



# Renovation

The 69<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention  
 Reno, Nevada USA ★ August 17-21, 2011

*Guests of Honor*  
 Ellen Asher - Charles N. Brown  
 Tim Powers - Boris Vallejo

## Reno: The Perfect Worldcon City

### Christopher J Garcia

Reno is best known as ‘The Biggest Little City in the World’. It’s an interesting moniker, as Reno’s not all that little anymore. Somewhere around 350,000 people live in the Reno-Sparks metropolitan area, and they’ve got a TV show, *Reno 911*, based on the city. That’s not Little City stuff!

Our hotels are amazing. No other word for it. The Atlantis ([www.atlantiscasino.com](http://www.atlantiscasino.com)) is the party hotel, directly connected to the Convention Center. Restaurants, spa, swimming pool, the works. It’s luxury. The Peppermill ([www.peppermillreno.com](http://www.peppermillreno.com)) is also fantastic, just as comfortable

with a great staff and tons of dining options. The Courtyard by Marriott may not be a resort, but it’s a comfortable, non-smoking environment with a very reasonable price tag.

Reno’s the home of sweet, sweet gambling. The Silver Legacy, The Atlantis, Harrah’s, The Peppermill,

*(Continued on Page 3)*

### Registering for Renovation

Renovation memberships can be purchased via our website at [www.renovationsf.org](http://www.renovationsf.org), by post or in person at conventions where we have a presence. Our initial membership rates are shown below and are valid until 30 April 2010. All Voter and PreSupporter Discounts will expire on that date.

A membership form is included on

the back of this progress report and can be mailed to us at Renovation, PO Box 13278, Portland, OR 97213-0278. We regret that we can only accept postal memberships in US\$. All credit card charges will be processed in US\$.

Additional information is available from our website; alternatively, membership queries should be directed to us at

[memberships@renovationsf.org](mailto:memberships@renovationsf.org).

Attending memberships grant all voting, publication and attending rights for the convention. Supporting memberships grant voting and publication rights, but not the right to attend the convention. Supporting members can upgrade to an attending membership at any time by paying the difference between the rates. Child memberships are available for all children aged 16 or under on 17 August 2011 and will include around 8 hours

of free professional childcare for children aged 12 or under. Children aged 6 or under on 17 August 2011 may alternatively be registered free of charge as Kids-in-Tow but with no inclusive childcare.

Family memberships can be purchased for 2 adults and any number of dependent children aged 16 or under on 17 August 2011, for a price of US\$400 / CAD\$480 less any applicable voting / supporter discounts.

		Attending Membership Inscription pour la durée		Supporting Membership Inscription de soutien		Child Membership (Aged 0-16)	
Voted (US\$45 / CAD\$50)	Friend / RCF	YOU GOT IT					
	PreSupport	US\$75	CAD\$90	YOU GOT IT			
	Neither / Pas non plus	US\$85	CAD\$100	YOU GOT IT			
Did Not Vote	Friend / RCF	US\$50	CAD\$60	YOU GOT IT		YOU GOT IT	
	PreSupport	US\$130	CAD\$153	US\$40	CAD\$48	US\$65	CAD\$75
	Neither / Pas non plus	US\$140	CAD\$165	US\$50	CAD\$60	US\$75	CAD\$90

# Our Guests of Honor

**Ellen Asher** was the editor of the Science Fiction Book Club for thirty-four years and three months, thereby fulfilling her life's ambition of beating John W. Campbell's record as the person with the longest tenure in the same science fiction job. Now that she has retired, she amuses herself by sleeping late, meeting friends for lunch, and reading only books she actually enjoys. She also rides horses and takes ballet classes, and does about as well at both as you'd expect of a middle-aged editor who grew up in New York City. Her hobbies are growing things in flower pots on the window sill and not watching television. In 2001 she was the recipient of NESFA's Skylark Award, of which she is still inordinately proud. In 2007 she received a World Fantasy Award in the category Special Award: Professional for her work with the SFBC. Shortly thereafter she was made a Fellow of NESFA. And in April 2009, she became, in a minuscule way, a published author with a short essay in *Nebula Awards Showcase 2009*, edited by Ellen Datlow.



**Charles N. Brown** was Publisher & Editor-in-Chief of 29-time Hugo winner *Locus* magazine which he founded in 1968, and had been involved in the science fiction field since the late 1940s. He was the original book reviewer for *Asimov's*, edited several SF anthologies, and wrote for numerous magazines and newspapers. Also a freelance fiction editor for the past 40 years, many of the books he edited have won awards. He traveled extensively and was invited regularly to appear on writing and editing panels at the major SF conventions around the world, frequently as Guest of Honor and speaker and judge at writers' seminars, and served as a jury member for several of the major SF awards.

