

CopperCon 32

Aug 31st - Sept 3rd, 2012



Chair's Greeting

Hello and welcome to our convention.

Our theme this year is 'The Year of the Dragon'. I chose this theme for several reasons. First because the first guest I asked wrote for Wizards of the Coast, the company that produces Dungeons and Dragons. Second is because the second guest I asked writes novels with a dragon theme. Third is because in the Chinese zodiac it is the year of the dragon. And finally I was born in the year of the dragon and I have always loved them.

Our committee has worked tirelessly to bring you the best convention experience we can. If you have any questions or need help finding where the panel you want to be at is, just ask any of our committee. They are identifiable by the blue ribbons.

I'd like to congratulate Colette Vernon, our short story contest winner. And I'd like to encourage many more entries for next year.

Remember to stop by our Gaming room and have some fun trying a new game.

Visit our Vendor's room and see the wonderful products available for sale.

But most of all have fun and remember to make new friends and visit with old ones.

Bob LaPierre

CopperCon 32 is sponsored by Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society (CASFS)

What is CASFS?

What is really behind putting on a convention? What are 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 an Arizona, non-profit, IRS recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization that exists to further science fiction, fantasy and science fields in Arizona. CASFS currently meets at the Denny's Restaurant at 2360 W Northern Ave in Phoenix. 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 prorated for the amount of the year remaining.

For more info: Webpage: www.casfs.org Email: info@casfs.org

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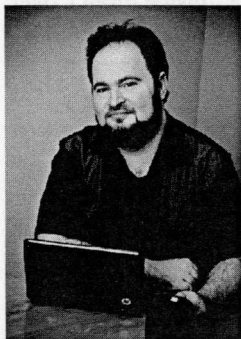
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Ari Marmell - Author Guest of Honor



Ari Marmell, Fava Beans And A Nice Chianti

Ari Marmell's name is on a very short list of people whose brains I plan to eat when they die. Don't tell him I said this. I don't want to creep him out. But he just does what he does so well, and I'm hoping some of that will absorb through my gastrointestinal system.

Ari writes fantasy fiction. Lots of people do that, sure. But what he does that's so magnificent, so hard to get right but so good when you do, is find a way to blend the humor and the horror so neither trips over the other or lifts you out of the story. I used to think it was a chiefly British quality that we Americans couldn't emulate – that ability to make you laugh one minute and cry the next and giggle the one after that – that typifies shows like Doctor Who or the better films of Monty Python. But Ari was born in New York and lives in

Texas, so there you go. Maybe he ate somebody British's brain?

It isn't that his work is comedic – I don't really “do” “comedic fantasy” and that would be just as wrong a label to slap on him as it would be to affix to Fritz Leiber or Joe Abercrombie or Scott Lynch – authors with whom he shares some commonalities. It's more that Ari understands that real life, whether tragic or merry, is always a mix of pain and pleasure blended with more than a dash of the absurd. His books are fun, funny, gritty, violent (sometimes extremely so), realistic (in their complex portrayal of human nature), absurd and fantastical, all in equal measure. Whether writing about the not-fully-reformed dark lord Corvis Rebaine, or Creosh the orc, or Widdershins the thief with the god in her head, Ari makes you care about the most unlikely characters. He made me weep for Belrotha the Ogre, for crying out loud!

Ari also has a lifelong affiliation with role playing games, both as a player and as a contributor, working for outfits like White Wolf and Wizards of the Coast. Sometimes critics will complain that of a fantasy work (not Ari's!) that they can “hear the dice rolling.” It's a snotty thing to say when you find out a writer has an RPG background and you are trying to be clever. In my experience (and I've been editing books and stories for twelve years now), writers with extensive backgrounds as either gamers or game developers tend to have the most unbounded imaginations, and they tend to write with the full arsenal of fantasy iconography at their disposal. So you can bet they'll be elves and orcs and demons and goblins and dark lords and (anti)heroes in good measure – all that stuff we pretend to be embarrassed about but really love – only they'll be remixed into a thoroughly relevant, modern, dare I say sophisticated, and delightfully fun book.

Ari is also just a really nice guy. Fun, sweet, considerate, self-effacing. It's an honor to be one of his editors, and the once-a-year or so we get together really isn't enough. I wish I could see him more often, but hopefully that will all change when I eat his brain.

Lou Anders is the Hugo Award winning editorial director of the SF&F imprint Pyr books, a Chesley Award winning Art Director, and the editor of nine anthologies. He has also been nominated for the PKD, Locus, Shirley Jackson, and three WFC Awards. Visit him online at www.louanders.com.

James Owen - Author-Artist Guest of Honor



James Owen
as known by Michael A. Stackpole

James Owen is one of the people one meets far too infrequently in life. I remember meeting James for the first time nearly two decades ago — when I was still young and he was a bit younger. He was writing, drawing and publishing *Starchild* then, and was full of grand plans. At that time, because of my involvement with the gaming industry, I'd met many a young person full of grand plans; and more often than not, those plans tended to fizzle and disappoint.

The difference with James is that he was confident beyond his years. He wasn't afraid of failing, either; and learning from failure. James has been very upfront about ventures that haven't quite gone the way he would like. He doesn't, as a lot of folks do, dwell on the circumstances

that doomed him, or the people that screwed him over, but focuses on how he can do things better. And then he does.

I take great joy and delight in seeing James at shows. He still has that youthful wonder and enthusiasm that life tends to beat out of folks. I especially love the way he interacts with his fans. Their eyes, and I'm not just referring to children now, light up as his do. He has the gift of sharing not only his imagination, but nurturing theirs. There is no doubt in any of their minds, after they've spoken with him, that they, too, can find a way to love what they do and be successful at it.

Getting to see James grow creatively has been fantastic. The journey from artist to graphic novelist to novelist is not an easy one. A simple line drawn well can tell more of a story than a page of text. The placement of panels on a page in a graphic novel communicates more than a whole series of chapters. Graphic novels are stories told in mirrors, but narrative novels don't have the reader looking at the mirror, but being on the other side of the mirror, looking out through the reflection's eyes.

I've made the transition the other way which, I think, is easier. Already knowing what's going on in the head of a character, I have to tell an artist what expression to paint on his face, and then put a few words in his mouth. In writing a novel, however, I have to dwell inside the characters head, sharing every thought, drawing every conclusion. It's the difference, in many ways, between writing a maths answer on the blackboard and having to show your work.

James has managed to do that, and do it successfully. He's also made the third transition, from being an entertainer to becoming a teacher. I think that nurturing side was always there, but hidden by humility. How can you presume to teach when you realize you're still learning. But with his success, and with realizing how his work is touching people, his confidence moves into this third realm.

I dearly wish I could be there this weekend, both to spend time with James and to learn from him. You'll just have to soak that extra time for me, and I guarantee you will be the better for it.

Patrick Conners -Fan Guest of Honor



Some people say Patrick lives in his own world. They are right and sometimes I wish I lived in it. I know I am glad whenever I can visit. I have known Patrick for so long that I can't remember how we first met, but there was probably funny clothing involved. Many of Patrick's pursuits involve funny clothing. For instance there was this time where Patrick, I and this blonde Mongolian were chasing Ninja up and down a mountainside.

But I digress, this isn't about me, it's Patrick's world and I just visit. Patrick is being honored for his activity and contributions to fandom and he certainly is active. Most people initially meet him at his merchant business "Sloganeer" where he creates and sells

buttons and custom calligraphy. If you have a pithy saying or an in-joke you want to share with the rest of the world he will elegantly put it on something round and shiny.

If Patrick isn't in the dealer's room, it's likely he is filking. Strumming his Mandolin and singing about Klingons or other aliens in his distinctive western warble. Something that a lot of people don't know is that Patrick is an amateur thespian who has had performed in many musicals around the valley.

He has also been very active behind the scenes in fandom. He has been on the board of LepreCon, run many dealers' rooms, and even founded an SF group of his own just to bid and run WesterCon. He really is dedicated. How many people would voluntarily spend their time and money travelling around the west convincing people that Phoenix is a great place to visit in the middle of July? Which reminds me of the time when I was helping Patrick with a WesterCon bid when we got engaged. No, not to each other, although it was to the same woman. Everything was fine though, she was engaged to about one hundred people at the time, along with her cats. She loves her cats.

Patrick also has cats, although he would say Hermione and Vicki have him. He even wrote and drew a web comic about it called Monkey Servants. That's just one of his many web endeavors. Others include Alien Wine Connoisseur, The Wheel of Dinner, and Facebook for Old Farts. All this and I haven't even begun to scratch the surface of his wide ranging talents which include: movie special effects, archery, kayaking, Celtic knot work, and super 133t programming skillz and so many more I can't mention them all. All these different talents, he is not just a renaissance man; he is a medieval man, a modern man and a future man as well!

All this only describes the things he does not the person he is and the best part about Patrick is the type of person he is. He is kind, honorable, funny, and very friendly. This weekend walk up to him and say, "Hi" and become part of his world.

Chris Dickenson -Filk Guest of Honor



Chris Dickenson appreciation by Maya Kaathryn Bohnhoff

When I tell you that Chris Dickenson is a witch, I'm perfectly serious.

No, not the nose wiggling, mortal-marrying kind (well, okay, she is married to a mortal). But definitely not the broomstick riding, wart-wearing, spell slinging, cauldron stirring kind (well, okay, she does sling a spell now and then and she does have a cauldron—I've seen it).

What I mean to say is that Chris is the kind of witch that bewitches you with song. One third of the Duras Sisters (with Debbie Baudoin and Elizabeth Burnham), Tuppence (with Elizabeth B and husband, Patrick) and the Harmony Heifers (with Elizabeth, yours truly and honorary heifers Jeff and Kristine Bohnhoff), Chris has conjured a lot of bewitching tunes, both in live performances at conventions or on recordings. Whatever the medium, Chris has mesmerized many audiences with her clear, sweet soprano.

She is also one of my favorite people in the world, the Aunti-Chris to my three kids, and high up on my list of people I love to harmonize with. And if you were to ask me (in a high quavering voice, perhaps) if she's a good witch or a bad witch, I'd say she's the best witch.

Program

Welcome to CopperCon32. We guess you're reading this because you want to know if you'll find anything interesting at our con. And we hope you do find it.

Our theme is: Dragons! And we are honored to have Ari Marmell who has written for D&D and James A. Owen who has written the series The Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica. And, boy, do we have Dragon panels aplenty. There is a gaming panel about D&D, Lit-type panels to discuss dragons, and some that didn't fit a niche but give you the opportunity to hear from both of our guests about their views on dragons.

Our Filk and Fan Guests are the married couple Chris Dickenson and Patrick Connors. Chris has a litany of filk and music accomplishments; you do not want to miss her concert. Patrick is our Fan Guest due to his numerous contributions to fandom on a host of different convention. Patrick is also a filker so he'll be with Chris at the concert. They have resurrected a semi-lost art form for us this year. They have written a Dr. Who play which will be staged for your enjoyment with a cast of thousands...or a dozen or so. And for the Filk Concert we are pleased to have two of the three Dura Sisters reunited as Debbie Baudoin joins Chris on stage for the first time in ten years. Jennifer Ashley will help Deb and Chris recreate those wonderful a capella harmonies.

All of our Guests will have a whole hour with their fans on Saturday; plan to spend some quality time with your favorite. And Chris is going to share with us her health and fitness plan with a demonstration of Qigong and Ai Chi in the hotel pool at 9am each morning.

The Opening Ceremonies on Friday is your chance to meet all our Guests. We'll also be honoring the winner of the 2nd Annual Short Story Contest. The winning story is printed elsewhere in this program book.

Costuming is focused on steampunk accessories. And we'll have another Costume Fashion Show much as we did last year. A chance to just have fun with your costume without worrying about pre-judging or putting together a skit. Kids will have the usual opportunity to create a craft project and they will get to disassemble stuff! We'll have loads of electrical and electronic items to be dismembered with the guidance of some older fen; maybe your kids will learn something new this year!

If you remember the martial arts demonstrations and lessons from last year, you won't want to miss what he has planned this year – longsword and pirate boarding action with cutlass. We have a strong gaming program this year. The Boardroom is dedicated to gaming all weekend long and we have some interesting program items as well.

For any would-be writers or anyone who just needs a different perspective for their work, we have writer's workshops and information about digital publishing and social media and loads more. Plus all the fun discussions of True Blood, steampunk, Lovecraft and Heinlein. Our Media track has our usual popular SciFi Jeopardy, Tube Talk, movie previews with swag, Star Trek, the obligatory Firefly panel, and a discussion on classic fairy tales on TV.

Charity Auction

It is my pleasure to bring to all the members a Charity Auction to benefit The Literacy Volunteers of Maricopa County. 100% of the proceeds will be given to this charity.

The Literacy Volunteers of Maricopa County (LVMC) is a non-profit organization in Phoenix, Arizona dedicated to teaching adults 16-years and older how to read, write, speak English and prepare for the GED. They depend on grants, corporate donations and individual gifts. They also need volunteers. See their website for more information.

As usual, I will try to give everyone an interesting and desirable selection of cool items to bid for. Our goodies will be on display on computer monitors at the Volunteer table and in ConSuite. They will also be on display an hour before the auction in Avondale I. There will be Charity Auction Program Guides available at Registration. The auction is scheduled for Sunday 3pm-5pm in Avondale I.

If you want to donate, please drop me an email through the CopperCon website. Consider cleaning out your cabinets, attics and storage space. Our charity auction is a great place for your old beloved collectible (*but no room to keep anymore...*) items that need a new home.

All books that are presented as a First Edition are done so at the best judgment of our Charity Auction Director. No guarantee is made by Catherine Book, CASFS, Inc. or CopperCon31 for any item. If you have any questions, please ask via e-mail or inspect the item prior to auction.

We wish to thank all our generous contributors: Carrie Vaughn, Janni Lee Simner, Dr. David Williams, Lois Cassady, David Lee Summers, Sue Martin, The Book Gallery, Bookmans Entertainment, Drawn to Comics, Samurai Comics, Imperial Outpost Games, Game Depot, Toy Anxiety, Trash City and our great Dealers in the Dealer's Room.

See you at the Auction; don't forget your money. Bid often, bid high...

Your tireless Charity Auction Director,

Catherine Book

Book Collection Drive

for Underprivileged & Homeless Children

The Thomas J. Pappas schools were founded in 1989 to provide equitable and accessible education for homeless children. While they closed their doors in June of 2008 their mission has been adopted by Children First Academy. They are committed to providing a comprehensive educational experience, as well as meeting the social and physical needs of their students. They currently support K thru 6 in Phoenix, and Tempe.

There will be a special donation box near the freebie tables. We will be collecting books to distribute to homeless and underprivileged children. This donation will place a book directly into the hands of a homeless or underprivileged child for them to keep. This is not a thrift store or a library. The age ranges vary, but we would particularly like to see juvenile fiction. Please take some time to clear your shelves and closets of unneeded books and help a child.

