WeemProgram2015.indd 1

HALLOWEEN 4D

OCT 29
TO
NOV 1
2015



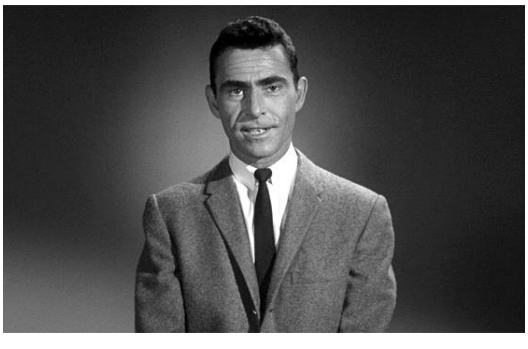
PARTY
IN THE 4TH
DIMENSION

40th Annual

Hosted by Chicago Area Mensa

10/27/2015 8:14:06 AM

Imagine, if you will ...



Notes From the HalloweeM Chair

A very warm welcome to HalloweeM 4D: Time Travel WeeM. Whether you choose to journey to a time long ago, or the distant future, I'm sure you'll find something here to amaze and delight you. We have several retro events from years past, and enough glimpses into the future to keep even a Time Lord's interest piqued. For those who are not interested in the programs, we have our famous hospitality and fully stocked game room. There is so much to do, you'll wish you had a Time Turner to fit it all in!

Of course, this is an auspicious and timely year for Chicago Mensa as well. It's our 50th anniversary year as a local group, and this is the 40th HalloweeM gathering. Part of what's kept us going so long as a group and as a fantastic RG are our volunteers. The WeeM TeaM is wearing blue badges. If you're having a great time (as I know you will), please take a moment to thank them for all their hard work.



So park that DeLorean, stop fiddling with the chameleon circuit on your TARDIS, put down the chewing gum to fix the antenna on your phone booth, and join us for a great time at WeeM!

Heather Booton, HalloweeM 40 Chair

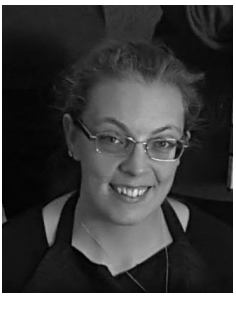
WeemProgram2015.indd 2 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

Notes From the Program Chair

Welcome to WeeM 40!! My name is Laceé Hudec, and this is my inaugural year in this daunting role of "Program Chair."

I have tried to schedule some new and fun stuff for you to enjoy throughout the weekend, but I would greatly appreciate your feedback! Please take a copy of that PAAG (Program At A Glance) and tell me what you think (mark your comments and drop it off in the box located near the registration desk).

As always, the games room and hospitality are open from Thursday afternoon until they pack up and leave on Sunday afternoon, so even if you aren't attending one of the many programs, you can find somewhere to relax or socialize. But now onto the PROGRAMS! We have many of our "tried and true" events returning this year- just to mention a few: Scotch Tasting on Thursday... costume contest and dance on Friday... Epicurean Experience, Pretentious Drinking, and another dance on Saturday... and Amazing Race: WeeM Style on Sunday.



Some exciting things to look for this year- we've brought back a few of the "old school" events! Look for anything with the keyword "RETRO" to partake in festivities from o'er the past 40 years of WeeM! I'd like to highlight some of my new programs, but I really packed the schedule this year... I've got over 100 programs to keep you entertained the whole weekend! You'll be ever so grateful that we're getting an extra hour before Sunday morning (courtesy of our WeeM time lords). And don't forget... "Ain't no party like a Time Lord party... because a Time Lord party is not bound by typical temporal parameters and thus don't stop."

Now, go have some fun! Tell 'em I sent you ;)

Laceé Hudec,

HalloweeM

Program chair

WeemProgram2015.indd 3 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

Policies & Reminders

Before you enjoy the festivities, please review the policies and reminders that follow.

Name Badges: Your name badge is your ticket to all the joys and wonders of HalloweeM. Please wear it at all times. With a group as large and diverse as ours, the tags are the only way we have of knowing who belongs to the RG. Anyone without a name badge should be referred to registration or to an event host (designated by their blue badges). Sorry, lost name badges cannot be replaced.

Smartphone, Tablet, and other E-Gear Users: Please be courteous by silencing your devices when in programs or events. If you don't know how to silence your device, please leave it in your room, lest you be mocked mercilessly. Wi-Fi is available in the hotel lobby. Scannable QR codes are posted near registration to allow you to easily download the program booklet and Program at a Glance (PAAG) in PDF form. Twitter users can use hashtag #WeeM40 for your tweets about the weekend; you can also direct message any concerns or issues to @ ChicagoMensa. Follow @ChicagoMensa for potential last-minute updates, photos, or other fun info throughout the weekend.

Program Schedule: There are often intervals set between programs in the programming grid. Check the times listed carefully. The Program at a Glance is the most up-to-date source with respect to error corrections, room changes, speaker cancellations, et cetera. Programming doesn't stop when the sun sets. We have several evening programs scheduled, and social activities often extend past midnight.

Program At A Glance (PAAG): The PAAG includes some updates to the program which were too late to make it to the program book. There may be signs posted at the programming rooms or near registration with information that is fresher still. We're confident you'll know what's up. Some events are age-restricted (usually 21+), and you may be asked to show proof of age. Finally, please note that

WeemProgram2015.indd 4 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

a few events do not start and end on the same time boundaries as most.

About the Speakers: Please bear in mind that the speakers have donated their time and resources to be with us this weekend. Many of them are not Mensans and this is their first (and maybe only) exposure to the organization. Mensa's reputation depends on the actions and attitudes of each of us. If you enter or leave during a program, please do so quietly in deference to the speaker and other attendees. Show consideration, even if you disagree with a speaker. Unless a speaker requests otherwise, please hold questions and comments until the end of the presentation.

Alcohol and Youth: Illinois law, hotel rules, and Chicago Area Mensa policies are strict when it comes to underage drinking. The legal drinking age here is 21. Please do not be insulted if you are asked for proof of age. Anyone with a brightly colored "under 21" badge is not permitted to be in areas where alcohol is available. These areas are easy to spot in hospitality and in the program guide. Adherence to this rule has been stressed to all Hospitality gHosts. Even if you allow your children to consume alcoholic beverages at home, you are NOT free to do the same at HalloweeM.

Dry-Erase Board: A dry-erase board will be available near the registration area for posting personal messages, program changes, and other announcements. Please take care to re-cap the markers after use.

Decorations: Every year, we make a sizable investment of time and money in creating the right ambiance at HalloweeM. Please do not disturb or remove the decorations. Many of them are haunted. We cannot be held responsible for any paranormal activities if you remove the sacred monkey paw from its resting chamber. Special thanks this year to the Schaumburg Township District Library for the use of the TARDIS that they designed and built for their Comic-Con event.



WeemProgram2015.indd 5 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

Policies & Reminders, cont'd.

Food and Beverages: HalloweeM food and beverages MUST remain in the Ravinia Ballroom. Since the games room is within the Ravinia Ballroom, bringing food and beverages there is permitted. However, please DO NOT take food or beverages into the other speaker rooms (e.g., Birch, Maple, etc.). Water is available outside the speaker rooms, if you become parched.

Volunteers/gHosts: HalloweeM is a big event. It takes a LOT of volunteers to make things run smoothly. Our volunteer staff (also known as gHosts) is always happy to accept new recruits. We need only an hour or two of your time; in exchange, you get a HalloweeM volunteer collector's pin and a warm feeling deep inside. A volunteer grid will be posted near registration. Please sign up!

A break from the crowds: There is a nature walk along the river just outside the south door of the hotel. It's a great place for a breather.



Hugs: To hug or not to hug, that is the question. Colored stickers signify your hugging preference: yes, no, maybe so. Pick up a sticker for your name badge at the registration desk and check the stickers that others wear. If a hug sticker isn't on someone's badge, or if there is any doubt, please ask before hugging.

Harassment: HalloweeM will be a friendly and safe environment for our attendees. Unwelcome physical contact and other forms of harassment will not be tolerated. If you have concerns or need to report misconduct, find someone with a blue badge, or, if you need immediate and direct intervention for your personal safety, go to the hotel lobby and request assistance from security at the front desk.

WeemProgram2015.indd 6 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

Late Check-out: When you check in, please let the hotel desk staff know if you need a late check-out time at the end of the weekend. Based on their expected vacancy level, they will do all they can to accommodate as many as they can.



Smoking: By Illinois state law as well as hotel policy, smoking is permitted outside the hotel in designated areas only. We will do our best to ensure that the staff provides adequate waste cans and ashtrays. Thank you.

Pet Policy: In keeping with Chicago Area Mensa's pet policy, no non-human animals are allowed in any event space (hospitality or speaker/meeting rooms) unless they are registered service animals. It is the obligation of the owner to provide proof of registration. Pets are still allowed in guest rooms.

Hotel kitchens and service corridors: Due to concerns from the hotel staff, only authorized volunteers will be allowed in the service corridors and hotel kitchens. If we are out of something and it needs to be replenished, please alert one of the hospitality volunteers or one of the event hosts who are wearing blue badges. We reserve the right to revoke the badges of anyone who goes in these areas without permission.

