



Welcome to
Penguicon 5.0
Livonia, MI April 20-22, 2006



**IT CAME FROM
PENGUICON 5.0**



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What is Penguicon?

To those of you familiar with the Linux and Open Source community, think of a weekend long Linux Users Group meeting with hundreds of other geeks which also just happens to have nationally acclaimed guests, its own wireless network, free caffeine and snacks always available, lots of folks talking about science fiction and fantasy, situated next to a place to buy really cool t-shirts and buttons and such, and with some extra events like amateur singing, anime, a costume contest, and occasional swordfights.

To those of you familiar with Science Fiction conventions, imagine all the convention features you know and love, with the addition of wireless internet access, computer gaming (including the fabulous Celebrity Frag Fest), non-stop Internet access, people who know about online publishing/books on demand/digital art, a programming track involving computing topics and another one focusing on the crossover

between science fiction and computing.

And what else is there at Penguicon? How about a shared computing and SF dealer's room, a masquerade, the CHAOS toy, and a rocking dance. There are reading and signing sessions from our guest authors, 24-hour gaming (both computer and non-computer), and 24-hour anime showings. There are Linux Installfests, Birds of a Feather sessions, computing and programming tutorials, and email and internet. We have coffee, cola, and the famed "Water Joe" in the consuite, which is complimentary to all attendees. We do technical presentations and seminars. There are fiction books, computer books, and comic books. There's filk. And a Guest of Honor Banquet. And... well, you get the idea already! All of this on a three-day weekend. Thanks for attending, and have fun!

OK





I've already mentioned the Computer Lounge, but don't miss the Gaming Room next door, or our Dealers Room, or the Anime Room, or the Music Track, or the Martial Arts Demonstrations, or the LN2 Ice Cream, or the Chupaquesos, or Open Source Cola, or the ConSuite, or, or, (collapses with overload...)

So, you! Yes you! Stop reading this program guide! There's a whole convention out there of wonderful and amazing events just waiting for you! Go out and play!

-John Guest

Penguicon 5.0 ConChair

Operations

Lost something or someone? Got a question, problem or emergency? Visit the friendly and knowledgeable folks in Ops, located in Spiritz Lounge off of the hotel lobby. They may not know the answer, but they'll probably know where to get it. It's the nerve center of the convention.

Volunteering

Without volunteers, this event quite literally cannot happen. From the people who spent much of a year's free time putting this event together, to the folks who spend their precious time at the convention making sure all the little details happen, volunteers are absolutely crucial.

Since we're still a young convention, and don't have a nice trust fund or anything, we're limited in the concrete ways we can show our appreciation to our volunteers. But what we can offer, we do.

- We've got crash space for you in the Penguin Pit. This is the official volunteer sleeping space, and you're welcome to store stuff there too. (Although storage is one of those "at your own risk" deals.) Please be respectful of the stuff and sleep/wake schedules of your fellow volunteers. The poor guy asleep at 10:00 pm may be working ConSuite at 5:00 am!
- Possible membership reimbursements. If the convention breaks even, the first people who will get their registration money refunded to them are Penguins who work six

or more hours at the convention. We can't promise this absolutely, but we managed to do it our first three years and expect to be able to again.

- Penguicon gifts! Yes, our Prize Mistress Rikhei Harris will disburse concrete tokens of appreciation on Sunday.
- Fame & glory. Or at the least, recognition & lavish praise.

Show up at the Volunteer table of our Penguin Wrangler Rachel Sherman, near Ops in Spiritz Lounge, at any time during the con to volunteer. A brief six hours of fun toil can get you a refund on your registration!

ConSuite

Hey you! Yeah you! We're talking to you. You are invited to the Penguicon ConSuites!

Who do we mean by "you"? Well... everybody. Yep, everybody that attends Penguicon is invited to drop by the ConSuites and partake of true Penguin hospitality. Drop by any hour of the day or night and get a hot or cold drink, grab some munchies, pack away a little snack, and visit with those other strange folks wandering the con at 3:42 AM.

For those who are new to cons, a ConSuite is a room where you meet people, converse, imbibe beverages and consume munchies. This year the non-smoking ConSuite is on the first floor of the Holidome. The smoking ConSuite is immediately above it, on the second floor. They will be opened to all attendees at 4:00 pm on Friday, and stay open around the clock all weekend. If you're sticking around after the convention, the ConSuite is where we gather Sunday for the "Dead Dog Party."