We will take anything you bring - if you donate adult fiction, we have an agreement with a local bookseller to exchange adult fiction for juvenile fiction. So keep an eye out for the big Harry Potter donation box. The box will be at several future Arizona conventions so please keep it in mind for the future.

Sponsored by the

Western Science Fiction Association (WesternSFA)

Registration

Please remember to keep track of your badge during the convention. If you lose it, you will need to pay the full current at the door price to replace it. Your badge shows that you are a member of convention. Attendees are required to have their badge worn and displayed so that it is easily seen and readable at all times. A badge is required to access all convention programming and function space.

Badges may not be shared with or loaned to anyone. By accepting the badge, the badge holder releases the convention from all liability in the event of accident, damage, or theft while on convention premises. The Badge holder further acknowledges that official photography and videography may be going on in the convention area at any time, and consents to the use of his or her image or likeness incidental or primary to any display, transmission, or reproduction of this event, including but not limited to the use by CASFS of his or her image or likeness for news, security, documentary, promotional, historical, or other purposes. All commercial photo, video, and audio rights reserved.

The badge remains the property of the convention until the close of the convention and must be surrendered on demand. The convention reserves the right to refuse admission to or to eject any person whose conduct is deemed in the sole discretion of the CASFS Board to be disorderly.

There will be no credit cards taken.

Registration Hours:

Friday: 3PM - 8PM

Saturday 9AM - 8PM

Sunday: 9AM - 8PM

Monday: 9AM - Noon

We will be located in the foyer next to the function space..

See you there -

Craig Dyer

Venders Room

Be sure to stop by the Venders Room and visit the many fine merchants displaying their wares. Bring your cash and be prepared to leave with wonderful things.....

Our Hours of operation will be:

Friday: Setup, dealers only

Saturday: 9am - 6pm

Sunday: 9am - 6pm

Monday: 9am - 4pm

Our Dealers include: Celtics Sun Traders, Infinite Frequencies, Jean's Beads, Mas-soglia Books, Night Hawk Studios, October Arts, Poisoned Pen.

Bianca Peterson

ConSuite

Need a place to get away from it all for a moment and to recharge? A place to sit and visit with friends both old and new?

Then Consuite is the answer to your needs! CopperCon's ConSuite will be providing free snacks and drinks to all members, as well as provide a place to relax and meet fellow CopperCon attendees!

Room 122

Hours are (subject to change):

Friday: TBA

Saturday: 10am-10:30pm

Sunday: 10am-10:30pm

Monday: 10am-4:30pm, Dead Dog Party later.

A friendly reminder from the ConSuite Staff: ConSuite is not meant to be a substitute for a hotel room. We ask that attendees do not sleep overnight in the ConSuite.

Sue Uttke

Volunteers

CopperCons are run by volunteers and this year's con is no exception. Come by our table near Registration and sign up for a stint or two. We'll have some special prizes for some lucky volunteers.

With 12 hours of volunteering we will be pleased to offer you a free membership to next years CopperCon. If you have a specific interest area you'd like to volunteer for, just let us know when you stop by and we'll do our best to accommodate your preferences. Otherwise, there will be a list of convention areas that need help. Simply pick your area and go when they need you. We'll have a form for you to keep to keep track of your time so that you get the proper credit.

Help make this year's CopperCon a better convention. Lend a hand and become part of the success!

Mike Griffin



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The advertisement features a black and white checkerboard pattern in the top left corner. To the right of the checkerboard are two chess pieces: a king and a queen. In the bottom right corner, there are two dice showing different faces. The text is arranged in a clean, organized manner, with the store name and phone number prominently displayed.

Short Story Contest

2nd Annual Short Story Contest

CopperCon32 is proud to announce the winner of the 2012 Short Story Contest: COLETTE VERNON for her satisfying “Kairos’ Opportunity.”

We had eight entries and there was a close call but the judges unanimously decided on this entry. We hope you’ll enjoy it as much as we did. Please join us at Opening Ceremonies on Friday at 7pm to congratulate Colette on her success.

Our Judges were our Guest of Honor James A. Own, Guest of Honor Ari Marmell, and local author Janni Lee Simner.

Kairos’ Opportunity

by Colette Vernon

Voices from the outside world echoed in my hole, too distant to decipher. They sparked a vague genetic memory—dream-like images of two-legged creatures, coated in sheets of metal, carrying long spikes. Centuries ago, those voices brought fear and death.

I slipped my tongue into the air, searching for a change from the sewer stench in which I’d hatched. Nothing. No fresh breeze. No change in light. Only the putrid smell of feces, rotting foliage, and mangy rats.

I raised my head. There it was again.

“You’d better run, idiot. We’ll make you sorry if we catch you.”

The thump of large feet on hard-packed dirt followed.

The words were difficult to decipher, so different from the cadence and pronunciation I pulled from my inherited memory. But I understood the familiar threatening tone, similar to the threats of the two-legged animals—humans—who’d murdered my ancestors.

I stared at the small patch of blue sky shining between rustling branches of forest pine. I was meant for better things than a leaky pit of sewage. Deep down, my ancestors called to me, whispering that our kind were meant for majestic feats. Day in and day out, since I’d emerged no bigger than the smallest rat, I’d held onto that whisper, hoping for the day I could prove it true.

The pounding grew closer. Fleishy appendages wrapped around the wires of the grate, my only source of sunlight and clean air. Above the metal criss-cross, a human boy appeared. It grunted. Probably having a bowel movement. The smell from my prison often had that effect on animals, like they thought they could one-up the stench below.

Short Story Contest, cont.

But no, the boy was exerting effort against something, the grate perhaps. Like men had come for my ancestors, did the boy intend to skewer me with a metal blade?

Rivets popped. The grate's wires bent upward. The boy dropped onto the narrow ladder leading up to it, holding on with all four feet like a spider. To my surprise, he used a top foot—a hand—to pull the wiring back down.

An urge to defend my territory pulsed beneath my scales, but the human was big, three times larger than me. And those same protective instincts had killed my forebears. Maybe I should hide. But more reflection forced me to a braver course of action. If I ever wanted out of this filthy cage, I had to leave through the open grate before the human left and resealed it.

"We know you're around here somewhere, dorkus. We'll find you, eventually."

More humans. I needed to hurry.

My belly close to the sewage bank's grime, I slunk to the ladder. My body straddled over the vertical bar as I wrapped the talons of eight webbed feet around every other adjoining rung. Step by slow step, I crept upward.

I'd nearly come level with the boy's head when he became aware of my presence.

"Oh my, oh my, oh my...", he keened, scrambling through the bent grate.

I crawled with him, using his back and arm as additional footholds. He screamed, as if fearful, as we exited onto the dry forest floor. He must have called for reinforcements.

Three more of his kind stood waiting.

"Bryson!" The shorter, skinnier boy called the large one who had come into my hole.

"You hid in the sewer? That is so—"

"What the hell!" said one of the other boys, picking up a sharp stick. "What is that thing?"

The skinny one took the weapon from his companion, pointing it at me. I shrunk against the side of a low bush, too terrified to move. The sunlit grass matched the green of my scales, the sun-burnt edges near the same shade of gold as the scale-tips, but it wouldn't serve as camouflage.

"Wicked cool! It's some kind of mutated snake, or a lizard or something. I've never seen anything with colors like that."

The boy poked its stick at my side.

I jumped away, hissing. My red crest-fan unfurled at the top of my head, a natural response that often frightened the rats.

"Look at that! It's like those crazy lizards in Australia or whatever."

"Leave it alone, Shawn," said Bryson. "Whatever it is, it isn't hurting anyone."

"Shut up, Bryson tattle-Tell. I'm going to skewer it like a marshmallow."

Shawn lunged again.

I slithered to one side. The stick scraped my scales then bounced across the hard soil. My unwieldy body didn't move well on land, but I scrambled partway under the bush. The low branches didn't let me squirm any farther. I was stuck. Visions of noble dragons, run through with glittering shafts of metal, swum through my mind. This was a humiliating comparison, stuck through the back by a boy with a twig.

Before Shawn could finish the assault, Bryson shed a multi-colored outer layer of skin from his torso—clothing? Throwing the soft fabric over my head, he hoisted me up and took off running.

Short Story Contest, cont.

Thrashing at the covering, my head eventually emerged into the bright sunlight. "Oh crap!" Bryson said, glancing behind him. "Just don't bite me. Please, don't bite me." I watched the boy, my inner eyelid moistening my unblinking stare. He had come to my rescue, so I would trust him for now. But I would keep a close watch. We left the trees, our dusty path turning to a rock-hard black trail, a human thoroughfare of some sort. Ancestral memories told me we walked through a town, but the structures had changed since the time of my forbearers. A wagon the size of an adolescent dragon roared past. I squirmed in terror, but Bryson held tight and the thing ran away. "It's okay," Bryson said. "It's just a car. It won't hurt you unless you run in front of it." A little time later, we stepped onto an square of clipped greenery, one of many in front of identical human dwellings. "Wow!" Bryson screwed up his nose. "I think you might stink even worse than the sewer. We'd better get you cleaned up before I take you into the house or Mom'll kill me." I had to wonder at a parent who would sacrifice its own young, but the concern was short-lived. Bryson took me through a gate to an outside wonderland. A bitter-sweet smell emanated from a large pond of clean, blue water. At the water's edge, I wriggled from Bryce's grasp, falling into the cool refuge. "Bryson Wilford Tell!" A woman exited the house, pointing at me. "What in heaven's name is that!"

She appeared surprised, but not prepared for murder. "Hey, Mom." Bryce said. "I've named it Kairos, after the Greek opportunity guy. Isn't it awesome?"

I rested my wide muzzle on Bryson's thigh. Mom joined us on the porch, keeping a wary distance. "It's getting too big." "She's not much bigger than the dogs." "Neither is a crocodile. We don't keep those for pets either." "She's nothing like a crocodile, Mom." "Yeah, that's another thing. First, you say it's a lizard then it's some reptile I've never heard of, a skink? Now what is it? Four of its legs are gone, like some kind of guppy-to-frog, and it has growths all over its back. What kind of creature have we got here?" I almost rolled my eyes. She didn't recognize a dragon? "It has to go," she said. "I can't trust some wild animal, growing teeth the size of butcher knives, around my kids. And even in Wyoming, I don't think pets like this are legal." Bryson made to argue, but Mom put up her hand. "I'm sorry. That's my final decision." A buzz drew Bryson's attention. He pulled his cell phone from his pocket and tensed. Shawn. I couldn't read the message, but by Bryson's reaction, he'd made another threat. It didn't make sense. Bryson was twice Shawn's size. Why did he let the skinny boy bully him?

I gritted my teeth together, sharpening the tips. I could do something about it, if I ever got the chance.

With a dog leash wrapped round my neck, Bryson took me back to the woods. At first, I thought he meant to throw me into the sewer. But we diverted from the path, coming to a meandering stream near the forest's edge where he pulled the cording from my neck. He

Short Story Contest, cont.

patted me above one set of wing knobs.

"I have something for you, before you go."

But I didn't want to go anywhere. I'd found a home, a friend. I didn't want to be alone again.

He pulled a bulging backpack off his shoulders. "I'm hoping you'll know what to do with this."

Out of the shadows, Shawn stepped into the clearing. "I don't think so."

He yanked the pack from Bryson's fingers. I'd watched enough human television to recognize the weapon in Shawn's other hand. Where had the boy acquired a gun?

With a hiss and flare of my crest-fan, I stepped from behind Bryson.

"Holy shit!" said Shawn. "It's the size of a cow."

Bryson laid a possessive hand on my neck. "Give me my backpack."

"Huh-uh. I want my lizard back."

"Kairos doesn't belong to you. She doesn't belong to anyone."

"Well, I say it does. I had it cornered and you went and stole it."

Bryson's eyes went to the gun, the pack, Kairos. "I'll do whatever you want, Shawn. Just leave her alone."

"You're such a pansy. Let me have it or every day of your ugly life, I'll be standing around every corner, waiting."

Bryson trembled, but didn't move. Why didn't he stand up to the boy? Show him he was bigger, stronger?

"If you don't give him to me," said Shawn, "I'll shoot him."

I curled my lip, snapping my jaws.

Shawn jumped back, the shaking gun pointed at my head. "It tried to bite me!"

His enemy's fear must have inspired some courage in Bryson. "She's not going to hurt you. Just drop the gun."

I lunged forward, throwing my head upward and knocking it from his grasp. It skidded under a bush.

Shawn dove after it, bringing it around, his fingers too tense on the trigger.

Worried for my human, I threw myself between them.

It discharged in a wild array. Two bullets carved bark off the tree before he finally hit his target—me.

A painful sting bit into my back, but to my surprise, the bullet ricocheted. My ancestors' top scales had been impervious to humans' blades, but I'd never imagined they could withstand bullets.

"Aaah!" Shawn screamed.

I turned to see blood seeping into his pant leg, a minor flesh wound. The gun lay in the dirt.

Bryson scrambled around me, straining to reach the backpack.

Shawn wrenched it from his fingertips, hoisting it over one shoulder. "I'm going to call the ranger service on that monster!" He limped as he ran for the streets.

"He's got our dragon egg," Bryson whispered, following after.

I stared after them, stunned. Bryson had found another egg?

Though wounded and small, Shawn was fast. He reached the edge of town as Bryson caught up with him.

Short Story Contest, cont.

I tried following, but even with my increased size, I maneuvered better in water than on land.

Digging my sharp talons into the crumbling bark, I scrambled twenty feet up a large oak. From my new vantage, I could see Bryson reaching a hand out for Shawn's shirt. As he gripped the fabric, a flatbed truck drove by, laden with a few pallets of sheetrock. Shawn went down under Bryson's superior weight, but the backpack flew up, landing in a crevice between stacks.

I'd never tried this before. With a deep breath, I threw myself into the air. Flapping my three sets of wings, I bobbed like a drunken puppet. I careened head-on toward a tall juniper. At the last second, I managed to veer off, using my front legs to push from the branches. In fear, I released my crest-fan. Between it and my tail, I learned to maneuver. The combination of trial and memory, within a couple of minutes, had me soaring over the trees. I found Shawn, fists up, facing Bryson.

As I flew by, I roared. My empty stomachs gurgled, bringing memories of swallowed humans and burnt enemies.

"I've got this," yelled Bryson, towering over Shawn. "Get the backpack!"

I twisted away, searching the roads, climbing higher. Clumsy on land, I became pure grace in the air. I'd thought myself a water creature, but not anymore. The sky was my medium.

There. From the shadow of tied-down stacks, the black straps fluttered in the wind across the reddish-brown stone. I glided down, gripped it with my back talons, and rose high into the air.

Shawn was running again, going back into the forest. Bryson chased after.

I spied a rusted-out grill in the back of a deserted yard. A half-full bag of rain-soaked charcoal leaned against one rickety leg. I swooped upon it, clenching it in my adolescent jaws as my adult ancestors had dove upon knights and angry peasants. Paper and all, I gulped it down.