Of Special Note: Volunteer Drawing

We're holding a drawing to reward our valuable helpers this weekend. Raffle prizes are gift certificates and cash! You get a drawing ticket for each hour worked. As a twist, some of the less popular volunteer assignments (like the middle of the night in Hospitality) are worth more than one ticket per hour. Those who signed up for shifts in advance will also receive extra tickets. The RG wins, our guests win, and, most important, you win! For major prizes, you do not need to be present to win. Minor prizes (less than $20 value) will only be awarded to those present.

WeemProgram2015.indd 7 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

WeeM Loves Kids!

Young Children

For kids 8 and under, we will again have activities and plenty of opportunities for supervised play all weekend long in Maple. To help cover the cost of the babysitters, parents who did not pre-register their child for babysitting will be charged $15 per day per child. ($40 for the whole weekend.) The Kids' Room will be open Friday from 4:30pm to 11:30pm, Saturday from 9:30am to 11:30pm and Sunday from 9:30am to 2:30pm. We will close the room for an hour during all scheduled meals (including Saturday evening), and take "field trips" to some of the WeeM Programs that are especially good for kids. Look for signs outside the Kids' Room for up-to-the minute details.

Little ones are welcome in the Kids' Room if they are able to play with a group of older children. While there will be two responsible adults with the children at all times, this is a popular program that draws a lot of kids and features plenty of "ages 3 and up" toys. If your children are not potty trained, parents are responsible for diaper changes. Snacks will be provided in the Kids' Room at intervals throughout the weekend, but you should pick up your kids and visit hospitality when the Kids' Room is closed for meal breaks or whenever you are hungry.

We will once again have a kids-only costume parade at 6:30 PM Friday before the adult parade. Bring your kids directly to the parade in costume. Kids do not need to be registered for babysitting to participate in the costume parade.

On Friday and Saturday evenings, we will be dimming the lights and showing movies to help the kids wind down. Kids can bring a pillow or favorite stuffed animal to cuddle with during movie time. Please label everything clearly with your child's name to avoid confusion.

WeemProgram2015.indd 8 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

IMPORTANT: For the children's safety, a responsible adult must sign each child in and out of the kids' room *every time* the child leaves or rejoins the program. Parents must remain in the hotel at all times when their children are in the Kids' Room. If children prove to be uncontrollable or dangerous, their parents will be asked to remove them from the room and they will not be allowed to participate further.

If you have any questions about the Kids' Room, please contact Kim at 224-715-7044 or Joel at 224-392-4639.

Tweens and Teens (12-17)

Participants under 18 years of age who are old enough to be unsupervised must have their parents sign a release form at registration and provide contact information where a responsible adult can be reached *at the hotel* throughout the weekend.

Tournaments & Games

Game Room Ravinia A

The Game Room will open Thursday evening and remain open around the clock until Sunday afternoon, unless there is a tournament. (These times will be posted.) We have a wide assortment to choose from. Please do not leave your small children in the game room.

Tournaments

The tournaments lineup is in the day-to-day listing of events. Please check the PAAG (and posted flyers in the tournament room) for details.

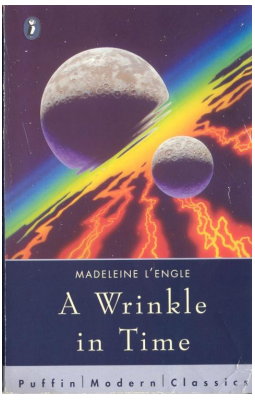
Massage Therapists

Deborah Knoll and James Martin will be doing chair massages in the vendor hall from 4-7 on Friday, and 9-noon on Saturday and Sunday. Cost is $15/15 min. massage. (Cash only.) Sign up recommended.

WeemProgram2015.indd 9 10/27/2015 8:14:07 AM

Book Sale

All Weekend



Find out what your fellow Mensans have read. Browse through donated book and non-book items, and take home some real treasures. We charge 50¢ per book or 3/$1, for paperbacks; $1 each for hardcovers or 3/$2.50; and $1.00/bag on Sunday. VHS and audio cassette tapes are $1, CDs are $2, and DVDs are $3. Books on tape or CD are $2. All proceeds benefit Chicago Area Mensa's philanthropic projects.

As always, we're starting on Thursday—with some great speakers on some very hot topics. Dinner will be a Mediterranean Feast.

But that is just the beginning. There are local excursions and, of course, our famous multi-track programming throughout the weekend. For gamers, there are tournaments and the 24-hour games room, and of course there will be a great kids' track, plus two dances, costume parade, 24-hour hospitality suites, book sale, and vendor area.

Do note that we have a lot of programs in the evening, so don't figure that dinner signals the end of the day's learning or entertainment opportunities.

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see previous pages.

Due to the timing for the program book preparation, any last-minute changes to the schedule, or past-the-deadline submissions, will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance," which is available at registration.



Don't forget, we get an extra hour of WeeM this weekend.



WeemProgram2015.indd 10 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

Thursday

Early Morning to Late Afternoon

Setting Up

Mostly in the the Hospitality Area

Welcome! We're so glad you came to our RG! And you're so early! We don't officially open our doors until 3:30 PM, but you are more than welcome to roll up your sleeves and help out. There are dozens of things to do, and your help will be greatly appreciated. If you choose not to help out, please leave the sandwiches and beverages for those who are working, and don't be offended if we ask you to please get out of the way!

6:00 – 7:15 PM

Poor Tax Policy Drives Illinois' Fiscal Problems

Ralph Martire

Birch

The budget for Illinois is an issue of great concern. Sustainable funding for essential services is in question. Learn what the current fiscal climate really is in Illinois and what the possible solutions are to move Illinois to sustainable fiscal health.

6:30 – 8:00 PM

7 Wonders Tournament

Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room.

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Dinner

Hospitality

Time to eat. Enjoy some Mediterranean fare. Save room for the baklava!

8:00 - 9:30 PM

The Changing World of Publishing and How You Can Be a Part of It

Fiona Gierzynski

Willow A and B

Traditional publishing presented many obstacles to getting published, which have largely disappeared today. This is both good and bad for aspiring writers. Join me as I discuss the past, the present, and extrapolate to what the future of publishing might become. I'll also discuss my personal journey to becoming a published author, and how I discovered that writing the manuscript is the least time-consuming part of the process.

WeemProgram2015.indd 11 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

8:00 - 9:30 PM, cont'd.

Ask the Mixologist
Jack the Bartender

Birch

Joe works in the hotel bar, and will be talking about bartending, mixing drinks, answering questions, and supplying samples. (50 person maximum please.)

8:30 – 10:00 PM

Back In Time- Hypnosis Stage Show
Millicent Bliesener

Michigan A and B

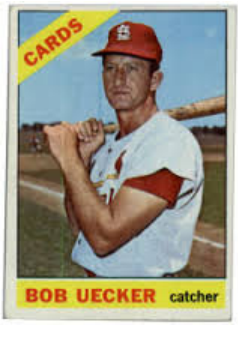
Join us for a wibbly-wobbily, timey-wimey stage show written especially for WeeM 40! Whether you remain in the audience or volunteer to be hypnotized, you won't want to blink at this tongue-in-cheek sci-fi themed event, appropriate for all ages. (Please, no quacking.)

8:30 – 10:30 PM

Euchre Tournament

Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room



9:00 – Midnight

Werewolves of WeeM

Elm

See PAAG for details.

9:30 – 11:00 PM

Mystery Shopping (aka "Pay Me To Have Fun!")
Jonathan Stoltze

Birch

Do you eat out? Like Ice Cream? Change your car oil regularly? Go to movies? There are many legitimate Mystery Shopping Companies that would like to hire you as field agents to do these things for them and they do NOT charge any sign up fees. They will reimburse your expenses and usually pay you to fill out an online evaluation of these and other goods and services. Come learn how to find these companies and sign up to work for them.

10:00 – 11:15 PM

Scotch Tasting
Matt Crawford

Willow

By now everyone is a whisky expert and familiar with the great malts of Scotland, so this year we will sample whiskies from some of the newest distilleries. (50 person maximum please.)

WeemProgram2015.indd 12 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

Another reminder:
Due to the timing for the program book preparation, any late changes to the schedule will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance."

Friday

7:30 – 9:30 AM

Simple Breakfast
Hospitality

9:30 - 10:15 AM

Preventing and treating Alzheimer's
Peter Kraus

Willow

As Mensa members, the last thing we want to contemplate is the possibility of losing our ability to think. Yet, Alzheimer's disease (AD) presents us with just that prospect. There is new information indicating that AD is a preventable disease, not an inevitable result of aging. The first thing to know is that 90% of autopsied AD brains are found to be infected with pathogenic spirochetal bacteria, similar to those that cause syphilis. This, and the fact that AD patient brains do not utilize glucose effectively, allow for effective strategies to prevent AD, and ameliorate its symptoms.

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Kill Dr. Lucky Tournament
Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room

11:00 - 12:15 PM

The Pollinator Challenge: The Situation, The Research, The Plan
Diane Bolash & Nancy Mitzen

Willow

There has been a LOT of "buzz" lately regarding the mysterious colony collapse disorder and the general decline in pollinators all over the world. This informative program reviews the challenges faced and the progress being made for addressing this world-wide threat. Through dynamic and interactive learning activities, the participants will explore the many clues and variables that are associated with this environmental puzzle. Opportunities to take specific action and provide practical support to assist in reversing the challenge will be outlined.