Alcohol will be served on Friday and Saturday evenings from 6:00 pm to 2:00 am. Proper identification will be required from those wishing to be served, in the form of a state driver's license, state I.D. card, military I.D. or passport. No exceptions.

In addition to the usual ConSuite fare consisting of many crunchy, salty, sweet and delicious items, including fruits and vegetables for vegetarians, beverages of various sorts will be available, both hot and cold. Decaffeinated and diet drinks will be available for those who prefer them.





ConSuite has an especially high caffeine content at Penguicon. Sodas, coffee, tea, water, mints, sweets and chocolate are all available caffeinated. Those with caffeine sensitivity are advised to pay due attention to the ingredients of what they consume. Those of us who embrace the divine thing which is caffeine will have the opportunity to have it oozing from our pores.

We have so many food events this year, we're calling it a "food track." Look for the knife and fork logo in the schedule. Most of it is in the ConSuite, such as Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream, Chupaquesos, or the Hot Sauce Tasting. Others are not in the ConSuite, such as the Chocolate Ritual or the Coffee Ritual. Penguicon's own blend of OpenCola will be served all weekend thanks to the inestimable Cola-meister Chuck Child, and it tastes just unbelievably awesome this year. Check out the cola brewing demo panel.

Dealers Room

Be sure to visit the great selection of readables, wearables, and collectables available in the Dealers Room located in the Maple A. There's always a wide and intriguing variety of reading materials, jewelry, fannish clothing, computer stuff and more to browse or spend your hard-earned dough on. It's a great place to find old friends and new friends, as well as that out-of-print edition you've been looking for. Shopping hours are: Friday, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Saturday, 11:00 am to 7:00 pm; Sunday, 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Amber Fox | Fantasy Fashions |
| Avalon Books | Forbidden Treasures |
| Cards Xtcetera | John Bowen |
| Costumes by Loren | Larry Smith, Bookseller |
| Diamondwood Leather | OffWorld Designs |
| Earth Wisdom | Pegasus Publishing |
| Elemental Jewelry | Youmacon |

S.F.O.H.A.

Wondering who that is recording the panel you're attending? The Science Fiction Oral History Association is recording many things here at Penguicon. We're a group dedicated to capturing

the oral history of science fiction — pros, fans, everything — on tape! We have over thirty years of recordings from events like Penguicon — including some from the first Penguicon, last year! If you are on a panel, please make sure to fill out the SFOHA permissions release form in your program participant packet and turn it in at Ops. You can also find copies of those online at www.sfoha.org and mail them to us afterwards. That will allow us to make these recordings available to researchers and the public in the future. If you would like to help — right now! — please inquire at Ops or ask anyone wearing a SFOHA ribbon.

Masquerade

The masquerade: "Tour de Nocturne" will be held in Ballroom A at 8:00 Saturday night. See Convention Operations for your Masquerade Costumer's Packet, which has all the info you'll need. Please turn in your entry forms by 5:00 pm on Saturday. All entrants need to be at Ballroom A at 7:00 pm for pre-judging and muster.

Computer Lounge

This year's computer lounge is brought to you by the Greater Lansing Linux User Group. Feel free to drop on by to check your mail, browse the web, and perhaps find out a little bit more about open source software. You can also check out some demos that help show off the real power of Linux and use our CD burning station to take home your very own copy of Linux to try on your computer at home. If you brought your gaming computer with you, you can plug it into the dedicated gaming network and frag (or cooperate with others in fragging) other convention-goers to your heart's content.

Linux Users Groups

Linux Users Groups (LUGs) are non-profit volunteer groups whose goal is to promote and exchange information about Linux and Open Source Software. Please check websites for time and dates of meetings!