My second stomach rumbled. With a belch, dark dust plumed from my nostrils. High in the air, I turned, racing to earth, an eagle sighting its prey.

Shawn turned to Bryson, gun in hand. Before he could level the weapon, Bryson kicked it out of his grasp.

My talons wrapped around Shawn's shoulders. He screamed. The smell of urine wafted in the updraft. Apparently, Shawn had a fear of heights.

"Put me down!" he shrieked, sounding a lot like Bryson's little sister.

Happy to oblige, I swooped lower and dropped him.

He sat in the shallow stream, relatively unharmed. Water broke around his shoulders, moving him inch by inch along the riverbed.

Bryson had shown Shawn that he could stand up to him. Now it was my turn.

Flying a dozen yards downstream, I flipped back. A few feet above the water, I flew toward Shawn, fire streaming from my open jaws. Steam curled up in a warm fog, filling the small valley.

"No!" Bryson yelled as I pulled up.

As much as he deserved to be roasted like a steak on a bar-b-que, I didn't touch Shawn. My fire continued down the river.

He escaped the warming water, but couldn't see through the mist. He set off blind, into

Short Story Contest, cont.

the forest. It would do the boy good to get himself lost. Maybe he'd learn a touch of humility.

Once I'd landed, I waddled to an open-mouthed Bryson, leaning my head against his chest.

He wrapped his arms around my neck. "Are you all right?"

I nodded.

His eyes widened. "Do you understand me?"

I nodded again, trying to make human sound, but my vocal chords still needed development.

"Yech," was all I could manage.

"Are you trying to speak?" he asked.

I flung my head up and down, almost hitting his shoulder.

He stepped back, laughing. I dropped the backpack to his feet, nudging him.

"Yes, of course."

Both hands reached in, pulling out what appeared to be a brown and gray chunk of sandstone. I dipped my nostrils to it. They quivered with delight at the sweet, rust-like scent. It was a dragon egg, same species, male.

"You can't stay here," Bryson said. "Even if they think Shawn's crazy, they'll search these woods. They'll see the scorch marks along the river."

I touched the egg with my snout. "Wah,"

"Where? I've been thinking about that. I can only think of one place where you would be close enough to visit, able to hide, and have game to hunt so you can survive. Ever hear of Yellowstone Park?"

I cocked my head to one side.

"Fly north, during the night if you can." Bryson pulled a map from his pocket, showing me our location in southern Wyoming, and the area called Yellowstone Park in the northwest corner. "As you get close, you should be able to smell some of the springs and mud pits. It'll smell like rotten eggs. There will be warm, wet places, much nicer than a stinking sewer." He patted the egg. "Maybe you can hatch this baby."

Running a hand down my neck, tears collected in his eyes. I had no memory of dragons crying, but I felt the same moisture under my own lids. I'd never imagined it could be so hard to leave a human.

"You helped me stand up to Shawn. I don't know why I was so afraid of him, but I'm not going to let him bully me anymore. Thank you."

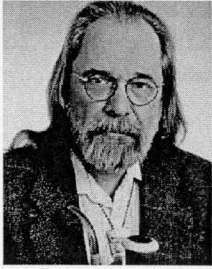
I didn't need mounds of treasure or a mountain fortress. Bryson's victory over fear meant more than a measly horde. And I had helped. This felt majestic.

I couldn't help myself. I stuck out my forked tongue, kissing him along one cheek. Then I vaulted into the air.

As I flew into the evening light, my future clutched in both claws, I knew I'd fulfilled my ancestor's destiny. Not because I had an egg, but because I'd accomplished what few of my ancestors had managed. From a centuries-old enemy, I'd made a friend.

On a nearby ridge, I spotted Shawn. He'd finally figured out what direction was what, but he had a very long walk ahead.

In memory of



Adam Niswander
1946-2012

Adam Niswander was an Arizona based writer. He is best known for The Sham Cycle novels, The Charm, The Serpent Slayers, The Hound Hunters, and The War of the Whisperers. Adam was also the author of the critically acclaimed The Sand Dwellers, The Cost of the Cure and The Repository. At the time of his death he was working on a new novel.

Born in Flushing, New York in 1946, Adam came to Arizona in 1977. During his lifetime Adam was a writer, an actor, a Vietnam vet, a bookstore owner, a past president of the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society (CASFS) and a minister in the Macro Society Community Church of the Macro Society Community which he helped create. He was a regular on the local convention scene and with his long time friend, Mark Boniece, founded MythosCon, a tribute to H.P. Lovecraft, in 2010.

In recent years Adam's health had declined and he died April 12, 2012 at the VA Hospital in Phoenix AZ.

He will be missed

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Programming

OPENING CEREMONIES An opportunity to meet the Guests, some of our panel participants, and our Short Story Contest winner will be announced with an award. Friday 7p-830p, Avondale I. Ari Marmell, James A Owen, Chris Dickenson, Patrick Connors, Bob LaPierre (Chair) and Jack Mangan (Toastmaster)

CLOSING CEREMONIES Our goodbyes, thank-yous, a fond farewell. We'll have our final Volunteer Raffle, The Chair for next year's CopperCon will tell us a little of what to expect next year. Mon 4p-5p, Avondale I. Bob LaPierre (Chair)

AUTOGRAPHING (Vendors Room)

Debe Branning	Sat 10a-11a
Chris Dickenson	Sun 2p-3p
Saul Garnell	Sat 2p-3p
Ernest Hogan	Sun 3p-4p
Gini Koch	Sat 4p-5p
Jeffrey J Mariotte	Sun 4p-5p
Ari Marmell	Sun Noon-1p
Janeen O'Kerry	Sat Noon-1p
James A Owen	Sat 1p-2p
Anna Paradox	Sun 4p-5p
Marsheila "Marcy" Rockwell	Sat, 4p-5p
Ren L Spidell	Sat 10a-11a
David Lee Summers	Sat 11a-noon
Tom Watson	Sat 2p-3p
Dr David A Williams	Sat 11a-noon

COS - COSTUMING

COS – COSTUME FASHION SHOW CopperCon invites you to don your finest ensemble and come show us your best catwalk strut. Bringing a new twist and a faster pace to the "O! Masquerade" we have re-imagined the traditional masquerade contest along the lines of a fashion show! No pre-judging, No skits. Singles or couples only. Seating begins at 630pm. Sat 7p-9p, Avondale I. Masquerade Director is Randall Whitlock, Master of Ceremonies is Jack Mangan, Photographer is Richard Bolinski

COS – COSTUME FASHION SHOW CONTESTANTS MEETING Anyone who plans to participate in the Costume Fashion Show at 7pm on Saturday needs to attend this meeting. Bring a photo or sketch of the character you are representing with your costume. If you have a specific soundtrack, bring it. There is no pre-judging, it is not necessary to come in costume.. Sat 3p, In the back of the Bar area. Randall Whitlock, Richard Bolinski, Jack Mangan

Programming, cont.

COS – COSTUME PHOTOGRAPHY There will be a professional photography booth at CopperCon for those interested in getting their costumes or other photos taken during the convention. The prices will be \$25 for up to a half hour or \$50 for up to a full hour of time. I will have full studio lights, a ring flash for high end costume photos. A full backdrop that you can remove the background from & place yourself on any image. If you are not a member of the CopperCon 32 there will be a \$10 surcharge. While there will be non-scheduled times available all weekend, booking a time will assure you that you can do it when you want. You will be getting a basic edited set of photos in PSD/ TIFF & a set in JPEG with each session. Also there will be a signed form giving you rights to print them at any photo printing center. I can take VISA, MasterCard, AMEX & Discover as well giving a 5% discount for cash. If you are interested in booking time contact me at digiphotoaz@mac.com or at 620-820-5675.

In the back of the Bar area, check the sign. Richard Bolinski

COS – STEAMPUNK HAT PINS/HAIR STICKS Have a fabulous hat and just can't find the perfect hat pin? Make your own, customized to the correct length for your hat, customized color and/or decoration for your hat.. Or want to make some custom hair sticks? Make your own, customized to you costume and/or taste.. Beads, gears, hat pin wire, glue, hair sticks, instructions and resource materials are provided for a donation of \$10.00. You will be able to make up to 4 hat pins or 4 hair sticks or a mix of hat pins and hair sticks (4 items) in this DIY class. The hat pin stock that will be used will not bend or break, as many of the hat pins that you may have purchased have done. Come join us, have fun and learn something. Bring your hat and see you there!

Sat 10a-1130A, Avondale IV. Frances Burns, Diane Harris, Jean Palmer

COS – STEAMPUNK MASKS Why not? You might be invited to a steampunk masquerade ball and where else will you find such an item? We'll provide all the materials for this one, but donation of \$1 or \$2 to help replenish the kit would be appreciated.

Fri 6pm-7:30p, Avondale IV. Frances Burns, Diane Harris, Jean Palmer

COS – STEAMPUNK PISTOLS We'll show you how to customize an inexpensive water pistol into a kick-ass steampunk costume accessory. Guns, gears, other fun items to add, paint, instructions, and resource materials are provided for a donation of \$5.

Sat 3pm-430p, Avondale IV. Frances Burns, Diane Harris, Jean Palmer

DEMO - DEMONSTRATION

DEMO – AI CHI DEMO Qigong and Ai Chi share the same roots as Tai Chi, and all are martial, healing and spiritual practices based on the teachings of Traditional Chinese Medicine that go back 4,000 years. Tai Chi is considered a martial art, Qigong is considered a healing practice, as it was originally designed as rehabilitative therapy for injured Chinese warriors. Ai Chi was invented in 1990 and is practiced in water, using many of the same movements and principles of Tai Chi and Qigong. The exercises are easy to learn and daily repetition of what appears to be very simple movements can have an enormously positive effect of the health and well being of the practitioner.

Sat, Sun, Mon 9am-10a, Hotel Pool. Chris Dickenson

Programming, cont.

DEMO—ARMOR, FROM MEDIEVAL TO FAR FUTURE, REALITY AND FANTASY

Sat 1p-2p, Terrace. Jim Barrows

DEMO/KID – CRAFT-A-THON Fabric Painting on t-shirts, ballcaps or tote bags. We'll supply everything but your own imagination. You get to keep your creation. This panel is for younger fen approx ages of 8 to 17 and Adults. It's simple and it's fun.

Sat 1130a-230p, Avondale IV. Elaine McKenzie, Darkyr Malys

DEMO – FIORE DE LIBERI'S SWORD IN TWO HANDS (Beginner) (Longsword)

Sat 10a-noon, Terrace. Jim Barrows

Sun 10a-noon, Terrace. Jim Barrows

DEMO – FIORE DE LIBERI'S SWORD IN TWO HANDS (Intermediate) (Longsword)

Sat 4p-6p, Terrace. Jim Barrows

Sun 4p-6p, Terrace. Jim Barrows

DEMO – PIRATE BOARDING ACTIONS & CUTLASS

Sat 8p-10p, Terrace. Sean Clark

DEMO - TRUNCHEON & GREAT STICK

Sun, 7p-9p, Terrace, William Wilson

ERC – EROTIC (Adult only)

ERC – MEN IN TIGHTS Men, here is your chance to “strut your stuff” to the admiration of all. Squeeze into your best pair of tights (Pirate, Renaissance, fishnet, etc) and party on down. Men in kilts also welcome for that special flair. Don't have a pair of tights and want to play? We'll have you covered - with tights you can keep! All tights and kilts will be checked by your adoring fans. So women, we need volunteer checkers! Come one, come all, and have a BALL. ADULTS ONLY.

Sat 11p-?, Avondale I. Kim Smith, Xena Wirtz

ERC/LIT – WRITING EROTICA THAT APPEALS TO EVERYONE Can you craft your prose to appeal simultaneously to audiences with differing erotic tastes? Do you keep several different readers in mind, take care to alternate viewpoint characters, or focus-group your product? Have Samuel R. Delany and Jacqueline Carey evaded the problem just by writing incredibly well about their chosen sexual territories? What can we learn from their or other successful approaches?

Sun, 9p-10p, Avondale IV. Gini Koch, Jordan Summers

Programming, cont.

FAN - FANDOM

FAN – COMPLIMENTS & COMPLAINTS Here's your chance to tell us what we did right... or wrong.

Mon 5p-6p, Avondale I. Bob LaPierre (Chair), Mark Boniece (Banker) (Hotel Liaison), Stephanie Bannon(Programming), Mark Boniece (Programming), Craig L Dyer (Registration), Mark Boniece (Hotel Liaison)

FAN/SOC – GOOGLE+

Sun 3p-4p, Avondale III. Evo Terra

FAN – MEET THE GUESTS. Here's a great opportunity to enjoy a little personal time with one of our Author Guests, our Music Guest or our Fan Guest.

Sat, noon-1p, Avondale I Ari Marmell

Sat 3p-4p, Avondale I James A. Owen

Sat 1p-2p, Avondale I Chris Dickenson & Pat Connors

FAN – REGENCY DANCE

Fri 9p-1030p, Avondale IV. Alice and Marty Massoglia

FAN/MUSIC – SCYCH Scych takes Geek Rock to the next level, with original geek themed compositions, cutting edge technology and an immersive multimedia stage show! Robotics, hacker culture, D&D, Star Trek, Dr. Who and Ancient Aliens are just a few of worlds explored. This year we are featuring vocalist Lithawen who sings covers from Lord of the Rings and songs sung in Elvish!"

Fri 11p-?, Avondale I. Michael Amann, Lithawen

FILK – FILK & MUSIC

FILK CIRCLE

Fri 9p, Sat 11p, Sun 9p Location TBD

FILK CONCERT with Chris Dickenson and Friends

Sun 5p-630p, Avondale I. Chris Dickenson, Jennifer Ashley, Debbie Baudoin, Patrick Connors, Mark Horning, Tom Tuerff

FILK – FUNNY ASS SING ALONG SONGS with the Filk GoH and friends. If you've ever been turned off by the sturm und drang of some filk music, or long boring songs that no amount of Prozac can temper, spend some time listening to some silly ass original songs, parodies of the Weird Al or Bohnhoff kind. Our performers will have you smiling and laughing as we take a well-deserved swipe at fandom, mundania, tech support and a variety of topics. Join us as we tip a few sacred cows, and we promise not to take anything seriously.

Mon 2p-3p, Avondale I. Chris Dickenson, Patrick Connors, Tom Tuerff

Programming, cont.

