

TUSCON 45



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TO

TUSCON 45

November 9-11, 2018

AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR:

Joe R. Lansdale

TOASTMASTER:

Weston Ochse

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Geoff Notkin

Frank Powers

Yubki Kaneta

BurlEscapades

SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST:

Natalia Lopez

MISTRESS OF CHAOS:

Madame Askew

FEATURED GUESTS AND PANELISTS

Linda D. Addison

Dee Astell

Hal C.F. Astell

Jill Bauman

Earl H. Billick

Curt Booth

Clif Campbell

Diana Terrill Clark

Paul Clinco

Steve deFrance

Jim Doty

C.I. Erasmus Drake

Jessica Feinberg

Wolf Forrest

Janie Franz

Scott Glener

Tanya Gouchenour

Larry Hammer

William Herr

H. Paul Honsinger

Brenda Huettner

Autumn Ivy

K.J. Kabza

Yuhki Kaneta

Chaz Kemp

Marty Ketola

Eric T. Knight

Jill Knowles

Marji Kosky

Gemma Lauren Krebs

Ross Lampert

Kathryn Lance

Kevin J. McAlonan

Gloria McMillan

Sparky McTrowell

Beth Meacham

Lois Miller

Yvonne Navarro

Bob Nelson

Joe Palmer

Jennifer Roberson

Frankie Robertson

Marsheila Rockwell

Eric Schumacher

Jen Senft

Annette Sexton-Ruiz

Janni Lee Simner

Jay Smith

T.L. Smith

Ken St. Andre

David Lee Summers

Wendy Trakes

David VanDyke

Larry Vela

Julie Verley

John Vornholt

Cynthia Ward

Thomas Watson

Catherine Wells

Bruce Wiley

T.M. Williams

Dania Wright

Go to www.TusConscificon.com for Guest Bios and Online Program Guide



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LARP Gaming: Mark Kadow
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Program Cover: Natalia Lopez
Additional Art: Liz Danforth, Wolf Forrest, Gary Hayes, Natalia Lopez, Alese Léa Taylor
- Convention Badge Artwork:** Dr. William K. Hartman

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TusCon 45

Wow, can you believe it's been 45 years? Normally I rant on and on about the magic of TusCon; that special once-a-year feeling you get when you're headed to the con and then arrive, your heart pumping faster, a smile on your face, as you spy old friends from previous years. It's a rush.

I'd like to talk this time about those who are responsible for TusCon year after year. The con would not exist without the committee, staff, and volunteers who make it happen. They bleed, sweat, and sacrifice who knows how many hours of sleep. They all pay their own way (not even our Co-Chairs get comped). They attend many long meetings. Answer emails, texts, phone calls, and messages at all hours. But, they do it because this is their passion. They know that once the con rolls around, all the effort will be worth it. Every year.

So, when you see the person behind registration, thank them. When you see someone refilling trays in the ConSuite, thank them – they and all the other volunteers are the ones who make this thing happen. Now, go out and revel in the magic!

From the Editor

by Daniel Arthur



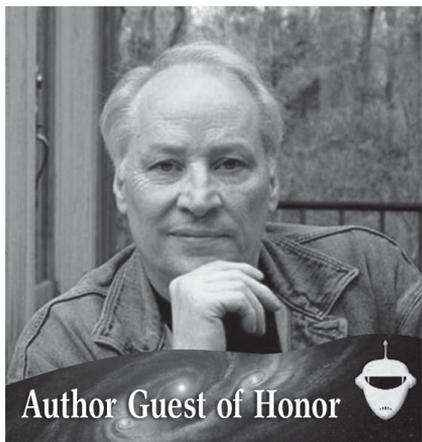


*Liz Danforth is creating Mages and Sages on Patreon:
www.patreon.com/LizDanforth*

My Personal Lansdale

Joe R. Lansdale

So much has been written about Joe Lansdale. He's had reviews, interviews and pieces in program books like this one detailing his writing career and facts about his life. I suppose to appease the Convention Gods I will have to at least give short shrift to that



eventually, but what you don't know and what you've never read about is what Joe means to me.

by Weston Ochse © 2018

Joe's honest. I'm not sure if he knew what the impact of *The Night They Missed the Horror Show* would be when he wrote it. It's a challenging piece to read. Joe himself said *it's a story that*

doesn't flinch. So many could have been turned off by his siren call to antiracism. But not me. This story taught me that you might be from a place where people think you are one thing, but you don't have to fall into their mold. You can be who you want to be and write what you want to write. It also taught me that one could be a horror author and be literary without any of the Flannery froo froo.

He's a mentor. So there we were, Yvonne and I and Joe and Karen in the Toronto Airport right after a World Horror Convention. Yvonne knew them pretty well, but I barely knew them; which didn't matter at all. Joe and Karen both welcomed me into their private space with open arms. Joe had just been interviewed by the New York Times and had just got a copy from an airport kiosk, but instead of reading what to most would be a crowning achievement, he set the paper aside and talked to me, giving what advice he could, but really just connecting.

He's a genius. The very idea of making two aging men who believe themselves to be Elvis Presley and John F. Kennedy the heroes who save their friends from a mummy is genius. Turning the idea from an old roadside attraction called the Cadillac Ranch into

his novella *On the Far Side of the Cadillac Desert with Dead Folks* is genius. Just the title *The Events Concerning a Nude Fold-Out Found in a Harlequin Romance* is genius. *The Drive In* is genius. His decision to have a major character in his cannon a gay black Vietnam War vet is genius.

He's giving. I've been with Joe at more conventions than I can count. He's approachable. You ask him anything and he'll answer. He's always gracious. I've never seen him mad, although I'm sure Kasey can get positively biblical with the way her dad can get mad. I know from personal experience that daughters can have that effect on a dad. He's that author we all should be in public, rather than the tipsy, know-it-all, bumbling, political, ranting, self-centered, high-horse riding authors we can be. When asked to write the intro to my first solo short story collection, he didn't blink, and delivered more words than he needed to glorifying my stories, concluding with the line *this collection could have been written for me*. Shit Joe, if you'd asked, I would have written them for you and you alone.

