

# Preliminary Confluence Schedule (as of 7/11/02)

## Friday

4:00pm

### The Whys and Hows of Alternate History

Fruma Klass, Tamora Pierce, Ian Randal Strock

*Alternate history has become quite popular over the last decade. What's its appeal? And what are the ground rules? What makes a good alternate history?*

5:00pm

### A Report from the Alpha Workshop

Paul Pence, Thomas Seay, Diane Turnshek

### Big Names -- Hal Clement

6:00pm

### The Book as an Erotic Object: Why Johannes Gutenberg Still Trumps Bill Gates

James Morrow, Kathy Morrow, Charles Oberndorf, Bud Sparhawk

### Reading -- Wen Spencer

### The State of the Art: SF, Fantasy, and Horror Short Fiction

Lawrence C. Connolly, David G. Hartwell, Mary Soon Lee, Paul Melko

7:00pm

### Reading -- Thomas Seay

### The Real Golden Age: SF in the 1950s

Ginjer Buchanan, Hal Clement, Stephen C. Fisher, William Tenn

### Sound Equipment and What to Do With It at Conventions (Demo and Workshop)

Pete Grubbs

### Is Technology Spoiling Fantasy?

Ginjer Buchanan, Alexis Gilliland, Tamora Pierce, Wen Spencer

8:00pm

### Concert -- Pete Grubbs

### Dulling the Edge: Are How-To Books and Workshopping Reducing SF to Formula?

Ginjer Buchanan, Fruma Klass, Mary Soon Lee, Susan Linville, Thomas Seay

*Brian Stableford calls SF the genre that resists formula. But how-to books often try to reduce everything to formula, and workshopping at its worst has some of the same effect. What effect is this having on the field, and how can it be avoided.*

### Reading -- Lawrence C. Connolly

9:00pm

### Literary Beer -- Mike Arnzen, Bud Sparhawk

### Got Them SF Blues

Tom Gressman, Pete Grubbs, Benjamin Newman

*Does Blues music (which focuses on suffering) and fantasy and science fiction (which focuses on imagination) share anything in common, other than hope? How are the Blues viewed/used in SF and vice versa (if at all)?*

### The Secret Sex Life of Birds and Other Tasty Tid Bits

Susan Linville

### Reading -- Marcos Donnelly

10:00pm

### Concert: Adam Selzer and his Maritime Band

## Saturday

9:00am

### Writing Exercises -- Robert Nansel, Diane Turnshek

*Bring a paper and pen and Bobby and Diane will lead you in writing exercises.*

10:00am

### Manuscripts, Agents, and Publishers (Oh, My): The Business End of Writing

Mike Arnzen, Ginjer Buchanan, Mary Soon Lee, Wen Spencer, Ian Randal Strock

### Kaffeklatsch -- Wen Spencer

### Reading -- Tamora Pierce

### It's the People, Stupid: Building "People" and Cultures

Susan Dexter, Susan Linville, Robert J. Sawyer, Bud Sparhawk, Sarah Zettel

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**11:00am**  
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**Dare to Be Fictional**

Juanita Coulson, James Morrow, Robert Nansel,  
Michael Swanwick, Sarah Zettel  
*Watch pros construct a future Hugo-winning story starting with plot, character, and milieu clues supplied in hermetically-sealed security envelopes (plus a few ideas from the audience). The envelopes have been locked in a safe in an abandoned warehouse guarded by jackals and the ghost of Philip K. Dick, and no panelist has seen their contents ... until now.*

**More Than a Book Buyer: The Role of the Editor**

Ginjer Buchanan, Kathryn Cramer, Ian Randal Strock

**One-Shot Filk**

**Reading** -- Mary Soon Lee

**12:00 noon**  
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**Concert** - Gary Ehrlich

**Kaffeklatsch** -- Alexis Gilliland, Ian Randal Strock

**Peer Reviews vs. Pure Reviews: The Challenge of Critiquing Books When Everyone Knows Everyone**

David G. Hartwell, Paul Melko, Kathy Morrow,  
Tamora Pierce  
*Is it possible to be a totally objective reviewer in a field where everyone knows everyone else.*

**The Toy Robotics Initiative: Where Robots Frolic**

Illah Nourbakhsh

**1:00pm**  
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**Concert: Ilk**

**Do We Still Need the Enlightenment? Science Fiction in the Age of Unreason**

Hal Clement, Marcos Donnelly, Laurie Mann, James Morrow, Charles Oberndorf

**Can You Make a Living Writing SF?**

Bud Sparhawk, Wen Spencer, Michael Swanwick,  
William Tenn

**Story Telling for Adults**

Alan Irvine

**2:00pm**  
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**Autographing** -- Robert J. Sawyer

**Concert** -- Andrea Dale

**Flogging a Dead Book: Do We Need Yet Another Remake of The Time Machine?**

John DeChancie, Susan Dexter, Stephen C. Fisher,  
Alexis Gilliland, Timothy E. Liebe

