

# DMSFS PARADOX

Spring 2008



**READ. IMAGINE. THINK.**

**March, April, May 2008**

**Join in the fun!**

Des Moines Science Fiction Society members and friends will again be participating in the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Des Moines on Monday, March 17th. You are invited to help us present an enticingly fun image for the spectators!

We will be towing our club logo on a trailer and carrying a banner with the club name and motto. In addition, we will have people on foot handing out candy and bookmarks. Most of us will be wearing costumes of some kind, but that isn't required. Wear some green (even just beads or a hat) and have fun interacting with the crowd, club members, and other parade participants! This is always a good time, and you'll be amazed at how many people turn out to admire you (and the rest of the parade) even on a work day.



*DMSFS members and friends at the 2007 Des Moines St Patrick's Day Parade.*

We will meet at our designated spot between 11:00 a.m. and Noon on the 17th. We will try to put more details on the club web site at [www.dmsfs.org](http://www.dmsfs.org) as the parade date gets closer. We hope to see you there!

*By Diane Dunlap*

## **DemiCon 19: Ready to Rock the Fort Again!**



### **DEMICON 19 is Rapidly Approaching**

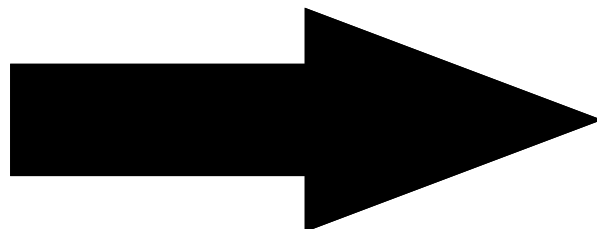
Once again, we will be at the Hotel Fort Des Moines May 2-4, 2008. Our Guests of Honor include Writer Steven Barnes, Artist Mitchell Davidson Bentley, Fans Joe and Inger Myers, Toastmaster Emeritus Rusty Hevelin, and Toastmaster Tadao Tomomatsu. The Great Luke Ski will again be joining us in the Music Room. There will be some of the usual activities we have all come to love, as well as some new activities to enjoy. Want to make your own boffo sword, or learn some Tai Chi? Then we have the panels for you. Feeling creative? Then consider our Fhannish Film Festival. There will be various

panels, anime, stage productions, music performances, two separate costume contests, and much more offered for your enjoyment.

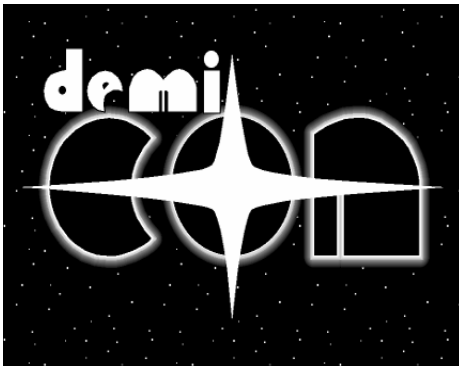
For more information, check out [www.demicon.org](http://www.demicon.org).

### **Inside This Issue:**

- **DemiCon 19 Notes & News**
- **SuperCon 15 Report**
- **And Much More!!**



# DemiCon 19 Notes & News



*May 2nd - 4th, 2008, at the Hotel Fort Des Moines,  
Des Moines, Iowa*

**Writer Guest of Honor:** Steven Barnes

**Artist Guest of Honor:** Mitchell Davidson Bentley

**Fan Guests of Honor:** Joe & Inger Myers

**Toastmaster Emeritus:** Rusty Hevelin

**Toastmaster:** Tadao Tomomatsu

**ConCom:** Sheril Harper, Ann Totusek, Jon Mohning

## DemiCon Fhannish Film Festival

Get those cameras running and join us in 2008! You know you have always wanted to make a movie, or maybe you have one that is hidden away and you want to show it. Here is your chance! Just send your movies our way: you need not attend DemiCon 19 to enter.

