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Saturday
Evening

August 20, 2011

The

High Space Drifter

The Official Newsletter
of Renovation

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PROGRAMMING CHANGES

New item 2:00 PM Sunday

- **A15** Absent Antipodeans 2 Readings: Bob Kuhn will be reading excerpts from the works of Alan Baxter, Kim Falconer, Helen Lowe, Nicole Murphy, and Gillian Pollock.

Cancelled Noon - Robot Apocalypse

SATURDAY NIGHT PARTIES

1525, After the Hugos, - Two Moons Inn, Fillory Party

1533/ 1535, 8:00 PM - Brotherhood Without Banners

1538, 9:00 PM - Liaden Universe Open House

1624, 9:00 PM - LoneStarCon 3 Thank You Party

1652, 8:00 PM - Klingon: Black Hole Sorrento 2-4, After the Hugos - Match Game

SFWA AUTOGRAPH SCHEDULE SUNDAY

11:00 AM-Noon Ellen Datlow

GEEKS IN LOVE

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Martin Easterbrook who tied the knot Tuesday here in Reno

MORE VOLUNTEER RAFFLE WINNERS!

Three cheers for **David Hook** (Badge #998), winner of a full attending membership to Chicon 7, and **Janice Klein** (Badge #3413), who won a full attending membership to LoneStarCon 3. Please see Sharon at the Volunteer Desk for more details.

Comedy! Danger! Romance! And Rocket Statues!

Will Jay Lake be able to juggle 5 Hugo Awards? Can Ken Scholes dance on the point of a Hugo rocket? Can the entire membership of Renovation fit into the Tuscany Ballroom to celebrate the achievements of our most talented writers, artists, editors, and fans? Come and find out at the Hugo Awards Ceremony, Saturday night at **8:00 PM** in the Peppermill Hotel's Tuscany Ballroom! The doors open at **7:30 PM**.

Live video streaming of the event is scheduled to be available on the UStream Worldcon Events channel (www.ustream.tv/channel/worldcon1), courtesy of Renovation's Events Team. Text-based live-blogging coverage of the Hugo Award Ceremony on CoverItLive will be hosted by **TheHugoAwards.org**.

Radio Free Albemuth - Previewing Tonight

Renovation is delighted to be showing the feature film "Radio Free Albemuth" as part of the Renovation Film Festival. The film is based on the novel by Philip K. Dick's novel - one in which Dick himself appears as a character. PKD gave the novel to his friend (and Renovation Guest of Honor) Tim Powers, who in turn gave it to the family after PKD's death. The novel was published posthumously.

"Radio Free Albemuth" will be showing at **11:00 PM** tonight in the Tuscany Ballroom (after the Hugo Award Ceremony). We are especially pleased that writer and director John Alan Simon will be on hand to introduce the film and to conduct a Q&A session immediately afterwards.

John Alan Simon will also be leading a program item on Sunday morning, at **10:00 AM** in room **A03**, titled "'I Liked the Book Better' - The Pleasures and Perils of Adapting Philip K. Dick's Works for the Big Screen". He will be joined by Renovation Guest of Honor Tim Powers. John and Tim will be talking about the process of writing an adaptation vs. original screenplay, the author-screenwriter relationship and strategies to employ for successfully translating a novel or short story to the screen.



(C) Richard Man, <http://www.5pmlight.com>

George R. R. Martin on the Iron Throne Art Show Award Winners

- Chair's choice:** Kiss my Hand, Boris Vallejo
Best Digital: Jet Pack Girls, Brian Giberson
Best B&W: Ned Stark, John Picacio
Best Brushed Metal: Undiscovered Worlds, Jeff Sturgeon
Best 3D: Bacchanalian Swing, Lance Glasser
Best Oil Painting: Dragon's Ring, Bob Eggleton

The art show staff would like to thank the judges: Patty Wells, Larry Niven, and Tony Lewis, for their work in judging this fantastic show. The job was difficult.

Bid early, Bid Often!

The Renovation Art Auction kicks off at **Noon** Sunday at the stage in **Hall 2**. Any piece that received five bids during the convention will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. You must be present to bid. Remember, UPS is happy to ship your artwork home from the convention, so you're not limited by the space in your luggage.

Get Ready to Match the Stars!

You can win prizes valued at over \$100 playing *Match Game SF*, an SF/F-themed version of the 1970s game show *Match Game*, tonight at **10:00 PM** in **Sorrento 2-4** in the Peppermill (time approximate, starts after Hugo Awards ceremony). Contestants will be randomly drawn from the audience to match wits with our panel, as they try to guess how the panelists completed fill-in-the-blank questions such as "Captain Kirk has the biggest __ in Starfleet!" No trivia knowledge is required, just a good sense of humor. Prizes include book packages from Night Shade Books, gift certificates from Cargo Cult and Springtime Creations in the Dealers Room, and memberships to Leprecon and Foolscap, and every contestant will receive a Lovely Parting Gift.

Trivia for Chocolate

The annual Trivia For Chocolate match, where quizmasters ask rapid fire questions and throw a piece of chocolate to the first person to answer correctly, took place Friday evening. Winner was Tom Whitmore with 92 uneaten chocolates, followed by Marty Massoglia with 81, and Tom Galloway with 54 in third.

Who's Who of the Whos

-Geoffrey A. Landis

The panel "Who was the most influential Doctor?" examined all the candidates, trying to answer the difficult question of the most influential Doctor Who. After an hour of spirited debate among panel and audience, moderator Mary Turzillo called for the vote. The result was: Patrick Troughton, with Tom Baker, David Tennant, and Christopher Eccleston coming in as runners up. (Note that the question was which Who was most influential, not who was best-- that discussion would have generated fistfights for sure.)

