

# MISSION CONTROL

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## GoH Q&A: FAN JEANNE GOMOLL

### *Our Fan GoH answered a few questions for Mission Control*

**MC.** How did you first become interested in science fiction and fantasy in general?

**JG.** The first SF book I remember reading was Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*. I had to steal it from the library in order to read it (but I did return it afterward!), because first-third graders were restricted to the children's book section at the local grade school. So I took books from the "big-kids" section and hid them under my shirt. One of them was the L'Engle novel. I was so young that I didn't think

anything about the fact that its first line was "It was a wild and stormy night...." I was hooked. After that I sneaked or checked out every book I could find with a red rocket ship sticker on its spine.

**MC.** How did you first become involved in fandom?

**JG.** I discovered fandom in 1974, the year after I graduated from college, when the Madison science fiction group published our first issue of *Janus*. "It's a fanzine," said Hank Luttrell, the Hugo-nominated fanzine editor who had lent us his mailing list and mimeograph machine. "What's a fanzine?" I asked. Resistance was futile. Following my as-

similation into FIAWOL, I attended Minicon and then the 1976 worldcon -MidAmericon, or Big Mac- where I was delighted to meet a bunch of feminist SF fans agitating for changes in SF and fandom. I joined A Women's Apa on the spot. After we got back home the Madison SF group decided to create a feminist (and reduced) version of Big Mac in the form of our own local convention: WisCon.

**MC.** You were involved in the creation of the James Tiptree, Jr. Award. In your opinion, what has the award contributed to our field?

**JG.** 20 years of awards, 35 Tiptree winners, many Fairy Godmother Awards, 4 books, and

more to come -- all in support of SF/F that expands and explores our understanding of gender. The Tiptree Award is a non-profit organization that consistently raises more money than it needs for its bottom line because its supporters are so enthusiastically generous.

The Tiptree Award is prestigious and valuable. Novels and short stories have been written specifically in hopes of winning it. And that means that more gender-bending fiction promoted by the award are written *because* of the Award.

**MC.** Thank you, Jeanne. We've enjoyed having you at ApolloCon as a GoH!

## SPECIAL GUEST Q&A: ARTIST ROCKY KELLEY

### *Our Special Guest answered a few questions for Mission Control.*

**MC.** What draws you to fantasy and dark fantasy subjects for your art?

**RK.** Fantasy allows me to experiment with

subjects and scenarios that I will never see in the "real world". Scenes with imaginary creatures and characters living together in harmony day after day in a utopian world where the laws of physics may or may not apply.

Dark fantasy, provides an opportunity for me to delve into the pain, suffering, and difficulties, of some of the characters that I have created over the years.

**MC.** Tell us about the program book cover.

**RK.** I envisioned a distant planet there stood

a tree with masks, or faces, or memories growing from within. As one backed away the tree began to take on the shape of an angel and on it goes.

**MC.** Thank you, Rocky, for all your contributions to ApolloCon 2011!

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Advice for  
Young People

*Item the Third*

...Specifically for an  
aspiring SF or fantasy  
writer...

**“Learn all you  
can about  
publishing,  
while you're  
developing  
your craft.”**

-Martha Wells  
Guest of Honor

OVERHEARD  
AT  
APOLLOCON

“BUT WHAT IF  
I WANT TO  
ROLL AROUND  
IN MY  
PANCAKES  
NAKED?”

Advice for  
Young People

*Item the Fourth*

...Specifically for an  
aspiring small press...

**“Believe in  
yourself and trust  
your instincts. Be  
prepared to work  
hard for not a lot  
of reward – but if  
you love it, you  
will never look  
back.”**

-Ann VanderMeer  
Editor GoH

## MASQUERADE AWARDS: LITERARY ENTRANT PRESSES FORWARD

In case you missed it, the ApolloCon 2011 Masquerade showcased some fabulous entries in record time. Entries were judged both for workmanship as well as presentation on the stage.

Workmanship judging includes a close-up inspection of the costume's construction and attention to detail. The following workmanship awards were earned:

Junior Category:

- Cecilia Bugbee for the *Book Fairy*
- Avatar Last Airbender, both costumes – Bethany and Gareth Holder

Novice Category:

- Clayton VanKirk for *Chris Redfield*

Journeyman Category:

- Lady Angilique for *Frozen in the Journeyman* category

Honorable Mentions go to Osbaldo Castillo for *Super Mario*, Lady Angilique for *Frozen*, Cyndi Premazon for *Ruby Danger*, *Duchess of Saturday*, and Bethany and Gareth Holder for *Katara and Aang*.

Clayton Van Kirk earned third place for *Chris Redfield*. Jesse Briceno, Conell Osborne, Kame, Amanda Jones and Asian Alex together earned second place for *The Great Saiyaman*.

Best in Show goes to Cecilia Bugbee who modeled the *Book Fairy*, designed and created by Bethe and Richard Bugbee.

ApolloCon 2011 applauds all our Masquerade entrants and congratulates

## STARBASE HOUSTON TRIVIA CONTEST

The first place winner of the Starbase Houston Trivia Contest was Brent Morgan.

As of press time, *Mission Control* has not learned the names of second and third place winners.

ApolloCon 2011 congratulates the winners of the Starbase Houston Trivia Contest.

Many thanks to Starbase Houston for organizing and running the contest.

## SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

Thank you to all the guests, participants, volunteers, and members of ApolloCon 2011 for helping put on another great con.

Come back and visit with us again next year! We're already looking forward to a great ApolloCon 2012!