

🚀 Progress Report 1 🚀

As we relaunch **MediaWest*Con 39**, we remember all the reboots and re-imaginings of some of our favorite TV series and films. Some may be faithful to the originals, some may be completely different, and, well, some are more successful than others. *Star Trek, Star Wars, Battlestar Galactica, Batman, Spiderman, Lost in Space...* the list goes on. Everything old is new again! Come join us and rekindle, refresh, and rejuvenate your fannish interests!



MediaWest*Con 39 Relaunching May 24-27, 2019

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MediaWest*Con is the definitive gathering of SF/Media fandom, held each Memorial Day Weekend in Lansing Michigan.

MediaWest*Con is sponsored by *T'Kuhtian Press* as a celebration of the diversity of SF/Media fandom, run by fans, for fans, and is staffed entirely by volunteers. Programming is intended for an adult audience; we do not censor adult themes in panel topics or in the Art Show. We have no official guests. The name **MediaWest*Con** is a service mark of **MediaWest*Con**.

Membership

Apologies for the lateness in getting out a Progress Report. Info and updates have been available on the **MW*C** website (www.mediawestcon.org), Twitter (@*MediaWestCon*), and the **MediaWest*Con 39** event page on Facebook.

The membership deadline was extended to May 15.

If you received this PR you are a member. If you received this PR by mail, your membership number should be on the mailing label.

Pre-reg was even lower than last year, so we renegotiated the hotel contract and reduced function space in order to reduce **MW*C**'s financial liability. This seems a better option than cancelling or postponing the con.

This means there may be other functions and non-convention guests in the hotel during **MW*C 39**, so please be considerate.

Trimming the function space also means we cannot continue all the programming that we have traditionally had.

MediaWest*Con 39 will continue to have the Art Show & Auction, Dealers' Room, Costume Contest/Masquerade, Saturday Night Plays (if any are submitted), Fan Quality Awards, SF/Media Fan Fund, Con Suite (AKA Hospitality Suite), and up to three simultaneous tracks of panels. This year we will not be having a Fannish Video Room (although we will still show vids in the Con Suite), Fanzine Reading Room, Game Room, or Party Suite (given that it is no longer a problem for members to have rooms in the host hotel).

Obviously, this has not been an easy decision for us. We hope that membership picks up and we might be able to restore some things for next year.

We appreciate the continuing support of those who have assured us they want **MediaWest*Con** to continue and we are doing our best to "Make it so!"

We encourage members to continue to urge others to attend, and book rooms in the host hotel (which pays for the function space)!

The countdown continues to relaunch...

