

# MarsCon 2017



## Dragons in Space

March 3, 4, 5, 2017

# Guests of Honor



Jeffrey Combs



Artist  
Ralph Ryan



Comedy/Music  
Judy Tenuta



Authors  
Sharon Lee &  
Steve Miller



# See what's in store!

## New for 2017!

**Do you have a book you've read and want to share?** Bring it to the book exchange! Come and see us, bring a book or get a book. There are no limits on books and we only ask that you enjoy your read.

Book Exchange shelves will be found in:

**Room of Youth (V - Mallard Point)**—for youth-oriented books

**Re(a)d Mars (III - Eagle's Nest)**—for novels, miscellaneous literature, and adult-oriented SF/Fantasy/Speculative Fiction

Please bring one or more books you would like to donate, and feel free to take a book for reading later. Any unclaimed books will be donated to the Charity Auction which takes place on Sunday morning on the Mainstage.

## Food Drive

MarsCon will be accepting food donations for the Food Group, a network of food shelves, during the convention.

**If you are registering at the door for MarsCon 2017**, you can get \$5 off your registration by donating 5 cans of food, limited to one discount per person. (Please note, the \$5 discount cannot be applied to Day Passes.)

**If you are a party host and would like to help out**, we encourage you to collect donations and bring them to the donation box near Registration/outside Operations by Sunday.

**If you are attending and would like to donate**, please drop off your donation at Registration, Ops, or a participating party room.

**Thank you for your donations and generosity!**

## Announcing The 2017 Charities

**NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness)** is a non-

profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and adults with mental illnesses and their families. NAMI Minnesota offers education, support and advocacy. NAMI Minnesota vigorously promotes the development of community mental health programs and services, improved access to services, increased opportunities for recovery, reduced stigma and discrimination, and increased public understanding of mental illness.

NAMI Minnesota offers more than 500 free classes and presentations and over 70 support groups each year, and was recently recognized with prestigious national and state awards for its advocacy successes!

To learn more about NAMI, see their web site:

[www.namihelps.org](http://www.namihelps.org).

**The Gordy Dickson Memorial Scholarship Fund** was established in 2002 for three purposes:

To honor Gordy Dickson, local fan and science fiction and fantasy pro writer who died in 2001.

To collect money to send potential new writers to the Clarion Workshop for SF and fantasy writers or some other workshop. Gordy always encouraged new writers.

To promote accord in Twin Cities fandom by having a project that various fan clubs and individual fans can work on together.

For further news and information about the fund, see: [sffan.org/gdmf](http://sffan.org/gdmf).

As always, thank you for your generosity & support!

## and other charitable events at MarsCon?

We're glad you asked. Here are a few ways to help:

**Donate stuff!** It's not too late. We accept donations at planning meetings and all the way until the convention and even during the convention. If you have something cool that somebody would bid on, you can drop it off in Ops when you arrive at MarsCon.

**Bid on stuff!** There is usually at least one treasure that you will really want—maybe an autographed picture of one of the Guests of Honor, a toy, some tickets to a movie, a poster, some books—so show up, bid, and remember that what you spend is going to support two worthwhile causes.

The Charity Auction is held on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. on the Main Stage. Auction organizers will accept silent bids prior to the Auction if you can't be in the room during the Auction. Open viewing starts at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, and some items will be on display in various function rooms throughout the convention.

**Check out Art Show for a custom "Dragons in Space" pen made by a former Guest of Honor.**

**See Con Suite for dragon-themed duvet sets which will also be auctioned for charity.**

**Unclaimed items from the Book Exchange will be donated as well.**

**Volunteer!** We always need help setting up the auction donations for display prior to the auction, holding up items for better viewing during the auction, keeping track of bids and tabulating, etc...

**Let Us Know!** If you or your group are planning another charitable activity at MarsCon, please let us know ahead of time so we can help you promote your event as well.

**Thank you!  
It's a great way to help out!**

**"How can I help with Charity Auction..."**

**Art Show**

**To our artisans,**

As we prepare for the 2017, we now look forward and to the growth of the MarsCon Art Show. As many of you observed, hanging room and table space is becoming a rare commodity. Therefore, the art show revised its policies for the artwork that we will accept for viewing and bidding.