### Entry Guidelines:

- o The movie length must be 10 minutes or less.
- o The movie must be capable of being rated PG-13 or less.
- o The topic needs to be science fiction, fantasy, gaming, fhanndom or parody.
- o The movie must be submitted in DVD format.
- o Each entry must be on its own individual DVD disk.
- o All entries must be original works by the entrant.
- o Entrants are limited to 3 entries for the DemiCon 19 contest at this time.
- o Previous years' entries' can not be entered again.
- o All entries must be postmarked by April 18, 2008.
- o DemiCon takes no responsibility for disks lost or damaged before or during the contest.
- o Please provide copies, not originals or masters.
- o DemiCon will have the right to show the movies during DemiCon 19.
- o DemiCon reserves the right to select what movies are shown.
- o If you are attending DemiCon, you may choose to give a brief introduction before your movie is shown.
- o Prizes will be awarded for Judges' Choice and Fhans' Choice at Closing Ceremonies on Sunday of the DemiCon 19.
- o If you want your entry back, you must include a self-addressed return envelope and return postage.
- o When sending in an entry, send your name, address, email, phone number, length of the entry, your company name if applicable, category, whether you gave permission to display your work on the Fhannish Film Festival page at [www.demcon.org](http://www.demcon.org) or want a link to your work or website, whether you are attending DemiCon, and if you would like to speak before your movie is presented. A downloadable form is available at [www.demicon.org/19/pdfs/FhannishFilmFestival.pdf](http://www.demicon.org/19/pdfs/FhannishFilmFestival.pdf)
- o E-mail any questions to us at [ghanfilm@demicon.org](mailto:ghanfilm@demicon.org).  
Send entries to:  
DemiCon Fhannish Film Festival  
8609 Bromley Pl.  
Johnston, IA 50131

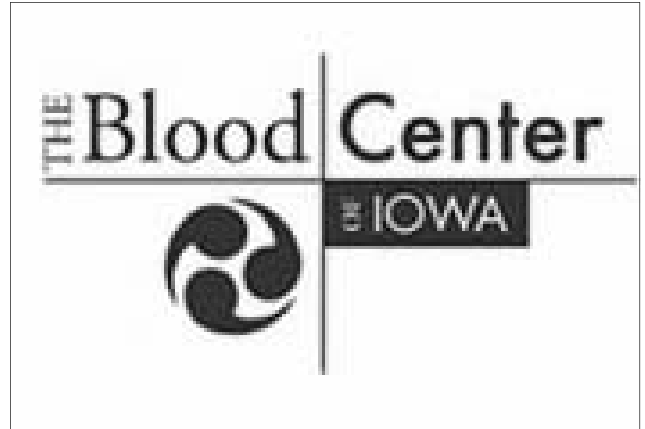


## Venue D - Yep, DemiCon Does Have Talent!

Have you watched the entertainment on DemiCon's main stage and thought, I can do that? Are you a dancer or do you just have a really interesting topic that you'd like to speak about for ten minutes? If so, then Venue D is the place for you! We will provide the stage, lighting, and sound — you provide the entertainment. If you'd like to be part of Venue D, please contact us at [venued@demicon.org](mailto:venued@demicon.org) for more info.

# More DemiCon 19 Notes & News

## DemiCon 19 Blood Drive May 3rd, 2008 From 9:30am - 2:30pm



This year marks the Fourth Annual Blood Drive for DemiCon. Donating blood is an important gift that people can provide for others. A blood donation truly is a “gift of life” that a healthy individual can give to others in their community who are sick or injured. On an average 38,000 Americans need blood every day. From one unit of blood, red blood cells can be extracted for use in trauma or surgical patients. Plasma, the liquid part of blood, is administered to patients with clotting problems. The third component of blood, platelets, clot the blood when cuts or other open wounds occur, and are often used in cancer and transplant patients.

***In order to donate blood there are a few criteria that one must meet: You must be at least 16 (donors under 18 need parental consent); in general good health; weigh at least 120 pounds; it must be at least 56 days since you last donated - 122 days if you are making a double red cell donation; and you should eat a good meal before donating. You may also want to increase your iron intake before donating.***

Current or past donors were asked why they donated. Nearly three-quarters of the respondents said that they give blood to help others, they also said that giving blood makes them feel good about themselves; supports their local communities and hospitals; supports their community culture; and “pays back” society for the times when they or their families have needed blood transfusions in the past.



