Oddcon 2011 Notes from Lori (including Kill the Cow comments)

<u>General</u> Child care room? Newsletter to highlight activities for each day Next year: Press Release to all Madison Media Spectator Badge for Consuite, Art Show and Dealers Room access. ~360 people Free massage booth; contact Madison School of Massage for a student. Put a table or chair next to the business center. Lynn's party was awesome. Loved both Bella Vita and Old Chicago for dinners.

Con Com

Goon squad was excellent; nice and ever-present, but in the background Con-concierge – LAC Have con com create a schedule for events they will attend, so they are easier to track down. Janet: answer your phone. More: "Yes, it's my fault." Tags? Check for badges

Consuite

Lotsa coffee on Sunday, maybe rent a bigger pot Fridges in con com rooms for Consuite? Consuite rocks! Plus: less confusing and more organized Consuite, more signs and trained staff. More Caffeine and more sugar options More Diet Dew and Diet Coke Veggie options in consuite were good Free beer in consuite was nice Bottled water to take?

Guests of Honor

Free t-shirts for the GoHs: make sure to ask size. Personally make sure the dealers know who are the GoHs, and what are their books. Ask GoHs re: Flower allergies and cell phone numbers Insure GoHs know complete schedule, including dinners and what is expected in their speeches. Ask for ideas for future GoHs (within reason) GoH Ideas: Ken Hite, Aaron Williams Don't overbook the GoHs (Sarah Monette had a lot to do on Sunday and was too tired to attend the Dead Cow Dinner) Ask GoHs for copies of their speeches. Have t-shirts in basket in room for GoHs GoH idea: children's writer?

<u>Hotel</u>

Inform Hotel that their pool was too frigid, and their WiFi access was spotty at best. Basie's really needs to upgrade the quality of the breakfast buffet. Bathrooms really are not accessible for wheelchairs Improve climate control in big rooms IFGS room and Dealers Room were too hot. Ask for a thermal map of the hotel. Hotel printer was not working

<u>Panel Ideas</u> Overcoming the excuses for not writing "Wannabe Writer" Track Salieri v. Mozart: would you rather be commercially successful in life and virtually forgotten after death? Or would you rather be a commercial failure in life, but known, revered, and studied for ages to come?

Panelists

Add a moderator tent to people's envelopes (or a different color tent) Double up on table tents in case people misplace them (ahem, Paul) Ask each panelist for website information

Program Book

Add a note in the program book to keep halls quiet during the panels RIP Diana Wynn-Jones Descriptions of Games, schedule in animation room (if okay), LAN Gaming offerings, full description of everything the con offers. Find us online at LJ, FB, etc. Does the balloon artist have a URL? Indicate child-friendly programming with a symbol in the program book Panel ad idea: You can make a difference! – panel invite http://www.ifgs.org/ http://www.wiifgs.org/

Programming

Siesta time slot More than 1 hour slot for dinner (aka the 7:P slot) "No Programming for my 17-day old son." -SJH Like the 10:00 AM starting time, not too early. Liked the sock puppet making and the werewolf game. Keep the family-friendly programming Children's programming: Lot of fun for kids, no improvements. -Look to Windy Con and Duck Con programs -SF meets reality: Science stuff (e. g. Mr. Wizard or The Science Guy) -Make your own spaceship: large cardboard box (fridge-sized) and crayons for the kids. Advertise kid-friendly programming (for kids and kids at heart) Console and computer games for kids Activity games (like Wii) to work off energy Werewolf game was awesome, but needed a bigger space and more time. Maybe a water activity in the pool (need volunteers and a lifeguard) Music ideas: Bands (+1), karaoke, movies (+2), mosh pit, show YouTube videos. Maybe add a list of videos in the animation room in the packet (ask a lawyer first) YouTube panel, or just show videos Band was good and the perfect volume. Call for bands.

Registration

Box on reg form for (severe) allergies Let us pay for registration via PayPal with a laptop and a jack at reg table. String a cord to registration for a laptop if necessary

Signage

Blank signs in every packet of signs (and a black Sharpie)Don't use Tyvek envelopesCreate a sign: "Like what you see? Come to my booth in the dealers room"Food Signs: Ice, Hot dogs, Soup (of the hour), Tofu dogs, Please don't use coffee maker and teapot at the same time. Free beer for those 21 and over; and yes, we card.Registration with arrow to post in lobby

<u>Site</u> Small table in Odana B to house games Liked the water in the halls

<u>T-shirts</u> Order shirts earlier for pre-sales.

Website

Ask Janet about online store for t-shirts and badgeholders Inventory the shirts and take pix for the online store OC store: include a blank amount for anything that might come up. Web Page: GoH alumni List of ideas for programs/panels on website Suggestion box on website for movies and/or animation RSS feed for OC? Work on with Roberta Add info to website: dog fee at Radisson of \$200, but \$20 at AmericInn OC for kids on the website Forum (or form?) for panels, rather than e-mails. List icons on the website for Facebook, Live Journal, Yahoo! groups, etc.