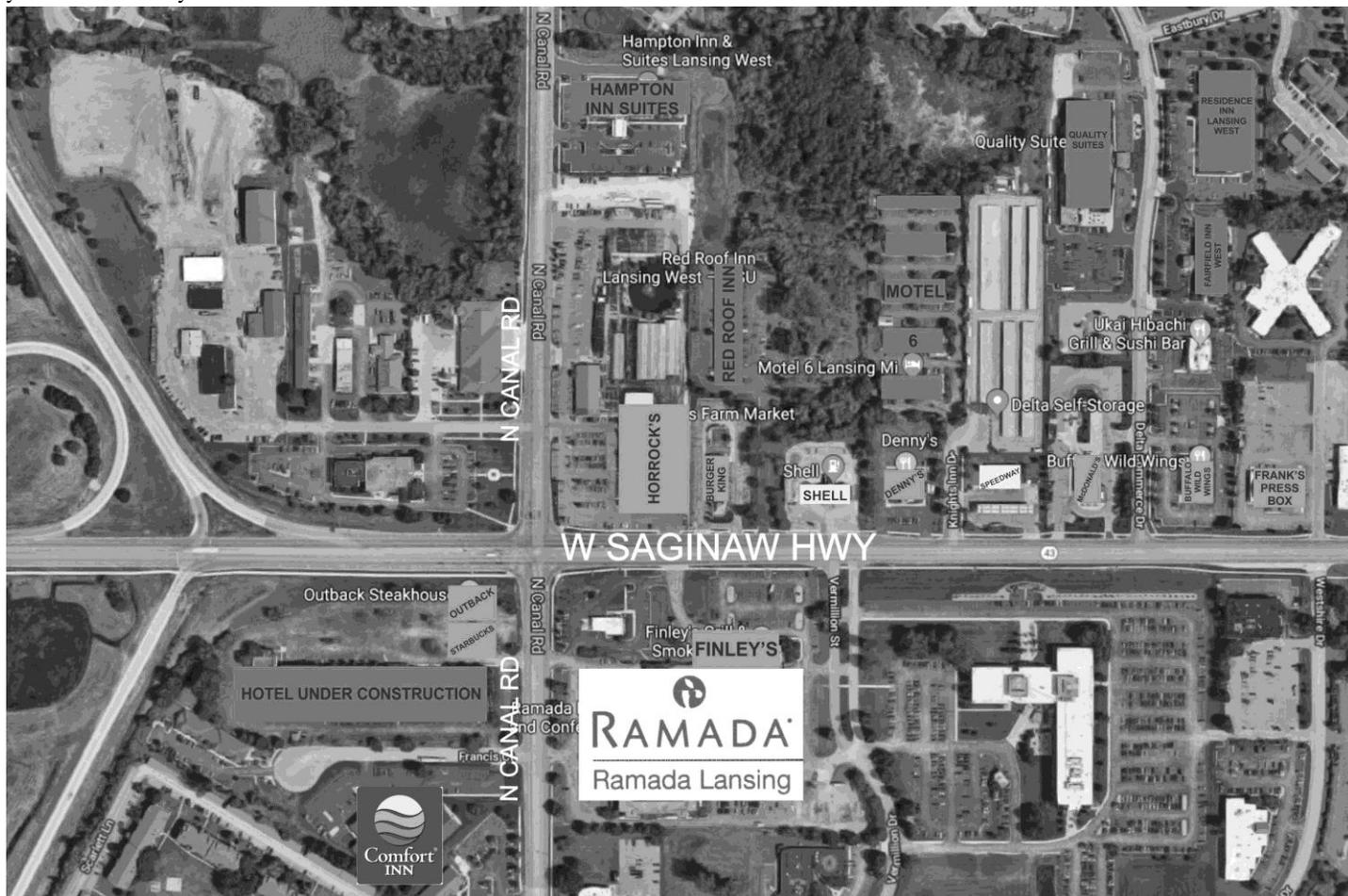
Host Hotel

We will once again be holding **MediaWest*Con 39** (May 24-27, 2019) at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center by Wyndham Lansing. (7501 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing MI 48917).

Ramada scored highest in most preferences in our online surveys (sorry, no room service, although there is Finley's restaurant attached to the hotel). In fact, no other local hotel came close!

The airport shuttle is complimentary.

Cost for shuttle outside a 5 mile radius will be \$30 round trip per shuttle load to same destination (not per person), so if you organize trips you can save money!



The location of the Ramada should be familiar to long-time **MW*C** members, as it was the original location for **T*Con** (1978), **2*Con** (1979), and **MediaWest*Con 1** (1981) through **11** (1991), first as a Hilton Inn and later as a Holiday Inn. It has gone through several owners and franchises since then, and is now a Ramada. The facility has also been expanded and remodeled since those days (and have continued remodeling since **MW*C 33!**). The Ramada is the second largest hotel in the greater Lansing area.

The Ramada has 244 sleeping rooms and 6 suites. **MW*C** will have plenty of rooms blocked for the con and we will use one of the suites for Con Suite. Check-in time is 3pm, check-out 12 Noon; there may be a fee for late check-out.

Ramada will host a Welcome Reception Thursday, May 23 in the lobby for those who arrive early.

The Ramada has a full-sized indoor pool and Atrium Recreation Center with sauna, whirlpool, and fitness center, free parking, free WiFi, a guest computer with internet access, and provides free continental breakfast for guests (this year will be in Delta Rooms instead of the pool area). Rooms have coffee makers, iron/ironing boards, hairdryers, and data port phones. Ramada is continuing to upgrade to flat screen TVs in guest rooms. Microwaves are available in some rooms, and by request.

