

ConNotations

Volume 11, Issue 4
August/September

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

24 Frames

Movie News & Reviews
By Lee Whiteside

Dreamworks promoted the upcoming *The Time Machine* in a special promotional event at the San Diego Comic-Con. They displayed props and major set pieces from the film in the exhibit hall and had presentations by **Sam Winston**, Director **Simon Wells**, visual effects supervisor **Jamie Price** and Three-D Computer Designer **Tom Wilcox**. The film is directed by **Simon Wells**, who's great-grandfather is **H.G. Wells**.

Recently filming in the U.K. is *Reign of Terror*, a future fantasy starring **Christian Bale**, **Matthew McConaughey**, **Gerard Butler**, **Izabella Scorupco**, and **Alexander Siddig**. Set in a post-apocalyptic future England, an American militia leader (**McConaughey**) and a British "Fire Chief" (**Bale**) must team up to fight off a brood of fire-breathing dragons that have emerged, seeking to return to dominance over man after a centuries-long rest.

J. Michael Straczynski has been working on a script based on his Rising Stars comic for MGM. He reports that things are moving along and the MGM is listing it as a movie for late 2002. The movie will be titled "*Born in Fire*" and will cover the same material as the first eight issues of the comic series, which is structured in three eight issue acts. If the first movie does well, MGM is interested in two sequels to tell the whole story.

Filming is near completion on the *Scooby Doo* movie in Australia. Reports are that the film will take place partially on a Spooky

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SF Tube Talk

By Lee Whiteside

The Summer of SciFi leads into the Fall

We're well into the summer months, where the broadcast networks runs lots of repeats and burn off series and unaired episodes and coming up on the fall where the new series will debut and returning series will kick off their new seasons, tying up cliff-hangers and such. We've got preview information on most of the new fall shows as well as updates on most of the the continuing series.

Keep on Trekking

The new *Star Trek* series, *Enterprise*, will debut this fall on UPN. For a detailed preview of the new series starring **Scott Bakula**, check out our special report elsewhere in this issue. In other *Star Trek* TV news, The National Network (TNN) will kick off their running of repeats of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* at 8 pm and 11 pm weeknights with a 77 hour BIG BANG Marathon the week of October 1st. They will kick it off with a one hour special on *Star Trek* on October first and proceed to show about half the episodes of TNG over the rest of week, selecting fan favorite episodes from each season based on an informal web search of some sort. TNN also has rights to *Deep Space Nine* starting in 2004 and *Voyager* starting in 2006.

Babylon 5 is Alive!

Filming for the *Babylon 5: Legend of the Rangers* movie has completed in Vancouver and it will likely air on SciFi in late Fall or early next year. The movie is set a few years after the events in season

5 of *Babylon 5* and before the events of *Crusade* and will focus on The Rangers. SciFi is expected to air the movie in January and may follow shortly with a weekly series if the movie does well or if they like the finished product enough to commit to a series before it airs. Indications are good that it will go to a series with filming starting in early 2002 for a likely summer debut.

The movie focuses on The Rangers, with the focus being on a human Ranger, David Martel, played by **David Neal**. Also featured are **Alex Zahara** as the Minbari



© SciFi

Ranger Dulann, **Myriam Sirois** as Sarah Cantrell, **Dean Marshall** as Malcolm Bridges, **Mackenzie Gray** as Minister Kafta (of a previously unseen alien race), **Enid-Raye Adams** as the Minbari healer Firell, and **Gus Lynch** as the Drazi Ranger Tirk. Also appearing in the movie will be **Andreas Katsulas** reprising his *Babylon 5* role of G'Kar.

The plot concerns the redemption of David, who is disgraced by abandoning a battle when his ship lost weapons capabilities. As punishment, he is

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Changing Hands Bookstore Signing August 10, 7 pm - Bruce Campbell

BRUCE CAMPBELL READING AND SIGNING "IF CHINS COULD KILL" AT CHANGING HANDS BOOKSTORE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 10 AT 7PM

Bruce Campbell is the King of the B movies those cult horror/scifi classics that have been a staple of Hollywood literally since the advent of talkies. He is the star of the legendary Evil Dead movies, and not only can he act, but he can write, as evidenced by this raucous, sardonic memoir, *If Chins Could Kill*. Bruce Campbell is featured in a huge network of Evil Dead, Film, Horror, Science Fiction, Hercules and Xena conventions nationwide. There are 36 web sites and tribute pages devoted to him.

Changing Hands Bookstore is on the SW corner of McClintock and Guadalupe. Booksigning line-order tickets available with your purchase of *If Chins Could Kill*. Seat reserved signs will be available at

Pick up your copy of *ConNotations* at these locations:

Borders Book Stores

2402 E Camelback, Phoenix, AZ (602) 957-6600

870 N 54th St, Chandler, AZ (480) 961-4915

1361 N. Alma School Rd., Mesa, AZ (480) 833-2244

4555 E. Cactus Rd., Phoenix, AZ (602) 953-9699

7320 W. Bell Rd., Glendale, AZ (623) 487-9110

All About Books and Comics

5060 N. Central, Phoenix, AZ (602) 277-0757

810 S. Ash, Tempe, AZ (480) 858-9447

4022 E. Greenway, Phoenix, AZ (602) 494-1976

Imperial Outpost

4212 W Cactus Rd #1111, Phoenix, AZ (602) 862-9683

Michael's Magic

3617 E Southern Ave #8, Mesa, AZ (480) 325-7485

Stalking Moon Comics & Collectibles

5775 W Bell Rd #B-6, Glendale, Arizona (602) 896-9992

Book Exchange Plus

2601 E Bell #14, Phoenix, AZ (602) 867-1018

Things For Thinkers

4500 E Speedway Blvd #36, Tucson, AZ (520) 326-7679

Amazing Discoveries

2545 E Speedway #155, Tucson, AZ (520) 320-0338

6pm on Friday, August 10.
Changing Hands Bookstore; 6428 S McClintock Dr; Tempe, AZ 85283
480-730-0205 chbookstore@qwest.net

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS CASFS Sponsored Groups

GLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

1st Thursday of each month at 5959 W Brown in Glendale at 7PM

September 6: *Where Late The Sweet Bird Sang* by Kate Wilhelm

October 4: *Three Hearts And Three Lions* by Poul Anderson

November 1: *Time Machine* by H.G. Wells

December 6: 2001 by Arthur C Clarke

Jan 3, 2002: *Ghostlight* by Marion Zimmer Bradley

For more information on the Glendale group contact Sue Martin at 623-939-7815

BARNES & NOBLE METRO CENTER:

4th Thursday of each month at 7PM

August 23: *Many Coloured Land* by Julian May

September 27: *Footfall* by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle

October 25: *Hotel Transylvania* by Chelsea Quinn Yarbo

November and December dates are tentative

November 15: *Jhereg* by Steven Brust

December 13: *Wizard's Bane* by Rick Cook

Jan 24, 2002: *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman
For more information on the Barnes & Noble group contact Stephanie at 602-973-2341

Other Book Groups

BORDERS OTHER WORLDS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Third Thursday at Borders, 2402 E Camelback at 6PM

August 16: TBA

For more info contact Eric 602-957-6660 or the-rock1@juno.com

BORDERS FANTASY & SCI-FI BOOK DISCUSSION:

Fourth Wednesday at Borders, 7320 W Bell Rd in Glendale. at 7PM.

August 22: *The Stone War* by Madeline Robins

September 26: *Starship Troopers* by Robert Heinlein

Oct 24: TBA

For details contact Tanya 623-487-9110

INFORMATION LINE: For up to date information on each month's CASFS and fan sponsored sci-fi related events call (602)973-2341 and select option 7 for a pre-recorded message. There is also a weekly email update. If you wish to receive the email update send your email address to Stephanie at leigh@casfs.org

Enterprise Preview by Lee Whiteside

The fifth live action incarnation of *Star Trek* will hit the small screen this fall Wednesday nights on UPN in the first hour of prime time (8 pm E/P, 7 pm C/M). At press time, it is unclear the exact date when it will debut. UPN made noise about debuting the series sometime in August to get a jump on the other networks while other reports have indicated it will debut sometime in September. Regardless of when it starts airing, we've got a detailed preview of the series and the opening two hour movie for you this issue. Be warned, there are lots of spoilers in this preview, so if you want to be surprised when the new series debuts, stop reading now!

First of all, the series is a prequel series, set 90 years after the events in *First Contact* with Zephram Cochrane. Starfleet is in its infancy and humans have done minimal explorations into deep space, having been constrained by the Vulcans, who have been overseeing our development. 30 years before the series, Zephram Cochrane dedicated a new facility for building a warp 5 capable starship, which is just now ready to take to the stars. On the ship's first mission, Captain Jonathon Archer (**Scott Bakula**) leads a varied crew on a trip to the Klingon home world. Archer is in his early 40's and has a bold personality. He was born and

raised an explorer and exhibits a sense of wonder and excitement as well as some trepidation about the strange things he encounters. He holds a grudge against the Vulcans, who he blames for impeding humanity's progress. Archer's father helped Cochrane design the warp 5 engine that powers his ship and he regrets that his father didn't live to see it finally be used. He has a strong sense of duty, but is still a bit of a renegade and is not afraid to disobey orders if he feels it's the right thing to do.

Representing the Vulcans will be T'Pol (**Jolene Blalock**), functioning as a second in command and science officer. She's been assigned to the Enterprise to oversee the ship's progress and to offer advice and information when she feels it is needed. She is still getting used to dealing with humans. She also will be giving Voyager's Seven of Nine a run for her money as a hot-looking Trek babe.

The Chief Engineer, Charlie "Trip" Tucker III (**Connor Trinneer**), is a Southerner who enjoys using his "country" persona to disarm people. Trip was hand-picked by Archer, who is something of a mentor to him. He is a brilliant engineer and an outstanding officer, but has had little experience dealing with alien cultures.

The ship's medical officer is Doctor Phlox (**John Billingsley**), an alien of

(cont'd on page 14)

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:

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PRO NOTES

By Daryl F. Mallett

LOCAL NEWS

Diana Gabaldon writes that she is “finishing *The Fiery Cross* (i.e., we’re in the ‘work-18-hours-a-day’ final frenzy phase, where I’m simultaneously filling holes in the last few sections, revising the middle sections, and doing the copy-edit of the first few sections—meanwhile, the book designer is busy typesetting the first section. All this madness, with the intent of meeting the announced publication date of October 9.). Bantam Dell is issuing new trade paperback editions of the backlist: *Outlander*, *Dragonfly in Amber*, *Voyager* and *Drums of Autumn*, in gorgeous new covers, beginning [now] with the release of the new *Outlander* trade paperback. The other three get released in August, to sort of ‘ramp up’ to the release of *The Fiery Cross* in October. (The hardcovers and mass-market paperbacks are still available, of course. These are just new ‘Collectors Editions.’). I’ll be book-touring in the U.S. and Canada around [the] release date; in the U.K. and Germany sometime next year [2002].”

Adam Niswander writes that he is “hard at work” on *The War of the Whisperers*, the fourth novel in his popular **Shaman Cycle** series. The first two novels, *The Charm* and *The Serpent Slayers*, will be reissued in trade paperback editions by DarkTales Publications within the next few months. DarkTales will also publish Adam’s third novel, *The Hound Hunters*, before the end of the year. “Plans call for *The War of the Whisperers* to follow immediately, and negotiations are underway for a fifth book, as yet untitled. The series is planned for thirteen connected-but-independent novels.” Adam also reports he has sold a short story titled “Doors” to an anthology called *Asylum 2: The Violent Ward*, which is due for release this Autumn, also from DarkTales. Some of his darker poetry was recently featured at Gothicnet. Visit Adam’s Bookstore online at: <<http://dogbert.abebooks.com/abe/BooksBrowse?vendorid=549819&page=CLIENT>>.

Mike Stackpole reports that *Fortress Draconis* will be coming out this December. “It’s a big fantasy trade paperback from Bantam.” He also continues to write his regular column in *Comics Retailer*. He is also doing a comic book for *WhizKids* which is in development. For more information, see his Website at <<http://www.stormwolf.com>>.

Local artists/writers **Scott P. “Doc” Vaughn** and **Tamera K. Frahm** are working on *Doctor Who: The Legends of Time*, a fan video production coming from M&V Studios in late 2001/early 2002. More information will be posted at <<http://www.stormwolf.com>>.

<www.mandvonline.com/legendsoftime/legendshome.html>.

OTHER PRONews

Brian W. Aldiss writes: “I had a hell of a good time in Buenos Aires. My mentor was **Marcial Souto**, a noted editor and translator of English SF into Spanish. We also went over to Montevideo—a lovely friendly city. I have finished a story entitled ‘Aboard the ‘Beatitude’ for **Betsy Wollheim**. By the end of next week I will be in Macedonia.”

C. Dean Andersson sold a Texas zombie football story, “Dust Bowl,” to *The Book of All Flesh*, edited by **James Lowder**, target pub date October 2001.

British SF writer and scholar **Mike Ashley** writes: “As usual doing too much. The biography of **Algernon Blackwood** is completed. The U.K. title is *The Starlight Man*, and will be published by Constable in November 2001. For some reason, the U.S. publisher (Carroll & Graf) didn’t think the title would be understood in the U.S., so they are publishing it as *Algernon Blackwood: An Extraordinary Life* in January 2002. Due to be published later this year is my next anthology, *The Mammoth Book of Fantasy*. I’m just now wrapping up *The Mammoth Book of Great Science Fiction*, and have also started work on *The Mammoth Book of Ancient Egyptian Whodunnits*. At present, am submerged in *The Mammoth Encyclopedia of Modern Crime Fiction*, a huge tome which threatens to swamp me. I also must find time to finalise the proofs of *The Gernsback Days*, to be published by Wildside Press in the near future. The first volume of my **History of the Science Fiction Magazine** series, *The Time Machines*, was published by Liverpool University Press in December. The second volume, *Transformations* has been delivered. Not sure of publication date. I still have to complete the third and final volume, *Gateways to Forever*. Various other smaller projects ongoing [as usual].”

John Gregory Betancourt writes: “I’m working on *The Dawn of Amber*, a prequel trilogy to **Roger Zelazny’s Amber** series, for ebooks. Still at the approval stage, but things look promising. We’re moving to Doylestown, PA in about a week (my wife accepted a new job in that area). Wildside Press continues to publish great books.”

David Brin writes: “Cheryl and I took a quick trip to Paris and then Barcelona, where I gave speeches and interviews to help present the University of Catalonia Literary Awards. Paris was, of course, wonderful, despite being as dirty and rude as we recall from living there in ’90-92. Naturally, we ate like crazy and walked off every calorie, rushing about to see all our old favorite sites and many new ones. Paris in late November can be brutally cold, windy and wet, and yet all the museums were packed! What a racket they have going. Barcelona was warmer. It is a jewel of a city, filled with wonders and the most delightful people. The blend of old

and hyper-new is better than anywhere I’ve seen. I was surprised to learn that the Catalan language is closer to French (actually Occitan) than it is to Spanish! The architecture of Gaudi is simultaneously so wonderful and offensive that it makes the brain hurt, provoking unexpected thoughts. That is what the best art should do, of course, even when it’s painful. I’ve been busy with this new public speaking thing. In June, I spoke to a World Bank Conference in Miami, then to a Pentagon futurist meeting, then DARPA, the Library of Congress...and a certain “agency” with the best gift shop on the planet. The week before, I was in Cincinnati, addressing the execs and techies of Procter & Gamble. I also spoke to SAP’s Tech 2000 gathering in Las Vegas, where I met **Penn & Teller!** Penn is bigtime a sci fi and technology fan. My prediction as a ‘noted futurist’? I predict my present surge of fancy speaking engagements will all dry up in 2002, when people, sick of ‘da futchah,’ will go nostalgia-crazy and want nothing but retro! We just had an exhausting and expensive family vacation—two nights in Vegas (doing almost everything there is to do with kids), then Hoover Dam (Ben, the born engineer, was in utter heaven), then The Grand Canyon, staying at Bright Angel Lodge, right at the rim, then blitzing through Anasazi Country visiting ancient ruins and volcanic cinder cones and Meteor Crater! Amazing and exhausting. And here at home awaited seven phone messages and 59 emails! Shows how the world shifts. Ho hum, back to the grind! The title of my new novel—the most original thing I’ve done in years—is *Kiln People*. Take the notion of golems—temporary artificial people made of clay. Add ‘home copiers,’ in which you can ditto yourself to copies with your memories and a genuine imprint of your soul. They last for one day. If they are good, you download their memories at day’s end, and thus they live on. As a citizen of this future, you’ve done this a zillion times, taking it for granted. You live your life in parallel, sending expensive ‘study golems’ to the library, while cheap models clean the house and your real body goes to the gym to work out. Two-thirds of the population is made of clay, has no rights, and doesn’t think that’s unfair. So far, it’s huge fun. Bad puns like psycho-ceramics. Golem blanks come in ceram-wrap. Get it? ;-) [Groan. -DFM] Oh, I just filed my first patent! For a piece of software you may see online someday, I hope.” David’s Website can be seen at <<http://www.davidbrin.com>>.

Ed Bryant writes: “Ed Bryant’s all-chomping, all-dancing, all-romancing zombie novella, ‘A Sad Last Love at the Diner of the Damned,’ has just appeared in a spiffy new edition from start-up specialty press Wormhole Books <<http://www.wormholebooks.com>>. This is one of a series of exquisitely designed, highly

affordable, ‘hand-made’ chapbooks. \$12 includes shipping. All color wrap-around cover by **David Martin**, adding fun to **Edward Hopper’s** classic ‘Nighthawks.’ New intros by the author and by **S. P. Somtow**. This is the second in Wormhole’s series, the first being **Melanie Tem’s** “Pioneers,” a brand-new piece of science fiction with an intro by **Nancy Holder** and a color oil painting cover by **Joanna Erbach**.”

Actor **Bruce Campbell** writes: “Howdy. It’s time for a book! I encourage folks to go here for all the details. Bruce’s Book Website: <<http://www.brucecampbellbook.com>>.”

Paul Castiglia “continues to write Archie’s *Weird Mysteries*.”