Michigan LUGS

Grand Rapids Linux User's Group (GRLUG): grandrapids-lug.org

Greater Lansing Linux User's Group (GLLUG): Meets every 2nd Thursday of the month. www.gllug.org

Kalamazoo Linux User's Group (KLUG): Meets every Saturday. www.kalamazoolinux.org

Metro Detroit Linux Users Group (MDLUG): Meets every 2nd Saturday of the month. www.mdlug.org

Michigan!/usr/group (MUG): Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month. www.mug.org

Monroe County Linux User's Group (MC-LUG): Meets on the last Saturday of the month. www.monroelug.org

South Eastern Michigan Sun Local User's Group (SEMISLUG): Meets every 2nd Thursday of the month. www.semislug.mi.org

Washtenaw Linux User's Group (WLUG): Meets every 3rd Thursday of the month. www.lugwash.org

Indiana/Ohio LUGS

Cleveland Linux User's Group (LUGC): Meets every 2nd Saturday of the month. www.clevelandlug.net

Michian Linux User's Group (MLUG): Meets every 1st Saturday of the month. www.mlug.org

Toledo Linux User's Group (TALUG): Meets every 2nd or 3rd Saturday of the month. www.talug.org

Canadian LUGS

Toronto Linux User Group: Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month. tlug.ss.org

Windsor Unix User's Group (WUUG): Meets every 2nd Thursday of the month. www.wuug.org

Hotel



You are located on Crooks road in the Troy Hilton. The phone number is 1(248)879-2100. Shuttle service between the main hotel and the Embassy Suites overflow hotel run between 7 AM and 10 PM. If you are staying in the overflow hotel and want to inbibe anything stronger than coffee or pop, please designate a driver or call a cab to see you safely back to your rooms. Also, please note that there is a wholesale gem show in town this weekend and there will be heightened security do to this fact. For information on local restaurants, please see the concierge desk.

Hotel Concession Menu



- Hot Dog & Fries
- Cheese Burger & Fries
- Individual Pepperoni Pizza Fries or Salad
- Vegetable Burger & Fries
- Baked Potato with Cheese 'n' Bacon & Salad
- Quiche Lorraine & Fries or Salad
- Baked Potato with Broccoli 'n' Cheese & Salad
- Chicken Sandwich & Fries or Salad

All Items \$5.25 Including Tax

OUTERZ0NE

Started in Atlanta GA, Outerz0ne has become a small hacker/social conference with good people, wonderful talks, and interesting social activities. Goto our main website for links to our galleries, videos of the talks, and more info than you can shake a stick at. Come hang for the weekend with us, meet some new people, and learn a thing or two.

Coming 1st Quarter of 2008
www.outerz0ne.org





Rules (Yes, we do have some)

Physical Activities

- If you disassemble or displace things which are not yours, please return them to their original condition and/or placement expediently.
- Even if you want to conduct a study of physics, don't cause objects to be propelled through the air. Also, please don't release objects such that they fall a greater distance than to the floor on which you are standing. If you can cause an object to remain suspended in midair without conventional means of support, go right ahead.
- Weapons, real or simulated, should remain secured and not be brandished about. Check out next section for what's allowed at the con. (Hint: "Slice" is bad. "Boom" is worse.)
- Most importantly, do not run while carrying scissors.

Costume Weapons



- Bladed weapons and replica firearms are allowed at Penguicon, either as parts of costumes or as part of dealer displays or pre-arranged martial arts displays. Blades that are part of costumes must be peace-bonded, and can only be displayed openly when worn as part of the entire costume. Blades and/or firearms should never be carried openly by themselves in the hotel.
- Replica and toy firearms are allowed, but not weapons which can actually fire any potentially damaging projectiles (or which could ever have). This means that actual pistols and rifles, bb guns, crossbows, and any similar weaponry, are all not allowed, even if they have been altered so that they can not now be fired — convention staff cannot take responsibility for making an error in evaluating the weapon.
- Also, no weapon, whether it be a replica, toy, or anything else, can be brought to the convention if it contains gunpowder or any other explosive in any quantity. This means that caps for cap guns, blanks for starter pistols, bullets, or anything else with potential for explosion or fire will not be permitted. Also, costume items that contain or use an open flame or heating element are not allowed.

- (Note: to clarify for those bringing firearms for the "Geeks with Guns" event at the offsite range, the above items pertain to public display and costumes. Please be safe, sane and discrete.)