WeemProgram2015.indd 13 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

11:00 - 12:15 PM, cont'd.

Meet Our National Ombudsman
Dave Cahn

Elm

Join Dave Cahn, American Mensa's first elected National Ombudsman, for a free-ranging discussion of the role of local, regional, and national ombudsmen and how Mensa conflicts and complaints can be resolved informally without disciplinary action.

From Seashells to Shiny Bells: the History and Science of Horns
Lisa Taylor

Michigan A

We will demonstrate and discuss a variety of horns from around the world. The discussion will include acoustics, materials and construction, geographic origins, and function in society. You will get to hear instruments including the conch shell, didgeridoo, shofar, alphorn, posthorn, dragon-headed trumpet, and pocket horn, as well as a natural horn and modern orchestral French horns.

Using Humor to Challenge Rigid Positions
Jim Lyttle

Michigan B

Humor can be very effective at demonstrating absurdity. Once someone laughs at a joke that challenges their belief, they have to admit that it can sound crazy. Used carefully and elegantly, this technique can help people step back and look at beliefs that seem immune to evidence - whether they are the tenets of a strange religious cult, conspiracy theories, or belief that the Illuminati are in charge of the world (... although we are).

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Lunch Break
Hospitality

Noon - 1:15 PM

Assume the Position 101 & 201
Robert Finnegan

Birch



In 2 HBO specials, comedian/ actor Robert Wuhl gives hilarious, bawdy multimedia presentations on history & pop culture to New York college students, all the while challenging you on what you think you know about America.

WeemProgram2015.indd 14 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

12:30 - 1:45 PM

How Corn Changed Itself and then Changed Everything Else

Cynthia Clampitt

Willow

About 10,000 years ago, a weedy grass growing in Mexico possessed of a strange trait known as a "jumping gene" transformed itself into a larger and more useful grass—the cereal grass that we would come to know as maize and then corn. Nurtured by early farmers in the Oaxaca region, this grain would transform the Americas even before First Contact. After First Contact, it would span the globe, with mixed results, but for newcomers in North America, it expanded its influence from rescuing a few early settlers to creating the Midwest. Today, it is more important than ever. As Margaret Visser noted in her classic work Much Depends on Dinner, "Without corn, North America—and most particularly modern, technological North America—is inconceivable."

Principles for Successful Relationships

Paul David (PD) Wadler

Elm

After studying couples for dozens of years, Dr. John Gottman has developed an empirically based system for keeping relationships thriving. Learning some practical skills can improve any intimate relationship. Learn what these skills are and how to implement them. This will be an interactive presentation.

Why is Outstanding Customer Service So Rare?

Len Hiznay

Michigan A

Why is something as self-apparent as acceptable customer service subject to such a wide range of quality? Do you know what your internal customers really need from you? Consider Len's "Universal Job Description" that produces exceptional results.

1:00 - 2:45 PM

The Settlers of Catan Tournament

Ravinia A

In The Settlers of Catan, players try to be the dominant force on the island by building settlements, cities, and roads. Each roll of the dice determines resources the island produces. Get to 10 victory points and win!



WeemProgram2015.indd 15 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

1:00 - 5:00 PM

The First Ever Complete Reading of John Milton's *Lycidas*

John Scanlon

Michigan B

This is a long presentation, but attendees will participate in history being made. This will be the first time ever that Milton's pastoral elegy Lycidas is explained in its entirety. You'll walk out of this presentation knowing more about Milton that most English professors. I've created a website, www.GreatestRiddle.com, on which I'm going to publish a "clue" a week, elements of my reading, in hopes of drawing some academics to this presentation too. But the biggest benefit to anyone who comes to this presentation will be getting an up-close-and-personal view of just how good a poet John Milton was.

1:30 - 2:15 PM

The Return of the Vinyl Junkie

Mike Wolstein

Birch

Mike will share his knowledge regarding record collecting and the care and feeding of hi-fi equipment. He'll briefly touch on the history of the phonograph and records, discuss values of rare vinyl, what to expect to pay for records, and talk about types of music that are collectible, and where to purchase records. He'll display samples of record cover artwork, and play samples of tunes recorded by unknown (at the time) artists on their way to the top. Questions are welcome.

2:00 - 3:15 PM

Ballet: A Closer Look

Catherine Tully

Willow

An insider look at the world of ballet, including current trends, scientific studies and more.

2:30 - 3:15 PM

Medieval and Renaissance Woodwind Instruments

Gerald Pearson

Michigan B

I'll play and discuss "reproductions" of some early woodwinds, including recorders, gemshorn, tabor pipe, crumhorn, and rauschpfeife.

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Don't Be That Guy Tournament

Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room

WeemProgram2015.indd 16 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

3:00 - 4:15 PM

You Can Get (Almost) Anything You Want

Brian Reeves

Birch

Arlo Guthrie told us that "you can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant." While "anything you want" is not exactly realistic, there are negotiating techniques you can use to increase your chances of getting the things you want at work, in your relationships and when dealing with your everyday financial world. You'll learn about trading air, the power of Balkanization, dividing the last piece of cake, and more.

3:30 - 4:45 PM

A History of Mob Violence

Wayne Johnson

Willow

A presentation about the violence perpetuated on the City of Chicago over the last 100 plus years by Chicago's organized crime entity known as the Outfit.

4:00 - 5:15 PM

Room Escape Session I

Oriel Maximé

Elm

Inspired by companies such as Room Escape Adventures, Oriel Maximé presents an intense group experience for 10-15 Mensans. This is NOT a logic problem! Your cadre has exactly one hour to identify and decipher clues, solve riddles, and find the final key before time runs out. Either everyone wins or everyone loses: how well do you communicate and collaborate under pressure? Sign up near the registration area in advance. There is no admittance once we begin, so please arrive promptly. (Repeated at 6:00, same room.)

4:00 – 6:00 PM

What If: Science Fiction Aspects of Today's Science & Technology

Frank Dolinar

Michigan A

Science fiction authors do not, in general, craft stories as predictors of the future. It sometimes turns out that way when science fiction readers are trained in the sciences and become researchers inspired by the fiction they have read. This presentation will examine some current research, science, and technology inspired by science fiction, including such fields as computers, energy, health care, materials, and space.

WeemProgram2015.indd 17 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

4:30 – 6:30 PM

Automotive Applications for Thermoelectric Materials
Arthur Cartwright

Birch

The majority of the energy produced to move a vehicle is wasted, primarily as heat. There is a great opportunity to use this wasted heat to power your car's accessories.

Cribbage Tournament
Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Ask the Sexologists
Robert Berend

Willow

Ask the Sexologist is an open forum Q&A where you are in charge of the topics. Ask your question either anonymously on paper or online in advance at http://www.askthesexologist.com/weem-2015. Most of the last dozen Mensa annual gatherings had this presentation. ANY aspects of sexuality are welcome topics to explore.

5:30 – 7:30 PM

Dinner
Hospitality

Head over to Hospitality for a meal, but please, no need to rush, or try to fill and balance eight plates, as food will be replenished often.

6:00 - 7:15 PM

Room Escape Session II
Oriel Maximé

Elm

See the description at 4:00 PM today.

6:30 – 7:30 PM

Kids' Costume Parade/Contest
Michigan A/B

All children are invited to show off their costumes for prizes. Come see some little ones who are so cute, it's scary! Kids registered for babysitting are welcome to wear their costumes to the Kids' Room for the remainder of the evening.

6:30 – 8:00 PM

Understanding Your Dreams
Teri Karl

Birch

Do you remember your dreams? Do you sometimes

WeemProgram2015.indd 18 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

6:30 - 8:00 PM, cont'd.

feel that they must have a deeper meaning? Learn how to interpret your dreams using the Universal Language of Mind. The presentation will be on the basics of why we dream, and how to begin interpreting your own dreams, followed by an opportunity for audience members to have their dreams interpreted.

6:30 – 7:45 PM

The Path to On the Job: Murder, Reflection, and Where TV Cop Shows Fail

Daniel P Smith

Willow B

Author, journalist, and lifelong Chicagoan Daniel P. Smith guides readers into the closed-door society that is the Chicago Police Department in his compelling debut work, *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*. Smith discusses the personal experiences that led him to pen *On the Job,* and the unique perspective he was able to achieve given his background. Includes a question and answer session. Signed copies of *On the Job* will be available for $18.

7:30 – 8:30 PM

Adults' Costume Parade/Contest

Steve Davidson, MC

Michigan A/B

It's one of the many things for which we are (justly) famous: costumes. Prizes will be awarded for Best Pun, Worst Pun, Best Traditional, Best Group, and whatever other categories strike the fancy of our judges, who are, as always, very open to bribes.

If you will be entering the costume contest, be sure to get a numbered ticket. Please SPEAK LOUDLY AND CLEARLY when you get to the microphone. The judges and the audience would very much like to hear the description of your get-up.

7:30 – 11:30 PM

Blindfold Chess Exhibition

Timur Gareyev

Ravinia A

Please come as a spectator or a participant to play a game of chess against a blindfolded grandmaster!

8:00 – 9:30 PM

Kids Gym

Willow

Calling all ghouls and boys! Come on out to burn off some of that energy with a kids dance party!