Blood supplies can vary depending on the region and time of year. If you are eligible, your blood donations are needed. Most blood centers strive to maintain an optimum inventory level of a three-day supply. Due to unpredictable demands from trauma incidents the inventory fluctuates hourly. When the blood supply drops below a three-day level, blood centers begin alerting local donors to increase the inventory to a safe operating level.

In an emergency, anyone can receive type O red blood cells, and type AB individuals can receive red blood cells of any ABO type. Therefore, people with type O blood are known as “universal donors,” and those with type AB blood are known as “universal recipients.” In addition, AB plasma donors can give to all blood types.

Donors may be deferred from donating due to a low hematocrit (iron) level. This restriction is for the safety of the donor and ensures that after donation, the donor's hematocrit level will still be within the normal range for a healthy adult. Since hematocrit levels can fluctuate daily, a deferral for a low hematocrit level does not mean a donor is anemic. A donor may help increase his or her hematocrit levels by eating foods high in iron such as red meat, dark green vegetables and raisins or by taking a multivitamin that contains iron.

This year's Blood Drive will be held on Saturday May 3, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM in Independence Hall next to the Art Show. Please come and donate. You may schedule your appointment online at: [www.bloodcenterofiowa.org](http://www.bloodcenterofiowa.org) Select “Find a Mobile Drive”, Select “Search by Sponsor Code” and follow the prompts. Our Sponsor Code is **DemiCon**. You will receive 2 email messages generated by the Blood Center, one to confirm the appointment and a second 3 days prior to the drive as a reminder.

**There is no substitute for human blood, which is why blood donation is so important in helping to save lives. When you give blood, you give someone another laugh, another hug, another chance. Help make a difference to patients in need of blood throughout Iowa!**

By Sheril Harper, DemiCon 19 Blood Drive Chair

# What We Do When We're Not SMOF'ing...



## World Adventurer's Society Annual Ball and January Birthday Party

The Roth home was turned into the manor house of the World Adventurer's Society as the group's Annual Ball and January Birthday Party was held there. As usual when the W.A.S. throws a party, murder and mayhem break out. There were deals to make and break, schemes to hatch, inheritances to be won or lost, fortunes to be told, and all sorts of fun to be had. Prizes were awarded for costumes, characters, and mystery solving. Birthday card awards were also handed out by the January birthday celebrants Mitch, Les, and Sallie.

Here are just a few pictures from the event, with more pictures online at:

[www.flickr.com/photos/jonkmohning/sets/72157603777849230/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/jonkmohning/sets/72157603777849230/)  
[www.newrenvideo.com/personal/travels/was08/](http://www.newrenvideo.com/personal/travels/was08/)

## And Another One Hits The Big "Five-Oh"

DMSFS member Mark Jones was the "lucky" recipient of a surprise 50th birthday party courtesy of his wife, Ida. Mark and his friends enjoyed good food, good cake, and good beer.



## Bicycling The Frozen Iowa Tundra

Bike-riding enthusiasts Les, Rachele, & Jon added another BRR (Bike Ride to Rippey) event to their bike calendar.

The weather was cloudy but relatively warm with temperatures in the mid-20's, unlike last year's brutal ride with temperatures in the single-digits.

The ride was easy, the food was good, and the hot chocolate was tasty.



## Wylde Nept Road Trip

A few hearty DMSFS'ers braved a typical Iowa December Saturday to travel to Iowa City to see the Celtic band Wylde Nept.

# SuperCon 15 Report

Supercon 15 was another triumph of rest, relaxation and reconnecting with old and new folks in fandom.

Mostly populated by the Twin Cities contingent, there was a new twist among the games with the addition of a Wii featuring bowling, tennis and a do-you-wanna-be a rock star programs. Everyone enjoyed either playing or watching several people engage in the interactive video. However, be warned that the rock music version actually offers the noise of drumsticks tap-tap-tapping to the beat, even if the big screen television is set for minimal sound.