FILK – SINGER, SONGWRITER AND PERFORMANCE Songwriters share information on how they create their songs, as well as giving performance tips. This panel will be useful to anyone who creates and performs their own material, with topics ranging from writing parodies, original lyrics and music, to the dramatic reading of short stories, novels or poems. Sat 4p-5p, Avondale III. Chris Dickenson, Patrick Connors, Christina Paige

MUSIC/FAN – SCYCH Scych takes Geek Rock to the next level, with original geek themed compositions, cutting edge technology and an immersive multimedia stage show! Robotics, hacker culture, D&D, Star Trek, Dr. Who and Ancient Aliens are just a few of worlds explored. This year we are featuring vocalist Lithawen who sings covers from Lord of the Rings and songs sung in Elvish!" Fri 11p-?, Avondale I. Michael Amann, Lithawen

GAM - GAMING

GAM – LEARN TO PLAY TUNNEL AND TROLLS Spend an hour with the creator of Tunnels and Trolls and learn how to create the perfect character. And if you are really intrigued, you will have a chance to play a game later. Fri 10p-11p, Avondale I. Ken St Andre

GAM – LEARN TO PLAY MAGIC, THE GATHERING This game was introduced more than 15 years ago yet it is still going strong. Why? For those who don't play but are curious, come learn some of the basics of the game. Card types, basic plays, etc. Come learn what the excitement is all about. Fri 730p-830p, Avondale IV. James St Andre

GAM – PLAYING WITH DICE Dungeons and Dragons, along with other fantasy role-playing games, has influenced the lives (and careers) of many professionals in the field. How has an involvement in such activities affected your relationship to the genre? How can you use gaming to help you -- as a person or as an active participant within the science fiction community? Sat 9p-10p, Avondale IV. Marcy Rockwell, Mark Rude, Ken St Andre

GAM/LIT – WRITING IN A TABLE TOP UNIVERSE How to craft a story in a universe where dice determine fates. Mon noon-1p, Avondale III. Jeffrey Mariotte, Ari Marmell, Ken St Andre

KID – KID/CHILDREN

KID/DEMO – CRAFT-A-THON Fabric Painting on t-shirts, ballcaps or tote bags. We'll supply everything but your own imagination. You get to keep your creation. This panel is for younger fen approx ages of 8 to 17 and Adults. It's simple and it's fun. Sat 1130a-230p, Avondale IV. Elaine McKenzie, Darkyr Malys

Programming, cont.

KID – DISMEMBERING TECHNOLOGY In the process of actually destroying real gadgets and appliances, you might learn something about how it works.

Mon 10a-1130a, Avondale IV. Tisha McGovern

KID – KID'S GAMING Candyland, Sorry, Chutes & Ladders, etc.

Sat 5p-6p, Avondale IV, Elaine McKenzie, Darkyr Malys

KID – MAKE AND TAKE YOUR OWN MY LITTLE PONY EARS

Sun noon-1p, Avondale IV. Brian Duncan, Jenny Duncan

KID – MAKE AND TAKE YOUR OWN MY LITTLE PONY/BRONY

Sun 2p-3p, Avondale IV. Brian Duncan, Jenny Duncan

LIT – LITERATURE & WRITING

LIT – AN END TO SPEAR CARRIERS? Or, How To Survive Being a Redshirt. For a long time, we've had books and TV shows where some people are more valuable than others. What would it mean for writing and fiction if every character mattered?

Sun 8p-9p, Avondale IV. Emily Devenport, Anna Paradox

LIT/SOC – BRINGING SF INTO THE CLASSROOM Which schools are already using SF in their literature - or science - programs? Which books do they use, and why? What results do they get? Do students go on to read more SF? How does the introduction to SF affect them? Should this become a market niche? Some writers wrote specifically with school age readers in mind: Heinlein, Asimov, and Rowling certainly, which others?

Sun Noon- 1p, Avondale III. Ernest Hogan, Janeen O'Kerry, David Lee Summers

LIT – CREATING ALIEN CHARACTERS From the outside, how do we create alien species that are not just giant X or sentient Y -- like big ants or smarter cats? From the inside, how do we even conceive mentation that is fundamentally nonhuman, rather than just like us with an obsession for Z -- like money, honor, or status?

Fri 9p-10p, Avondale I. Rick Cook, Gini Koch, Tom Watson

LIT – DESIGNING TIME TRAVEL Time travel has always been fraught with peril--both for characters and the writers challenged with designing it. How much is science-based and how much is pure fantasy?

Sat 5p-6p, Avondale III.- Mark Horning, James A Owen

LIT – DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A COMIC BOOK AND A GRAPHIC NOVEL

Is there a difference between comic books and graphic novels besides length? If so, what are they? What are the elements that go into a comic book as compared to what goes into a graphic novel?

Sat, 7p-8p, Avondale III - Saul Gamell, Jeffrey J Mariotte

Programming, cont.

LIT – DIGITAL PUBLISHING It's easier than ever to be "published". Not that that's always a good thing...

Sun 4p-5p, Avondale III. Evo Terra, Jeff Moriarty

LIT – DRAGONS: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE.....

Fri 5p-6p, Avondale I. Veronica Baxter, Emily Devenport, James A Owen

LIT – EDITING IS MORE THAN USING THE SPELLCHECKER Editing is a necessary part of the writing process. For some it's harder than others, but we all have to do it. Learn simple techniques to make this process easier and more enjoyable.

Sun 4p-5p, Avondale IV. Ernest Hogan, Dr. Laura Brodian Freas, David Lee Summers

LIT/MED - FEMALE ARCHETYPES IN LITERATURE & FILM There are eight female archetypes that have been defined. We'll discuss each with examples in print and movies. What was Ripley in Alien? Or Summer in Serenity? How many did Heinlein use? Do women writers use them differently than male writers?

Sun, 9p-10p, Avondale III. Deborah Baudoin, Fey Becker, Marcy Rockwell

LIT/MED – FILM VS. LITERATURE Will our children read Jules Verne 10 years from now or will they see yet another remake of the movie without realizing the original was a book? Which do we like more?

Mon 2p-3p, Avondale IV. Ernest Hogan, James A Owen, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

LIT/MED/SCI – FOOLISH SCIENCE IN FILM & LIT It's true that a lot of our early science fiction looks foolish now - but how many budding scientists were inspired by pulps and movie serials? Are they still being inspired by the idea of a "transporter?" Do we really need to be "science nazis" in our fiction or is there still room for wonder?

Mon 10a-11a, Avondale I. Mark Horning, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

LIT/MED – GUILTY PLEASURES These are the books you would never have prominently displayed in your library. These are the television shows you secretly videotape or TiVo and set aside private time to watch. These are the movies that you dish and criticize harshly, but will not hesitate to purchase if you come across the VHS or DVD. Guilty Pleasures are those offerings of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror that we wish we could avoid or resist, but like moths to a flame we cannot help but get sucked in for the ride. Spill your guts, confess your sins, and debate over your favorite vices.

Sun 4p-5p, Avondale I. Brian Duncan, Gini Koch

LIT – HOW MUCH STEAM IS THERE IN STEAMPUNK? When and with whom (plus why?) did steampunk originate? Is steampunk destined to remain a distinct sub-genre, or will its edges blur into the rest of alternate history? Why does it appeal to us? Are its appeals enduring aspects of the genre? Where does it all go from here?

Sun 5p-6p, Avondale IV. Emily Devenport, David Lee Summers

Programming, cont.

LIT – HOW NOT TO GET PUBLISHED IN FIVE EASY STEPS Discuss the commonly made mistakes of new authors.....so that you don't have to make them yourself... Listen and discuss....

Fri 7p-8p, Avondale III. Gini Koch, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell, Jordan Summers

LIT – HOW PUBLISHING WILL CHANGE IN NEXT TEN YEARS What effect will e-books have? Come hear the opinions of publishing professionals.

Sun 6p-7p, Avondale III. Jeffrey Mariotte, Ari Marmell, Jordan Summers

LIT – HOW TO WRITE A SWORD FIGHT SCENE TO MAKE A SWORD GEEK HAPPY

Sun 6p-7p, Avondale IV. Jim Barrows

LIT – IT ALL STARTED WITH LOVECRAFT The evolution of horror over the past century. Why isn't horror scary anymore?

Mon 3p-4p, Avondale I. Gini Koch, Ari Marmell, Kay Pannell

LIT – ITS A WEIRD WORLD OF CONTEMPORARY FANTASY Authors like J.K. Rowling, Laurell K. Hamilton, and Jim Butcher are filling the world with magic. What's the appeal? Is it wish fulfillment or something more?

Sat 1p-2p, Avondale III. Gini Koch, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

LIT – KILL OFF MY CHARACTER? How to know when it's necessary to the story and how to deal with the emotional aftermath.

Sat, 8p-9p, Avondale III. Ernest Hogan, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

LIT – MAGIC CREATURES & IMAGINARY LANDS Dragons, unicorns and mermaids, oh my! How are these done when done well? Let's talk about the nuts and bolts of worldbuilding: physical setting, flora, fauna, nonhuman beings, cultures, languages, economies, cuisines, and more!

Sat 2p-3p, Avondale I. Veronica Baxter, Rick Cook, Ari Marmell

LIT – SHOW VERSUS TELL AND WHAT THAT REALLY MEANS Writers' Workshop. Every writer has heard that you should "show, and not tell." In this workshop we will talk about why this matters and, of course, Show you why through many examples. Be sure to bring examples of your own work for on-the-spot feedback as to whether you are Showing or Telling.

Sun 10a-1130a, Avondale IV. Janeen O'Kerry

LIT – SO YOU WANT TO START A BOOK REVIEW BLOG The world needs more book bloggers. If you'd like to be one of them, here are some things to think about.

Fri 6p-7p, Avondale III. Emily Devenport

Programming, cont.

LIT/SOC – SOCIAL NETWORKING IMPACT ON WRITERS What does a struggling writer need to do to self-promote? Do established writers need to bother? How has the social networking explosion affected the public's perception of writers and their books?
Sun 11a- noon, Avondale III. Deborah Baudoin, Mark Rude, Tom Watson

LIT – SPACE ADVENTURE STORIES STILL VIABLE? It is harder and harder to find science fiction novels that are optimistic, adventurous, and set in a space-faring future. Do readers still want Wagon Train to the Stars-type stories? Look what happened to Firefly. Let's talk about our favorites and any new finds.
Sat 6p-7p, Avondale III. Rick Cook, Saul Garnell, Gini Koch

LIT – TRENDS IN YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE With such a surge in interest from Harry Potter and Twilight - is there an equally burgeoning market for YA writers? Where is YA fiction going? Why do adults read and enjoy YA so much?
Sun 8p-9p, Avondale I. Jeffrey J Mariotte, James A Owen

LIT/MED – TRUE BLOOD Compare Charlaine Harris's popular novels against their TV versions. Do Sookie Stackhouse and her fangy friends look like you'd imagined? Are we able to enjoy the series knowing how different it is from the books? Is there any sign that the author, Charlaine Harris, may be writing with the TV show in mind?
Sat 11p-midnite, Avondale IV. Brian Duncan, Jenny Duncan, Jordan Summers

LIT/MED – UPDATING CLASSIC FAIRY TALE CHARACTERS A modern take on classic fairy tales. Grimm, Once Upon A Time, an updated Snow White - does it work bringing fairy tales into 21st century?
Sun 7p-8p, Avondale III. Deborah Baudoin, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell, Fey Becker

LIT – URBAN FANTASY In the past decade, much of urban fantasy has migrated to the YA section of the bookstore, and readers of all ages are getting their urban fantasy fix both there and in the adult SF/fantasy sections. How do YA and Adult fantasy stories differ...or not? Is it all about marketing, or is something more going on?
Sun 8p-9p, Avondale III. Ari Marmell, Jordan Summers

LIT – WHY I LOVE/HATE HEINLEIN Surveying the celebrated - if sometimes controversial - works of classic SF author Robert Anson Heinlein (1907-1988). Writer Jo Walton observed "Even when I Don't like Heinlein, I do like him".
Sat 8p-9p, Avondale IV. Rick Cook, Anna Paradox

LIT – WRITING A COLUMN FOR EXAMINER.COM Pros and cons. You can write about whatever subject you are an expert in, increase your writing and journalism skills, earn money and perks as you go.
Sat noon-1p, Avondale III. Debe Branning

Programming, cont.

LIT/ERC – WRITING EROTICA THAT APPEALS TO EVERYONE Can you craft your prose to appeal simultaneously to audiences with differing erotic tastes? Do you keep several different readers in mind, take care to alternate viewpoint characters, or focus-group your product? Have Samuel R. Delany and Jacqueline Carey evaded the problem just by writing incredibly well about their chosen sexual territories? What can we learn from their or other successful approaches?
Sun, 9p-10p, Avondale IV. Gini Koch, Jordan Summers

LIT/GAM – WRITING IN A TABLE TOP UNIVERSE How to craft a story in a universe where dice determine fates.
Mon noon-1p, Avondale III. Jeffrey Mariotte, Ari Marmell, Ken St Andre

LIT – WRITING IN THE NEW REALITY In a world where leading reviewers won't recognize you as legitimate if you're published on-demand, how do we manage? How do we break through stereotypical barriers that say print-on-demand books are not as good as traditional? Where do e-books fall in this equation?
Mon 3p-4p Avondale III. Ernest Hogan, Jack Mangan, Mark Rude

LIT – WRITING THE HOOK: Writers' Workshop Self-publishing a novel is now a viable option for many writers. That's good. But it has left us with an overwhelming number of books for the reader to choose from. That's bad. This workshop will help your readers find you by letting them know right away, through title and opening paragraph, that your book is the one they're looking for. Be sure to bring samples of your work for on-the-spot feedback
Sat, 10a-1130a, Avondale III. Janeen O'Kerry

MED – MEDIA: MOVIES & TV

MED – AN EMBARRASSMENT OF TARDISES A Not Ready for Warp Speed Play-ers. This is a Doctor Who Dramatic Reading. - An Embarrassment of TARDISES is a comedic, adult-rated, radio-style dramatic reading that has been described as what you might get if you tossed the Buffy the Vampire Slayer episode, "Once More With Feeling" into a cocktail shaker with the Star Trek Classic episode "The Naked Time," shook it well, and decanted the resulting mixture into a bawdy Doctor Who audio episode. ADULTS ONLY
Sat 9p-11p, Avondale I. Chris Dickenson, Pat Connors, Jennifer Ashley, Mark Homing, Chris Paige, Dawn Taylor, Tom Tuerff

MED – BAD SCI-FI MOVIES Sci-fi movies that should have been entirely left on the cutting room floor.
Mon 1p-2p, Avondale III. Patrick Connors, Eric Michael Craig, Tisha McGovern

Programming, cont.

MED – BARRY BARD’S “At The Movies” This is a favorite CopperCon event where you will get a sneak peak at trailers for some exciting new upcoming movies. After the trailer presentation we will hold a lottery for FREE movie promotional material (T-shirts, baseball caps, special posters and whatever else the studios have sent us). Sponsored by CASFS.org (Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society). CASFS’ purpose is to promote interest in science fiction, fantasy and science. Please check their website for more info.