WeemProgram2015.indd 19 10/27/2015 8:14:08 AM

8:30 – 9:15 PM

In the Belly of the Blues
Terry Abrahamson

Birch

Through his personal collection of rare video and photographs, and his often hilarious stories, Terry Abrahamson takes his audience on a high-energy roller coaster ride backstage and onstage, sharing nearly half a century of life with the legends of Blues and Rock & Roll. Following the program, Terry holds a Q/A session and signs his book, IN THE BELLY OF THE BLUES ($25.00), with personalized song lyric autographs.

9:00 PM – Midnight

Werewolves of WeeM
Elm

Details available in the tournament room

10:00 PM – Late

Friday Night Dance
Kenya Hitchens, DJ

Botanic

Mensans love to dance! Come enjoy the tunes, from timeless old classics to timeful, new, future classics.



RETRO EVENT: Joke Off
Kenya Hitchens, DJ

Willow

Old-Fashioned Joke-Off. Sure, we all read jokes on the Internet these days, but many jokes just don't work as well unless told in person. Come and tell your best jokes to an appreciative audience. There may be points, there may be scoring, there may be a prize for the best joke...let's see what happens.

Hit Movie: "Jurassic World"
Robert Finnegan

Birch



Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard & Vincent D'Onofrio take on the latest batch of out-of-control dinosaurs. Rated PG-13. Running time: appx. 2 hours. The best of the supplements will also be shown.

Yet another reminder:
Due to the timing for the program book preparation, any late changes to the schedule will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance."

WeemProgram2015.indd 20 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

Saturday

7:30 – 9:30 AM

Breakfast
Hospitality

8:00 – 9:45 AM

Comic Book Movies: We're In The Golden Age!
Alan Baltis

Birch

Movies based on comic books regularly set box office records, creating millions of new fans for this distinctly American art form. These movies draw upon an amazing modern mythology, developed by thousands of writers and artists over the last 75 years, month by month, story by story. With special effects finally advanced enough to do justice to the fantastic scenes comic book readers have enjoyed for decades, the 21st century is proving to be the Age of the Comic Book Blockbuster. We'll dive into many of the prominent series, discussing the archetypal characters and convoluted backstories that make these fictional universes such great grist for the screenwriting mill. From Spider-Man to Iron Man, from the Watchmen to the Avengers, from the Green Goblin to the Red Skull, learn how super doesn't mean superficial!

8:30 – 9:45 AM

Professional Printers are Your DIY Resource
Ryan Ruffati

Willow A

Use professional printers for your passion projects! Discover the knowledge needed to get your print needs cheaper than doing it at home.

Can't Live With 'Em, Can't Live Without 'Em: Understanding the Real Differences Between Men and Women
Dayna Johnson

Willow B

Ever feel like you're speaking a foreign language when trying to communicate with the opposite sex? That there just may be some truth behind "men are from Mars, women are from Venus?" Maybe that's because our brains are actually very different. Learn about these differences while gleaning insights into cross-gender communication and tips to manage the opposite sex.

WeemProgram2015.indd 21 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM, cont'd.

Kids Activity: Make your own paracord bracelet!

Jason Catena

Elm

We will supply the materials and a lesson for preteens and teens to make a bracelet from two segments (2' and 8') of parachute cord (6 strands of nylon in a nylon sheath).Paracord is useful in a variety of situations from lifesaving (fishing line) to trivial (colorful fobs) to scientific (repairing the Hubble Space Telescope!) Kids checked in to babysitting will attend this program.

RETRO EVENT: Paper Airplane Making

Michigan A

See PAAG for details.

CardioFunk Exercise

Catrina Hays

Michigan B

Get moving with a high-energy dance inspired workout to recent tunes!.

9:00 – 11:00 AM

Logic Tournament

Oriel Maxime

Ravinia A

How fast can you solve these original logic problems?

10:00 – 11:15 AM

Writing & Publishing Science Fiction Thrillers

Lance Erlick

Willow A

Come share in a discussion of writing and publishing today with a writer of science fiction thrillers enjoyed by young adult and adult audiences. Your host will discuss his writing experiences, his experiences with traditional publishers, and then his experience over three years as a self-published author.

Cats Indoors - or Else!

Maya Ramirez

Willow B

There are no good reasons for letting cats outside - only bad excuses, all of which I will address.

The Beauty of Algorithmic Art

Jim Plaxco

Birch

This presentation takes the audience on a visual tour through a virtual algorithmic art gallery. Topics covered include the origins of algorithmic art and subsequent developments, the various forms of algorithmic art, and provides a look at some of its most famous practitioners.The presenter shares his

WeemProgram2015.indd 22 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM, cont'd.

own perspectives on the algorithmic art scene as well as insights into his own creative process, illustrated using selections from his own body of work.

Learn the Basics of Improv

Steve Duberchin

Michigan A

Crazy Shades of Blue is back at HalloweeM with a new workshop! Combined CSoB has over 25 years of experience performing across the Chicago suburbs. We are happy to be returning to HalloweeM this year and we'll be bringing laughs and fun with us!

Shinkendo Demonstration

Trevis Crane

Michigan B

Shinkendo and Bojutsu are the beautiful arts of Japanese sword and staff. Through extensive training and research, founder Toshishiro Obata created a system of martial arts that uses authentic Samurai teachings and techniques, which leads to both practical ability and an understanding of classical martial arts. Shinkendo is steeped in the traditions of the Samurai, physical training, proper Bushido etiquette, and philosophy.

10:00 – 11:45 AM

Create Your Own Halloween Mini-Album

Morgan Vogt

Elm

There are many ways to preserve your memories – from filling large scrapbook albums full of photos, to creating small mini-albums to carry around with you. I'll show you the basics of scrapbooking, and from there, you'll create your own HalloweeM-themed mini-album! I will provide a mini-album kit that includes all the supplies you'll need to finish your album, and I will lead you through putting the album together. Plus you'll receive scrapbooking adhesive to take home with you! The mini-album kit is $15 and can be purchased at the door (cash and checks are accepted).

11:30 – 11:45 AM

Storytime for Kids

Rae Goodman

Michigan B

Picture book story time for the little ones. Kids track participants will walk to this program.

11:30 – 12:15 PM

Cybercrime

Marie Salvaggione

Ravinia A

Have you ever wanted to know what happens to your data when you get hacked? Does it really get sold on a Russian black market? Where does that spam e-mail

WeemProgram2015.indd 23 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

11:30 - 12:15 PM, cont'd.

come from? Are you really doing everything you can to protect yourself? Come find out more about cyber criminals. We'll explore the world of cybercrime and what you can do to join the fight. This program would be especially appropriate for teens and parents. We will talk about the dangers that affect our children every day.

11:30 – 12:45 PM

Hell's M's Meet & Greet

Willow A

Have you ever wondered what all of those black tee shirts are all about? Attend the meeting for current and potential HELL's M's and find out what we are, how we got started, and what we do. HELL's M's: Don't forget to vote for PARTY ANIMAL - results will be announced on Sunday.

The Highly Sensitive Person: An Overview

Jennifer Murtoff

Willow B

Based on the groundbreaking research of Elaine Aron, this presentation examines the characteristics of the Highly Sensitive Person. HSPs have a nervous and sensory system that is more attuned to the environment than those of non-HSPs. As a result, bright lights, smells, textures, tastes, and repetitive noises can easily cause overstimulation and anxiety for the HSP. The trait often occurs in gifted and high-IQ adults, and the presentation addresses strategies for dealing with the trait in everyday life.

Time Slips (or: Wait, Is This a Jane Austen Party or the Actual 19th Century?)

David Flora and Dave Stecco

Michigan A

Some people claim to have been minding their own business and suddenly found themselves in a completely different time period. And only some of them are crazy. Come let the boys of the Blurry Photos Podcast take you through the strange, silly, and sometimes spooky phenomenon of time slips! With stories, explanations, and probably terrible dialects, you won't want to miss this crazy train!

Learning Styles And Differentiating Instruction

Geraldine Haller

Ravinia A

What happens to the learners in schools if most learning activity takes place where the learners primarily sit and listen to lectures? How does the child who needs to linger in experience fare, or the child who needs reflecting time? What about the child who needs to do it to learn it, or the child who doesn't take anyone's word about it, but has to find out personally? These are legitimate learners, just different. In life outside the school, these differences are good. They form the foundations of creative teams. Schools

WeemProgram2015.indd 24 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

must include them all. We will take a close look at Differentiated Instruction through learning styles and how they influence how students learn, take a look at our own learning style, and share the results with a neighbor.

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Lunch Break

Hospitality

12:00 – 1:15 PM

Kids' Craft

Heather Thompson

Elm

Hands on paper-crafting. We'll make cute Halloween themed bookmarks to take home. Kids' track participants will walk to this program.

12:30 – 1:45 PM

Nature's Best

Robert Finnegan

Birch

The best selections taken from 14 nature documentary series by the world-famous BBC nature team, most narrated by Sir David Attenborough. The most dramatic, the most beautiful, the most interesting, the most bizarre, all in Blu-ray HD. Series include *Frozen Planet*, *Planet Earth*, *Trials of Life* and *Blue Planet*.