Horror/erotica writer **M. Christian** writes: “Boy, have things been happening... Got my collections, *Dirty Words: A Collection of Provocative Erotica and Rough Stuff: Tales of Gay Men, Sex and Power* (which I co-edited with **Simon Sheppard**), out right now (from Alyson Books). *Guilty Pleasures* (which I edited) will be out in a month or so. *Burning Pen* (which I also edited) will be out in November. I also have another collection, *Speaking Parts*, coming out the middle of next year—and have stories in *Space & Time*, *Graven Images*, and a dozen or so books coming out over the next few months. Whew! I also still write columns for <<http://www.suspectthoughts.com>>, <<http://www.venusorvixen.com>>, and <<http://www.monsterzine.com>> as well.

Adrian Cole writes: “I’m completing an anthology of **Lin Carter’s Thongor** short stories for Wildside’s *Young Thongor*. Then on to a new project.”

Candas Jane Dorsey writes: “My book, *Vanilla and Other Stories*, published NeWest Press in June 2000, won the WGA Best Short Fiction Award, officially yclept the Howard O’Hagen Award for Fiction. Two firsts were awarded, the other going to **Caterina Edwards**. My novel, *A Paradigm of Earth*, will be out from Tor in October, but I think I said that before, last time you wrote for news. In June, I was CanVention Guest of Honour at V-Con in Vancouver.”

Writer/artist **Max Espinoza** writes: “**Ruben Gerard** and I can still be found on the Web at <<http://www.californiacaricatures.com>>. Ruben is still writing and drawing his comic strip and I am still writing plays and drawing cast caricatures for Stages, a small theatre company in Fullerton, California.”

Susan R. Matthews writes: “‘It’s been a quiet week in Lake Woebegon...’ I am about a third of a way through the book I owe my editor this fall—the fourth **Kosciusko** novel, working title *The Devil and Deep Space*, tentatively scheduled for publication in October of 2002. I’ve seen the bound galleys for *Angel of Destruction*, my **Jurisdiction** stand-alone

(Cont’d on page 17)

Musical Notes

by Tom Tuerff

The Bringers "It's About Time"
(Random Factors) ****

First of all, I have to say that I don't think a CD with a more appropriate title will be released this year. It certainly is about time the Bringers put out a CD, and this tuneful, intriguing and exciting offering meets every expectation.

This is really no surprise. The six-member band presents some of the most innovative music on the Celtic scene today. They started as a trio some years ago, and after several personnel changes have grown into the existent sextet of violinist Michi Regier and percussionist Vash, wife and husband and two of the original members; plus digeridoo player Byron Miller, singers Catherine Rustenbeck and Nichelle Scott, and the formidable local string wizard himself, Joe Bethancourt.

That's right, Joe Bethancourt — the guy who can play almost anything with strings and who would be a welcome addition to almost any band. You know this young group MUST be good if Joe chooses to join them. And they do not disappoint. Bethancourt is simply another member of this very accomplished band, who takes his turns in the spotlight with everyone else.

The album kicks off with "Tamlyn the Bard," a positively eerie number that combines an old fiddle tune with some very creepy, crawly poetry from Bethancourt, complete with crackling fire, thunder, and spooky noises.

From there, it's off to the races with one of the best covers of the tired old song "Leaving of Liverpool" that I've ever heard. Usually this song is performed by old, drunk Irish tenors and people who want to BE old, drunk Irish tenors. Here, Catherine and Nichelle sing a sprightly version, played in a fast, Appalachian style by the band. It is at once unexpected, hilarious and wonderful.

Other highlights include "Geordie," Vash's popular showpiece which he describes as "an amazing example of a Scots ballad where nobody dies"; "King Henry," another eerie, unnerving tale, sung by Joe, about a King who upsets a very demanding, evil female presence in the forest (I can't get the sound of the ladies singing "MORE MEAT! MORE MEAT!" out of my head); and a medley of Bethancourt's "Celtic Circle Dance" and Jethro Tull's "Cup of Wonder" that finishes the album off.

Now, let's talk about the amazing fiddle pieces on this CD. I'm going to go on the record now and say that Michi Regier is probably one of the ten best fiddle players I've ever heard. She has played with the Chieftains and other big name bands, and is unquestionably one of the masters.

I have watched this woman from mere feet away, and I have to tell you I don't know how she does some of the stuff she does. It's like her violin is a top hat, and you wait with anticipation to see what kind of surprising musical rabbit she'll pull from it next. The fact that she appears to do it without breaking a sweat is even more amazing.

"Marching McCahill to Milltown" is a perfect example. A combination of traditional fiddle tunes that the Bringers frequently play in their sets, it starts at a perfectly sane tempo for most folks and by the time it finishes, the entire band is playing at about 150 mph. In other words, look out, stand back and watch what happens.

The same is true about the other fiddle pieces on the album. Just as you're ready to settle down and relax to a nice, slow air, suddenly you're back out of your chair, dancing all over the place.

The Bringers get lumped into the category of "Celtic Music Groups," but they really are much more than that. On the back of this fantastic CD, they describe what they do as "Acoustic Music Without Borders." Indeed, the songs and influences heard on this CD reach from the shores of America to the back streets of Turkey, with a healthy vacation in the Emerald Isle and the UK, of course.

And how can you call a band "Celtic" when the "bottom" of its sound is provided by a digeridoo? You can't. You should simply call the Bringers "splendid." A splendid band and a splendid CD, produced by Bethancourt.

It is indeed about time that the Bringers had a CD. Isn't it about time you went out and bought it? Check out their website, too, at www.thebringers.com.

I just got back from Westercon 54 in Portland, and boy, what a collection of great filkers and folkies showed up! I saw a fantastic concert by Jeff and Maya Bohnhoff (their latest CD, "Retro Rocket Science," was reviewed in the last issue), and shared the filk circle over three nights with them, as well as Cecilia Eng, Lynn Gold (thanks for lending me the guitar, Lynn), Joe Bethancourt, Jordin Kare, Echo's Children (although strangely, never at the same time; it was either one member or the other) and scores more. Keep your eye out for ANYTHING by a new group called Escape Key. The lead vocalist has one of the nicest voices I've heard in a long time. I also got to meet Heather Alexander, who will be down here in September for CopperCon. She is not to be missed! I'll have a review of her latest CD next time.

Tom Tuerff writes filk and folk reviews for ConNotations. If you have a CD you want reviewed, send it to the main ConNotations address to Tom's attention, or tackle him in the street and force it on him. You can also reach him at ttuerff@aol.com. Check out his websites at <http://hometown.aol.com/nudeadguy> and <http://www.cdbaby.com/tuerff>.



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ConClusion

LepreCon 27 Review
by Mike Willmoth

This year's LepreCon was held May 18-20, 2001, at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. Artist Guest-of-Honor (GoH) was **Stephen Hickman**, Author GoH was **Michael A. Stackpole**, Local Artist GoH was **Robert Ross** and Music GoHs were Echo's Children. **Stephen Hickman** has won five Chesley Awards given by the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA). He also did the artwork for the United States Postal Service's Space Fantasy Commemorative Booklet of stamps, the first in the SF genre. **Mike Stackpole** is a local author who started out writing games for Flying Buffalo Inc. (also local to Phoenix). Since then he has authored BattleTech novels, Star Wars X-Wing novels, and several of his own design. **Robert Ross** displayed his artwork for the first time at the 1994 World Horror Convention held in Phoenix and has been collecting award ribbons ever since. Echo's Children (**Callie Hills** and **Cat Faber**) have produced two CDs of their music and came to us from the Pacific Northwest.

I experienced the convention this year from yet another new perspective. Not only was I involved pre-con in the program design (science track), but also got to be the Hotel Liaison for the first time (officially). Besides coming up with some of the science program ideas I was also responsible for making sure that the hotel knew how we wanted each function room set up at what time (Gaming, Dealers Room, Art Show, Programming, Video Room), including Green Room, Anime Room, Staff Lounge and ConSuite (all

(Cont'd on page 5)

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Conclusion (cont'd from page 4) sleeping rooms). Additionally, I made sure that staff requests for rooms were correctly handled and made the hotel aware of reservations problems when they arose (like two participants who were denied reservations on their first call despite the room block not being full). There were a few changes to the room setups that had to occur, too. The big task was resolving all the errors on the final bill before we'd write them a check, such as charges to rooms not covered by the con or charges for rooms already paid for and checked out!

One of the popular events this year was the World Building (WB) series of discussions. Some of the attendees mentioned that this was a really good idea, and from the attendance at them throughout the con I'd agree. The first one started Friday afternoon off (planet or asteroid) along with a NASA Space Program Update with **Hugh Gregory** (Canadian space flight historian) and a Get-To-Know panel for the local groups (LepreCon, CASFS, Western SFA and THEM). Another WB event occurred (geology & geography) during Meet-the-Pros, followed by a MacGuyver Challenge, Filk GoHs intro, United Federation of Phoenix (UFP) Jeopardy (who also staffed ConSuite this year), THEM anime and a midnight panel on The Fine Line Between Art & Porn. In the fan table area we had the Arizona Convention Table, Mars Society, Dr. Williams' Planetary Geology Display and Fo' Paws merchandising the convention with t-shirts using our Artist GoH's work.

Saturday was the big day with Tube Talk by **Lee Whiteside**, Lunar/Mars Colony, WB again (plants & animals), GoH talks, VR Interactive Gaming with **Louise Kleba** (engineer with Boeing), Making Characters Come Alive, Filk Concert, WB (history), Art Workshop on Tri Chem, Paper Airplane Context, Art Demo on Scratchboard with former local artist GoH **Cathie Yankovich**, Charity Auction, Masquerade Contest, Violence Sex & Debauchery in Gaming, Modern Dance, Writing as Art & Commerce and Anime for Kids. Sunday finished off the convention with **Barry Bard** At The Movies, **Robert Ross'** interview by **Larry Vela**, **Mark Ferrari** Art Workshop on Drawing the Human Figure, Alternate Prehistory, Fandom as Utopia, Squirt Gun Fight, Art Auction and Compliments & Complaints.

Other participants not mentioned include **Aaron Allston**, **Frances Burns**, **Christi Carpenter**, **Mike Cassidy**, **Callista Cleary** (teenage artist), **Jeff Colburn**, **Elizabeth Danforth**, **John Davis** (also helped run programming at-con), **Janeen DeBoard**, **Emily Devenport** (aka Maggy Thomas), **Doranna Durgin**, **Maryeileen Flanagan**, **Scott Glener**, **Rachel Hartman**, **Ernest Hogan**, **Angel Hungerford**, **Katherine Lawrence**, **Lubov** (Lep 26 Artist GoH who now lives here in the valley), **Daryl F. Mallett**, **Donald Markstein**, **Joe McKersie**, **Dennis L. McKiernan**, **John Carter McKnight**, **John Mina**, **Rusty Neal**,

Adam Niswander, **James Reade** (who did a live model suite), **Cary Riall**, **Jennifer Roberson**, **Carlos Ross**, **Ken St. Andre**, **Mark Siegel**, **Ed Sulfaro**, **Kit Townsend**, **Scott Vaughn**, **Larry Vela** (who set up VelaVision throughout the con to promote it internally using TVs and VCRs), **Scott Virtes**, **James Vitale**, **John Vornholt**, **Jim Webbert**, **Erik Wennstrom**, **Dr. David Williams**, and **Randall Whitlock**.

The big surprise this year was the donation of around \$650 worth of audio/visual equipment to promote the con via VelaVision! Thanks go to **Sarah Stevenson** (program staff member) who couldn't be at the convention, but came through with a financial contribution to help make this and future cons more enjoyable. We ended up with three TVs and two VCRs. **Larry Vela** put these to good use as well as in program events that required a/v equipment. **Kitty McDonald-Neal** ran Programming this year and did another great job in getting things together. She and her staff managed to automate the data transfer from email responses into the database used to put everything in its proper spot. UFP staffed ConSuite as well as decorated it throughout the con, which was highly received by attendees at the C&C panel at the end of the con. This year's Chair, **Mark Boniece**, also ran CopperCon 20 last September. (I think he's crazy to run two cons so close together, but he survived them nonetheless.)

Kleba's VR Gaming was interesting and she had folks fill out a survey she could ultimately pass on to the powers-that-be on using VR to train future pilots. The Modern Dance was well crafted, but under-attended. Considering this is the first one allowed since around LepreCon 19 it went well. Previously we had lots of problems with one-night-onlys coming just for the dance and causing problems. We're giving it another try. There were very few parties, the Southwest Costumers Guild had a nice party, a publisher was promoting their new book and a small group threw a crowded but quiet party in the smoking wing. The Dark Ones were conspicuously absent this year party-wise, which was sorely missed. The auctions brought in lots of money, Gaming had computers and traditional games, the Art Show was quite wonderful (most of my desire was for not-for-sale items brought by the GoHs), and the Dealers' Room was a good mix of books, music, art, gaming and costumes.

All in all, this LepreCon went very smoothly. The remarks I heard from attendees were quite favorable. The GoHs had a great time. Although we haven't had the wrap-up meeting yet, I think we broke even. If you're interested in more details, then please come by the board meeting for Leprecon Inc. this August. Just give me a call or email me for more info. And, as always, if you think something should be done better, different, etc. please contact me or anyone else on the committee and make your opinions known. We do this stuff for you and without your input we

can't make it better.
Mike Willmoth, 480-945-6890,
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World Horror Convention 2001 by Mike Willmoth

Seattle, Washington, hosted this year's World Horror Convention. Actually, it was near the SeaTac airport at the Marriott Hotel, the dates were May 25 - 28, 2001. Guests-of-Honor were: Writer (deceased) **Richard Laymon**; Writers **Simon Clark**, **Michael Slade** and **Jessica Amanda Salmonson**; Editors **Barbara** and **Christopher Roden**; Artist **Charles Vess**; Toastmaster **Jack Ketchum**; and Grand Master Award winner **Ray Bradbury** (not in attendance).

Participants on the schedule included **Gail S. Anderson**, **C. Dean Andersson**, **Michael A. Arnzen**, **Trey R. Barker**, **Jennifer Rachel Baumer**, **Arian Bourne**, **Bill Breedlove**, **Bob Brown**, **Denise M. Bruchman**, **Phillip Brugalette**, **Edward Bryant**, **P.D. Cacek**, **Jack Cady**, **Matt Cardin**, **Paul Carpentier** (Chair, WHC2001), **M. Christian**, **Alan M. Clark**, **Ellen Datlow**, **Jeff Davis**, **David DeFalco**, **Sandy DeLuca**, **Alexa deMonterice**, **Robert Devereaux**, **Tananarive Due**, **Dawn Dunn**, **Wayne Edwards**, **John Everson**, **Gemma Files**, **Darren Floyd**, **GAK**, **Sephera Giron**, **Michael R. Gist**, **Adam Golaski**, **d.g.k goldberg**, **Henry Gonzalez**, **Rain Graves**, **Paula Guran**, **Jack Madison Haringa**, **Chad Hensley**, **Brian Scott Hiebert**, **Ken Hinch**, **Brian A. Hopkins**, **Thomas P. Hopp**, **Michael T. Huyck Jr.**, **Jemiah Jefferson**, **Tina Jens**, **Gary Jonas**, **Graham Joyce**, **Sandra Kasturi**, **Brian Keene**, **Michael Laimo**, **Kelly Laymon**, **Tim Lebbon**, **Seth Lindberg**, **Steve Lockley**, **David Thomas Lord**, **Richard Lukes** (Chair, WHC2002), **Pat MacEwen**, **Jeff Mariotte**, **Joan M. McCarty**, **Michael McCarty**, **Julie McGalliard**, **Mark McLaughlin**, **Andrew Migliore**, **Mary Ann Mitchell**, **James A. Moore**, **Christian Muncy**, **Yvonne Navarro**, **James Newman**, **David Nordhaus**, **Gene O'Neill**, **Michael Oliveri**, **Margaret Organ-Kean**, **Garrett Peck**, **John Pelan**, **Phantom Seekers**, **Tom Piccirilli**, **Loren Rhoads**, **Bruce Holland Rogers**, **Judi Rohrig**, **Joel Ross**, **Larry Santoro**, **Brett A. Savory**, **Lorelei Shannon**, **Margaret Ballif Simon**, **Robin Smith**, **David Sparks**, **Honna & Patrick Swenson** (who did a great job on the Program Book), **Bruce Taylor**, **Karen E. Taylor**, **Melanie & Steve Rasnic Tem**, **John Urbancik**, **Edo van Belkom**, **Aaron Vanek**, **Carrie Vaughn**, **Tim Waggoner**, **Cynthia Ward**, **Paul Victor Wargelin**, **Robert Weinberg**, **Stacey Kathleen Wenkel**, **Stanley Wiater**, **Drew Weist** and **Jason Williams**.

I flew up the day before the con. The hotel had a free shuttle from the airport and after checking in I had a nice, but slow, lunch in the hotel restaurant. I walked around the hotel to get oriented and found it laid out very nicely. It was an open square with attached function space and kitchen to the north of the square. The

attachment was higher (more stories) than the square with rooms on the inside and outside of the square. Inside rooms faced the atrium with pool, spa, etc. Lots of folks never noticed that it wasn't open air in the atrium as it was quite large, light and comfortable. Hospitality was on the first floor on the west side and the Horror Writers Association (HWA) Suite was the same on the east side. The lobby was on the second floor along with the lounge and restaurant. North of those was the function space used by the convention. Down the main hallway they had Registration to the left and Art Show in the room directly across from it. Go to the end of that hall and turn right you'll find rooms to the right where programs, Opening/Closing Ceremonies and HWA Bram Stoker Awards were held. The rooms to the left held the Dealers' Room. The rooms at the far end were for readings and Convention Operations. I found some of the staff and lent a hand here and there before the offsite ghost tour of Seattle and university bookstore signing downtown. The tour was ok, but lots of places to stop and wander were busy during rush hour so we just kept driving. We did stop at a cemetery that had almost been abandoned, but kept going by locals who wanted to make it nice. The bookstore signing was well attended and I spent lots of time perusing books, chatting with other convention folks, etc. Hospitality was setting up when I returned, so I helped out there before calling it a night.