Fri 9p-11p, Avondale III. Len Berger, Richard Bolinski, Mark Boniece
Mon noon-2p, Avondale I. Len Berger, Richard Bolinski, Mark Boniece

MED/LIT - FEMALE ARCHETYPES IN LITERATURE & FILM There are eight female archetypes that have been defined. We’ll discuss each with examples in print and movies. What was Ripley in Alien? Or Summer in Serenity? How many did Heinlein use? Do women writers use them differently than male writers?

Sun, 9p-10p, Avondale III. Deborah Baudoin, Fey Becker, Marcy Rockwell

MED/LIT – FILM VS. LITERATURE Will our children read Jules Verne 10 years from now or will they see yet another remake of the movie without realizing the original was a book? Which do we like more?

Mon 2p-3p, Avondale IV. Ernest Hogan, James A Owen, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

MED – FIREFLY. Almost 10 years old and still going strong! One of the most popular Sci-Fi shows ever. Join us to discuss this phenom.

Fri 5p-6p, Avondale IV. Brian Duncan, Tisha McGovern

MED/LIT/SCI – FOOLISH SCIENCE IN FILM & LIT It’s true that a lot of our early science fiction looks foolish now - but how many budding scientists were inspired by pulps and movie serials? Are they still being inspired by the idea of a “transporter?” Do we really need to be “science nazis” in our fiction or is there still room for wonder?

Mon 10a-11a, Avondale I. Mark Horning, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

MED/LIT – GUILTY PLEASURES These are the books you would never have prominently displayed in your library. These are the television shows you secretly videotape or TiVo and set aside private time to watch. These are the movies that you dish and criticize harshly, but will not hesitate to purchase if you come across the VHS or DVD. Guilty Pleasures are those offerings of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror that we wish we could avoid or resist, but like moths to a flame we cannot help but get sucked in for the ride. Spill your guts, confess your sins, and debate over your favorite vices.

Sun 4p-5p, Avondale I. Brian Duncan, Gini Koch

MED – REBOOTS: DO THEY WORK? The new Batman, Spiderman, Star Trek and Superman. Was this the best way to bring in new fans, or does it risk turning off those of us who were die-hard fans of the originals?

Sun 7p-8p, Avondale I. Brian Duncan, Gini Koch

Programming, cont.

MED – SCI FI JEOPARDY Test your knowledge of scifi trivia in a fun filled audience participation contest presented by the United Federation of Phoenix.

Sat 4:30p-630p, Avondale I. Lee Whiteside, Mark Boniece, Kim Smith, Jim Strait, David Williams

MED – SF TUBE TALK with Lee Whiteside. What's up in the world of Science Fiction and Fantasy TV? What's been cancelled, what's been renewed and what's on the horizon in the way of new stuff. Join SFTV Guru, Lee Whiteside, for an update on all things SF TV.

Sat 3p-4p, Avondale III. Lee Whiteside

MED – STAR TREK UNIVERSE UPDATE Principal photography has wrapped on the sequel to J.J. Abrams 2009 Star Trek reboot. Come join a panel of Treksperets from the United Federation of Phoenix to discuss the latest developments about the new Trek movie, and other happenings from Trekland.

Sun 10p-11p, Avondale III. Dave Williams, Kim Smith

MED/LIT – TRUE BLOOD Compare Charlaine Harris's popular novels against their TV versions. Do Sookie Stackhouse and her fangy friends look like you'd imagined? Are we able to enjoy the series knowing how different it is from the books? Is there any sign that the author, Charlaine Harris, may be writing with the TV show in mind?

Sat 11p-midnite, Avondale IV. Brian Duncan, Jenny Duncan, Jordan Summers

MED/LIT – UPDATING CLASSIC FAIRY TALE CHARACTERS A modern take on classic fairy tales. Grimm, Once Upon A Time, an updated Snow White - does it work bringing fairy tales into 21st century?

Sun 7p-8p, Avondale III. Deborah Baudoin, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell, Fey Becker

OTH – OTHER (what doesn't fit into any other niche)

OTH – ANGEL READINGS

Sat 11p-?, Avondale III. Dawn Taylor

OTH – CHINESE FACE READING

Sun 10p-11p, Avondale IV. Dawn Taylor

OTH – DEALING WITH DRAGONS Discussion of best way to survive in a world with dragons, and best defense against them.

Sun 5p-6p, Avondale III. Veronica Baxter, James A Owen

OTH – HISTORY OF DRAGONS Dragon history, and myth, and legends, and how the mythology expanded. Which are the Coolest Dragons in literature and pop culture

Sun 1p-2p, Avondale III. Veronica Baxter, James A Owen

Programming, cont.

READINGS

READ - Debbie Baudoin will read from her novel Fairville. Summary: In a small Louisiana town, four very different women find themselves seeking answers to a century-old mystery. While waiting out a hurricane together at the old Progress Theater, Winona, Monique, Carrie, and Jackie encounter a ghostly woman in Victorian garb. After the encounter, each begins to develop strange and dangerous powers. As their powers grow stronger, the women must work together to solve the mystery of the Fairville ghost--before they destroy themselves!
Sun 130p-2p, Avondale IV. Debbie Baudoin

READ - Chris Dickenson will be reading the first chapter of "Dead on Arrival," an adult meta-physical urban mystery novel, which will be available on December 21st, 2012. It was written by the husband and wife writing team of Chris Dickenson and Patrick Connors, using the nom de plume Marretta Connors. "Dead on Arrival," is book one of the Comstock Hotel series, set in a slightly alternate universe where many humans have magical abilities. The series is set predominately in Seattle, Washington and should appeal to fans of "The Dresden Files" and "True Blood."
Sun 1p-130p, Avondale IV. Chris Dickenson

READ - Saul Garnell will read from his book, Freedom Club. Synopsis: The year is 2085, and the world dives blindly into capitalistic hysteria while dreaming of a technologic singularity. India and China now dominate as economic leaders, and people have become over-reliant on the cold logic of artificial intelligence. Who can save the world from such self inflicted decay?
Fri 8p-830p, Avondale III. Saul Garnell

READ - Gini Koch will be reading from her current release, The Night Beat, Book 1 of the Necropolis Enforcement Files series: A routine patrol for undercover cop and werewolf Victoria Wolfe turns into an epic battle between the undead forces of good against the Prince of Darkness most powerful lieutenants and his Army of Evil -- the outcome of which is dependent upon Victorias abilities to guess what plan fallen angel Lucifer set in motion centuries earlier. (A reading from her upcoming December release, Alien vs. Alien, Book 6 of her Alien series, could also happen. You never can tell...)
Mon 1p-130p, Avondale IV. Gini Koch

READ - Marsheila "Marcy" Rockwell will be reading from her latest book, Skein of Shadows. Here's a short teaser: "Created in conjunction with the latest update for the Dungeons & Dragons Online game, this exciting adventure continues the story of Sabira from The Shard Axe, featuring an underground expedition in dark caverns, powerful artifacts, and drow intrigue."
Mon 130p-2p, Avondale IV. Marsheila "Marcy" Rockwell

Programming, cont.

READ - David Lee Summers will read his story *The Vrykolakas and the Cobbler's Wife* which appeared in *Cemetery Dance* magazine this year., Synopsis: Set in early 20th Century Greece, it tells the story of a vrykolakas -- a creature that shares properties of both a werewolf and a vampire -- who haunts his family. His wife takes advantage of that haunting to learn the trade she neglected when she was alive, but is the price of this education too steep?
Sat 630p-7p, Avondale IV. David Lee Summers

READ - Dawn Taylor
Sun 1030a-11a, Avondale III. Dawn Taylor

READ - Tom Watson will read from his latest book *The Luck of Han'anga War of the Second Iteration, Book One* Synopsis: The Human Commonwealth of Worlds has colonized their small corner of the galaxy for almost four centuries, and found no sign of another intelligent species. The Commonwealth is a civilization at peace with itself, but it is all Humanity knows. Like many citizens of the Commonwealth, Robert has come to believe Humanity is alone in the galaxy. Then his ship meets the Leyra'an, and in that encounter they find an unsettling mystery. For the Leyra'an are anything but alien, and are so similar to Humans that it defies both science and belief. But before the crew of the probeship can investigate this mystery, there is a darker and far more dangerous matter before them. Someone else met the Leyra'an first, and started a war.
Sun 10a-1030a, Avondale III. Tom Watson

SCI - SCIENCE

SCI – ASTEROIDS, ION PROPULSION - NASA's DAWN MISSION TO VESTA Our own Dr. Dave is a Participating Scientist on NASA's Dawn Mission at the asteroid Vesta, where Dawn just departed after spending over a year in orbit. Please join him for a talk on all the results discovered about this proto-planetary world!
Mon 2p-3p, Avondale III. Dr. David Williams

SCI – DISCOVERING NEW WORLDS We will look some at planet discoveries made by NASA's Kepler probe, then look at how ground-based telescopes such as the ones at Kitt Peak are used to confirm those discoveries, and learn more about the compositions of the planets.
Sun 2p-3p, Avondale III. David Lee Summers (need video projector)

SCI/MED/LIT – FOOLISH SCIENCE IN FILM & LIT It's true that a lot of our early science fiction looks foolish now - but how many budding scientists were inspired by pulps and movie serials? Are they still being inspired by the idea of a "transporter?" Do we really need to be "science nazis" in our fiction or is there still room for wonder?
Mon 10a-11a, Avondale I. Mark Horning, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell

Programming, cont.

SCI – METEORITES Join Dr. Melissa Morris from the ASU Center for Meteorite Studies which seeks to create new knowledge about the origin of our planetary system through the study of meteorites so that we may understand the pathway to forming habitable worlds. Today, researchers all over the world use meteorites to answer fundamental questions about the origin, age and composition of our Solar System, star evolution, the geologic history of Earth and the moon, and even the origins of life itself.

Sat 10a-11a, Avondale I. Dr. Melissa Morris

SCI – MISSIONS TO THE MOON, CURRENT AND PAST A discussion that provides an overview of the current Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) mission, highlighting the function and capabilities of the camera system and some of the spectacular images that have been acquired. LRO was launched on June 18 2009, and soon entered a low orbit around the Moon. Since that time, the LRO Camera (LROC) has acquired over 500,000 images of the Moon's surface! Also presented is the recent digital archiving of the Apollo orbiter images, scanned at extremely high resolution. See these images shown in amazing detail as if they were taken today!

Sat 2p-3p, Avondale III. David Nelson, Kristen Paris

SCI – NASA SOLAR SYSTEM EXPLORATION UPDATE Join Dr. David Williams of ASU's School of Earth & Space Exploration for an update on the most recent discoveries from across the Solar System from your space exploration program.

Sat 10p-11p, Avondale IV. Dr. David Williams, David Nelson

SCI – NIGHT VISION GOGGLES Drawing from his 10 years of experience working at the Night Operations Center of Excellence at the Air Force Research Lab, Mark Horning will give an unclassified presentation on the science and technology of night-vision goggles. This will be a reasonably short 20 minute talk to allow for plenty of questions.

Sat 7p-8p, Avondale IV. Mark Horning

SCI – ROVING THE SOLAR SYSTEM First Results from Curiosity. The Mars Science Laboratory is scheduled to land on Mars on August 5. Join Dr. David Williams to hear about the first results from the largest rover in history (or hear about why it did not land successfully).

Sun 11a-noon, Avondale I. Dr. David Williams

SCI – WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SPACE AGE? Since the American Space Shuttle program has ended, are we no longer moving forward? Is anything next? Will we be depending on commercial space exploration or are we stuck on our own rock while robots do all the exploring?

Mon 11a-noon, Avondale III. Anna Paradox

Programming, cont.

SOC - SCIENCE

SOC/LIT – BRINGING SF INTO THE CLASSROOM Which schools are already using SF in their literature - or science - programs? Which books do they use, and why? What results do they get? Do students go on to read more SF? How does the introduction to SF affect them? Should this become a market niche? Some writers wrote specifically with school age readers in mind: Heinlein, Asimov, and Rowling certainly, which others?

Sun Noon- 1p, Avondale III. Ernest Hogan, Janeen O’Kerry, David Lee Summers

SOC – CHARITY AUCTION DISPLAY All items will be on display on TV monitors at Convention Registration and in ConSuite. All items will be available for live viewing in Avondale I approximately one hour before the auction begins.

Sun 1p-2p, Avondale I.

SOC – CHARITY AUCTION Beneficiary is Children First Academy. 100% of proceeds will be given to the beneficiary. This live voice auction will include a variety of items: books, games, toys, collectible items.

Sun 2p-330p, Avondale I. Charity Auction Director: Catherine Book. Bill Whitmore, J.B. Talbot, Gus Talbot, Jen McAlonan

SOC – CLOUD VS SKYNET Is Cloud computing becoming Skynet?

Fri 5p-6p, Avondale III. Patrick Connors, Rick Cook, Saul Garnell

SOC –DECLINE AND FALL OF PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING “The last man on earth sat alone in his room, playing with his XBox 360. He ignored the knock on the door.” ...eBooks will destroy the publishing industry. Copyright is going down the tubes. The civilized discourse of email lists is giving way to 140-character tweets. Kids don’t get out of doors anymore and spend so much time multi-tasking they don’t learn to think. Is technology turning us into the Borg? What looks like it will make life richer and what may wind up impoverishing us?

Sun 10a-11a, Avondale I. Dr. Laura Brodian Freas, James A Owen

SOC/FAN – GOOGLE+

Sun 3p-4p, Avondale III. Evo Terra

SOC – IS IMMORTALITY FOR YOU? Do you want to live forever? What would you do? How will it affect your choices for a career, hobbies, relationships, family? Audience Participation encouraged.

Sat 10p-11p, Avondale III. David Lee Summers

SOC – LIFEHACKING The art of applying ingenious strategies to life’s challenges. How to eat healthy fast food. How to use your cell phone calendar and camera to organize your life. Hackers may have been the first to see uncommon solutions to daily tasks and now lifehacking includes any type of life-shortcut. How can you approach your life’s challenges from a hacker point-of-view?

Sat 11a-noon, Avondale I. Deborah Baudoin, Fey Becker, Anna Paradox

Programming, cont.