1:00 – 2:15 PM

Illinois: Like 41 Other States, Our State Needs a Gifted Mandate

Dr. Kenneth Smith

Willow A

Illinois is one of only 9 states without a gifted mandate. What does this mean for out brightest children? What can parents do about it?

Auteur Theory: Act II

Sonja Foxe

Willow B

Since last year's presentation, my theory that Shake-speare (deVere) was party to the death of Kit Marlowe has developed. Marlowe was leaking state secrets on stage, and ratting out his colleagues regarding the ransacking of John Dee's library in 589.

A Random Topic

Matt Crawford

Michigan A

Everyone has a general notion of what randomness is, but many common notions are mistaken. Some things thought to be random are not, and vice versa. Learn how not to be fooled, using little or no mathematics, and how computing systems attempt to avoid von Neumann's "state of sin."

WeemProgram2015.indd 25 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

1:00 – 2:15 PM cont'd.

You Have Rights, Don't Allow Them to be Taken Away - CANCELLED

Marc Wolfe

Michigan B

Your rights have not been cancelled, just this program. I'm filling up this space because the cancellation came at the very last minute, and this book had already been formatted. So this is just to fill the allotted space.

Thrift Store Costuming

Kerri-Ellen Kelly

Ravinia A

Ideas to more affordably build historical, cosplay and steampunk costumes by using secondhand items or converting nonclothing items to other uses. Includes some ideas for noncostume items such as a banner stand as well.

1:15 – 3:00 PM

Kids' T-Shirts

Kimberly Kohler

Willow

Kids will make a T-shirt to take home commemorating their fun time at WeeM. After the little ones, older kids will be allowed to make a T-shirt while supplies last. kids' track participants will walk to this program.

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Stress Management

Millicent Bliesener

Birch

This presentation will discuss healthy vs. unhealthy stress and will also examine a variety of ways to buffer oneself from unhealthy forms of stress. Following this, participants will engage in a sequence of activities aimed at reducing stress. Please dress comfortably and feel free to bring a pillow or blanket.

2:30 – 3:15 PM

Coastie the Safety Boat

Michigan A

Coastie the Safety Boat is the U.S. Coast Guard's interactive robotic mascot that travels the nation teaching life jacket safety. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will also be on hand to answer questions about recreational boating safety and marine environmental protection. (Kid's Track participants will be escorted to this program.)

The Many Faces of Sherlock Holmes

Barbara Barnett

Willow A

The adventures of London's most famous fictional "consulting detective" may have been originally penned by Doyle, but Holmes has endured well beyond Doyle's wildest expectations.

WeemProgram2015.indd 26 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

2:30 – 3:45 PM

He's been the subject of new novels, films, radio dramas, television series, overtly and indirectly. Barnett will survey the Sherlock Holmes landscape, taking attendees back to the original Holmes, predating the Doyle stories by years, and propelling them through fiction, film, TV and more as Holmes has adapted for each successive generation, born and reborn again and again.

How to be an Active Ally to a Member of Any Minority

Dale Woods

Willow B

Do you have friends or loved ones who are different from you? Do they face discrimination? You want to be supportive, but may not be sure what to do. Let's interactively explore what it means to be an active ally. Join us as we learn how each of us can help others live more authentic lives.

Crazy Shades of Blue is Back!

Steve Duberchin & CSoB

Michigan B

Crazy Shades of Blue is back at HalloweeM with a new show! Combined, CSoB has over 25 years of experience performing across the Chicago suburbs. We are happy to be returning to HalloweeM this year and we'll be bringing laughs and fun with us!

Retro Event: Jacks/House of Cards

Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room

3:30 – 4:45 PM

No More Narcissists! How to Stop Choosing Self-Absorbed Men and Find the Love You Deserve

Candace Love

Michigan A

Are you one of the many women who finds herself in one destructive relationship after another and can't understand why they implode? The problem may be that you are picking one self-absorbed, self-serving narcissistic partner after another, and you don't even realize you're doing it. If so, you can learn to stop repeating these destructive relationship patterns.

3:30 – 5:30 PM

Henry IV, Part 1 - a Casual Group Reading

Beverly Flechsig

Elm

Want to be Prince Hal, Hotspur, Mistress Quickly or Falstaff? No auditions, tech rehearsals, stage combat or blinding spotlights because we're just sight-reading. I'll have extra copies of the play, but please bring your own if you have one.

WeemProgram2015.indd 27 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

4:00 – 5:15 PM

The Transgender Evolution
Jacquiline Perry

Willow A

A study in social change for the Transgender Community, its supporters and family.The program includes examples of personal and political achievement as well as a spectrum of conditions in today's social environment.

Gas Jets to Stratajets – The Grand Adventures you missed from the Mid-Twentieth Century
Kent Nebergall

Willow B

In the rush of technology from the 1930s to the 1960s, much is made of the technologies that we now take for granted – television, nuclear power, hybrid cars, airliners. But hidden from view and the history books were grand adventures and incredible inventions lost to history. A 300 man nuclear powered base under the Greenland ice cap in 1960. Massive rovers crossing the frozen wastes with tons of cargo. An engineering effort at "the end of the earth" on the scale of the Panama Canal, yet done in secret and begun in a few months. Come see the future that once was.

Timey Wimey Stuff
Fraser Sherman

Michigan B

There have been more than 400 movies and 100 TV series dealing with time travel. Using time travel in a film poses challenges ordinary film tales don't. Fraser Sherman will look at the difficulties, the recurring themes and some of the great (and not-so-great films) in the genre.

4:00 – 5:45 PM

LEGO Improv

Ravinia A

See PAAG or Tournament Room for details.

4:30 – 6:00 PM

The Agony and Ecstasy of Being A Digital Artist
Jim Plaxco

Birch

This presentation takes the audience on a visual A wide ranging discussion of the various challenges that confront the digital artist. From the differences between digital and traditional painting to the rewards of operating in a new, rapidly evolving medium, this lecture is a first person look at the evolution of the digital medium and how one artist copes with its unique challenges.

WeemProgram2015.indd 28 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Creating Your Career Mobility
Randine Holloway

Michigan A

Are you looking to advance your career? Are you wondering what it takes to stand out in your organization? Are you looking to enhance your leadership skills? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this presentation is for you. I will teach you the skills you need to stand out as a leader in any organization.

5:30 – 7:30 PM

Dinner Break

Like the last several years, there will be no dinner served on Saturday, but you won't have to go far for a great meal. The hotel is situated near Wheeling's "Restaurant Row," well-known locally as a mastication destination. A list of area restaurants is available on the WeeM site under the hospitality tab. Light snacks will be available.

6:00 – 7:45 PM

Poker Tournament

Ravinia A

Details available in the tournament room

7:30 – 8:45 PM

The Epicurean Experience
Kim and Joel Kohler

Ravinia A

In honor of WeeM's 40th anniversary, we're featuring a selection of items that also first hit the scene in 1975. Come Trick or Treat through our 40-year-old candy display! Have some 40-year-old breakfast! Relive the 40-year-old Pepsi Challenge! This event is ALCOHOL FREE, so anyone not wearing an "under 21" badge should visit before partaking of Pretentious Drinking and show us your PD ticket (You can keep it.) Please note: we aren't serving a meal, just samples and sips, so come for curiosity, not dinner.

8:00 – 8:30 PM

Movie Mash-Ups
Robert W. Finnegan

Ravinia A

See PAAG for details.

8:30 – 10:30 PM

Pretentious Drinking
Alan Baltis and his Merry Band of Pourmeisters

Ravinia C-F

Liqueurs. The fancy stuff. Polished, cosmopolitan, perhaps even a bit snooty. The stuff you graduate to from beer and wine. You'd like to know more but,

WeemProgram2015.indd 29 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

8:30 – 10:30 PM Cont'd.

gosh, look at that price. What if that pricey potion isn't quite the palate pleaser you expected? Rejoice! As in years past, you can sample some truly amazing liqueurs—and your money's no good. Details are included in your registration package. We will supply a wide range of weird and wonderful concoctions from around the world. You can determine which you'd like to own, which should be left on the shelf, and which you should give to your arch-nemesis as a "thoughtful" gift. Obviously, you must be of legal drinking age to join us. Snobbish accents and extended pinkies optional.

8:30 – 10:00 PM

Really Odd & Special 4
Robert W. Finnegan

Birch

More rare & interesting video shorts such as an animated take on the consequences of transporters, a housewife pulls a string from her sink, and making music by hitting things on sidewalks.

9:00 PM – Midnight

Werewolves of WeeM
Elm

Details available in the tournament room.

10:00 PM – Midnight

MOVIE: Avengers: Age of Ultron
Bob Finnegan

Birch

Our favorite bunch of superheroes take on Tony Stark's out-of-control creation. Rated PG-13. Running time = 2 hours, 21 minutes. The best of the supplements will also be shown.

10:00 PM – Late

Dance
Botanic

11:00 PM – Late

Sing-Along
Clyde Forrester

Elm

Gather 'round for a sing-along! Folk, rock, blues, punk, show tunes—whatever you really love to sing. Feel free to bring a non-amplified instrument or just your voice. Clyde will bring an acoustic bass guitar and an electronic keyboard. Sing until you run out of songs, or, just sit and enjoy the music.

WeemProgram2015.indd 30 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

Yet another reminder: due to the timing for the program book preparation, any changes to the schedule will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance."