That being a small concern, it seems that the complexion of attendees is constantly changing. Having not attended for a few years, there were several familiar faces absent (not always a loss :) and new faces and personalities added to the mix. Jello shots attached to a bunch of helium balloons was a bit of micro-programming (eat a shot and see if that caused the balloon bouquet to rise, only to sink soon after) as well as the always popular hot tub, in use from early morning to, well, early morning.

One new perk is that the convention managed to book the entire hotel so mundanes were not a factor. It was pointed out however that we need to increase membership to about 100 to justify the expense, so about 20 more fans need to travel to Rochester (I know, Minnesota in the winter!) to take part.

Gamers were gathered around three tables in the courtyard and, from the sounds of triumph and despair, all was normal. I was introduced to some new games called Cineplexity and Unspeakable Words. Both were fun and challenging.

Another added feature is that the hotel is completely smoke-free. Smart people that these fans are, no one (other than me, duh) braved the cold to smoke outdoors.

As a convention that caters to others who run conventions, Supercon is a great chance to unwind in the company of other fans who really, really enjoy putting on cons for the enjoyment of their fellow geeks, freaks and nerds.

Thanks to Uncle Mikey, Ish, Charlotte, Daniel, Jules, Charles and any others that I might have missed for their hard work. It was fun and, be warned, I will be back.

By Susan Stewart

## Not Far Over the Horizon - DemiCon 20



May 1st - 3rd, 2009, at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa.

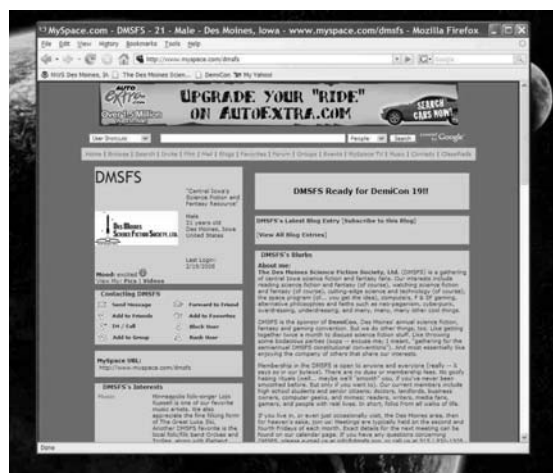
ConCom: Greg Abba, Mark Hagerman, Jeannette Roth

Guest invitations have been sent out and the ConCom will report on DemiCon 20's Guest of Honor lineup as that information becomes available.

## DMSFS on the Web at MySpace

DMSFS now has a presence on the popular social networking site MySpace. The web address is: [www.myspace.com/dmsfs](http://www.myspace.com/dmsfs). The site is still under construction, so be sure to add the DMSFS MySpace page to your web browser's bookmarks. We hope you'll revisit the site often as well add new content and update information about who DMSFS is and what we're all about.

We're also still on the web at our usual spot: [www.dmsfs.org](http://www.dmsfs.org)



# Calendars and Milestones

## March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 <i>DemiCon 19 Con Com Meeting</i>	14 DMSFS Meeting	15 <i>DemiCon 19 Dept Head Meeting</i>
16	17 Des Moines St Patrick's Day Parade	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
MiniCon 43					DMSFS Meeting	
30	31					

### Birthdays

Scott Arnburg  
March 7

Jeannette Roth  
March 11

Megan Totusek  
March 16

Michael  
Anderson  
April 6

Jaime Adams  
April 15

Megan Harper  
April 20

Danielle Roth  
April 23

Kelly  
Boomgarden  
Douglas  
April 24

Marshall Willis  
May 2

Matthew Tschampf  
May 7

## April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 <i>DemiCon 19 Con Com Meeting</i>	4 DMSFS & DemiCon 19 Dept Head Mtg	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 DMSFS & DemiCon 19 Dept Head Mtg	12
WillyCon						
13	14	15	16	17	18 DMSFS & DemiCon 19 Dept Head Mtg	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 DMSFS & DemiCon 19 Dept Head Mtg	26
						<b>Costume Con 26</b> Doubletree San Jose, San Jose, CA www.cc26.info
27	28	29	30			
Costume Con 26			DemiCon 19 Truck Pack Up			