Charles N. Brown passed away on July 12th, 2009.

[www.locusmag.com](http://www.locusmag.com)

**Tim Powers** was born in Buffalo, New York, on Leap Year Day in 1952, but has lived in southern California since 1959. He graduated from California State University at Fullerton with a B.A. in English in 1976; the same year saw the publication of his first two novels, *The Skies Discrowned* and *Epitaph in Rust* (both from Laser Books).

Powers's subsequent novels are *The Drawing of the Dark* (Del Rey, 1979), *The Anubis Gates* (Ace, 1983, winner of the Philip K. Dick Memorial Award and the Prix Apollo), *Dinner at Deviant's Palace* (Ace, 1985, winner of the Philip K. Dick Memorial Award), *On Stranger Tides* (Ace, 1987), *The Stress of Her Regard* (Ace, 1989, winner of the Mythopoeic Award), *Last Call* (Morrow, 1992, winner of the World Fantasy Award), *Expiration Date* (Tor, 1996), *Earthquake Weather* (Tor, 1997), *Declare* (Morrow, 2001, winner of the World Fantasy Award), and *Three Days to Never* (Morrow, 2006). He is also the author of a collection of short stories, *Strange Itineraries* (Tachyon, 2005).

Powers has taught at the Clarion Science Fiction Writers' Workshop at Michigan State University six times, and has for many years co-taught the Writers of the Future Workshop.

Powers is married, and lives with his wife, Serena, in San Bernardino, California.



[www.theworksoftimpowers.com](http://www.theworksoftimpowers.com)



**Boris Vallejo** was born in Lima, Peru. Boris attended the National School of Fine Arts in his native country before immigrating to the United States in 1964.

He has since done a great volume of work for the Fantasy field, having worked for virtually every major publishing house with a science fiction/fantasy line. Boris has also illustrated for album covers, video box art and motion picture advertising.

His mastery of oil painting is immediately and abundantly clear to anyone who looks at his work, and his classic sense is as much an homage to the old masters as it is to anyone contemporaneously working in the Fantasy genre.

For sheer dauntless bravura, few have ever pushed the limits as does Boris with his beautiful maidens and fearsome monsters.

Vallejo and Julie Bell married in 1994 and share their lives and their studio in Pennsylvania.

[www.imaginistix.com](http://www.imaginistix.com)

# Only Shooting Stars Break the Mold

## Patty Wells

First I want to thank my bid committee who followed me out onto the range for this rollicking ride. We couldn't have put together a better team. Then we all must thank the infinitely talented people who have agreed to be our guests of honor. We couldn't be more honored by this guest line-up, bios of whom can be found elsewhere in this PR. Finally, we need to thank the wonderful people who have agreed to work on the convention so far. We will strive for an excellent Worldcon.

It turns out I don't write serious well. Silly, and on a good day, funny, but I don't write serious. Sadly, I'm forced to do just that as Charles Brown, editor of *Locus*, and one of our guests of honor, passed away peacefully in his sleep on July 12th. He had agreed to be a guest in a phone call with me a couple of months ago. He had been a part of this community for a great many years and made the huge contribution of *Locus*, among his many contributions to the field. He was one of us, and so genuinely touched to be honored in this way. We thought about this conversation after his passing, and after discussions, we have chosen to keep Charlie on as a GoH for Reno. Because he was

pleased by the invitation, I like to think he's in some fan heaven where he will appreciate his name and his contributions being honored. A friend of mine came up with a line that can't be beat, and is on our convention website. I will use it shamelessly:

*"He is as irreplaceable in death as he was in life, and we shall therefore continue to honor him."*

Charles Brown and *Locus* touch on the most important ideas we have for Renovation. We chose the theme New Frontiers in a discussion of what we love about the field. We love the mainstream of it, but we especially love the edges. What are the new ideas that come into play because someone has realized something isn't being done? How do these enhance science fiction and fantasy literature as we move further into a 21st century that is wilder than many envisioned. How does science fiction

outstrip a future that moves faster and with more twisty turns? How does this fit with the future of space exploration? Will we circle back to the Heinlein future with private space exploration, as we now seem to be doing?

I have to admit that the native Westerner in me embraces our theme and wonders how each of us can be inspired by that pioneer spirit to make our own original and unique contribution. That's what a frontier brings out in people. Our guests of honor are all people who have done that. Their work may have started on the edge, but became gloriously known because of its originality and impact. Charlie and *Locus* are on all of our minds a great deal, and he was a great example of this. People are still debating the category *Locus* fell into, because no one else produced anything quite like it. He had an idea, and the fruition of that idea has influenced the

field for decades.