Friday started out with more helping out. The first events started at 12:30pm with a scary mask demo in the Art Show, How Far Is Too Far, The Voices In My Head Told Me To and Twilight Tales Presents by Tina Jens. From there they had electronic publishing roundtable, readings and The Fortean Panel. Opening Ceremonies was in the early afternoon where **Ray Bradbury** was announced as the Grand Master Award winner. He wasn't able to attend, so the award was put on display throughout the con until someone designated to accept it did so at Closing Ceremonies. The award was designed by **Alan Clark** and shows a skull poking up into a membrane. That's placed on a plaque with a nameplate. After OC I met a friend from Seattle in the lobby who drove me to his house for dinner and some computer technical support. Upon returning I hit Hospitality and wandered around to look for any parties. Some of the items I missed seeing were Lone Wolf Publications, Poetry Slam, Murder and Maggots: Forensic Entomology, Vital Signs: Current State Of Horror Field & Small Press, Overlooked Classics, How To Write A Horror Bestseller, the Art Reception, My Favorite Horror Movie, Talebones Live!, HWA Dark Dreamers Presents with Stanley Wiater showing a video of interviews with famous authors, Demo: Dark Images Unmasked, Eros & Thanatos: The Erotic Horror Panel, Leisure Books party and Dracula: The Musicals.

Saturday brought a full slate of events.

(cont'd on page 8)

From Termen to Theremin and Back: The Life and Times of the Father of Electronic Music

By Shane Shellenbarger

Do you know what a space-control instrument, a Rhythmicon, or a Terpsitone are? How familiar are you with the contributions to music made by Clara Rockmore, Lucie Bigelow Rosen, or Dr. Samuel J. Hoffman? Do you have a clue as to what *The Green Hornet*, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, and “Good Vibrations” have in common? Each of these people and things are inexorably linked to Lev Sergeyevich Termen, the Russian inventor who became known outside his native country as Leon Theremin. If that name sounds familiar (besides a song by the Swedish musical group, **Covenant**) it’s because his space-control device became known as the ThereminVox and then just the Theremin.

Unless you’ve seen the documentary *Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey* or the video *Clara Rockmore, the World’s Greatest Theremin Virtuosa*, you may not know what a Theremin looks like. I’ve seen two of the instruments, one at a museum in Denver, Colorado and the other as part of the now defunct Disney/MGM Monster Sound Show attraction. The units were wooden cabinets resembling lecterns with a metal hoop projecting horizontally from the left as you looked at the front and a metal rod rising vertically on the right. The hoop controlled the volume and the rod controlled the pitch. The player would approach the machine until it produced a sound and then back away slightly. With the right hand close to the shoulder the device would produce the lowest tones, rising in pitch as the hand reached for the antenna rod. You’ve likely heard the eerie, ethereal sound of the instrument since it was used in the Beach Boys “Good Vibrations”, Led Zeppelin’s “Whole Lotta Love”, the theme music for the television series *Dark Shadows*, and the movies *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *Ed Wood*, and *Mars Attacks*. Once you’ve heard it you can’t forget the Theremin.

Born in St. Petersburg on August 15, 1896, by the Old Style, Julian Calendar, Theremin grew up in the waning years of the tsarist empire. Fascinated by physics and electricity, Theremin spent his youth immersed in experimentation and observation of astronomy, magnetic fields, and high-frequency currents.

Theremin was pulled into Russia’s fight against Germany early in 1916. During World War I, Theremin became an electrical instructor, repairing military transmitters, and erecting radio towers. In 1917, amidst the upheaval of WWI and the abdication of the Imperial throne by Tsar Nicholas II, Theremin completed his degree from the Petrograd University’s School of Physics and Mathematics and received a “freelance artist” diploma from the St. Petersburg (Petrograd) Conservatory. October 25, 1917 saw the revolutionary forces arresting the Provisional Government and in March 1918 Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, leader of the Bolshevik Party, signed the Brest-Litovsk

peace treaty which ended Russia’s part in the First World War. Theremin’s connection with military didn’t end there, but he was free to expand horizons in his work. In 1920, building on the work of Lee De Forest who had created the Audion tube and Edwin Howard Armstrong who used the Audion to develop an amplifier, Theremin investigated the properties of the human body and its ability to act as a condenser or capacitor and store an electric charge. He reasoned that a person’s natural body capacitance could interfere with the capacity of an electric circuit and set off a signaling device. Theremin developed his “radio watchman” and soon refined and adapted the system to produce a single frequency. He discovered that hand movements near the circuit produced changes in pitch. With further refinement, Theremin dubbed the device the “etherphone” due to what was then believed to be the transporting medium of electromagnetic waves: the ether.

In 1921, Theremin filed for a Russian patent on the etherphone and in the fall of that year he made his public debut with the instrument at the Eighth All-Union Electro-Technical Congress in Moscow. A few days later, Theremin gave a public performance in the same auditorium. This led to a meeting with Lenin, father of the Revolution. Demonstrating the etherphone for Lenin, Theremin found the leader charming, charismatic, and soon he was a willing tool of Lenin’s campaign to flaunt the achievements of “Soviet Power.” Soon, Theremin was performing in concert and demonstrating the instrument throughout Europe and on January 24, 1928 Theremin made his private debut in the Grand Ballroom of New York’s Hotel Plaza. Audience members included the Astor’s, the Ford’s, the Guggenheimer’s, Arturo Toscanini, and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

Theremin’s playing and the sound of his instrument met with mixed reviews that ranged from “bravo” to half the audience leaving before the conclusion of the performance. Theremin’s introduction to America was also marred by accusations of patent infringement by Dr. Frank E. Miller, an ear, nose, and throat specialist, and Dr. Lee De Forest who, in 1915, filed for a patent and built a rudimentary device which used audio frequency oscillators to produce eight separate pitches from each vacuum tube. De Forest had the better claim, but he had no interest in suppressing Theremin’s musical application. De Forest said, “The artistic possibilities of the Theremin Vox are tremendous, once its use is taken up by musicians.” Miller’s device was only a simple generator of tones utilizing an Audion bulb and when Theremin applied to the U.S. patent office for a “method of and apparatus for the generation of sounds” it was approved on February 28, 1928. It seems that the patent examiners found no conflict with Dr. Miller’s creation.

Concerts in New York, Philadelphia, Akron, Chicago, Detroit, and Brooklyn spread Theremin’s fame and interest began to grow in the American public. His first pupil on U.S. soil was Alexandra Stepanoff, a young Russian concert singer

who had recently immigrated to America and would eventually become a member of a Theremin quartet. The three most accomplished Theremin players were Clara Rockmore, whose album, “The Art of the Theremin” was re-released on CD in 1998, followed by Lucie Bigelow Rosen who played the Theremin in concert all over the globe, and Dr. Samuel Hoffman whose work can be heard on the soundtracks of *Spellbound*, *The Spiral Staircase*, and he performed Bernard Herrmann’s classic score for the 1951 film, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*.

Soon major companies took an interest in Theremin’s inventions. The Radio Corporation of America contacted the Patent and Process Corporation who had paid Theremin representatives \$5,000 for an exclusive option to negotiate licensing and manufacture of Theremin’s U.S. patents. RCA agreed to pay \$100,000 for a two-year option for the exclusive rights to the Thereminvox, the radio watchman, and an altimeter Theremin had developed. The first production run totaling 500 of the RCA Theremin hit stores in New York on September 23, 1929, priced at \$175.00. Initial buyers soon discovered problems. Some units displayed a reversal of frequency characteristics, others had loose parts and misadjusted condensers. An internal RCA report concluded that a 50/50 chance of purchasing a properly operating instrument. This wasn’t the only bad news for RCA. General Electric and Westinghouse were manufacturing the RCA Theremin and the stock market wasn’t treating either company very well. On October 23, the market fell, as did G.E. and Westinghouse stock. The next day a panic of selling occurred, but by Friday prices had risen slightly. On October 28, G.E. stock lost forty-eight points and on October 29, 1929 stocks listed on the exchange dropped \$14 billion in one day. On July 15, 1931, following a patent battle with De Forest Radio Company, RCA stated that 178 units were sold in 1929, 306 in 1930, and a single RCA Theremin sold in 1931. Sales receipts totaled \$43,332.26 with the manufacturing cost at \$43,650, not including advertising. After RCA offered \$6,000 in damages to De Forest, no more than the initial samples run of 500 RCA Theremin’s were ordered or produced.

The U.S. Government was also intrigued by the Russian inventors work. On July 26, 1934, Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary opened and on October 11 the Teletouch Corporation (of which Theremin was vice president) installed gun detectors. One week later Teletouch was summoned back to rectify a coil-overheating problem. Further trouble occurred and on May 19 1937 the Teletouch contract with Alcatraz was canceled and the government informed Teletouch that they would have to return the original amount of the contract and make up the difference of the cost to install new detectors from Federal Laboratories. Debts were beginning to mount.

Theremin often failed to make good on his personal loans, as well. In 1931, he signed a promissory note to RCA for \$3,000, but he defaulted on the monthly installments. RCA sued and won a judgment against the inventor. In 1932, Theremin was sued for \$10,000 and when

he failed to respond a default judgment for \$4,000 was entered against him in New York State Supreme Court. It seems amazing that a Soviet alien with a six-month visa that had been extended for over four years could rack up so many transgressions. In addition, Theremin was spying on America through her people. He forged relationships with captains of industry, leading scientists, and used the United States technology to forge his work and knowledge for the betterment of Mother Russia. “I did a lot of spying for the military department in connection with secret information on airplanes,” Theremin said. “I had my tactics for these things. To find out something new, and foreign, I wouldn’t ask about it. I would suggest something new of my own. When you show something of your own it’s easier to find out what the other people are working at. So I had some airplane work which the American’s didn’t know about—auto-pilot and remote control devices.” Even after he returned to Russia his talents would be pressed into service and he would spy on Americans again.

Theremin’s romances seemed as casual and above law as did his financial dealings. He married his first wife, Ekaterina Pavlovna Constantinova, on May 24, 1924. She was twenty, he twenty-seven. “...at the door there was a beautiful girl holding all those tools in her hands, whom I liked very much, and I decided I would be with her forever”, Theremin said. On July 20, 1927, Theremin left for Germany. Katia was persuaded to remain in Leningrad as insurance for the government. In December, Katia was allowed to join Theremin in Paris, just as he was completing his tour of Europe prior to his journey, sans Katia, to the United States. On July 27, 1928, Katia arrived in New York. The months she had sat out in Paris had prevented her from completing the remaining semesters of her five-year college program at the Medical Institute. Without a diploma, holding only a temporary visitor’s visa, she scrounged for menial jobs open to her in the medical field. With cooled feeling between her and Theremin, Katia lived in New Jersey while he remained in New York, seeing each other every few weeks. By 1932, Theremin seemingly forgot his marriage and turned his attentions to Clara Reisenberg, an eighteen-year-old immigrant who had been a musical wunderkind at the age of three, demonstrating perfect pitch. A concert violinist by training and temperament, Clara transferred her musical sensibilities to the Theremin when it was discovered that a childhood illness prevented her from continuing her violin. Theremin also persuaded Clara to try out his latest invention, the ether wave dance stage he called the Terpsitone. Using the same principles as the space-control device, a dancer could control the pitch of the terpsitone by movement of the entire body. Theremin’s ardor towards Clara reached its culmination with a marriage proposal. However, Clara had many suitors and in 1933 she married a distinguished entertainment lawyer, Robert Rockmore, whom she had known since the age of fourteen. Theremin was crushed and promptly cut all ties with

(Cont’d on page 15)

Shane and Laurie's Excellent Adventure: Six Amusement Parks East of the Mississippi River and West of the Atlantic Ocean By Shane Shellenbarger

My wife, Laurie, and I had discussed it for years and now it was about to happen: we were going on a vacation specifically to ride roller coasters. A few years back we had executed a similar trip in the Los Angeles area: Six Flags Magic Mountain, Knotts Berry Farm, and Disneyland. We went, we rode, we enjoyed. Now we were going to sample the coasters closer to the East Coast.

Our first stop was Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Virginia. Located near where our nation's founders, like Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry strode in Colonial Williamsburg, Busch Gardens is a beautiful park filled with lush plant life. We made the mistake of arriving during the 10am. opening rush, so it took us nearly an hour to park the car. The park is broken down into nine countries: Banbury Cross depicting London, Heatherdowns resembles Scotland with the newest area, Killarney Ireland, next door, Aquitaine has a taste of old France, with New France showing the Canadian style further along, followed by the German areas of Rhinefeld and Oktoberfest, and lastly San Marco and Festa Italia with the feeling of Italy. Each of the areas contains rides, shows, shops and food that reflect the countries that they represent.

The first coaster we headed for was *Apollo's Chariot* in Festa Italia, possibly best known as the site of supermodel, Fabio's fatal encounter with a bird. (It was fatal for the bird, not for Fabio.) *Apollo's Chariot* has nine cars which seats four across with a lap restraint. It drops from a 210-foot lift hill, has a top speed of 73 miles per hour, and covers 4,882 feet of track. This was our favorite ride in the park. The ride was smooth and exhilarating, with a breath-taking view of the park. We rode it twice in a row. This is a must-ride if only for the zero G's of airtime.

The next coaster we rode was the Heatherdowns *Loch Ness Monster*, a double-looping, 130-foot dropping, 60-mph speeding coaster with a horse collar restraint. Nice enough, but this was our least favorite coaster in the park.

Our third coaster ride and third favorite coaster in the park was *Alpengeist*, an inverted (hanging below the track) coaster in New France that uses a launcher. Top track height is 197 feet, with a 170-foot drop, six inversions and a top speed of 67 mph over 3,828 feet of track. The train comes close to the audience waiting in line and helps to generate a feeling of anticipation. Well worth a second ride.

Looking for a change of pace, we headed Volume 11 Issue 4

to Rhinefeld, home of the *Wilde Maus* (often seen at state fairs as the *Mad Mouse* and introduced at Disney's California Adventure as the *Mulholland Madness*), while this ride is often looked upon as a kiddie ride, we enjoyed our share of thrills at 22 mph on the 1,217 feet of track sporting hairpin turns and dips from a height of 46 feet. People with children should believe the kids when they scream, "IDON'T WANNA RIDE!" We saw more than one child come off this ride sobbing.

The last coaster and our second favorite was *The Big Bad Wolf*, in Oktoberfest. This suspended coaster with a horse collar harness has 2,800 feet of track, travels at about 50 mph through a recreated Bavarian village, and drops about 100 feet to skim above the Rhine River. A great ride, but watch out if it even threatens to rain because the ride operators will suspend travel faster than you can huff, and puff, and blow a straw house down.

Busch Gardens Williamsburg is one of the prettiest amusement parks in the United States, and with its rides, shows, and other attractions it can easily take a family two days to cover completely.

Busch Gardens Williamsburg:
<http://www.alexspace.com/Videos/Busch-Gardens-Williamsburg/Busch-Gardens-Williamsburg-Videos-Main.htm>

Fabio runs afoul of a fowl at Busch Gardens Williamsburg:
<http://www.alexspace.com/Videos/Busch-Gardens-Williamsburg/Busch-Gardens-Williamsburg-Videos-03.htm>
<http://www.kentuckyconnect.com/heraldleader/news/033199/national/docs/31fabio.htm>

http://www.ultimaterollercoaster.com/news/archives/april99/stories/040199_01.html

The next park we visited was Paramount's Kings Dominion, twenty miles north of Richmond and 75 miles south of Washington, D.C. Kings Dominion wasn't originally among our chosen stops, but it was on the way and we had the time so our flexible schedule allowed us to add this park to our adventure. At the entrance, all park goers are required to pass through a metal detector and submit to a bag search. I've never been to a park where this was necessary and I'm not quite sure how I feel about what this means.

The park is divided into Old Virginia, The Grove, Waterworks (a water park), Congo, Kidzville, and Nickelodeon. The first coaster we rode was *The Grizzly* in Old Virginia, a wooden coaster with a lift hill 87 feet high, a 50-mph maximum speed and 3,150 feet of track. *The Grizzly* has some great out-of-your-seat-air-time and you don't get beaten black and blue by the jostle. Although Laurie and I don't care for wooden coasters as much as steel coasters, we rode *The Grizzly* twice in a row.

In The Grove was the next coaster we attempted to ride: *HyperSonic XLC* (eXtreme Launch Coaster). This coaster employs a compressed-air launching system to drive the 8-passenger train from 0 to 80 mph in 1.8 seconds toward a 90 degree rise to a height of 165 feet, over a crest and down a 90-degree angle of descent along 1,560 feet of track. Boy, do I wish I had been able to ride this baby! Unfortunately, the wait was over two hours when we first approached the line; later the ride was closed, and still later the wait was again over two hours. We were privileged to see what happens to a hat and a pair of sunglasses when they aren't secured and a rider pops over the crest of the hill at 80 mph. The hat floats and the glasses drop, the hat lands and the glasses shatter. Boy, do I wish I had been able to ride this baby!

Our next stop was the *Hurler*, a wooden coaster that travels 50 mph after dropping 83 feet, traveling on 3,157 feet of track. During our two minutes of travel I did not note one incident of anyone or anything being hurled from the coaster. This coaster was generally unremarkable.

The *Rebel Yell* was remarkable for its twin tracks, with both coaster trains heading in the same direction, but with one train traveling backward. We took the forward train first and then we rode backward. I much preferred the backward train and I recommend that mode of travel, especially if you only have time to ride this coaster once. The trains travel along 3,369



feet of track at a maximum speed of 56 mph after dropping 85 feet over the lift hill. This was worth the wait.

Shockwave, was our first steel coaster ride in Kings Dominion and a Stand Up (riders stand as opposed to sit), to boot. I've ridden the *Riddler's Revenge* in Six Flags Magic Mountain, so I was anxious to compare the two. *Shockwave* doesn't compare favorably to *Riddler's Revenge*. *Shockwave's* track is only 2,231 feet long, rises to 95 feet, contains one inversion and travels for two minutes at a maximum speed of 50 mph. *Riddler's Revenge* has 4,370 feet of track, gets up to a height of

156 feet, has six inversions and travels for three minutes at a maximum speed of 65 mph. *Shockwave's* ride was also a bit rougher than *Riddler's Revenge*, which remains my favorite Stand Up coaster.