SOC/LIT – SOCIAL NETWORKING IMPACT ON WRITERS What does a struggling writer need to do to self-promote? Do established writers need to bother? How has the social networking explosion affected the public's perception of writers and their books?
Sun 11a- noon, Avondale III. Deborah Baudoin, Mark Rude, Tom Watson

SOC – SENDING THE WRONG MESSAGE Stephanie Meyer's best-selling YA vampire romance books have been described as handing teenage girls the following life lesson: "Love means staying with your guy forever, even though he may injure or kill you at any minute." Any other genre works possibly sending undesirable signals? If so, so what?
Sat 9p-10p, Avondale III. Ari Marmell, Janeen O'Kerry, Jordan Summers

SOC –Unnatural Disaster Preparedness Certification Workshop Our motto is: "From Alien Attacks to Zombie Hordes, We Help Keep YOU Alive!" Has the Apocalypse come and gone and you've gotten Left Behind? Is that your problem, Bunky? Fear not! Attend this workshop on how to survive ANYTHING, except a bad story line. Writers: learn how to avoid The Blair Witch Project or Cloverfield! Real experts in disaster preparedness give you real world solutions to imaginary (or real) disasters. Emphasis on long-term survival after mega-disasters.
Mon 10a-11a, Avondale III. Kay Pannell

SOC – WHAT'S SO COOL ABOUT THE MIDDLE AGES, ANYWAY? The European Middle Ages lacked flush toilets; racial, gender, class, or practically any other sort of equality; and the potato. Plus armor was really sweaty, castles were drafty, and life expectancy at birth was about 30. Why are we so drawn to this epoch again and again?
Sun 7p-8p, Avondale IV. Veronica Baxter, Patrick Connors, Mark Rude

SOC – WOULD YOU GO INTO SPACE? Bill Shatner reportedly turned down the opportunity to fly on Virgin's first passenger flight but Sigourney Weaver has already booked her ticket. Would you go if you could? And why?
Fri 11p-midnite, Avondale IV. Brian Duncan, Jordan Summers

SOC – ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE We'll discuss past, present, and future zombiemanía in books, movies, TV, comics, and maybe even real, uh, life. Why not stagger by and let us ea—that is, pick your braaiiins?
Sun 9p-10p, Avondale I. Veronica Baxter, Kay Pannell

AUTOGRAPHS

SOCULT - SOCIAL NETWORKING IMPACT ON WRITERS Will does a
 struggling writer need to do is self-promote? Do established writers need to promote? How has
 the social networking explosion affected the public's perception of writers and their books?
 Sun 11:00 AM Available III: Deborah Friedman, Mark Rabe, Tom Wiseman

SOC - SENDING THE WRONG MESSAGE Stephen Meyer's best-selling YA
 science romance books have been described as handing weapons guns the following the Islamic
 "Love means saving with your gun" poster even though he may intend to tell you as any man-
 the "Love of God" works perfectly wrong. What's the message? It's so weird.
 Sun 1:00 PM Available III: A. Michael, Lauren O'Keefe, Jordan Shannon

SOC - UNUSUAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CERTIFICATION Workshop Our motto is
 "From Alien Attacks to Zombie Threats, We Help Keep YOU Alive!" Has the Apocalypse come
 and gone and you've gotten lost? What is that your problem, buddy? Can you? Attend this
 workshop on how to survive ANYTHING, create a bad story line. Writers learn how to avoid
 the cliché which is right in front of you. Real experts in disaster preparedness give you real world
 solutions to imaginary (or real) disasters. Register on long-term survival after mega disaster.
 Sun 1:00 PM Available III: Kay Farnell

SOC - WHAT'S SO COOL ABOUT THE MIDDLE AGES, ANYWAY? The
 European Middle Ages looked much more medieval, grayer, and probably any other sort of
 reality, and the books. This event was really scary, really scary, really scary, and the reality
 is that was about 30. Why not go down to the dark ages and again?
 Sun 2:00 PM Available IV: Vanessa Baxter, Patrick Connor, Mark Rabe

**SOC - WOULD YOU GO INTO SPACE? Will Space reportedly turned down the
 opportunity to fly on Virgin's first passenger flight for SpaceShip Western has already booked
 her ticket. Would you go if you could? And why?
 Fri 11:00 AM Available IV: Brian Daxson, Jordan Shannon**

SOC - ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE Will discuss past present and future zombie
 in books, movies,
 and in real
 life.
 Sun 2:00 PM Available IV: Brian Daxson, Jordan Shannon



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Program Participant Bio's

Michael Amann is an Arizona attorney, software developer and long-time progressive rock composer. Michael Amann has turned his talents towards exploring the genre of Geek Rock. The advent of the Internet, the iPod, the proliferation of social media, and advances in electronic instruments has created unprecedented opportunities for musicians. Couple that with the cultural revolution of “geek chic” and Michael saw a unique opportunity to combine his love of scifi and fantasy with progressive music.

Jennifer Ashley

Jim Barrows - Tattershall School of Defense

Deborah Baudoin is a blogger, writer, and musician. As a member of the Phoenix-based filk trio, The Duras Sisters in the 1990s, she wrote, arranged and performed music on three CDs (Masquerading as Human, Rubenesque, and Woad Warriors.) Her songs also appear on Larry Warner's Larry Warner On Deck 11 and Harmony Heifers' Harmony Heifers. A well-known name in fan-fiction, Deb's first original novel, All the Back Roads Home, is published in two parts and is available on Amazon.com. Debbie currently lives in Elizabethtown, Kentucky with her partner of 12 years, Fey Becker. Together, the pair are active in spirituality, social activism, and the Louisville food scene. www.10ksoapboxes.wordpress.com

Veronica Baxtert has a Bachelors Degree in Anthropology from Arizona State University and a general love of history and mythology. When a subject interests her, Veronica has a knack for learning everything possible on that subject - especially the origin story. It is as a result of her love of Zombie Mythology that you can find her at the local Phoenix chapter meetings of the Zombie Research Society.

Fey Becker has been a practicing witch for over twenty years, Fey Becker is well-versed in pagan culture and spirituality. She has an extensive understanding of various traditions, as well as insights into how to parlay a pagan mentality into the current world-view. Fey is active in politics, feminism, and social issues. An avid gamer, she is slowly transforming her filker wife Debbie Baudoin into a believer. While she is currently working as a travel agent specializing in “non-traditional” Disney vacations (adults traveling without kids, GLBT, etc.), Fey Becker also pursuing her ultimate goal to be a certified life coach.

Len Berger known as the “movieman”, keeps the freebie tables full of movie posters, flyers and anything else we receive for the con. He is performing the functions that the late Barry Bard started decades ago and has done his best to “walk” in Barry's shoes. Let him know your appreciation when you see him hovering around the freebie tables or giving away free stuff. He attends many movie screenings a year and the Phoenix Film Festival. Len is a member of CASFS.org, [Leprecon, Inc.](http://Leprecon, Inc) and WesternSFA.org

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Richard Bolinski started with fandom in the early 1979. He has worked most areas of Convention operations at over 70 conventions. As well as working with Apple Computer at trade shows. He has been a PA to Don Hannah for the past 15 years, working with him on projects from hosting & planning Michael Jackson's 40th Birthday bash to Equador & Guatemala. For years, he worked the local art shows with Ray Gish. He now does the movie preview's for the local AZ conventions. He also is a professional photographer formerly on staff with Ion magazine in Phoenix & does photography full time. www.digiphotoaz.com

Mark Boniece

Debe Branning has been the director of the MVD Ghostchasers of Mesa/Bisbee since 1994 & conducts investigations of haunted sites in AZ. Debe has been a guest lecturer at several universities on ghost hunting & guest speaker at sci-fi venues such as CopperCon, FiestaCon, HauntedCon & AZParaCon. She was seen on TRAVEL CHANNEL'S "Ghost Stories" JUL 2010. Debe is the author of *Sleeping with Ghosts*, *Grand Canyon Ghost Stories* and two children's books. Coming soon: *The Graveyard Shift*. She writes 2 columns for Examiner.com: Arizona Haunted Sites and Haunted Places. She conducts historic tours for the Pioneers' Cemetery Assn in PHX and is on the Board of Directors. www.mvdghostchasers.com or www.examiner.com/x-2345-Arizona-Haunted-Sites-Examiner

Frances Burns has been active in costuming for over 20 years. Frances has been altering and fitting patterns for family and friends since grade school, perfecting the art of clothing making for the less than perfect body for over 40 years. Frances was mentored by her neighborhood seamstress who was trained in French Quebec; this impressed her with an eye for detail construction, fit, and quality. She approaches the design and production of costumes as actual clothing - not props to be used once or twice. This has made her popular as a dressmaker for individuals who wear costume attire as everyday clothing, including Ren-Faire participants and gypsy fortune-tellers.

Sean Clark

Patrick Connors has done quite a few things: He has been a con-runner, a songwriter, an actor, a webmaster, a writer, an artist, and an avid special-effects geek. He still keeps his hand in most of them. Patrick has had a couple of filk songs recorded and has written many more, and briefly self-published a comic in the mid-90s. Occasionally, the cats make him spend time immortalizing them in the web comic *Monkey Servants*. He's the quiet technical half of writing team Marretta Connors, who will publish the first novel in the *Comstock Hotel* series this December. He is worshipped as a god by the geckos he rescues from the cats. <http://www.marrettaconnors.com>

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Rick Cook writes fiction so he can inflict wretched puns on unsuspecting readers. He is the author of the Wiz series from Baen Books, which are fantasy novels full of bad computer jokes. His work has also appeared in Year's Best SF (in collaboration with Ernest Hogan) and in Analog, most recently in the May, 2010 issue.

Emily Devenport had six novels published by ROC: Shade, Larissa, Scorpionne, EggHeads, The Kronos Condition, and GodHeads. Her short stories were published by ASIMOV'S SF MAGAZINE, the FULL SPECTRUM anthology, and ABORIGINAL SF, whose readers voted her a Boomerang Award for most popular story. As Maggy Thomas she wrote Broken Time, published by ROC in the U.S. and URANIA in Italy. Broken Time was nominated for the Philip K. Dick award. As Lee Hogan she wrote Belarus and Enemies, published by ROC in the U.S. and OPUS in Israel. She is currently writing again as Emily Devenport, working on audio-visual fiction with artist/editor Elinor Mavor mavorarts.com, recording audio books, and published three original novels, THE NIGHT SHIFTERS, SPIRITS OF GLORY, and PALE LADY, as e-books. This fall she and her husband, Ernest Hogan, will be releasing their first collaboration in ebook, a YA title: THE TERRIBLE TWELVES. Check out her blog: emsjoiedeweird.blogspot.com

Chris Dickenson is a singer/songwriter who has been writing and performing media science fiction music since 1992. She was one of the Duras Sisters, a harmonic a-cappella filk trio with Elizabeth Burnham and Debbie Baudoin. She was also in Pangaea with her husband Patrick Connors, Elizabeth Burnham, Jennifer and Forrest Ashley. More recently she has been performing at West coast conventions in the filk group Harmony Heifers with Jeff, Maya and Kristine Bohnhoff, and on occasion, Tony Fabris.

Chris's voice can be heard on Masquerading as Human, Rubenesque, Harmony Heifers, Woad Warrior, and most recently in the chorus of Midichlorian Rhapsody, the epic Star Wars filk of Bohemian Rhapsody on Jeff and Maya Bohnhoffs Greatest Hits album. Writing under the name Marretta Connors, Chris and husband Patrick's first novel in The Comstock Hotel Series, Dead on Arrival, a metaphysical adult urban mystery, will be premiering on December 21, 2012.

Chris lives in Glendale, Arizona with her husband, Patrick, three cats and a greyhound. Her daughter Elizabeth, gamer son-in-law, Frank Eisenhower and fuzzy grandchild, Mockba, have all just relocated to Atlanta after a four year stint in Astana, Kazakhstan, and are for some unknowable reason attending DragonCon in Atlanta this weekend. www.marrettaconnors.com

Brian Duncan has been a sci-fi fan for as long as he can remember. His interests lean toward superheroes, vampires and space. Just ask anyone - they'll tell you his favorite show has been, was & will always be Buffy, The Vampire Slayer. And two years ago, he finally completed his lifelong dream when he met Joss Whedon at Comicon, where he also got a personal phone call from Garith David Lloyd, and Natalie Morales thought he was cute & gave him a hug

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Jenny Duncan works as a pharmacy tech for a local pharmacy, has 3 children, and has been going to cons since she was little. She moved from being Robert Peacock's daughter to a member of the Duncan clan. She enjoys many aspects of sci-fi books, films, art and TV.

Dr Laura Brodian Freas has been for many years a classical music radio program host and a voiceover artist in Los Angeles. She has been the voice of Delta Jazz and Delta Symphony for Delta Airlines. A past President of the Southern California Early Music Society, she earned a doctorate in Music Education at Indiana University. She also took art classes at the University's School of Fine Arts and later at the California Art Institute. Her cover and interior artwork has been published by, among others, TSR, The Easton Press, Analog Magazine of Science Fiction/Fact, Weird Tales, and Marion Zimmer Bradley's Fantasy Magazine. Laura was a co-recipient [with Frank Kelly Freas] of The Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists [ASFA]'s Chesley Award for Best Cover of the Year. Laura has also served as ASFA's Western Regional Director. Currently Laura is a Judge in the L. Ron Hubbard "Illustrators of the Future Contest." One of her passions is costuming. She is a former Director-at-Large of Costumer's Guild West, a WesterCon Masquerade winner, and a WorldCon Masquerade Judge. She also founded the Collinsport Players performing troupe when she was the MC at the first annual Dark Shadows Festival.

Another of her passions is English Regency Dancing, which she also teaches. Laura founded the [San Francisco] Bay Area English Regency Society. A member of the International Association of Astronomical Artists, Laura is the widow of science fiction's favorite illustrator, Frank Kelly Freas, with whom she co-edited the fourth volume of his collected works, FRANK KELLY FREAS: AS HE SEES IT in 2000. In June 2012 Laura married Mr. Steven N. Beraha, a middle school teacher in Northridge, California.

Saul Garnell Raised in New York State, and now living in Arizona, Saul Garnell enjoys writing part time. Having lived in Australia, Japan, India, and Germany, Saul brings an international perspective along with an unusual point of view driven by many years of experience in the banking and software industries. Saul debuts with Freedom Club, a speculative fiction novel in the near future. However, he also delves into other genres by writing some horror, and Military SF pieces.

- **Diane Harris** I began costuming by stabbing pits of fabric with straight pins into a sawdust doll that was given to me by my Great Aunt Tootsie, or "Toot Toot" as I called her. My mother then taught me to sew by hand, which led to some mighty fine Barbie doll clothes. I like all periods of clothing, but have a special love for the Victorian period. I design and build Victorian reproduction clothing and accessories. I also do millinery work, and have costume experience in film, commercial and theater. Sci-Fi convention experience came to me late in life, having been only the past 6 years or so. However, I did get hooked on Star Trek and Star Wars. It is fascinating how I could have lived this long without knowing about this unique group of people. Contact me at calliebell@cox.net

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Ernest Hogan CORTEZ ON JUPITER, is now an ebook -- SMOKING MIRROR BLUES, and HIGH AZTECH will soon be, too. He's had short fiction in ANALOG, AMAZING STORIES, SCIENCE FICTION AGE, SEMIOTEXT(E) SF, TALES OF THE TALISMAN, FLURB, and many other publications. His blog is <http://www.mondoernesto.com>, and his Chicanonautica postings come out every other Thursday at La Bloga. He currently working on a science fiction bullfighting novel, and a fantasy about the pre-Columbian ball game.

