

ConNotations

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2004

The Bi-Monthly Science Fiction, Fantasy & Convention Newszine of the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society

April Kicks Off with Ursula K Le Guin, Timothy Zahn, Phoenix ComicCon and World Horror by Lee Whiteside

The Arizona Book Festival on Saturday, April 3rd, will feature authors **Ursula K. Le Guin, Alan Dean Foster,** and **Diana Gabaldon** on the main stage with CASFS bringing in **Timothy Zahn** and other local authors for autographing and a special block of programming. **LeGuin** will also be appearing at ASU on Friday, April 2nd.

The ASU Department of English Outreach will be hosting two events on Friday, April 2nd with **Ursula K. LeGuin**. First will be a daylong Symposium on the *Works of Ursula K. Le Guin* from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at the University Club. The Symposium will include panels and presentations on **Le Guin's** works and a special drama presentation of one of her works. On Friday evening at 7 pm in the Galvin Playhouse, **Le Guin** will speak for the May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Admission is FREE, but tickets are required. Tickets are now available and can be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Arbuthnot Lecture Tickets c/o Southeast Regional Library, 775 N. Greenfield Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85234, Limit two (2) tickets per requester.. For more information please contact Dr. Alleen Nilsen at ASU English Education: Phone: (480)965-3105 or Email: Alleen.Nilsen@asu.edu Related Web Pages are <http://www.asu.edu/english/events/>

outreach/scifisymp.html and <http://www.asu.edu/english/events/outreach/leguin.html>

The next day is the **Seventh Annual Arizona Book Festival** being held from 10 am to 5 pm at the Carnegie Center at 1100 W. Washington in central Phoenix. Featured authors at the book festival are **Ron Carlson, Nancy Farmer, Alan Dean Foster, Diana Gabaldon, Ursula K. Le Guin, Tom McGuane,** and U.S. Supreme Court Justice **Sandra Day O'Connor**. They will all appear on the main stage and sign in the festival's Author Lounge. Appearing at the CASFS booth and participating in a two hour science fiction and fantasy programming block will be **Timothy Zahn** plus other Arizona authors such as **Michael A. Stackpole, Adam Niswander, Lee Hogan, Ernest Hogan, Dennis L McKiernan** and others to be announced. Last year's free festival drew over 14,000 attendees and this year looks to be even bigger, especially for genre fans. For more information on the book festival, see the ad on the back page of this issue of ConNotations or visit www.azbookfestival.org and for more details on the CASFS related events at the festival, visit www.casfs.org/azbookfest.

(Cont'd on page 7)

Featured Inside

SF Tube Talk

All the latest news about Scienc Fiction TV shows
by Lee Whiteside

24 Frames

All the latest Movie News
by Lee Whiteside

Pro Notes

News about locl genre authors and fans

Musical Notes

The latest news of Filk and Filkers
from Tom Tuerff

Costume Closet

Articles Covering Topics of interest in the constuming field

ReAnimation

Reviews of Anime on DVD and VHS

Screening Room

Reviews of current theatrical releases

In Our Book

Reviews of New SF/F Books

A Novel Idea

Upcoming books

Special Features

Ursala K LeGuin and other April Events
By Lee Whiteside

Jinxed, Hexed, or Cursed:
How I Ruined Harlan Ellison's
Return to Arizona, Part 2
By Shane Shellenbarger

The Waldorf Conference:
Microphones, scripts, and actors
By Shane Shellenbarger

In Memorium

Helen "April" Rice
Cris Martin
Diane Elliott Memorial Donation
Jim Cryer Memorial Donation

Plus our Regular Features:

CASFS Business Report Event Calendar

Area events, TV premires,
DVD & Movie releases

FYI

News and tidbits of
interest to fans

Club Listings

Convention List & Generic Registration Form

ConNotations
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In This Issue

News & Reviews

CASFS Business Report 2
SF Tube Talk 3
24Frames 3
Screening Room 6
ProNotes 8
Costume Closet 11
FYI 12
ReAnimation 16
Musical Notes 18
In Our Book (Book Reviews) 19
A Novel Idea 23

Special Feature

Ursula K LeGuin 1
by Lee Whiteside
The Waldorf Conference
by Shane Shellenbarger 6
In Memorium 8
Harlan Ellison in Phoenix
byShane Shellenbarger 10

Convention & Fandom

Calendar of Events 13
Club Listings 21
Convention Listings 23
Convention Registration Form 23

CASFS Business Report

Greetings,
November

* HexaCon 13 closed out. The return to the group was \$2046 above the required return.

* Former member, Procedural Secretary, and Board member Diane Elliott died of pulmonary hypertension. The group voted to donate \$50 to a favorite charity of hers.

* Former member, President, and Board Chair Jim Cryer died of a heart attack. The group voted to donate \$50 to a favorite charity of his.

* As is their custom, the United Federation of Phoenix (the local Star Trek fan club) announced plans to go to a local mall and buy gifts as part of the Christmas Angel program. Before doing so, they invited us to contribute. As is our custom, the group voted to donate \$50 to this worthy cause.

December

* The results of the Christmas Angel donation were reported. The combined funds were used to buy gifts for three children.

* Our grant application to bring Timothy Zahn to the Arizona Book Festival was approved by the Arizona Humanities Council. There was some discussion of the new liability insurance requirements the Council is imposing on participating groups. Research is being done.

* The recovery of CASFS archival materials from Jim Cryer's house continues with the cooperation of his widow.

* Former member Cris Martin, father of current member Sean Martin and ex-husband of current member Kim Martin, died in an automobile accident. The group voted to donate \$50 to the Challenger Space Center.

* Mark Boniece was re-elected President by acclamation.

* Lee Whiteside was re-elected Vice President by acclamation.

* Jeff George, Ray Gish, and J.B. Talbott were re-elected to the Board of Directors by acclamation. - The New Guy

Who's Who This Issue

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Submission Info: Writers and artists are encouraged to submit work for publication. While we cannot pay you for your efforts your work will be seen by over 4,000 fans across the Southwest and the country. You will retain the copyright to your work for future publication. To submit your work or for more information please write to: ConNotations; PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or contact us via Email at Editors@casfs.org

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SF Tube Talk

TV News & Previews By Lee Whiteside

If its February, it must mean new episodes! We're into the February ratings sweeps which means all the network and broadcast syndicated shows are running new episodes as well as a few cable outlets. There's also a few new shows starting up to check out and lots of news on things coming down the pike over the next year.

First off on UPN, **Enterprise** continues its journey through the Delphic Expanse, finding out more about the Xindi and their threat to Earth. First up is *Stratagem*, where Archer finds himself face-to-face with Degra, the designer of the Xindi super-weapon, and tries to trick him into revealing its location. Next is *Harbinger* where a mysterious alien is found dying in a spaceship and Trip gets a bit friendly with one of the female MACO officers, possibly inciting some jealousy in T'Pol. According to writer **Manny Coto**, this episode "will ultimately reveal a great secret about the Spheres and who built them and why." Doctor Phlox comes to the forefront in *Doctor's Orders*, where he puts the crew in comas to keep them alive when Enterprise encounters a trans-dimensional anomaly. In *Hatchery*, Archer tries to save the offspring of a group of Xindi Insectoids when he discovers their crashed ship on a barren planet. Rounding out the latest batch of new episodes will be *Azati Prime*, bringing the temporal cold war back into the Xindi storyline full force. When Enterprise finally arrives at the sight of the Xindi weapon that is meant to destroy Earth, Archer's mission is thrown into doubt when Crewman Daniels makes a visit. He takes Archer 400 years into the future to show him a conspiracy involving another species planning an invasion of the universe and explains that these creatures are responsible for pitting the humans against the Xindi in the first place.

In a change from previous seasons, there will be 24 episodes produced as opposed to the usual 26 episodes. The producers have decided to run the Xindi storyline through the entire season. They had indicated at the start of the season that they weren't sure how long it would last. My guess is they wanted to go the whole season all but waited until they saw the response to it before committing to all of it. In one interview, **Rick Berman** indicated that "the idea of a core storyline, a continuing storyline that hopefully doesn't get in the way of the standalone elements of each episode, seems to be something that fans are enjoying." They were also planning a ten-episode continuing storyline to get to the end of the season and the completion of the Xindi story arc.

Following Enterprise on UPN, **Jake 2.0**
Volume 14 Issue 1

continues to impress, bringing in some ongoing government conspiracy type issues along with decent stories. Unfortunately, that hasn't been enough to keep the show from being the lowest rated drama on the broadcast networks, though. So, UPN has rescinded the full season order they had given it and it will end up with only 16 produced episodes. At press time, it is unknown if the remaining episodes will air in February or not. If so, following is info on three of the remaining four episodes. In *Blackout*, Cyber-genius Dumont cons the NSA into letting him out of prison and he uses a device to erase Jake's memory. Dumont's plan is to inject himself with Jake's nanites, but things go awry when Jake realizes that Dumont and his accomplice are not his friends. Confused and scared, Jake runs from both Dumont and the NSA. Next in *Get Foley*, still without a memory, Jake is wanders into a bar with a secret fight club in the back room. Needing money, Jake fights and surprises everyone with his strength. Meanwhile the NSA is desperate to find Jake and Diane is afraid that they will kill him. In *Dead Man Talking*, Jake is injured and his subconscious starts to interact with the computers in the NSA. At first its thought his mind is doing harm, but it turns out he ends up helping the NSA secure a threat.

Over on The WB, **Smallville** and **Angel** continue to be a good combination for The Frog on Wednesday nights. February **Smallville** episodes include *Hereafter*, about a home schooled boy who Clark mentors when he starts going to Smallville High that has visions of death. *Velocity* focuses on Pete for once when he gets involved with Street Racing and his popularity skyrockets. Of course, this is Smallville, so if the emphasis is on cars, some of them will likely explode! Watch out Pete! In *Obsession*, Clark meets a girl who can teleport due to the meteors and when she realizes Clark can do special things, she gets obsessed with him. In *Resurrection*, a man brought back to life has his liver failing and demands to get a transplant from the man in the operating room next door, who just happens to be Jonathan Kent, in the hospital for some tests. Ongoing through these episodes will be a continuing storyline with Adam (**Ian Somerhalder**), who helped Lana with her physical therapy and continues to develop a relationship with her despite some hints that he has some sort of dark secret behind him. Coming up in April will be a return appearance by **Christopher Reeve** as Dr. Swann, who will have a visit from Lionel Luthor that will lead to another meeting with Clark.

Angel kicks off sweeps with the series' 100th episode, bringing back Cordelia for a visit. According to **Joss Whedon** at the TV winter press tour "that's very much kind of an opportunity to sum up and sort of go,

(Cont'd on page 4)

24 Frames

Movie News By Lee Whiteside

As expected, **Lord of the Rings: Return of the King** surpassed the first two movies in box office draw, taking the top spot for several weeks in a row. The movie has been deservedly garnering various awards for both the picture itself and Director **Peter Jackson**. We'll find out how the Motion Picture Academy feels about it at the end of February when the Oscars are handed out. Look for about 45 minutes more footage in the extended DVD version later in the year including an opening 7 minute segment dealing with **Christopher Lee's** Saruman and hopefully some segments showing a bit of the romance that developed with Eowyn and Faramir.

Rumored to be in the works (and an announcement may happen after our press deadline) is a **Babylon 5** feature film. Rumors and other indications are that British film company Winchester Entertainment is working with **Babylon 5** creator **J. Michael Straczynski** on a new film project. **Straczynski** has indicated that he was writing a script for a new **Babylon 5** project of some sort and that there could be an announcement about it by the end of January.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy movie is moving towards actually happening. Reports from the BBC Films web site are that **Martin Freeman** (Tim Canterbury on **The Office**) is set to play Arthur Dent and that **Bill Nighy (Underworld, Love Actually)** will take on the role of Slartibartfast. "I'm a big fan of the book and the people who are making it are very cool people and I think they're going to do a good job," says **Nighy**. "It's a really good script. It's really, really faithful [to the book]. All the jokes are there and they're big fat jokes. It's wonderful. And with all the technology we have now, it can not only be a big satisfying comedy but I figure it could be quite exciting as well." Rumors are that Marvin, The Paranoid Android, may be short and have **Warwick Davis** inside the costume designed by the Jim Henson Creature Shop. Look for the rest of the cast to be announced soon.

Gearing up for production is **Batman: Intimidation** which will star **Christain Bale** as Batman and **Michael Caine** as Alfred. Other roles are still to be cast. Rumors are that the movie is set during Batman's early days and takes place mostly in London. It will deal with eternal mad megalomaniac Ra's al Ghul and his daughter, Talia.

The latest Harry Potter installment, **Harry Potter And The Prisoner Of Azkaban**, is in post-production and will hit the theatres this summer. The Harry Potter

franchise gets darker with the arrival of Sirius Black (**Gary Oldman**) and the Dementors - the gaolers at Azkaban, who can conjure up a person's worst fears. Returning are **Daniel Radcliffe**, **Rupert Grint**, and **Emma Watson** and new for this movie are **David Thewlis** (as new Dark Arts professor Lupin), **Robert Hardy** (as Minister for Magic Cornelius Fidge) and **Julie Christie** (as Madam Rosmerta). **Michael Gambon** replaces the late **Richard Harris** as Dumbledore.

Starting to get some notice with its first trailer is **I, Robot**, opening in June. Inspired by the **Asimov** stories, it is set in a near future (2035) where robots are commonplace, it sees Chicago cop Del Spooner (**Will Smith**) investigating the murder of a doctor. An android named Sonny (a CG creation, based on Alan Tudyk) is implicated in the killing, but according to the Laws of Robotics - which states no robot can harm a human - he can't possibly have done the deed. Can robots circumvent their circuitry? And if they can, will they take over the world? Dr. Lanning (**James Cromwell**), the inventor of über-advanced robots is investigated by Spooner, as is head doctor Susan Calvin (**Bridget Moynahan**) - who specialises in the psyches of robots. Directed by **Alex Proyas (Dark City)**, this could be a worthwhile **Asimov** adaptation if they don't play up the humor too much.

After the release of the trailer for **Spiderman 2**, most fans are salivating at the chance to see the whole movie. **Alfred Molina** looks to definitely fit the bill as Dr. Octopus and the action content promises even more than the first movie did. The main question is how much money will it make? The characters have moved on a bit from the first movie, with Peter Parker attending Empire State University with Mary Jane pursuing a modeling career and getting involved with astronaut John Jameson (J. J. Jameson's son and future Man-Wolf). Harry Osborne is still around and is Peter's best friend while harboring his hatred for Spider-Man.

Star Wars Episode III is well into post production with **Lucas** putting together the initial CGI work with the live action filming. It will pick up three years after **Attack of the Clones** and will detail Anakin's slide over to the Dark Side. There are more and more rumors and indications that Lucas is leaving his options open for Episodes 7, 8 & 9. Actors such as **Peter Mayhew** (appearing a Chewbacca in episode three) have indicated his contract includes options for later movies and various Lucasfilm licensees have indicated clauses of a similar type. While Lucas is not yet admitting to planning additional movies, they are definitely keeping their options open for the possibility.

The **Elektra** movie will film this summer during **Jennifer Garner's** summer break from **Alias**. Marvel executive **Kevin**

(Cont'd on page 7)

SF Tube Talk (Cont'd from page 3)

'Good lord, we've been doing this for a while, and without being sly and postmodern about it and winking at the audience, really using it as a milestone and having her—because she was there at the beginning—come and say, 'Well, where are you now? Where were you when we started, and where are you now and how do you feel about that?'" In the episode, *You're Welcome*, Cordelia awakens from her coma with a vision of a tattooed man out to get Angel, leading to issues with Lindsey, Spike and Eve. In *Why We Fight*, we flash back to World War II and events in Angel and Spike's life during that time focusing on a trapped German U-Boat that Spike and Angel end up on which leads to a confrontation with another vampire in present day Los Angeles. *Smile Time* sees Angel and company battle evil puppets, characters on a popular children's show. The puppets hypnotize the children through their TV's and either drain their essence or take over their bodies.

FOX's *Tru Calling* will add **Jason Priestley** to the cast for the last seven episodes of the season. **Priestley** will play Jack Harper, a new forensic attendant at the morgue where Tru Davies works. Although he seems like a nice guy, he has a secret that may hinder Tru's ability to go backward in time to save people who die

unjustly. Upcoming episodes include *The Longest Day* that sees a father being killed when robbing a drugstore to be able to pay for medicine his daughter needs. Tru has to repeat the day several times before coming to a resolution. In *Valentine*, Tru tries to stop a serial killer from killing and really ends up trying to keep him from getting killed. In *American Beauty*, Tru has to unravel the poisoning of a beauty contestant in a beauty pageant where she finds ex-boyfriends, blackmail and other red herrings. *Daddy's Girls* has Tru reluctantly joining her father and step-mother Jordan for her father's 50th birthday when they visit New York. Tru's power comes into play when Jordan is killed and she has to save her. In *The Getaway*, Tru tries to stop a young couple on a crime spree. She is also being trailed by a reporter.

Elsewhere on the networks, *Joan of Arcadia* continues to draw in the viewers. Fan sites so far that I've found haven't gotten much advance info. *Charmed* continues to get sillier, it seems, with a 60's episode, an *I Dream of Genie* inspired story and other high concept episodes such as upcoming ones titled *The Courtship of Wyatt's Father* and *The Legend of Sleepy Halliwell*. The WB has already announced a renewal for a seventh season of *Charmed* for next year. For mid-season, look for *Stephen King's Kingdom*

Hospital on ABC on Wednesdays beginning on March 3rd. From the ABC Press release "Using the Danish miniseries *"Riget"* (a.k.a. *"The Kingdom"*) as a point of inspiration, master of horror **Stephen King** gives this story a unique and menacing American touch. King himself describes it as *"ER"* crossed with *"The Shining."* Kingdom is a hospital whose bizarre population includes a brilliant surgeon who lives in the basement, a nearly blind security guard and a nurse who regularly faints at the sight of blood. But when patients and staff hear the voice of a girl crying through the halls and a patient destined for life as a paraplegic miraculously recovers, they are dismissive of any suggestion of mysticism or unseen powers... at their own peril." Starring in the series are **Andrew McCarthy**, **Diane Ladd**, **Bruce Davison**, **Ed Begley Jr.**, and **Allison Hossack**.

FOX has announced a premiere date for *Wonderfalls*. It will debut on Friday nights starting March 12th for at least seven episodes in place of *Boston Public*. The show is described as a "one-hour dramedy about a Niagara Falls tourist-shop clerk whose life is dramatically altered when inanimate figures begin talking to her." Jaye Tyler, played by French Canadian actress **Caroline Dhavernas**, is the underachieving 20-something heroine who questions her

sanity when objects – including toys, cartoons and anything in the form of an animal – begin to talk to her. Each week, the creatures give Jaye cryptic messages, setting into motion a chain of unpredictable events that invariably lead Jaye into the lives of others in need. Created by **Bryan Fuller** (*"Dead Like Me"*) and **Todd Holland** (*Malcolm in the Middle*), and executive-produced by **Fuller**, **Holland** and **Tim Minear** (*"Angel"*), *Wonderfalls* focuses on Jaye as she meddles in, muddles up and ultimately betters the lives of herself and the eclectic variety of strangers who cross her path.