Get Your Art Booklet

The Artist Showcase booklet, specially prepared for Renovation, is available at the Art Show Control Desk for \$5.

Collective Brilliance

Lucky Renovation members who attended either of the two showings of Other Hand Productions' brilliant *Whatnot* were treated to an experience that cannot be duplicated - mostly because *Whatnot* is different every time it is performed!

The audience is drawn in from the very beginning, as a reel-to-reel tape player sits alone on the stage, topped by a simple sign that says "At this time, press PLAY". Once the tape is started, the premise of the show unfolds - random items placed around the perimeter of the room are to be chosen by audience members, one at a time, and each item will kick off a different vignette. The vignettes are short pieces of stories and commentary on the world, put through the lens of the imagination of the puppeteers.

Whatnot was created as a collaborative experience between the company's members, in which they wrote down ideas on 3x5 cards, and then improvised based on those ideas. At the 7:00 PM show, we saw random items from plastic foliage to lawn ornaments used as puppets to tell stories that spoke of the human condition, love, devotion, and the existential search for meaning in one's life. Each piece was at different times humorous, touching, heartfelt, and thought-provoking. Who would expect to learn a lesson in acceptance from a child's broken xylophone? As a nod to the fandoms that brought us all together this week, the show closed with a rousing rockstar performance from Papa Fuzzy and Neil the Pencil-Necked Weasel singing a duet of "Fuzzy Man".

Meet the Puppeteers

Mary Robinette Kowal, Jodi Eichelberger and Lance Cooper are puppeteers of great skill, insight and humor. When crafty audience members do not choose one of the pre-arranged items, they simply improvise, and create an entirely original and one-of-a-kind moment centered on the object. We spoke with all three performers during a break between the two shows, and they shared a moment from the 4:00 PM show in which someone left them a boot. Mary (who has been known to whip off her shoe and use it as a demonstration puppet often) untied the laces and used them as wings to create a fantastic flying creature. Jodi and Lance brought out gnome puppets from another vignette, who marveled after the flying thing, which then stomped the gnomes to their doom.

Since we have possibly outed Mary's predilection towards shoes, here are some other interesting facts about her partners in crime - Jodi is a classically trained baritone, and they are trying to find a way in which to work up a scene where he breaks out into full operatic song. Lance has very large hands, and therefore has a tendency to create amazing, intricate puppets that cannot be manipulated by other puppeteers because they cannot reach all the control points!

Truthfully, fandom was responsible for *Whatnot* being available at Renovation: this is the first time Other Hand Productions has used crowd-sourcing to raise funds for a showing. Dozens of supporters utilized Kickstarter to help create the necessary funding to bring the show here to WorldCon. It was definitely a highlight of the week's events for this first-time WorldCon attendee!



The Drifter Staff



Art by Howard Tayler

Overheard in the Jackal Lair

“I can't fold time and space, but I can fold a newsletter.”

Quick Draw McGraw:

Meredith Branstad

Black Hat:

Stephen Libbey

Fast Hands McCoy:

Matt Branstad

Bloody Meri:

Meri Meraz

Momma Malone:

Kimmi Allbee

Woody:

Stephen Nelson

Chuckwagon Charlie:

Charlie Holmberg

Honky Tonk Sue:

Karen Anderson

The Hangman:

Tom Galloway

Wile E Coyote:

Gary Blog

Text McGraw:

Michael Nelson

Rifleman:

Brian Branstad

Lone Ranger:

Jan van't Ent

Rockin Ranger

Craig Glassner

Yellow Rose Madam:

Karen Meschke

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Deals to be Had

Tomorrow is your last chance to find the perfect memento of your trip to Reno. Many fine vendors from the Dealers Room are listed in the program book. Here are a few more to look for that were not listed there:

Massoglia Books

CCB&E Clothiers

Damsel in the Dress Corsets

FIDIM Interactive

Sea Fire Productions

Devo Spice

Research Monkeys Wanted

A Communication Studies professor and fan is doing research on Worldcon. This will be the third survey of Worldcon attendees and is part of a larger ongoing project on the history, structure and organization of Worldcon. When the con is over, please fill in a short online survey (10-15 minutes). It asks for some demographic info and about your experiences at this con as well as some questions about any previous volunteering or con organizing you have done. If you filled in the survey in a previous year, please also fill out this one. You will be prompted to skip some questions but your info about this year's con is much appreciated. The survey is at www.surveymonkey.com/s/renovation. If you want further info, contact June Madeley at jmadeley@unbsj.ca.

Tips on Tipping

The Atlantis and Peppermill staff is doing a wonderful job of providing services for Renovation and its members. Don't be shy about expressing your thanks through tipping.

You can tip housekeeping \$1 per night per bed used in your room, and the valet service at \$1 per bag carried. For restaurants and waitstaff, 15 to 20 percent of the bill is standard.

There is no obligation to tip in the casinos, but if you do luck out and win big, it's a nice gesture to tip the dealer a low-value chip or two. If you win at the slot machines, it never hurts to tip the employee who hand-delivers your winnings.

“*Gratuitous trilobite reference.*”

Wing-Making Thank You

Cyd would like to thank all of the wonderful parents and volunteers who made the wing-making such a tremendous success. We couldn't have done it without you.

Carry-on Problems?

For those whose eyes were bigger than their luggage, UPS will have a presence on-site both Saturday and Sunday. Their booth is located in the registration foyer at the convention center next to room **A01**, and will be open from **11:00 AM to 2:00 PM Sunday**.