

THE 39TH ANNUAL
MYTHOPOEIC CONFERENCE
MYTHCON XXXIX



AUGUST 15-18, 2008
PROGRESS REPORT
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT

mythcon XXXIX
AUGUST 15 - 18, 2008
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
1615 STANLEY STREET
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06050

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Mythcon 39 Committee:

Chair:	Anthony Burdge
Registrar:	Emily Rauscher
Treasurer:	Lisa Harrigan
Programming & Publications:	Jessica Burke
Papers:	Alexei Kondratiev
Masquerade:	Marion Van Loo
Site Liaison:	Kristine Larsen
	Julian Lander
Design:	Jef Murray
Video Madness:	Arden Smith
Stewards Rep:	Lynn Maudlin

Mythcon XXXIX

THE VALKYRIE AND THE GODDESS: THE WARRIOR WOMAN IN FANTASY

In about a month, we will convene to explore the strong woman, wise warrior, goddess divine—the stereotype of the feminine ideal in Mythopoeic fiction—in New Britain, Connecticut for the 39th annual conference of the Mythopoeic Society. This year’s conference is particularly exciting as it is the first Mythcon in the Northeast! What follows are some basics— information about the event, site location, and some suggestions about the area. Looking forward to seeing you all in August!

LOCATION

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY (CCSU)
1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050

CCSU is Connecticut’s oldest publicly supported institution of higher education. A comprehensive public university, CCSU is dedicated to learning in the liberal arts and sciences and to education for the professions.

Take a “Virtual Tour” of the Campus: <http://www.ccsu.edu/virtualtour/virtualtourhome.html>

Check out a list of “Things to Do” in the area: http://www.ccsu.edu/Things_ToDo.htm

REGISTRATION

We will assign air-conditioned rooms in Sheridan on a *first paid, first served* basis. The downside is that Sheridan’s beds are non-detachable bunk-beds. PLEASE advise our lovely registrar Emily whether you want to be put on the A/C waitlist.

As much as we always encourage attendees to stay on campus because of the communal fun atmosphere all Mythcons are noted for having, if the uncertain A/C status is something you can’t handle, there are local hotels (listed on the Mythcon 39 room & board webpage) and meals-only packages.