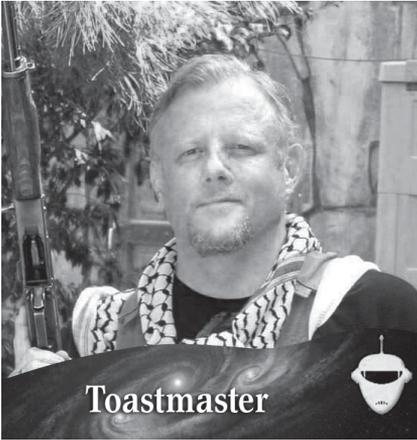
He's also a martial artist. As a fellow martial artist, I understand the discipline he has to go through to maintain his abilities. He's a member of the Martial Art's Hall of Fame and an instructor of his own style at his own school. That means when he's not writing his forty-five novels and thirty or so short story collections, he's doing something other than sitting on the couch watching television. He's actually doing something both spiritual and physical. By the way, rumors that his training was entirely designed to keep his daughter from dating are as yet unproven.

Finally, and this might be the most important thing, he's a real person. He has a wife and a son and a daughter. They are as much a part of his writing life as he is a part of their lives. He's a husband. He's a father. He's a member of multiple communities. He's imperfect. He's a man. He's human. This means that when you talk to him you can also talk about regular things. He's had many of the same problems as the rest of us and dealt with similar issues. Too many readers and fans put our favorite authors on pedestals and Joe is the first one to step off and just be Joe.

So when you see him at the convention, be polite and say hello. Be genuine. Let him know what some of your favorite work of his is. If you do this, more often than not he'll give you his TEXAS-SIZED LANSDALE SMILE™ and say the following words: *Let me tell you a story about...*

by David J. Schow

Sometimes – not always – you can recall the exact circumstances under which you met someone who is more or less a “day player” in your life. A bit part. A friend but not an intimate. Conversely – sometimes, but not always – you’ll discover that you **cannot** remember



the wherefores of the very first time you met someone fundamental; spouse, lover, Immortal, the person you might take a bullet for (but not in the head).

This is a handy excuse to deploy because just now, as this is written, I realized I can’t register the exact circumstances under which I first met Weston Ochse. He was just

there, suddenly, on the map – a recurring presence in a universe where we press more and more of our friends into online anonymity, deluding ourselves that we’re keeping in touch.

And I don’t want to appear to under-sell the significance of that meeting.

I’m pretty sure the rendez might have been at a book signing in San Diego, but who cares? We got it over with without fanfare.

I actually knew Wes’ beloved partner, Yvonne, first. She once had a dog named Creature. She had photographed me at various conventions. I think.

The love story of Wes and Von is one of those tales everybody should hear, like the reunion scene of those two movie characters you’re just dying to see get together before the fade-out. It gives you hope. Make Wes tell it to you.

We were the first guests in each other’s new houses.

And since then we’ve piled up meals and night-talk and compared notes ... maybe about **you**.

Wes is much younger than me and yet has produced more books than I have, already. He didn’t start writing professionally until he was past age 30. The man has the sheer drive of a born pulpist, but it’s not pulp you’ll be reading. Pulp is all plot, plot, and more plot, whereas Wes invests even his action characters with interesting

faults, shreds of off-kilter humanity, longings and regrets. If you haven't heard Wes talk about PTSD, make him tell you that story, as well.

That's the key, essentially. Wes wants to tell stories. Wes is just dying to tell you stories, to the point of spontaneous combustion, which explains his seeming profligacy — because the stories he tells feed all the other stories he tells in a kind of infinite echo effect, expanding ripples in the pond of fiction, spokes in the wheel of fire.

He's getting pretty damned good at it.

Go forth and have Wes tell you a story, right goddamned now. You won't be sorry.



Geff started in three seasons of the multi award-winning television adventure series Meteorite Men for Discovery networks and two seasons of the educational series STEM Journals, for which he received two Emmy Awards. He has also appeared in shows for Nat



Special Guest

Geo, History Channel, Travel Channel, TLC, PBS, A&E, NASA EDGE, and the BBC. He is an author, publisher, photographer, world traveler, meteorite specialist, TEDx speaker, and President of both Aerolite Meteorites, Inc., and Desert Owl Productions, Inc. Geoff has appeared on Coast to Coast and the Today show, and has been interviewed by The Washington Post, The Huffington Post, Space.com,

and Universe Today, among others. He is also a television and film producer and credits include Philip K. Dick's Radio Free Albemuth and the documentary Neil Gaiman: Dream Dangerously.

An award-winning author, Geoff has published hundreds of articles on meteoritics, paleontology, astronomy, adventure travel, history, and the arts. His work has appeared in Astronomy, Astronomy Now, Sky & Telescope, All About Space, USA Today, Wired, Reader's Digest, The Village Voice, Seed, Rock & Gem, Geotimes, Meteorite, and many other national and international publications. He is the author of three books including the IPPY Award-winner Meteorite Hunting: How To Find Treasure From Space and a popular science and arts blog, Searching the Skies, at GeoffNotkin.com.

Geoff has worked with most of the world's major institutions including The American Museum of Natural History, New York; The Natural History Museum, London; the Vienna Museum of Natural History, and The Center for Meteorite Studies at Arizona State University. He is a member of The Explorer's Club, is on the Board of Governors of the National Space Society, the Advisory Board of Deep Space Industries, and the Board of Directors of the Astrosociology Research Institute. The minor planet 132904, discovered at Mount Palomar, was named after Geoff in recognition of his contributions to science and education.