**We ask that all artwork entries be of a Sci Fi/Fantasy theme...**

We do not wish to turn away artists—our space required the decision. If there are any questions whether your art work qualifies, present your concerns to the art show head Michael Byrne. If there are any questions or issues regarding whether it follows the necessary theme, a select group will make a final decision.

We apologize if this sends any of our artisans away, yet as we continue to grow we must look to the future of the MarsCon Art Show and its artisans. For many of you, this decision will not affect you. However, MarsCon is a Sci-Fi/Fantasy convention with panels and guests revolving around these genres. We felt it was time the art show reflected them as well.

We appreciate your understanding on this matter and look forward to seeing your work at the 2017 MarsCon Art Show.

**Sincerely,  
MarsCon Art Show staff  
and volunteers.**

**Consuite Art Show**  
**THE AV ROOM CHARITY AUCTION**  
would just like to remind you  
**It's never too late to volunteer!**

# Registration

Now is a wonderful time to register for MarsCon

At-the-door rates are in effect!

Additional details and the printable form are included and available online:

<http://marscon.org/2017/register.php>

## Single Day Rates

	Fri	Sat	Sun
<b>Teen/Adult</b>	\$25	\$40	\$25
<b>Child (6-12)</b>	\$10	\$20	\$10

Single-day passes may be purchased at the Registration counter at MarsCon, or in OPs if Registration is closed.

Friday and Saturday single-day passes are good through 6:00 a.m. the following morning. Sunday single-day passes are good through the end of post-convention parties.

### To buy at the door...

Bring your credit card, checkbook, or fistful of cash to the registration desk at MarsCon 2017. People arriving late at night will be able to register or pick up badges in OPs. OPs, however, will not be set up to accept credit cards, so if you want to use yours to register try to arrive during daytime or early evening hours.

# Accessibility

MarsCon is dedicated to providing a welcoming environment for all attendees, regardless of ability or special needs.

To achieve this, we need your help. If at any time you notice a condition which may be unsafe or limit someone's ability to participate and enjoy the convention, please let a staff member know or come to Ops. If you need help with accessing part of MarsCon, we will help. The MarsCon Safety Team are all volunteers who are here to help with accommodations whenever possible, to make everyone's experience fun and entertaining.

# Our Hotel

**EVERYONE is cordially invited to enjoy the convention all weekend long by getting a room!**

Taking a room at the hotel is a wonderful way to enhance your convention experience. You get a home base, a place to park the wonderful merchandise freshly purchased in the Dealers' Room, a place to entertain friends, to store your musical instruments or gorgeous artwork from the Art Show, and to crash whenever you finish with partying throughout the convention weekend. Not to mention it makes the host hotel very happy.

# Shuttle Schedule to the Mall of America

The Airport Hilton has Complimentary shuttle service to and from Mall of America every hour from 10:20am to 10:20pm

# Snarky's

Open to ConCom Members, Dealers, Party Room Groups and anyone who volunteers a minimum of 5 hours.

For the small cost of \$40 for the whole weekend have wholesome hot food between 7:30 am and 11:30 pm.

Delicious hot meals for breakfast, lunch and supper.

If you have food allergies or special food needs Snarky's has you covered.

Check out the MarsCon website for the registration form. Volunteers that put in at least five hours can get a free meal if they don't want to buy into the whole weekend.

# USS Nokomis 12th Annual MarsCon Blood Drive

In the great tradition of blood drives at science fiction conventions throughout the country, the crew of the USS Nokomis is proud to host the drive from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, March 4th. Please make your appointment to save up to three lives with your donation at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or email Jane at [firstofficer@ussnokomis.org](mailto:firstofficer@ussnokomis.org) to choose your time. We'll also be taking appointments in the WDF room on Friday evening, so stop by!

Over 1,000 lives have been touched by the generous donations you have made over the years while at MarsCon - let's do it again!

# 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 renowned cosplay and costume maven 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!