**Kaffeklatsch** -- Susan Linville, Sarah Zettel

**Radical Hard SF** -- Kathryn Cramer, David G. Hartwell

**Reading** - Michael Swanwick

**3:00pm**  
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**Guest-of-Honor Talk** -- Hal Clement

**4:00pm**  
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**Autographing** -- Hal Clement and Lawrence C. Connolly

**Resurrection or Just Getting By? The Present and Future of Buffy the Vampire Slayer**

Stephen C. Fisher, Charles Oberndorf, Thomas Seay,  
Sarah Zettel

**Concert** -- Steve Haug

**Serendipitous Discovery of Distant Gravitation Lenses with the Hubble Space Telescope**

Kavan Ratnatunga  
*A highlight of the Hubble Space Telescope Medium Deep Survey key project was our discovery of faint distant Gravitational Lenses. They represent a new cosmological tool to study our universe. Dr. Ratnatunga will also talk about Sir Arthur C. Clarke, who motivated him in his homeland of Serendip to go into astronomical research.*

**Kaffeklatsch** -- Ginjer Buchanan, Robert J. Sawyer

**Reading** -- Fruma Klass

**5:00pm**  
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**Autographing** -- Susan Dexter and Wen Spencer

**Concert: A Little R&R (Renee Alper and Ray Phoenix)**

**What's Happening with Horror? The State of Modern Horror**

Mike Arnzen, Lawrence C. Connolly, Alan Irvine,

# Preliminary Confluence Schedule (as of 7/11/02)

Paul Melko

*When people outside the field think about horror over the last 20 years, they think of Stephen King and Dean Koontz. But the horror field is much more diverse than this. The panel looks at recent horror.*

## From the Pulp to Post-Modernism: SF and Mainstream Techniques

John DeChancie, David G. Hartwell, Charles Oberndorf, Michael Swanwick  
*SF has closer connections to the mainstream than many think. Even in the early days, a number of SF writers were familiar with the likes of Hemingway or Joyce. The connection became more obvious in the 1960s, as the New Wave adopted mainstream techniques. And the connections continue today.*

Reading -- William Tenn

**8:00pm**

## Your Ticket to the Moon: The Artemis Project

Ian Randal Strock

Concert -- Mark Osier

**9:00pm**

Literary Beer -- David G. Hartwell, Michael Swanwick

Poetry Reading

**9:30pm**

Concert: Kenny Young and the Eggplants

Ed Logue, Gil Shuster, Kenny Young

## Sunday

**9:00am**

Writing Exercises -- Robert Nansel, Diane Turnshek  
*Bring a paper and pen and Bobby and Diane will lead you in writing exercises.*

**10:00am**

## Writing with the Net Up: Using Real Science in Science Fiction

Hal Clement, Kathryn Cramer, Marcos Donnelly, Robert J. Sawyer, Diane Turnshek

Reading - Sarah Zettel

**11:00am**

## Data Mining in 2002: Computers that Learn and What's Coming Next

Andrew Moore

## The Spirit if Not the Letter: An Appreciation of Peter Jackson's *The Fellowship of the Ring*

Kathy Morrow, Tamora Pierce, Michael Swanwick, Sarah Zettel

## SF&F Lyric Writing: So You Wanna Be Rhysling (Except for the Getting Killed Part)?

Andrea Dale, Gary Ehrlich, Randy Hoffman, Kenny Young  
*Want to write SF lyrics for an exiting tune? Or some lyrics for a song in a story you're writing? Our panel discusses the does and don'ts.*

**12:00 noon**

## In the Year 2050: Life, Science, and Everything in 50 Years

Hal Clement, Thomas Seay, Bud Sparhawk

Reading - James Morrow

## Beyond Harry Potter: A Look at YA Fantasy

Paul Melko, Paul Pence, Tamora Pierce

**1:00pm**

## Current Trends in AI: Part II

Andrew Moore, James Morrow, Robert J. Sawyer

Autographing -- Michael Swanwick and Sarah Zettel

## The Not-So-Gentle Art of Parody

John DeChancie, Alexis Gilliland, Randy Hoffman, Benjamin Newman, Mark Osier  
*What's the difference between parody, satire, and lyric alteration? Is there an art or skill to it? What will get you sued? What will get you punched in the schnoz?*

Reading - Mike Arnzen

**2:00pm**

## Dead Dog Filking

## Mary Shelly, the Mother of Us All

William Tenn