CBS's midseason genre entry, *Century City*, will debut on Tuesday, March 16. It is a futuristic legal drama from executive producers **Paul Attanasio** (*"Homicide: Life on the Street"*), **Katie Jacobs** and **Ed Zuckerman**. The series is set in Los Angeles in 2030 and follows the lawyers at a high profile firm who deal in the ethical issues of the near future, cloning, genetic mapping and identity theft. **Nestor Carbonell** (*"Tick"*), **Hector Elizondo** (*"Chicago Hope"*), **Ioan Gruffudd** and **Viola Davis** lead the ensemble cast.

Still awaiting word on when it will air on FOX are *Still Life* (the family drama from the point of view of their dead son). Don't expect to see it until after the latest run of *American Idol* is finished up on

(Cont'd on page 5)



Art by Todd Lockwood

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SF Tube Talk (Cont'd from page 4)

FOX. The WB has now completely dropped **Fearless**. Initially announced for last fall, and then for mid-season, and then for next Fall, The WB has decided that the series about the FBI agent born without the gene for fear just didn't work as a weekly series (and barely worked as a pilot).

The syndication waters will be getting murkier with the announcement that **Andromeda** has been renewed for a fifth season and will start showing up on SciFi Channel with new episodes airing on SciFi a week or so before they air in syndication. This arrangement may start in March when **Andromeda** will likely join the SciFi Friday lineup. There's not much info on the new episodes coming up in February for **Andromeda** or **Mutant X**, though. **Andromeda** has done a better job this season, especially when they follow up on elements set up earlier in the series.

Starting on March 4th, SciFi will debut SciFi Thursday with a lineup geared towards the younger, more hip, audience (yes, **Stargate SG-1** is an older skewing demographic). Returning for a second season will be **Scare Tactics** with more of **Shannen Doherty's** hijinks with friends scaring friends. Debuting will be their new alternate reality series **Mad Mad House**. Five denizens of alternative lifestyles (a Vampire, a Wiccan, a Naturist, a Voodoo Priestess, and a Modern Primitive) host ten "Normals" who will take part in tolerance tests and other activities with one of them being banished each week from the house with the last normal taking home the \$100,000 grand prize. Also debuting that night is SCI FI's first animated series, **Tripping the Rift**. From the SciFi press release "This humorous and scandalously sexy show sends up all things sci-fi. The twisted half-hour follows the adventures of The Free Enterprise, a smuggling vessel led by a stumpy purple alien named "Chode" who, along with his colorful group of misfit shipmates, battles archenemies and new obstacles in space each week. The voice cast includes **Stephen Root**, **Gina Gershon**, "**Stuttering**" **John Melendez** and **Maurice LaMarche**."

Also announced by SciFi as going into production for airing in December is a four hour mini-series based on **Ursula K. Le Guin's Earthsea** stories. Based on the first two books, **Wizard of Earthsea** and **The Tombs of Atuan**, the miniseries is written by **Gavin Scott (Mists of Avalon)**, and is produced by **Robert Halmi, Sr., Lawrence Bender** and **Kevin Brown** for Hallmark Television. As for their **Battlestar Galactica** miniseries that debuted in December, it garnered the third highest ratings for the channel ever (behind the first **Dune** miniseries and **Taken**), even increasing in ratings on the second night. **Ron Moore** is working on developing it as a regular series and options for the actors

have been extended to the end of January to give SciFi more time to decide on picking it up. Indications are that it will go ahead as a series, but with the recent acquisition of **Andromeda**, SciFi may decide they've got enough space shows for now.

Continuing with it's seventh season on Friday nights on SciFi is **Stargate SG-1**. Upcoming episodes include **Death Knell**, where Earth's secret off world base is discovered by the Goa'uld -- and Major Carter goes missing; **Heroes Part 1** where a film crew arrives to document the work of



Richard Dean Anderson leads the cast of STARGATE: SG-1 as Colonel Jack O'Neill
© 2002 USA Networks

the S.G.C., but may capture more than they planned for when SG-1 is called into action; In **Heroes Part 2**, The S.G.C. comes under investigation after a mission that goes terribly wrong (better get the Kleenex out for this one); **Resurrection** has SG-1 investigate a secret N.I.D. laboratory, where a determined scientist has used cloning technology to create a Goa'uld-human hybrid; with **Inauguration** the newly-elected president must be informed about the Stargate program, and the team confronts the return of an old political foe; and rounding out the season (and partially setting up the spinoff series **Stargate: Atlantis**) will be the two part **The Lost City** where O'Neill and SG-1 go to great lengths to keep the Ancients' knowledge from falling into Goa'uld hands, General Hammond is reassigned by the president himself, Anubis begins a systematic assault on Earth, and the planet's only hope of salvation depends on whether SG-1 can find the Ancients' mythical Lost City.

You can probably guess where the lost city turns up based on the name of the spinoff

series, **Stargate: Atlantis**, which will be paired up with **Stargate SG-1's** eighth season on Friday nights beginning in June. SciFi describes the new series as "A whole new adventure with a new team begins in the successful Stargate universe. In this spin-off from MGM Worldwide Television, a secret base left by the originators of the Stargate is found in the most unlikely of places: on Earth, buried within the ruins of the legendary civilization Atlantis. The implications of this discovery lead the team to a distant galaxy, where they find a primitive human

on Showtime starting in March, but is not certain.

There isn't much updated news on the new **Doctor Who** series. Producer **Mal Young** did do a radio interview where he discussed some of the plans for the series. **Russell T. Davies** has started writing the scripts for 12 or 13 stories and they have a short list of actors they are considering for the role. According to **Young**, "The trick that we have to pull off is stay true to the original spirit of the show and the original character, but make it for the 21st century and a younger audience now who have been brought up watching some fantastic sci-fi films and TV shows. Televisions changed, films have changed so we have to move with the times". Plans are still for production to start later this year with transmission sometime in 2005 on the BBC. Where it will debut in the U.S. is still unknown.

In the way of animated shows, the big event coming up is not the return of new episodes of **Stripperella** on Spike TV (returning to the airwaves on Feb 12th with a marathon of the existing episodes and the first of a new batch of episodes), but the continuation of Cartoon Network's **Star Wars Clone Wars** on March 26th with the remaining ten episodes of the twenty episode micro-series. Elsewhere on the Cartoon Network the second season (or is it really the second half of the first season) of **Teen Titans** continues (with the series now also airing on Kids WB). **Duck Dodgers** is in production for a second season and **Justice League** has been picked up for a third season (with the three part episode **Starcrossed** still to air from the second season).

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Screening Room

The Butterfly Effect New Line Cinema In theaters now

What if you could go back in time to right a wrong? To renew a relationship? Fix something that was broken?” That is the premise of this movie, that this man has the ability to return to various points in his life to change what went wrong.

Evan Treborn (Ashton Kutcher) is a man with the ability to possess himself in the past. He can use this to change events to avoid situations that scarred his psyche and/or that of Kayleigh Miller (Amy Smart). His focus is his journals, by reading and remembering what happened he can project himself back.

As the movie opens Evan is a young boy with periodic blackouts. We later find out that the blackouts are caused by him later going back to “fix” things. Nothing is ever fixed perfectly and he continually tries to “improve” his life and that of his friends and family. Needless to say, he remembers everything and everyone else remembers nothing.

I enjoyed this movie more for the premise than for the acting. Amy Smart did a wonderful job and I expect a possible Oscar nod for her performance (provided the voters can look beyond her being in “Dude where’s my Perfect Life?”) Watching this movie I kept reminding myself that Ashton was trying to be a serious actor. However I couldn’t bring myself to see beyond his blank stare and his over reacting facial expressions. The rest of the supporting cast was great, and in particular the 7-year old Evan (Logan Lerman) and the 13-year old Tommy (Jesse James) were outstanding.

I give it 3.5 stars out of 5 - **Bob LaPierre**

The Waldorf Conference: Microphones, scripts, and actors By Shane Shellenbarger

We knew it was a bit crazy, flying to Los Angeles, renting a car, booking a hotel room for one night, eating dinner, shopping at Ikea, attending a play, spending the night and then flying back to Phoenix the next morning. Maybe more than a bit crazy, but we did it anyway and we’re glad we did.

On the morning of November 24th, 2003, Laurie and I left our Vue in a car park, hopped on board the airport shuttle, and made our way through the airport to our gate. Just over a month before I had heard about “the Waldorf Conference”, a radio play that would be performed at the Writers’ Guild of America Theatre in Beverly Hills. It had premiered on October 27, 1993 as a presentation of LA Theatre Works and was broadcast live over KCRW-FM. The cast at that time included Edward Asner as Louis B. Mayer, Shelley Berman as Samuel Goldwyn, Charles Durning as James F. Byrnes, David Ellenstein as William Goetz, John Kapelos as Spyros Skouras, Bill Macy as Barney Balaban, Richard Masur as Mendel Silberberg, George Murdock as Nicholas Schenck, John Randolph as Harry Cohn, Ron Rifkin as Dore Schary, William Schallert as Albert Warner, and John

Schuck as Eric Johnston.

The November 24th production was a benefit for the Hollywood American Civil Liberties Union and the Writers Guild Foundation. Nat Segaloff produced and John de Lancie directed with the following cast, Edward Asner as Louis B. Mayer, James Cromwell as James F. Byrnes, John de Lancie as Eric Johnston, Harlan Ellison as Barney Balaban, Michael Laskin as Mendel Silberberg, Paul Mazursky as Samuel Goldwyn, Kenny Morse as Spyros Skouras, Ethan Phillips as Harry Cohn, Robert Picardo as Dore Schary, Lawrence Pressman as Albert Warner, Jacob Snyder

as William Goetz, and Alan Toy as Nicholas Schenck. Laurie and I had seen most of these actors on television and in the movies, so we were understandably excited to be one row back from the stage.

The day went rather smoothly, excepting the wait for car rental shuttle, and after a late lunch at California Pizza Kitchen, shopping at Ikea, and browsing at Barnes and Noble we left Burbank for Beverly Hills at 6:00 p.m. There was a reception at 7:00 with the play starting at 7:30. We weren’t quite sure how to get there, but we had maps and we were only going about thirty miles, how tough could it be? Damn tough!

The traffic on the freeway was slow, it was nearly impossible to transition from one freeway to the next, and the interior light in the rental didn’t work. It took us ninety minutes to travel slightly over thirty miles! THIRTY MILES! When we did get to the theatre we had some parking difficulty. We rushed into the lobby just as a voice over the loudspeaker was calling for the audience to take their seats.

The plot of “The Waldorf Conference” concerns a meeting that took place on Monday, November 24, 1947 at 11 a.m., when forty-eight of the most powerful men in America secretly met in a suite at New York’s plush Waldorf-Astoria Hotel

These 48 Hollywood studio executives were Kings of their realms, gathered in fear of scrutiny by the House Un-American Activities

Committee. Dispite their violation of the anti-trust laws being used by the government to dismantle the studio monopolies, they had to come to a consensus about how to react to the Communist witch-hunts disguised as the just completed HUAC hearings in Washington, D.C. ; hearings that probed for Communist content in American Movies. In spite of their lack of evidence, the HUAC hearings brought about indictments of ten writers, directors, and producers for refusing to answer the committees questions about their political beliefs.

With bad publicity, box office returns dropping 25% from the year before, and the tension between the west coast showmen and their conservative east coast bankers, these 48 mogels knew that they had to act and act fast. They decided to beat the American government to the punch. They came up with a two-page public statement, the Waldorf Peace Pact, proclaiming that, until Congress could rid the country of Communists, the Industry would do it for them, starting with the “Hollywood Ten.”

And thus began the Blacklist..

End Part 1

WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION 2004

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www.worldfantasy2004.org



The 2004 edition of the **World Fantasy Convention** in Tempe, Arizona has a theme of **Women of Fantasy and Horror**. It will feature a Dealer’s Room, Art Show, Programming featuring our Guests of Honor and other participants including discussion panels, workshops and readings, the World Fantasy Awards Banquet, Autograph Reception, Artists Reception, and more.

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The average daytime high temperature in late October is 85 degrees.

Author Guest of Honour Gwyneth Jones

Gwyneth Jones is a writer and critic of Fantasy and Science Fiction and also writes as Ann Halam, a writer of teenage fiction. She has been awarded two World Fantasy Awards, a BSFA short story award, the Children of the Night Award from the Dracula Society, the 2001 Arthur C. Clarke award for *Bold As Love*, and is a co-winner of the Tiptree award.

Artist Guest of Honor Janny Wurts

Janny's award winning paintings have been showcased in many exhibitions of imaginative artwork and she has been awarded three Chesley awards by The Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA). She is also the author of eleven novels, a collection of short stories, and the internationally best selling Empire trilogy written in collaboration with Raymond E. Feist.

Editor Guest of Honor Ellen Datlow

Award winning editor of many fantasy, horror and science fiction anthologies including *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* for sixteen years. She has won the World Fantasy Award six times, the Bram Stoker Award once, and the 2002 Hugo Award for Best Professional Editor. Datlow consults for Tor Books, was fiction editor for OMNI magazine for 17 years and is currently the editor for SCI FICTION, the fiction area of SCIFI.COM.

Publisher Guest of Honor Betty Ballantine

Betty Ballantine co-founded Bantam Books and Ballantine Books with her husband Ian Ballantine and has published many major fantasy authors over the years. She was awarded two World Fantasy Awards with Ian (1975, 1984) and Betty received Betty received a special SFWA President's Award in 2002.

More Guests to be Announced

Memberships are US\$140 through April 30, 2004, US\$150 through July 31, 2004 more later and at the door.

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24 Frames (Cont'd from page 3)

Feige told comics Continuum that "The tone of the film will be fun and adventurous, but the villains always fit their heroes. And Elektra doesn't wear a mask or hide her face. It will be unique villains that I think people will recognize and be very excited to see." No word on who else will star in the movie.

Strictly in the rumor category is one that **Sean Astin** is in the running to direct the ***Fantastic Four*** movie with possible stars **George Clooney** as Reed Richards and **Orlando Bloom** as the Human Torch.

Movie Previews

As usual, there's not much in the way of genre stuff in the theatres at the beginning of the year. Be on the lookout for **Bruce Campbell's Bubba Ho-Tep** (Campbell as a nursing home Elvis who does battle with a demonic Mummy) possibly sometime in March. Also check out the Harkin's Valley Art for a special run of classic movies.

Lost Skeleton of Cadavra - As an homage to the ultra-low-budget, drive-in-friendly, science fiction movies of the 1950s and early 1960s (think **Ed Wood**, or the sort of movies spoofed on MST3K), this is the unlikely story of a meteor shower that deposits an ore called "atmosphereum" in the hills outside Los Angeles in 1961, attracting the scientific interest of a heroic scientist who hopes to use the scientific value of the ore for his science project (redundancy intended), and whose wife joins him on the expedition. What he soon finds out is that a pair of aliens (from the planet Marva in outer space!) are also after the atmosphereum as fuel for their space ship (out of which a dangerous space mutant has escaped). Also in the area is an evil scientist exploring the mysterious Cadavra Cave, reportedly home to the legendary Lost Skeleton, who discovers he also needs the atmosphereum to revive

the ***Lost Skeleton of Cadavra***; and along the way, he uses the Marvan's transmutatron ray to meld four local animals into a beautiful mate for himself... ***Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed*** The sequel to the 2002 hit that translated the lives of Fred, Daphne, Velma, Shaggy and



Scooby to the big screen as a live-action comic adventure. Starring: **Matthew Lillard, Sarah Michelle Gellar, Linda Cardellini, Freddie Prinze Jr., and Seth Green.**

Club Dread - A comedy sendup of serial killer movies. At Club Dread, an alcohol (and other substances) drenched swinging-singles-style island resort off the coast of Costa Rica, the festivities are interrupted by the presence of a machete-wielding serial killer, so it's up to the staff (the Broken Lizard guys who made "***Super Troopers***") to try to stop (or at least hide)

the bloodshed before they lose all their business (and of course, their swank jobs). Stars **Bill Paxton, Kevin Heffernan, Paul Soter, Steve Lemme, and Erik Stolhanske.** ***Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London*** - **Frankie Muniz** returns as Agent Cody Banks. A rogue CIA agent (and Cody's own trainer) has stolen a top secret mind-control device, and Cody has to go undercover in London to get it back. Posing as a student at an elite music boarding school, Cody has to keep other kids from discovering his true identity while infiltrating covert hideouts, tracking his target - and practicing the violin. With all-new gadgets, high-flying comedy, a wisecracking new handler (**Anthony Anderson**), and a hip British Secret Service counterpart (**Hannah Spearrit**), Cody has to fight the toughest enemy possible - the very man who taught him everything he knows.

Dawn of the Dead - Yes, a remake of the classic horror film. As the United States is turned upside-down by a strange plague-like event in which millions of corpses walk the earth as blood-thirsty zombies (with the recently-deceased that the zombies kill usually returning as zombies themselves, multiplying their number), a small group of survivors of the onslaught, which include a nurse (**Sarah Polley**) and a police officer (**Ving Rhames**), try to find shelter and protection within a massive shopping mall in the mid-sized city of Everett, WA. What they don't reckon on is that the zombies still have some sort of residual memory, and *everyone* loves going to the mall, right? Realizing that their time is running out, they decide to make another attempt at flight, to a presumably un-zombie-infested island, but to do so, they'll have to get past thousands of zombies in-between... Starring **Sarah Polley, Ving Rhames, Mekhi Phifer, Michael Barry, and Lindy Booth**

complete with fierce red skin, a tail, a giant armored glove, and two large circles where his horns should be (if they ever grow back, Hellboy is quick to break them off). Now, the adult Hellboy, an investigator of the paranormal, is sent on a mission that brings him back in touch with the evil genius that started it all... that Nazi wizard (and just who is *he* anyway?). Accompanying him along the way are other agents, including Liz, a pyrokinetic woman Hellboy has feelings for, and Abe Sapien, a mysterious amphibian hominid... Stars **Ron Perlman** (Hellboy), **David Hyde Pierce, Doug Jones, Karel Roden, Jeffrey Tambor** and directed by **Guillermo Del Toro**.

Le Guin (Cont'd from page 1)

To finish up the first weekend in April will be the third annual **Phoenix Cactus ComicCon** on Sunday, April 4th at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive in Glendale, AZ. It is scheduled to run from 9 am to 3 pm. Admission is \$6 (10 years and under get in free). Activities include an Art-on-the-Spot Contest, Costume Contest, Panel Discussions & Workshops and thousands of dollars in door prizes! Guests include **Steve Rude** (Creator of *The Moth* and *Nexus*, Artist on *Captain America, Thor*, and *Spiderman*), **Brian Pulido** (Creator/Writer of *Lady Death*, Upcoming supernatural comics from Avatar Press), **Raven Gregory** (Creator/Writer of *The Gift*), **Brandon Huigens** (paper sailboat, the *Stop Dating* anthology), **Eric Mengel** (*Blind Mice Comics*), **Rob Osborne** (*1000 Steps to World Domination*). For more info, call 602-697-4007, visit <http://www.phoenixcomicon.com> or email Phoenixcomicon@aol.com

The Following weekend is the **14th Annual World Horror Convention**, being held in Phoenix for the third time (1994 and 1998 were the previous incarnations). It happens April 8-11th at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North hotel at I-17 and Greenway and will feature many guests including **Douglas Clegg** (Author GoH), **Caniglia** (Artist GoH), **Stephen Jones** (Editor GoH), **David Morrell** (Toastmaster), **Dee Snider** (Media GoH), **Adam Niswander** (Special Guest), **Mort Castle** (Writer's Workshop GoH) and **Nancy Kilpatrick** (Editor's Workshop GoH). Special events include an Independent Film Festival, Writer's Workshop, Editor's Workshop, Mass Autographing Session, Artist's Reception and more. This is the first of the three major conventions to happen in the Phoenix area this year (ConKopelli - WesterCon 57 in July and World Fantasy Convention in October being the other two). Visit www.whc2004.org for much more information on World Horror Convention 2004.