# Let's Get the Parties Started!

Parties will share the 11th floor with the Con suite, Krushenko's, Massage, and AV Rooms.

Hotel will extend the room rates to a limited number of rooms, so please contact us if you still need to book your room.

**Con Suite**—Pop, chips, candy and assorted snacks throughout the convention. **Please pitch in to keep Con Suite tidy and open longer. Many thanks to volunteers!**

**Rue Morgue Massage**, the crew with the magic touch, returns to MarsCon and joins the ranks of the Hospitality Guild. Escape may be impossible losing track of time probable.

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

**Karaoke & Desserts**—Sing karaoke from the 7,500+ song list and sample some amazing gourmet desserts. **May go until 3am.**

**Dance Rave**—Live DJs spinning the latest in techno and dubstep remixes into the wee hours. Contact Music Man Mark with song suggestions and he'll do his best so find it for you. Create your own playlist and he'll hook it up to the speakers!

**The Dude's Abode**, home of the Big Lebowski's finest.

**ValleyCon** returns to MarsCon with Captain Kirk's House of Ill-Repute!

**Space Oddity Music Club & Brew Pub**, for the ninth year in a row, will bring you themed and open music circles, abundant snacks, conversation, cocktails, the finest boxed wine, and craft beer.

**IKV RakeHell**—Klingon Adventurers Guild; Dragons rescued, Fair maidens killed, No job too easy. No treasure too big.

**W.D.F. World Defense Force**, "We die so you don't have to."

**The Royal Manticoran Navy**—Roll pods as The Royal Manticoran Navy celebrates Dragons in Space through Honor Harrington and military science fiction! Featuring shot roulette, cookies, and the legendary missile pods!

Party on to Page 8

# Gaming

Hello and welcome to MarsCon Gaming!

We have a lot of exciting new and regular favorite, games to offer this year!

**Twin Cities Game Fest is pleased to announce themed Tabletop Gaming.** With the theme of "Dragons in Space" we worked hard to find those games that fell along those categories. As you look at our schedule lists we have a "Science Team" column and a "Dragons & Fantasy" column. Choose to pay and discover new worlds in Star Trek Ascension, or hang out with your other party members at the pub with Three Dragon Ante.

**There are many games to choose from, and more than just on the schedule.** Matt McMillan and his team are bringing a large selection of his personal library to share during the weekend as well. Also, we will have plenty of Magic the Gathering events to entertain you as well.

**You may have noticed a strong grouping of Star Trek board games.** That is in fact to honor one of our special guests Jeffery Combs (who portrayed Brunt and Weyoun in Deep Space Nine). Don't fret, however, as we have lots of other choices to choose from in our Open Library. Also don't be afraid to bring your favorite game to share with new friends you are bound to make in the Gaming Department this year!

Dragons  
Soft Sculpture Animatronics

Come to the MarsCon Dealers' Room

Browse and buy from a great variety of merchandise with many dealers, some returning favorites, some entirely new to MarsCon!

Bottled Jellyfish Magnets

Ornaments Figureines

Collectibles Books Hats

Boxes Journals Leather Accessories

Galdrics Fairies Jewelry

# MarsCon 2017

## March 3, 4, 5

# Dragons in Space

Dragons are the stuff of myths, legends, and the greatest stories ever told. They are fierce and fascinating. Wondrous, destructive, beautiful creatures. From J.R.R. Tolkien's fearsome fictional dragon Smaug, to the Chinese Zodiac Year of the Dragon; real life Komodo dragons, to modern day Dragon spacecraft missions; the International Space Station... dragons are epic, and YOU are invited to join them at MarsCon for an epic adventure in space, where else?

## Registration Rates

	<b>Cut off Dates:</b> 2016 Con	10/31/16	01/31/17	<b>At The Door</b>
Teen/Adult	\$30	\$40	\$50	\$65
Child (6-12)	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30
Supporting ‡	\$20	\$25	\$30	★
Sponsor †	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75

**Children** six and under enter free, with Child badging complimentary on request.

‡ **Supporting** members pay a reduced rate through 1/31/2017 to hold memberships. Purchase is complete with \$25 at any time up to and including at the door.