We entered Congo, which contained both the best of coasters and the worst of coasters in this park: *Volcano*, *The Blast Coaster* and *Outer Limits: Flight of Fear*. *Volcano* is an inverted coaster utilizing a LIM (Linear Induction Motor) creating electro-magnetic propulsion to replace the traditional lift hill, the rider is launched from the loading station at 70 mph along 2,757 feet of track containing four inversions to a height of 155 feet. Immediately after the train clears the crater mouth of the volcano, a ball of flame shoots skyward. This coaster never lets up and is almost as much fun to watch from the ground as it is to ride. Note, I said almost as much fun!

We followed the thrills of *Volcano* with a more sedate ride on *Avalanche*, a bobsled-style coaster that gives a smooth, yet exhilarating ride as you travel freely without a fixed track through a trough and descend into a 360-degree spiral.

Laurie and I found the *Anaconda* a bit rough on the head with some ear-boxing thrown in for good measure. The interesting features of this coaster are the 125-foot-long underwater tunnel, the 156-foot-long corkscrew, and a vertical loop above a man-made lake.

Our next coaster ride was mostly flash with little substance. If I'd have known what lay in store for me in *Outer Limits: Flight of Fear*, I'd have passed it by in order to spend the time trying to ride *HyperSonic XLC*. *Flight of Fear* is an enclosed, themed coaster. The basic plot line revolves around a captured alien saucer in a civilian-run Area 51 base. *Flight of Fear* uses a LIM launch system that gets you up to 54 mph, drops you 74 feet, and inverts you four times, along 2,705 feet of track that is mostly in the dark. Disney's *Space Mountain* is better themed (with a GREAT rock sound track at Disneyland), feels more thrilling to ride, and does more with the dark to appeal to the rider's anticipation. Ride this one only if you have nothing better to do.

Leaving behind the Congo, we headed for Kidzville and *Scooby-Doo Ghoster Coaster*, a family coaster that we found surprisingly fun! This wooden coaster rises to 35 feet, travels 35 mph over 1,385 feet of track, but has some respectable air-time and unexpected movement. Laurie and I were both smiling and wanting to ride this one again!

<http://www.kingsdominion.com/>
<http://www.paramountparks.com/>

TO BE CONTINUED

In the next issue of ConNotations Shane and Laurie go to Six Flags Great Adventure and Wild Safari in Jackson NJ and Kennywood in West Mifflin PA

ConClusion (Cont'd from page 5)

Cereal and Cartoons was a hit in Hospitality, HWA Pitch Meetings (invitation only), Gothic Literature Past and Present, Tips For Unpublished Writers, Homemade Books For A Mass-Produced Century: Introducing Wormhole Books, The Myth Of Satanic Cults & Ritual Abuse, Evil Northwest, more readings, A Sense Of History, The Haunted Wood, War and Pieces: Accurately Portraying The Military In Horror Fiction, Demo: Creating A Rogue's Gallery, How 100 Murder Trials Inspired Slade's Special X Psycho-Thrillers, Moral Responsibility of Artists/Writers/Filmmakers, Horror & Science Fiction, Dracula's Shadow, Horror & Comics, Mass Autograph Session, The Atrocity Exhibition, Deconstructing The Alien Autopsy. HWA Cocktail Reception and Bram Stoker Awards Banquet, Morbid Curiosity Open Mic, Dark Dreamers Presents (2) and Exquisite Corpse. I had lunch with some friends from Olympia and went out to dinner with one new friend and one old one. I met a gal last year from Atlanta who came out with a friend this year, but her friend was doing the Stokers. I had also chatted with a fellow from the Bay area who wasn't doing anything, so the three of us went offsite to 13 Coins restaurant nearby. The hotel shuttle dropped us off there on their airport run and picked us up when we called after dinner. The place was amazing. We had heard it was a good restaurant, but it was better than I imagined. We had to wait

about 30 minutes to be seated. It is built into the ground floor of a high rise building just outside the airport. The lounge had live jazz and the dining area had the tallest chairs and booths I've ever seen. The seat backs at the counter must have been 6 feet high with the booth walls even higher. It was like having a private shaft for your dining pleasure. Our waiter was pleasant and accommodating, our food excellent and good conversation. Upon returning I stuck my head into the Stokers to see how it was set up, then sat in on the Dark Dreamers video presentation with Wiater. I got to see interviews of Harlan Ellison (definitely not rated PG), **Richard Matheson** (GMA winner 1992) and **Forrest J. Ackerman**. I then hit the parties in the HWA Suite and on the 3rd floor where WHC2002 was throwing a party. I chatted with Rich from WHC2002 and Paul from WHC2001 about their cons, behind the scenes problems, etc. I noticed a gal with purple hair and a leather outfit that was more revealing than not wearing high heels and stalking some of the authors. It was an interesting experience and I had fun.

Sunday offered The Artist's Hand vs The Computer, The Classic Ghost Story, World Horror Society Meeting, more readings, Horror & Fantasy, Richard Laymon Memorial, The Fine Art Of Self-Promotion, Micro Horror: Fear Under 1000 Words, Help! My Subdivision Is Built On Top Of An Indian Burial Ground!, How To Write Fight Scenes, Hidden Horror, Summer Vacation In Hell: Kosovo War

Crimes & Forensic Investigation, Writing Poetry In A Prosaic Age, Horror Illustration, Ghostbusting Northwest, How To Edit Your Own Writing, Embalming Video, Anatomy Of Monsters, Writing A Screenplay, Lovecraft Movie, Ed-Libs, Buffyfest, Circus Contraption, Payne's Geek Show, Gross-Out Contest. I met a Philadelphia fan for breakfast that I knew from past WHCs. Next I was involved with the WHS meeting, since I'm on the board along with another local **Doreen Webbert**, and we got to hear from WHC2002 and accept bids for 2003. Kansas City won the 2003 bid! Afterwards we met in the atrium to discuss business related to WHCs in general and then I took off with a friend from Yelm. He took me to a theatre where the last play of the season was going on that he was in. I found it quite humorous. I got the behind the play tour and joined the cast for the post season potluck. He came back with me to party where we discovered the Scorpius Publishing party upstairs. They were doing what we had intended, namely, online publishing. Our venture ran out of money and we were slightly ahead of the curve. They appear to be doing just fine, so we compared notes and talked about details. Brigit McKenna runs the thing and is quite nice. We hung out there until he felt tired enough to head home. I heard later that the Circus was quite excellent and the Gross-Out Contest was, well, received.

Monday was the final day of the con. It started with Facing The Blank Page (Or Screen), Demo: Historic Weaponry,

Things That go Thump-Thump-Thump In The Night, Horror & The Real World, Using The Northwest As Your Setting, Art Auction, Starting A Critiquing Group and Closing Ceremonies. After breakfast I helped folks run things until Closing Ceremonies. Paul passed the baton to Rich for Chicago's WHC next April. The remaining GoHs were thanked and gave little speeches. Then the breakdown began of Art Show, Con Ops, Hospitality, etc. Actually, Hospitality ran quite late before moving remaining supplies next door to save money. The lounge was also busy and some folks threw an impromptu party. I flew home the next day.

This year's World Horror was quite successful and appears to have made money. Everyone I spoke with had a great time. The miniscule staff did a great job running the thing and I have never seen a smaller staff do a better job. They busted their rears to make the con a success and I hope they can do another one in the near future. Next year's will be in Chicago (www.whc2002.org) and 2003 will be in Kansas City (www.whc2003.org). If you want more details about this year's con, please visit their website (www.whc2001.org) or send me email. You missed a great convention, so please keep next year in mind. And if anyone is interested in bidding for 2004 or later years, please let me know. I'll help bring you up to speed to get things off the ground! - **Mike Willmoth** <Mwillmoth@compuserve.com>

What's different about a furry convention in Arizona?

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(for destroying those obnoxious marketing wonders like Barney, Smurfs, Pokemon, and the like)

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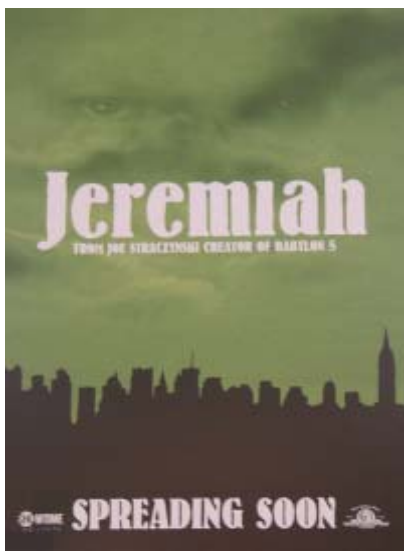
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SF Tube Talk (cont'd from page 1)

assigned to Captain the Liandra, a ship with a less than stellar reputation and he is joined by several friends and allies. The Alliance needs all the ships it can get to help rebuild things after the Shadow War, and David must redeem himself with his new ship. According to the official SciFi website: "*Babylon 5: The Legend of the Rangers* picks up the story of the legendary Ranger fleet as they attempt to restore order to hundreds of civilizations devastated by the Shadow War. Practicing a unique alien philosophy, the Rangers are an elite and mysterious fighting force composed of female and male humans and Minbari trained in space warfare and every conceivable form of martial arts. This new chapter in creator **Straczynski's** fascinating universe finds the Rangers faced with deadly challenges in their attempt to create peace out of the war's destruction and the emergence of a new enemy."

Straczynski is keeping busy in addition to the B5 TV movie. He's currently writing 3 monthly comic books, a movie script for MGM based on his Rising Stars comic and is going into production of *Jeremiah*, a series for Showtime that should debut in January. The series is based on a European comic series and will debut with a two hour movie. Starring as Jeremiah will be Luke Perry with Malcolm-Jamal Warner as Kurdy. Russell Mulcahey will direct the two-hour opener. According to **Straczynski** "Right around now in our timeline, a virus wipes out everyone on the planet over the age of puberty (figure around 12-13). It is now about 15 years later. Those who were once children have now grown up and are in their late 20s on down. For 15 years, they have been living on the scraps of the old world; now they must either continue the downward slide, or begin to rebuild the world, taking responsibility for themselves and the



© Showtime

world and each other. It is, oddly enough, a post-apocalyptic series about *beginnings* rather than endings, about hope rather than despair. It is about the new world rising out of the ashes of the

old world, what shape that world will take, and who will get to decide that shape. More than that would be to give too much away."

Buffy: Picking up Stakes to UPN plus Fox Kids and the BBC

UPN will be pulling out all the stops to promote *Buffy* this fall. The new season will likely be starting in mid-September or early October with a two hour opening episode, bringing *Buffy* back from the dead (as if we didn't expect that!). Look for Giles to take on less of a role and even leave the series as a regular, moving back to England (where he may star in his own spinoff series). Anya will take over the Magic Shop and Willow will become even more powerful (possibly becoming a big problem). Buffy also has to deal with real life, including broken water lines and other domestic issues, including keeping Dawn from getting too wild. There's other, more specific spoilers circulating, but after the bogus ones that turned up for last season's finales (the two hour "Centennial", etc), I'm not believing them as of yet.

Buffy's creator **Joss Whedon** isn't resting on his laurels, he's also working on two more *Buffy* TV series, an animated series for FOX Kids and a spinoff mini-series featuring Rupert Giles in England. The animated series will be set back in Buffy's Sophomore year in High School and will allow them to tell stories they didn't get a chance to tell then and that won't work in the current time frame. The stories will be written by the regular TV series staff, so it looks to be worth catching when it debuts on Fox Kids sometime in 2002. Also in the works for the BBC (with UPN likely to carry it) is a spinoff series of some unknown length featuring **Anthony Stewart Head** as Watcher Rupert Giles after he's moved back to England. It will be a more adult show with Giles investigating strange goings on in the UK.

Over on *Angel*, as reported last time, **Amy Acker's** character, "Fred", short for Winefred, will become a regular on the show. The season opener is supposed to include flashbacks with Darla in 1767 Marseilles where they are fleeing the vampire hunter Holtz, who's family Angel had killed. Somehow Holtz shows up in present day Los Angeles and wants to continue his quest for vengeance on Angel. The amount of time dedicated to Darla may be limited since **Julie Benz** has signed on for a major role in the SciFi Channel 20 hour miniseries "*Taken*", which will begin production this fall.

X-Files Season Nine - Mulder-Less (or not?)

Frank Spotnitz is currently in charge of plotting out Season Nine of *The X-Files*, which will not have **David Duchovny** appearing as Fox Mulder, although in interviews after the less than stellar box-office for his movie *Evolution*, **Duchovny** appears to have not ruled out making an occasional appearance. According to **Spotnitz**, **Chris Carter** is still in negotiations with FOX and is not currently

involved with the series. As reported previously, **Annabeth Gish's** Agent Reyes will be a regular in the new season, with **Robert Patrick** (Doggett) and **Mitch Pelligi** (Skinner) also continuing. **Gillian Anderson** is signed to appear in all episodes as well, although it is unlikely she would continue with the series if it goes into a tenth season.

Spotnitz indicated that some stories will explore how Scully regained her fertility and that things are in place to explain Mulder's absence. **Spotnitz** also offered to make more clear the truth behind Scully's baby: "The final scene [of the season finale, *Existence*] was meant to say that Mulder and Scully had consummated their relationship and this child was a result of that."

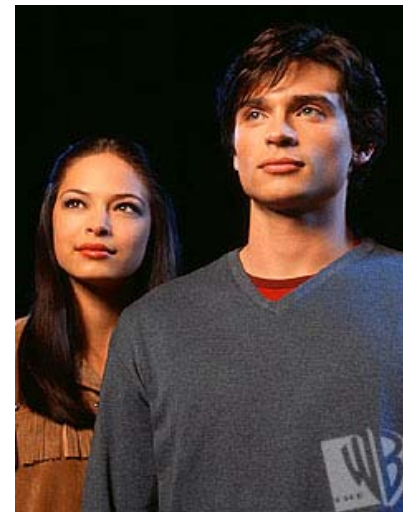
In spite of the cliffhanger ending for *The Lone Gunmen*, FOX did not pick up the series. There have been rumors that it could be resolved in an X-Files episode, however.

The other Angel, FOX's *Dark Angel*, will be moving to Friday nights this fall and there's some new characters coming on board and a couple departing. Herbal Thought (**Alimi Ballard**) and Kendra (**Jennifer Blanc**) will not be back as regulars, although they could make guest appearances. New to the series will be **Natalie Copeland**, a fiery young woman in her late 20's who is part of a group of radicals formed to expose government corruption in San Francisco. After authorities track down the group and kill several of its members, Natalie flees to Seattle to ask sanctuary from one of her oldest and most trusted friends, Logan Cale. Look for some conflicts between her and Max. We'll also get a new villain in Wye, who is described as "sexy, handsome, vain and ruthless, with a cold steely stare." He is a cutthroat government agent assigned to clean up the mess Dr. Renfro (**Nana Visitor**) made of Manticore. He is a self confident, self-described 'perfectionist' that is dangerous and he won't rest until he has destroyed any and all proof that Manticore ever existed. More of the legacy of Manticore will be learned when Max discovers a being that is one of the first attempts to merge human and animal DNA. Tentatively called Joshua, he escaped from Manticore when he was a child and has been hiding in the tunnels and beneath Manticore. When Max helps him escape, he must now adapt to life in the outside world. Actors have yet to be announced for the new characters. In the season opener, it looks like we'll find out that Manticore did an extensive amount of cloning of their X-5 subjects, creating armies of them that can communicate telepathically.

Charmed has signed on **Rose McGowan** as the new Halliwell sister, Paige, replacing **Shannon Doherty's** Prue character that will not survive the season-ending cliffhanger. Paige will reportedly be a long-lost Halliwell sister who they discover exists, thus giving them the "Power of Three" once again.

Elsewhere on The WB, the role of Ma

Kent in *Smallville* has been recast. **Annette O'Toole** will now play Martha Kent, replacing **Cynthia Ettinger**, who played her in the pilot. It is not yet known if they will reshoot her scenes in the pilot episode or not. **O'Toole** is no stranger to Superman, having played Lana Lang in the Superman III movie with **Christopher Reeve**. **O'Toole** will join **John Schneider**, who plays Jonathon Kent. **Tom Welling** stars as 15 year old Clark Kent, who is just coming into his powers. His arrival on earth during a kryptonite meteor shower has led to lots of strange things having developed over the years in and around Smallville. Lana Lang is played by **Kristin**



© The WB

Kreuk, and Clark goes weak-kneed whenever he's around her, mostly due to the Kryptonite amulet she is wearing. **Michael Rosenbaum** plays Lex Luthor, who has moved to Smallville to watch over his father's (Lionel Luthor, played by **John Glover**) fertilizer plant. Smallville will air on Tuesday nights after the *Gilmore Girls* on The WB (and opposite *Roswell* on UPN).

Roswell will see a long-dormant relationship reignited (likely Max and Liz) and Isabel will have a new guy in her life that she has been seeing over the summer, although they will have broken up by the time the new season starts. The guy is named Jesse, and he's a young lawyer at Isabel's father's law firm but he is not what he seems. According to producer **Ron Moore**, they've got their initial ideas set for the start of season three. "The template for what we want to do is where we ended up in the last six episodes of season two. That's the groove where we want to be. The character relationships were up front. The mystery was there, but it wasn't too complicated." According to **Moore**, UPN's decision to pick up *Roswell* came the night before they announced their fall schedule. This also happened with "*Special Unit 2*", which was another last minute decision by UPN to pick up to run after *Enterprise* on Wednesday nights. According to **Danny Woodburn**, the gnome Carl on *Special Unit 2*, they found out the day before they had been picked up. As for the new season, **Woodburn** would like to see Carl "interact more with

(Cont'd on page 10)

SF Tube Talk (cont'd from page 9)

the other 'links.' It'll be cool to see who Carl's contacts really are. It'll be cool to see him conduct another armed robbery. I've heard that [series creator] **Evan Katz** wants to have Carl do more Mission: Impossible-type of stuff. He loves those little bits of me coming through air vents and breaking into places. I think fans will dig seeing more of that stuff." Look for UPN to repeat the six *Special Unit 2* episodes on Wednesdays starting in early August after *Voyager*. If you didn't catch the show the first time through, make sure you catch them now.