Mark Hagerman  
May 9

Kaaren Spiesz  
May 10

Eric Oppen  
May 22

John Roach  
May 27

Gene Miller &  
Gregg Parmentier  
May 30

# Calendars and Milestones

May 2008							Anniversaries
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1 DemiCon 19 Hotel Move-In TICC Final Dress Rehearsal	2 <b>DemiCon 19</b> Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa	3	Mark Hagerman & Ann Totusek March 4, 1999
4	5 DemiCon 19 Hotel Move Out & Truck Unload	6	7	8	9 DMSFS Meeting	10	Bill & Melissa Gerber March 24, 1993
DemiCon 19							Alois & Wendy Tschampl April 24, 1998
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	David Winterton & Becky Kinnamon April 30, 1989
18	19	20	21	22	23 DMSFS Meeting	24 ConQuesT 39 Hilton KC Airport, Kansas City, MO www.conquestkc.org	Gregg & Myrna Parmentier May 15, 1999
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Don Prust & Kelly O'Donoghue May 24, 1998
ConQuesT 39							Ted Poovey & Darice Schirber-Poovey May 31, 1997

DMSFS meetings are held at the West Des Moines Community Center 217 5th St.  
There is parking and a covered entrance at the rear of the building off of 4th St.

## Down the Convention Road

DemiCon 19: May 2nd - 4th, 2008 at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa  
 Denvention 3 - 66th World Science Fiction Convention: Aug 6th - 10th, 2008 at Denver, CO  
 OSFest: July 11th - 13th at the Comfort Inn and Suites, Omaha, NE  
 Animelowa: Aug 15th - 17th, 2008 at the Coralville Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Coralville, IA  
 ICON 33: Oct 31st - Nov 2nd, 2008 at the Coralville Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Coralville, IA

## Paradox Time Warping

### Highlights From Last Year's Spring 2007 Paradox Included:

- A story about riding the 2007 BRR bike ride by Rachelle Hrubetz
- Book reviews by Cindy Salyers & Mary Winter
- Short story excerpt from Laure Bremen
- Con-Suite tested recipes article by Susan Stewart

### Highlights From Spring 2003's Paradox Included:

- News about the upcoming DemiCon 14 convention, featuring author Octavia Butler, artist Lubov, fan Lynda Sherman, and toastmaster Rusty Hevelin
- Details about the DMSFS bid for the Costume Con 24 costuming convention for 2006
- Announcement of TICC performing at the World Horror Convention in Kansas City

The Des Moines Science Fiction Society, LTD.  
P.O. Box 7572  
Des Moines, IA. 50323



# How to Reach Us:

If you need to contact the Des Moines Science Fiction Society for any reason, including subscription to this newsletter and submission of newsletter articles or information, you may do so via any of the following methods:

DMSFS meets twice a month at the **West Des Moines Community Center 217 5th St.** There is parking and a covered entrance at the rear of the building off of 4th St. The business meeting begins at 6:30pm and the fun stuff starts at 7:00pm. Around 8:00pm we go out to dinner as a group.

By US Mail:	The Des Moines Science Fiction Society, Ltd. P.O. Box 7572 Des Moines, IA. 50323
By E-mail:	<a href="mailto:paradoxwrangler@dmsfs.org">paradoxwrangler@dmsfs.org</a> (Subject: For Paradox)
By Website:	<a href="http://www.dmsfs.org">www.dmsfs.org</a> <a href="http://www.demicon.org">www.demicon.org</a>
By Phone:	(515) 830-1305 (Voice mail checked daily)

**Contributors To This Issue:** Diane Dunlap, Sheril Harper, Jon Mohning, Les Roth, Susan Stewart.

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Editorial Assistance by Diane Dunlap. Edited by Jon Mohning.

*Thank you one and all!*

**Deadline for Summer 2008 Paradox submissions: May 9th, 2008.** Articles, reviews, photos, etc., can be e-mailed to [paradoxwrangler@dmsfs.org](mailto:paradoxwrangler@dmsfs.org) or sent to the DMSFS mailing address mentioned above.