† **Sponsors** contribute to making the convention BETTER!!

**Party Host Discount**—Party hosts are eligible for a \$5 discount per membership when registering together in groups of five or more. This discount may only be applied to full weekend memberships and is subject to verification by the host hotel.

**Hilton  
Minneapolis/St Paul  
Mall of America**  
3800 American Blvd. E.  
Bloomington, MN 55425

## Registration Information

### Please Print

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Register online with Square or mail this form with your payment to the following address  
NO CASH PLEASE:

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

**E:** info2017@marscon.org  
**W:** marscon.org/2017

**Please e-mail me:**  Mars Today Updates  Progress Reports as PDFs I got this flyer at

I WANT TO VOLUNTEER! PLEASE CONTACT ME!

I want information about

Dealer's Room  Art Show  Gaming Room  Masquerade  Party Room

convention name

**Krushenko's Lounge** and its sometime partner, Krushenko's Annex, are spaces that encourage conversation about science fiction and fantasy at SF conventions. Krushenko's this year serves up panels and discussions about SF in literature and other media in the daytimes, and conversational SF-related parties in the evenings. "Krushenko's is accustomed to serving alien guests!"

**Karaoke Joe's Café** returns to MarsCon! Karaoke Joe's Café is known as the place where you can sing (and listen to) just about anything your heart desires, from Barry Manilow to Black Sabbath and from Rupert Holmes to Rocky Horror Picture Show. Karaoke Joe's has a continually expanding catalog of roughly 7,000 songs! Stop by, pick a song and ROCK THE MIKE!

**The Barony of Nordskogen** and the Canton of Nordleigh—Branches of the Society for Creative Anachronism are hosting The Barony of Nordskogen's Great Hall to sample food and drink from the middle ages!

**Harry Potter Great Hall** with Butter Beer, and pumpkin bars, and prizes awarded for the O.W.L. level trivia contest. Hagrid has promised to make an appearance, and there will be other HP characters to mingle with.

**CONsole Room** Doctor Who convention

**Anime Fusion—NEW AT MARSCON—**Revisit classic anime and discover new favorites with the convention that celebrates both. Whether you're just getting into anime or haven't dusted off those old VHS tapes in years, there's a place for you at Anime Fusion.

**Wow.**

11 Years for totally cool custom and collected Props! The Prop-A-Torium is a very special feature display of some of the most unusual and cool hand made and collected props from popular movies, television show and other media events over the past 50 years! Not only that. The room is staffed by the people who made and collected them! So if you like Star Trek, J.K. Rowling Wizarding World, Star Wars, Stargate, Middle-Earth Saga, Indiana Jones and so much more from movies and TV shows. We will have Fan Made Props, "Officially Licensed" Props, a few actual Screen-Used Props.

**Prop-A-Torium:  
Episode II**

**Come on by!**

**Masquerade**

Over the years, programming in the Masquerade Lounge has grown substantially, from almost nothing to over 20 hours of costume related panels, demos and discussions. There will be plenty of programming related to costumes (the regulars & some newer topics) as well as prop making panels.

For anyone who wants to compete, contest orientation, and "Masquerade 101" will be held at 11am Sat, in the Masquerade Lounge. If you are entering, this is mandatory attendance.

**Read more about the rules at the website:**  
<https://marscon.org/2017/masquerade.php#start>

**Download the form:** <https://marscon.org/2017/MasqueradeRegistrationForm.pdf>

**Join us for the Competition**

**Saturday, 8:00PM**

**Mainstage Ballroom III/IV**

**Room of Youth**

Creative activities and a host of a variety of live animals for youth and children to meet. We give special attention to providing a child-friendly space at the convention. In the evenings we offer a staffed quiet zone with calming activities, and a work area for fixing/finishing costumes and props.

**Science Room**

View hands on science exhibits from groups like MN Space Frontier Society, Mars Society, Moon Society, National Space Society, MN Astronomical Society, Minnesota Area Radio Control Electric Enthusiasts' (MARCEE), Twin Cities Makers and many more. Also we welcome back Como Planetarium, Rocketman, and Bell Museum.