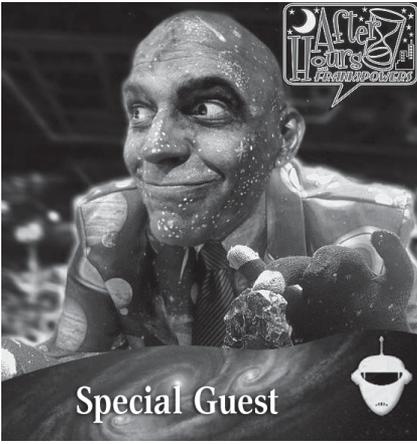
Adventuring has taken Geoff to over fifty countries and some of our planet's most remote areas, including northern Siberia, Chile's Atacama Desert, the Australian Outback, and he has three times crossed the Arctic Circle. By the age of seven, Geoff was already an avid rock hound, fossil collector and amateur astronomer. "I was amazed that you could see other worlds from a suburban London garden," Geoff states. "The epiphany came when I visited London's Geological Museum as a child. In the Hall of Meteorites, I realized that studying meteorites would be the perfect combination of geology and astronomy. I have been hooked ever since."

Geoff was born on 14th Street in Manhattan and grew up in London, England. He studied in London, Boston and New York, and now resides in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona. We're so proud and honored to welcome back Geoff Notkin to TusCon!



Natalia M Lopez 8-12-12

A local Tucson Treasure, cartoonist and creator of Pissed OFF Panda, FRANK!Powers is himself a living cartoon character. He's your BF!F – that's

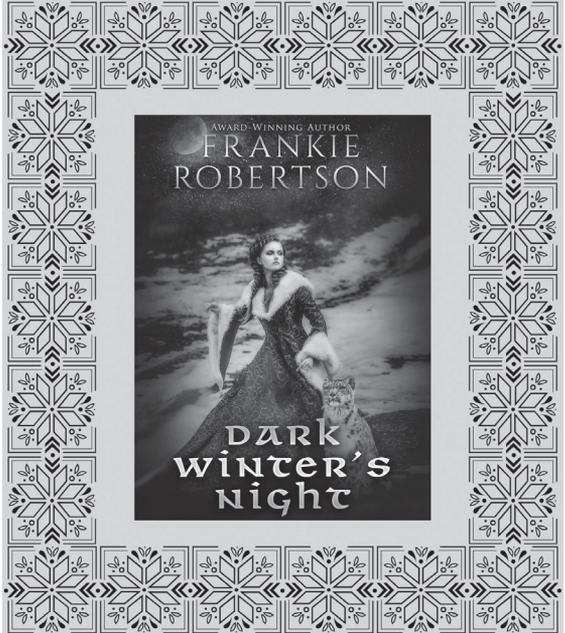


Best FRANK! Forever and is doing his best to make more fun art-fueled events around Tucson and to endlessly entertain you in many ways – including raising money to buy a bus and turn into the Incredible Comic Bookmobile: WINNER of the Startup Tucson small business competition GRAND PRIZE just last month. #TootTootTucson!

Frank! Powers

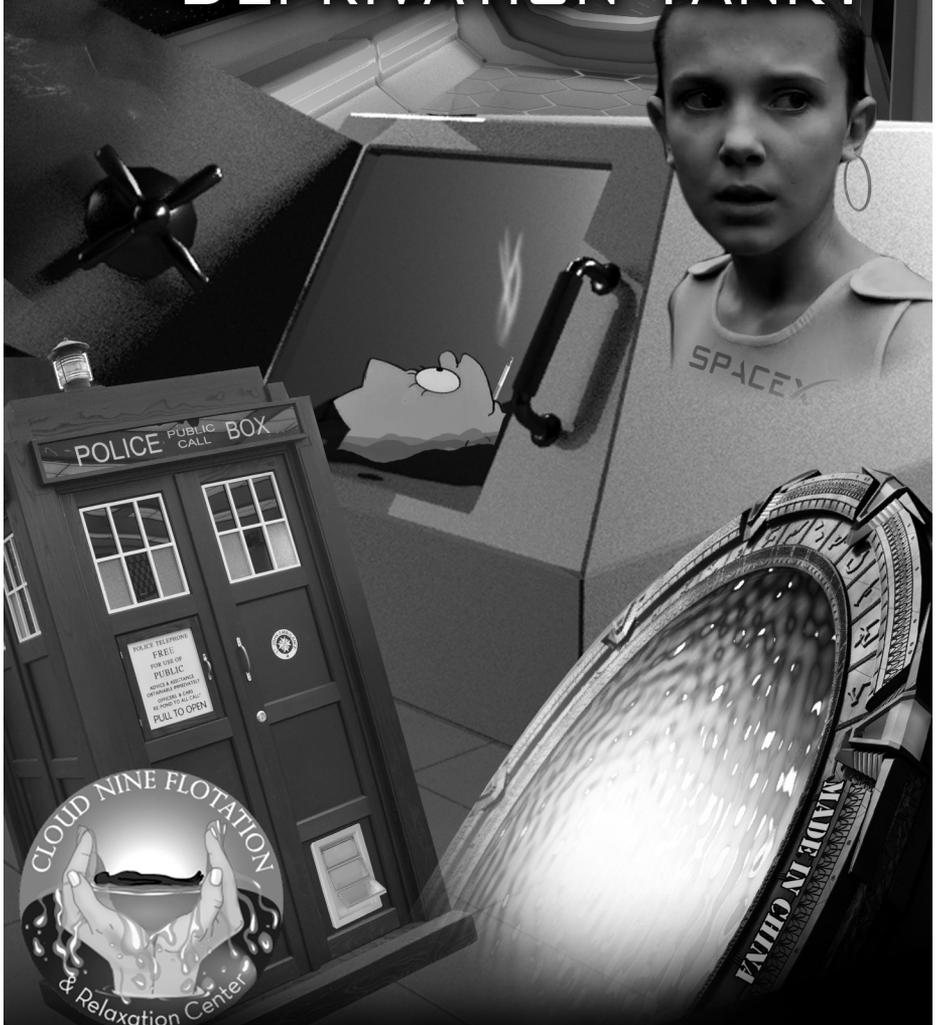


New in the Vinlanders' Saga!