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IN MEMORIAM

Helen “April” Rice
Cristopher Martin
Diane Elliot Memorial Donation Info
Jim Cryer Memorial Donation Info

Helen “April” Rice
1954-2003

Helen “April” Rice, 49, of Phoenix, AZ passed away on December 19, 2003. Plagued by a congenital heart condition throughout her life, every day that she lived set a new medical record and gave new inspiration to her friends. She was a voracious reader and avid fan of science fiction and fantasy films. Many of you will remember her from various conventions as handicapped liaison.

She is survived by her mother, sisters, 27 nieces and nephews, 5 grand nieces and nephews, her housemate Richard Bolinski, her beloved cat Kahlua and many friends.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the American Heart Association, 2929 E. Thomas Rd., Phx, AZ 85015

“April had an influence on my life I don’t think she ever knew about. In a UFP video room at a fan gathering in Phoenix in 1989, she dropped straight lines for several of my puns that first attracted Moira’s attention.” - Randall Whitlock

An Order of The Phoenix
to
Helen “April” Rice
by Jeffrey Lu

A sweetheart who read Harry Potter,
Once have all T-shirts in every school,
Had no handicap
To all who knew her, too.
At LepreCon to CopperCon,
She attended her station
For volunteers and handicap helpers
In our staff situation.
She grinned with a heartfelt glee
In sharing and caring for you and me.
We loved her simple grace
Even her trials she’d face.
Now, I’ve been told she disappeared
From a friend of mine.
I raise my glass to April
After hearing an owl cried, “Hogwart’s Find.”

Cristopher L. Martin
1963-2003

Cris Martin, past president and member of the SouthWest Costumers Guild, past convention attendee and staff member and father of current CASFS member Sean Martin died in a tragic accident on November 30, 2003. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Challenger Space Center 21170 N. 83rd Avenue Peoria, AZ 85382

“From 1963 - 2003 Cristopher led a good life. Unfortunately, such a life was shorter than expected. On November 30, 2003 Cristopher Martin died on account of a fatal car accident at a young age of 40. He had been in fandom for an estimate of 10 years and had worked many of the local cons and in addition, had been a president for the SWCG for a year. Cristopher was a good man and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.” - By: Sean P. Martin

Star Trek Captain Cryer-
A Cool Kind Kid
by Jeffrey Lu

I remember him in the 1990’s
Guarding and guiding
Deforest “He’s Dead, Jim” Kelly
In Creation Phoenix Star Trek Convention.

He was in
His red shirt
Blazing black letters
Saying, “United Federation of Phoenix.”

His passion pointed to the stars
As he helped as chairman in many meetings
To found and bound his love
Of space and time.

He was a man
Who was not only
Behind the curtain,
But also behind the camera.

He was a friend
To the very end
As he was selected as Phoenix team member
In Star Trek First Contact Contest.

One day, he teleported out
With pain to the heart
And left a chair
To be filled.

Yet,
I am sad to say I’m last
To read the words in print,
“Oh God! Jim’s dead.”

Diane Elliott Memorial Donations

The United Federation of Phoenix has arranged for memorial donations in the



© Kelly Freas

memory of Diane Elliott to go towards a memorial tile at the Challenger Space Center in Peoria, Arizona. Donations can be made in her name directly to the Challenger Space Center, 21170 N. 83rd

Avenue Peoria, AZ 85382 or made through the United Federation of Phoenix, P.O. Box 37224 Phoenix, AZ 85069 or via PayPal to leewsftv@yahoo.com.

Forgotten Are The Roses
by Jeffrey Lu

Forgotten are the roses
But remember her.
She was Diane Elliot
Who is like Erin,
The Elf Princess from Lord of the Rings,
Once gave royal welcome hugs
To friends and family in our conventions.

Forgotten are the days
But remember her.
She was Diane Elliot
Who smiles a warm, hopeful greeting
With a laughing, glittering eyes
That outshines
The Milky Way of our conventions.

Forgotten are the lives
But remember her.
She was Diane Elliot
Who is a fan of life,
Lover of fantasy and adventure,
Star Trek Captain,
And admired from afar by our conventions.

Forgotten are these lines
But remember her.
She was Diane Elliot:
A friend in need,
A Sci-fi creed,
A lady
From our conventions.

Jim Cryer Memorial Donations

Donations in memory of Jim Cryer can be made to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix, 501 E. Roanoke Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004.



© Sue Dawe

Pro Notes

by Catherine Book

Hello everyone - **ProNotes** is baaacck! I will do my humble best to bring you fresh information from as many professional writers, artists and anyone who contributes to the genre as I can find. If there’s anyone out there who wants to send me information, please email me at Cathy@casfs.org

Anyway, right to it... On the local front, **Alan Dean Foster** reports that he recently submitted a novelization of the upcoming Universal film, “The Chronicles of Riddick” starring Vin Diesel, the novel will appear from Del Rey, May 2004, the film in June. He also sent in the last two books of the TAKEN trilogy to Del Rey, “The Light-Years Beneath My Feet” and “The Candle of Distant Earth.” He is currently working on the outline for a massive near-future novel titled “Sagaramanda.” And this month, he’s off for Venezuela and Guyana to look for anacondas... We’ll see him back in Arizona in time for CopperCon24 as our GOH, I expect. **Michael Stackpole** tells me that the last book in the DRAGONCROWN WAR series was published in December. He’s working on the first book in a new fantasy series, titled “A Secret Atlas” which should appear fall/winter of 2004 and he has a contract for a new MechWarrior: Dark Ages novel due in 2005. **Jennifer Roberson** is finishing up “Karavans,” the first volume in a new fantasy series. In 2005 she plans to return to Cheysuli for the first of three new novels. She recently contracted with Five Star Books for a short story collection featuring most of her shorter works that have appeared elsewhere. She also has a novelette that blends the Robin Hood legend with Merlin appearing in a fantasy romance anthology titled “Irresistible Forces” plus a murder mystery/fantasy hybrid in an anthology titled “Murder Most Majickal.” **Jacqueline Lichtenberg** is leading her usual hectic, exciting life (through which I live vicariously....) - she has several of her SIME-GEN books back in print (too many to list here), an article in “Seven Seasons of Buffy,” edited by Glenn Yeffeth, April will have a trade paperback release of “Dreamspy” and in July she has a new SIME-GEN title coming out from Meisha-Merlin, titled “To Kiss or To Kill.” She’ll be at a CreationCon in Phoenix on Feb 15th AND... she might be in TREKKIES 2. From sunny Tucson, we heard from **Dennis McKiernan** that his next book to be published from Roc Books is “Red Slippers: More Tales of Mithgar” which is the final MITHGAR book and is a collection of short stories and a couple of novelettes and a novella (for those who count words...) and he promises that it ties up some, but not all, loose ends from **(Cont’d on page 9)**

Volume 14 Issue 1

ProNotes (Cont'd from page 8)

the series. It's due out in May. He also recently turned in book Two of a projected five book series set in Faery. It's titled "Once Upon a Summer Day", due late 2004. Book Three might be finished writing this summer, to be titled "Once Upon an Autumn Eve." (Anyone want to guess the Fourth book title...?) **Lee Hogan** is working on a new stand-alone SF novel proposal, maybe we'll hear more next time and **Ernest Hogan** is trying to finish his mainstream novel "Walter Quixote" so he can get back to a bunch of SF ideas and a secret screenplay project. (ooooohh..)

Catherine Wells just sold a book of fairy tales to the church market, "Parable Time" from Augsburg/Fortress due in 2005; it is a collection of fables in the style of Mexican folk tales. She's also been doing a lot of fun research on 11th century Scotland for a project about the origins of King Macbeth, it's going to a second reading by a major publisher right now - let's all cross our fingers for her. Up north, in chilly Flagstaff, **Doranna Durgin** reports 2003 was a pretty intense year with the release of four books: "Angel: Impressions", "Angel: Fearless", "Mage Knight: Dark Debts," and "Femme Fatale." She also had a story in the "Space, Inc." anthology, plus the re-release of "Barrenlands." Next year we should see "Khamsin's Heir" and "Exception to the Rules" plus several anthology stories. "Rules" is for a new line of women's fiction, where she, happily, gets to play with the same kind of strong female characters she's used in her previous work.

From even further north, **Kevin J. Anderson** checks in from Colorado. He has been proofing the galleys of the third volume in his SAGA OF THE SEVEN SUNS, titled "Horizon Storms" and has written the first draft of Book 4, "An Ocean of Worlds." The graphic novel prequel to the series, "Veiled Alliances," was just published by Wildstorm/DC Comics. And for those diehard DUNE fans: he and Brian Herbert have delivered the final manuscript of "Dune: The Battle of Corrin" to Tor Books and Hodder & Stought in the UK. And the list goes on: Kevin is writing the novelization to the film "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" for Penguin-Putnam. With Rebecca Moesta, he wrote a humorous four-issue comic series, "Grumpy Old Monsters" for IDW. The first two issues are already in

comic stores. Back down in New Mexico, **Fred Saberhagen** is just turning in "Rogue Berserker" to Baen and has signed with Tor to do a sequel to "Empire of the East" connecting it to the BOOKS OF SWORDS. (I imagine a lot of fans will be excited about that one.) (NOTE: I would love to hear from more writers in New Mexico, I know there's a lot of you out there.)

From California, we hear from **David Brin** who says his new graphic novel "The Life Eaters" is in bookstores now. This hardcover extends his novella, offering chillingly plausible insight to what the Nazis might have really been up to, during WWII. It's getting great reviews! He also has a short story collection, "Tomorrow Happens" which includes 2

Uplift stories. On the side, David has started his own software co., filing for patents in the field of real time 'meeting ware' or 'chat.' If you're interested, check out www.holocenechat.com. And, finally, he teases us with his next novel: Hint...they swim. They talk. They fly... **Larry Niven** tells me that "Ringworld's Child" should be out in June from Tor

(Cont'd on page 10)

www.leprecon.org

LEPRECON 30

May 7-9, 2004

Sheraton Crescent Hotel, Phoenix, AZ

Annual Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention with an emphasis on Art



Art by Donato Giancola

Artist Guest of Honor **Donato Giancola**

Renowned Science Fiction and Fantasy Artist. recipient of six ASFA Chesley Awards including the 2002 Chesley Award for Artistic Achievement. Illustrator of over 100 Science Fiction and Fantasy novels & Magic Cards for Wizards of the Coast.

Author Guest of Honor **David Drake**

Author of mercenary military science fiction with his best-selling *Hammer's Slammers* series, and heroic fantasy such as *Lord of the Isles* and *Goddess of the Ice Realm*.

Special Artist Guest **John Eaves**

Senior Illustrator on *Enterprise*, Illustrator on recent Star Trek movies and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, *The Majestic* and *Terminator 2: Judgement Day*.

Local Artist Guest of Honor: **Sylvana Anderson-Gish**

Music Guest: Mara Brenner (sponsored by the Phoenix Filk Circle)

LepreCon 30 Art Show Information

The LepreCon 30 art show will feature art from our Artist Guest of Honor Donato Giancola, our local Artist Guest of Honor Sylvana Anderson-Gish, and hundreds more pieces of the best of science fiction and fantasy art.

We are asking that artists planning to hang art limit it to originals and limited run prints. We will feature a print shop -- an area for artists to sell multiple prints of some of their more popular work.

We are anticipating a great art show this year, so be sure to come down and see the pride of a lot of super artists.

If you have any questions, or if you are interested in reserving display space, please contact Ray Gish at 2527 N. Silverado, Mesa, AZ 85215, call 480-641-3997, or email at RGASAS@aol.com.

LepreCon 30 is moving to the **Sheraton Crescent Hotel** with more function space where almost all convention activities will be under one roof. As always, LepreCon will feature the Largest Science Fiction and Fantasy Art Show in the Southwest with art from national and local artists, Programming with Panel Discussions on Art, Writing, Science and more, Art Demos, games and special family friendly programming. We will also have a Dealer's Room, Gaming, LARP, Video Room, Anime Room, LAN Party, Masquerade, Hospitality Suite, a Charity Auction to benefit ASFA, and Robert A. Heinlein 'Pay it Forward' Blood Drive.

Sheraton Crescent Hotel

2620 W. Dunlap Ave., Phoenix, AZ

Room Rates:

\$79 S/D, \$99 T/Q +tax

602-943-8200 or 800-423-4126

Limited number of suites available

Memberships

\$35 thru 4/15/04,

\$40 at the door

Kids 7-12 half price*

Kids 6 & Under Free*

*with Adult membership

Pay online with PayPal!

Contact LepreCon 30 at:

Write: LepreCon 30,
PO Box 26665
Tempe, AZ 85285
Phone: (480) 945-6890
Email: lep30@leprecon.org

ProNotes (Cont'd from page 9) Books. (WhooHoo!) Tor also has "Tales From the Draco Tavern", no date yet, which is a collection of 22 stories set mostly in an interspecies bar in Siberia. (I love the sound of that!) "Creation Myth" by Larry and Brenda Cooper, is complete but not yet sold. He and Jerry Pournelle are still polishing "Burning Tower" for Simon & Schuster. He and Brenda Cooper will collaborate again (probably) on a series of short stories set on a far future Pluto and he'll be contributing short stories to a new world Greg Benford is building. (Busy, busy, busy...) **Tim Powers** tells us that his new book takes place in 1987 and has to do with the Harmonic Convergence, Albert Einstein and the Mossad and takes place in Los Angeles (where else?) and the Mojave Desert. Unfortunately, it probably won't be published until 2005...

I was also fortunate to hear from our genre artists: **Todd Lockwood** (CopperCon24 GOH) who says he's finishing up some work for Sony but can't talk about it... He's also doing a cover for Tor Books and some upcoming books in the DRIZZT lines for Wizards of the Coast. AND — look for his art on some MAGIC cards again soon. And, our own local artist, **Larry Vela**, has been pretty busy. A plane he painted was the cover pic and featured article in the Nov issue of "America's Flyways." And, in the Dec

issue, he was featured in an article about his airbrush and paint work that he's done on aircraft and was written by Cathy Yankovich. The cover of "Trike" was a motorcycle he painted with artwork from 1001 Dalmatians. And, lastly, a helicopter he painted with the American flag ripping out from camouflage was featured and on the cover of "Custom Plane." He's also working on several new paintings he hopes to have completed for World Horror. And, Velavision has several video projects in the works that covers things such as the filming at the Challenger Space Center, a News Magazine show, profiles on several people and groups as well as pre-production of the Newscasts for LepreCon and Westercon. For anyone reading this who isn't familiar with Velavision, you can check it out at our local conventions - LepreCon, CopperCon and Westercon 57.

And, finally, for our gaming fans: **Jessie Foster**, one of the MIB of Steve Jackson Games, tells me that several of their games have been in high demand: Munchkin, it's sequels, and Chez Geek and it's sequels. Recent releases such as Ninja Burger are really hot right now. Dork Tower, a boardgame based on the popular comic strip by John Kovalic, just released and is 'drawing' a lot of attention. Look for Jessie in the game room at just about any convention in the area.

Thanks for reading this far and, please, check back in two issues and I'll have more news from more people.

Jinxed, Hexed, or Cursed:
The second part of how I
ruined Harlan Ellison's return
to Arizona,
By Shane Shellenbarger

We weren't in Dogpatch, but in Glendale, there weren't dark rain clouds, but bright blue skies, and I wasn't the Al Capp character, Joe Btfsplk, but I felt just as jinxed. An automotive accident had just occurred as I was transporting Harlan and Susan Ellison to a speaking engagement at Glendale Community College and I sat in my Saturn Vue, stunned.

Harlan wasn't stunned and he confirmed that Susan and I were both okay. He then got out and assessed the damage and let me know that the other driver was making calls including one to the police. I got on the cell phone, called my wife, Laurie, told her what had happened, and gladly accepted her offer to come and transport the Ellison's to G.C.C. I was on hold with the Glendale Police when two patrol cars pulled up. I followed the officer's directions and had moved my vehicle to a gas station on the North side of Glendale Avenue, with the other vehicle following suit.

Harlan was talking to one of the officers and I was still trying to make sense of what had happened. After a brief time, one of the officers asked me how fast

the other car had been traveling and I answered 50 m.p.h. The officer asked me a few more questions and then went to confer with the other officer. I was beginning to regain my composure and I had the presence of mind to take some pictures of the other driver's vehicle, taking note of the damage to his car from previous accidents. His white 1984 BMW 318i had damage to the front, side, and passenger mirror that were preexisting to our run in. As far as I could tell, rubber from my tire on his passenger door and a slight crimp that made the door a bit difficult to open were the only areas damaged on his car. My Vue was sporting a few scratches and some of his paint near the front bumper. I took more photos.

A few minutes later, Officer Rico approached me with a request from the other driver (who we'll call Mr. Ham) for money to compensate him for the damage to his car. Laurie hadn't arrived yet and I was anxious to get going so I asked Mr. Ham what amount he had in mind. He countered by asked how much I would give him. I told him \$20, thinking to myself that I shouldn't pay him anything for hitting us, but wanting to get the Ellison's to G.C.C. as soon as possible. Later, several people told me that I should have offered him \$100, but hindsight is 20/20. Mr. Ham said he wanted \$500 dollars. To say that this attempt at extortion made me

(Cont'd on page 11)

HEXA CON 14

Arizona's Largest Gaming Convention
July 29*-Aug 1, 2004
Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe, AZ

Arizona's Largest Annual Gaming Convention will be even bigger in 2004. We're moving to the Tempe Mission Palms in downtown Tempe with a lot more room and tons of nearby restaurants and shopping. We'll have all of our regular events and activities plus more in the works. *Special events and gaming for Pre-registered members start Thursday, July 29
Gaming starts at 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 30 and runs non-stop until Sunday, August 1st at 3 p.m.

We are planning to have **Sanctioned Magic & CCG Tournaments, Steve Jackson Games, Board Gaming, Miniatures, multiple LARPs, Battletech, Computer Lan Gaming, Miniatures Painting Contest, Role Playing, Chess Federation Sponsored Chess Events, White Wolf, Dealer's Room, Used Game Auction, Anime Room and Full Hospitality Suite.**

Location Information:

Tempe Mission Palms
60 E 5th St, Tempe, AZ 85281
(800) 547-8705

Room Rates \$85 S/D/T/Q

Membership Rates:

\$20 through June 30, 2004,
\$25 at the Door.

Pay Online using PayPal!

Contact HexaCon at:

Hexacon 14
P.O. Box 62613
Phoenix, AZ 85082
Phone: (602) 973-2341
Email: hex14@hexacon.org
Web: www.hexacon.org

Jinxed (Cont'd from page 10)

indignant would be an understatement and I said I wouldn't give him \$500 for the entire car. Mr. Ham said he wouldn't give me \$500 for my vehicle and that's when the officer interrupted and asked us to remain civil. My wife, Laurie arrived, so I walked away to calm down and to see that the Ellison's and their belongings were transferred to my wife's car and I watched them drive away.

