15th year, so we will be selling an Anniversary Special Patch, at our merchandise table. A must have for every fan!

## Artists Alley

New this year will be an Artists Alley. A place fans can visit with the artist, discuss the artist's creations, and make a purchase (or two, or three) Some artists from the previous Dealers Room will relocate to this area! This will be a great opportunity to spend time with your favorite artist(s).

**Dealers Room & Sales Co-Chairs**  
**Karen Uecker & Juana Mann.**



# Hotel

## Enjoy MarsCon all weekend long by getting a room!

MarsCon will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel & Suites (formerly Holiday Inn Select). The room rates are \$95 plus tax for a regular room and \$115 plus tax for suites on any floor, including the party floor (13th).

Room reservations may be made by calling the hotel directly at **952-854-9000** or toll-free **1-800-227-6983**. **Make sure to mention MarsCon Sci-Fi/Fantasy Convention.** Tip: Try calling the 952 number first during regular business hours, and please let us know if you have any trouble getting the MarsCon rate so we can help.

Taking a room at the hotel is a wonderful way to enhance your MarsCon experience. It gives you a home base, a place to park the wonderful treasures you've just purchased in the Dealers' Room, a place to entertain friends, and to crash whenever you finish with partying throughout the MarsCon weekend... not to mention it makes the Crowne Plaza very happy with MarsCon.

The hotel is located at 3 Appletree Square, Bloomington, MN (34th Ave S exit from I-494, or right next to the Hiawatha Line LRT stop). Lots of underground parking spaces are available to con-goers in addition to the above-ground level parking in the hotel ramp. An important note to smokers and non-smokers: the Crowne Plaza is now a 100% non-smoking hotel.

**Website:**  
**[www.cpmsairport.com](http://www.cpmsairport.com)**

### MarsCon 2013

is sponsored by  
FenSF, Inc.  
The Fans  
Educational  
Network for  
Science Fiction

# Party! Party! Party!

Please add to the fun of MarsCon's 15th Anniversary by hosting a room party! What do people at MarsCon do after programming is ended for the day? After Science Room, Prop-a-torium, Dealers Room and Art Show have closed? Why, they party until the wee hours, of course! Party rooms are on the 13th floor, with some party overflow available on 12th floor. The more parties, the more fun. Even if you've never hosted a room party before, your party will be welcome. Individuals not throwing a party may also room on 13th floor if space is available, so let us know if you'd like your room where the action is. Reserve a room through the hotel, fill out a party room request form (found on our web site, or we can work out details via email), and get us your reservation confirmation number so we can get you onto 13th floor. Thanks!

## Dates of Note

### Why, yes, the MarsCon year begins and ends in March. Doesn't yours?

MarsCon planning meetings, a.k.a. ConCom meetings, take place through the year. You needn't be a member of the committee to attend; we welcome visitors, representatives of other groups, and the mildly curious. We promise to not press-gang you... unless you express an interest in volunteering. In that case you are so ours.

All ConCom meetings start at 1:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel & Suites. Check the events monitors once you arrive at the hotel to see which room we're in on that date. Here are just a few dates of note:

### 2012

- October 19-21: MarsCon Party at Valleycon
- October 14: MarsCon Planning Meeting (Charity Auction vote)
- November 3: MarsCon Masquerade Ball, 6-11pm
- November 18: MarsCon Planning Meeting (PR2 articles deadline)
- December 16: MarsCon Planning Meeting

### 2013

- January 20: MarsCon Planning Meeting
- January 21: Program Book Deadline
- February 10: MarsCon Planning Meeting
- February 24: MarsCon Planning Meeting (the "What did we forget?" meeting)
- March 1-3: MarsCon happens!

# MarsCon Programming Challenge: Top

Here's a small sampling of the amazing programming featured in MarsCon's past:

## Klingon WHAT?

### This!

**1999** Fans shared insights, news and anxieties regarding the then upcoming Lucas Masterpiece: Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace. This panel was alternatively titled, "I have a very bad feeling about this."