Running this summer Friday nights on NBC and starting in August on PAX will be the second season of *Mysterious Ways*. Continuing the investigations into miracles with **Adrian Pasdar** and **Rae Dawn Chong**. Also airing this summer on The WB will be *Dead Last*. It's about the members of a struggling rock band, who come across a curse amulet that allows them to communicate with the dead. They find themselves having to help spirits deal with their particular dilemmas so that they can move on to the next world. They find that they can't get rid of the amulet and the parade of spirits puts a big strain on their relationships and their sanity. It stars **Tyler Labine** as Scotty, **Kett Turton** as Vaughn, **Sara Downing** as Jane, and **Wayne Pene** as Dennis. The WB has finally scheduled it to air in the second hour of prime time starting August 14th.

Debating this fall on CBS on Wednesday nights will be *Wolf Lake*. CBS has already requested some tweaking of the show, leading to executive producer and creator **John Leekley** leaving the show before production on the series started. Taking over for him will be **Alex Gansa**, **Rick Kellard** and **Toni Graphia** (*Roswell*). The cast will include **Lou**

Diamond Phillips, **Tim Matheson** and **Graham Greene** with **Stacy Edwards** having left the cast. CBS reportedly requested a tweaking of the show's pilot to ensure the "sustainability of the series plot line" and that the new producers are "eyeing a new direction for the show." It will still deal with "strange events in a small Northwest town that coincides with an influx of bizarrely behaving wolves in the area." One known change made is that Phillips character will no longer be a U.S. Bureau of Land Management agent assigned to investigate the wolf activity, but he will come to the area searching for a lost love.

And, of course, FOX will finally be airing *The Tick* on Thursdays at 8:30 pm ET/PT, 7:30 pm C/M. As previously reported, they have produced eight episodes, and unless the show does really well, I would not expect FOX to make any more. The series stars **Patrick Warburton** as The Tick, **David Burke** as Arthur, **Nestor Carbonell** as Batmanuel, and **Liz Vassey** as Captain Liberty. **Armin Shimmerman** will guest star in one episode as a washed-up supervillain. Look for the show to finally debut in November after the baseball playoffs & world series on FOX.

The second season of *Andromeda* will feature many genre guest stars. The season will open with a conclusion to the first season's cliffhanger. This was originally going to be a single episode but once he got into writing it, **Robert H. Wolfe** just kept coming up with more ways to make the situation more and more dire for the crew. On his website, **Keith Hamilton Cobb** commented that it wasn't much fun to go back to the blood and guts (and colored corn syrup) for the first episode and he was glad when they had finished it. Upcoming guest stars include **Bruce Harwood** (*Lone Gunmen's* Byers) as

a nerdy defense contractor working with *Andromeda* and **Roger Cross** (*First Wave*) as a government agent tracking them down. **William B. Davis** (*X-Files* CSM) will be Professor Logitch, an academician investigating **Trance Gemini** and will be attempting to reveal the truth about her. **James Marsters** will make an appearance as the Nietzschean Archduke Charlemagne Bolivar, originally mentioned in *The Honey Offering*.

New in the syndicated arena, Tribune's *Mutant X* has announced their full cast and will debut the first week in October. The series is not related to Marvel's *X-Men* or a same titled comic book, although it is being co-produced by Marvel. In the series, scientists have been meddling with genetics to produce designer babies for concerned parents. However, as these babies grow older, some of them exhibit mutations. They're

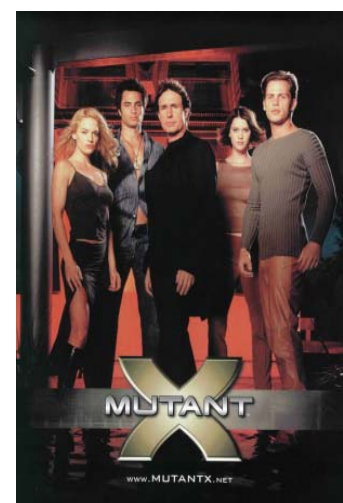


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now being hunted by those who created them and now want to control them and their extraordinary powers. One of the scientists involved in the original

experiments, Adam, puts together *Mutant X* in order to help and save the mutants, not control them. He's a billionaire and the smartest man alive and he's played by **John Shea**, best known for playing Lex Luthor on *Lois & Clark*. Joining him will be **Victoria Pratt** (*Cleopatra 2525*) as Shalimar Fox, whose animal DNA makes her very strong, agile and feral; **Victor Webster** (*Days of Our Lives*, *The Lot*) as Brennan Mulwray, a master of electricity, able to throw bolts of energy from his fingertips; **Forbes March** (*All My Children*) as Jesse Kilmartin, who can alter his density at will; **Lauren Lee Smith** (*Get Carter*, *Christy*) as Emma deLauro, a telepath who can communicate her own feelings and sense the feelings of those around her. Also starring is **Tom McCamus** (lots of Canadian TV credits) as Mason Eckhart, the head of the Genetic Security Agency, who is hunting down the mutants. Eckhart also blames Adam for the failed experiment that requires him to be forever insulated in an impermeable artificial skin.

Also turning up in syndication this fall will be *The Secret Adventures of Jules Verne*, which was banished to late night airings for the last half of its run on the SciFi Channel. If you didn't catch it there, give a try if it airs in your area in syndication. Also scheduled to show up in syndication is *Starhunter*, starring **Michael Pare** as Dante Montana, a reluctant bounty hunter trying to find his lost son and dealing with conspiracies about human chromosomes (i.e. The Divinity Cluster) Also with him on his adventures is his niece, Percy (**Tanya Allen**), who's parents were killed at the same time that Dante's wife was killed and his son taken and **Lucretia Scott** (**Claudette Roche**), who is the ships munitions expert and science officer as well as an operative of the quasi-military organization The Orchard. The series is a




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low budget, Canadian production and will probably get lost in the syndication shuffle. It did well enough in Canada that a second series is already in production, so you might want to check it out if you can find it.

Over on cable, SciFi has debuted their new series, *Chronicle*, the new season of


(cont'd on page 11)



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SF Tube Talk (cont'd from page 10) *Lexx*, new episodes of *Farscape*, *Outer Limits*, *Invisible Man* and *First Wave* plus a *Robocop* mini-series. The new episodes will continue into early September and then SciFi will put them all on hiatus until January.

Farscape has taken a different approach to one of the sci-fi clichés, creating a duplicate of a main character, in this case John Crichton. But *Farscape* didn't kill the duplicate off and has had both Crichtons having their own separate adventures, one on Moya with D'Argo, Chianna and Jool and the other on Talyn with Criase, Aeryn Sun, Rigel and Stark. Of course, the one on Talyn with Aeryn is having a lot more fun than the one on Moya and fans are anticipating what happens when they are reunited and each Crichton finds out what the other has been



© SciFi

up to. The producers and actors have given no indication on how this will be resolved, although it's more than likely something big will happen in the last four episodes of the season airing in January.

The fourth series of *Lexx* has debuted with a new setting of near future Earth with Stan, Xev and Kai getting into adventures on the "little blue planet" that's at the darkest center of the Dark



© SciFi

Zone, causing more and more chaos as things develop. Kai ends up being a spokesperson for the ATF, Xev gets trapped in a Women's prison and also becomes the star of a Survivor meets Temptation Island show where nine studly men compete for a chance to bed Xev. Along the way, we'll have guests such as **Nigel Bennet**, head of the ATF, former Bond girl **Britt Ekland**, and *Red Dwarf*

stars **Craig Charles** and **Hattie Hayridge**.

The *Chronicle* debuted to good notices in mid-July and will continue to see Tucker Burns (**Chad Willett**), Grace Hall (**Rena Sofer**), Wes Freewald (**Reno Wilson**), Sal "Pig Boy" (**Curtis Armstrong**) and Editor in Chief Daniel Stern (**Jon Polito**) get the story on all sorts of strange things. We've already seen **George Takei** as a guest star and upcoming episodes will feature **Casey Bigs** (DS9's Damar) as a cable man hunted by a headless biker and **Michael McCafferty** (*Invisible Man*'s Eberts) as an alien abductor when Tucker and Grace come to the aid of an alien-abduction victim, and Grace is forced to confront the repressed nightmares of her own abductions, as well as her alien abductor.

SciFi will also continue to air new *Invisible Man* and *Outer Limits* episodes

and the final episodes of *First Wave*, which has been canceled after the end of the third series. Look for **Armin Shimmerman** to turn up again on *Invisible Man* following his initial appearance in the episode "Insensate" and for Arnau and Chrysalis to figure into future episodes as well.

Over on TNT, *Witchblade* debuted to

decent ratings which have held up for the most part. The final episodes will air in August with **Sara Pezzini** coming to terms with the *Witchblade* and completing the story arc for the initial order of 11 episodes. Indications are that TNT is likely to order another series, although with the way TNT has been handling their dramas, nothing is a sure thing with them. If you missed an episode or two, TNT will be airing a marathon of all 13 hours of the series on August 26th, starting at 10 am ET.

This has been a very costly few years for fans of speculative fiction. Many great trees of our forest have fallen - Zelazny, Bradley, van Vogt, de Camp, Adams, Asimov . . . and now . . .

Poul Anderson (1926 - 2001) A Remembrance

"West of these, out to seas colder than the Hebrides, I must go, Where the fleet of stars is anchored and the young Star-captains glow." (James Elroy Flecker, the dying patriot, in *Fleet of Stars* by Poul Anderson)

It is July 31st, 2001, and, as I write this, Poul William Anderson is at home with his family in hospice care. By the time you read this, he will be gone. He was with us a glorious 75 years. Others will write of his incredible achievements, his momentous contributions to the genre of speculative fiction. I can only tell you about the effect he had on my life. I grew up reading Poul's work. Like many baby boomers who discovered fandom, my youth was spent having a love affair with science fiction and Poul's stories were always a part of my world. All through the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s, I carried paperbacks by Poul Anderson pretty much everywhere I went - through most of the states in the U.S., in Egypt, in France, in Italy, in Ceylon, in Newfoundland, and in Vietnam. They were my escape from sometimes grim realities. They were my entertainment of choice. By the time I began writing seriously in the mid-1970s, I had read the majority of his works and already considered him a legend. And in the 70s, I began to have the opportunity to meet some of the writers who were so important to me and contributed significantly to developing my imagination. I am lucky to have known Sturgeon and Heinlein, van Vogt and de Camp, Zelazny and Bradley, among many who have now left us, but I never succeeded in meeting Poul Anderson until 1993 in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the World Fantasy Convention. But that meeting more than made up for the waiting. 1993 was the year my first novel, *The Charm*, was published, and my publisher, Frank Wagner of Integra Press, threw a huge premier party at WFC. No one had ever heard of me at the time and I had been writing for many years without anyone noticing. My book was in the registration bag, so a lot of people were already reading it that weekend. Wagner, without my knowing it, approached Poul Anderson about delivering the welcome and congratulatory toast at that party, and you could have knocked me over with a feather when Wagner introduced Poul to the overflow crowd and this fine writer, this living legend, began talking about me and my book in the most complimentary fashion. I actually had tears running down my face. Poul was eloquent and, after he had finished, a dealer went to Wagner and bought two cases of my book saying, "I've never seen anyone 'break out' before." Since that time, I have spent many

a convention sitting and talking with Poul and his wonderful wife, Karen. I was even fortunate enough at another WFC to have the opportunity to make a small contribution of my own when I introduced Poul and Karen to Dwayne Olsen of Jwindz Press, who, as a result of that meeting, subsequently published a volume of Poul's poetry titled "Staves." When the *Serpent Slayers* came out in 1994, Poul was kind enough to furnish us with a wonderful prepublication blurb which, undoubtedly, aided in gaining attention for the book. Finally, Poul was the Guest of Honor at CopperCon 20 in September of 2000, and I was also honored as a GOH. As part of the convention programming, I conducted a live one-hour interview of Poul and Karen as a featured event. And the serendipitous part of it was the month of correspondence I had with Poul and Karen in advance of the con while preparing the interview. And that doesn't even mention the pleasure of their company all through the con, including a "writers only" party I hosted one evening, which they attended and seemed to thoroughly enjoy. What can one say about Poul Anderson that has not been already said? He was a soft-spoken man, a man of intelligence and deep thought. He was always gracious, and giving. And he was modest - calling himself "just a story teller." He was at the heart of everything golden about speculative fiction for as long as I have been alive. I consider myself incredibly lucky to have known him and I will not forget him. And, fortunately, on the shelf opposite my desk, I can see the rows of his books he was kind enough to sign for me. I am a man of faith. I believe something wonderful follows this life experience. And I believe the gentle, questing, curious, perceptive, and eloquent soul of Poul Anderson is even now pioneering new territory for all of us. Ad Astra, Poul!

Adam Niswander
Maricopa Arizona

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to the SFWA Emergency Medical Fund c/o Chuck Rothman, SFWA Treasurer, 1436 Altamont Ave., PMB 292, Schenectady, PA 12303-2977

SFWA Emergency Medical Fund

The SFWA Emergency Medical Fund offers interest-free loans to members facing unexpected medical expenses. The primary fund-raising activity is a series of auctions given at SF conventions around the country. The fund has grown impressively since we began the auctions, but today's high medical costs mean that we must continue to raise money. Those who wish may make donations to the SFWA Emergency Medical Fund by sending a check payable to SFWA EMF to SFWA, 1436 Altamont Ave., PMB 292, Schenectady NY 12303-2977. Please note: Donations to the EMF are not tax deductible at this time.

**NEW
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July 26-28, 2002

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Memersership Rates:

\$10 at HexaCon 11
\$15 July 30 - Dec 31, 2001
\$20 Jan 1 - June 30, 2002
\$25 thereafter and at the door

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Executive Suite \$94 S/D/T/Q
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and Happy Hour

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We'll have special events on
Thursday for our pre-registered
members and a prize drawing from
among those who both pre-register
with the convection and get a hotel
room. Check our ad in the next
ConNotations for more info

Contact Info

HexaCon 12
PO Box 62613
Phoenix AZ 85083
Email: Hex12chair@casfs.org
Phone: 602-973-2341
Web: www.casfs.org

CopperCon 21

Annual Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention

September 7-9, 2001

at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ

Presents

Art Show

We are proud to announce Mark Roland as our Artist Guest of Honor. We are planning a guided tour of the art show Friday evening hosted by Mark Roland.

Artists that have reserved space include: Larry Vela, Lela Dowling, Mary Hanson-Roberts, Theresa Mather, Ruth Thompson, Betsy Mott, James T. Wappel, Monika Livingstone, Matthew Scott and many more old favorites.

Art show panels (a panel is 4 ft. X 4 ft. flat brown pegboard) may be reserved for a fee of \$5.00 per panel. 3D artwork can be displayed on 6 ft. X 2.5 ft. tables, with a fee of \$10.00 per table, or \$5.00 for 1/2 table. The convention will take a 12% commission on these sales. We will feature a print shop - an area for artists to sell multiple prints of some of their more popular work, with the convention taking 15% commission on these sales. There is no fee to display in the print shop.

Our plan is to offer the best of science fiction and fantasy art to the fans of Phoenix.

We will accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover as well as cash and checks.

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 or call 480-641-3997 or email at RGASAS@aol.com

Artist setup Friday: 9AM-12 noon.

Ray Gish

The Spaceport Bazaar is open for business! Plenty of space and opportunity for all!

Dealers tables cost \$60.00 each, with a limit of 2 per dealer. Each table includes one full membership and one dealers room pass. The pass can be converted to a full membership for half the going rate at conversion time. We expect to have around 25 tables available.

Dealers currently planning to join us are: Marty's Books;

For further information, e-mail dealers@finger-rock.com or call 623-939-7815 and leave a message for Patrick.

Patrick Connors

Author Guest: Julian May
Local Author: Diana Gabaldon
Artist Guest: Mark Roland
Music Guest: Heather Alexander

(Sponsored by the Phoenix Filk Circle)

Programing

Then on Friday, the Spaceport CopperCon officially opens with a hearty "Cead mile failte! (translation for the Gaelic-impaired: 1000 welcomes!). The "Arrivals and Departures" board offers portals into a variety of "Otherworlds". First, come to a panel discussion of the historical sources for information on Celtic civilizations - fact and fiction. Then, everyone who wants to keep up-to-date on convention happenings at Spaceport CopperCon should look for their daily edition of "Tuppence", our CopperCon 21 Newspaper produced by Velavision and edited by Kit Townsend.

Author **Sean McMullen** and his accomplished daughter **Catherine** are coming all the way from Australia. If you missed his presentations on "Chivalry in the Medieval World" and "How to Write Action Scenes" at WorldCon the previous week, you'll have a second chance to attend these events right here at CopperCon.

As befits our Spaceport theme, we'll have factual presentations on space exploration in our time: **Dr David Williams** and associates will update us on NASA's plans for interplanetary exploration while **David Perrine** will clue us in on a ballot initiative to establish an Arizona based space program.

OTHER THINGS TO LOOK FOR:

* **Advanced Makeup Techniques** - **David Ayres**, a local artist who's special FX makeup has been seen in several movies, will be presenting ideas on advanced makeup techniques.

* **Costuming and Props with Fiberglass and Other Materials** - **Gail Wolfenden-Steib** and **Larry Vela** will present ideas and concepts on costuming and props using fiberglass and other materials.

* **Airbrush Demo** - **Larry Vela** will be

presenting a demonstration of airbrush makeup techniques.

* **Grab-Bag Costuming - Kit Townsend** will be presenting a workshop on costuming from "odds-n-ends".

* **Who's Byte is That?** - Velavision presents a new competition! Much like the old "Name that Tune", participants will be given the opportunity to identify sound bytes from various common sources.

* **Fabric Modification Through the Use of Dye/Paint** - **Gail Wolfenden-Steib** and **Larry Vela** will present concepts for modifying the appearance of common fabrics by using various uncontrolled chemical substances.

* **John Wheeler's** popular face painting event is planned for Saturday, as well as tributes to Star Trek in its 35th Year and Dr Who, and lots more.