**Available online and in
the dealers' room**

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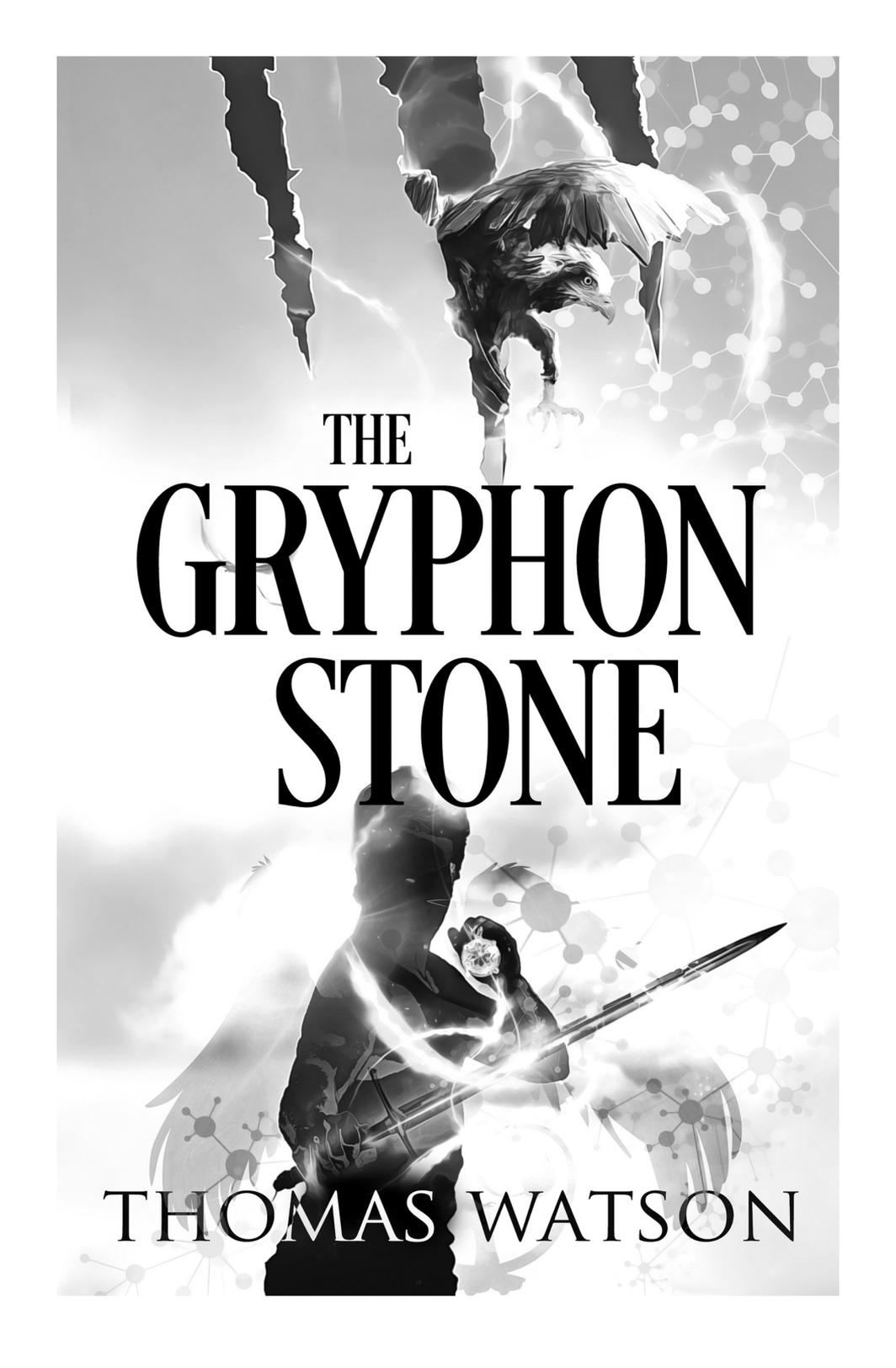
PICK UP PRIZE BY END OF CONVENTION

Yuhki (or Uncle Yuhki as some of his fans affectionately call him) has been attending conventions since 2001, and has cosplayed since 2002. Yuhki is known for his humorous panels, such as “Uncle Yuhki’s Story Time.” He is perhaps best recognized for his prowess as an amazing emcee for various Masquerades, J-POP Fashion Shows, and other events around Arizona. Yuhki is one of the warmest, friendliest guests you’ll ever meet. Please welcome “Uncle Yuhki” to TusCon!



Yuhki Kaneta





THE
GRYPHON
STONE

THOMAS WATSON

An era of peaceful
exploration has ended.

War of the Second Iteration

by

Thomas Watson

The Luck of Han'anga

Founders' Effect

The Plight of the Eli'ahtna

The Courage to Accept

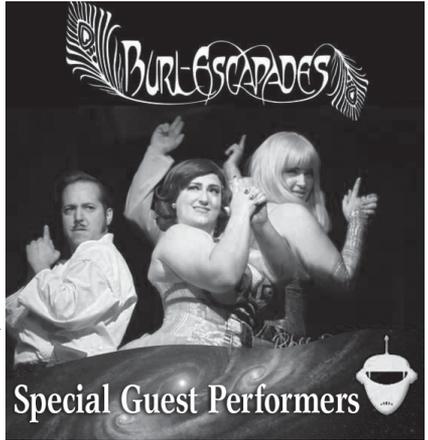
Setha'im Prosh

Available in paperback
from the TusCon
dealer's room.