The Ramada is close to the airport (6.3 miles), has free airport shuttle service, and will extend complimentary shuttle service to various destinations within a 5 mile radius (see above).

Pets are allowed, with a nonrefundable pet fee of \$40. Ramada may charge a \$100 fee if they are not informed of pets staying in a room at check-in. There will be a designated dogwalk area.

Posting flyers in the hotel with low-tack tape will be allowed in designated areas (lobby, pool area, and by elevators), and we will have a designated area for official **MW*C** postings. Members will be allowed to decorate their doors. As always, care must be taken not to mar any wallpaper, woodwork, etc..

There are also numerous restaurants, both fast food and sit-down, in the immediate area. Finley's American Grill is attached to the Ramada. Outback Steakhouse and a Starbucks are now open adjacent to the Hilton Garden Inn and retail center being built on the former Days Inn site next to

Ramada. Across Saginaw is Horrock's (fresh produce, groceries, antipasto and olive bar, and more), Burger King, Denny's, McDonald's, Ukai Hibachi Grill and Sushi Bar, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Frank's Press Box.

Across the highway (and accessible by foot via sidewalks and crosswalks) to the west is a large shopping center that includes a Wal-Mart, Cracker Barrel, Bob Evans, Steak N Shake, Staples, PetSmart, Lowes, Michaels Art Supply, Gander Mountain, and Tractor Supply. There is also a Dunkin Donuts/ BP station, McDonald's, Arby's, Bigby's Coffee, Menards, and Cancun Mexican Grill. Culver's is across the street.

There are several gas stations (including Shell, BP, and Sunoco) in the immediate vicinity, with a Speedway directly across the street.

Further to the East (in driving distance) is Carraba's, Red Robin, Krogers (groceries), Miller Animal Clinic, Walgreens, Subway, Dimitri's Restaurant, Jet's Pizza, FedEx Office, Lansing Mall (with food court), Applebee's, Golden Corral (buffet), Meijer (groceries and general goods), and Target (groceries and general goods), as well as many other fast food and sit-down restaurants, bank and credit union branches, and gas stations.

For those concerned with safety, the township police and fire departments are kitty-corner across the street.

*Yes, we realize "walking distance" is a relative term, so we have included the map above to show scale. The map is based on a satellite photo from Google Earth, and we have added blocks to highlight the locations of hotels, food, and gas outlets.

MediaWest*Con Staff Contact Info

Website: www.mediawestcon.org, E-mail: mediawestcon@aol.com, Phone/FAX: 517-372-0738

Mail: **MediaWest*Con 39**, 200 E. Thomas St, Lansing MI 48906-4047

Below are the folks in charge of the smooth operation of various MW*C departments. Please include a SASE with inquiries by mail. We will update individual department info below as necessary. If you have trouble contacting any of them (or any other problems), please let us know.

Co-Chairs -- Lori Chapek-Carleton & Gordon Carleton, e-mail: MediaWestCon@aol.com

Membership/Registration (records, data entry, onsite), Transportation — Lori Chapek-Carleton, as above

Communications (e-mail, publications, website), Data Output (membership badges, lists), Graphics (logo, T-shirt design) — Gordon Carleton, as above

Art Show -- Art Show Director: Gordon Carleton; Karen Klinck & staff will be running the Art Show under his supervision at the convention itself.

Plays -- c/o Gordon Carleton, as above

GoFers -- Jeanne Sullivan, GoFer Captain, 9230 2nd Ave SW #C624, Seattle WA 98106, e-mail: dragonjems@gmail.com

Con Suite/Video -- Jeanne Sullivan, as above

Programming -- Scott Clark, e-mail: mwcprogramming@gmail.com, <https://twitter.com/mwcprogramming>

Flyers -- Scott Clark, as above

SF/Media Fan Fund -- Laura Keeler-Britt, 22440 Dickenson Rd, New Boston MI 48164-9455, e-mail: laurabritt58@gmail.com

Dealers -- PRE-CON: Kim Vanderlaan, e-mail: dealers@mediawestcon.org; AT-CON: Jim & Brenda Gasahl, e-mail: gas1961jim@yahoo.com