Mark Horning is a Physicist hailing from the East Valley. Originally from California, he moved to Arizona in 1996. An avid folk musician, he is known for his space and SF based songs, he is often found in the company of a 6 or 12 string guitar. His first professional CD, Space & Freedom, was officially released at the 62nd annual Westercon, in Tempe AZ. Mark has physics degrees from Cal Poly (BS), San Luis Obispo, and Arizona State (MS). While at ASU, he developed a hybrid lighting system to calibrate the sensors used in the Vatican Advanced Technology Telescope (VATT) located at the Mt. Graham Observatory. Mark works in the aerospace industry developing and testing Night Vision Image Intensifiers. He may often be found at conventions with his wife and three children who are, naturally, also SF fans.

Gini Koch lives in Hell's Orientation Area (aka Phoenix, AZ), works her butt off (sadly, not literally) by day, and writes by night with the rest of the beautiful people. She writes the fast, fresh and funny Alien/Katherine "Kitty" Katt series for DAW Books, The Necropolis Enforcement Files series, and the Martian Alliance Chronicles series for Musa Publishing. As G.J. Koch she writes the Alexander Outland series for Night Shade Books. She also writes under a variety of other pen names (including Anita Ensai, Gemma Chase, A.E. Stanton, and J.C. Koch), listens to rock music 24/7, and is a proud comics geek-girl willing to discuss at any time why Wolverine is the best superhero ever (even if Deadpool does get all the best lines). She speaks frequently on what it takes to become a successful author and other aspects of writing and the publishing business. She can be reached through her website at www.ginikoch.com



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Jack Mangan is an author, podcaster, musician, father, etc., born in New Jersey, but now residing in Arizona. His novel, "Spherical Tomi", was among the first wave of podcast fiction releases, and was the first number one title at Podiobooks.com. His fiction and non-fiction writings have appeared in numerous online, print, and podcast venues, including such prestigious outlets as Michael A. Stackpole's Chain Story, Tales from the Ministry, Interzone Magazine, Podthology: The Pod Complex, Theme and Variations, 2020 Visions, Variant Frequencies, and Tales of the Talisman - - in addition to independently-produced audio productions of his work at Wander Radio, Variant Frequencies, and Beam Me Up. He seeks to shake up perceptions and provoke independent thinking, through music, comedy, writing, and his outspoken, sometimes controversial views. More info about Jack Mangan and his work at: www.jackmangan.com

Jeffrey J. Mariotte is the award-winning author of more than forty-five novels, including The Devil's Bait, the Dark Vengeance teen horror quartet, the border horror trilogy Missing White Girl, River Runs Red, and Cold Black Hearts, The Slab, and others, as well as occasional nonfiction, such as Criminal Minds: Sociopaths, Serial Killers, and other Deviants. Forthcoming novels include Season of the Wolf and Star Trek: The Original Series: The Folded World. He also writes comic books, including the long-running horror/Western comic book series Desperadoes, original graphic novel Zombie Cop, and the bestselling biographical graphic novel Barack Obama: The Comic Book Biography, and works as a freelance editor of comic books and novels. He is a co-owner of specialty bookstore Mysterious Galaxy in San Diego and Redondo Beach, and lives in southeastern Arizona on the Flying M Ranch. www.jeffmariotte.com

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Ari Marmell is a free-lance RPG writer and fantasy novelist. Born in New York State, Ari moved to Houston, Texas when he was an infant. He began playing Dungeons & Dragons when he was nine. A graduate of the University of Houston, he currently lives in Austin, Texas with his wife, George, and two cats. He has written extensively for the role-playing game industry including *White Wolf* and *Wizards of the Coast* and Dungeons & Dragons supplements such as *Cityscape*, *Drow of the Underdark*, and *Tome of Magic*.

Ari's first novel, *Gehenna: The Final Night*, was published in 2004 by *White Wolf Publishing*. *The Conqueror's Shadow*, Ari's first non-role-playing game based novel, was published in 2010 and was followed in 2011 by *The Goblin Corps* which drew interest not only for Marmell's talented writing, but also for the fact that, unlike many fantasy novels, it followed the story from the perspective of the traditional "bad guys": the goblins themselves. In February 2012, Marmell's *Thief's Covenant*, the first in his "Widdershins Adventure" Young Adult series, was released. It will be followed by *False Covenant*, the second "Widdershins Adventure" novel.

Early in 2012 Marmell revealed he would also pen a novel set in the *Darksiders* universe. *Darksiders*, created by comic-book artist, Joe Madureira, is a video game series published by THQ and developed by Vigil Games. Titled *Darksiders: The Abomination Vault*, the novel will be published by Random House Publishing Group. The novel will ship at the same time as the game, in June, 2012.



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For more information or for submissions
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Alice Massoglia

Marty Massoglia is a fan and purveyor of fine science fiction and fantasy books for the last 17 years, Marty can usually be found at the dealer's table but is also well known for teaching regency, country and ballroom dancing at local conventions.
home.pacbell.net/ambooks

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Elaine McKenzie aka "Lightyr" I have been doing craft panels at conventions for over 5 years with my husband, Darkyr. We live in Phoenix, AZ. and enjoy giving the kids something to do and/or providing a keepsake for them to bring home. Check out the schedule, stop by and make some memories with your kid(s).

Tisha McGovern is an Arizona native and grew up in the Cave Creek area. Upon reaching her thirties, Tisha embraced her inner geek, including nurturing a love of comics by Joss Whedon and Neil Gaiman. She is also an active member of the Arizona Browncoats. Tisha shares her love of fantasy and science fiction with her two children, including a deep love for Middle Earth. Her favorite authors include Neil Gaiman, Orson Scott Card, Frank Herbert, George R.R. Martin, Stephen King, Robert Jordan and J.R.R. Tolkien. Her favorite television obsessions are Battlestar Galactica, Lost, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and Firefly. She was part of the planning committee for the Arizona Browncoats charity screening of Serenity in June of 2007 and banker for the 2008 event. Tisha has participated and volunteered at local cons: CopperCon and Phoenix ComicCon. After attending DragonCon in Atlanta, otherwise known as Nerdvana, Tisha decided to get more involved in local conventions and is very excited to be a part of this convention.

Jeff Moriarty

Dr Melissa Morris is the Assistant Director for the Center for Meteorite Studies at Arizona State University. She is a past Goldwater Scholar and was one of the first Exploration Postdoctoral Fellows in the School of Earth & Space Exploration at Arizona State University. Dr. Morris has been a visiting assistant professor in the Physics and Materials Science Department at Missouri State University, as well as a lecturer in the School of Earth & Space Exploration at ASU. Dr. Morris's research focuses on star and planet formation, in particular the use of astrophysical modeling to determine conditions during the birth of planetary systems. Her particular interests include hydrodynamic modeling (including radiative transfer) of protoplanetary disks and disk processes during planet formation, mainly through the application of mineralogical data of planetary materials. The oldest known material in our own planetary system can be found in meteorites and, by combining meteoritic data and the results of astrophysical modeling, Dr. Morris endeavors to further our understanding of the conditions that existed in the early solar nebula and exist in extrasolar disks today.

David M. Nelson is a Planetary Geologist, currently working as a Research Analyst for the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter Camera at Arizona State University. Since 1994, I have been involved in geology-related research, remote sensing, and planetary mapping. I have included in my research data from several Mars missions including Viking Orbiter, Mars Global Surveyor, Pathfinder, and Mars Odyssey. As part of my current Lunar research, I am using high resolution images to locate and map out small structural features (fractures, ridges, and crater) on the Moon. In my limited spare time, I teach at Glendale Community College and I write SF/F as a hobby.

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Janeen O'Kerry Growing up in the military, I've lived in many places -- California, Germany, Washington D.C., Texas, Ohio and now Arizon. And like many writers, I've held a number of different jobs -- everything from computer programmer to horseback riding instructor to medical transcriptionist.

My writing career began in 1984 when I sold the first of over 100 non-fiction articles written for the national and regional horse magazines. My first novel was *LADY OF FIRE*, a time-travel romance published by Dorchester Books in 1996.

Since that first book I went on to write a total of nine Celtic fantasy romances for Dorchester, and these will all be available later this year as E-Books from Samhain Publishing. Right now I'm working on a longer novel; this one featuring ghosts and mystery as well as Celtic mythology and magic - called *SEVEN CASTLES IN IRELAND*. And I am always more than happy to help new writers or present a writers' workshop at any convention.

James A. Owen is a comic book illustrator, publisher and writer. He is known for his creator-owned comic book series *Starchild*, published by Taliesin Press followed by *Starchild Crossroads* published by Coppervale Press and then turned to Image Comics for *Starchild: Mythopolis*. In 2002 he created a fantasy series titled *Mythworld* for a German publishing company. 2003 saw his Coppervale Press relaunched two newsstand style magazines, the fine arts-oriented *International Studio* and the fiction periodical *Argosy*, which cease publication after only a few issues due to distribution . Owen returned to focusing on producing more novels with 2006 seeing the first of *The Chronicles of The Imaginarium Geographica - Here There Be Dragons*. The book is in its sixth printing and has been translated into more than twenty languages. The sixth novel, *The Dragons of Winter*, will be available in August, 2012.

James lives in Northeastern Arizona with his family and works at the Coppervale Studio, a 14,000 square foot, century-old restored church. For more information on our guest please check these web sites: coppervaleinternational.com or www.heretherebedragons.net or coppervale.livejournal.com

Christina Paige

B. Jean Palmer I have been sewing since 1961. My first Science Fiction Convention was in Maryland @1978. Hesitated about going until I was told that going in costume was more fun! That sold me, so my daughters & I made some costumes! I have been attending Con's [in COSTUME] ever since. Attended the first CostumeCon in CA in 1982, and I attended the first thru 10th Costume College in CA & several since. My first AZ Con was WesterColt 45 --I made/wore a pioneer woman outfit. Am now a member of SWCG, the Southwest Costumers Guild, [a for-fun group] which is a branch of the International Costumers Guild ICG. I can usually be found backstage at our local Con Masquerades.

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Kay Pannell has an MSc in Geobiology, and over 26 years experience in environmental remediation. She has been Chief Operations Officer at an environmental consulting firm in San Jose, CA for six and a half years. Her expertise is in remediating hazardous waste at military installations, including unexploded ordnance and radioactive waste containment. She is mostly seen at Baycon, the science fiction/fantasy writers and artists convention in the San Francisco Bay Area where she regales attendees on how to survive the Zombie Apocalypse.

Anna Paradox leads a double life, as all good paradoxes should. She writes and edits: her latest story appeared in *Space Horrors*, edited by David Lee Summers, and she recently edited *A Rubber Band Story and Other Poker Tales* by Tommy Angelo. She is also a life coach, trained by Martha Beck to help people live from their essential selves. Her free newsletter, *Creating Space*, offers essays on thriving in the next economy. Back issues are at creatingspace.annaparadox.com

Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell In addition to being a sporadic member of the SFWA, IAMTW and SFPA, Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell has authored three novels for *Wizards of the Coast*, two of which tie into the popular MMORPG, *Dungeons & Dragons Online* (*Skein of Shadows*, 2012 and *The Shard Axe*, 2011), and one of which ties into the fantasy noir Eberron setting (*Legacy of Wolves*, 2007). She also has a series of Arabian-flavored female-centric sword & sorcery stories out from Musa Publishing, *Tales of Sand and Sorcery*. On the poetry side, she has had multiple Rhysling nominations and currently serves as an editor for the ezine *Mindflights*. She lives in Arizona in the shadow of an improbably green mountain with her Naval officer husband, their three sons, the requisite black lab, and far too many books. A (fairly) current list of her publication credits can be found here: www.marsheilarockwell.com

Mark Rude Phoenix, Arizona native Mark Rude is an author and graphic illustrator who first began self-publishing a medieval fantasy comic book called *Passage* in 2005. After three issues, he decided that writing was far more efficient and enjoyable than drawing, and retold the story in novel form. His first book, *The Gold Cat's Daughter*, was self-published in 2011; the second book, *The Gallant Riders*, is out in the summer of 2012. His foray into urban-fantasy-cultural-satire, entitled *Devon, the Demon Duck from Hell*, will be released in 2013.

- In 2010, Mark collaborated with bestselling author Kim Harrison to do several character illustrations for *The Hollows Insider*, a supplement to her Rachel Morgan series published by HarperCollins.

Mark also writes a blog that follows his creative process and other odd things that spill out of his head (<http://markrudeauthorartist.blogspot.com/>). He enjoys writing strong female characters, smoking a pipe in good weather, and listening to songs he grew up with, that are now referred to as "oldies" www.markrude.net

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Dr. Kimberly Jo Smith received both her BS in Chemistry and her MS in Chemical Education from Texas Tech University. Following a one year visit to St. Petersburg Russia, she attended Purdue University where she received her PhD in Inorganic Chemistry and Chemical Education. Kim taught and researched at the University of Northern Colorado before deciding she wanted to concentrate more on teaching - and that's how she arrived in Arizona at Glendale Community College. Her interests are swimming; reading science fiction; all things Trek; traveling; ballroom, latin, and west coast swing dancing; and her dogs.

James St Andre

Ken St Andre has been coming to local SF cons since they started in Phoenix in fact, he helped organize the first LepreCon here and still remembers the first Westercon in Phoenix when Harlan was GoH. 2008 was a big year for Ken with the publication of his novel GRIFFIN FEATHERS by Outlaw Press. (Yes, you can find it on Amazon.com.) Tunnels and Trolls was also re-issued this year in an expanded edition by Fiery Dragon Publications, Inc. He had a story published in the Troll Tunnels anthology by Peryton Press, and two stories in Troll's Blood and Old Delvers from Outlaw Press. And he really hates bios. www.trollhalla.com

David Lee Summers is the author of seven novels and numerous short stories and poems. His most recent novels are Dragon's Fall: Rise of the Scarlet Order and Owl Dance. His short fiction has appeared in such magazines and anthologies as Cemetery Dance, Realms of Fantasy, and 2020 Visions. He edits the science fiction and fantasy magazine Tales of the Talisman and he edited the anthologies Space Pirates and Space Horrors. David is currently serving as vice president of the Science Fiction Poetry Association. In addition to his work in the written word, David operates telescopes at Kitt Peak National Observatory.

Jordan Summers has twenty-five published books to her credit. She is published in everything from erotic romance to humorous horror. Her latest release, Blood Lite 2 from Pocket (9/2011) is currently available in paperback and ebook. She is a member of Novelist Inc., International Thriller Writers, Horror Writer's Association, Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, and Romance Writers of America. www.jordansummers.com

Dawn Taylor has been a gifted psychic, tarot card reader, spiritual counselor and Wiccan Priestess for nearly thirty years. She teaches Wicca 101 classes, Magical Ethics and does private psychic consultations which include connecting clients with loved ones who have passed on, past life readings, and general spiritual counseling. She has raised 5 daughters and taught countless teen Wicca classes. She has been the spiritual adviser for the Seattle Knights for eight years.