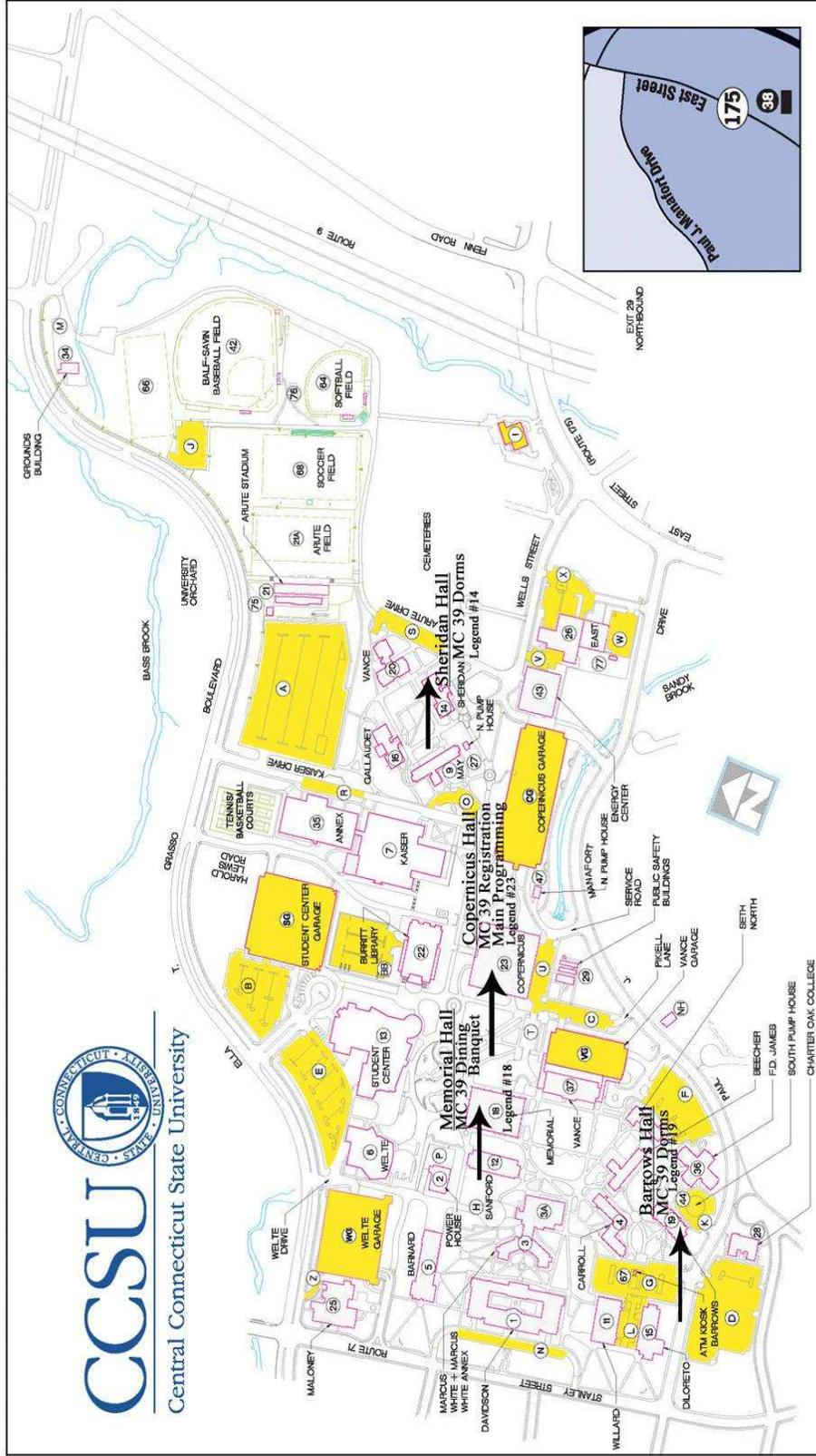
Register Online: www.mythsoc.org

The following rates are valid through July 15. (After July 15, online registration will be closed and registration will only be available at the door.)

- \$80 for Mythopoeic Society members
- \$90 for non-members
- \$50 for registered students (age 12 and up)
- Free for children (under age 12)



Central Connecticut State University



Number	Building Name	Letter	Building Name	Letter
1.	Lawrence J. Davidson Hall	N	Early Learning Center	A
2.	Power House (Facilities Management)	O	Balf-Savin Field/Bonamico	B
3.	Marcus White Hall	P	Baseball Pressbox	BB
3A.	Marcus White Annex	R	Energy Center	BB
4.	Clarence Carroll Hall	S	(Facilities Management)	BB
5.	Henry Barnard Hall	SG	South Pump House	CG
6.	Herbert D. Welte Hall	T	(Facilities Management)	CG
7.	Harrison J. Kaiser Hall	U	East Pump House	CO
8.	Catharine Beecher Residence Hall	V	North Pump House (Facilities Management)	CO
10.	Seth North Residence Hall	W	Softball Field/Pressbox	E
11.	Emma Hart Willard Hall	WG	Recreational Field	F
12.	Maria Sanford Hall	W/G	ATM Kiosk	G
13.	Student Center	X	Soccer Field	H
14.	Robert E. Sheridan Residence Hall	Y	Maintenance Facility	I
15.	Frank J. DiLoreto Hall	Z	Hitchcock Young Pavilion	J
16.	Thomas H. Gallaudet Residence Hall		Newman House	K
18.	Memorial Hall			L
19.	Mildred Barrows Residence Hall			M
20.	Robert Vance Residence Hall			N
21.	Arute Stadium/Press Box			
21A.	Arute Field			
22.	Elihu Burritt Library			
23.	Nicolaus Copernicus Hall			
25.	James J. Maloney Hall			
26.	East Hall (Facilities Management)			
27.	North Pump House (Facilities Management)			
28.	Chart Oak State College			
29.	Public Safety Building (Police Department)			
34.	Counselor Building (Facilities Management)			
35.	Robert E. Sheridan Residence Hall			
36.	Frank J. DiLoreto Hall			
37.	Memorial Hall			
38.	Early Learning Center			
42.	Balf-Savin Field/Bonamico			
43.	Baseball Pressbox			
44.	Energy Center			
47.	South Pump House			
64.	Softball Field/Pressbox			
66.	Recreational Field			
67.	ATM Kiosk			
68.	Soccer Field			
69.	Maintenance Facility			
76.	Hitchcock Young Pavilion			
NH	Newman House			