Thursday Programming Events

Thursday evening from 7pm until closing, for **pre-registrants** only: the ConSuite becomes "The Mailed Fist" - our Irish Pub with all the singing and storytelling that entails as well as a fine selection of (ginger) ales and (root) beers. Come relax and enjoy the fine entertainment and good company, and if you can tell a passable yarn with a Gaelic flavor then all the better.

Volunteer Info

REBECCA <RAFOX@UCDAVIS.EDU>

THE DIRGE OF A MANDARIN



The year of the Dragon has begun, and Los Angeles languishes under the iron talons of the Kuei-jin for a year now. Yet the vaunted

Kindred have done nothing or have they.

Something must and will be done. Come be a part of the first retaliations against the Kuei-jin.

This is a tabletop adventure for Vampire, Mage, Werewolf, Wraith, or Changeling. Come and enjoy a demo by the Wrecking Crew, the Az, White Wolf Demo Team. This game will begin Sat the 8th at 10 am and continue till the wee hours of the night. While this is an open game and you are free to come and go as you like seats fill up quickly. Prizes will be awarded to the best roll players. For more information contact David Martin at davidshome@mindspring.com



Enterprise (Cont'd from page 2)

unidentified species who has some unorthodox methods of treating injuries and illnesses, using spores, exotic animals and bizarre medical instruments. This makes the most routine visit to sickbay an unexpected adventure.

The Communications Officer is Ensign Hoshi Sato (**Linda Park**), a mid-20's Asian



woman who is also expert in exo-linguistics and serves as a translator for the ship. She hasn't yet gotten comfortable with space travel and gets more and more nervous as the ship goes faster and faster.

The helmsman is Lt. Travis Mayweather (**Anthony Montgomery**), a young African American who was raised on cargo ships and has more space travel experience than anyone on the ship. This gives him an instinct for space travel that

few humans possess.

The Armory officer is Lt. Cmdr. Malcolm Reed (**Dominic Keating**). He's a spit and polish, by the book, British soldier, but is soft spoken and shy around women. He also likes to blow things up.

The alien race new to Star Trek that is introduced in the pilot are the Siluban, a race with varying levels of genetic manipulation. Some are so advanced that they can rearrange their skeletal structure quickly while others are more traditional and avoid involvement with the more extreme Siluban factions are doing. Leading the extreme Siluban faction is Silik, who is getting some direction by communication with some unknown humanoid alien from the future. These aliens look to be a recurring nemesis for the series.

Now that we've met the major players in the series, how does it all start? Things get set in motion when a Klingon courier crash lands in Broken Bow, Oklahoma and is being chased by a couple of Siluban's. He manages to kill them but is seriously wounded by a farmer with a plasma shotgun. Starfleet recovers the Klingon and with the help of Doctor Phlox is able to save him, although he is still in bad shape. Against the Vulcan's advice, Starfleet elects to take the Klingon home, putting the Enterprise into service with Jonathon Archer taking command of the ship. During the trip, they are attacked by

the Siluban, who get away with the Klingon. Archer and company backtrack the Klingon's route to try to find out what he knows that is so important. This leads them to a planet in the Rigel Ten system, where they meet the Klingon's Siluban contacts and get attacked by Silik's faction. The high point of the pilot may be the scene that happens after they escape from the planet, where Tucker and T'Pol have been contaminated by a spore and

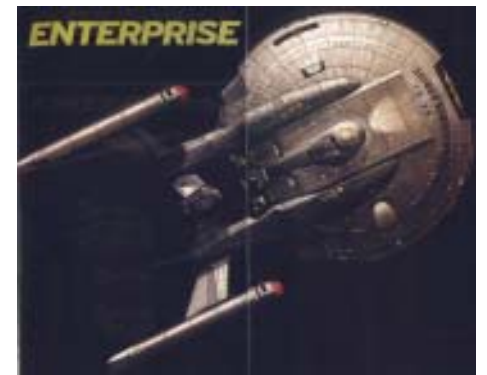


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have to go through a decontamination process. This involves the two of them getting undressed and applying decontamination phosphorous gel to each other (in a professional manner, of course). The final confrontation with the Siluban's takes place within several atmospheric layers of a gas giant and looks to be a

chance for Foundation Imaging to go to town with the special effects.

The pilot is a good space adventure that should get the series off to a good start. There's plenty of references to early Trek stuff to make the fans enjoy it while things are not too technical of a level that casual viewers will tune out. Starting out at the beginning of the Trek universe will make it easier for new viewers to come in, not having to know all about Klingon's, Cardassians, the Maquis, the Borg or anything else that at times made the later series difficult to come into cold. What will really make the series is the cast and the writing. If the actors are given good material and deliver it well, UPN and Paramount may pull the Trek franchise out of its recent doldrums.



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Theremin (cont'd from page 6)

Clara. After an uneasy ten-year marriage, the inventor decided to sever the remaining strings of attachment. The Soviet consulate provided the official dissolution and Theremin and Katia were divorced in 1934. On August 21, 1987, Katia “Catherine” Theremin died at the Jersey Shore Medical Center in Neptune, New Jersey. She was eighty-three years old.

Theremin married twice more and was engaged to a third woman. In the early months of 1938 he married Lavinia Williams, a twenty-one-year-old black American dancer who painted and spoke six languages, including Russian. On September 15, 1938, Lavinia witnessed Theremin being escorted away from his studio. She believed it was against his will, but he was leaving for Leningrad and his application for permission to take Lavinia had been denied. That was the last time either of them would see the other alive. In 1947, Theremin married Maria Feodorovna Guschina, a twenty-six-year-old high-level typist who bore him twin daughters—Helena and Natalia—on June 24, 1948. Maria died suddenly on June 30, 1970 from heart disease due to chronic effects of her rheumatism. In 1974, Theremin longed for his second wife and through Clara Rockmore he began a correspondence with Lavinia Williams, even to the point of proposing marriage. However, age, cultural taboos, and time conspired to keep their divergent paths from ever intersecting. His

world for fifty years had been Bolshevism and her soul had been interwoven with the life and culture of Haiti, a world marred by civil upheaval. On July 19, 1989 Lavinia died of a heart attack by one report or she died of kidney failure, following an attack of food poisoning. In 1976, Theremin introduced his daughters to Elena, a woman in her early thirties, as his fiancé. She was a lonely woman who lived with her adoptive parents whom she felt didn't understand her. There was much debate on the part of both families and as the likelihood of marriage faded, Elena grew despondent and jumped from the window of a tall building, ending her life.

When Theremin left America and arrived in Leningrad, it must have been with mixed feelings. He had left behind two wives, and many friends, but he was returning to the bosom of Mother Russia. Little did he suspect that he was arriving during Stalin's Dark Ages. Unable to find work, his old friends and supporters either dead or unwilling to risk what little security they had on his behalf, Theremin's future looked bleak. He was arrested on March 10, 1939 and ten days later enough evidence that “. . . has proven beyond a doubt that he was a member of a fascist organization and served as a spy for foreign secret services.” Theremin was tried, convicted, and on a train to Vladivostok by August. For the next eight years, Theremin worked his way up through levels of GULAG Hell that included beating and starvation. Even after he was freed, the inventor found that

the restrictions imposed on his freedom nearly as confining as any prison he had occupied. He could not travel beyond Moscow and he could not correspond with family or friends. Theremin turned to his government and his talents were put to use. On July 4, 1945 the American Ambassador, Averell Harriman, accepted a gift from a delegation of Soviet boy scouts—a large wooden plaque bearing a carved relief of the Great Seal of the United States. Harriman couldn't know that contained within the seal was a passive listening device created by Theremin, which remained in the Ambassador's residence for seven years until a British radio operator accidentally discovered it.

Theremin's fate had been a virtual mystery to the Western Hemisphere; so many people were amazed in June of 1989 when he was brought from Moscow to the International Festival of Experimental Music in Bourges, France. In 1990, the organizers of the Stockholm Electronic Music Festival escorted him to Sweden. On September 26, 1991, Theremin returned to America as the guest of the organizers of “Technology and Music: The Beginning and Now”, an out-of-doors concert at the Frost Amphitheater. On October 4, Theremin was flown to New York by the filmmaker, Steven M. Martin, to get location shots for his documentary, “Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey.” In January 1993, Theremin was the guest of honor at the international symposium “Schoenberg and Kandinsky” held jointly

by the Royal Conservatory and the Municipal Museum of the Hague in the Netherlands. Upon his return to his rooms in Moscow, Theremin discovered that the contents had been vandalized or stolen. On November 2, Steven M. Martin's documentary premiered on BBC Channel 4. The next day, Theremin died in his sleep.

While he will always be best known for the musical instrument that bears his name, Theremin had other contributions to the world of science. Alarm systems, metal detectors, automatic door openers, airplane remote controls, an auto-pilot, an extreme narrow-band broadcaster, a diving rod, an electric doll, a DC-to-AC converter, a light drawing device (Cathode Ray Oscilloscope), an early form of projection television, were among his accomplishments. Lev Sergeyevich Termen left his mark on this world in ways that touch each of our lives every day.

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Blue Planet
Books 1/2
page

Videophile

- **** **The Mummy**
- **** **Dune**
- *** **Stargate SG:1 Season 1**
- * **Pokemon Trainer Video**

The Mummy: Deluxe Edition

The Mummy follows pretty much the standard established plot for mummy movies. Boy meets girl, boy discovers mummy, mummy comes to life and wants girl, boy saves girl from mummy and mummy crumbles to dust coupled with the pre-requisite petty thief, mysterious Arab trader, and brother of the heroine. What makes this version so successful is clever dialogue and stunning special effects.

The deluxe 2-disc edition includes both the wide-screen and regular screen version as well as extras that include the standard cast and filmmaker bios, as well as commentaries from director Stephen Sommers and editor Bob Ducsay and actor Brendan Fraser, Oded Fehr, Keven J. O'Connor and Arnold Vosloo. Also included are deleted scenes, visual effects, theatrical trailers, Building A Better Mummy documentary and lots more.
-**Stephanie L Bannon**

Frank Herbert's Dune

The Sci-Fi Channel's production of Frank Herbert's Dune is the best adaptation I've seen. The storyline makes sense, which is more than can be said for any of the theatrical versions. The special effects were good, I particularly enjoyed the worms. Special features include the standard cast info as well as a behind the scenes making of feature.

Stargate SG:1 Season 1

This 5-disc set covers the entire first season of the Showtime series. The series takes up where the movie left off. Richard Dean Anderson takes over the role of Col. Jack O'Neill as the US Army forms teams to use the Stargate to travel to other planets on peace missions. Special features include cast and crew featurette, trailers, a behind the scenes footage and a costume design featurette.

Pokemon Trainer Video

Since this is a review of the Trainer's Video, I'll skip my critique of the game itself. (Otherwise, I'd waste this whole section on it.) Well, the half-hour long video does a decent, if convoluted and rambling, job of teaching you what would otherwise, take a six-page booklet and ten minutes. The dialogue will make your brain hurt and the last several minutes are

nothing more than a shameless product plug, (How many ways CAN they mutilate the Team Rocket motto?) Did I mention that even children will likely feel talked down to? And all the personal interviews, designed to add relevance to the video, (and to make it longer.) simply distract from the primary purpose, (learning the game). In a nutshell, if you really want to try playing the Pokemon card game, just

read the enclosed rule booklet, It's less painful. - **Angel Krenicus (daughter of Belle Relaford)**



tuscon
2/3 page

Pro Notes (cont'd from page 3)

novel about Garol Vogel and the Langsarik pirates, publication date October 2001; it looks good! 'Scenes from the Cutting Room Floor' continue to be moderately popular and can be found on my Website at <<http://www.sff.net/people/susan.scribens>>. A small difficulty presents itself around November, when I run out of material (since I didn't get enough cut from Colony Fleet or Angel of Destruction to make anything worth posting). I've decided to address this by serializing a **Kosciusko** novella that I've been wanting to write. This novella, called 'Point of Order,' covers former bond-involuntary Security troop Kaydence Psimas' return to Port Rudistal to see about making a relationship with 'cousin' Ailyn; the story intersects with the conclusion of Joslire's life-story as people from his home-world come to inquire after his five-knives, and Andrej Kosciusko, in Port Rudistal to execute the sentence of the Bench against the Administrator, declines absolutely to give them up. I will probably not be able to afford World Con this year after all but still expect to attend Orycon in November in Portland, Oregon (well, if they invite me, that is)."

James A. Moore writes: "I seem to be on some sort of short story run just of late. While I am currently in the process of finishing up Serenity Falls, I have sold

'Burdens of Guilt' to Fangoria Online and 'Burdens of Guilt 2: My Brother's Keeper' to the DarkTales anthology Asylum 2: The Violent Ward. I have also sold 'Burdens of Guilt 3: Growing Pains' to the Tooth and Claw anthology, 'Territorial Markings' to the Stones anthology, and 'A Place Where There is Peace' to the Extremes 3: Terror on the High Seas anthology, all from Lone Wolf Publications."

New Zealand writer **Till Noever** writes: "Work proceeds apace at EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing of Calgary, Alberta, Canada <<http://www.edgewebsite.com>> on Keaen, my first to-be-published novel. I'm currently starting work with a friend of mine, an American painter living in France, on the design of the cover; which, knowing my friend, is going to be stunning. Keaen is a tale about illicit love, social manipulation, and political intrigue; half fantasy, half science fiction. It also features grotesque mutations, brave warriors, cowardly cretins, power-hungry kings, near-immortal 'circes', blood-letting, betrayal, abductions, imprisonments, escapes, revolutionaries, sex, and the unsolved mystery of a people's origins. Though Keaen is a stand-alone work, there already exist two sequels, Finister and Tergan, which hopefully will follow into publication soon."

SF scholar **Joanne Pransky** writes that her Website is finally up at <[http://](http://www.robot.md)

www.robot.md>, and she encourages everyone to "go see the movie Ai if you have not already done so."

Brian Stableford writes: "I recently delivered an introduction, annotations and corrections to the translation for a new edition of **Camille Flammarion's** Lumen to Wesleyan University Press. I'm currently working on an introduction and annotations for a new edition of **S. Fowler Wright's** Deluge for the same publisher. My translation of **Paul Feval's** Knightshade should be out from Sarob Press within the next couple of months, and Tartarus Press will do my translation of **Jean Lorrain's** Nightmares of an Ether Drinker in 2002."

Veteran bibliographer **Phil Stephensen-Payne** writes: "[I have] recently completed [a] new edition of the **Charles Harness** biblio ([which was] merged with the one **Ted Koppel** did for Chris Drumm Books, and greatly expanded) and a **Lloyd Biggle** biblio. [I am] almost finished [with a] massive revision of the **John Wyndham** biblio [and have] in progress biblios of **Michael Coney**, **A. Bertram Chandler** (revised), **George Allan England**, **Perley Poore Sheehan** and **Will Jenkins**."

Grand Master **Jack Williamson** writes: "My new novel, Terraforming Terra, is just appearing and so far well received. I've been writing short stories since it was finished, with sales to Asimov's, F&SF, and a couple of anthologies."

Sara T. Wrench writes: "What I'm doing right now is moving from Portland, Oregon to Portsmouth, New Hampshire!"

Janine Ellen Young writes: "...working on my latest novel. Planning on attending the San Diego Comic Con with my husband, **Doselle Young**, who writes The Monarchy (DC/Wildstorm).

Del Rey Books reports its recently released and upcoming books list. In July: Ravenheart, by **David Gemmell**; Childhood's End, by **Arthur C. Clarke**; The Shadows of God, by **J. Gregory Keyes**; Great War: Breakthroughs, by **Harry Turtledove**; Star Wars: The New Jedi Order: Balance Point, by **Kathy Tyers**; Babylon 5: The Passing of the Techno-Mages: Summoning Light, by **Jeanne Cavelos**. In August: The Dragon Charmer, by **Jan Siegel**; American Empire: Blood and Iron, by **Harry Turtledove**; The Star Wars Galactic Phrase Book & Travel Guide, by **Ben Burt**; Star Wars: The New Jedi Order: Edge of Victory: Rebirth, by **J. Gregory Keyes**; Witch War, by **James Clemens**. In August: The Dragon Charmer, by **Jan Siegel**; American Empire: Blood & Iron, by **Harry Turtledove**; The Star Wars Galactic Phrase Book & Travel Guide, by **Ben Burt**; Star Wars: The New Jedi Order: Edge of Victory, by **J. Gregory Keyes**; Witch War, by **James Clemens**. In September: The Voyage of the Jerle

(cont'd on page 18)



Arizona in 2004 Westercon 57 Bid July 2-5, 2004



It is time for another Arizona Westercon.
Please support us and help us bring you the best Arizona Westercon of the new millennium.

Pre-supporting memberships: \$10

Friend of the Bid: \$50

Includes voting fees at the 2002 Westercon and, if necessary, a supporting membership in the LA 2002 Westercon

Bid Sponsor: \$100

Includes all privileges of Friend of the Bid as well as free attendance, if desired, at the Locus Banquet when we win.

There will be a graduated scale of conversion to full membership in the Arizona 2004 Westercon depending on the level of pre support.

Check our website at www.az-sf.org for more details.

We also are looking for fans and/or professionals interested in supporting the bid by being an active member of the bid committee.

Please contact us at Arizona in 2004, PO Box 67457, Phoenix AZ 85082, Email: info@az-sf.org
Craig Dyer at (602)973-2341 - Email: chair@az-sf.org

or

Mike Willmoth at (480) 945-6890 - Email: mwillmoth@compuserve.com



Pro Notes (cont'd from page 17)

Shannara: Antrax, by **Terry Brooks**; Shadows Over Innsmouth, ed. by **Stephen Jones**; The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara: Ilse Witch, by **Terry Brooks**; The Scions of Shannara, by **Terry Brooks**; The Druid of Shannara, by **Terry Brooks**; The Elf Queen of Shannara, by **Terry Brooks**; The Talismans of Shannara, by **Terry Brooks**. In October: The Dragon Queen, by **Alice Borchardt**; The World of Shannara, by **Teresa Patterson**, with **Terry Brooks**; The Best Alternate History Stories of the 20th Century, ed. by **Harry Turtledove**, with **Martin H. Greenberg**; Stars and Stripes in Peril, by **Harry Harrison**; The Amber Spyglass, by **Philip Pullman**; The Golden Compass, by **Philip Pullman**; The Subtle Knife, by **Philip Pullman**; The Hobbit, by **J. R. R. Tolkien**. In November: Star Wars: The New Jedi Order: Star by Star, by **Troy Denning**; Silver Moons, Black Steel, by **Tara Harper**; The Redemption of Althalus, by **David & Leigh Eddings**; The Fellowship of the Ring, by **J. R. R. Tolkien**; **The Two Towers**, by **J. R. R. Tolkien**; The Return of the King, by **J. R. R. Tolkien**;

That's it for now. If I've missed anybody, I apologize for the oversight. Please pass this along to your pro colleagues (artists, writers, actors, etc.) and have them let us know what we're doing so we can publicize it! Stay cool this summer!