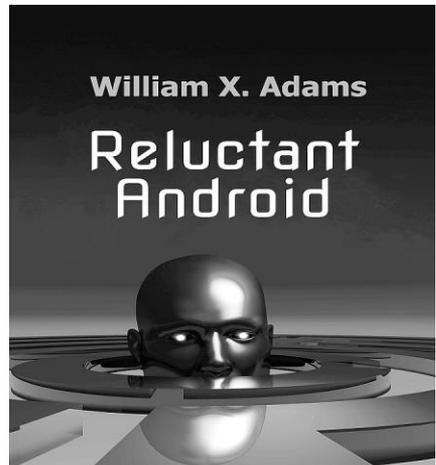
Burlescapades

Combining classic strip-tease, vaudeville, and pop culture, Phoenix-based Burlescapades specializes in themed shows for a variety of audiences. Burlescapades features five talented individuals, each with their own specialty. The troupe's talented and creative performers never fail to titillate, inspire, and entertain! Follow them on Facebook and check out their website at: burlescapadestroupe.com.

Sponsored by Wendy Trakes



This 18+ show is free to TusCon members only.



He thought he was human but he's full of circuit boards!

Kindle \$3.99.

See www.PsiFiBooks.com for psychological sci-fi.



Special Guest Artist

Talia is a Puerto Rican self-taught illustrator/Special FX make-up artist whose work tends to center around horror, fantasy, and science fiction. She is one of the Coordinators of the Tucson Zombie Walk as well as their artist. She has been a make-up artist in film productions such as Cordial Dead, Copper Creek, and Finley Wade. Please welcome Talia to TusCon!

Natalia Lopez



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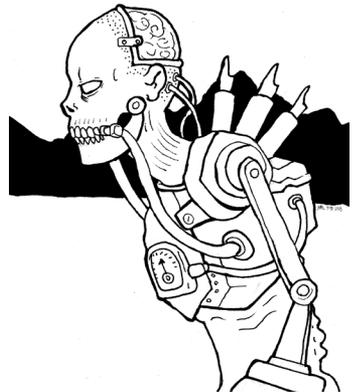


We're celebrating Janie Franz's upcoming release,
RUINS LEGACY: Book 3
with a super deal...
Ruins Discovery: Book 1
for ONLY \$0.99



Limited Time Offer

ONLY
\$0.99



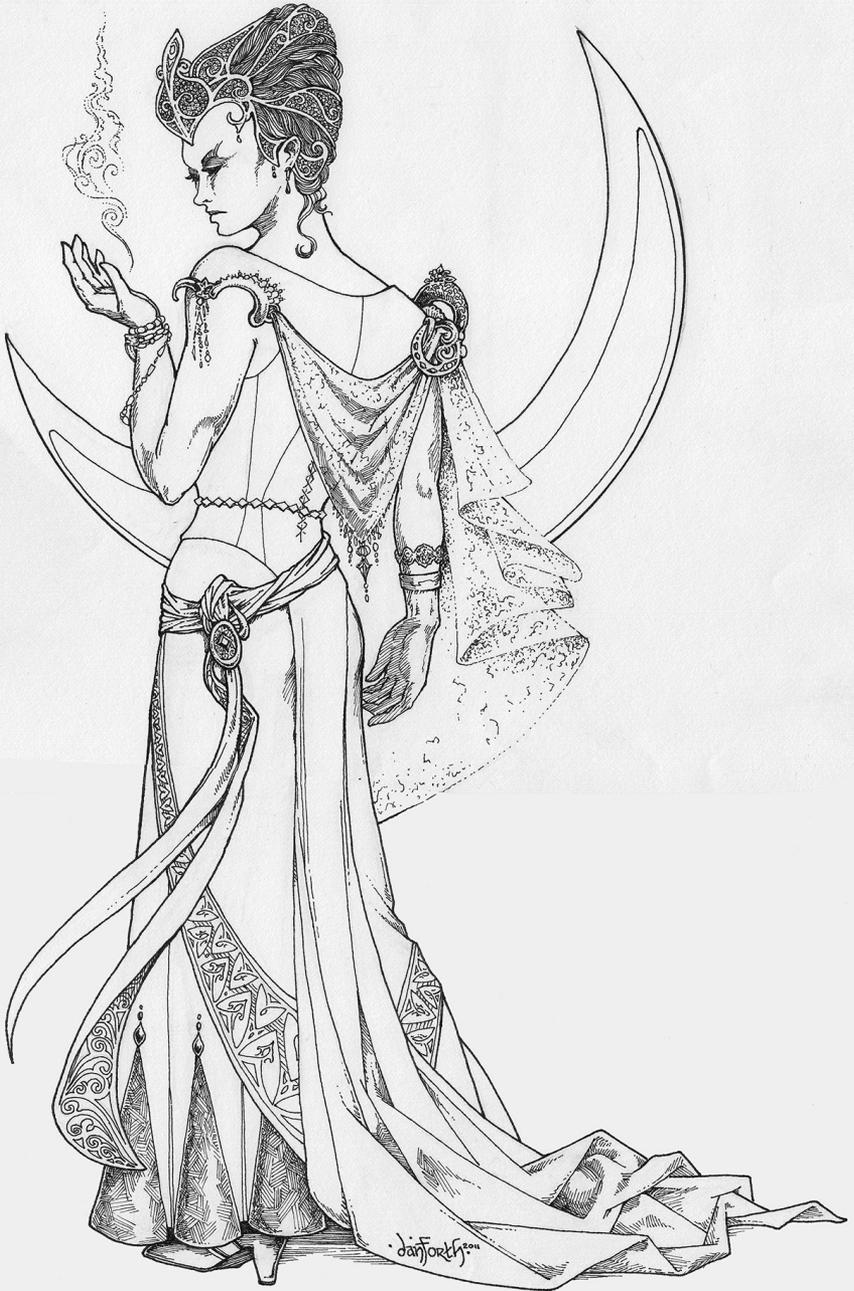
Madame Askew's Temporal Entourage is a fine assemblage of time traveling, tea drinking aficionados who are very fond of sharing their madcap brand of tea-centered merriment at Steampunk events. From special events to interactive, improvisational theater to informational panels, Madame Askew, the Grand Arbiter, and their team of good-natured rascals love to encourage new friends to jump into their energetic blend of games and community building.