Alcoholic Beverages

- As part of con hospitality, Penguicon will be serving beer during evening and late night hours in the Smoking and Non-Smoking ConSuites. There may also be other events that will include beer, wine, or other alcoholic beverages. In the interest of avoiding those awkward confrontations with the hotel, or those even more awkward late night meetings with the police, we ask that everyone please observe some common sense rules about alcoholic beverages at the con.
- Penguicon volunteers will be checking IDs before serving any alcoholic beverages. You must be 21 or over in order to drink.
- Proof of age will be required at the point of service, not during registration. In other words, you must bring your ID to the ConSuites in order to drink. Con badges will NOT indicate age, or be accepted as proof of age. Acceptable forms of ID are drivers' licenses, state issued picture IDs, military IDs, and passports.
- Anyone seen to be violating state drinking laws (for instance, by providing alcohol to someone under 21) will not be allowed into the con's hospitality areas. (This includes both ConSuites and the Green Room.) Repeated or major violations may result in the violators' being removed from the hotel.
- Open alcoholic beverages should not be brought into convention function rooms, or consumed in the public spaces of the hotel. Open beverages can be carried with you as you move from room to room, however.
- Room parties in guest rooms are welcome to provide hospitality (potentially including serving alcohol). Each party will need to decide how to handle appropriate alcohol management. Penguicon asks only that everyone comply with the hotel's requirements about not having alcohol in the function spaces and common areas, and that all parties follow state drinking laws. Have fun — sensibly!





- If you purchase an alcoholic beverage in the hotel restaurant or in Charlie's Crab, and take it out of the restaurant, you are not allowed to take it back in.

OK

Other Mind Altering Behaviors

- Sleep deprivation and various states of -glycemia are too often overlooked when considering mind altering behaviors. Be good to yourself by getting some sleep in each 24-hour period, as well as at least one non-junk-food meal in the same time frame. You'll save yourself the trouble of feeling physically exhausted and unendurably moody. The 5-2-1 rule is a good recommendation: 5 hours of sleep, two meals and one shower per day.
- Do not take open alcoholic beverages out of the ConSuites or private rooms where they are served. Caffeine, however, may be consumed in any location.
- Please confine the use of any illegal drugs to another venue.
- Although there is some debate, we choose to consider meditation and chanting as potentially mind altering behaviors. If you choose to perform either, please do so in a place that will not impede pedestrians, vehicles, or a Fire Exit.

OK

Smoking

- Please, no smoking except in designated areas shown on the map with a smoking symbol.
- If you begin smoking in a smoking allowed area, and decide to continue outside the hotel lobby, the hotel asks that you extinguish your cigarette and leave it behind. Carrying the lit cigarette down the hallway on your way there will set off the smoke alarms.
- There is a Smoking ConSuite on the 2nd floor of the hotel directly halfway around the arc from the other ConSuite. Smoke in comfort, and enjoy the same amenities found in the other ConSuite, including munchies and beverages.

OK

Sexuality

- The display of bondage gear or fetish clothing in public is controversial, but acceptable at the convention. We would recommend that it is most appropriate in the evenings. However please keep BD/SM scenes or play in your room

OK

- to avoid non-consensual experiences for others.
- Please keep your public displays of affection rated PG-13.

OK

Social Interactions

- Interesting and energizing are to debate as distracting and irritating are to argument. If you must argue, please do so in your room. People deemed to be arguing in public in any way that interferes with the enjoyment of other convention goers may be considered a hazard to navigation, and may be a target for a good talking to and a public shunning.
- Often at SF conventions, many people of various genders can be seen in scanty costumes. Please be respectful by not touching their persons without a clear invitation, and by keeping in mind that "No Means No." Actually, these are good things to remember no matter what a person may be wearing.

OK

Parental Concerns

- Children in the 12 and under age range are welcome at the convention, and will not be charged for admission. However, parents should be aware that Penguicon does not provide any programming or services for children age 12 or under, and requires that a registered convention attendee always accompany these children. Unaccompanied children will not be permitted into non-public convention areas and functions. Please also consider that some convention panel topics may not be appropriate for young children, and that some evening and night convention functions may involve attendee costume and activities possibly inappropriate for children. If children are attending with you, it is your responsibility to supervise them appropriately. Penguicon cannot be held responsible for unaccompanied minors.

OK

Swimming Pool

- Pool hours will be posted, please pay attention to them!
- If you have children, please supervise them.
- Don't drink and swim.
- Be courteous to other users of the area.
- Be safe.

OK

CONTINUE





[◀ Back to the beginning of the Rules](#)

Game Room Rules

NO SMOKING. For the comfort of everyone, all of the gaming function spaces are non-smoking areas. Anyone caught smoking will be treated as though they are on fire.