* Student parking - All resident hall students should park in CG, SG or WG.
For more information visit: www.ccsu.edu/police

Register by Mail:

Make checks payable to “The Mythopoeic Society” and mail to:
Emily Rauscher
434 W120th St. #5E
New York, NY 10027

ROOM & BOARD

Mythcon XXXIX Room and Board rates are per person, for Friday dinner through Monday breakfast, including banquet, and three nights lodging:

Friday Night Through Monday Morning

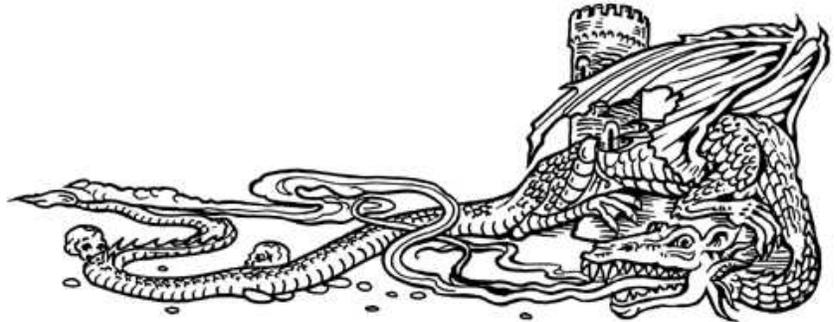
- Residence hall, double occupancy - \$235
- Residence hall, single room - \$265
- Meals only - \$120

Thursday Night Through Monday Morning

- Residence hall, double occupancy - \$280
- Residence hall, single room - \$320
- Meals only - \$145

HOUSING NOTE: Barrows Hall is **not air-conditioned** (the air conditioned dorm we expected to use is being renovated this summer); we are told this shouldn't be a problem but veteran Mythies may look askance.

We have been informed that some rooms in air-conditioned Sheridan Hall will be available to us but at this time we don't know how many rooms. We will endeavor to make circulating fans available for use in Barrows Hall.



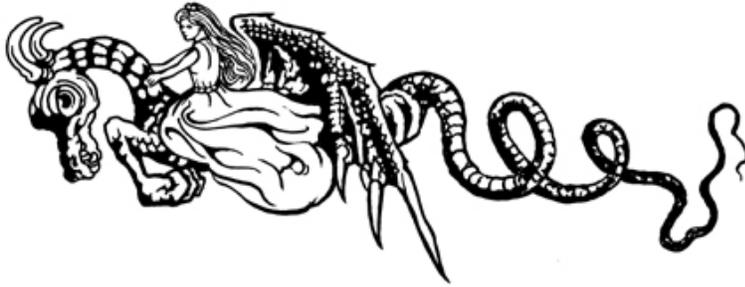
Early Arrivals: Thursday Night Through Monday Morning

- Residence hall, double occupancy - \$280
- Residence hall, single room - \$320
- Meals only - \$145

CHECKING IN AT CCSU

Mythcon 39 members are welcome to check into Barrows Hall early from 7-10 pm on Thursday. Regular check in will start Friday afternoon.