With the negotiations between Mr. Ham and myself at an impasse, the officers moved off to confer. A few minutes later, I received a ticket for an Unsafe Lane Change Section 28-729.1 and I was on my way to G.C.C. I found out later from Laurie that Harlan was outraged on my behalf, throwing aspersions on Mr. Ham's driving ability and his moral compass. Have I mentioned how much I love Harlan? I arrived at G.C.C. and parked, heading to the room provided by Hannes Kvaran of the Speakers Forum. Laurie was waiting there, outside in 100 plus degree heat, concerned and anxious about my well-being. Have I mentioned how much I love Laurie? She made sure that I was okay, I got something to drink, and then she headed back to work. I got to the room, set up what turned out to be defective camcorders, and listened to Harlan speak.

After his talk, Harlan was incensed that I had received a ticket. As I drove the three of us to dinner, I was getting a bit incensed myself and when Harlan offered to return to Arizona and bear witness I accepted his offer. It was no longer about the \$131.00 fine or a couple of points on my driving record; it was about the principal of the thing. I began to feel a bit better.

Of course, nothing can ever go smoothly or as planned. Harlan is a busy man and conflicts between his schedule and the court dates began to crop up. The Days of Repentance began with Rosh Hashanah on September 27th and ended with Yom Kippur on October 6th. October 7th was out because Harlan and Susan were working on the election that resulted in Arnold Schwarzenegger becoming the Governor of California. I'm sure they tried their best, but you can't win them all. On October 14th, Harlan was scheduled for some surgery. I appealed, Harlan appealed, and a friend of Harlan's who was a prosecutor in Los Angeles appealed, all to no avail. After two continuances, the court wouldn't budge: the court date was set for October 14th, 1:30 p.m., Courtroom #1.

I asked Harlan not to miss his surgery, I asked him to write a statement that I could give to the judge. No. He said he would bear witness and he would be at Sky Harbor Airport on October 14th. I told him he was going to too much trouble, I didn't want him put out this much to come to my aid and I released him from his promise. He told me that keeping your word when it's easy doesn't mean

anything; your word only has substance when things are difficult. I have mentioned that I love Harlan, haven't I?

I appreciated Harlan's commitment and I didn't want to let him down when he was going to all of this trouble to come to my aid, so I started preparing my defense. I returned to the scene of the accident, made observations, took photos, and made measurements. This activity clarified for me what happened: Mr. Ham had been driving between 48 and 60 m.p.h. in the Turn Only lane prior to entering the Left Turn Only lane. I was in the right, Mr. Ham was in the wrong and I would build a case to prove it!

October 14th was another hot, clear day and Harlan's plane would arrive at 10:55 a.m. I left for Sky Harbor in plenty of time and arrived to find several levels of the parking lot full. Spiraling up the ramp, I reassured myself, patting the folder of photos and opening statements that would prove my case. I got off on the 4th level and eventually found a parking spot about a thirty-second walk from the elevator. I couldn't see the dark rain clouds beginning to form over my head.

Once inside the terminal, I headed for the Arrivals monitor and confirmed that the plane had not yet arrived. I took advantage of the delay and returned to the monitor with an empty bladder and clean hands. It was now after 11:00 a.m. and, according to the monitor, the plane still hadn't arrived. I paced a bit, looked about me, and indulged in some people watching. The time was now 11:15. It was then that noticed that the monitor showed Flight 146 had arrived. Odd, there was no noticeable increase in the traffic of passengers leaving the gate area for the main part of the terminal. The time was now 11:20. What's that? Did I just hear my name? Where's the white paging phone? Hello, yes, did you just call for a Shane Shellenbarger? You did? What was the message again, please? Baggage area? Thank you!

I head for the elevator, regret not using the escalator, and eventually make my way to the baggage claim, all the while scanning for Harlan. Soon, I spotted him making his way toward me and not long after that we were driving out of the airport.

Our first stop was at the home of local author, James Sallis, where Harlan surprised Sallis with a boxed set of jazz CDS. Next, we went in search of a luggage repair shop to fix a broken zipper on Harlan's case. After several failures, we chanced upon Tony's Shoe Repair at Park Central Mall. The craftsman had the zipper properly fixed and we were quickly on the road and headed for the Glendale courtroom. When we arrived in downtown Glendale we still had some time to kill, so we walked through an antique shop where Harlan picked up a brooch for Susan.

Laurie met us in the lobby of the courthouse and we proceeded through the

metal detectors and found our way into Courtroom #1. This was a hot day outside and the air-conditioning wasn't working in the courtroom, so we began to suffer. It was worse for Harlan, not being acclimated to the heat and having come from the cooler clime of California. Laurie and I were beginning to worry for his health. We weren't alone, as Officer Rico asked after Harlan when he left to get some water.

After what seemed like forever, the court clerk appeared and confirmed who was present. Eventually the judge appeared and after another hot forever, Harlan, Officer Rico, and I sat before the judge. I didn't get "that sinking feeling" immediately. The judge questioned the three of us, allowed me to make a statement and question Officer Rico, looked at the evidence I had submitted, and asked some more questions. Harlan, I believe, started to get "That sinking feeling" about the time I started to present "my case." Harlan attempted to come to my aid several times, but the judge prevented him and I wasn't sharp enough to realize that I had probably seen a few too many courtroom dramas on television, I had bogged down the judge with too much detail, and that I would have been better off if I had followed the principle of K.I.S.S.: Keep It Simple, Stupid. The sinking feeling came when the judge told me that I had "almost convinced her." Laurie told me later that a man in the gallery turned to her and commented that I had too much time on my hands. Joe Btfsplk dark rain cloud unleashed a downpour all over my parade. I have met the enemy and he is me.

Harlan and Laurie left the courtroom and I waited in line to pay my fine. I thought about what I should or shouldn't have done while I waited for the court clerks to grind through the rest of the queue. Eventually, I paid the ticket, bid goodbye to Laurie, and found Harlan at the Lenny's Burger next to the courthouse. I'm used to Harlan not hesitating to speak his mind, so when we had driven back to the I-17 and he hadn't told me what he thought, I asked. He hesitated, so I assured him I could take it and I wanted to know. He told me that I had acted like a fanboy, overthinking the situation and piling on unnecessary detail when I should have giving a simple, straightforward account. I agree and I hope that there isn't a "next time" to put his advice to the test. I can't say that I regret trying to win my case. If you don't try you'll always wonder, what if? Also, I guess I didn't completely ruin Harlan's return to Arizona. He hardly berated me at all when I spoke to him in November after his performance in "The Waldorf Conference."

<http://harlanellison.com/newsapp.htm>
<http://www.jewfaq.org/current.htm>
<http://www.grasslimb.com/sallis/>

The Costume Closet



The Villainous Jacket by Randall Whitlock

What is the well-dressed SF Villain wearing this year? If it's any year since 1962, when "Dr. No" hit the big screen, the answer is probably a well-tailored Nehru Jacket.

The Nehru Jacket is named for Jawaharlal Nehru, who served as prime minister of India from its independence from the British Empire until his death in 1964. The jacket is a perfect blend of traditional south Asian styles with western business suits. Nehru jackets were briefly popular in the west during the middle 1960's, most likely associated with the Beatles' well-publicized interests in meditation, sitar music, and other things Indian.

The Nehru Jacket and its less well-fitted cousin, the Mao Suit, have been worn by many familiar bad guys from film and television, including Dr. No, Ernst Blofeld*, The Master, and their perfect parodies, Dr. Evil and Mini Me. Vandal Savage wore the style in a 2003 episode of the animated "Justice League." The reader can doubtless recall many other examples.

The plain and austere style of the jacket still looks futuristic, even though it's more than 60 years old. The look is perfect to convey a villain's "I'm a genius and deserve to rule the world" attitude. I'm tempted to include double-breasted, tight-collared coats like those worn by the "Star Wars" villains Grand Moff Tarkin and Count Dooku, but these cuts seem to owe more to the military uniforms of the late 19th Century.

I recently had the opportunity to examine a genuine Nehru Jacket loaned by



(Cont'd on page 12)

Costume (Cont'd from page 11)

friend and 60's survivor Pete Manly. This example, seen in the photograph, is made of a brown cotton corduroy with a patterned satin lining. This one has hip pockets, an inside pocket, a back vent, a row of five leather shank buttons, and sleeve buttons. Most of these features are optional. I've seen others with no visible pockets or buttons, or with a breast pocket. The cut of a Nehru Jacket is the same as a conventional single-breasted sport coat, with tailored shoulders and light shoulder pads. The only real difference is in the collar. Sport coats have their front closures folded over to form lapels. Nehru jacket fronts continue upward to a close-fitting band collar.



How do you get a Nehru Jacket? Here are three good possibilities:

1. Buy one. Genuine jackets from the 60's turn up frequently on e-Bay while newly made jackets can be found on Halloween costume web sites. Check out "Austin Powers" fan sites.

2. Make one. Any published pattern for a sport coat will work. Just skip the lapels and substitute a simple band or "mandarin" collar on a circular neck line.

3. Alter One. Obtain a used suit from a thrift store. Narrow-lapel styles work best. Press out the lapels, add a couple more buttonholes and buttons, then remove the original collar. Substitute a band collar in matching fabric. Some cuts don't even need the collar changed.

The possibilities for hall costumes are unlimited. Get yourself a Nehru Jacket in white, gray, or black and accessorize with a cybernetic monocle, a skin-tone skullcap, a metal glove, painted scars, etc. and you're ready to conquer the universe. The pool of man-eating crocodiles is optional.

Notes:

*And about half of James Bond's other foes. Sometimes the whole movie series seems to be a running duel between Nehrus and Tuxedos.

For further information with lots of pictures, check out these web sites:
<http://www.seanparnell.com/Nehru%20Jacket/Nehru%20Jacket.htm>
<http://jmsbond.tripod.com/villians.html>

FYI

Jacqueline Lichtenberg Book Signing

Jacqueline Lichtenberg will be signing books on Sunday, February 15 at 7PM -Books available *Seven Seasons of Buffy*, *Sime~Gen The Unity Trilogy*, *Those of My Blood at Borders Across* from the Fiesta Mall, 1361 S. Alma School Road, Mesa, AZ 85210. Phone 480-833-2244

Caribou Moving Pictures Premiere Event at Alice Cooper'stown with Walter Koenig Feb 13th.

Caribou Moving Pictures has announced that "**The Message**", directed by **Ethan Moe**, will have a world premiere screening on Friday the 13th, February 13, 2004, at 7:00pm, at Alice Cooper'stown Restaurant & Sports Lounge, 101 E. Jackson St. in downtown Phoenix, AZ. Caribou Moving Pictures produces a suspense anthology series of shorts that is reminiscent of "**The Twilight Zone**" and "**The Outer Limits**" television series. "**The Message**" tells the story of a man who communicates a vital message to a loved one after he dies too soon. Special guest for premiere night is Executive Producer, Writer and Actor, **Walter Koenig**. Mr. **Koenig**, best known for his roles of Ensign Chekov in the original "**Star Trek**" television series and six "**Star Trek**" movies, and Bester in the "**Babylon 5**" television series. Mr. **Koenig** and Caribou Moving Pictures will be working together to develop his screenplay, "**In Search Of Steven Spielberg**". Caribou Moving Pictures utilized local actors, production persons, locations, and local vendors coordinated by Caribou Moving Pictures' Technical Coordinator, **Tim Tharalson** for "**The Message**". "**The Message**", written by **Stanley Robinson**, stars **Tabitha Meready**, **Shane Dean**, **Eleni C. Krimitsos**, **Jennifer McLeod**, **David Hayes**, **Jordan Lamb**, and introduces **Wenna Jenifer Douglas** as Sophie.

Gallifrey One Announces Special Guests

The Fifteenth Annual Gallifrey One convention happening in Van Nuys, CA Feb 13-16 (dubbed Gallifrey One's Fifteen Minutes of Fame) has announced a couple of special guests for this year's convention to go with their previously announced main guests. In addition to Seventh Doctor **Sylvester McCoy** and **Janet Fielding** (Tegan), they will also have **Paul McGann**, who played the Eighth Doctor in the FOX TV movie and **Paul Darrow**, who played Avon in the BBC series **Blake's 7**. There are many other **Doctor Who** and media SciFi guests from **Farscape**, **Babylon 5**, **Star Trek** and more also appearing. This looks to be their biggest convention ever and is always a fun weekend. For more information, visit www.gallifreyone.com.

Samurai Comics Events

On Saturday February 14 from 11AM until Midnight Samurai Comics will be hosting an Anime Festival

Then on Saturday March 13th there will be an Autograph Party with **Steve Rude** (time to be announced). This will be the World Premiere Signing of Steve's new comic, the Moth. Steve has worked on a number of great comics in the past, including Nexus, Spider-Man, X-Men, Captain America, and Space Ghost For more info check out their website at www.samuraicomics.com

Trek Movies on the Big Screen Again

Harkins Valley Art theatre in downtown Tempe will be screening a series of Star Trek movies on the weekends beginning in March. They will screen on Friday and Saturday nights at 11 pm. If response is good, they may continue with other classic Science Fiction movies. The following movies are scheduled:
 Star Trek: The Wrath of Kahn 3/12 - 3/13
 Star Trek: The Search For Spock 3/19 - 3/20
 Star Trek: The Voyage Home 3/26 - 3/27
 Star Trek: First Contact 4/2 - 4/3

The Borg to Assimilate Las Vegas

Star Trek: The Experience at the Las Vegas Hilton has announced that their

new ride, Borg Invasion 4D, will open on March 18th. The new ride will combine live actors and phenomenal special effects to create an excitingly realistic Star Trek experience. As visitors tour a futuristic research facility, the terrifying drones of the Borg Collective attempt to capture and assimilate them using 24th-century cybernetic technology. The result is a merging of 3D and 4D in a chilling realization of state-of-the-art technology that provides an all-immersive tactile experience for visitors to the attraction. The ride will feature actors from Star Trek: Voyager and High Definition special effects. For more information, visit www.startrekexp.com. The United Federation of Phoenix is planning a group outing for the weekend of April 16-18, 2004. If you would like to join them, please contact Info@u-f-p.org or call (602) 242-9203.

Chandler Buffy Event

Planning is underway for a **Buffy the Vampire Slayer** event to be held at the City of Chandler Library sometime in the next couple of months. They are looking to do a fan appreciation event that will raise fund to benefit the Library

Teen and Youth Programs. If you'd like to help out or get more information when it is available, contact Craig Younger at (480) 782-270, email Craig.Younger@ci.chandler.az.us

PHOENIX★CACTUS
COMICON
2004

WWW.PHOENIXCOMICON.COM

SUNDAY APRIL 4TH

GLENDALE CIVIC CENTER

5750 W. Glenn Drive

4 miles west of I-17, 1 block north of Glendale Ave and 57th Drive

9AM - 3PM

Admission \$6 (Free gift with flier)

10 years and under get in free

Art-on-the-Spot Contest (enter by

12:30pm) * Costume Contest (enter by 2

PM) * Panel Discussions & Workshops

Thousands of dollars in DOOR PRIZES!

FREEBIES to every attendee!

STEVE RUDE

Creator of *The Moth* and *Nexus*
 Artist on *Captain America*, *Thor*, and *Spiderman*

BRIAN PULIDO

Creator/Writer of *Lady Death*
 Upcoming supernatural comics from Avatar Press

RAVEN GREGORY

Creator/Writer of *The Gift*

BRANDON HUIGENS

paper sailboat, *the Stop*
Dating anthology

ERIC MENGEL

Blind Mice Comics

ROB OSBORNE

1000 Steps to
World Domination

More to be announced
 (check the website!)

Comics * HeroClix

Anime * Toys

Yu-Gi-Oh!

Contact Matt Solberg 602-697-4007
phoenixcomicon@aol.com

Calendar of Events - February/March 2004

To have your event or meeting listed please email calendar@casfs.org - **Deadline for April/May Submissions - March 15, 2004**
(This is a free service. All release dates are tentative)

FEBRUARY		Koenig at Alice Cooperstown, 7 pm 101 E. Jackson St. in downtown Phoenix, AZ. Event: Fannish Open House - Craig & Stephanie's house - info laetitia@doverkeep.com	February 27 - Friday Meeting: CASFS 8PM at JB's - I-17 & Indian School - info stephanie@casfs.org Movie: Club Dread	March 18 - Thursday Event: Las Vegas Star Trek Experience Borg Encounter Opens www.startrekexp.com for more info
February 3 - Tuesday DVD: Red Dwarf Seasons 3 & 4 DVD: American Splendor				
February 4 - Wednesday Meeting: ConNotations Staff Meeting 7PM - JB's I-17 & Indian School - more info editor@casfs.org	February 14 - Saturday Event: Star Trek Convention with William Shatner - Mesa Hilton www.creationent.com for more info.	February 15 - Sunday Event: SciFi Marketplace - Free Admission - Mesa Hilton www.creationent.com for more info	February 29 - Sunday Meeting: SouthWest Costumers Guild - 1PM at Stephanie's house - info www.southwestcostumersguild.org	March 19 - Friday Event: Fannish Open House - Craig & Stephanie's house - info laetitia@doverkeep.com TV: Stargate SG-1 Season Finale (SciFi)
February 6 - Friday Movie: The Lost Skeleton of Cadavra (limited release)	February 17 - Tuesday DVD: Roswell Season 1	February 21 - Saturday Event: ConRunners 7 - Embassy Suites North - info: the_lop@doverkeep.com Meeting: UFP - TBA www.u-f-p.org , (602) 242-9203	MARCH March 2 - Tuesday DVD: Stargate SG-1 Season 6 DVD: Looney Tunes - Back in Action	March 20 - Saturday Meeting: UFP - Phoenix Zoo www.u-f-p.org , (602) 242-9203
February 7 - Saturday Meeting: UFP - Auction/BBQ www.u-f-p.org , (602) 242-9203	February 22 - Sunday Meeting: ConKopellie Committee Meeting - 2PM - JB's I-17 & Indian School info craigdyer@conkopelli.org Meeting: CopperCon 24 Committee Meeting - 4PM - Jbs - I-17 & Indian School - info Mike < mwillmoth@compuserve.com >	March 3 - Wednesday TV: Stephen King's Kingdom Hospital debuts (ABC)	March 4 - Thursday TV: Scare Tactics Returns, Mad Mad House and Tripping the Rift Debut (SciFi)	March 21 - Sunday Meeting: ConKopellie Committee Meeting - 2PM - JB's I-17 & Indian School info craigdyer@conkopelli.org Meeting: CopperCon 24 Committee Meeting - 4PM - Jbs - I-17 & Indian School - info Mike < mwillmoth@compuserve.com >
February 8 - Sunday Meeting: World Horror Convention Committee Meeting - 5PM, World Fantasy Convention Committee Meeting - 6PM; LepreCon Inc Quarterly Meeting - 7PM at JB's I-17 & Indian School Info Mike Willmoth < mwillmoth@compuserve.com >	February 24 - Tuesday DVD: Star Trek: Voyager Season 1	March 6 - Saturday Meeting: UFP - Video Project www.u-f-p.org , (602) 242-9203	March 9 - Tuesday DVD: Futurama Volume 3	March 26 Meeting: CASFS 8PM at JB's - I-17 & Indian School - info stephanie@casfs.org Movie: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed TV: Star Wars Clone Wars Resumes (Cartoon Network)
February 10 - Tuesday DVD: Angel Season 3, Xena Season 3, Lexx Season 4, Vols 5 & 6	February 25 - Wednesday Event: Borders SF Book Discussion - Border's Books at 75th Ave & Bell Rd. Book: TBA. For more info Tanya, 623-487-9110	March 12 - Friday Movie: Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London TV: Wonderfalls Debuts (FOX)	March 16 - Tuesday DVD: Dead Zone Season 2, Kung Fu Season 1 DVD: The Cat in the Hat	March 30 - Tuesday DVD: Dark Shadows Collection 11
February 11-16 - Wednesday-Monday Event: Estrella War XX - Estrella Mountain Park, Goodyear, AZ www.estrellawar.org				March 31 - Wednesday Event: Borders SF Book Discussion - Border's Books at 75th Ave & Bell Rd. Book: TBA. For more info Tanya, 623-487-9110
February 12 - Thursday TV: Stripperella returns - Spike TV				
February 13 - Friday Event: Caribou Moving Pictures Premiere - The Message Also appearing Walter				

Ongoing Events

Wednesdays	6pm	New Comics Arrive!	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
	6pm	Hero Clix Tournamets	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
	6pm	Mech WarriorTournaments	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
	6pm	L5R CCC	Imperial Outpost, 49 th Ave & Thunderbird	www.imperialoutpost.com
Thursdays	6pm	Camarilla Anarch Game	Kiwanis Park	www.titheofsouls.com
	6pm	Mechwarrior Dark Age Tournament	Imperial Outpost, 49 th Ave & Thunderbird	www.imperialoutpost.com
	6pm	Magic ThG type 1.5 Tournament	Imperial Outpost, 49 th Ave & Thunderbird	www.imperialoutpost.com
	6pm	Warmachine League	Imperial Outpost, 49 th Ave & Thunderbird	www.imperialoutpost.com
Fridays	6pm	Magic the Gathering	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
	7pm	HeroClix Tournament	Imperial Outpost, 49 th Ave & Thunderbird	www.imperialoutpost.com
Saturdays*	AllDay	Warhammer Fantasy & 40K	Imperial Outpost, 49 th Ave & Thunderbird	www.imperialoutpost.com
	11am	Hack Tournament	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
	3pm	Mage Knight Tournaments	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
	6pm	Anime Club Meeting	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com
Sundays*	Noon	YU-GI-OH Tournaments	Samurai Comics, 7th St & Camelback	www.samuraicomics.com



WORLD HORROR CONVENTION 2004

APRIL 8-11, 2004

Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix, Arizona

www.whc2004.org



World Horror Convention is THE annual event for Horror Professionals and Enthusiasts that is geared towards networking, education, and conducting business.