How else can we do this? What are the germs of ideas that will be taken for granted in upcoming decades? That's what we want to explore.

And we want you to help us. Visit our website: [www.renovationsf.org](http://www.renovationsf.org). Come work with us. Come bring your ideas and see what you want to do yourself.



*(Reno: Continued from Page 1)*

all classy joints where a body can come and give the tables what-for!

But it's not all green felt and eyes-in-the-sky; there's also great food. First, there may be more magnificent coffee shops in Reno than in any other city. The Peppermill's coffee shop is a masterpiece and I can't recommend it enough. There's the South Side Café, the Truckee River Bar & Grille, and many more, but if that's not your cup of joe, then you'll be happy to know that there's top-notch fine dining in the city too. The 4<sup>th</sup> Street Bistro is another great location, and I'll be taking some time off from the con to enjoy a meal or two there. Sezmu is another world-class eatery that ranks with the best restaurants I've been to around the

world.

If you're looking for something cultural to do, you need look no further than Reno's fantastic museums. That's right: Museums. One of the best museums you'll ever find is the National Automobile Museum. It's a museum that lets you get up close and personal with cars ranging from the 1890s to modern racers. If you love cars, this is Mecca. The Wilbur B. May Center has a wonderful museum and The Nevada Museum of Art, also located in Reno, features a collection including works by Stuart Davis, Robert Motherwell and Robert Rauschenberg. And there are others, like the Reno Discovery Museum and the Reno County Museum.

Probably the best thing about

Reno is the natural beauty that's all around you. There's world class fishing within sight of the convention hotels (well, from the upper floors) and if you enjoy floating on water, the Truckee river is a wonderful way to spend an afternoon...as long as you've got sunscreen. Lake Tahoe, the most beautiful alpine lake in the world, just around the corner. Well, a twenty mile corner...

And there's so much more than I can say in a simple Progress Report article. Exploring Reno and its environs will certainly reward you, and plopping a Worldcon down in the middle of it can only add to the adventure!



# Renovation – the 69<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention

## Reno, NV – 17-21 August 2011

**Pre-registration information – please PRINT CLEARLY and use a SEPARATE form for each different address. Members living at the same address can be listed on a single form.**

We will send paper progress reports (PRs) to each adult member by default. If you wish to opt out of paper PRs, check the “**No PR**” box. Electronic PRs will be made available on our website and we will email you to let you know when they are available, as long as you provide us with an email address. Paper ballots will automatically be sent to every adult member.

All members including children will be listed on our website, with their city of residence, by default. Website listings will use badge names where specified. Check the “**No Web**” box if you wish to be **excluded** from the website listing.

**Child rates** are based on the child’s age on 17 August 2011 – please confirm the age of each child / kid-in-tow as of this date.

Please specify the membership type required, discounts claimed, and the amount to be paid for each member.

**Membership types:** A = Attending, S = Supporting, C = Child, K = Kid in Tow, F = Family (circle the one you want).

**Discounts:** P = Presupport, FR = Friend / Really Close Friend, V = Voter, S = Supporter (circle all that apply)

<b>1</b>	Name _____	Badge Name _____	No PR <input type="checkbox"/>
	Email (optional) _____	Phone (optional) _____	No Web <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age at 17 Aug 11 (Children only) _____ YRS	Type Required <b>A / S / C / K / F</b>	Discounts: <b>P / FR / V / S</b> Cost: _____
<b>2</b>	Name _____	Badge Name _____	No PR <input type="checkbox"/>
	Email (optional) _____	Phone (optional) _____	No Web <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age at 17 Aug 11 (Children only) _____ YRS	Type Required <b>A / S / C / K / F</b>	Discounts: <b>P / FR / V / S</b> Cost: _____
<b>3</b>	Name _____	Badge Name _____	No PR <input type="checkbox"/>
	Email (optional) _____	Phone (optional) _____	No Web <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age at 17 Aug 11 (Children only) _____ YRS	Type Required <b>A / S / C / K / F</b>	Discounts: <b>P / FR / V / S</b> Cost: _____
<b>4</b>	Name _____	Badge Name _____	No PR <input type="checkbox"/>
	Email (optional) _____	Phone (optional) _____	No Web <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age at 17 Aug 11 (Children only) _____ YRS	Type Required <b>A / S / C / K / F</b>	Discounts: <b>P / FR / V / S</b> Cost: _____

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Taken By / At \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL TO PAY** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cash** **Check #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Visa / MC / Amex / Discov.**

Please make checks payable to **RENOVATION**

Card No \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. (mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Memberships should be mailed to: Renovation, PO Box 13278, Portland, OR 97213-0278**