Mistress of Chaos

Madame Askew





Art Show

We have a bigger room this year, with an area for make-and-takes and demos. We're excited to have Natalia Lopez back as Special Guest Artist doing her Zombie Fairies make-and-take, Corpsing for Dummies, and Painting Water Color Horror.

Our wonderful Master of Pottery, Peri Charlifu, is sending us new items of whimsical pottery.

Chaz Kemp, Artist Extraordinaire, is doing a panel on RPG Art and a Panel on Concept Art.

Our Master with the Airbrush, Larry Vela, is teaching New Skills with the Airbrush (come early, this class was full last year).

We have several new artists: Julie Verley, Shawn Gorick, Thomas McNiece, Lauren Rane, and Patricia McCracken.

Returning Artists are: Nicole Liberty, Liz Danforth, Jill Bauman, Eliza Bohnen, Tabitha Ladin, Sarah Clemens, Earl Billick, Natalia Lopez, Larry Vela, Lubov Studios, and Last year's Artist GoH, Theresa Mather, who is sending new art.

As always we will have a Silent Auction, an affordable Print Shop, and an area for artists to sit and draw and discuss art. Now's the time to buy art for the Holidays!

Please come join us and enjoy our Art Show!!!



Liz Vela - Art Show Director

SOYLENT GREEN:



ConSuite

ConSuite is a place to grab snacks, beverages, or just spend time socializing or hanging out in-between panels and films. We offer a variety of snacks and beverages and are open to all attendees of TusCon 45.

Hours:

Friday

Open 12:00 p̄sm – 7:00 pm

Closed for Meet the Guests

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Open 9:00 – Midnight

Saturday

Open 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Closed 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Open 8:00 pm – 11:55 pm

Sunday

Open 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Dead Dog Party 4:00 - 5:00 pm

NOTE: Times subject to change



Costuming at TusCon

Costumers and Cosplayers, thank you for joining the costuming fun all weekend at TusCon! The Costume Track staff are wandering the halls to pass out secret swag to everyone they see in costume each day of the con. Saturday night we welcome back our Fashion Show of splendid costumers, hosted this year by Count and Countess Chaos! Throughout the weekend, visit us in the Costumer's Asylum for workshops, make-and-takes, demonstrations, and the emergency costume repair station. (Please bring cash to provide directly to the teachers for the make-and-take classes.) Watch for the schedule posted on the Costumer's Asylum door and in the Online Program Guide.

Dealers Room

Need a holiday gift for family or friends? Visit our Dealers Room for a wide variety of unique and unusual items. This year we're proud to present the following: Astarte Collections, Dance of Arabia, Desert Muse, Hadrosaur Productions, Jessica Feinberg, Kai's Creative Curios, Left Hand Asylum, Marty's Books, Mostly Books, Noble Estate Liquidators, 3QuarterMoon Creative, Sarah Clemens, See Sharp Press, Silver Sea, Stitch Envy, Year of the Cat Soaps, and You Need Contraband.

Dealers Room hours are Friday 3PM to 6:30PM, Saturday 10AM to 6PM, Sunday 10AM to 3PM



Convention Policies

1. Membership badges must be worn at all times and be clearly visible for admission to any convention function. If you lose your badge, for a fee, Registration will provide you with a replacement.
2. The legal drinking age in Arizona is 21 years of age. [A.R.S. §4-101(18), A.R.S. §4-244(16)] Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of 21, or providing alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21 is grounds for expulsion from the convention and notification of law enforcement.
3. Use of cameras and/or recording equipment is not permitted in the Art Show, Artists' Alley, or any video presentation room. If you are planning on using pictures/video/film/audio of TusCon for any promotional purposes, you **MUST CONTACT US IN ADVANCE**.
4. TusCon is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged property, actions of other individuals, injuries, or death sustained during the course of the convention.
5. Announced events and guests are subject to change and/or cancellation without notice.
6. Smoking, vaping, or other tobacco use is not permitted anywhere on the hotel grounds, except for a few specially-designated areas. Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites is a tobacco-free property.
7. No outside (non-hotel provided) food is permitted in any of the hotel indoor function spaces. Eating is not permitted in any of the Panel Presentation rooms. Eating or drinking is not allowed in the Art Show or Artists' Alley.
8. We reserve the right to ask you to leave the convention and refuse to refund your membership. We also reserve the right to ban individuals from attending future TusCon Conventions.
9. ALL weapons must be peace-bonded. Blades must be cased/sheathed at all times in public areas. No clowning around or horseplay in the common areas. Any weapon used in an offensive, threatening, and/or careless manner will be confiscated, Rule #8 enforced, and law enforcement notified.
10. No projectile weapons. Anything that looks like a real firearm, will be treated like a real firearm by the convention security staff, hotel security, and law enforcement.
11. Costumers: no costume is NO costume. [A.R.S. §13-1402]
12. Do not abuse the hotel facilities or the hotel staff.
13. Do not abuse the convention staff.

14. Harassment is not acceptable behavior.

15. Selfie sticks, GoPro poles, or any device that extends your camera or phone away from your hand, are not allowed at TusCon. If you're seen with one of these devices, you will be asked by convention staff to put it away and not use it at TusCon. This policy applies to any TusCon function space.

16. No devices may be flown or tethered within the confines of any TusCon function space. This includes helium balloons and helium filled products, drones, or any lighter than air objects either powered or unpowered. Use of any of these devices in an exterior environment is acceptable after:

- A. taking appropriate and reasonable precautions for the safety and well-being of convention attendees and any other individuals that may be present, and
- B. receiving written approval from a member of the TusCon Committee.