NO PETS. For the safety and comfort of everyone, only medically necessary service animals will be allowed in the gaming areas. Gaming staff will ask the owners of all other animals to leave.

BE CAREFUL WITH FOOD & DRINKS. Eating and drinking are allowed in gaming, but please take extra care not to spill, and please properly dispose of all empty containers and waste materials.

GAMING IS NOT A DAY CARE SERVICE. Anyone under the age of 13 must purchase a membership badge at the youth rate or be tethered to a parent or legal guardian at all times. Additionally, anyone under the age of 18 must carry contact information for a parent or legal guardian at all times. Gaming staff will ask anyone who is unwilling to comply to leave.

RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE. The people who run games at Penguicon are unpaid volunteers. Likewise, other gamers paid for the privilege to play games at Penguicon. Gaming staff will ask anyone caught mistreating others to leave.

RESPECT OTHERS' PROPERTY. Penguicon has a small gaming library, but most of the games are the private property of the gaming staff and other volunteers. Gaming staff will ask anyone caught mistreating any games to leave.

NO TANTRUMS. Games have winners and losers. If you won, congratulations! But please don't rub it in. If you lost, please don't whine about it. Better luck next time! Gaming staff will ask anyone who causes or participates in any disturbance to leave.

Above all -- **PLAY FAIR, & HAVE FUN!**

[OK](#)

Checkout Time

- The hotel's normal check-out time is 12:00 noon.

Get A Room! a.k.a. No Sleeping in the Lobby

- Even if you are local to the convention, we encourage you to rent a room, for two big reasons. First, odds are good that you're going to want to hang out and do fun things until the wee small hours of morning. It's much easier to max out the fun potential of the convention if you don't have to worry about driving home. The second is for the sake of the convention. If enough convention members rent rooms, we don't have to pay for function space. Which means we can run the convention more cheaply, and afford to do it again next year. 'Nuff said, right? And anyone who volunteers at the convention is allowed and welcome to sleep in the volunteer suite (the "Penguicon Pit"), providing there are a few square inches of unclaimed space.

[OK](#)

Transactional Affirmation

Please read the following aloud: "I am OK. You are OK. But when we get together for Penguicon its *great!*" – Gail Christopherson

[HELP](#)

[OK](#)

Q: Do I *have* to say this out loud?

End User License Agreement (EULA)

NOTICE TO USER: BY METABOLIZING YOU ACCEPT ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, USE OF YOUR HOTEL ROOM FOR PENGUICON ACTIVITIES, AND USE OF YOUR CAR BY PENGUICON ATTENDEES FOR LATE NIGHT FOOD RUNS. This Convention End User License Agreement ("EULA") accompanies the Convention and related explanatory materials ("Awesome Con!"). The term "Awesome Con!" also shall include any upgrades, modified versions, or meme mutation arising from the root concept. Please read this Agreement carefully. Your experience at our "Awesome Con!" will vary. Hiding in your room, or running in terror will reduce your satisfaction in our product. Full participation in all scheduled ("Programming") and non-scheduled ("Awesome stuff set up by other Convention Attendees") events will insure complete satisfaction in our product. 1. You will follow a strict Kantian interpretation of this "EULA". Attempts to view this "EULA" in an ironic or post-structuralist fashion are strictly prohibited. 2. Reviews of this "EULA", or our "Awesome Con!", and comments to other people related thereto must be made in strictly dulcet, admiring tones. For example, "Penguicon is the kindest, bravest, warmest, most wonderful convention I've ever known in my life!" 3. No guarantees are made as to the correctness, accuracy, pertinence, usefulness, or quality of the material included in this "EULA" or in our "Awesome Con!" Penguicon will not be held responsible for any boredom, sadness, or monetary loss stemming from attendance. Total rights for redress include, and are completely limited to: Admission and attendance rights to the Gripe Session held on the last day of the Convention, and the right to put in hard work, as a volunteer, toward making Penguicon 5.0 better. 4. You are already in violation of this "EULA". You will surrender all assets, possessions, and children upon demand. Come to the stone bridge by the misty river at midnight and await further instructions. Going to the crossroads at midnight and praying to the devil is not guaranteed to make you a better musician. 5. Finally, by accepting this "EULA", you agree not to abide by any binding constraints imposed by this "EULA".

[I AGREE TO THESE TERMS](#)

[CANCEL](#)