Masquerade — Andre Lieven, 63 Bellman Drive, Ottawa ON Canada K2H 8S4; ph. 613/596-4546, e-mail: andreliieven@yahoo.ca

Security — Seth Cutts, 301 1/2 W. Grand River, Lansing MI 48906, ph. 517/482-8267

Hotel Liaison -- Carol Lynn, hotelliaison@mediawestcon.org; ph.313/885-5304

Door Decoration Competition -- Kim Dyer, e-mail: kimbus@aol.com



*MediaWest*Con and MW*C 39 display at Capital City Comic Con*

Rules

Programming at **MediaWest*Con** is conducted under the philosophy of IDIC (Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations); differences of opinion are to be expected, but personal attacks will not be tolerated.

Members are expected to conduct themselves in a civilized manner and treat each other respectfully. Inappropriate, dangerous, or disruptive behavior may result in revocation of membership to the current and/or future conventions.

Harassment in any form is unacceptable. Harassment includes offensive verbal comments, deliberate intimidation, stalking, uninvited following, unwelcome photography or recording, sustained disruption of discussions or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and continued unwelcome attention. Members who are asked to stop harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately. If you are being harassed by another member, or notice someone being harassed, please inform convention security or any **MW*C** staff person immediately. **MediaWest*Con** staff will work with the harassed person to handle the situation, and reserves the right to take any actions necessary to maintain **MediaWest*Con** as a safe space, up to and including, but not limited to, revoking the harasser's membership to the current and/or future conventions.

There is **NO SMOKING** (including vaping) allowed in the Ramada (including hallways, elevators, etc.); violators may be subject to a \$250 fine and possible eviction. There are designated smoking stands outside the entrances.

Convention functions are for the use of **MediaWest*Con 39** members only, and the convention reserves the right to refuse admittance to any non-member, other than hotel staff.

No memberships will be available at the door. Memberships are not transferable.

Anyone found carrying an illegal substance or weapon, acting in an unruly or obnoxious manner, or otherwise causing a disturbance, may have their membership revoked without refund, and be denied admittance for the duration of the convention and/or future conventions.

Simulated weaponry should be handled with discretion, and only inside the hotel. Edged weapons should remain sheathed (except as part of an authorized display or demonstration).

No pyrotechnics.

Pets are not allowed in the Art Show, Dealers' Room (except those belonging to Dealers), and the hotel restaurant. Limited temporary pet-sitting space may be available. GoFers/Security posted at doors to function rooms will not hold pets for members entering no-pet areas. Pets left in hotel rooms should be secured in crates, carriers, or other appropriate containers, both for their own safety and to facilitate housekeeping. Pets should be on leashes or under similar restraint in convention areas. Pets who become upset or unmanageable should be removed. Please keep pets toward the back, right-hand side of audience seating at all panels, etc. See the map on the back of the Program Book for designated dog-walk areas. Please pick up after your dog with the tools provided in these areas. Emergency clean-up materials will be available at **MediaWest*Con** registration, in case of accidents; also, hotel personnel will clean up accidents if you notify the front desk.

Anyone wishing to record **MediaWest*Con** panels or activities should indicate this intent at convention registration.

There will be no photography allowed in the Art Show or Auction.

Flyers: Flyers may only be distributed by **MediaWest*Con** members, or through **MediaWest*Con** staff (flyers from non-members may be sent c/o the **MW*C** address). Once again, everyone is asked to refrain from posting signs or putting out flyers until Thursday afternoon.

Official **MediaWest*Con 39** signs will be posted in a designated area. As soon as these signs are posted, flyers and signs may be placed in those designated areas.

Posting is limited to the designated areas, mainly the glass walls of the pool area across from the lobby and the window-walls across from, and leading to, the ballrooms. Stacks may be placed in the designated areas, though space will be limited. *Do not* post on wallpaper or any surface that might be damaged. Please remember that signs may only be posted on wood, glass, or metal, and only with low tack masking tape. A limited quantity of low-tack tape will be available at **MediaWest*Con** registration. Flyers attached with other tape, or in non-designated areas (such as wallpaper or painted surfaces), may be removed and disposed of. Also, due to the limited flyer space, everyone is asked to limit each of their flyers to one stack only.