17. TusCon and Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites are making every reasonable effort to be ADA compliant and friendly.

What does all of this mean?

1. Yes, that means you need a stinkin' badge. Wear it. Be proud of it. Don't expect to be able to go anywhere without it.
2. It's like, you know, the law. We do not post bail.
3. For safety reasons, please check with Masquerade personnel PRIOR to using any flash photography during the Masquerade. For promotional pictures/video/film/audio, we have a professional publicity consultant that we will put you in touch with to make proper arrangements.
4. We will be very sympathetic. What we would like to be responsible for, is you having a great time.
5. Every effort will be made to announce any changes via the internet or at-con, but sometimes last-minute changes can occur. That's life.
6. No smoking, vaping, or use of other tobacco products (Yes, we understand that vaping is not using a tobacco product) at TusCon – including traditional cigarettes, pipes, cigars, E-cigarettes, any vaping product or device, or chewing tobacco (including 'cuts' or 'pouches'). This policy applies to any TusCon function space, including the ConSuite (Hospitality). You are welcome to step outside to smoke / vape / dip in designated smoking areas, but ONLY in those designated areas. This policy is in place not only for the comfort of attendees but also to comply with Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites tobacco-free policies and State of Arizona smoking

ordinances prohibiting smoking at public events within 20 feet of any doorway, entrance, exit or operable window. [A.R.S. §36-601.01]

7. As for food and drink, this hotel policy is why food and/or drink is not allowed to leave the ConSuite. And the reason eating is not permitted in any of the Panel Presentation rooms - it's not only messy, it's just downright rude. Do we really have to explain the no food or drink policy in the Art Show, Artists' Alley?

8. If you are behaving in an unacceptable fashion - in other words, acting like a jerk - expect to be treated like a jerk and asked to leave. And possibly asked to never return.

9. Use common sense. We do not post bail nor cover medical expenses.

10. The hotel does not permit the use of any type of functioning projectile weapon (including but not limited to Nerf, Ping-Pong ball, rubber band, and marshmallow shooters). If mundane law enforcement gets involved, we do not post bail nor cover medical expenses.

11. Pima County and the State of Arizona have public nudity laws. [A.R.S. §13-1402] Again, we do not post bail nor cover medical expenses. You notice a theme going on here?

12. If you are having an issue with the hotel and cannot seem to get it resolved, we have people for this. Please find one of the convention staff and report your problem. We will really do our best to work it out to everyone's satisfaction.

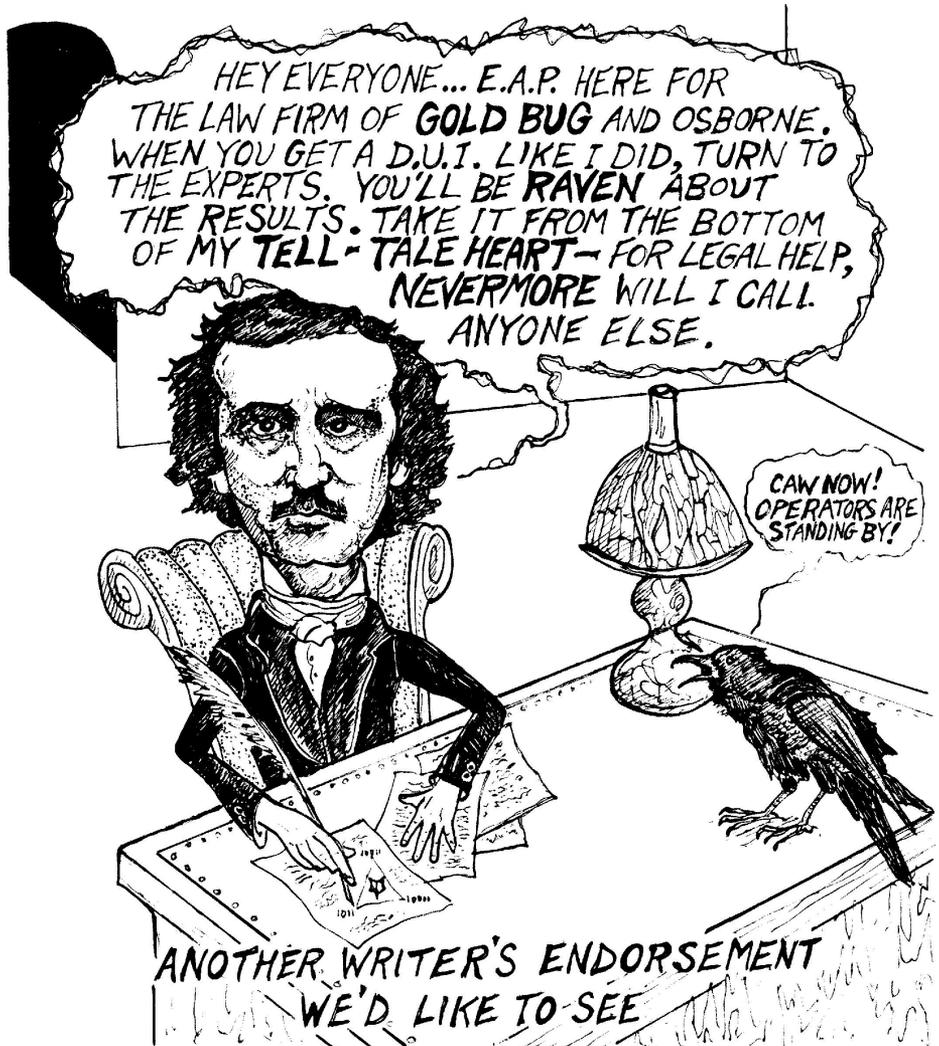
13. While we try to be as accommodating as possible, we aren't Burger King. There are reasons we do things a particular way. If you're unhappy with a policy or protocol and there doesn't seem to be an equitable solution, please be reasonable. Please accept our apologies and understand that you can't always get what you want.