World Horror Convention 2004 will feature an Art Show, Programming and Discussion Panels on Horror Writing and Horror Art, Author Readings, a large Dealer's Room, & a Hospitality Suite. Special events include a Charity Auction to benefit the American Cancer Society, Artist Reception with Wine & Cheese Tasting, an Independent Film Festival, Writer's Workshop, Editor's Workshop, Mass Autographing session, Flash Fiction Contest, Gross Out Contest, and World Horror Convention Grand Master Award.

AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR: Douglas Clegg

Acclaimed horror writer of *The Hour Before Dark*, *Red Angel* (as Andrew Harper), *The Priest of Blood*, *Goat Dance*, *The Infinite*, and the Bram Stoker and IHG Award winning *The Nightmare Chronicles*.

ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR: Caniglia

An artist of strangely skewed visions of horror and the macabre. Illustrator and cover artist for many books and magazines in the genre including illustrating Douglas Clegg's *Vampyricon*.

EDITOR GUEST OF HONOUR: Stephen Jones

Stephen has been editor & writer of more than 70 books. He has accumulated over twenty awards including Bram Stoker Awards, British Fantasy Awards, World Fantasy Awards, and IHG Awards.

TOASTMASTER: David Morrell

Award winning author of twenty five novels of international intrigue, horror, and high-action thrillers including *Black Evening*, *First Blood*, *The Totem*, *Assumed Identity*, *Extreme Denial*, and *The Protector*.

MEDIA GUEST OF HONOR: Dee Snider

Star, writer and producer of Dee Snider's *Strangeland*, a horror cult classic movie, producer of *Van Helsing's Curse* – a Halloween Orchestra stage show & album, singer for Twisted Sister Rock band, & host of The House of Hair radio show.

SPECIAL GUEST: Adam Niswander

Author of *The Shaman Cycle* novels as well as non-shaman novels *The Sand Dwellers*, and *The Repository*, *A Novel of Magik* and *the Occult*. His short fiction (including many horror stories) has appeared in many anthologies and magazines.

WRITER'S WORKSHOP GUEST OF HONOR: Mort Castle

Mort Castle has been writing since 1967 and writes everything from novels to poetry. He will be running the Writer's Workshop at this year's convention.

EDITOR'S WORKSHOP GUEST OF HONOR: Nancy Kilpatrick

Nancy Kilpatrick is the author of 13 novels, the forthcoming non-fiction book *The goth Bible: A Compendium for the Darkly Inclined* and editor of 8 anthologies, including *Gothika* (co-edited with Nancy Holder).

Nancy will be hosting the Self-Editing Horror Fiction Workshop at this year's convention with guest editors Don D'Auria, Jo Fletcher, and Editor GoH Stephen Jones.



Writer's Workshop: Two sessions are currently planned for Mort Castle's Writer's Workshop. Cost will be \$30 for each session. Please check our web page or contact us for more details on the Writer's workshop.

Editor's Workshop: The Self-Editing Horror Fiction Workshop hosted by Nancy Kilpatrick consists of three 2-hour sessions. Part of each session will be devoted to talks by and discussions with guest editors, Don D'Auria, Jo Fletcher, and Stephen Jones. Price is \$30 for 6 hours.

Reservations and payment to World Horror Convention 2004 by March 15, 2004.

www.whc2004.org

Chairman: Mike Willmoth

Mail to: WHC2004, c/o Leprecon Inc.,
P.O. Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285-6665 USA
Phone: 480-945-6890 Fax: 480-941-3438
Email: whc2004@leprecon.org or
whc2004@ots.com

Memberships : Supporting US\$35.00;
Attending \$120.00 thru 3/31/04,
US\$130 after and at the door.

Pay online using PayPal

Join us at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North Hotel

2577 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85023 USA

Call 602-375-1777 for hotel reservations or book online using group code "OWH".

Room Rates: US \$88.00 per night S/D/T/Q plus tax.

All rooms are two-room suites with either one king or two double beds in private bedroom, sleeper sofa in separate living room, two televisions and telephone lines with dataports, wet bar, refrigerator, coffeemaker, microwave, irons/boards. Rooms include a made-to-order breakfast and happy hour every day.



ConKopelli



WesterCon 57

July 2-5, 2004

Wigwam Resort, Litchfield Park, AZ

Author Guest of Honor: **C.J. Cherryh** Artist Guest of Honor: **David Cherry**

Local Author Guest of Honor: **Diana Gabaldon**

Music Guest of Honor: **Heather Alexander** Fan Guest of Honor: **John Hertz**

Our Theme: Mythology of the Southwest

ConKopelli will have programming and panels featuring our Guests of Honor and many other participants from all over the U.S. Other events and activities include Masquerade, Dancing (Regency and Modern), Filk, Dealer's Room, Art Show and Auction, Gaming, Anime, and Video.

ConKopelli Confirmed Program Participants

Durlyn Alexander, Earl Billick, Pam Binder, Maya Kaathryn Bohnhoff, Pat Broussard, Mike Cassidy, Mitchell Burnside Clapp, T. J. Burnside Clapp, Sarah Clemens, Jim Cobb, Brenda Cooper, Richard Dahm, Howard Davidson, Sue Dawe, Emily Devenport, Michelle Dockrey, Bobbie DuFault, Doranna Durgin, E. T. Ellison, Rick Enloe, Wolf Forrest, Laura Freas, Miki Garrison, Janice Gelb, ElizaBeth "Lace" Gilligan, James C. Glass, Scott Glener, Lynn Gold, Hugh S. Gregory, Roberta Gregory, Mike Griffin, Rachel R. Hartman, James Hay, Ernest Hogan, Bobbie Benton Hull, Angela Johnson, Keith G. Kato, Meghan Lancaster, Meg Lambert, Deborah Larson, Jacqueline Lichtenberg, Jean Lorrach, Pierce Ludke, Loretta McKibben, Pat MacEwen, Vera Nazarian, Louise Marley, Marty Massoglia, Dennis L. McKiernan, Beth Meacham, Henry Melton, Tee Morris, Carole I. Parker, Kevin Radthorne, Melanie Rawn, Robert Reginald, Jennifer Roberson, Selina Rosen, David Silver, Janni Lee Simner, Al'e Smith, Crystal Smith, Ken St. Andre, Marina Stern, Moira Stern, Jeff Sturgeon, Anita Taylor, Michael Underwood, Vicki Visconti-Tilley, John Vornholt, Jonathan Vos, Ray Vukceovich, Leslie What, Randall Whitlock, Connie Willis, Gail Wolfenden-Steib, Frank Wu, William F. Wu, Ben Yalow, C.F. Yankovich

ConKopelli Writer's Workshops

ConKopelli will host 4, yes that's right, 4 writing workshops. Three will focus on short-story/novel writing- while one will be on screenwriting. These will be small, and participation will require the submission of a writing sample in advance. Details will be made available on the website and in the next progress report.

Wigwam Resort

**300 Wigwam Blvd.,
Litchfield Park, AZ
(623) 935-3811**

Rooms \$105 (plus tax),

Suites \$135 (plus tax)

Room rates include gratuity for bellman (check in/out), maid service, as well as unlimited use of the Health Facilities, Valet and Resort Parking, Bicycles, Shuttle to nearby shopping, Croquet, Putting Green, Basketball Court & In-room coffee.



Membership Rates:

Attending: \$75 thru 5/31/04, more later and at the door.

Supporting: \$30 (Conversion to Full \$45 thru 5/31/04)

Kids 7-12 half price with adult membership
Kids 6 and under free with adult membership



ConKopelli Charity Auctions

There will be two charity auctions at ConKopelli. There will be a special auction of Signed First Editions and Advanced Reading Copies (including books by Greg Bear, Lois McMaster Bujold, Terry Brooks, Orson Scott Card, Peter David, Neil Gaiman, Mercedes Lackey, George R.R. Martin, Julian May, Larry Niven, Andre Norton, Terry Pratchett, Fred Saberhagen, David Weber, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, and Timothy Zahn). There will also be a regular auction with many books, art, collectibles and other items. Charities benefited by the auctions are Reading is FUNdamental and the Challenger Space Center.

Challenger Space Center - Fly a Mission!

We will be arranging a for two groups to fly a mission at the Challenger Space Center in Peoria, Arizona. The mission scenario is entitled *Rendezvous with a Comet*. Participants fly a mission with a simulated takeoff and landing, work in mission control and on the space station with hands on activities at science stations. There will be an additional charge for this event, which will include transportation to and from the Challenger Space Center. If you are interested in participating, please reserve a seat before June 30, 2004. Reserve via email at mission@conkopelli.org or via mail at PO Box 67457, Phoenix, AZ 85082.



ConKopelli Contact Info:

Mail: Conkopelli, WesterCon 57
PO Box 67457,
Phoenix, AZ 85082

Phone: (602) 973-2341

Email: info@conkopelli.org

www.conkopelli.org

ReAnimation

- **** Hellsing 3: Search and Destroy
- **** Hellsing 4: Eternal Damnation
- **** X (Three)
- ** X (Four)
- *** X (Five)
- **** X (Six)
- **** X (Seven)
- **** X (Eight)
- **** Chobits 4: Love Defined
- **** Chobits 5: Disappearance
- **** Jonah A Veggie Tales Movie
- *** Winnie The Pooh
- Seasons of Giving
- *** Piglets Big Movie
- *** Sugar A Little Snow Fairy
- 1: Sweet Mischief
- *** Sugar A Little Snow Fairy
- 2: Friends and Dreams
- *** Sugar A Little Snow Fairy
- 3: The Bear Pianist
- *** Sugar A Little Snow Fairy
- 4: Magic Sparkling Days
- *** Sugar A Little Snow Fairy
- 5: Home Sweet Home
- ** Mao Chan 1:
- I Will Protect the Peace of Japan
- ** Mao Chan 2:
- Go! Unified Defense Force
- * Beyblade 1: Let It Rip!
- * Beyblade 2: The Bladebreakers
- * Beyblade 3: The Hidden Tiger
- * Beyblade 5: Grudge Match

Hellsing 3: Search and Destroy
Pioneer, 75 mins, 16 up
Hellsing 4: Eternal Damnation
Pioneer, 100 mins, 16 up
DVD \$29.98 each

Hellsing 3 and 4 continues the story of the Hellsing Organization’s war against the undead.

In *Search and Destroy* the organiza- tion suffers major losses in battle and almost half the members of the Royal Order of Religious Knights get killed. As a result, Sir Integra, Hellsinger, Arucard, and Seras go on the hunt for the perpetrators. The suspects include the Vatican’s Iscariot Organization and whoever is making the “freak chips” that turn humans into second-class ghouls.

In *Eternal Damnation* the Hellsing Organization makes its last stand against the unknown traitor. While Sir Integra recovers from a vampire attack, it is revealed through a series of flashbacks how she became the head of the Hellsing. Meanwhile an army of ghouls, vampires, and “freaks” lays siege to the Tower of London and even though the British Army is helping the final battle is between Incognito and Arucard

A must have for any *Hellsing* fans. If you liked the *Trigun* series, you will love the Hellsing series which is top-notch vampire Anime.

The closing titles announce that the

search for the creators of the artificial vampires continues, so a sequel may be in the works-I look forward to the continua- tion of this series. - **Craig L Dyer**

X (Three)
X (Four)
X (Five)
X (Six)
X (Seven)
X (Eight)
Pioneer, 75 mins each
DVD \$29.98 each

Released first as a movie, *X:1999*, in 1998 and then as a TV series in *X* tells the tale of two groups of supernaturally powered warriors who battle to shape the future. The Seven Dragons of Earth swear to purge humanity from the world, while the Seven Dragons of Heaven are the last hope of all mankind. One young man holds the key to Earth’s destiny – but to choose the side of good, he may spell doom for all creation. *X (One)* and *X (Two)* were reviewed in Volume 13 Issue 5. Now we review the rest of the set.

X (Three) finds the Dragons of Heaven and the Dragons of Earth in Tokyo. Fuma’s father, mortally wounded by Nataka, leaves a cryptic message for his son – “You are Kamui’s twin star.” Following the funeral, Kamui and Kotori are attacked by Seishiro, a Dragons of Earth assassin but Fuma manages to save both of them. Meanwhile, Sorata and Arashi search for Subaru, another member of the Dragons of Heaven who arrives from Kyoto.

X (Four) - Through flashbacks we see Yuzuriha and Kamui learning to deal with their psychic powers during their child- hood. Kamui’s mother told him to become strong to protect the people he loves and this leads him to the decision to become a Dragon of Heaven and protect the Earth, rather than a Dragon of Earth who would destroy humanity.

X (Five) - When Kamui made his decision to become a Dragon of Heaven, destiny forced Fuma, Kamui’s ‘twin star,’ to become a Dragon of Earth. The newly awakened Fuma breaks into a hotel and takes Kakyo Kuzuki, the dreamseer for the Dragons of Earth to Kanoe. There he joins Yuto and Satsuki, Nataka is freed from his glass jar and . Seishiro and Kusanagi follow him meaning all seven of the Dragons of Earth have gathered. At the same time, the seven Dragons of Heaven gather and Princess Hinoto and the other “Dreamseers” wait to see if the future they have seen comes to pass.

X (Six) - The attack on Tokyo be- comes more brutal as the conflict between the Dragons of Heaven and Earth esca- lates. The fate of the world depends on who is right - Dreamseer” Princess Hinoto, who insists the future is already deter- mined and unchangeable, or Kamui, who says he can mold the future to his will. Meanwhile each team is left with only six

members; when Subaru kills Seishiro and a romance begins between Yozoriha and Kusanagi, although they’re on opposite sides.

X (Seven) - The battle between the Dragons of Heaven and Earth rages with deadly consequences, as Seiichiro, a Dragon of Heaven, secretly challenges Yuto. Karen discovers his plan, putting Seiichiro to sleep, heads to the battlefield to fight Yuto herself in a deadly duel that leaves both the Dragons of the Earth and the Dragons of Heaven down to five players each.

X (Eight) - The final confrontation between Kamui of the Dragons of Heaven and Fuma, now the Kamui of the Dragons of the Earth Everything will be decided at Tokyo Tower, site of the only remaining barrier field. As Kamui unseals the divine sword and prepares for the final clash, he wonders - can he return Fuma to normal and protect Earth all at the same time?

The Future has been predetermined, you will want all eight *X* DVDs. *X (Four)* is a bit slow, *X (Five)* gets a bit better. *X (Six)*, *X (Seven)* and *X (Eight)* are great. - **Craig L Dyer**

Chobits 4: Love Defined
Chobits 5: Disappearance
Pioneer, 100 mins each, 16+
DVD \$29.98 each

Chobits follows 18-year-old farm boy Hideki Motosuwa, who finds a uniquely powerful Persocon (human-like robots that have achieved cellphone-like status and popularity) in the trash. At first she can only say “Chi”but soon she begins to learn new words and ideas at a tremen- dous rate. Hideki and his various friends spend their time working, studying and trying to find out who and where Chi is from; and if she is indeed from the legendary class of Persocons called Chobits. *Chobits 1: Persecon*, *Chobits 2: The Empty City* and *Chobits 3:Darkness Descends* were reviewed in Volume 13 Issue 5.

In *Chobit 4 - Muddled Relations* the first episode finds everyone, from Shinbo and Hideki’s cram school teacher, to co- worker Yumi, to Minoru and several Persocons to Hideki’s landlady go to Minoru’s beach house for the summer’s last outing.

The other episodes find Hideki’s life becoming much more stressful as his grades and bankroll headed south and then he loses his wallet. Even worse, there’s no food, he having trouble concentrating due to hunger and a really big exam is coming up. Chi, who has been working at the local pastry shop, decides to help out and use her money to buy groceries, then learn how to cook.

In *Chobits 5 - Disappearance* Chi gets kidnapped on her way to work at Tirol. Chi has been kidnapped by a creepy computer geek. Tirol’s manager Ueda helps Hideki

(Cont’d on page 17)
Volume 14 Issue 1

ConRunners 7

February 21, 2004

Embassy Suites North, Phoenix

2577 West Greenway Road

Room 3005

A daylong seminar on fan-run fantasy/science fiction conventions. Have you ever attended a convention and wondered why they did things that way? Have you ever thought you would like to help? How about what you would do differently? Better? Come to ConRunners and give us your opinions or learn what we know. Many of us have been doing this for so long that we could use fresh eyes.

Registration opens
at 8:30am

Morning Session
9AM - 1PM
Auctions

Afternoon Session
2PM - 4PM
Programming:
How To Find People
4PM - 6PM
Round Table Discussion

Lunch Break
1PM - 2PM

Membership rate will be \$15

For more information: Write: ConRunners, PO Box 67457, Phoenix AZ, 85082.
Or call 602-973-2341. Or email ConRunners@westernsfa.org
Or visit our website at www.werternsfa.org

ReAnimation (Cont'd from page 16)

search for her. While they search we learn about his own tragic past relationship. Ueda fell in love with an early-model persocom and when her hard drive started to fail, she began to lose her memories of their life together, even down to basic details such as his name. When he tries to have her repaired, he is told that the job will cause her to lose all of her memories, completely and irrevocably

There are still some moments that give me pause but overall this series is entertaining enough to overlook them. If you overlook the sometimes slightly sexist tone and focus on the issues of identity and relationships this is a wonderful series. I look forward to the next two DVDs in the series. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Jonah: A VeggieTales Movie
Artisan, 83 mins, G
VHS \$19.98, DVD \$24.98

The story begins with Bob the Tomato, Dad Asparagus, and four veggie kids on their way to a Twippo Concert. But then Bob runs into some trouble with the van, leaving them stranded at a seafood (or "seafoo") restaurant. There, they meet "The Pirates who don't do anything"

(played by Pa Grape, Mr. Lunt, and Larry the Cucumber) who tell the story of Jonah to the vanful of grouchy veggies.