Dr. Aki Ross' dreams provide a clue in Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within

Final Fantasy looks great, but less fulfilling

By Shane Shellenbarger

Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within has raised the bar for computer animation, but still suffers from the plotting problems that always seem to plague innovative movies. Not that the plot is all bad, it's just that we've experienced similar plots in movies ranging from *Aliens* to *Poltergeist* to *War of the Worlds*. The villain is your typical military gung-ho-at-any-cost type and the romantic leads are portrayed in a stereotypical way through most of the film: boy has lost girl, boy saves girl's life, girl saves boy's life, girl's work is more important, girl has a secret problem, boy helps girl overcome secret problem.

The star of this film isn't the cast (Ming Na, Alec Baldwin, Donald

24 Frames (Cont'd from page 1)

Island theme park where the gang's reputation threatens to do them in. We'll see flashbacks to their earlier days where they are costumed more as we've seen the characters in the TV series, but the current time frame will see them less colorfully dressed and the gang dealing with being crime solving celebrities.

Genre Movie Previews

We're most of the way through the summer and there's not much left in the way of genre movies until the fall. Some that were scheduled (*Rollerball*, *Jason X*) have been pushed back. Here's what's coming up in the next couple of months:

Osmosis Jones

An animated tale about life inside the human body of Frank, in which a white blood cell cop named *Ozzy* (Osmosis Jones) teams up with a by-the-book rookie cold tablet to destroy the mysterious, evil virus that has invaded the City of Frank.

Bill Murray is Frank and **Chris Rock** provides the voice of Osmosis Jones. Other actors doing voices include **Chris Elliott**, **Laurence Fishburne**, **Ron Howard**, **David Hyde Pierce**, **Kid Rock** and **William Shatner**.

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back

Starring: **Jason Mewes**, **Kevin Smith**, **Jason Lee**, **Chris Rock** and **Shannon Elizabeth**. Jay, a lanky, foul-mouthed pothead and Silent Bob, his wise and understated "hetero lifemate" return in a final installment of the 'New Jersey' chronicles. It supposedly deals with Jay & Silent Bob taking a trip to Hollywood to sabotage the Hollywood premiere of the Bluntman and Chronic movie.

John Carpenter's Ghosts of Mars

Starring: **Clea DuVall**, **Ice Cube**, **Jason Statham**, **Natasha Henstridge** and **Pam Grier**. It's the year 2176 A.D. and Mars has long been colonized due to overcrowding on Earth. People live and work on outposts all over the planet, mining Mars for all of its valuable natural resources. A small squad of police are on

Sutherland, Peri Gilpin, Steve Buscemi, and Ving Rhames) but is the animation. Lighting, camera movement, character movement, all take precedence over the actors and for the first thirty minutes the audience sits enraptured by the amazing images that play across the screen. The cast has a difficult task: to draw attention away from the look of the film and to move the audience with just their voices, which I think they achieve. During the next 3/4 's of the film, I was watching the acting and I believed in the characters.

Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within is a landmark film that I feel will be remembered along side *Forbidden Planet*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and *Star Wars*. Get in line now.

transport assignment in Shining Canyon transferring a very dangerous criminal, James "Desolation" Williams. Williams, the most notorious criminal on Mars, has no intention of making the trip easy on Lt. Melanie Ballard, a two-year veteran of the force. Meanwhile, a mining operation uncovers the ruins of an ancient Martian civilization that unleashes an ethereal doomsday machine. These ghostly Martian warriors, unleashed and unstoppable, systematically take over the bodies of the human intruders with the intent of ridding the planet of the Earthly invaders. Soon, what started as a battle of wits between cop and criminal brings them together in a fundamental battle for human survival.

Bones

Starring: **Snoop Doggy Dogg**, **Pam Grier**, **Michael T. Weiss**, **Sean Amsing**. Jimmy Bones (Dogg) is a legendary protector and patron of his thriving neighborhood. Cool, handsome and respected - Bones is the benevolent caretaker of his people until he is betrayed by those closest to him. Flash forward 20 years. Crime and drugs have crumbled the neighborhood and Jimmy Bones has become a charismatic emblem of better times. But his spirit is about to make a comeback.

13 Ghosts

Starring: **Shannon Elizabeth**, **Tony Shalhoub**, **F. Murray Abraham**, **Rah Digga**, **Embeth Davidtz**, **Matthew Lillard**, **J.R. Bourne**, **Matthew Harrison**, and **Alec Roberts** *13 Ghosts* is a state-of-the-art remake of the classic **William Castle** horror film about a family that inherits a spectacular old house from an eccentric uncle. There's just one problem: the house seems to have a dangerous agenda all its own. Trapped in their new home by strangely shifting walls, the family encounters powerful and vengeful entities that threaten to annihilate anyone in their path. Soon the family is joined by an offbeat ghost hunter who is determined to free the spirits imprisoned in the house. Caught in a frantic race to save themselves before it is too late, the human inhabitants realize the house is a riddle which contains the key to their imminent salvation - or destruction.

Upcoming Movie Release Dates

(Dates VERY subject to change)

Aug 3 - Osmosis Jones

Aug 17 - John Carpenter's Ghost of Mars

Aug 24 - Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back

Oct 26 - Bones, 13 Ghosts

Nov 2 - Monsters, Inc., The One

Nov 16 - Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Nov 21 - Black Knight

Dec 19 - The Fellowship of the Rings

Dec 25 - The Time Machine

TBA - Queen of the Damned, 2001: A Space Odyssey (re-issue), House of 1000 Corpses

2002 - Rollerball, Jason X, Pluto Nash, Spiderman (May 2), Star Wars Episode II (May 22), Scooby Doo (June 14), Reign of Fire (June)

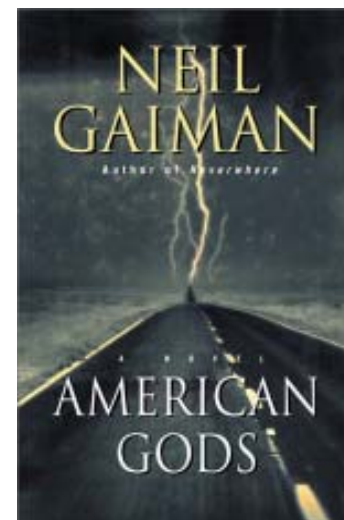
In Our Book

American Gods
By **Neil Gaiman**
William Morris, pps, \$26

Neil Gaiman's *American Gods* is a tour-de-force of Americana, mythology, mystery and surprise. It deals with the ramifications of gods being abandoned by their worshipers and what happens to them as new gods arise and the conflict it creates.

The story is about Shadow, who has been in prison for three years and as he is about to be released, he learns that his wife has died in an auto accident. On the way back to his home, he meets Mr. Wednesday, who seems to know a lot about Shadow and offers him a job, being chauffeur, bodyguard and whatever else he needs him for. Shadow soon finds himself in the middle of a coming storm, a battle to the finish between the old gods and the new ones (gods of technology). The story takes us through various locales in America, including tourist stops like the Center of the US in Kansas, The House on the Rock in Wisconsin and a small Illinois town with a deadly secret.

Gaiman brings into play many ancient Gods that were brought over to America



with their worshippers but were soon abandoned by them. The Gods are still around, finding worship where they can and eking out a living. Throughout the book, Gaiman has little side stories depicting how some of the Gods came to America and how they were abandoned.

The new gods, such as Media and Computers, think they will do better if all the old Gods are no longer around, and as Shadow (and the reader) learns more about what is really happening, it appears that things may not really be what they seem.

Gaiman has immersed himself in American Mythology for this book and makes it come alive. The characters are rich and diverse and the various aspects of the story all come together for a very satisfying read. - **Lee Whiteside**

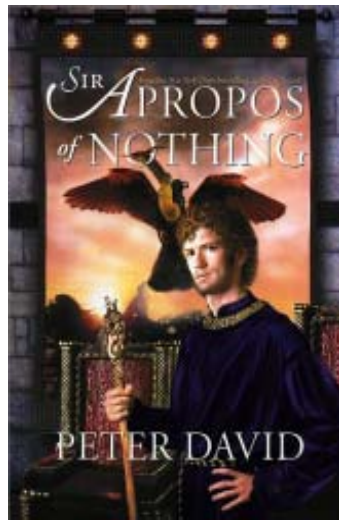
(Cont'd on page 18)

Sir Apropos of Nothing
 by Peter David
 Pocket Books HC \$23.95

After I finished reading Peter David's novel "Sir Apropos of Nothing" it took me a while before I was able to move on to reading another book. It left a very strong impression on me, something that is not unusual with his books. But this one is not the next chapter of my favourite series, New Frontier, or any other Star Trek written by him, this is something completely different. Peter David created his own universe, his own characters. He has written other non-media books before, but "Sir Apropos of Nothing" is his first non-media book I have read so far.

Here we enter a world where we meet kings, knights, squires, witches and some more phantastic creatures. But Peter David's version is not as simplistic as meeting a noble king who is surrounded by noble knights who go out into the world in order to do heroic deeds, slay dragons and save the odd damsel in distress. I am quite tired of that pattern and therefore I welcomed that this book is different, much more complex. I often had the feeling that Peter David was challenging this pattern deliberately. We find out quickly that appearances can be

very deceiving, that people who seem to be nice have some dark secrets. Sometimes good and evil can't be separated easily. Sometimes good people are pushed into doing something bad. Peter David put very complex people into his book, people with strength and weaknesses, people who make mistakes. Peter David's strength has always been



characterizations and this book is no exception. The people in his book are very alive.

This is first of all the cases with the main character, a young squire named Apropos.

I liked him immediately. He is a very positive character but he has some darker layers as well which make him even more interesting. Apropos has a wonderful sense of humour. On top of that he is able to deal with all kinds of adventures and problems, mainly by using his wit. This makes the book fun to read. Some parts really made me laugh.

On the other hand, "Apropos" is not a comedy. Therefore I think comparing it with "Blackadder" is not accurate. The book also has some very serious scenes, a mix I find very intriguing. I find it remarkable with how much ease and skill Peter David combined the fun and the serious parts in this book. He is able to insert humour in some very dark scenes without ever giving me the feeling that it is forced. Sometimes I was caught between laughing and being touched by the seriousness of the situation.

Not only is Apropos a very likeable character, also because of his weaknesses, he is on top of that a very strong character. He makes mistakes and there are setbacks as well, but his determination, his cleverness is remarkable. We can see during this story that this character grows, that he is learning from mistakes. This is especially visible at the end of the book.

What I find also remarkable is how Peter David handled the topic disability in this

book: Apropos was born with a physical disability. Being disabled myself I know what I am talking about, and I think he handled this aspect in a very realistic but also appealing way. I hate it when people with disabilities are shown as objects of pity and being helpless victims. Apropos learned from very early on to see and treat

his disability as a challenge. In time he became more and more able to defend himself if he has to. But first of all he learned to use his wit and how to evade physical confrontations. I find this very interesting. Apropos reminded me in some ways of Miles Vorkosigan, the main character in Lois McMaster Bujold's series.

Peter David is openly challenging cliches and prejudices, not only concerning the "heroism and chivalry" stuff in fairy tales and about disabled people, but there is a lot more. The book often made me think. One other aspect is that Peter David obviously shares my opinion that having feelings is not a weakness, it is a strength. He is also challenging the cliché of the overly male hero who is only allowed to show feelings of the more aggressive kind. Apropos also has a very sensitive side. The richness of his character also left such a strong



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In Our Book (Cont'd from page 19)

impression on me because Peter David wrote the book from the first person perspective. He already showed me in the past that he is very skilled at using the advantages this form of storytelling has to its full potential.

“Apropos” is a whole story. It has a definite end. But it can also be seen as the first chapter in a series of books. Peter David is considering writing a sequel. I am very much hoping he will do that. I think it is an excellent book, very cleverly written with some surprises especially at the end. To me it is much more than just entertaining. In other words, if you ask me, it is definitely worth buying :-).

Well, being a NF fan I couldn't help to notice some parallels :-). Instead of the Great Bird of the Galaxy we meet the Phoenix. “Entipy” (the name) reminded me of “Eppy”. Hm, and if I were a bit cynical I would say, instead of the “one punch Jellico maneuver” Peter David liked breaking noses in this book. :-) And like Calhoun, also Apropos has a destiny to fulfil. - **Review by Baerbel Haddrell** (Email@trekdata.demon.co.uk)

The Archangel Protocol

Lyda Morehouse

Roc Science Fiction, 342 pp, \$6.99

The Archangel Protocol is the author's first novel. A second novel is in the works set in the same world, but not projected as a series.

Deidre McMannus is an ex-cybercop who has lost her link with a super world wide web, (The Link is an interactive implanted computer) her job, and almost everything else for a crime she did not commit. The world has been visited by cybernetic manifestations that claim to be archangels working God's will. They are supporting a candidate who has risen to



© Sherlock

power but has never been seen in the flesh. The world is going according to their plan, until others manifest claiming to be real archangels'. Lucifer, in the guise of a cop, a drag queen, and anyone else he wants to be, tries to enlist Dierdre in a campaign to expose the bad guys and save the world. Of course, Deidre doesn't believe in angels, and is more concerned with staying alive. The setting ranges from the mean streets of a near future New York, to the diverse virtual pathways of a universal net. Who is really doing God's work? Is her lover really the archangel Michael, and where does one put one's faith in a dark and twisting world? Will either she or the world survive?

This novel is a real page turner, once started, I found it hard to put down. It has more twists and turns than a roller coaster, and yet seems to have no extraneous verbiage. Good characters, tightly plotted, and the momentum gathered carries you to the conclusion with regret that it finished. Add this one to your collection, and find yourself anxiously waiting for her next work. With this as a debut, I am waiting for the next one. - **Pam Allan**

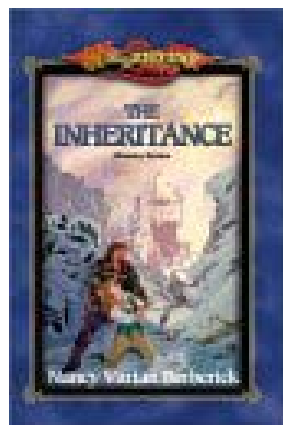
The Inheritance

Nancy Varian Berberick

Wizards of the Coast, 284 PP, \$6.99

The Inheritance is a stand alone part of the Dragonlance classic series. No copyright date is given.

Elansa Sungold, elven princess and wife to Kethrenan, brother to the king, is kidnapped on the way to heal a blight with



the heirloom sapphire phoenix talisman. After a bungled ransom/vengeance attempt, Elansa remains the prisoner of Brand and his mix and match band of outlaws. When the hobgoblin, Gnash, finds some magic relics and raises armies of the dead to join his hordes of goblins in taking over the land, Elansa must join forces with Brand to save the world.

Shades of The Sheik, with overtones of Patty Hearst and the Symbionies Liberation Army romp with the goblins, elves and humans. The characters are not badly drawn, the plot fairly basic, but I

found the book had soporific qualities that I couldn't overcome. - **Pam Allan**

Declare

By Tim Powers

William Morrow, 517 pp, \$25.00

This is an exceptional story. It is an intricate, well-crafted spy story that will satisfy the appetite of the most jaded suspense-addicted reader. It is also an amazingly complex fantasy with none of the typical, cliché-ridden characters or situations of the plethora of fantasy books on the shelves today.

Andrew Hale was initiated into a most secret British intelligence agency at the age of seven. He and his mother, a fallen Catholic nun, had escaped from Cairo and his father, with the help of this agency. Andrew had great loyalty to this agency and when he became a young man, was happy to perform whatever tasks they set for him, no matter how inscrutable. His first assignment sends him to Berlin in 1945, to pose as a dedicated communist and where he falls in love with a lovely Spanish communist. This is the first movement in a mysterious game that seems to include not only the British but also the French SDECE and an equally shadowy Soviet agency. The game moves to Mount Ararat in 1948 and a catastrophic encounter with a colony of supernatural beings. This event marks everyone who is a part of it, Andrew, his love, Elena, and the enigmatic Kim Philby. Philby is a famous historical figure who was notorious as a double agent for the Soviet Union. The game continues 18 years later, when Andrew must once again confront the creatures on Mount Ararat, his unexplained connection to Kim Philby and his apparent betrayal of his only love.

Along the way, the reader is treated to very interesting glimpses of possible explanations for the political climate during and after WWII and the reason for the Cold War that was never explained to the world. Mr. Powers also provides us with answers to where a lot of superstitions originated and what the story of the Arabian Nights was really all about. He concludes with the true reason for the collapse of the Soviet Union. Mr. Powers has done all his homework and the reader who is a student of history will appreciate how he weaves historical facts into a new and fascinating account of events that have not been clearly understood. I found this to be a real page-turner. - **Catherine Book**

Lirael

Garth Nix

HarperCollins; 496 pp, \$16.95

This is a wonderful sequel to Nix's Sabriel, which he wrote three or four years ago. Sabriel is now a queen, married for many years to Prince Touchstone. They

have two teenaged children, Prince Sameth and Princess Ellimere. Interestingly enough, Ellimere is all practicality and forcefulness and Sameth is uncertain and tenuous, even though he is the Abhorsen-in-Waiting, as well as heir to the throne. (The Abhorsen is what Sabriel discovered she was in the first book: sort of the ultimate defender against evil in the world).