14. Do you really have to ask? Okay, harassment includes offensive verbal comments [related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion], sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention. What's going to happen? Refer back to Rule 8. If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact a Committee member immediately.

15. Too many problems and injuries at other conventions have occurred, and this is rapidly becoming a standard policy across the nation. Need your picture taken and your arm isn't long enough? Ask a passer-by. We do have lots of friendly folk who would be glad to help.

16. <sigh> Really? The areas are too confined for the safe use of flying objects, be they paper airplanes, "Air Swimmers", or a XactSense Titan drone (look it up).

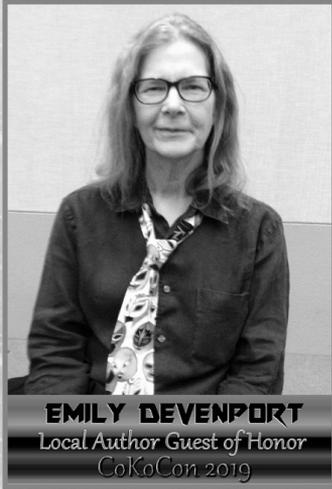
17. TusCon and Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites will make every reasonable effort to see that everyone has an opportunity to access everywhere that is convention function space. If you feel your special assistance needs are not being met, please contact any TusCon Staff or Committee member.



2019 COKOCON

Phoenix, Arizona

August 30 to September 2



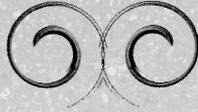
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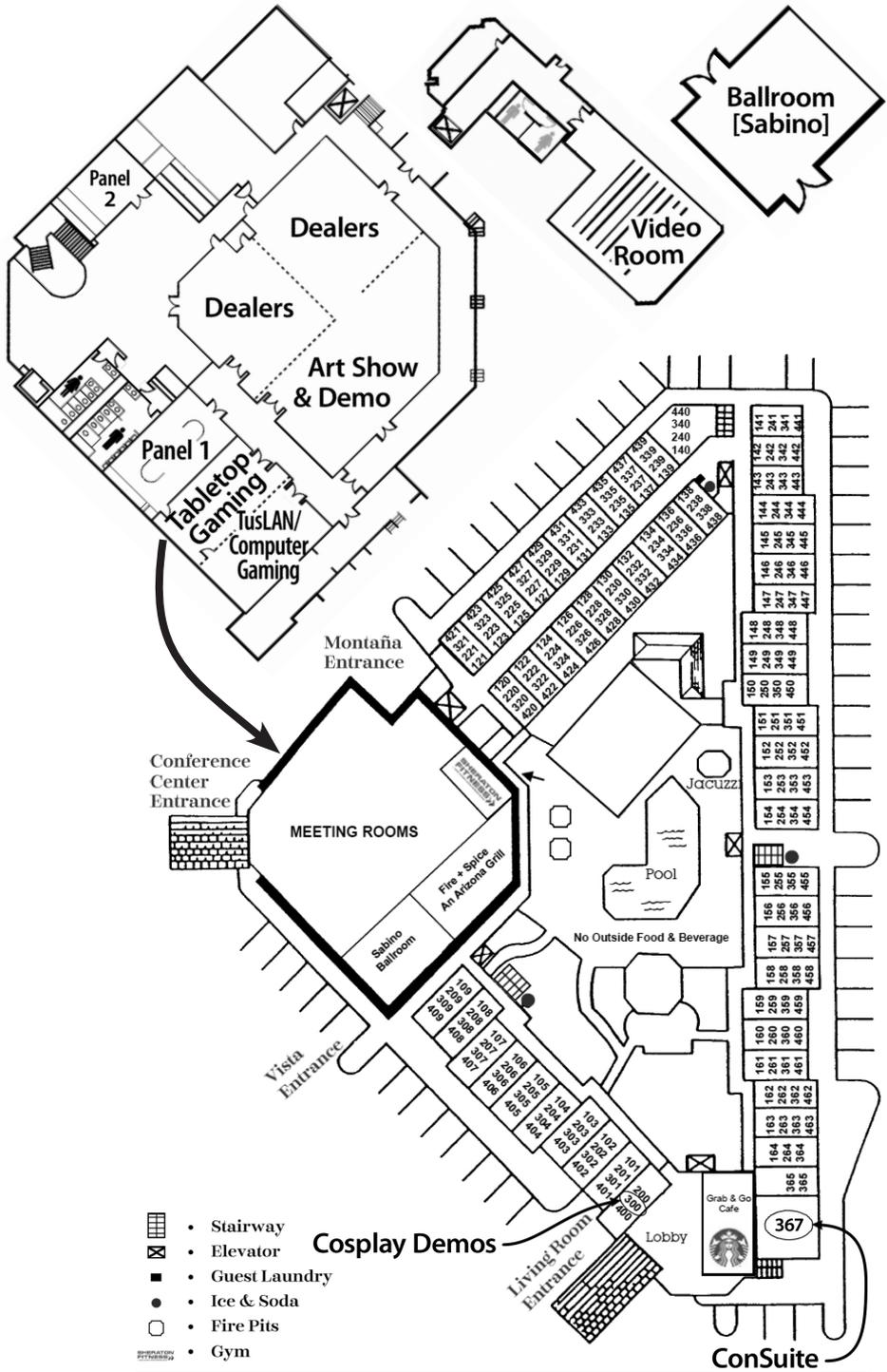
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Memberships will be capped at 500



Cokocon.org



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**Kevin Standlee,
Lisa Hayes & Kuma Bear**
Fan Guests

Memberships for Spikecon (three in one) in 2019 are: \$70 Adult, \$55 Military/Veterans, \$40 Teen, \$30 Ages 7-12, Free for 6 & Under. Pricing may change 3/31/2019. Supporting memberships are \$30.

For more information visit <https://www.spikecon.org>

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