Jonah (played by Archibald Asparagus) is a stubborn prophet who refuses to tell Nineveh (the "bad" guys) to "stop stealing, stop lying! and especially, stop slapping people with fishes!" Instead, he decides to run away from Joppa and flee to Tarshish. But God has another plan in store for Jonah, and he finds himself in the belly of a whale. After spending three

days and nights in there, praying for God's forgiveness, the whale heaves Jonah back onto dry land, and Jonah gives the message to Nineveh.

The second disc in this set contains a plethora of extras including: several commentaries, music videos, a storybook, karaoke, some games and hidden easter eggs.

Overall this is a good family film. It portrays a good message without being heavy handed. If you have kids or grandkids this should be added to your collection. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Winnie The Pooh
Seasons of Giving
Buena Vista, 70 minutes, NR
VHS \$14.99, DVD \$19.99

From Disney's popular *Pooh* television series come three cold-weather stories.

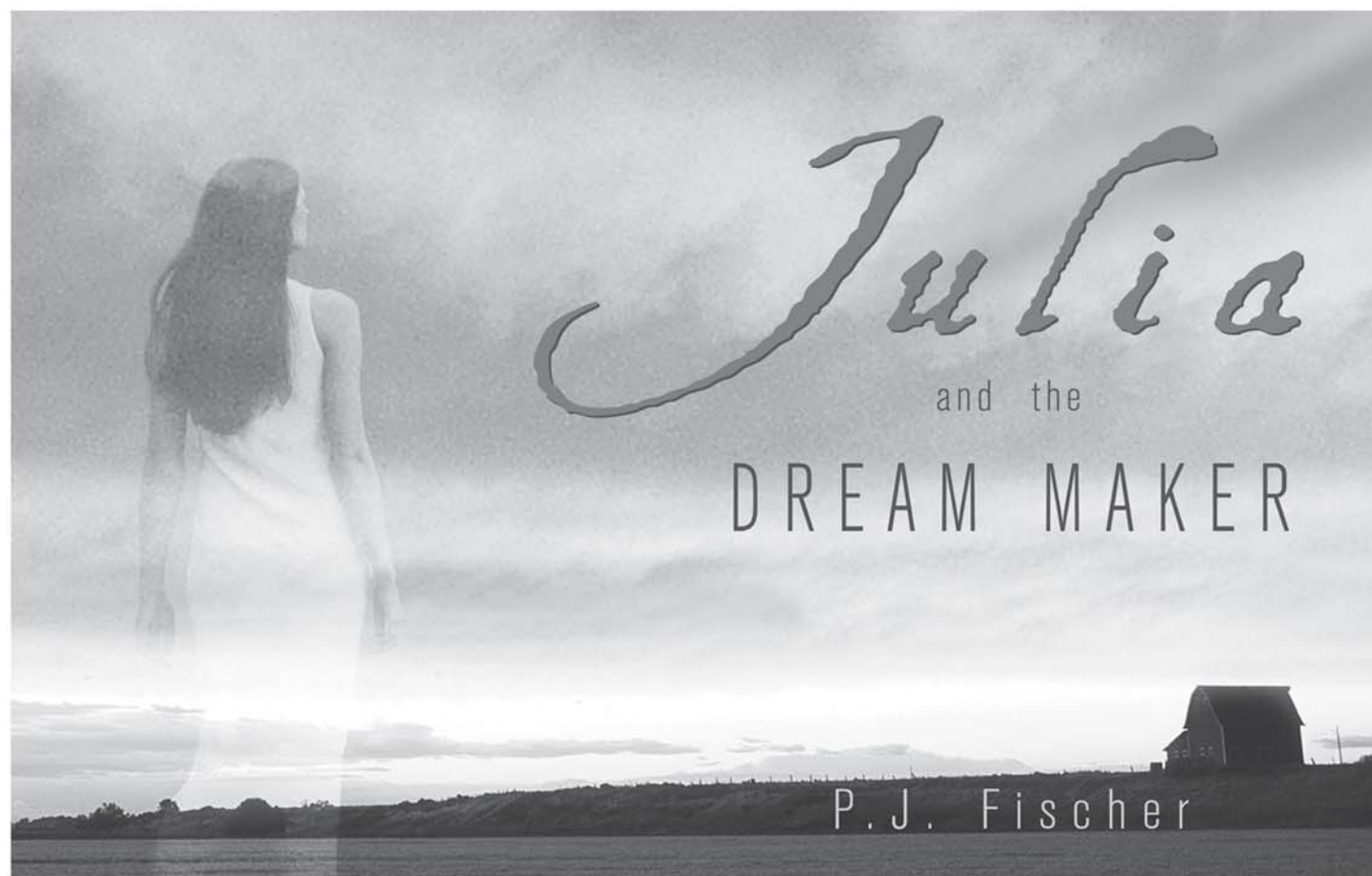
In *Groundpiglet Day* the gang in the 100 Acre Wood gets rather confused, thinking that Winter is over when in fact, it's just about to start. The second story was originally aired as a holiday special and finds Rabbit's rushing about defeating the true purpose of the holidays in *A Winnie the Pooh Thanksgiving*. The third story, *Find Her, Keep Her*, follows Rabbit when he adopts a wayward bird.

I screened this for three groups of kids I was babysitting and it got mixed reviews. Overall they all liked it but the older kids (6 and 7) watched it mostly because I asked them to. The two younger sets (ages 2-4) enjoyed it. Overall I'd suggest this for families with younger children. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Piglets Big Movie
Disney, 75 minutes, G
VHS \$24.99, DVD \$29.99

The film centers on tiny and insecure Piglet. Feeling unappreciated by his friends, Piglet wanders off into the Hundred Acre Wood. While he is gone Pooh, Eeyore,

(Cont'd on page 18)
Page 17



Traitor Dachshund Books presents

Julia and the Dream Maker, a new science-fiction novel by P. J. Fischer. The book tells the story of Steven and his girlfriend Eli, brilliant biologists who are planning a future together as professors and scholars. However, a project they become involved in is about to take an unprecedented and astonishing turn. The chain reaction they set off dramatically changes the pattern of human evolution, opening up a doorway to Julia's world and leaving the characters to face an uncharted future. Watch the promotional video and read Chapter 1 at **www.juliaandthedreammaker.com**

Available at www.amazon.com
(ISBN 0-9744287-0-1; \$13.95 US)



ReAnimation (Cont'd from page 17)
Tigger, and Rabbit reminisce about various adventures (including when Kanga and her baby Roo first arrived in their midst, and building a house for Eeyore) and begin to recognize Piglet's crucial contribution to their lives.

This is a gentle little film that the same three groups of kids all enjoyed. Based on their approval it is a good buy for families with kids aged 2 thru 7. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

**Sugar A Little Snow Fairy 1:
Sweet Mischief**

**Sugar A Little Snow Fairy 2:
Friends and Dreams**

**Sugar A Little Snow Fairy 3:
The Bear Pianist**

**Sugar A Little Snow Fairy 4:
Magic Sparkling Days**

**Sugar A Little Snow Fairy 5:
Home Sweet Home**

**Pioneer, 100 minutes each, 13+
DVD \$29.98 each**

Saga, living in a small European town, meets a tiny little fairy that no one else can see. The fairy's name is Sugar, and she looks for a "Twinkle" to become a full-fledged Snow Fairy! After Saga takes Sugar home, her life is full of fairies as Sugar's friends Wind Fairy Pepper and Sun Fairy Salt arrives to play and help keep Sugar out of trouble. If only someone else could see what Saga is going through...

I lent these to a friend when her grandkids, ages 4, 6, 12 and 14, were visiting. Predictably enough the 14 year old young man was unimpressed and the 4 and 6 year old girls were engrossed. What surprised me was that the 12 year old girl also watched the whole thing and enjoyed it. Hopefully we will get Volume 6 for review since the younger kids are looking forward to more Fairy adventures when they come to visit this summer. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

**Mao Chan Vol 1:
I Will Protect The Peace of Japan**
**Mao Chan Vol 2:
Go! Unified Defense Force**
**Pioneer, 89 minutes each, All
DVD \$29.99 each**

The basic premise of this series is simple. Japan is about to be invaded by aliens, and the Defense Forces needs to find a way to defend against aliens that are so cute that the military leaders are afraid that they'll be accused of bullying if they attack the aliens. The solution they come up with is to create a team of three 8 year old girls to fight them because, of course, the girls are even cuter than the aliens. The girls are all granddaughters of the Chiefs of Staff, their immediate commander is their home room teacher, and the student council president is really a spy for the aliens. The girls themselves get

along well with each other but their grandfathers carry the traditional inter-service rivalry into this situation as they tend to argue at the drop of a hat about whose granddaughter is the cutest.

Each disc holds 7 episodes, which sounds like a lot, but each episode is approximately 12-14 minutes long. The series is rated for all ages but anyone much older than 8 or 9 is probably going to be a bit bored. On a personal note there is something mildly odd about grandfathers rewarding their 8 year old granddaughters with weapons (alien and domestic) and flashy uniforms in a series that is obviously aimed at that age group or younger. On the other hand, my niece and nephews enjoyed the show and want to see more. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

**Beyblade 1: Let It Rip!
Pioneer, 150 minutes, 7+
Beyblade 2: The Bladebreakers
Beyblade 3: The Hidden Tiger
Beyblade 5: Grudge Match
Pioneer, 125 minutes each, 7+
DVD \$19.98 each**

Tyson and his friends Kenny the computer nerd and good-natured Max want to become Beyblade champions. They practice, study, and work on strategy, since they're invariably pitted against someone who's never been defeated. Their biggest enemy is Kai, the nasty, win-at-any-price leader of the Blade Sharks gang.

This is obviously an effort to sell a line of toys. Unfortunately, unlike Pokemon, it isn't very entertaining. I couldn't get my niece or nephew to sit still for the whole DVD. The animation is somewhat clunky and the dubbing is uninspired. I can't recommend this for anyone. - **Stephanie L Bannon**

Musical Notes

by Tom Tuerff

To Touch the Stars: A Musical Celebration of Space Exploration
— **Various Artists**
Prometheus Music
www.prometheus-music.com

Last year when the Shuttle Columbia broke up over Texas, no doubt many of you saw the second man to walk on the moon, Edwin Aldrin, on TV reading from a poem that brought him to tears.

That "poem" was in fact a song by Dr. Jordin Kare, called "Fire in the Sky," and it's just one of the songs included on this fantastic compilation, put together by the fine folks at Prometheus.

Theme albums like this always run the risk of getting boring. The trick of keeping your interest for more than two or three songs is to make sure they are different enough in subject matter to keep you thinking and entertained. To this end, "To Touch the Stars" delivers in spades.

The bulk of these songs are already known to filk fans, but what makes this well-performed, well-produced CD so great is that these performances are excellently done and will attract interested ears from a much larger audience.

The CD kind of follows a logical space trip that just keeps going and going. We start with a couple of songs about ships taking off, followed by a couple of songs about the Apollo mission, then on to Mars, etc.

The music ranges from typically folky performances to rock and roll, best exemplified here by "I Want To Go To Mars," by the Birdwatchers.

Most of the songs are performed by

Bay Area musicians Kristoph Klover, Karl Franzen and various musical pals. Gunnar Madsen, from the a cappella group The Bobs, appears on two songs, Leslie Fish's bright and bouncy "Surprise!" (about Sputnik) and finishes off the album with the ska rave-up, "Dance on the Ceiling," also penned by Fish. (What can you say? Leslie writes good space songs. Five of the songs here are hers.)

Nationally-known entertainer Christine Lavin even contributed a song to this project, the eight minute science lesson "If We Had No Moon," which actually told me a couple of things I didn't know about the big rock and I imagine it might surprise you, too.

From a performance standpoint, this CD pulls no punches. Klover, Franzen and many of the others are veterans of several Bay Area folk and traditional music bands. They know their stuff. Producers Klover and Eli Goldberg know how to mix things so that the vocals stand out, which, if you listen to most CDs today, appears to be a lost art.

Should you buy this if you're not a filk fan? Only if you enjoy good songs with a great message, and played well. If you don't, there's always Britney Spears.

Definitely pick this up.

(By pure coincidence, I received this CD the same day George W. said we ought to send people to Mars. I'm all for it, as long as he's first and it's a one-way ticket.)

If you attend cons at all, you know that in the past few months our ranks have diminished a bit. We've all lost friends and acquaintances, or at least familiar faces if you didn't know them personally.

(Cont'd on page 19)

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Musical Notes (Cont'd from page 18)

Which got me to thinking. You don't have to look too hard to see that a lot of us fans are getting older, and (if it's at all possible) even more out of shape than we ever thought we'd find ourselves. I know it's that way with me. I also realize that a lot of you can't help it; whether you're taking diabetes medication or antidepressants or steroids or what have you for what ails you.

But: I also know that (like me), many of you simply see signs like "All You Can Eat" as a dare.

So, I have an idea that could make us all a bit healthier and raise some money for CASFS to do what they want with it.

I need to lose about 20 pounds. I don't know if I can, really, but I know I can give it a shot.

My kid has DDR for the Playstation so I have no excuse as far as exercise goes. So here's what I'm gonna do: Between now and CopperCon, I'm going to do what it takes to safely lose as much weight as I can towards that 20 pounds. At CopperCon, I will then make a donation of \$20 (regardless of how much I actually lose) to CASFS, money that they can use for whatever they want - a donation to one of their selected and well-deserved charities, a color picture of Barry Bard topless on page 3 of ConNotations, a fresh bag of Cheetos for the con suite, whatever.

Where do YOU come in? Resolve to do the same thing. Pick a REASONABLE amount of weight that you think you can lose by September. 10 pounds, 15, 100, whatever you think your body-and your wallet-can SAFELY afford. Then, e-mail me at ttuerff@aol.com and just let me know that you're doing the weight loss thing

too, and how much you're shooting for. We'll meet at CopperCon, compare results and deliver a bunch of checks. Sound good?

Take pictures, so just in case you lose all the weight by summer, then fall into a giant cake meteor in late August and you have to eat your way out, we have proof that you did indeed take off the poundage.

Even if I don't know a lot of you personally, familiar faces are what makes a con fun. I'd like to see all yours for many more years, so let's give this a shot. Whaddya say?

Tom Tuerff reviews CDs for ConNotations whenever somebody sends him one, hands him one or forces one on him in better S&M dungeons across Nebraska. You can avoid the fuss of finding one of those by sending your CD to ConNotations, or contacting Tom at ttuerff@aol.com. While you're at it, if you have any advice for Tom, a first-time dog owner after 45 years of dog-free living, as to how to keep from stepping on the damn thing (a Pembroke Welsh Corgi named Dweezil), it will be much appreciated.



In Our Book

The Bastard King
by Dan Chernenko
Roc Fantasy, \$14.95, 448 pgs

I believe this to be another first novel effort, I couldn't find any other titles by the author. Its not too bad for a first novel. The story is essentially a study of what would happen if there were two kings and they were both good. Lanius is the king by heredity; although his reign is somewhat tenuous since he is considered to be a bastard and not entitled to a throne. This is the authors first problem if no one thinks he should be king then why does the author imply he is allowed to continue to reign as a figurehead to keep the populace happy? The second king, the true power, is a soldier/sailor. Grus was in charge of the navy when he is called to the capital to repair the damage done by incompetent generals in defense of the country. Grus was supposed to be the loyal general to Lanius mother, the Regent, but she feared his popularity and attempted to assassinate him. In retaliation and personal defense, he decided he would be safer and more able to defend the kingdom if he were king. So he did. He kept the boy-king alive which was a departure from standard "overthrow the king stories. He even married his daughter to him when they were old enough. Lanius is an intelligent, studious child and young man. He much prefers rooting around in musty, old archives and raising rare animals to the necessities of actually being the ruling king. Although he hates not being the only king and he hates Grus for being the real power, the truth is that he isn't really unhappy or mistreated. Grus, on the other hand, never believed he wanted to be king and that circumstances

forced him into it. However, once he had it he found "it was good to be king." Grus is basically an ethical person but ruthless because he believes the kingdom comes first. The period from Grus taking control of the kingdom and Lanius becoming a man is a bit vague and unproductive. The fun in the character development really begins after Lanius marries Grus' daughter. The author departs from the formula story and explores what being a king means to each man and how they feel about their roles. Chernenko also spends considerable time with Grus' personal relationships with his mistress and wife. While most kings get to do whatever they want, Grus is answerable to his wife and dreads her discovering the truth. This was kinda fun to work through. But the character development is really the only fun in this story.

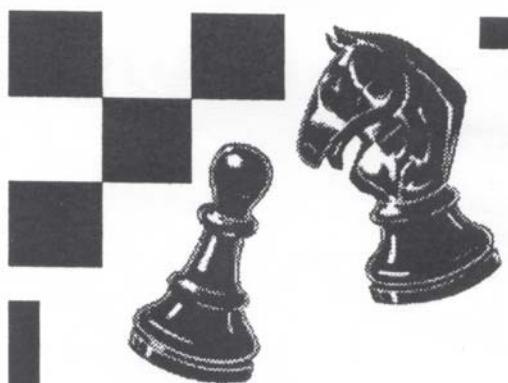
Now, for the rest of the story. The kingdom is beset by enemies, of course. One of the enemy countries is ruled by the "Banished One," a fallen god. The title of the story refers to an object of great power, the Scepter of Mercy, which was captured by the Banished One hundreds of years earlier. Lanius and Grus often bemoan the fact they do not have this wonderful device without explaining what they could do with it if they did. Their history seems to have no explanation of what the Scepter means and why they believe they can defeat the Banished One with it. Near the end, there was a spark of interest when Lanius discovers something about the Banished One's origin but it didn't add to our understanding. Since this is touted as a trilogy, it will obviously take two more books before they can capture the thing. I have a hard time imagining what the author will do with the next book if they don't go get the Scepter right away. If they do, then I have a hard time imagining what the third book will be. Or, it will be a long, tedious journey through two books to find this marvelous object. Either way, I'm not sure I care enough about Lanius and Grus to find out.

— Catherine Book

A Yuletide Universe,
Sixteen Fantastical Tales
edited by Brian M. Thomsen
Warner Aspect, 256 pp., \$12.95

So Xmas is over, and the days after for discounts, and you wonder why you should buy this anthology with Santa Claus on the cover? You'd be missing a most worthy collection if you didn't. All stories are variations on the theme of Santa or the holiday season, but worth reading anytime. I'll let the authors' names speak for themselves, in the order of their writings: Bret Harte, L. Frank Baum, Donald Westlake (1964), Harlan Ellison (1968), James Powell (1970), Anne McCaffrey (1973), Richard Matheson (1982), Clive Barker (1984), Michael Bishop

(Cont'd on page 20)



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In Our Book (Cont'd from page 19)

(1989), Chet Williamson (1989), Neil Gaiman (1989), Connie Willis (1991), William Gibson (1991), Howard Waldrop (1993), Maureen F. McHugh (1993), and Brian Thomsen (2003). You know from the names that some of these tales are dark, others nice, and all deserve to be classics.
-Mike Griffin

On Crusade:

More Tales of the Knights Templar
edited by Katherine Kurtz
Aspect/Warner Books; 294 pp. \$6.50

There are 10 tales in this book, plus a prologue and an epilogue, as well as a partial bibliography and notes on the authors.