Subject matter of flyers must be of general fannish interest ('zines, party announcements, cons, etc.), not of a personal nature, and be presented in a reasonably tasteful manner and free of profanity -- please remember that the general public can easily read flyers in public areas of the hotel. Please remove outdated flyers and signs promptly.

Flyers not in keeping with these guidelines will be removed and disposed of. **MediaWest*Con** is not responsible for the specific content or accuracy of any flyers.

Door decorations: Decorations must be on the doors only, not the areas surrounding the doors. You must use low-tack materials only (such as low-tack masking tape or Post-It products), nothing permanent or damaging (such as duct tape, 2 sided foam tape, or anything on wallpaper), and remove your door decorations before you check out.

Distribution of gummed stickers or labels is prohibited.

Please bring any violations of these rules to the immediate attention of **MediaWest*Con** security; there is very little we can do if we only hear about something months later.

Programming

E-mail: mwcprogramming@gmail.com

Twitter: [@mwcprogramming](https://twitter.com/mwcprogramming)

Planning Documents will be on Google Docs as available

Programming is determined by member input and participation. Programming is intended for an adult audience.

We will have up to three simultaneous program tracks in Ballrooms A, C, & D.

Thanks to everyone who suggested panel topics and/or volunteered to be on panels!

The **MW*C 39** schedule grid will be available online in PDF, as will the **MW*C 39** Program Book, for those with portable devices which can read PDFs.

Please check for updates on the official **MW*C** posting areas at the con.

Flyers

See the rules above for flyers. Non-attending members may send flyers to **MediaWest*Con**, 200 E Thomas St, Lansing MI 48906-4047. Please mark "FLYERS" on the outside of the package.

Plays

We provide the performance space, you provide the play. Casting calls may be listed in PRs and online. Gordon is hoping to reprise (and expand) his puppet play from **MW*C 35**, so is looking for volunteers to assist. Please let us know if you can help!

Fan Quality Awards

Due to lack of Fan Q nominations, there is no Fan Q ballot for this year and, therefore, no Fan Q awards at the con. Fan Q nominations for next year will be open as of June 1, 2019. There will be a panel to discuss increasing participation in the Fan Qs.

SF/Media Fan Fund

Once again, we received no nominations so there will be no ballot. There will be some silent auction items in the Art Show. Many thanks to all those who donated items. If you would like to donate an item or items, you can bring them (or send with a friend if you are not coming yourself) to the con. In either case, PLEASE let Laura Keeler-Britt know by e-mail what you are donating so that the paperwork can be completed beforehand. You can e-mail details of your item/s to laurabritt58@gmail.com (with subject line of Fan Fund). Thanks to all who donate.

Con Suite

The Con Suite is open to all **MW*C 39** members to sit, relax, snack, and sometimes watch trailers and videos. It also serves as GoFer HQ. There will be a Meet & Greet from 6pm to 8pm Friday.

GoFers

As always, we need more GoFers! Contact Jeanne (dragonjems@gmail.com) for GoFer info. You do not have to be a GoFer to volunteer to help at **MW*C**. Let Jeanne know if you want to put in some time to help out. We especially need help with set-up Thursday and take-down on Monday.

Dealers

Dealers Coordinators, Kim Vanderlaan (pre-con) and Jim & Brenda Gasahl (at-con) are busily preparing for **MW*C 39**. The Dealers Room will be in the American Room, the Ramada's largest single function room.

Masquerade

Masquerade, cosplay, costume call, fancy dress, call it what you will. Costumers complete on stage to the delight and amusement of audience members and the scrutiny of judges at 10pm on Saturday night. But have no fear, it's all very low-key and all for fun! Your creativity may also be rewarded with prizes, swag, or even cash -- \$100 (minimum) for best costume! Entry form is available online as well as at the con.

MediaWest*Con 39 T'Shirts

MediaWest*Con 39 T-shirts sport the **MW*C 39** mission patch logo printed in red and white on royal blue shirts, in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL. S-XL will be \$13 each, XXL-XXXL will be \$17 each.