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Evo Terra For over a decade, Evo Terra has made his living as a digital business strategist. In short, he solves problems. Along the way, he's become entangled in the publishing community. First it was co-hosting an author interview show that became a nationally syndicated radio program & podcast. Then it was launching a serialized free audio book distribution service. He was even asked to write a couple of books in the "for Dummies" series on the topic. Now he's focusing on authors, leveraging his knowledge in digital marketing, branding and doing business online to help them ultimately sell more books. The rules have changed. What worked in publishing a few years ago won't work today. Because marketplaces for authors exist that simply didn't a few years ago. Author have to rely less on publishers today, as many of the tools to reach a wider audience are at their grasp. Success comes when authors figure out the right objectives and strategies first before choosing which tools to wield. He frequently writes about what it means to be a digital author today on Google+ and has launched ePublish Unum with Jeff Moriarty to help authors survive and thrive in a digital world.

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Tom Tuerff

Thomas Watson I am a writer (author of The Luck of Han'anga), amateur astronomer, and a long-time fan of science fiction living in Tucson, AZ. From the late 70s to the early 90s I was a Phoenix area resident, and my introduction to science fiction fandom took place there. The experience included involvement with early CopperCons. I have a B.S. in plant biology from the University of Arizona, and have in the past worked as a laboratory technician for that institution. Among other things, I am also a student of history, natural history, and backyard horticulture. But most of all I'm a writer, something that has been true for so long I can no longer clearly remember how it started. As far as I can tell, my desire to write is the cumulative effect of a life-long print addiction. My parents claim that I learned to read before I could tie my own shoelaces. Whether or not that's true, I did learn to read very early in life and have always cast a very wide net. The experience of reading, of feeling what a writer could do to my head and my heart with their words, eventually became a desire to see if I could do the same thing. I'm still trying to answer that question..

Program Participant Bio's, cont.

Lee Whiteside has been keeping track of science fiction and fantasy TV for the last 15 years or so, both in print and online with the SFTV.org website. He's also been involved with Arizona fandom for almost as long, having chaired two CopperCons, three LepreCons, the 2006 Nebula Awards weekend, and the first North American Discworld Convention. In real life, he's a network engineer.

Randall Whitlock has been an active SF/medieval/renaissance costumer since the early 80's, with a certain reputation for visual pun costumes, such as "Dances with Werewolves" and "The Dookus of Hazzard." Randall writes the "Costume Closet" column in Connotations, edits the Southwest Costumers Guild newsletter "Cactus Needles," and drafts the "Randwulf's" line of sewing patterns, seen at his "MoiRandall's" costume booth at renaissance faires across Arizona. Randall has directed the Masquerades at the first North American Discworld Convention and several CopperCons. Mundanely, Randall is a Geologist with an academic background in meteorites, currently digging up dirt on soil and groundwater contamination for real estate investors in Arizona. www.moirandalls.com | www.southwestcostumersguild.org

Dr. David A. Williams is an Associate Research Professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. Dr. Williams is the Director of the Ronald Greeley Center for Planetary Studies, the NASA Regional Planetary Image Facility at ASU. He is also the Director of the NASA Planetary Aeolian Laboratory at the Ames Research Center in California. David is currently performing research in volcanology and planetary geology, with a focus on planetary mapping, geochemical, and remote sensing studies. His research has included computer modeling of seismic wave propagation through planetary interiors, visible and near-infrared spectroscopy of the lunar surface, planetary geologic mapping of the satellites of Jupiter and the planet Mars, computer modeling of the physical and geochemical evolution of lava flows in a variety of planetary environments, and petrologic study of lava samples from Mount St Helens. He was involved with NASA's Magellan Mission to Venus and Galileo Mission to Jupiter. He is a Co-Investigator on the European Space Agency's Mars Express orbiter mission, and he is currently serving as a Participating Scientist on NASA's Dawn Mission to asteroid 4 Vesta. David is the immediate Past Chair of the Planetary Geology Division of the Geological Society of America, has served on several NASA committees including the 2007 Jovian System Observer Science Definition Team, and is currently a steering committee member of the NASA Outer Planets Advisory Group. Dr. Dave is a life-long Star Trek fan, and a four-term past president of the United Federation of Phoenix, Phoenix Arizona's Star Trek and general sci-fi fan club. Motivated to pursue a career in space science from watching the original Star Trek series as a child, he now speaks about NASA space science missions, as well as the Star Trek franchise, to community groups and conventions. He has spoken at the annual Creation Star Trek Convention in Las Vegas, as well as local Creation Star Trek conventions and the annual LepreCon and CopperCon sci-fi conventions, and the last four Phoenix Comic-Cons.

William Wilson

Operations & Policies

Letter From the CopperCon Operations Team,

The CopperCon Operations Team is here to help you enjoy your CopperCon experience. We will act as a buffer between convention members and the hotel staff and the public. Please keep in mind that Arizona does have laws concerning alcohol consumption, use of illegal substances, and public nudity. Please use common sense and think before you do something. If an action will get you into trouble in the real world, it will probably get you into trouble at CopperCon.

General Operations Policies for CopperCon:

- 1) If you are concerned with your safety or the safety of another please contact the Operations Office, a Operations Team member, or any CopperCon Committee or Staff member. We are here to help you and to insure that you have an enjoyable convention experience.
- 2) Please feel free to contact Operations at anytime if you have any questions about the convention or need any assistance.
- 3) Have fun and be courteous of your fellow CopperCon attendees.

Badge Policy:

- 1) Your badge shows that you are a member of convention. Convention attendees are required to have their badge displayed so that it is visible and readable at all times.
- 2) A badge is required to access all convention programming and function space. Badges may not be shared with or loaned to anyone.
- 3) Acceptance of the badge releases the convention from all liability in the event of accident, damage, or theft while on convention premises.
- 4) The badge remains the property of the convention until the close of the convention and must be surrendered on demand.
- 5) CopperCon 31 reserves the right to refuse admission to or to eject any person whose conduct is deemed in the sole discretion of the CASFS Board to be unsafe or disorderly.

Weapons Policy:

- 1) ALL weapon like props MUST BE TAKEN TO THE OPERATIONS OFFICE for review and peace bonding. CopperCon Operations reserves the right to refuse permission to carry any prop.
- 2) All owners of weapon like props will read and sign a copy of the CopperCon Weapons Policy, which will be then kept on file in the Operations Office for the duration of the convention
- 3) Absolutely NO Horseplay with weapon like props will be tolerated.
- 4) No firearms are allowed at the convention at anytime for any reason. Any violation of this policy will result in revocation of membership and removal from the convention and convention venue.
- 5) Bladed weapons such as swords and knives are permitted provided they are kept in a hard sheath and peace bonded.
- 6) All weapon type props will be carried or worn in such a manner so that other individuals in the convention venue are not at risk to be struck by the prop.

Operations & Policies, cont.

7) Unsheathed or non-peace bonded bladed weapons are not permitted at any time. Any person carrying a blade in an unsafe manner or any non-peace bonded or unsheathed blade will be asked to store the item in their room or vehicle for the remainder of the convention. Further offenses may result in the item being confiscated until the end of the convention, and the attendee could face further action by CopperCon Operations.

Room Party Policy

1) Private individuals and groups are welcome to hold parties near, around, and/or during CASFS events. (Most often, these are parties held in privately rented hotel rooms at and during CASFS conventions.) CASFS has no control over these parties and thus is not responsible for any activity at them.

2) Those holding parties at CASFS events are reminded of Arizona's laws concerning alcohol and illegal substances.

3) Parties must be registered with the convention office no later than 2pm on the day they are held. Your room must be located within the "Party Area" in order to be registered. If you plan to hold a party please inform the hotel that you need to be in the "Party Area" when making your reservations. For CopperCon 31 it is strongly recommended that you request a room on the first or second floor. Contacting our hotel liaison as well is strongly suggested.

4) Parties held at CASFS events that allow non-event members to participate may not be registered or placed within our "Party Zone". If a party, whether within our "Party Zone" or not, allows non-event members to participate they understand that by doing so they forfeit the right to discounted convention hotel rates nor will the convention act as a buffer between the party and hotel security.

Violations:

Any convention attendee violating any weapons or security policies and procedures will be referred to operations for appropriate action, which may include, but is not limited to the following:

- * Verbal cautioning.
- * Badge punching to track verbal warnings; 3 punches = revocation of membership.
- * Confiscation / removal of weapons or props.
- * Removal from programming / event.
- * Revocation of membership and removal from the convention and convention venue.
- * Local law enforcement authorities may also be notified at our discretion.

PAST COPPERCONS

Name/Dates	Location/Guests	Chair
CopperCon Sept 11- 3, 81	Howard Johnson's Caravan Inn, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Fan GoH - Ken St. Andre	Terry Gish
CopperCon 2 Sept 10-12, 82	Howard Johnson's Caravan Inn, Phoenix, AZ Pro GoH - Fred Saberhagen, Fan GoH - Barry Bard, TM: Marion Zimmer Bradley	M. R. Hildebrand
CopperCon 3 Sept 9-11, 83	Phoenix Hilton, Phoenix, AZ Pro GoH - Theodore Sturgeon, Fan GoH - Alice "Williams" Massoglia, TM: G. Harry Stine	Clif Baird
CopperCon 4 Sept 7-9, 84	Sunburst Hotel, Scottsdale, AZ Pro GoH - Somtow Sucharitkul, Fan GoH - Samuel Konkin III	Bruce Farr
CopperCon 5 Sept 6-8, 85	Safari Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Pro GoH - Nancy Springer, Fan GoH - Keith Williams	Margaret Grady
CopperCon 6 Sept 4-7, 86	Safari Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Pro GoH - James P. Hogan, Fan GoH - Sean McCoy	Margaret Grady
CopperCon 7 Sept 18-21, 87	Ambassador Inn, Phoenix, AZ GoH - Opus (The Penguin)	Margaret Grady
CopperCon 8 Sept 9-11, 88	Phoenix Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, AZ Pro GoH: Robert Vardeman, Fan GoH: Pat Mueller	Sam Stubbs
CopperCon 9 Sept 10-12, 89	Safari Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH: AE Van Vogt, Fan GoHs: Jim & Doreen Webbert	Doug Cosper
CopperCon 10 Sept 7-9, 90	Safari Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH: Keith Laumer, Fan GoH: Wilson "Bob" Tucker, Special Guest: David Gerrold.	Matt Frederick
CopperCon 11 Sept 6-8, 91	Safari Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH: Michael McCollum, Artist GoH: Armand Cabrera, Fan GoHs: Bruce & Kim Farr	Doug Cosper
CopperCon 12 Sept 11-13, 92	Camelview Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH - Roger Zelazny, Author GoH - Alan Dean Foster	Matt Frederick
CopperCon 13 Sept 10-12, 93	Holiday Inn Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH - Robert Sheckley, Artist GoH - Wayne Barlowe	Larry Hallock
CopperCon 14 Sept 9-11, 94	Francisco Grande Hotel, Casa Grande, AZ Author GoH - Verne Vinge, Fan GoH - David Hungerford	Matt Frederick
CopperCon 15 Sept 8-10, 95	Phoenix Airport Days Inn, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH - Spider Robinson, Artist GoH - Jeanne Robinson, Fan GoH - M.R. Hildebrande	Steve Burroughs
CopperCon 16 Sept 6-8, 96	Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH - Lois McMaster Bujold, Artist GoH - Alan Gutierrez, Special Guest - Andrew Robinson, Filk Guests - Karen Willson & Chris Weber	Lee Whiteside
CopperCon 17 Sept 5-7, 97	Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoHs - Kevin J. Anderson & Rebecca Moesta, Local Author GoH: Ernest Hogan, Filk: Doctor Jane Robinson & Cynthia McQuillan	Doug Cosper
CopperCon 18 Sept 4-7, 98	Embassy Suites, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH - Stephen R. Donaldson, Artist GoH - Mitchell Davidson Bentley, Filk Guest - Jeff Hitchin	Jim Cryer

PAST COPPERCONS

Name/Dates	Location/Guests	Chair
CopperCon 19 Sept 10-12, 99	Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH - David Weber, Artist GoH - Brett Bass, (Robert Osman) Filk GoH: Mitchell Burnside-Clapp	Craig Dyer
CopperCon 2000 Sept 8-10, 00	Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH - Poul Anderson, Artist GoH - Vincent Di Fate, Music GoH - Cecilia Eng Local Author - Jennifer Roberson, Local Author - Adam Niswander	Mark Boniece
CopperCon 21 Sept 7-9, 01	Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Scottsdale, AZ Author GoH - Julian May, Local Author GoH Diana Gabaldon, Artist GoH Mark Roland, Music GoH Heather Alexander	Stephanie Bannon
CopperCon 22 Sept 7-9, 02	Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH Barbara Hambly, SPFX Artist GoH - Mojo	Jim Cryer
CopperCon 23 Sept 5-7, 03	Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH: Connie Willis, Artist GoH: David Mattingly, Music Guest of Honor: Larry Warner	Lee Whiteside
CopperCon 24 Sept 10-12, 04	Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix, AZ Author GoH: Alan Dean Foster, Artist GoH: Todd Lockwood, Music Guest of Honor: Leslie Fish	Bob LaPierre
CopperCon 25 Sept 9-11, 05	Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix AZ Author GoH: Greg Keyes, Author GoH: Robert Sawyer, Artist GoH: Mark Greenawalt, Music GoH: Escape Key	Walter Sanville
CopperCon 26 Sept 1-4, 06	Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe AZ Author GoH: Diane Duane, Author GoH: Peter Morwood, Author GoH: Marc Zicree, Artist GoH: Sarah Clemens Music GoH: Seanan McGuire	Mark Boniece
CopperCon 27 Sept 7-9, 07	Embassy Suites Phoenix North, Phoenix AZ Author GoH: Charlaire Harris Local Author GoH: Mike Stackpole, Artist GoH: Sean Martin, Music Guest of Honor: Heather Stern & Alison Stern	Bob LaPierre
CopperCon 28 Aug 29-31, 08	Embassy Suites Paradise Valley, Phoenix AZ Author GoH: MaryJanice Davidson Media GoH: Greg Weisman, Special GoH: Anthony Longi, Artist GoH: David Hedgecock, Music GoH: Steven Brust	Gary Swaty
CopperCon 29 May 8-10, 09	Grace Inn, Phoenix AZ Cancelled	Mark Boniece
CopperCon 30 Sept 3-6, 10	Windemere Hotel, Mesa, AZ Author GoH: Stephen R Donaldson, Author Guest: Yvonne Navarro Author Guest: Weston Ochse, Author Guest: David Lee Summers Music Guest: Mark Horning	Mark Boniece
CopperCon 31 Sept 2-5, 11	Hilton Garden Inn, Avondale, AZ Author GoH: Carrie Vaughn, Local Guest Author: Janni Lee Simner Fan Guest of Honor: M.R. "Hilde" Hildebrand	Nyki Robertson



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