Sunday

8:30 – 10:30 AM

Breakfast
Hospitality

9:00 - 10:15 AM

Introduction to Cued Speech
Miriam Redleaf

Willow A

Cued speech makes all the phonemes of English visible to lip-readers. It is not ASL; rather, cued speech makes the sounds of English (or any spoken language) visible in real time.

The Airborne on D-Day
Robert Mueller

Michigan A

The Airborne on D-Day focuses upon the men of the US 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions who, in the early hours of D-Day, performed the most hazardous of military operations – the dropping of paratroopers – into enemy territory – at night. The hour-long presentation briefly reviews the reasons for selecting Normandy as the invasion site and the critical role played by American Airborne forces in its successful outcome. We focus upon off-target (and frequently lost) individual paratroopers, who denied the German force the ability to counterattack the American amphibious landings. The capture of the key French towns of Ste-Mère-Église and Carentan are presented.

9:30 - 11:00 AM

Amazing Race - WeeM Style
Jill Sackett

Michigan B

Back for a third year, Amazing Race for Mensans is The Place To Be on Sunday morning! Based on the popular TV show, teams of 2-4 competitors complete a variety of cerebral and/or light-hearted tasks on the way to the final "Pit Stop" and victors' bragging rights. Our version is designed for all ages and activity levels; no prior knowledge of the game is needed. Please see details and sign up in advance on the Amazing Race tournament sheet to secure your spot. Not on a team? No problem; we'll get you on one. Close out the weekend with over 30 of your fellow Mensans with a ton of fun!

WeemProgram2015.indd 31 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

10:00 – 10:45 AM

CAM Board Meeting
Elm

10:00 – 11:30 AM

An All-Female Society?
Lance Erlick
Birch

Come join a lively discussion. Where might an all-female society make sense? What would it take to create a self-sustaining all-female society? How would an all-female society differ? The speaker has created an all-female society for his *Regina Shen* series of novels. What has he gotten right? Wrong?

11:00 – 11:30 AM

Time to check out of your hotel rooms.

11:00 – 11:45 PM

Poppycock and Tish-Tosh Tournament
Ravinia A

See tournament room for details.

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Knitting in Public
Carol Metzger
Ravinia

Bring your yarny or other portable toys to Hospitality and Play Well With Others. All crafts welcome, if they can be done from the Comfy Chair.

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Le Roman de Fauvel: A Horse Is a Horse--or Is He?
Kerri-Ellen Kelly
Michigan A

Le Roman de Fauvel is a satirical poem from the early 14th century that was turned into an elaborate illuminated manuscript with narrative text, paintings and accompanying music both monophonic and polyphonic. It tells the story of an evil horse named Fauvel, his tenure over man in a reversal of man's dominion over beasts and his search for love and security. This program will explore the story and manuscript as well as listen to a selection of live and recorded music from Le Roman de Fauvel.

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Awards and Announcements
Hosted by Heather Booton
Ravinia C/D/F

Find out who did and won what this weekend.

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Home Cheesemaking
Mark Lyons

Willow A

Mark teaches aspiring gardeners how to grow more and better vegetables. As a home cheesemaker, Mark makes his own cheese and teaches others how to do likewise.

Richard Feynman: Surely You're Joking
Bruce Watson

Willow B

Feynman was best known as a Nobel Prize winner in physics, but readers of his books, especially "Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman," know him for his lifetime of many great adventures. There will be no physics here -- instead we'll explore the delightful personality of the most curious, clever, mischievous character you could ever hope to meet, including some interesting stuff that wasn't in SYJMF.

12:30 – 2:00 PM

A Book Discussion of Moby Duck
Steve Metzger

Elm

Moby Duck: the True Story of 28,000 Bath Toys Lost at Sea and of the Beachcombers, Oceanographers, Environmentalists, and Fools--Including the Author-- Who Went in Search of Them, by Donovan Hohn.

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Proctored Tests
Willow

Not a member yet? Here's your chance to qualify.

3:15 PM – Later

Anyone with time to spare?
Just about everywhere

Time to clean up! Please pitch in and give us a hand. If you volunteer, you **may** go home with some unused food or beverages, but you will **definitely** go home with our thanks, and a collectable volunteer pin.

WeemProgram2015.indd 33 10/27/2015 8:14:09 AM

Presenter Biographies

Terry Alan Abrahamson

In the Belly of the Blues (Fri.)

Grammy-winning songwriter. He is a 2014 inductee into the Chicago Blues Hall of Fame. Terry's work has been presented by the Smithsonian Institution, among others, and it part of the permanent collections of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the Blues Hall of Fame, the Delta Blues Museum, and Willie Dixon's Blues Heaven Foundation Museum in Chicago.

Alan Baltis

Comic Book Movies: The Golden Age! (Sat.)

Alan Baltis is an alpha geek, an app/website/database developer, consultant, author, & speaker. He's also a collector, with tens of thousands of comic books, magazines, books, puzzles, & games. He's in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" for having hugged 833 people in an hour, a world record at the time. He won on Jeopardy in 2013. Email him at alanbaltis@thesmartlife.com, or friend him on Facebook!

Barbara Barnett

The Many Faces of Sherlock Holmes (Sat.)

Barbara is publisher and executive editor of *Blogcritics* Magazine, as well as an entertainment writer. Author of *Chasing Zebras: The Unofficial Guide to House, M.D.*, her primary beat is primetime television, and she has interviewed actors, producers and writers of numerous hit television series. Barnett is working on what she hopes will be her first published novel, which, indeed, has its own Holmes connection.

Robert Berend

Ask the Sexologists (Fri.)

Robert has a Ph.D. in human sexuality and has lectured to Mensa about 100 times in the last 30 years on sexuality, and on investing and financial planning. He has studied sex academically for 40 years. He's a member of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists, as well as the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. You can submit your questions in advance to him at Robert@askthesexologist.com.

Millicent Bliesener

Hypnosis Stage Show (Thur.)

Millicent earned her master's degree at U of I-Springfield, where she was a member of the Chi Sigma Iota counseling honor society. She has since earned her license, and has helped people address a variety of concerns, including addictions, trauma, rape survival, suicidal thinking, domestic violence, child abuse, and marital/family concerns. She is certified as a divorce mediator and a hypnotist.

Diane Bolash & Nancy Mitzen

The Pollinator Challenge (Fri.)

Diane holds an Illinois Master Gardener certificate and is a professional speaker, gardener and environmentalist. Nancy holds an Illinois Master Gardener certificate and is an avid gardener and beekeeper. Nancy holds an Illinois Master Gardener certificate and is an avid gardener and beekeeper.

WeemProgram2015.indd 34 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Dave Cahn

Make your own paracord bracelet (Sat.)

Dave Cahn is American Mensa's first elected National Ombudsman. He has been a member of Metropolitan Washington Mensa since the mid-1970's and served there as ombudsman. A "recovering attorney," Dave is an experienced mediator and arbitrator. Dave also coordinates the ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution) SIG.

Arthur Cartwright

Automotive Apps/Thermoelectric Materials (Fri.)

Art Cartwright began pursuing his PhD at Clemson University's International Center for Automotive Research in Greenville, SC, shortly after retiring from the Air Force. He is a lifetime member of Mensa and a self- proclaimed Regional Gathering junkie.

Jason Catena

Make Your Own Paracord Bracelet (Sat.)

As Den Leader, Jason regularly teaches Cub Scouts to make paracord bracelets. He also often makes them for and with friends' children.

Cynthia Clampitt

How Corn Changed Itself / Everything Else (Fri.)

Cynthia Clampitt is a writer and food historian. She has pursued her love of culture, history, and food in thirty-seven countries on six continents, but has more recently focused her studies on the American Midwest. She is the author of *Midwest Maize: How Corn Shaped the U.S. Heartland*. She has also written more traditional history and geography for every major educational publisher in the U.S.

Trevis Crane

Shinkendo Demonstration (Sat.)

Sensei Trevis Crane has taught Shinkendo and Bojutsu with the Sojokan Dojo through the Arlington Heights Park District since 2009.

Matt Crawford

Scotch Tasting, Randon Topic (Thurs., Sat.)

Matt earned an undergraduate degree in Applied Math, which included a lot of learning of stochastic (random) processes. His PhD thesis was on quantum statistical mechanics. His only slightly less formal education in whisk(e)y began at a banquet in Edinburgh, where he also made the acquaintance of a haggis.

Crazy Shades of Blue

An Improvised Comedy (Sat.)

Crazy Shades Of Blue is an Improv Comedy troupe from the Chicago suburbs performing in a similar fashion to "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" Other troupe members: Lee Furnish, Sue Pontarelli, Jon Corso, Jeff Quaglia, Mike Olifirowicz.

WeemProgram2015.indd 35 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Steve Davidson

Costume Parade MC (Sat.)

This is Steve's 2nd year of emceeing the Costume Parade.

Frank Dolinar

Sci Fi Aspects of Today's Sci. & Tech. (Fri.)

Frank is a consultant and software developer by trade and a science-fiction addict since childhood by lucky accident. He is the author of essays examining the history, trends, and implications of science & technology, and an enthusiastic amateur space nut. He is currently employed by IBM and is a Masters candidate in predictive analytics at Northwestern University.

