

DMSES PARADOX

WINTER 2006-2007

READ. IMAGINE. THINK.

DECEMBER 2006, JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2007

New Year's Eve Semi-Annual Constitutional Convention

Roth Hotel and Convention Center
7 pm on Friday December 29th, until we
toss folks out on Monday January 1st.

Saturday will be the sans-kids day -- please, no one
younger than 18. This will also be the Overdressers'
Pajama Party, where you can show us your finest
loungewear.

Please bring food and drink to share. Let me know if
you'd like to host a meal. If you'd like to provide paper
goods, I'll let you know what we need. As we've done at
the past couple of parties, we'll be setting up the food
service area in the garage. The kitchen is available for
those that need to cook.

The hot tub will be available. Kids may use the hot tub
with adult supervision.

Please bring games or videos to share. Video entertainment will include episodes of Torchwood, the
"adult oriented" Doctor Who spin-off. If we have snow, there will be sledding in the back yard or at
Pearson Park.

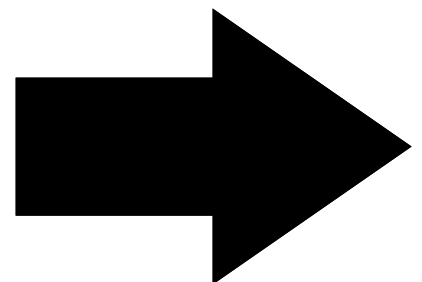
If you'd like to stay overnight, please contact me.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at les@trans-iowa.org or 515-224-7654.



Inside This Issue:

- **More DemiCon 17 Highlights**
- **Archon 30 Masquerade Photos**
- **Book Review By Rose Field**



Award-Winning DMSFS Adventures at Archon 30

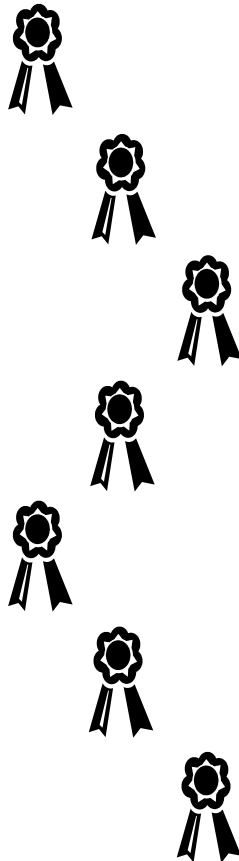


"Voodoo"

Honorable Mention for Workmanship
Judge's Choice for Best Ensemble



Back detail of Voodoo snake



"Deviltion Man"

Honorable Mention for Workmanship
Most Devilishly Clever Presentation

More Award-Winning DMSFs Adventures at Archon 30



"The Game's Afoot"

Judges Choice for Best Presentation for Master Class



Suspects on stage

***Special thanks for Backstage/Greenroom
helpers Greg Abba, Marty Cook, Bo3b Harper, Nikki
Harper, Tammy Mohning, Jeannette Roth, Lynda
Sherman, and Eric Tate!***

Archon 30 Masquerade Photos Courtesy Linda Zang



"Coming This Fall"

Judge's Choice for Best Presentation
for Novice Class

More Award-Winning DMSFS Adventures at Archon 30

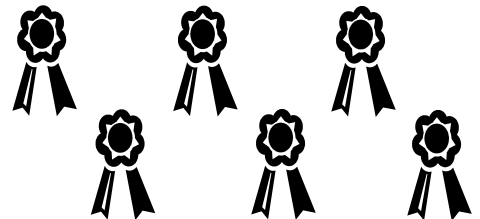


"Requiem"

Best Engineering and Re-Creation for Workmanship
Best in Show for Presentation



Back detail of Mandi's costume



Book Review

The Oracle's Queen (Tamir Trilogy, Book 3)

By Lynn Flewelling

Spectra Science Fiction, June 2006

\$7.50 (Paperback)

ISBN: 055358345X

Based on the back cover description of the story and on a reading of part of the first chapter, I bought a July 2006 paperback written by Lynn Flewelling, *The Oracle's Queen*. Then I started reading beyond the first chapter, when the scene and characters changed to characters that had been introduced in earlier books. (There is no indication on the cover that the book is a sequel; it apparently is self-contained within the pre-established world.) I forced myself to read pages 5-60, or thereabouts. The characters were so boring, I could not continue.

Yet, I was still interested in the characters introduced in the first chapter. So, I ruffled through the book to find scenes with one of the characters. Thus, I discovered that there are some interesting plot twists and the concept of the setting (i.e., changing from a long-lasting era, through turmoil, to a grand new era) holds great possibilities for Hugo-level stories.

But I still could not care about the main character and the significant others. Has anyone read Flewelling's earlier books? Are the characters more interesting in the earlier stages of their introduction to readers?

I am trying to think of the words to best describe my reaction. Imagine a very unemotive person trying to act. He reads the words in the script in a bland tone, then performs whatever action is supposed to happen. Then imagine someone over acting. Mix them together, and that is how I am perceiving the majority of characters in *The Oracle's Queen*.

Review by Rose Field



DemiCon 17 Presents *Drambuie Truffles* & *Scotch Doubles Panel Drink Recipes*

Drambuie Truffles

Ganache (Centers):

15 oz. Semi-Sweet baking chocolate
(preferably at least 60% dark)
1 cup heavy cream
¼ cup Drambuie liqueur (or other alcohol)

Coating:

36 oz. (3 bags) chocolate chips
(we used 60% dark Ghiradelli chips)
Candy thermometer

Make the ganache the day before you want to dip the truffles!