This is a pretty eclectic collection of tales, most set in the times of the Crusades (roughly 1095-1270) and some set in contemporary times. The most notable modern story being Ms. Kurtz selection, one dealing with Adam Sinclair, her psychiatrist Knight Templar.

I liked all the tales in the book. Some of course, were better than others. The weakest one being by David M Honigsberg and Alexandra Elizabeth Honigsberg about a kohain of the Law, a Jewish tailor in Paris who guards a mystical treasure wanted by the Christians. It's not a bad tale, it's quite fascinating, actually. It just ends a bit abruptly as if the authors, worried about the length, just tied it up in a hurry.

The modern tale by Debra Doyle and James D MacDonald is a little too "Sam Spade, Private Eye" for my taste. I mean it works, but its sort of apples and oranges for me: making a world where all the bad guys and good guys are some form of religious order or religious baddie. It seems a bit of a forced marriage to me.

The other stories are really excellent. Andre Norton's "Stonish Men," and "Blank Check" by Diane Duane are especially fine.

Between the tales are nine interludes by Kurtz with intriguing bits of history of the real Knights Templar.

This is a great historical fantasy collection and I recommended it highly. - Sue Martin

Children of the Shaman

by Jessica Rydill

Roc Fantasy, \$6.50, 355 pgs

This is a very good first novel, remarkably so, in fact. Rydill creates a sort of "post apocalyptic world although we never find out exactly how this world comes into

existence (possibly an ice age). It seems to be populated by two main ethnic groups. The Wanderers and the Franj. The Wanderers are unashamedly from Jewish stock and the Franj (read Frank) are undoubtedly French. The events are driven by a situation on the border between the 'real world' and the magical land of La Souterraine. The 500-year Great Cold has ended and the Railway People are building a tunnel under the forest of Aldemar to the unexplored reaches beyond. But people are dying mysteriously. Annat and Malchik are Wanderers, their mother dead and their aunt ill. They are sent to their father, a Shaman of some repute. He has been called to investigate the mysterious deaths at the railroad and takes the children with him. Annat, his daughter, is also a shaman but untrained. The story is pretty standard fare of good magical forces forced to confront unrestrained evil. The fun is guessing how Annat will fare and how her brother fits into the picture. I also enjoyed the word

origin game the author plays. For instance, the word for the telepathy that Annat and her father use is "sprechen" which is German for "to speak", countries are mentioned with ancient names such as Neustria and Zygon, and, of course, the Wanderers are outcasts because legend puts the blame on them for killing the Son. There is a great legend of two women/goddesses who ruled peacefully until one disappeared. The one left became a demon and turned men into her creatures. This demon goddess is the great enemy of the story. And although this is, as I mentioned, pretty standard fare the author handles it quite well. She is a very good storyteller and I enjoyed the journey.

Catherine Book

Roc Sampler
80 pages, free

Opening parts of five new fantasy and science fiction novels from Roc Books. Rachel Caine's 'Ill Wind' is my favorite, a

saucy, amusing fantasy, book one of the Weather Warden series. Djinn and magic are real in our contemporary USA, and one lady who can control winds is running for her life. In a post-apocalyptic USA, frontier communities battle scary monsters in E.E. Knight's 'Way of the Wolf, Book One of the Vampire Earth' (full review in issue Vol 13 no 6).

Two stories tell of a far future when Earth relates to other planets. S.L. Viehl's 'Blade Dancer' concerns a crossbreed illegal alien, a catwoman athlete exiled from Earth (also reviewed in issue Vol 13 no 6). In Jay Caselberg's 'Wormhole', Jack is a psychic detective hired to investigate the disappearance of a mining crew on a faraway planet. Finally, Diana Pharaoh Francis' 'Path of Fate' seems of the Darkover-Witchworld variety, with a young woman chosen for special powers by a telepathic goshawk. All five excerpts are well written and promise lots of action.
-Mike Griffin

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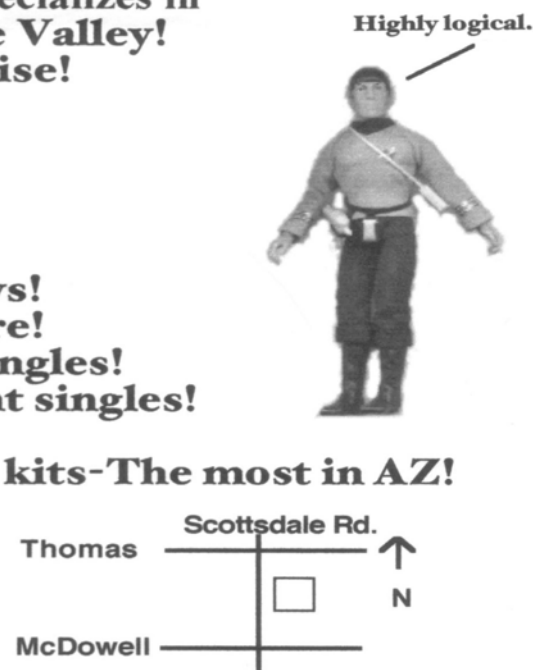
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Club Listings

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This list will be revamped for the coming year. Please check your club listing for errors and send corrections and updates to the editor in writing to P.O. Box 62613, Phoenix AZ 85082 or via email at clubs@casfs.org)

ADRIAN EMPIRE A medieval and renaissance recreationist club. Sword-fighting, arts, banquets, masquerades, dances. meets every Wednesday night from 7-10pm at Encanto Park. All are welcome. Free.

Aerial Mirage Jugglers. Meets Wednesday 7-10pm in Encanto Park, 15th Avenue, south of Encanto. No dues, everyone welcome. All levels skill exchange in many areas of object manipulation Dave Davis <aerialmirage@gnerds.com>, 602-955-9446; or Ron Harvey <rbh1s@yahoo.com>, 602-863-0284 for more info or impromptu juggling sessions.

ARIZONA LANBASHERS LEAGUE A collaboration of computer gaming enthusiasts, the Arizona LANbashers League throws quarterly LANparty events. Between parties, support is given to local groups who wish to advertise their own gatherings. We have no set genre of games and play anything from strategy games to first-person shooters to driving/flying simulations. No annual membership is required and admission to an event ranges from \$5-\$15. See our webpage for current events. Email: azlanbashers@earthlink.net Web: <http://www.lanparty.com/all/> VoiceMail: 602-306-9339

THE AWAY TEAM: The Away Team, is a general sci-fi appreciation group that meets once a month for discussion of various sci-fi news regarding several mediums to include: television, movies, video, books, comics, magazines, collecting, and so forth. The meetings are comprised of news, review and comment, BBS/computer news and help, meeting new members, video presentations, games, and socializing fun! Food and drinks are provided, via a \$3 munchie fee (per meeting) to compensate the host. (No other fees are involved.) The electronic home of the Away Team, is the Lightspeed Space Station BBS at (520) 325-6674.... Member ages for the group range from 13-40-something with both male and female members. Other activities include null-modem link gamefests, group theater movie viewings, convention trips and more. Have sci-fi fun in a relaxed, low-structure environment. **NO RUBBER EARS ALLOWED!!** For questions, you can call the BBS, or write to: LSS c/o R. Martin; 2522 N. Sparkman Blvd.; Tucson, AZ 85716

BASFA Local Tuscon science fiction group that puts on TusCon. Contact us at PO Box 2528, Tucson AZ 85702-2528 or basfa@earthlink.net. our website at home.earthlink.net/~basfa/

CENTRAL ARIZONA SPECULATIVE FICTION SOCIETY, INC. (CASFS) The non-profit corporation that puts on CopperCon conventions, SmurfCons, HexaCons, occasional regional cons, and publishes Con-Notations. Best described as SF/F generalists with a strong bent towards literary SF/F. Guests welcome - meets at 8pm on the last Friday of each month in January thru September and the second Friday in October, November and December at JB's Restaurant, 2560 W. Indian School in Phoenix, AZ. Write PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or call Stephanie L. Bannon (602)973-2341 for information. Web www.casfs.org

C.R.O.F.T. Celtic Reenactment of Fellowship and Trades is Phoenix based Reenactment group specializing in the western European renaissance. As an organization, it is our goal to promote fellowship while researching lifestyles and trades concurrent with the Celtic Peoples from 400 BC until 1746 AD. Although most members claim Scots, Irish or Welsh ancestry and do Celtic re-enactment, it is our intent to open participation to anyone with an interest in period crafting and entertainment, no matter what his/her ethnicity. The sense of being a real village surrounding Croft is vital to promote a feeling of family and fellowship which was a reality in earlier times. Croft is a family-oriented and kid-friendly organization. C.R.O.F.T. members can be found demonstrating in events such as the Highland Games, Scarborough Fair, and the Arizona Renaissance Festival. Web page <http://www.crofters.org>

THE DARK ONES (Dark-wunz) n. 1) An organization formed for the expression and exploration of various cultural themes including, but not limited to, the Dark Ages and the Renaissance through forms of art including, but not limited to, painting, drawing, writing, photography, spoken word, and acts of characterization. 2) a member of this organization. 3) Information available at www.darkones.org

DAYSTAR HOLT Arizona's first and longest-running Elfquest fan club. Daystar meets to talk about EQ and related stuff, develop characters, publish stories in our 'zine *Playelf* and create an annual calendar. Other common interests include music, belly dance, camping and of course, SF. Membership is free (18 or over) and is attained by group vote after you attend two meetings or holt-related get-togethers. Meetings are usually the first Saturday of each month; for more info, call Tom or Janice at (602) 581-2258. They have a website up at <http://members.home.net/jeanderson/daystarholt.html>

THE EMPIRE OF CHIVALRY AND STEEL, INC. The Empire of Chivalry and Steel specializes in the general recreation of the culture of the Middle Ages including all of the Art Forms, Events (Feasts, Tournaments, Ceremonies and Wars) and Combat Arts covering the years of 800AD up to 1650AD and any location within Europe or its explored territories. For more information contact Bart Smith (Phoenix) (602)937-6995 or Leonard Bird (Tucson) (520)742-2432 Web: www.galandor.org

THE JEDI KNIGHTS Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month. For more information call Carol Alves, Publicity, (760)244-9593 or write Jedi Knights, c/o Jim Lowerre, 12291 Meade Street, Garden Grove, CA 92841-3629

LEPRECON, INC. One of the two Phoenix area corporations that put on yearly conventions. Best described as SF/F generalists with a main thrust into SF/F art. Guests are welcome. The meetings are quarterly on the second Saturday of February, May, August & November unless otherwise notified. August is the annual meeting where board positions are determined. For more information, write PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285; call Mike Willmoth, 480-945-6890, Email mwillmoth@compuserve.com www.leprecon.org

MIB The Men in Black is the official organization of field operatives for Steve Jackson Games. They attend local conventions to demonstrate and promote products of Steve Jackson Games. The also schedule demos in local gaming stores. If you have a gaming store or convention that you would like to have official Steve Jackson Games representation at, please contact the MIB Arizona Cell Leader at MIB.6361@cox.net

ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB meets last Wednesday of every month (except Dec.) We frequently have author guest speakers. You're all welcome to come if you're in the area. We meet in Fullerton, about 5 miles north of Disneyland. For more details ph. Greg at [949] 552-4925 or send a message to our listserv@OCSF@yahoo.com

PAReX is a non-profit, just for fun organization dedicated to the proliferation of robotics as a hobby. Monthly meetings will be held and will be announced under the Meeting Information page, <http://www.parex.org/meetinfo.htm>. All interested persons are invited to participate. We are currently in the process of getting organized and becoming an official organization with tax status. Web page: <http://www.parex.org/> E-mail Contact: John Kittelsrud, johnkit@teamdroid.com

THE PHOENIX FANTASY FILM SOCIETY A Phoenix based club interest-ed in the entire realm of SF, Fantasy and Horror film. PFFS has been in existence for 25 years, meeting every 6 weeks in member's

homes. Dues are \$10 per year. Membership includes newsletters, an annual film awards and various outings. For information, contact PFFS, P.O. Box 34023, Phoenix, AZ 85067 or call David Storck at (602) 274_7404, e_mail:Menzeez@aol.com.

RAGE ACROSS THE SOUTHWEST A Live Action Theatre Troupe based out of the ASU campus in Tempe, AZ. It is dedicated to the game Werewolf: The Apocalypse by White Wolf publishing. Contact Mike McLaughlin at (602)461-5842 or write 1730 W Emelita Place #2025, Mesa AZ 85202-3144 or warlok@aztec.asu.edu

RAW GAMES (Role-players & Wargamers, Inc.) Role-players & Wargamers, Inc. is the Valley's oldest role-playing and wargaming club. Currently meeting at 8159 W. Weldon in Phoenix every Sunday from 3pm-9pm (except during conventions and other special events). Open to new members - call (602) 849-9515. www.rawgames.org

REBEL LEGION - JUNDLAND OUTPOST The Jundland Outpost is a small band of Rebels which form a part of the rapidly growing Rebel Legion. While it's main focus is Star Wars costuming, much like it's 501st counterpart the Dune Sea Garrison, the Jundland Outpost's mission is to brighten up the lives of children and Star Wars fans of all ages across the Phoenix Metro area and eventually other parts of Arizona as well. Members also make appearances with other Star Wars organizations as part of a joint effort to help with Charities and events around Arizona. If you have an event you would like us to appear at, please contact us at azrebellion@cox.net.

SAMURAI OTAKU ANIME CLUB The Samurai Otaku is a group of fans of anime, manga, and Japanese pop culture. Meetings are held every Saturday night at 6pm at Samurai Comics, 5024 N. 7th St.. Members discuss anime and manga, work on a web comic, discuss fund raisers, and schedule club events. After each meeting the club views selected anime DVD's and plays games. Open to new members. Contact Moryha Banks— (602)265-8886, moryha!samuraicomics.com

SCIENCE FICTION CONTINUUM The Science Fiction Continuum: An Independent Star Trek and Sci-Fi club in Phoenix, AZ. The SFCOM is an active club that participates in Local Phoenix, and Southwestern Star Trek and Sci-Fi conventions and movies. The SFCOM has three different divisions. The SFCOM itself, a free group where fun is the name of the game. The Deep Space SolarFlare (DSSF) an active member club in the International Federation of Treker's (IFT). This group is based on DS9 (a space station). And the IKV Sto-Vo-Kor (Independent Klingon Vessel). A Klingon Bird of Prey, roaming the desert looking for battle. Are the Fed's
(Cont'd on page 22)

Club Listings (Cont'd from page 21)
too soft, looking for combat, feel the call to glory. This is the ship for you. Membership in the SFCOM is free! To join DSSF or the Sto-Vo-Kor a nominal fee for the national clubs involved and uniforms. For further information contact President John Nelson at (602) 409-7169 or on the internet at; BNelson502@aol.com or check out our web site. <http://www.thesfcom.com>

SFACE (Speculative Fiction And Computer Enthusiasts) Phoenix College's one and only connection to the worlds of speculative fiction, including science fiction, fantasy, and horror as well as table top, live action and internet gaming. SFACE also serves as a guide through the Internet - both teaching basic use and utilizing as a source of speculative fiction. For more info contact Dr Ray Bromley at bromley.ray@a1.pc.maricopa.edu. The SFACE Web site is found at <http://www.pc.maricopa.edu/departments/studentact/organizations/sface/>

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THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM The kingdom of Atenveldt doth lie in the state of Arizona. Within the fair kingdom can be found six Baronies: Atenveldt, Mons Tonitrus, Twin Moons, SunDragon, Tir Ysgithr and Ered Sul. For more information on any of these or for general information on thy past tomorrows thou mayest contact Mistress Myrddina o Dolwyddelan (Terry Schwartz) PO Box 584, Sonoita AZ 85637 (520)455-5835 Email: myrddina1@aol.com www.atenveldt.org

THE SOUTHWEST COSTUMER'S GUILD The Southwest Costumers Guild is a loose organization of persons interested in all facets of historical, cultural, science fiction, fantasy, and humor costume. Members are often seen on stage and behind the scenes at local and regional Science Fiction Convention masquerades. They meet on the last Sunday of each month at various members' homes in the greater Phoenix area. For details. Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix, AZ 85609 or Randall Whitlock at costumers@casfs.org or www.southwestcostumersguild.org

SPACE ACCESS SOCIETY Space Access Society's sole purpose is to promote radically cheaper access to space, ASAP. We think it's possible within ten years, with a little luck and a lot of hard work. Join us and help us make it happen!

SAS membership is \$30 for one year, which gets you emailed Space Access Updates the instant they pass final edit, plus discounts on our annual conference on the technology, politics, and business of radically cheaper space transportation, featuring leading players in the field. Email us at: Space.Access@Space-Access.org Web page: www.space-access.org/

SUPERSTITION SPACEMODELING SOCIETY is Arizona's club for builders of model and high power rockets and those who love to see them fly. Launches are held on the second Saturday morning of each month in Rainbow Valley. SSS hosts the annual G. Harry Stine Memorial Rocket Launch every October. Visit www.sssrocketry.org for membership information, directions to the launches and meetings, and to read the monthly newsletter, "Newton's Minutes."

TARDIS is a Phoenix-based General SF/Fantasy Fan Club, specializing in International media SF/Fantasy since 1983. TARDIS meets every two weeks at different locations around the valley. Activities include watching videos, discussions, parties, fund-raisers, auctions, games, camping trips and outings. We also maintain an active presence at local conventions. TARDIS publishes a monthly informative newsletter, *The Index File*, with a national circulation which is included with membership. Annual membership is just \$12.50. You can contact us at 2243 W Wagon Wheel Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85021, Voice Mail at (602) 864-0901, E-mail TARDIS-Info@primenet.com or visit <http://www.primenet.com/~jgeorge/tardis.html>

TEKWAR FAN CLUB Sanctioned by the series' production companies and the USA Network! It is THE information conduit between the fans and the series! Fan club membership will bring you the following 1) subscription to the info filled Tek Informer newsletter; 2) official TekWar Fan Club membership card and kit. Membership is by regular mail only and the newsletter and materials will not be reproduced electronically. To join the action and initiate your annual membership, make check or money order out for \$12.50 to: Official TekWar Fan Club (Membership section), 2522 N Sparkman Blvd., Tucson AZ 85716-2417

T.H.E.M. is ASU's science fiction and fantasy club. Weekly meetings are held on the Arizona State University campus, with dates and places to be announced after the semester starts. For more information, them@themonline.org www.themonline.org

TUCSON FAN ALLIANCE E-Mail Address is Bkoehler@Juno.com or DMitchell1@Juno.com.

USS STORMBRINGER The Stormbringer is a correspondence Star Trek fan club chapter of Starfleet, Intl. based out of

Tucson AZ. The chapter was commissioned as the USS Stormbringer NCC-74213, attached to Division 31, Starfleet Covert Operations, on 10/31/98. As of 11/29/98 there were 32 members. There are no dues other than the \$15 for joining Starfleet Intl.. Members are scattered worldwide but the primary clusters are in Tucson, AZ and Plano, TX. They don't meet on a regular basis since they are a correspondence chapter. Their web site is: <http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Vault/9505/> and their contact/CO is Capt. Dave Pitts, thepitts52@hotmail.com.

