



Mythcon 44

Progress Report #2

April 2013

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- Lynn Maudlin – Secretary for Mythopoeic Conferences
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If you would like to participate as a Conference Committee member, or would be a willing volunteer during the event, please contact Marion.

We'd love to have you!

**NEW DEADLINE FOR PAPERS AND PANELS !!
Submit by May 15, 2013 !**

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Green and Growing: the Land and Its Inhabitants in Fantasy

Registration and Room & Board Information



Registration for Mythcon 44 is progressing, and there is still plenty of time to join the conference, and to reserve your room and board.

Registration rates:

- ♦ \$75 full conference for Mythopoeic Society members
- ♦ \$90 full conference for non-Society members
- ♦ \$60 full conference Student registration (with valid student ID)
- ♦ \$0 Children under 12
- ♦ \$90 full conference at-the-door (after June 25)
- ♦ \$50 one-day conference at-the-door

Registration will close on June 25. At-the-door rates will then apply.

Room and Board rates:

- ♦ \$455 Single room with full meals package (8 meals including Banquet)
- ♦ \$285 Double room (per person) with full meals package
- ♦ Extra nights (Thursday and Monday) are available at \$115 each
You are strongly encouraged to select your own roommate; the conference can select one for you if necessary
- ♦ \$92 Full meals package only, no room
Conferees are encouraged to join in the shared meals; mealtime is an integral part of Mythcon.

Room reservation deadline is June 11 (one month out). Meal plan reservation deadline is July 5. Please let Conference Registration know of special circumstances.



Follow Mythcon 44, and the Mythopoeic Society

Masquerade Fun!

One of the many enjoyable traditions of Mythcon is the **Masquerade Costume Presentation** on Sunday evening. Every conferee is encouraged to participate. Have no fear; it's not a competition, but a presentation. Costumes inspired by fantasy literature are encouraged, whether or not the wearer has made the outfit him/herself. Each entry will receive an award— the question is... what award? Masq entry forms will be available at the conference.

While not necessarily fantasy-inspired, conferees are also encouraged to wear their appropriate academic regalia in the **Procession** that precedes the Opening Ceremonies. Dust off your regalia, wherever it's from, and enjoy our Scholar Guest's address!

Saturday Evening Entertainment

We will be welcoming the highly entertaining musical group [The Saline Fiddlers](#) to our Saturday evening activities. The Fiddlers are all students at Saline High School, and will be coming to Mythcon fresh from their 2013 concert tour to Saline's sister city, Brecon, Wales. They represent a positive side of today's youth while reflecting the rural traditions of their town and ultimately the country. The performers earn their places through competitive auditions based on musical ability and personal integrity. Each Fiddler balances academics, sports,



school organizations, outside activities, jobs and social lives with this demanding commitment to music. Conferees will enjoy their fusion of folk, bluegrass, mountain music, western swing, Celtic tunes, and American classics, which starts toes tapping and hands clapping. Though "green" in age, these young performers bring a high level of skill to their performances.

The conference is supported in bringing the Fiddlers to us, and is being funded in part, by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council.



Registered Conferees

Alexander, Edward
 Anderson, Douglas A
 Anderson, Rebecca
 Billingsley, Franny
 Bratman, Bernie
 Bratman, David
 Bregenzer, James
 Bregenzer, K. Elanor
 Callahan, Bonnie
 Callahan, Tim
 Coopersmith, Anne Osborn
 Croft, Janet Brennan
 Crowe, Edith
 Dean, Margaret
 DiSante, Paula
 Donovan, Leslie
 Emerson, David
 Farrell, Ellie

Fisher, Jason
 Flieger, Verlyn
 Gilson, Chris
 Hallam, Andrew
 Hammond, Wayne
 Holmes, Gerry
 Hostetter, Carl
 Howland, Vaughn
 Hunnewell, Gary
 Hunnewell, Rachel
 Hunnewell, Sylvia
 Kapsalis, Mary Jo
 Kinney, Daniel
 Leonard, Bruce
 Maudlin, Lynn
 McKenna, Lithlasiel Elise
 Moore, Eileen
 Naxer, Meghan

Oas, Peter
 Oberhelman, David
 Pelsor, Jeanell
 Powell, Karla
 Rauscher, Bonnie
 Rauscher, Eric
 Richmond, Mariana
 Richmond-Schultz, Paul
 Riebsomer, Robin
 Schultz II, Jerry
 Scull, Christina
 Smith, Arden
 Speth, Dolores
 Speth, Lee
 Thomas, Hannah
 VanLoo, David
 VanLoo, Marion
 West, Richard C

Travel Information

Here are some options for getting from an airport to the conference venue. If you are using Detroit Metro Airport, by far your best option (if you're not renting a car) is **The Michigan Flyer**.