Reserve yours today! Let us know what size to set aside for you (while they last) and pay when you pick it up.

We will also have tote bags for \$10 each -- dark blue with sun/moon/stars motif (three designs).

We hope to have Apocryphal T's, suitable for teddy bears and small creatures for \$5. Shirts are about 5" across flat.

We also have limited sizes and quantities of souvenirs from previous years at discounted prices.



MediaWest*Con Door Decorating

Kim Dyer will be overseeing the Door Decoration Competition.

Door decorating is a long time tradition at **MediaWest*Con**, it is easy and fun to do. If you haven't decorated your door before, this is a great year to try it!

Winner of the "Best In Show" award receives up to 2 free memberships for next year's convention!!

We will have a "MW*C Members Favorite" award! Paper will be provided for you to write down your favorite room number, place it in the "MW*C Members Favorite" Ballot Box (at registration) no later than 6pm Saturday and the winner will be posted around noon on Sunday.

Rules:

Registration will be required. Entry deadline is 6pm Saturday. Forms will be available at con registration. Judging will take place between 6pm Saturday and 3am Sunday. Overall judging will be based on the following criteria: Artistic Impression (pretty), Cleverness, Humor, Originality, Technical/Complexity, and Workmanship (neatness counts). Awards will be certificates of recognition and winner of "Best In Show" door will receive up to 2 free memberships to next year's convention.

General Info:

Approximate Measurements for Ramada Guest Room Doors (exposed surface when closed):

Total Height: 6'7"

Total Width: 2'11"

Doorknob/Lock Box: 1' high, inside edge starts 4 3/4" from outside edge

From top of Doorknob box to top of Door: 33"

From Bottom of Door to bottom of Doorknob Box: 2'8 1/2"

Peephole is centered about 1'8" below top of door.

Doors are veneer covered wood. Please use only low-tack tape, like blue painter's tape (preferred) or masking tape, to attach things to doors. Do not use Scotch tape, it may remove the finish from the door. Door frames are metal, made up of several pieces of stacked molding, consider using magnets to attach items to the door frames. Ramada has asked us to limit our decorating to the doors only. No walls next to the doors. No ceiling hanging anythings. Call it old school, call it a return to our origins, call it whatever you like but please respect their request so that we are allowed to continue to have a door decorating competition.



Program Book Ads

MW*C 39 Program Book member/fan ad rates are: \$35/full page (6"x7 1/2"), \$25/half page (5"x3 3/4" or 3"x7 1/2"), \$20/quarter page (3"x3 3/4"), plus \$2 if ad is not camera ready or needs to be reduced to fit the above dimensions. Classified ads are \$1 per line (72 characters per line). Please get ads to us ASAP.

We are also willing to exchange Program Book ads with other cons.

We are also always looking for thematic filler art (especially horizontal, con themed) for the Program Book.

Miscellanea

Let There Be Filk! Filker Tom Smith is coming to MW*C 39! www.tomsmithonline.com/

Smash Bros. videogame tournament on Saturday.

Swapmeet/Sell Panel -- Living a long life in fandom leads to quite a build-up of stuff, but if you're interested in some spring cleaning is there the panel for you! This year a Swap meet/Selling panel will be hosted! All collectables welcome!

@Kelly Lowrey will be hosting with a collection of cute, many cat themed, items -- but bring things you'd be interesting is passing on to other hands.

Old Laptops Wanted -- I'm looking for old laptops with internal 3.5" floppy drives. Must be in working condition. Any Windows operating system is fine (older versions actually preferred). If you've got such a thing and would like to see it go to a good home, please contact Liz Vogel at cyp62hrxy4@snkmail.com, or look for me at **MediaWest*Con**!

RPG -- We have been told the FOE will not be attending MW*C 39. If anyone would like to organize a roleplay event to fill the gap, please let us know!

Star Trek: Exploring New Worlds Exhibit at the Henry Ford Museum this Spring May 11-Sept 2, 2019

Another good reason to come to Michigan in May!

https://www.thehenryford.org/current-events/calendar/star-trek-exploring-new-worlds/?utm_source=thfcomm&utm_medium=em&utm_campaign