Z-PHILES are the Arizona X-PHILES. We maintain a mailing list for news and get-togethers of fans of the X-Files living in Arizona. We get together in both the Phoenix and Tucson areas. To subscribe, send an empty message to z-philes-subscribe@egroups.com

UNITED FEDERATION OF PHOENIX A Phoenix area Star Trek and general SciFi fan club. We are a social club that meets every two weeks at various locations around the Phoenix area. The UFP has been meeting for over 25 years of continuous activity. Dues are \$15/per year prorated when you join; no restrictions. Membership includes membership roster and monthly newsletter. Come to any two meetings at no obligation. For information, write the UFP at PO Box 37224, Phoenix, AZ 85069, or call Jim Strait at (602) 242-9203. Web page: <http://www.U-F-P.org> or Email to Info@U-F-P.org

WESTERN SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION (WesternSFA) A non-profit corporation that sponsors the ConRunners seminars and is sponsoring the 2004 Westercon. Dedicated primarily to educational activities relating to literature, music, and visual and performing arts, especially in the genres of science fiction, fantasy, costuming, gaming and science. Applicants for membership in WesternSFA must be sponsored by a current active WesternSFA member. Dues are \$10 yearly plus a \$5 non-refundable application fee. General Meetings are held on the first Friday of February, May, August and November, usually at the home of a member. Guests are welcome. For more info contact Craig Dyer at WesternSFA, PO Box 87457, Phoenix AZ 85082, (602)973-2341, Email: craig@westernsfa.org. Webpage: www.westernsfa.org

JB's
is family

2560 W. Indian School Rd.

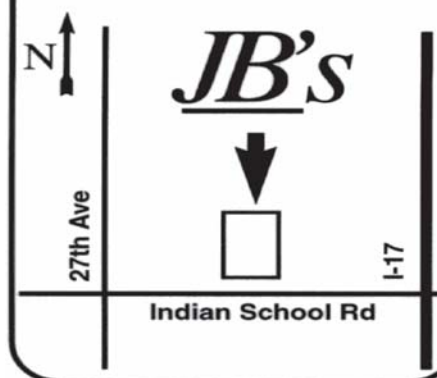
JB's Family Restaurant

wishes to thank
CASFS
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over the years.

Our banquet room is
available for large groups.
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(602) 264-3608

Kenny & Maureen Borden



What is CASFS?

What is really behind putting on a convention? What the funds raised by a convention used for? Why not attend a meeting and find out? We're the sponsor of ConNotations, CopperCons, HexaCons, SmerfCons and other conventions. We are a charitable, non-profit organization that exists to further science fiction, fantasy and science fields in Arizona. CASFS currently meets at the JB's Restaurant at 2560 W Indian School Rd in Phoenix (NW corner of I-17 and Indian School). The meetings begin at 8PM and are held on the last Friday of the month Jan. Through Sept. And on the second Friday of the month Oct through Dec. Everyone is invited to attend two meetings as a guest (non-member). Membership rates are \$12/year plus an initial \$3 application fee and rates are pro-rated for the amount of the year remaining. For more info Call: Stephanie L. Bannon (602)973-2341 Webpage: www.casfs.org email: casfs@casfs.org

Convention Listings

Gallifrey One’s Fifteen Minutes of Fame (Los Angeles, CA) **Feb 13-16, 2004** The Airtel Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
Guests: Colin Baker, Peter Davison + many more
Memb: \$30 thru 5/31/03, \$35 thru 8/31/03, \$40 thru 11/30/03, \$45 thru 1/31/04 and \$50 at the door.
Info: Gallifrey Conventions, Post Office Box 3021, North Hollywood, CA 91609
Email: info@gallifreyone.com

ConRunners 7 (Phoenix AZ) **Feb 21, 2004**
Embassy Suites North, 2577 W. Greenway Rd, Phoenix, AZ (602) 375-1777.
Registration 8:30AM Morning Session 9AM-1PM, Afternoon Session: 2PM-6PM.
Membership \$15.
Info conrunners@westernsfa.org or 602-973-2341
Web : www.westernsfa.org
Mail PO Box 67457, Phoenix AZ 85082

ConDor XI (Del Mar CA) **Feb 27-29, 2004**
Del Mar Hilton, Del Mar CA.
GoHs: Robert Silverberg, Karen Haber.
Memb: \$40 to 2/15/04, \$45 at door.
Info: ConDor, Box 15771, San Diego CA 92175-5771; email: info@condorcon.org; website: www.condorcon.org

GilaCon 2004 (Phoenix AZ) **April 2-4, 2004**
GilaCon 2004 is an RPGA-oriented convention primarily featuring Living Greyhawk, Living Arcanis, Living Force and other RPGA campaigns.
GilaCon 2004 will have a one-shot LG Interactive and Nyrond regional premiere as well as a host of other Nyrond regional and meta-regional events.
Membership \$25.
Online registration will be available approximately 2-3 months before the convention at www.gilacon.com.
GilaCon 2004 will be held at: Holiday Inn Phoenix-Midtown, 4321 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012

World Horror Convention 2004, (Phoenix, AZ) **April 8-11, 2004**, Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix, AZ
Guests: Author Guest of Honor: Douglas Clegg; Artist Guest of Honor: Caniglia; Editor Guest of Honour: Stephen Jones; Editor’s Workshop Guest of Honor: Nancy Kilpatrick, Media Guest of Honor: Dee

Snider; Toastmaster: David Morrell; Special Guest: Adam Niswander; Writer’s Workshop Guest of Honor: Mort Castle
Memberships: US\$120 thru 3/31/04, US\$130 after and at the door
Hotel Rates: \$88 S/D/T/Q (plus tax); Embassy Suites Phoenix North, 2577 E. Greenway Rd, Phoenix, AZ (602) 375-1777
Info: World Horror 2004, c/o LepreCon, Inc. PO Box 26665, Tempe AZ 85285; (480) 945-6890; e-mail: whc2004@leprecon.org; website: www.whc2004.org

GaylaxiCon 2004: (San Diego, CA) **Apr 8-11, 2004**
Red Lion Hanalei Hotel, San Diego CA.
GoHs: David Gerrold, Joe Phillips.
Memb: \$50 to 2/29/04, \$60 at door (checks to Gaylaxicon 2004).
Info: Gaylaxicon 2004, 1010 University Ave., PMB #946, San Diego CA 92103-3395; email: Gaylaxicon2004@aol.com; website: www.gaylaxicon.org/2004/index.htm

SWRE - The Camarilla’s Southwest Regional Event (Phoenix AZ) **April 29th - May 2nd, 2004**
at the Embassy Suites/Phoenix Airport Hotel.
Further information: http://www.swre.org.
The Camarilla is White Wolf’s official fan club, bringing together roleplaying game enthusiasts from around the world.

LepreCon 30 -(Phoenix, AZ) **May 7-9 ‘04** - Sheraton Crescent Hotel, Phoenix, AZ
Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention with an emphasis on art
Artist GoH: Donato Giancola; Author GoH: David Drake; Special Artist Guest: John Eaves; Local Artist GoH: Sylvana Anderson; Music Guest: Mara Brenner
Sheraton Crescent Hotel, 2620 W. Dunlap Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85021
Room Rates: \$79 S/D, \$99 T/Q +tax 602-943-8200 or 800-423-4126
Memberships are \$35 thru 4/15/04; \$40 at the door; Kids 7-12 half price, Kids 6 & Under Free (with Adult membership)
Write: LepreCon 30, PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285, Phone: (480) 945-6890 ,Email: lep30@leprecon.org
Web: http://www.leprecon.org/lep30

Tinhare (Chandler AZ) **June 4-6 2004**, San Marcos Hotel, Chandler AZ
Annual LARP (Live Action Role Playing) Convention weekend, hosted by Tithe of Souls, a local domain of The Camarilla USA - the official Fan Club of White Wolf(tm)’s World of Darkness - Vampire the Mas-

querade, Changeling, Werewolf, Mage.
Futher information & registration: http://tinhare.titheofsouls.com

ConKopelli, WesterCon 57 -(Litchfiled Park, AZ) **July 2-5, 2004**, Wigwam Resort, Litchfield Park, AZ
Guests: Author GoH: C.J. Cherryh; Artist GoH: David Cherry; Music GoH: Heather Alexander ; Fan GoH: John Hertz; Local Author GoH: Diana Gabaldon
Memberships: \$75 thru 5/31/04; Supporting \$30; Conversion is Current rate minus \$30
Hotel Rates: \$105 standard rooms, \$135 Suites, Wigwam Resort, 300 Wigwam Blvd., Litchfield Park, AZ (623) 935-3811
Info: ConKopelli, WesterCon 57, PO Box 67457 Phoenix, AZ 85082; Email: info@conkopelli.org; Web: www.conkopelli.org

HexaCon 14 (Tempe AZ) **July 29-Aug 1, 2004**
Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe, AZ,
Gaming starts on Friday and runs 24 hours until Sunday 4PM.
Events include RPGA, LARP, LAN Party, CCG, Battletech and much more.
Also Anime and a full consuite.
*THURSDAY EVENTS for pre-registered members only include Barry Bard’s Movie Previews and Giveaways.
Memb: \$15 until 12/31/2003, Hotel: info: Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe, AZ (800) 547-8705
Room Rates: \$85 S/D/T/Q, Info: www.hexacon.org or 480-945-6890

CopperCon 24 (Phoenix AZ) **Sept 10-12, 2004** ; Literary oriented SF/F Convention
Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix, Arizona
Guests: Author GoH: Alan Dean Foster, Artist GoH: Todd Lockwood; Local Author GoH: Catherine Wells; Music Guest: Leslie Fish
Memb: \$30 thru 4/30/04, \$35 thru 8/27/04, \$40 at the door
Hotel Rates: Embassy Suites Phoenix North, 2577 W. Greenway Rd, Phoenix, AZ (602) 375-1777.
Rooms: \$84 S-Q (plus tax)
Info: CopperCon 24, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082, Phone (602) 973-2341 , Email: cu24@coppercon.org ; Website: www.coppercon.org

VegaCon I (Las Vegas, NV) **Oct 22-24, 2004**, Plaza Hotel and Casino
Author GoH: Steven Brust, Filk GoH:Kathy Mar; Memberships \$25 until April 15, 2004, \$35 until Oct 1, 2004, \$45 at the door.
Info: VSFA, 2800 Las Vegas Blvd So., Suite 11, Las Vegas, NV 89109; Email: info@vegacon.com; Web: www.vegacon.com

World Fantasy Convention 2004, (Phoenix, AZ) **Oct 28-31, 2004**, Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe, AZ
Guests: Author Guest of Honour: Gwyneth Jones; Artist Guest of Honor: Janny Wurts; Editor Guest of Honor: Ellen Datlow, Publisher Guest of Honor Betty Ballantine, Memberships: US\$140 thru 4/30/04, US\$150 thru 7/31/04
Hotel Rates: \$155 S/D/T/Q (plus tax); Tempe Mission Palms, 60 E 5th St, Tempe, AZ 85281 (800) 547-8705
Info: World Fantasy 2004, c/o LepreCon, Inc. PO Box 26665, Tempe AZ 85285; (480) 945-6890; e-mail: wfc2004@leprecon.org; website: www.worldfantasy2004.org

A Novel Idea By Dawn Mullan

The beginning of 2004 is shaping up with a substantial and impressive book release schedule for the science fiction and fantasy genre. January and February alone will release at least 300 new titles. So get ready to spend some winter nights curled up with a good book.

January’s schedule has novels such as The Awakening : A Vampire Huntress Legend, L. A. Banks; The Eternal Savage & Out of Time’s Abyss, Edgar Rice Burroughs; The First King of Shannara [ABRIDGED], Terry Brooks; Maps in a Mirror, Orson Scott Card; The Sentinel, Arthur C. Clarke; Lionboy, Zizou Corder; The Harp of the Grey Rose, Wolf Moon, Charles de Lint; The Reaches, David Drake; Deathstalker Return, Simon R. Green; Fate Totally Worse Than Death, Paul Fleischman; Ring of Fire, Eric Flint; New Magics : An Anthology of Today’s Fantasy, Patrick Nielsen Hayden; Celtika, Robert Holdstock; The Vonnegut Effect, Jerome Klinkowitz; The Fairy Godmother, Mercedes Lackey; Searoad, Ursula K. LeGuin; Janus, Andre Norton; Fallen Angels, Jerry Pournelle, Larry Niven & Michael Flynn; The Complete Tolkien Companion, J.E.A. Tyler; Freehold, Michael Z. Williamson; Demon’s Gate, Steve White; Heirs of Earth, Sean Williams & Shane Dix; and Slave Masters, Susan Wright being released.

February will release more titles than the previous month with novels including: Irresistible Forces, Catherine Asaro & Lois Bujold; The Stone of the Stars (The Dragon Throne, Book 1), Alison Baird; In the Ocean of Night, Gregory Benford; People that Time Forgot, Edgar Rice Burroughs; Collected Short Fiction of C.J. Cherryh, C.J. Cherryh; Path of the Just: A Silver Age Sentinels Superhero Anthology, James Lowder; Ray Bradbury: The Life of Fiction, Jonathan R. Eller, Kent State Univ Press, William F. Touponce, William F. Nolan, & Ray Bradbury; Lord Darcy, Randall Garrett; Conrad’s Time Machine, Leo Frankowski; The Two-Space War, Dave Grossman & Leo Frankowski; Seduced by Moonlight, Laurell K. Hamilton; The Rackham Files, Dean Ing; The Vonnegut Effect, Jerome Klinkowitz; Four and Twenty Blackbirds, Mercedes Lackey; This Scepter’d Isle, Mercedes Lackey & Roberta Gellis; Path of the Just: A Silver Age Sentinels Superhero Anthology, James Lowder; Time to Be Born, John Vornholt; The Warmasters, David Weber, Eric Flint & David Drake; Survivor’s Quest, Timothy Zahn; To Die In Italbar, & Knight of Shadows [ABRIDGED], Roger Zelazny.

Generic Convention Regestration Form

Name:

Badge Name:

Address:

City/State/ZIP:

Phone:

Email:

Enclosed is \$ for memberships for convention.

(See calendar for mailing address)

More info on Masquerade Art Show Volunteer Other

Science Fiction & Fantasy Authors
Sponsored by CASFS

Timothy Zahn
Michele M. Welch
John Vornholt
Michael A. Stackpole
Adam Niswander
Dennis L. McKiernan
Lee Hogan
Ernest Hogan

More To Be Announced

Join us to celebrate the
Worlds of Speculative Fiction
 (Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror,
 Alternate History, etc.) as the
Central Arizona Speculative Fiction
Society (CASFS) will be
 participating once again in the
Seventh Annual Arizona Book
Festival.

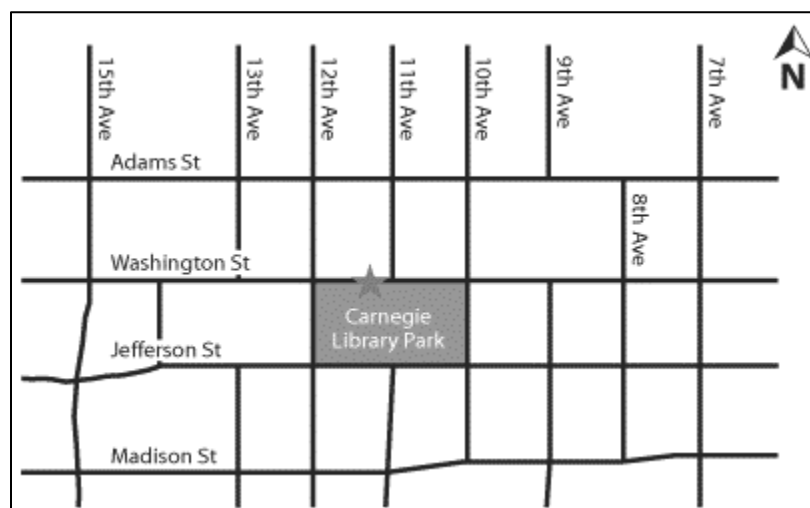
We will have a two-hour
 programming block with our
 authors on the Literary Stage,
 autograph sessions at the CASFS
 booth, giveaways, and a mini art
 show sponsored by Leprecon, Inc.

Join us to meet the authors and
 learn more about Arizona science
 fiction and fantasy events and
 activities sponsored by CASFS,
 Leprecon, Inc., and the Western
 SFA.



Presented by the Arizona Humanities Council,
 Maricopa County Library District, Arizona State Library,
 and Salt River Project
www.azbookfestival.org

Saturday, April 3rd, 2004
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Carnegie Center
 1101 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona



Science Fiction and Fantasy Authors appearing at the Arizona Book Festival

Appearing on the Book Festival Main Stage and Signing in the Authors Lounge:

Ursula K. Le Guin – *The Lathe of Heaven, The Earthsea Cycle, The Left Hand of Darkness*
Alan Dean Foster – *Flinx's Follies, Star Wars: The Approaching Storm, and the Spellsinger series*
Diana Gabaldon – *Outlander, The Fiery Cross, Lord John and the Private Matter*

Appearing at the CASFS Booth and on the Literary Stage:

Timothy Zahn – *Star Wars: Survivor's Quest, Angelmass, Dragon and Thief, and Manta's Gift*
John Vornholt – *The Troll King, Troll Queen, Troll Treasure, and Star Trek: Genesis Wave series*
Michael A. Stackpole – *I, Jedi, Grand Crusade, Fortress Draconis, and When Dragons Rage*
Adam Niswander – *The Shaman Cycle novels, The Sand Dwellers and The Repository*
Dennis L. McKiernan – *Dragondoom, Silver Wolf, Black Falcon, and Once Upon a Winter's Night*
Lee Hogan – *Belarus, and Enemies, Larissa, Shade (as Emily Devenport)*
Ernest Hogan – *Cortez on Jupiter, High Aztech, and Smoking Mirror Blues*
Michelle M. Welch – *Confidence Game and the forthcoming The Bright and the Dark*

More to be Announced – Visit <http://www.casfs.org/azbookfest> for more details.

Arizona Book Festival
2004 Featured Authors
 Appearing on the Main Stage

Ron Carlson
Nancy Farmer
Alan Dean Foster
Diana Gabaldon
Ursula K. Le Guin
Tom McGuane
U.S. Supreme Court Justice
Sandra Day O'Connor

Highlights of the Entire
Arizona Book Festival

Attendees of the Seventh Annual Arizona Book Festival will meet nationally known and local authors, enjoy panel discussions, browse through hundreds of books for sale, explore over 100 on-site exhibitors, watch lively stage presentations and fill up on a full menu of festival fare. Stages will be dedicated to a variety of themes with an emphasis on southwestern influences.

The festival will host a children's area where kids will enjoy activities geared for the younger reader, including stage presentations, hands-on arts and crafts, storytelling and costumed characters.

The wide variety of exhibitors include booksellers, publishers, libraries, literary organizations, bookmakers, artisans and reading groups which will offer something for every interest and level of reading.

Once again the festival will be at the park-like Carnegie center at 1101 West Washington Street with plenty of free parking and shaded areas.

The Arizona Book Festival is sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council, Maricopa County Library District, Arizona State Library, and Salt River Project. More info is available at the Arizona Book Festival's web site at www.azbookfestival.org

CASFS would like to thank the Arizona Humanities Council for helping us to make our expanded program and additional author appearances possible. For any questions or more info, email leewsfv@yahoo.com