CCSU is not able to offer Monday night housing and *ALL* members of the conference must check out by noon on Monday. We will have a secure luggage area for those requiring it.



GETTING TO MYTHCON 39

By Air:

Central Connecticut State University is approximately 23

miles from **Bradley International Airport (BDL)**, in Windsor Locks, which serves the Hartford area. All major airlines, including American Airlines, Continental, Delta, Southwest, United, U.S. Airways and others, arrive and depart from Bradley.

<http://www.bradleyairport.com/>

Taxi service is available: For Connecticut fares from Bradley, call (860) 627-3128 or (860) 627-3588. Travelers may also want to look into limousine service from the airport; there is an extensive list of companies and phone numbers at:

<http://www.bradleyairport.com/Transport/limo.aspx>



By Rail:

If you're thinking of traveling by train, remember that Amtrak runs trains to Hartford, CT (HFD) One Union Place, Hartford, CT 06103 (9.5 miles from CCSU, taxi service is available to the campus) and *also* goes to Springfield, MA (SPG), 66 Lyman St, Springfield, MA 01103 (36.7 miles from CCSU, taxi service is available to the campus). In planning an Amtrak journey, do look at the possibility of a Springfield arrival as many routes are more convenient and less expensive going that way. With Springfield arrival, please note that this applies to trains coming from Chicago or the Midwest and going through Albany.

By Car:

Parking is free on campus in both assigned lots and garages. Parking lot F and the Copernicus garage will be convenient to the dorm and programming, respectively. Detailed driving directions can be found on the CCSU site (and a physical map is always a good thing, too):

http://www.ccsu.edu/viewbook/find_us.htm

Ride Share?

We've set up a **Twitter** account for use by people who want to coordinate rides to and from the airport; email mythcon@mythsoc.org for username and password details.



Information for Disabled Attendees:

The airport is physically accessible to disabled passengers, with lifts in both terminals and ramps in both Terminal B concourses. Passengers requiring assistance should contact the *Skycap* station on the upper level; passengers should also inform their airline of any requirements or assistance, prior to travel. All toilets are wheelchair-accessible; a unisex companion-care toilet is also available next to the baggage reclaim area on the lower level. Eight TDD/TTY phones for the speech and hearing impaired are located in the lobby, in two concourses, the baggage reclaim area of Terminal B and the lobby, concourse and baggage reclaim areas of Terminal A. There are spaces for disabled travelers in both the long- and short-term car parks.

Information for Disabled Travelers can be found at:

<http://www.bradleyairport.com/Services/accessibility.aspx>

Both the airport and CCSU are physically accessible to the disabled.

NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT

New Britain, the historic “Tool City,” is a town of about 70,000. For information about New Britain, including places of interest visit:

<http://www.new-britain.net/visiting.html>

A.W. Stanley Park is just across the street from CCSU. There you can find walking & running tracks, a pond, tennis courts, soccer & baseball fields, skateboarding area & play ground.

For those golfers here, the Stanley Golf Course is nearby at 245 Hartford Road. It’s doubtful that they’d allow the use of a goblin head... so no funny business.

For a great list of “Things to Do” around CCSU’s campus & in New Britain,

http://www.ccsu.edu/Things_ToDo.htm



Weather

The forecast for New Britain is typical weather for the Northeastern US: hot & humid, with daytime highs averaging in the upper 80’s to 90’s. Afternoon & evening thunderstorms are usual when humidity rises. Check CCSU’s Weather Center for the most current meteorological information:

<http://www.ccsu.edu/weather/>

What to Wear

Bring a light jacket or sweater if air-conditioning may become a bother or if we get an unseasonably cool evening (as it is at the writing of this report). Seasoned Mythies know our dress-code is eclectic ranging from professional to medieval. Just be sure to dress appropriately. Spare bed-sheets unnecessary. ☺