Steve Duberchin

Learn the basics of Improv (Sat.)

Crazy Shades Of Blue is an Improv Comedy troupe from the Chicago suburbs performing is a similar fashion to "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

Lance Erlick

Writing/Publishing Sci Fi Thrillers (Sat.)

Lance Erlick likes to explore the mysteries of intriguing worlds with remarkable, often strong, female guides facing and overcoming adversity as they try to change their world. He writes science fiction thrillers, appealing to young adult and adult readers. He is the author of The Rebel series, and this year he released the Regina Shen series. Lance is also the author of short stories and novelettes.

Robert Finnegan

Several events, Fri. & Sat.

Bob Finnegan is an avid film buff with an impressive collection of documentaries and information on a wide range of topics. Favorites include illusions, animals, disasters, and especially movies and moviemaking, behind-the-scenes footage, and movie-star insights.

Beverly Flechsig

"Henry IV" - Group Reading (Sat.)

Beverly Flechsig serves Mensa of WI as its Proctor Coordinator. She also hosts monthly play readings and board-game marathons in the Milwaukee area. (CAM members are invited!) Her experience in the theater is limited to pianist and choir-director gigs for local and high school productions.

David Flora and Dave Stecco

Time Slips (Sat.)

David Flora and Dave Stecco are the hosts of the Blurry Photos Podcast, a weekly humorous look into the mysterious and unknown. Both have been active in the Chicago improv comedy scene for several years and bring their disparate knowledge and experience together with their comedy chops to produce an entertaining view on the shadowy topics of the world. Stecco worked in Antarctica once, and Flora has a ton of Legos.

WeemProgram2015.indd 36 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Clyde Forrester

Sing-Along (Sat.)

Clyde Forrester has been a Mensan for over 25 years. He comes from a long line of tinkerers and ne'er-do-well musicians, which led him to gravitate toward computers and music.

Sonja Foxe

Auteur Theory: Act II (Sat.)

Astrologer, Writer, Mensan, Obsessive. Currently, for want of a peer, the foremost Oxfordian in Chicago.

Timur Gareyev

Blindfold Chess Exhibition (Sat.)

Timur Gareyev is a chess grandmaster. He currently holds the rank of 7th highest rated chess player in the US and 167th in the world. He is known for playing blindfold chess, which is a form of play where a player has no sight of the chess board or the positions of the pieces on the board. Timur has participated in over 3,000 blindfold chess games, and has authored a Chess Tactics workbook called *C.A.T. Tactics*. He's working on a new book titled *Zen and the Art of Blindfold Chess*. More information can be found at his websites www.blindfoldking.com and www.timurchess.com.

Fiona Gierzynski

The Changing World of Publishing ... (Thur.)

My first romance novel was published in 2009, and my 15th novel was published this year. My books are with two different e-publishers, and along the way I joined EPIC (Electronically Published Internet Coalition). It's exciting to be a part of this industry while it's in such a state of flux.

Geraldine Haller

Learning Styles/Differentiating Instruction (Sat.)

Dr. Haller's experiences include being a Principal, an Assistant Principal, and an Instructional Trainer for teachers. She has also presented various areas of curriculum at workshops for many Colleges, Universities, School Districts, and Organizations throughout the U. S. Her school was the number one school in the U. S. in growth, gaining at least 15 percentile points each year. In 2004 she was honored by Northeastern University as the Outstanding Educator of the Year.

Catrina Hays

CardioFunk Exercise (Sat.)

Catrina has participated in this workout class for over a year. A former perpetual exercise avoider, this class has inspired her to workout three to four times weekly and to gain new appreciation for endorphins.

Len Hiznay

Why is Outstanding Customer Service So Rare? (Fri.)

Len is a veteran of manufacturing, service, and retail industries as well as a small business owner. An award winning speaker with Toastmasters International, he presented a webinar on "Customer Service" for Rasmussen College's Celebration of Small Business Week.

WeemProgram2015.indd 37 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Randine Holloway

Creating Your Career Mobility (Sat.)

Randine Holloway is an Account Manager at a logistics company in Woodridge, IL. She received her B.S. in Operations Management from DeVry University and went on to get her M.B.A. from Keller Graduate School of Management. She is seeking an opportunity to teach others the knowledge and skills that she acquired. Randine currently serves as the Vice President of Education for the Woodridge Toastmasters and recently acheived Toastmaster of the Year. She has over 10 years of speaking experience in a variety of subjects and styles.

Dayna Johnson

Can't Live With 'Em ... (Sat.)

Dayna Johnson is a Commercial Manager for GE. Prior to starting at GE, she worked for a number of years as a civil engineer in the water and wastewater industry. Her time in male-dominated industries has spurred her passion for the topic of gender differences. Dayna is active in the Society of Women Engineers, currently serving as Senator for Region H. She is also an active member of Toastmasters. She has a BS in Civil Engineering and a Master of Engineering Management from Valparaiso University.

Wayne Johnson

A History of Violence (Fri.)

Dr. Wayne A. Johnson is an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator of the Law Enforcement and Justice Administration, Forensic Science Programs at Harper College. Prior to that he was a suburban Police Chief after serving as the Chief Investigator for the Chicago Crime Commission. He has authored and co-authored articles in Law Enforcement and Education, most notably "A History of Violence."

Teri Karl

Understanding Your Dreams (Fri.)

Teri is a student, teacher, and assistant director at the Bolingbrook School of Metaphysics. She was the Dream Awareness Coordinator for 2 years and teaches the Dreams Short Course at Joliet Junior College, as well as assisting with the annual National Dream Hotline, weekly online dream webinars, and monthly DreamCatchers on Meetup.com.

Kerri-Ellen Kelly

Thrift Store Costuming (Sat.)

Kerri-Ellen Kelly is many things: independent researcher, renaissance singer, certified hypnotist, historical & cosplay costumer, renaissance dancer, cook, & artisan/crafter. In real life, she works for lawyers preventing conflicts of interest, managing records & files and opening new clients and matters.

Joel and Kim Kohler

Epicurean Experience (Sat.)

Kim and Joel are married. She is a Senior Manager in IT. He is a Domestic Engineer. Their kids are great, but are the cause of many interesting mental... aberrations in their parents.

WeemProgram2015.indd 38 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Peter Kraus

Preventing and treating Alzheimer's (Fri.)

As a result of having spent too much time pulling weeds in his mother's rural meadow, Peter contracted Lyme disease, which he is glad to report is now in remission. During the process of investigating Lyme, he found scientific evidence that it is connected to Alzheimer's, and that this provides a strategy for the prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's.

Candace Love

No More Narcissists! (Sat.)

Dr. Love received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the Wright Institute. She worked as a research associate at Center for Health Improvement and Prevention Studies at the University of California San Francisco. Dr. Love has been an author of empirical articles in medical journals, and is founder and president of North Shore Behavioral Medicine, with offices in Chicago and in Grayslake.

Mark Lyons

Home Cheesemaking (Sun.)

Mark has combined his zeal for vegetable gardening, home cheesemaking, and musical entertainment into a rather unique career. As a home cheesemaker, Mark makes his own cheese and teaches others how to do likewise. Mark, as one half of the duo of Mark and Jean, delivers a rollicking musical montage with a high-energy performance that will leave you and your family with a song in your heart, laughter in your belly, and a smile on your face!

Jim Lyttle

Using Humor to Challenge Rigid Positions (Fri.)

Jim is a life member who studied philosophy and psychology at Canadian universities and now teaches at the Univ. of Minn. He is also a freethinker who has done research on the effective and responsible use of humor in persuasion for 20 years. He has presented on this topic at many events including RGs and AGs. He likes to call himself a secular humorist.

Ralph Martire

Poor Tax Policy/Illinois' Fiscal Problems (Thur.)

Ralph Martire is executive director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability. He has served on the U.S. Department of Education Equity and Excellence Commission. He is a lecturer on public policy for Roosevelt University. Ralph has received numerous awards for his work on education policy reform. He serves on the School Board of River Forest D90. Ralph is also a regular columnist on education, fiscal and economic policy.

Carol F. Metzger

Social Crafting (Sun.)

I'm an artist with a Biochemistry degree. At this writing, it is machine knitting that is sucking my brain, but I am a serial monocraftist. My next challenge will be teaching myself how to use the electronic knitting machine after thirty years of punchcard programming. Ask me anything about crafts. If I don't know, I know how to hunt it down.

WeemProgram2015.indd 39 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Steve Metzger

A Book Discussion of *Moby Duck* (Sun.)

Retired Librarian – I have coordinated Futures and Fantasies, the local Science Fiction SIG, for at least 20 years. We mostly do book discussions.

Robert Mueller

The Airborne on D-Day (Sun.)

During his long career as an executive with an international corporation, Robert developed a love of travel and an enthusiasm for visiting historic locations and battlefields. He wrote *Fields of War: Fifty Key Battlefields in France and Belgium*, and *Fields of War: Battle of Normandy*. Robert holds advanced degrees in physics from U. of I. and in bus. admin. from Lake Forest College. He served in the US Army and is a member of the Midwest Writers Association, Chicago Writers Association, and the Military Writers Society of America.

Jennifer Murtoff

The Highly Sensitive Person: Overview (Sat.)