**2000** Fan Guest of Honor Jack Borkowski helped create an entire Klingon track of programming for the weekend including discussions about Klingon Sex, Advanced Costuming and a Cold Terror Fleet Assembly.

### feather boa.

**2001** Make-up Artist Carl Taliaferro transformed "Alien Actor"—and recent Guinness Book of World Records holder—Bill Blair into a Minbari in time for Masquerade.

**2002** Author Lyda Morehouse participated in a marathon 13 programming events including readings from Archangel Protocol and her memorable Closing Ceremonies appearance as a diva equipped with

### spooky fog.

**2003** Synergy was experienced as Dr. Demento, John M. Ford, Richard Biggs and Baron Dave Romm performed in a live radio show to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Shockwave Radio.

**2004** Stephanie Gannaway-Osborn gave a riveting presentation highlighting her years working on the Space Shuttle program and the International Space Station.

**2005** Despite a two-hour delay on main stage that bumped Chicago's Buffy the Musical ("Once More, With Feeling") Shadowcast Performance to 2:00 am, cast and crew performed in front of a packed audience. Carrie Dahlby portrayed Buffy to

**2006** Local Dalek fans showed us what goes into building a Dalek, where to get started with your Dalek plans and how not to get exterminated by your own Dalek.

**2007** Master costumers combined forces for a wig/make-up/costume demo to create a geisha while prop masters hosted a Prop-a-Torium Tour with everything from Fan Made Props, "Officially Licensed" props and a few actual (aka real) items from a few movies!

**2008** The Mad Science Fire and Ice show stole the show as one of the mad scientists demonstrated scientific principles and used dry ice to shower volunteers with clouds, bubbles and

**2009** Members of Steam Century Kaposia hosted a semi-informal Steampunk Fashion Show & Tell as well as a Steam Century Mystery game and pre-mystery tea with cookies and conversation.

**2010** Fans paid homage to Gwynyth Walsh (B'Etor of Star Trek's Duras sisters) by performing "Sisters" from White Christmas while dressed as the Klingon sisters.

**2011** Apocalypse Disco Bunker: Music & Dance Party made its debut in a hard-to-find-but-well-worth-the-effort 3rd floor room where hip hopping, dubstepping, jive talking and astounding decorations could be found.

**2012** So? What'cha got? Think about what you've seen and liked in past years or at past cons, or maybe what you've never seen yet. Write it down and share it with us by posting your idea for an event to our online programming ideas form.

**2013** As always, MarsCon is immensely grateful for the incredible programming we receive each year from artists, authors, guests, musicians, singers, actors, fan groups, clubs and individuals.

*MarsCon depends on you, the attendees, for much of our programming.*

*The best ideas always come from attendees, so please share your ideas with us.*

Go to: [marscon.org/2013/program\\_ideas.php](http://marscon.org/2013/program_ideas.php).

Warmest thanks.

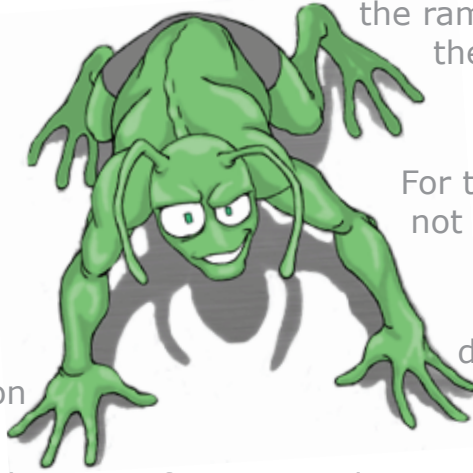


# Writing contest

In our effort to promote genres that we love and fandom, we are starting two electronic writing contests; One open to High School Students and the other open to Undergraduates.