Flying into Detroit:

- ◆ **Michigan Flyer**, www.michiganflyer.com/FaresPromotion.aspx **888-643-5937** \$50 RT/1 person
- ◆ Detroit Metro Airport Taxi, <http://www.metroairporttaxidmata.com/> 800-476-8159 \$142
- ◆ Capital Transport/Spartan Cabs www.capitoltransport.com 517-482-1444 call for prices; group discounts
- ◆ Rental car options at Detroit Metro www.metroairport.com/transportation/ 8 companies

Flying into Flint:

- ◆ Rental car options at Flint Bishop Airport www.bishopairport.org/ParkingTransportation/RentalCars.aspx 8 companies

Flying into Grand Rapids:

- ◆ Rental car options at GR Ford International Airport <http://www.grr.org/ParkTrans.php> 6 companies

Flying into Kalamazoo:

- ◆ Little Green Limosine <http://littlegreenlimosine.com/rates/> \$38 -\$45/hour; call for exact prices
- ◆ Rental car options at Kzoo/BattleCreek airport <http://azoairport.com/airport-info/transportation/> 5 companies

Society Fund-Raising Auction and Sales

The Mythopoeic Society raises funds for its yearly activities at an Auction and Sale held at each Mythcon. The Auction offers donated books and other items of mythopoeic interest for written bids in the silent-auction format. Items with more than one bid are then auctioned live on Sunday afternoon. You may find an item you've long sought, or a real bargain, among the items in the Auction. Bid early and often.

Books will also be offered for direct sale during the open hours in the Vendors' Room. Make your selections and complete the sale at the Society Sales Table.

In order for these events to support the Society, we need donations of items for both auction and sale. If you have things you'd like to donate, you can bring them with you to conference, or send them ahead, clearly marked for the purpose, to Box 71, 125 Austin Road, Napoleon MI 49261. Donors can request a portion of the sale be returned to them, or they can offer the full sale price as a donation. For details on the financial aspect of donations, contact the Society's Treasurer, Lisa Deutsch Harrigan, at treasurer@mythsoc.org

What to bring

- ◆ The summer in mid-Michigan can get hot, and humid, too, some days. Casual summer clothes will be the order of the day.
- ◆ Those who are sensitive to air-conditioning might want to bring a sweatshirt, a sweater or a jacket.
- ◆ We might also get rain, (22% of the time in July) so an umbrella might be useful.
- ◆ The hotel has a fitness center, and conferees have access to MSU's intramural fitness facilities.
- ◆ The Banquet is often a more dressed-up affair, including costumes of the more elegant sort, if you wish.
- ◆ If you're a person who enjoys the outdoors in the evening, insect repellent would be a good idea; we have mosquitos.
- ◆ The average July temperature in the Lansing area is a high in the mid-80s and a low in the low 60s.



Conference Activities

Our schedule, in rough terms:

Friday, July 12 Afternoon sessions; evening Stewards' Ice Cream Social Reception on the Kellogg Center East Patio

Saturday, July 13 Procession, Opening Ceremonies & Scholar Guest of Honor speech; morning & afternoon sessions; evening concert by The Saline Fiddlers

Sunday, July 14 Morning & afternoon sessions; Society Auction; Banquet, Author Guest of Honor speech and Awards; Masquerade, the Not-Ready-for-Mythcon Players, Clerihew Contest awards, and other fun.

Monday, July 15 Morning sessions; Annual Meeting of the Mythopoeic Society; Closing Ceremonies

Late-night activities will be held in the hotel, at the close of regular programming.

□ The conference Hospitality Room will be open until 12:00 a.m., and will be serving snacks and beverages, some of which are unique to Michigan.

□ Bardic Circles will be scheduled for all three nights. The Circles offer the opportunity for musicians, poets, storytellers and readers to share their favorite pieces in a relaxed setting. Your host will be Gwenyth Hood.

□ Golfimbulists will find several outdoor areas suitable for their activities.

Announcing the Tenth Not Very Annual Mythcon Clerihew Contest!

Clerihews, as you may know, are four-line poems generally of a humorous nature, with four simple rules:

1. The first line must end in a proper name.
2. Second line must end with a full stop, i.e. a ?, ! or .
3. The rhythm should be irregular.
4. Rhyme is AABB.

e.g.-

Sir Lancelot
wore iron pants a lot.
Talk about sex appeal:
real buns of steel!

J.R.R. Tolkien
was very fond of walking.
He went to Mass at St. Aloysius
and on Fridays always ate fishes.



Clerihews in these categories will be eligible for awards:

- Inklings [authors, or characters from JRR Tolkien, CS Lewis, Charles Williams.]
- Conference Guests of Honor [Douglas Anderson, Franny Billingsley]
- Non-Inklings

Entries to be submitted at Mythcon, and received by end of Saturday, July 13.