Nearby Hotels

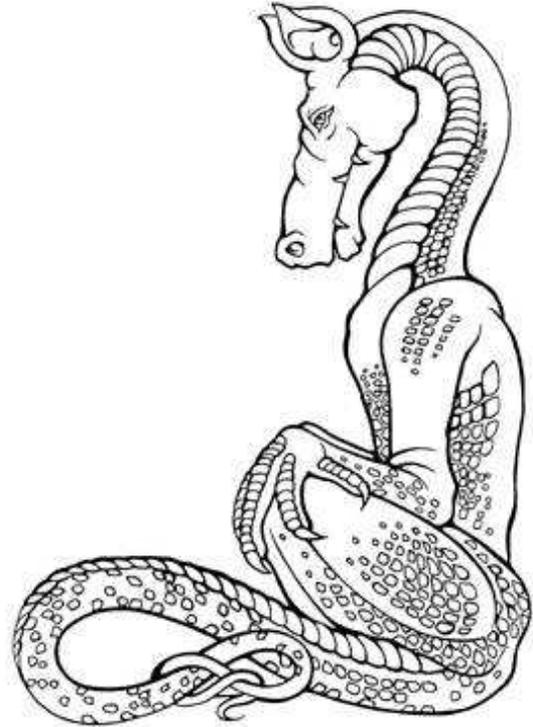
We always encourage attendees to stay on campus because of the communal fun atmosphere all Mythcons are noted for having. Here is the contact information for area hotels for those that need off-campus accommodations:

La Quinta Inn & Suites (New Britain - 2 miles)
65 Columbus Blvd
New Britain, CT 06051
Phone: (860) 348-1463

Courtyard by Marriott Hartford (Farmington - 2.9 miles)
1583 Southeast Road
Farmington, CT 06032 USA
Phone: (860) 521-7100

Welcome Inn (New Britain - 2.5 miles)
5 Hart St
New Britain, CT 06052
Phone: (860) 224-4066

Marriott (Farmington - 2.9 miles)
15 Farm Springs Road
Farmington, Connecticut 06032 USA
Phone: (860) 678-1000



WHAT TO BRING

An awareness of having fun!! A sense of communal imagination and learning!! Musicians and poets may want to bring instruments or poetry for the Bardic Circle. Please bring your costumes! We will have a small-but-fun masquerade and costumes are always encouraged for the Saturday morning Procession to Opening Ceremonies. And if anyone has pink lawn flamingos, they might come in handy for Golfimbul...

WHAT TO EXPECT

Guests of Honor

Scholar Guest of Honor: Marjorie Burns

<http://www.marjorieburns.com/>

A native of Portland, Oregon, Marjorie Burns is an English professor at Portland State University. Her main focus is the 19th Century British novel, she has lectured, taught and



published on J.R.R. Tolkien, Norse Mythology & Literature, William Morris, John Ruskin, Celtic Mythology, language, and more. Amongst her numerous publications, she has vastly contributed to Tolkien scholarship with her book *Perilous Realms*, as well as her contributions to *The J.R.R. Tolkien Encyclopedia, Mythlore*, and chapters for collections such as *Tolkien's Legendarium*. Ms. Burns has also co-written a book exploring the work of geologist J. Harlen Bretz {and the} {on the} flood that shaped the Western United States. She is working with Co-author Douglas A. Anderson on *J.R.R. Tolkien: Interviews, Reminiscences, and Other Essays*. Ms. Burns has contributed introductions to the Alethes Press

editions of Morris' translated Icelandic Sagas. Ms. Burns is an avid outdoorswoman and lives in Washington state.