But they are only companion characters to the lead, Lirael who is a Daughter of the Clayr, a mystic group who live up on Clayr's Glacier and are Seers of the future. Sadly, Lirael grows to age nineteen without being given the Sight and is depressed by her lack of vision. But of course, she is something much more important.; a Remembrancer, a seer into the past, and at the end of the story, we find she's even more than that.

Lirael spends her teenaged years moping about her lack of Sight in the mysterious confines of the Great Library of Clayr as a Third and then, eventually Second Assistant Librarian. The Library which spirals down into the dark and bedrock of the glacier, has rooms that go back a thousand years. And not all the rooms off the main spirals hold books, some hold monsters bound by magic or are storerooms for magical objects, long forgotten. Here Lirael studies what magic she can and discovers the means to create her best friend, the Disreputable Dog...a canine counterpoint to Sabriel's feline companion, Mogget.

Lirael's gift, eventually discovered by her fellow Seers in the midst of an adventure in the bowels of the Library, gets her sent off from the glacier on a perilous river journey. Her new found skill is needed to help discover and thwart the evil necromancer who is using hoards of dead creatures to uncover some metal objects that will help the dead overrun the earth.

And on her way down river, she meets up with Prince Sameth who is out looking for an old school chum, Nicholas, who has gotten into trouble with the nasty necromancer.

And here the tale ends, to be concluded in the next volume, Abhorsen.

Nix creates a very dark and mysterious environment, the world of Ancelstierre which is somewhat like our world: electricity driven, cars, trains, etc. and the Old Kingdom, separated from Ancelstierre by a wall and magic and where 'modern' conveniences: engines, watches, etc. don't function. The characters are convincing as they struggle to find themselves and their inner strengths, making mistakes along the way. And the nasty zombies and the evil that drives them, gives the tale a good creepy feel.

If you haven't read Sabriel, do so and then dive into this. They're both good. - **Sue Martin**

(cont'd on page 21)

In Our Book (cont'd from page 19)

Hammerfall
by C. J. Cherryh
Eos books; 390 pp. \$25

On a dusty, water poor planet, Marak starts off as just a desert raider who happens to have visions: He and several others. He is rounded up, cast from his family and sent to the city of Oburan to face the Ila. She's the titular head of government and religion and from her, all blessings flow. And she wants to hear what the voices say.

But what we discover is that Marak and his fellow zanies are NOT crazy but are infected with sentient nanotechnology and the "nanocoles" want Marak and the others to find their creator.

Their creator has made distinct nanocoles with a different agenda from the nanocoles that Ila has given the people of this planet. (I'm not sure whether Ila is responsible for seeding the planet with all life or has manipulated what is already there.)

The conflict between these sets of nanotechnology is the heart of this fascinating book.

As always, Cherryh creates an interesting set of characters in a believable world all desert sand and rocks with precious water wells few and far between.

The novel is within the arc of novels that deal with Cherryh's "The Gene Wars."

Ila sends Marak out to meet her counterpart Luz and her companion Ian who have hunkered down in a landed starship. (As with Ila, one isn't certain how long Luz and Ian have been planetside. With Ila it's been hundreds of years.) Once Marak and his band of



visionaries reach the mysterious "tower" they discover a fertile valley full of happy people, plenty of water and green crops. Luz tells Marak that he has yet another quest to fulfill: He must return to Oburan and convince Ila that planetary-wide destruction is headed for them. Not only

that, he must become his people's Moses by convincing all of Oburan, the villages and tribes inbetween to come to Luz' tower where they will be saved from an impending "hamerfall", (a comet? a massive bomb?). This device will be launched by a third party in this war, the ondat. I have no idea who the ondat are. But they must be appeased. They are not happy with the way things have been going on this planet and I guess want to wipe the slate clean. I'm not real clear on their motives. I'm not actually clear on anyone's motives here.

Marak, though pulled between Luz and Ila's needs and plans, decides he will lead his people to the promised land around the starship before destruction overtakes them.

The ensuing journey is exciting, engrossing and very dramatic.

However, the ending was a bit muddled and anticlimatic: We have this big build up for the hammerfall and it occurs and it's big and messy....and then, it's a year later. And there's snow. And nothing further about Luz or Ila or whether or not the ondat are pleased or indifferent about the results of their hammerfall or how many people actually survived (Marak was moving thousands across inhospitable desert) and whether or not they actually found paradise.

But perhaps this is all for yet another volume. - Sue Martin

The Green Millennium
by Fritz Leiber - Michael Griffin
Olmstead Press/E-Reads, \$14.95

For cat lovers! A green cat has the psychic power to make people happy, and lots of people want it. Lonely Phil Gish has to contend with robots, fauns, secret aliens, and the feds to rescue his cat. This 1953 novel is a charming social satire. The USA is run by Fun Incorporated and the Federal Bureau of Loyalty. The Korean War is in its fiftieth year, making the time of the story ... right now! - Michael Griffin

All In Color For A Dime
Krause Publications, 272 pp., \$14.95
The Comic-Book Book
Krause Publications, 368 pp., \$14.95
both edited by Dick Lupoff and Don Thompson

This 1970 book and its 1973 sequel still make the best history of superhero comic books. While reminiscing, each contributor cites the most important things to know. Authors include Harlan Ellison, Ron Goulart, Ted White, and Roy Thomas. These reissues have new introductions, illustrations, and indexes. - Michael Griffin

Club Listings

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Please check your club listing for errors. Please send corrections and updates to the editor in writing or via email)

ADRIANEMPIRE 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. For details, call (602)582-6990.

ARERIAL MIRAGE JUGGLING CLUB International Juggling Association affiliate club meets 7-10pm Wednesday evenings at Encanto Park. No dues, everyone welcome. All levels skill exchange in many areas of object manipulation. Devils' Club meets Fridays 5pm north of the Hayden Library on the ASU campus. For more info, call (602) 585-7623, or write 2326 E. Electra Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85024.

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@earthling.net Web: http://www.gibbed.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 Baja Arizona Science Fiction Association, a non-profit organization. Puts on TusCon Convention annually.

(Cont'd on page 22)

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Club Listings (Cont'd from page 21)

Webpage: <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa>
Email: basfa@earthlink.net

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

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>

DESERT LURKERS Tucson based Babylon 5 fan club. Meets and communicates via listserver over the Internet. Anyone with e-mail access can subscribe to the Desert Lurkers by sending e-mail to b5-l-request@dragon.org and putting "subscribe" (minus the quotation marks) in the subject line. Interested people can contact Alexander Goodrum at E-mail address: goodrum@AZStarNet.com

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

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF JEDI KNIGHTS Members of the Tatooine Base have revised the International Brotherhood of Jedi Knights, a not-for-profit fan club dedicated to Star Wars.

Membership is \$8.00 U.S. and/or \$11.00 (Canada/foreign) and includes a membership packet consisting of a one year subscription to *The New Jedi Times* (published 6 times a year), membership card, IBOJK charter & bylaws information on Jedi studies and a free gift. Checks should be made to either Patty Vance or Elizabeth Laignel. For further information send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The I.B.O.J.K.; P. O. Box 5459; Glendale, AZ 85312-5459; or call either Patty or Lilly at (602) 843-8303. May the Force show you the way of the Jedi!

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION COUNCIL Meets every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. Meeting at the Westridge Mall (75th Ave. and Thomas Rd. Phoenix, AZ. The IFC is regimental (Using Ranks and structured similarly to ST) but has social events as well. Attends local Creation And Trek Production Cons, and ST Movie premiers. POC for IFC is A/ Fleet Admiral John Nelson (602) 934-3987 or by voice mail (602) 409-7169 or c/o P.O. box 14370 Phoenix, AZ 85063-4370. E-Mail: Bnelson502@aol.com Membership Approx 35-50. The Bi-Monthly newsletter is *Cactus Log*.

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 at (480) 945-6890 or Email: mwillmoth@comupserve.com

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. They 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 justjessie@mindspring.com.

THE PHOENIX FANTASY FILM SOCIETY A Phoenix based club interested 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.

PHOENIX JAPANIMATION SOCIETY Local chapter of Japanimation/general animation oriented fans - meets monthly. Membership is free, though optional

monthly newsletter is \$5/year or \$.50 per month. Call Tom Perry at (602) 996-2196 or write 3241 E. Altadena, Phoenix, AZ 85028.

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 AZ85202-3144 or email to 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

ROLE PLAYING GAMES CLUB (RPGC) The official gaming club of Az. State University. Activities include: live-action roleplaying games, tabletop gaming, conventions, parties, etc. General meetings are open to the public and are held every Friday at 6pm in ASU's Memorial Union. Dues are \$5/semester. For more info, contact Michael McLaughlin, 1730 W. Emelita #2025, Mesa, AZ 85202-3144, or call (602)464-3144; RPGC@asu.edu

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 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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system and online RPG BBS-moderated games! Our BBS is mainly RPG oriented and we offer many services to GMs and players. No fees necessary for users who post intelligent messages! \$5 in credits to new users. Over 20 conferences and 10 doors to choose from! Shadowkeep BBS - PCBoard 15.2/ M - US Robotics 28.8 Modem. Phoenix, AZ (602)245-0919; Connect at 2400-28800

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 most local and regional Science Fiction Convention masquerades. They meet on the last Sun-day of each month at various members' homes in the greater phoenix area. For details. Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix, AZ 85609 or call Randall Whitlock at (602)995-7514, email: costumers@casfs.org or Website: <http://members.aol.com/souwesgld/guild.html>

STARBASE TUCSON Tucson Arizona based Star Trek club. For info call Geof Wood at (520) 746-1822 or write Starbase Tucson; 3314 E. Benson Hwy; Tucson AZ 85706. Email: pegasis409@aol.com

STONEHENGE BBS Enjoy over 60 online games including TradeWars 2002, StarFight, The Pit, Dirty Play, Usurper, LORD, and Battle Grid (new, like Battletech). Topical message boards, E-Mail, and Network Echoes. 1000's of files to download: utilities, games, GIF pictures, & more every day! Stop by and give us a try at Stonehenge BBS (602) 947-2223, FidoNet 1:114/120, 300-9600bps, V.32/V.42bis, 24 hours a day.

TARDIS 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

(cont'd on page 23)

Club Listings (Cont'd from page 22)

membership is just \$12.50. You can contact us at P.O. Box 63191, Phoenix, AZ 85082-3191, 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. T.H.E.M. is ASU's science fiction and fantasy club. Weekly meetings are held in the Memorial Union, with dates to be announced after the semester starts. For more information, contact Erik Wennstrom, email: ew@asu.edu Phone: 480-968-5257. To subscribe to our listserve, send a message to them-request@asu.edu.

TUCSON FAN ALLIANCE E-Mail Address is Bkoehler@Juno.com or DMitchell1@Juno.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 20 years of continuous activity. Dues are \$10/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

UNITED WHOVIANS OF TUCSON A well-informed and very active Dr. Who club. \$15 yearly membership includes four issues of their fanzine - TARDIS Time Lore - written by semi-pros and other dedicated fans. For more information, contact The United Whovians of Tucson at P. O. Box 13541, Tucson, AZ 85732-3541. Also, you can contact the president at kfbuwot@aol.com or the UWOT webmaster at unitedwhovians@aol.com Web page at: <http://www.azstarnet.com/~hgadlng/uwotclub.htm>

Convention Listings

Bubonicon 33 (Albuquerque, NM) **August 24 - 26, 2001** Guest of Honor: Sarah Zettel, Toastmaster S.M. Stirling Memberships: \$20 thru Feb. 14, 2001, Send All Payments, Suggestions & Inquires To: NMSF Conference, P.O. Box 37257, Albuquerque, NM 87176 General Info: (505) 266-8905 or (505) 232-2892 - Noon to 9:30 pm Art Show: (505) 796-0933 / (505) 293-8671 Website: members.aol.com/bubonicon

CopperCon 21 (Scottsdale, AZ) **Sept 7-9, 2001** Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort. Author Guest: Julian May; Artist Guest: Mark Roland, Local Author: Diana Gabaldon, Music Guest: Heather Alexander. Membership \$25 thru Dec 1, 2000, \$30 thru April 1, 2001, \$35 thru Aug 1, 2001, \$40 at the door. Kids 7-12 half price, 6 and under free with paid adult membership. Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, 7601 E Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ (480) 991-2400; Room rates are \$67 plus tax S/D/T/Q, Suites \$125 plus tax. Info: CopperCon 21, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082, Email: leigh@casfs.org Phone (602)973-2341

ZonieCon 4 (Tucson, AZ) **October 19-21, 2001** Best Western Executive Inn, 333 W. Drachman, Tucson, Arizona 85705 Memb: \$30 before 9/01/01, \$35 at the door Info: ZonieCon, PO BOX 44285, Tucson, AZ 85733 Phone: (520) 327-0539 email: calbeck@goodnet.com Web: www.zoniecon.org

THE 4th ANNUAL DOC SAVAGE CONVENTION (Tempe AZ) **November 3rd, 2001** 1108 West Cornell, Tempe, AZ Email: robsmalley@netvalue.net Web: members.netvalue.net/robsmalley/DocCon2001.html

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

TusCon 28 (Tucson, AZ) **November 9-11, 2001** at the really spiffy InnSuites. GoH: Chelsea Quinn Yarbo, AGoH: Newton Ewell; TM: Ed Bryant. Events include: Meet the Authors and Artists, Panels, Readings, Video Room, Dealers Room, Art Show, Game Room, LAN Computer Gaming, Masquerade, Adult Masquerade, and ConSuite. Memb: \$35 until 5/20, \$40 until 9/9, \$45 after. Onedays: \$15/30/15 (F/S/S); kids 6-12 half price. InnSuites, 475 N Granada Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701 (near I-10 and St Mary's Road) (520) 622-3000. Reg Suites \$69, 2-Rm Suites \$79 (mention "TusCon" to get these rates). Room rates include a real breakfast! Info: TusCon 28, PO Box 26822, Tucson, AZ 85726. Webpage: <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa> Email: basfa@earthlink.net

The Thirteenth Floor of Gallifrey One (Los Angeles, CA) **Feb 15-18, 2002** The Airtel Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles, CA Guests: Nicola Bryant, Carole Ann Ford, Frazer Hines Memb: \$35 thru 8/31/01, \$40 thru 11/30/01, \$45 thru 1/31/02 and \$50 at the door. Info: Gallifrey Conventions, Post Office Box 3021, North Hollywood, CA 91609 Email: info@gallifreyone.com Web: www.gallifreyone.com

LepreCon 28, (Phoenix, AZ), **May 17-19, 2002**, Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Artist Guest: Monte Moore, Author GoH: Peter David, Music Guests: Jeff & Maya Kaatherine Bohnhoff, Memberships: \$25 until 8/31/01, \$30 until 1/31/02, \$35 until 5/05/02, \$40 at the door. Kids 9-12 1/2 price (kids 6 & under free with adult admission) Hotel: Embassy Suites Phoenix North, 2577 W. Greenway Rd. (602) 375-1777, Rates: \$79 S/D, \$89 T, \$99 Q Info: LepreCon 28, PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 Phone: (480) 945-6890; Email: lep28@leprecon.org Web: www.leprecon.org/lep28

WesterCon 55: Conagerie (Los Angeles, CA) **July 4-7, 2002** Los Angeles Airport Radisson Hotel, Los Angeles, CA Author Goh: Harry Turtledove, Editor: Beth Meachem, Fan: Robert Lichtman, Artist: Ross Chamberlain Memb: \$60 through Feb 28, 2002 Info: WesterCon 55, c/o SCIFI, Inc., PO Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409 Web:

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www.westercon.org/55

HexaCon 12 (Phoenix, AZ) **July 26-28, 2002** Embassy Suites North Phoenix. Arizona's Largest Annual Gaming Convention \$25 at the door. Special Thursday night events for pre-registered members only. Info: Hexacon 12, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082 Phone: (602) 973-2341; Email: dyer@casfs.org

CopperCon 22, (Phoenix, AZ) **Sept 6-8, 2002** Author GoH: Barbara Hambly; Media GoH: Mojo; Location: Embassy Suites North, Phoenix, Arizona Info: CopperCon 22, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082, info@casfs.org or www.casfs.org

Generic Convention Registration 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

Author Guest: Julian May

Local Author: Diana Gabaldon

at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ for

CopperCon 21

Annual Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention

September 7-9, 2001

Artist Guest: Mark Roland

Music Guest: Heather Alexander

(Sponsored by the Phoenix Filk Circle)

Julian May author of Black Trillium, Blood Trillium, Diamond Mask, Jack the Bodiless, Magnificat, Perseus Spur, Sky Trillium, The Adversary, The Golden Torc, The Many-Colored Land, Metaconcert, The Nonborn King.

Mark Roland, artist, whose work includes this piece:

Diana Gabaldon

- author of the Outlander books: Outlander, Dragonfly in Amber, Voyager and Drums of Autumn

Heather Alexander - Celtic Musician

SCHEDULED PARTICIPANTS FOR COPPERCON 21:

LIV MARGARETH ALVER, DAVID AYRES, JANET BERLINER-GLUCKMAN, JOE BETHANCOURT, LARRY DITILLO, DAVE DUNCAN, MEL GILDEN, STEPHEN GOLDIN, FRANCIS HAMIT, THEA HARDY, CHARLENE C. HARMON, PETER J. HECK, DAVID M. HONIGSBERG, MICHAEL JOHNSON, KATHERINE LAWRENCE, TERRY MCGARRY, SEAN MCMULLEN, STEVE MILLER, LAURA J. MIXON-GOULD, YVONNE NAVARRO, GERALD DAVID NORDLEY, DAVID PERRINE, ANDREW POLLACK, IRENE RADFORD, GARY RAHAM, KIT TOWNSEND, RAY VUKCEVICH, DR. DAVID WILLIAMS, GAIL WOLFENDEN-STEIB, SARA WRENCH, WILLIAM F. WU., HENRY VANDERBILT, LARRY VELA, JANINE ELLEN YOUNG

(All participants subject to change)

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LARP
Filk
Modern Dance
Children's Programming
Masquerade
Meet the Pros
Charity Auction to benefit Reading is Fundamental (RIF) and Best Friends Animal Sanctuary

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WRITE:
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PO Box 62613
PHOENIX, AZ 85082
OR CALL (602)973-2341
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Check out our ad in the center of this issue for more exciting details

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