Limit one entry per page. No limit on total entries.

Clerihew unsigned on one side. Name of author on reverse side.

Limited to registered conference attendees only.

The top three in each category will be read during the Sunday evening entertainments.

Judges: Now taking applications for three vacancies on the panel of judges. Judges will remain They Who Must Not Be Named, for their own safety. Contact Michael Foster at mafoster@mtco.com

Spending Time in Michigan

Many conferees will spend a lot of time and money traveling to Mythcon. We, the committee, suggest that you make the most of your time in Michigan, and plan a vacation to enjoy some of the state's attractions.

One can certainly spend some wonderful hours in the countryside, east, west, south or north in Michigan. With four of the five Great Lakes close at hand, [the summertime](#) is perfect for enjoying the outdoors. The natural environment offers activities of many kinds: beaches, hiking and walking trails, canoeing and sailing, forested campgrounds, and sports, both participatory and spectator. There are a number of parks, gardens, nature areas and a zoo in the [greater Lansing area](#), and many more on the [Lake Huron "sunrise" coast](#), the [Lake Michigan "sunset" coast](#), and "[up north](#)" in both the [northern lower](#) and the [upper peninsulas](#).

If your vacations often feature [museum visits](#), you'll find some worthwhile stops in Michigan. There are, of course, fine arts museums, but there are also museums dedicated to architecture, industry, natural science, history, culture and technology. Showing during Mythcon, at the Michigan Historical Museum, is "[Put it on Paper](#)," a celebration and investigation of the creative process. Put It On Paper shows you authentic examples of the process in the work of authors, artists, illustrators, and others. The sparkling contemporary [Broad Art Museum](#) at MSU houses a wide-ranging collection, and will have changing exhibits this summer. Many of the state's [lighthouses](#) serve as historical preservation sites; there are more than 115 of them, and 34 are open to visitors.

In a key agricultural state, the farmers, vintners and brewers of Michigan offer delicious products to all comers. There are [farms](#), [wineries](#) and [microbreweries](#) (July is Craft Beer Month in Michigan!) to visit all over the state. Several areas offer wine trails, with tasting rooms, restaurants, and tours of the wineries. Orchards, vineyards, fruit farms, mills, and many others provide visitors with a relaxing experience and some wonderful comestibles.

Festivals and fairs are wonderful places to spend vacation time in the summer. One of the outstanding music festivals happens in the Lansing area on the banks of the Grand River just before Mythcon. The [Common Ground Music Festival](#) is the premiere mid-Michigan music event of the summer. This year's line-up includes Ben Folds Five, Barenaked Ladies, Little Big Town, and others. County fairs will be happening, too- wonderful places to see Michigan's green and growing roots and the people who tend them.

The conference committee will be happy to be of help to you as you make your plans for an enjoyable stay, however long you make it. Vacation-planners will find much useful information at the "[Pure Michigan](#)" travel website. They maintain an events calendar, and links to all the traveler could want to know.

Maps of the Conference Area

- Michigan State University main campus: http://maps.msu.edu/files/MSU_main_campus.pdf
- Michigan State University interactive map: locate buildings and features: <http://maps.msu.edu/interactive/>
- Lansing area and Michigan, with driving directions: <http://maps.msu.edu/files/driving.pdf>

MYTHCON 44

Box 71
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Napoleon MI 49261

Email: Mythcon44@mythsoc.org



<http://www.mythcon.org>

Room & Board packages available [online](#). Reserve yours before June 12!

Programming Previews

Currently, we have accepted 18 proposals for papers, and submissions continue to come in. The abstracts have represented especially high quality thought and research on extremely varied topics. A sampling of a few tantalizing titles are:

- ◆ "A Linguistic Exploration through Tolkien's Earliest Landscapes,"
- ◆ "Westmansweed to Old Toby: The Economic and Cultural Herblore of Pipe-weed in Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings,"
- ◆ "Children Rolling on a Hill with a Lion: A New Look at the Origin of Aslan,"
- ◆ "The Musical Heart of the Lands of Narnia and Middle-earth,"
- ◆ "Witches in the Wild: Old Women on the Boundaries."

In addition, many favorite presenters from past Mythcons will be returning with new work, including Cami Agan, Janet Croft, Verlyn Flieger, and David Oberhelman.

We still have room for a few more great papers, so submit your abstracts before our ***deadline of May 15, 2013***. This is an extended deadline from the original CFP.

Paper and panel proposals (250 word maximum), along with contact information, should be sent to the Papers Coordinator, Dr. Leslie A. Donovan <ldonovan@unm.edu>. AV and technology requests must be included in your proposal.