Author Guest of Honor: Sharan Newmann

<http://www.sharanneuman.com/>

Sharan Newman is a medieval historian and author. Specializing in 12th Century France, Ms. Newman has used her scholarship to write {fiction}. Many of her novels have been in mediaeval settings. Most notable are her *Guinevere* books, and she has received awards for the Catherine Levendeur mysteries, including the 1998 Herodotus Award for best historical mystery for *Cursed in the Blood*. She has also written non-fiction books, including *The Real History Behind the Da Vinci Code* and *The Real History Behind the Templars*. Ms. Newman's most recent venture, *The Shanghai Tunnel*, is a departure away from mediaevalism; it takes place in 19th century Portland, Oregon, allowing her to explore her hometown. In a number of Ms. Newman's novels, she deals with the myriad issues surrounding women in history. Ms. Newman has also lectured on "Women's Lost History: How women were written out of the history books."

Additional Guests:

Verlyn Fliieger is a specialist in comparative mythology with a concentration in J.R.R. Tolkien. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Tolkien, Celtic, Arthurian, Hindu, Native American, and Norse myth. She is an author, editor, and professor in the Department of English at the University of Maryland at College Park. She also is one of the founding editors of *Tolkien Studies: An Annual Scholarly Review*, editor of the first critical edition of *Smith of Wootton Major*, which is an important edition that includes a facsimile of an early draft of the story, Tolkien's hitherto unpublished Time Scheme and character description, his long essay on the nature of Faërie, as well as editorial Notes and Commentary. For more information about Verlyn Fliieger, visit her site <http://www.mythus.com/>

Ted Nasmith's art is known throughout the realm of Middle-earth. His love of Tolkien inspired him to create illustrations from the first reading of *The Lord of the Rings*, given by his sister at age of fifteen. Tolkien opened doorways for his art, and he began illustrating scenes from Tolkien's major works. In addition to his art for various Tolkien Calendars, cover-art for



paperback editions of *The Lord of the Rings & The Hobbit*, and paintings for the first Northeast Tolkien Society calendar, he has illustrated *The Silmarillion*. Aside from his career as an illustrator, Ted Nasmith also has a musical side. From adolescence on he has been a guitarist and singer, writing many songs (some Tolkien inspired), as well as performing as a tenor in several choirs, both worship and concert oriented. The non-parady music Ted plans to perform will be mainly from his CDs *The Hidden Door* and *Songs in the Key of Enchantment*. For information about Ted Nasmith, please visit <http://www.tednasmith.com/>

SCHEDULE & EVENTS

A Selection of accepted Papers

- David Bratman “The Forgotten Women of Middle-earth”
- Joe R. Christopher “Artistic Form and the Supernatural in Diane Glancy's *Pushing the Bear*”
- Janet B. Croft “The Education of a Witch: Tiffany Aching, Hermione Grainger, and Gendered Magic in *Discworld* and Potterworld”
- Leslie A. Donovan “Brightly Shining and Armed for Battle: The Valkyrie Legacy in Tolkien's Middle-earth Fiction”
- Eleanor M. Farrell “Cabbages and Kings: Narrative Balance in the Novels of Patricia A. McKillip”
- Kristine Larsen “Sea Birds and Morning Stars: Ceyx, Alcyone, and the Many Metamorphoses of Eärendil and Elwing”
- Anne Osborn Coopersmith “Wagner's *Ring* and M. Craig Russell's Reinterpretation”
- Jessica Burke “Guinever's Voice in the 19th Century”
- Jennifer Culver “There Cannot Be a Key Without a Door: Valkyrie Images in *Neverwhere*”
- Noelle Davies and Geoffrey Reiter “Two Sides of the Same Magic: The Dialectic of Mortality and Immortality in Peter S. Beagle's *The Last Unicorn*” [joint paper]
- M.A. Foster “Cordwainer Smith: Mythopoeist of the Future”
- Diana Glycer “C.S. Lewis in Disguise: Fictional Portraits of Jack in the Work of the Inklings”
- Wayne G. Hammond “At Home Among the Dreaming Spires: Tolkien and Oxford University”
- Aaron Long “Scary Spiders: Femininity and Arachnitas in Tolkien's Shelob”
- Lisa Padol - “To Take Up the Sword? Empowerment in the Woman Warrior Fantasy”
- Daryl Ritchot “Orual and the Classical Warrior Woman in C.S. Lewis's *Till We Have Faces*”
- Christina Scull “Memory as Evidence in Tolkien Scholarship”
- Amy Schoofs-Rahne “Strange Little Girls”