## The rules are as follows:

1. You are limited to 1000 words (about 4 pages).
2. You have one cover page to list your contact information.
3. Your entry should be focused on Science Fiction or Fantasy.
4. Submissions are due by PR2
5. Send your five-page submission to: [info@marscon.org](mailto:info@marscon.org)



We have the right to post your submission from entry date to 90 days after the convention. The copyright remains yours. We need time for our readers to review your submission and vote on the ones that they like best.

Each winner will receive a guest membership to MarsCon 2013. First Place is \$75.00 and Second Place is \$25.00. It is our hope that the winners will read their submission at MarsCon, but it is not required.

## Jodi Klug

By Joe Swenson

MarsCon was saddened this past year by the loss of another Chair. Her Funeral was well attended. For me, I will miss her positive helpful attitude and our two-plus hour conversations. Her death has left a hole in the lives of many people.

We were told that she died doing what she loved, reading a Sci-Fi book. I was told that it looked like she just fell asleep. For those of you that live in the Twin City Metroplex, you can support her memory by supporting her charity of choice, "Zoo Boo".

If Jodi saw someone in need of help, she would often volunteer. I am sorry that she did not let more people know of her own need. Her cause of death was heart failure.

I see you next to my mother—for she would have enjoyed you—still doing what you loved; reading. I see you with my father, helping to do whatever needs to be done. But, because I am human it isn't entirely with happiness that I see you this way, because you are so far away from us now and so deeply missed a larger part of our diminishing universe is darker now because your spirit is no longer there to illuminate it.

We will see you again, Jodi. But not yet. -Nora

The other day an individual told us that there was no parking available at MarsCon.

When asked if they knew about the sub-levels of the parking ramp that were available and the parking lot behind the ramp, This was new information for them. With the top of the ramp we have a lot of parking available to us.

For those that want to attend and do not drive, the light rail stops right in front of our hotel.

If you are not running errands during the convention, you might want to consider the lower levels of the parking ramp. I know this is what a number of our members do.

## Dear Jodi

I hear your name and my imagination conjures your face as we all remember you; with your sweet smile, warm as the setting sun in autumn. It's so very strange to think of you as away from us now. A loss that I'm afraid I haven't been strong enough to bear. For me, you are one more in the midst of many in recent years who shouldn't be gone. Not yet.

I think of you now as you might have thought of yourself. As a tiny pixie, dressed in pale blue, flitting about with beautiful, delicate wings, the wind and sun making your short dark hair dance and shine. Your eyes are sparkling and your heart is every bit like your spirit—strong.

# There is too Parking!

# MarsCon 2013

March 1-3, 2013



Party on  
our 15th  
year!

(or 8.97th in Mars Years)

## Guests of Honor to Include

### Actor

Claudia Christian

### Author

Harry Turtledove

### Science Author

Gerald Nordley

### Artists

W.C. Carani & Sarah Clemens

### Fan/Costuming

The Thrift Brothers

More to be announced!

## Registration Rates

Cut off Dates:	2012 Con	10/31/12	01/31/13	At The Door
Teen/Adult	\$30	\$40	\$50	\$65
Child (6-12)	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30
Supporting**	\$20	\$25	\$30	+\$25
Sponsor	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75

### \$5 discount at all MarsCon represented events

\*\* Supporting members pay a reduced rate through 1/31/13 to hold tickets, then complete the purchase by paying an additional \$25 anytime up to and including at the door

### Crowne Plaza Hotel and Suites

3 Appletree Square  
Bloomington, MN 55425  
952-854-9000

## Registration Information

### Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address(2): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please e-mail me:**  Mars Today Updates  Progress Reports as PDFs

**I WANT TO VOLUNTEER! PLEASE CONTACT ME!**

### I want information about

Dealer's Room  Art Show  Gaming Room  Masquerade  Party room

You can register online with  
Paypal or mail this form with your  
payment to the following address  
(no cash please):

**MarsCon**  
**P.O. Box 21213**  
**Eagan, MN 55121**

**E:** info13f@marscon.org  
**W:** marscon.org/2013

I got this  
flier from  
**PR1**