Jennifer grew up hearing "You're too sensitive/softhearted/easily rattled/emotional/etc." from friends, family, and college roommates. In her mid-30s, she came to realize she is not "too" anything; she is a highly sensitive person. Self-discovery has been an enlightening and healing part of her journey, and she shares her experiences with others with the goal of helping others in understanding and loving themselves.

Kent Nebergall

Gas Jets to Stratajets (Sat.)

Kent has spoken at space conference and science fiction conventions for 12 years, and has won two international spacecraft design competitions. He worked on the Mars Desert Research Station Crew 32 as astronomer in 2004 and returned in 2012 as commander of crew 124. In researching this talk two years ago, Kent was surprised to learn he was more connected to the story of these grand adventures and inventions than he realized.

Gerald Pearson

Medieval/Renaissance Woodwind Instruments (Fri.)

I started teaching myself to play recorders in 1962, while working on my PhD in physical chem. In the late '70s,I played many different medieval & Renaissance woodwinds in concerts at the University of Iowa. Since 2008, I've performed as a street minstrel at Renaissance faires. I am a member of both the American Recorder Society and the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), and I play music for dances in the SCA.

Jacquiline Perry

The Transgender Evolution (Sat.)

Five term president of the Chicago Gender Society, a transgender support and education organization open to all. A member of the Human Rights Campaign for 25 years with one term on the Board of Governors. Volunteered at The John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago for seven years.

Jim Plaxco

Two talks on Algorithmic Art (Sat.)

WeemProgram2015.indd 40 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Jim Plaxco is a digital artist creating art in multiple forms and styles, including abstracts, algorithmic, astronomical, and generative. Most of Jim's art is created using software of his own design, and has appeared in textbooks, been used as cover art, and has even flown in space. Jim is a frequent lecturer on astronomical art, digital art, and space art.

Maya Ramirez

Cats Indoors - or Else! (Sat.)

BA in Criminal Justice UICC 1986, MS in Library & Information Sciences, Dominican University 2012. Wife and Mom. Veteran CPD cop, TreeKeeper #467. Former Master Gardener and tai chi instructor.

Miriam Redleaf

Intro to Cued Speech (Sun.)

Miriam is an ear doctor, and working with hearing impairment is one of her jobs.

Brian Reeves

You Can Get Anything You Want (Fri.)

Brian Reeves has had a varied career. He began as a lawyer, served on the bench (deciding divorce cases), co-owned an international adoption agency, and is now a mediator. He has written about and frequently speaks about negotiation techniques. Brian is American Mensa's former Communications Officer and former Secretary.

Ryan Ruffati

Professional Printers are Your DIY Resource (Sat.)

I have been a graphic designer for over a decade. I work with professional printers every day acquiring quotes and getting the best prices for my clients. I want to share what I have learned with others so printed materials can be an asset to sharing what they love.

Jill Sackett

Amazing Race (Sun.)

Jill is an Amazing Race fan, avid gamer, and occasional event-planner who's back for a third year of planning whimsical and cerebral challenges for her fellow Mensans. She is joined by a terrific team of fellow Amazing Race fans to help execute this annual event.

Marie Salvaggione

Cybercrime (Sat.)

Marie Salvaggione has just graduated from SNHU graduate school with a Master's of Science in Forensic Accounting. She is a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and is currently working on fulfilling the requirements to become a certified fraud examiner. She has been an accountant for 13 years.

John Scanlon

First Complete Reading of Milton's *Lycidas* (Fri.)

I like puzzles, and the greatest puzzle I've ever encountered is John Milton's Lycidas. My college Milton Professor, Martin Evans of Stanford, was the world expert on the poem, and he

WeemProgram2015.indd 41 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

admitted during a class I took from him that no one had figured it out yet. I'm not an academic, just a smart guy who likes puzzles - but you knew that! I'm a Mensan!

Fraser Sherman

Timey Wimey Stuff (Sat.)

Fraser has written three film reference books, and is currently working on a fourth, about time travel on screen, due out in 2016.

Daniel P Smith

The Path to On the Job (Fri.)

Award-winning journalist Daniel P. Smith wrote *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*, a book inspired by Smith's roots in a Chicago Police family. A noted speaker, Smith has appeared on WGN-TV, Chicago Public Radio, Fox News, WGN Radio, and the History Channel.

Kenneth Smith

Illinois: Like 41 Other States/Gifted Mandate (Sat.)

Author of 5 currently selling books on gifted education. Board member Gifted Child Today Journal. 28 years teaching gifted in Illinois.

Gary Smith

Street Vendor Quiz Competition (Fri.)

Gary ran Quiz Bowls at Halloweem for a number of years. Also ran them at other RGs and at a St. Louis AG.

Jonathan & Susan Stoltze

Mystery Shopping (Thur.)

Jonathan is a Physics and Computer teacher at Fossman High School in Chicago. Susan is between jobs as an office manager. They have been mystery shoppers for almost five years.

Lisa Taylor and Liz Deitemyer

Seashells to Shiny Bells: Horns (Fri.)

Lisa Taylor and Liz Deitemyer are professional French Horn players in Chicago. Their degrees are from Peabody Conservatory, New England Conservatory, and Indiana University. They perform in a variety of settings, from classical orchestras to rock and jazz bands. Lisa also has degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology.

Catherine Tully

Ballet: A Closer Look (Fri.)

Catherine L. Tully is the Owner and Editor of 4dancers.org, a blog about dance. She has served as the Outside Europe Representative for the National Dance Teachers Association in the UK, and has been involved with dance for over 40 years as an educator, writer, performer, photographer, choreographer and classroom instructor. She has taught dance for over 28 years.

WeemProgram2015.indd 42 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

Morgan Vogt

Create Your Own Halloween Mini-Album (Sat.)

Morgan Vogt has been preserving her own memories for over 15 years and has been teaching scrapbooking classes of all kinds as a Close To My Heart consultant for over six years. She currently teaches a variety of paper crafting classes for all experience levels and regularly posts artwork on her blog in the hopes of inspiring others to create.

Paul David (PD) Wadler

Principles for Successful Relationships (Fri.)

Dr. Wadler is a clinical psychologist in Chicago working to help people have healthier and happier relationships. He holds an MDiv from Harvard and a PhD from the University of Texas as well as a post graduate degree in psychopharmacology. He works with all different kinds of couples and specializes in same-sex couples.

Bruce Watson

Richard Feynman: Surely You're Joking (Sun.)

Bruce Watson is a technical writer and longtime Chicago Mensa member who never would've danced with a llama if not for reading Feynman's book SYJMF.

Marc Wolfe

You Have Rights... (Sat.)

Successful trial attorney, primarily in the state of Illinois. A member of the Illinois State Bar Association Criminal Justice and Bench and Bar Section counsels as well as Corrections and Sentencing. Has tried numerous criminal trials as well as civil trials and fancies himself as a protector of the Constitution and your rights as individuals to be free from the overreaching of "The Man."

Mike Wolstein

Return of the Vinyl Junkie (Sat.)

Mike began enjoying and collecting popular records in 1960. He became interested in "hi-fi" equipment in the early 60s, and is presently retired from a 40+-year career in electronics engineering.

Dale Woods

Active Ally to a Member of Any Minority (Sat.)

BS Michigan Sate Univ, MS Nortwestern Univ. Fellow of the Society of Actuaries; 25 years as a consulting actuary. America's Co-Chair of LGBT Employee Resource Group of International Fortune 1000 Company.

Very Special Thanks to:

Fellow Mensan Jimmy Sun, of **Sunrise Digital**, 5915 N. NW Hwy., Chi., 60631 (www.sunrisedigital.us, 773-792-8880), for the best printing service we've ever had.

WeemProgram2015.indd 43 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM

HalloweeM 40

is brought to you, with pleasure, by

Chicago Area Mensa's
WeeM Team

WeeM Chair, Hotel Liaison ..... Heather Booton
Ottoman ..... Erin Westphal
Program Chair .....Laceé Hudec
Hospitality Chairs . Susan Woodill, Rhonda Peek
Beverages & Program Book.....Dave Gudjonis
Game Warden .....Ed Barta
Volunteer Coordinator.....Kenya Hitchens
Volunteer Coordinator .....Megan Bratkovich
Vendor Coord/Liaison ..... Rae Goodman
Registrar..... Bill Slankard
On-Site Registrar..... Lisa Slankard
Treasurer/Room Matching.....Allison Reeves
Children's Program .....Kim Kohler
Decorations, and the above ..... Joel Kohler
Tournaments.....Deb Johnston
Book Sale Chair..... Teresa & Robert Little
AV Chairs ...Craig Logan & Damian Christianson
T-Shirt Coordinator ..... Margaret Lynn
Photographer ..... John Muellner
Webmaster.....Barb Pohl
Trucking Coordinator..... Joe Remes
Awards Chair.....Lisa Slankard
Logo Design & Pins..... Robin Crawford
Pretentious Drinking.....Alan & Colleen Baltis
Publicity ..... Jeudi Juetten
Excursions.....Cynthia Clampitt
Costume Contest MC .....Steve Davidson
Pretentious Music.....Angela Salvaggione
Email Aliases..... Stacey Kirsch

These are the people who will be wearing blue badges. Please express any concerns, problems, or offers of thanks to them.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

WeemProgram2015.indd 44 10/27/2015 8:14:10 AM