- Jeff Swift “Realistic War in Tolkien's Battles”
- Michael A. Torregrossa “King Arthur, Warrior Woman of Camelot? The Transformation of the Matter of Britain in Japan's *Fate/stay night*”
- Chris Tuthill “Made to Hold Light': The Feminism of Le Guin's *Earthsea* Books”
- Ted Nasmith “From Middle-earth to Westeros and Back Again; New Artworks in a Familiar Vein”

Panel Discussions will be announced –varied & sundry Mythies will be tapped to appear on these vivacious platforms for Mythopoeic discussion. ☺ If you'd like to participate, but haven't been contacted, email the Programming Coordinator, Jessica Burke at: HerenIstarionNETS@gmail.com

Evening Festivities

FRIDAY NIGHT August 15th: Middle-earth Planetarium Show and welcoming party

SATURDAY NIGHT: August 16th musical performance by the infamous Lord of the Ringos

SUNDAY NIGHT: musical performances by Ted Nasmith

And of course you cannot forget our regular, or irregular list of Mythcon programming features and evening activities [TBA]:

- Not Ready for Mythcon Players
- Masquerade
- Bardic Circle
- Dealers Room
- Society Auction
- Khazâd-dûm book toss
- Golfimbul... as long as the Goblin is brought forth ☺

Masquerade

"Be thinking about joining the Mythcon Masquerade! Costumes based on the conference theme, our Guests of Honor's works, Tolkien, Lewis, Williams, and fantasy in general are welcome, as are participants of all ages. Lots of fun, with prizes for all! Look for the entry form in your conference registration packet."

Video & Photography

Members of the Mythopoeic Conference are welcome to take available-light photographs and video *for personal use.* We ask that you use caution when taking flash photographs.

Performers reserve all rights to their performances and may request that cameras (video and/or still) be turned off. NO film



maybe taken for commercial purposes without written clearance of the filmed subjects; neither may video be uploaded to YouTube or similar sites without express permission of the subjects of said video.

Thank you for your cooperation; remember, the face you save may be your own!

REGISTERED MEMBERS

Baird Daniel	Gilson Christopher	Padol Lisa
Beach Sarah	Griesi Jeanne	Phillips Berni
Birns Nicholas	Hammond Wayne G.	Powell Karla
Bratman David	Harrigan Harold	Rauscher Autumn
Burdge Anthony	Harrigan Harold III	Rauscher Bonnie
Burdge Jessica	Harrigan Lisa	Rauscher Emily
Christopher Joe R	Hood Gwenyth	Rauscher Eric
Christopher Lynn H	Hostetter Carl	Richardson Sara
Christopher Vandy M	Howland Vaughan	Sabo Deborah
Claypool Gavin	Kapsalis Mary Jo	Schoofs Amy
Coopersmith Anne Osborn		Scull Christina
Croft Janet	Kondratiev Alexei	Sloane Kenneth
Crowe Edith	Kronengold Joshua	Smith Arden
DeMars Linda	Lander Julian	Speth Dolores
Donovan Leslie A	Lattanzi Lucille	Speth Lee
Emerson David	Leonard Bruce	Tressel Pat
Evans Christin	Maudlin Lynn	Tuthill Chris
Evans Ryan Shug	McCann Mary	VanLoo David
Farrell Ellie	McElwee Ginger	VanLoo Marion
Fisher Jason	Nasmith Ted	Wagner Wendell
Flieger Verlyn	Oas Peter	Williams Donald T
Foster Joanne	Oberhelman David	Wisniewski Amy
Foster Michael Alan	Owings Jul	Wissler Sam
Geffner Marcie	Owings Mark	Wissler Steven
Wissler TJ	Wissler Veida	