Ganache:

Break up the chocolate bars (not the chips), then process in a large food processor until chopped. Heat the cream on the stove to a simmer. Turn off heat. Turn on the food processor and add the cream to the chocolate through the feed tube. When the mixture is smooth, add the alcohol. Process until the alcohol is mixed in.

Move the mixture to a bowl. Cover with plastic wrap directly in contact with the ganache, and chill overnight.

The next day, warm the ganache just enough to be able to work with it. Form balls no larger than 1 inch. Chill the balls while you melt the chocolate for the coating.

Dipping:

Gently melt the chocolate chips using a double-boiler arrangement. (You can use the microwave if you are very careful, stirring and checking the temperature often.) The chocolate should reach a temperature of 130°, then allow it to cool to a temperature of 90° (within a couple of degrees). Maintain a temperature between 88° and 92° throughout the dipping. Return the chocolate to the heat if necessary.

Lay out sheets of waxed paper by your work area for the dipped truffles. Gently drop a ball into the chocolate, use a fork to get it coated, then lift it out on the fork. Use a second fork to scrape the underside of the fork holding the truffle to remove excess chocolate. Let the truffle roll off the fork onto the waxed paper. Repeat until all balls are dipped.

Hint: The dipping gets tough if the chocolate gets low, so buy something you want covered with chocolate to throw in after the truffles are done. We usually make peanut clusters!

Bo3b's Irish Cream

1 cup Irish whiskey (medium grade)
14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk
1 cup heavy whipping cream
1 tsp instant coffee (Folger's Crystals)
1 – 3 T. chocolate syrup
¼ tsp. almond extract

Mix to taste. Store in a decorative bottle and chill.

Al and Diane's Scottish Cream Variation

¾ cup Scotch whiskey (we used Dewar's)
14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk*
1 cup heavy whipping cream
1 – 3 T. chocolate syrup*
¼ tsp. almond extract
2 T. Sugar Free vanilla syrup

Mix to taste. Store in a decorative bottle and chill.

*We used fat free sweetened condensed milk and 3 tablespoons of Hershey's Lite chocolate syrup for one of the batches, and it was still great!

Over the Horizon - DemiCon 18

May 18th-20th, 2007, at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa

Writer Guest of Honor: Catherine Asaro

Artist Guest of Honor: Theresa Mather

Fan Guest of Honor: Steve "Wookie" Houle

Toastmaster Emeritus: Rusty Hevelin


Toastmaster: Tadao Tomomatsu

ConCom: Alan Guile, Megan Harper, Les Roth



Calendars and Milestones

December 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					SMOFCon Kansas City, MO	
3	4	5	6	7	8 DMSFS Meeting	9
SMOFCon						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 NO DMSFS MEETING	23
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 WINTER SACC					WINTER SACC ROTH H&CC	

Birthdays

- Martin McClure
December 2
- Bo3b Harper
December 3
- Jonathon Bement
December 5
- Bill Griffey
December 14
- Jon Mohning
December 15
- Peg Brandt Zea
December 28
- Naomi Adams
January 7
- Sallie Abba
January 12
- Les Roth
January 14

January 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	WINTER SACC					
7	8	9	10	11	12 DMSFS Meeting	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 DMSFS Meeting	27
28	29	30	31			

- Mitch Thompson
January 19
- Sam Abba
February 5
- Mark A. Jones
February 8
- Thomas Roach
February 10
- Alan Guile
February 11
- Christina Miller
February 14
- Ida Jones
February 22



Calendars and Milestones

February 2007							Anniversaries James & Marion Webster December 20 Al Hohrmann & Diane Dunlap December 28 Martin & Nancy Wirsig McClure December 29 Gene & Margaret Miller January 1
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	
					SuperCon, Rochester, MN		
4	5	6	7	8	9 DMSFS Meeting	10	
SuperCon				CapriCon, Arlington Heights, IL			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
CapriCon							
18	19	20	21	22	23 DMSFS Meeting	24	
25	26	27	28				



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 Road

DemiCon 18: May 18th - 20th, 2007 at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa

Heinlein 100: July 6th-8th, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center & Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri

Archon 31 / 9TH NASFIC: August 2nd - 5th, 2007 at the Collinsville, IL Gateway Center.

65th World Science Fiction Convention: August 30th - September 3rd, 2007 Yokohama, Japan

Paradox Time Warping

Highlights From Last Year's Winter 2005-2006 Paradox Included:

- Article and pictures about the DMSFS entry in the Beaverdale Fall Festival Parade.
- Article by Candy Anderson about her & husband Mike's experiences on the horse show circuit.
- The new DMSFS logo (designed by Les Roth) is published for the first time.
- Article by Rachelle Hrubetz describing her experiences at the Hindu Temple & Cultural Center Dedication.

Highlights From Winter 2001's Paradox Included:

- Archon 25 article by Mandi Arthur.
- Excerpts from Dee Willis' article about the Top 20 things Overheard at ICON 26 (article originally appeared in Dee's *The Sheeptown Scoop*).
- Pictures and masquerade results from ICON 26.

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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:	paradoxwrangler@dmsfs.org (Subject: For Paradox)
By Website:	www.dmsfs.org www.demicon.org
By Phone:	(515) 830-1305 (Voice mail checked daily)

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Photographs by: Linda Zang
Editorial Assistance By Diane Dunlap. Edited by Jon Mohning.

Thank you one and all!

Deadline for Spring 2007 Paradox submissions: February 9th, 2007 Articles, reviews, photos, etc., can be e-mailed to paradoxwrangler@dmsfs.org or sent to the DMSFS mailing address mentioned above.