

# GOAT DROPPINGS

Volume XXXI, Issue 1

Capricious says: "Pick it up...or you might step in it!"



Thursday, February 10, 2011

## Welcome to Capricon 31: Escape!

Hi there! Welcome to anyone new to Capricon, and Welcome Back to our old friends! We're delighted that you're here to "Escape!" with us for the weekend.

*Goat Droppings* is the official Convention newsletter, and will be published every morning. It will be full of things to do, program changes, interviews with our Guests of Honor, and of course, Out-of-CONtext quotes! If you have anything to be printed, please drop your submissions at Operations in the Oak Room.

We're very excited to welcome our awesome Guests of Honor—John Scalzi, John Picacio, Janice Gelb, and Stephen Boucher! We think you're going to really enjoy getting to know them this weekend! Unfortunately, our friend and Special Guest, Bryan Palaszewski from NASA, will be unable to attend this weekend due to an unexpected work conflict.

We have some amazing things for you to do this weekend—special events, programming, a

great art show and dealers room, a super consuite in the old Osteria restaurant (this year only, kids, don't get too attached to it!), and of course, Parties!!! Check *Goat Droppings* every day for the most up-to-date listings, and don't forget to vote for your favorite parties!

Saturday Night at 7pm in River C we are proud to present a LIVE performance of *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog!* Trust us, you do not want to miss this! Plus, it benefits our charity, the SFWA Medical Fund!

As always, we want you to really enjoy yourself. If you have any questions or problems, please check with the Info Desk or Operations and let them assist you.

Volunteers are always needed—remember, you can earn your registration back if you help! Check at the Gophers desk for details.

Have a GREAT weekend! Happy to be here with you for the ride!

## May We Suggest - Thursday

Oh, so much to do!

We have programming! On Thursday! There are panels, and gaming, and anime! Our Art Show and Dealers Room will also be open.

The Big Events for Thursday are the Midwinter Faire, starting at 5:30pm in Lake Michigan. There will be games, crafts, massage therapists, and pizza! Come hang out, have some 'za, and

start planning your weekend Escape with your friends!

From there, head on over to Opening Ceremonies at 8pm in River C. Meet our Guests of Honor, find out what's in store for the weekend. Trust us, you really, really want to go. Remember the birthday cake? Wait 'til you see what we have in store this year!

## Programming Changes

Remember: The Pocket Program trumps the Program Book, and *Goat Droppings* trumps the Pocket Program!

"Should You Stay or Should You Go?" (Thurs 4pm) has been moved from Botanic A to Ravinia B.

Due to a work conflict, our Special Guest, **Bryan Palaszewski**, will be unable to attend Capricon this year.

## Oopies!

There were two major errors in the Program Book.

**Rob Han** is actually the "Fifth" for Parties.

**Marinda Darnell** did a tremendous amount of work coordinating the *Settlers of Catan* NACC Qualifier here this weekend, and we forgot to thank her! Thanks, Marinda!

## Interview with the Goat: Stephen Baucher, Fan Goat

### **How did you first find fandom? (Or did it find you?)**

I come from way, way (way, way) out in the country and only got to Melbourne every few years, those trips usually involved a buying orgy at Space Age Books. This particular year they put a PR for the Natcon in Melbourne so later that year 16 year old me took an hour drive and a four hour train trip to attend. I never looked back.

### **What is your funniest (yet fit to print) convention memory?**

Room party at Con Jose, 1 am, no adult supervision. Anything else gives away too much of the panel.

### **What are you most proud of in terms of work you've done for a convention?**

Not killing anyone at Aussiecon II? Running facilities at Aussiecon III, I think our members had one of the best convention centre and hotel experiences of any recent Worldcon. We didn't quite have the "everything under the one roof" thing that Chicago has, but it was still pretty good.

### **What is your number one comfort food?**

Fish & chips, closely followed by lamb vindaloo.

### **If you were to move to the US, where would you live?**

I've been to all but 3 states in the US (and by "been to", I mean spent a night or had a meal - and airports don't count), but I don't drive so that pretty much limits me to the northeast like Boston or New York, Chicago might work for the L.

### **What SF / F book(s) have you read so many times that the binding fell apart?**

Books fall apart? You don't treat them very well! That said, I've got a very sad copy of *Lord of the Rings* down at the farm

### **What SF / F film would you like to see rebooted?**

I love the Susan Cooper *Dark is Rising* books, and I really want something to wipe the memory of that %\$!\* film from my memory!

### **What's one item on your "bucket list"?**

I'm not sure I really have a bucket list, I'm Mr. Instant-Gratification - makes me very hard to shop for :-)

### **Top three things you're taking with you when we have to leave the planet?**

The ingredients for beer, the ingredients for Coke, my book collection (that's just one thing right?)

## Parties!

As always, we will be asking you, the attendees, to cast your votes for the awesomest parties and drinks at Capricon! This year's categories are:

### **Best Thursday Night Party**

### **Best Drink with "Escape" in the name**

### **Best Party**

### **Staff's Choice**

Ballots and ballot boxes can be found on both 16th floors.

Please remember, no open alcohol off the party floors!

### **Thursday Night Parties**

1501: Chicon 7: The 2012 Worldcon

1514: Farscape / Chicago Scapers

1634: Cow Asylum



## Charity Events

We once again are offering our attendees several ways to Do Some Good this weekend!

We are having a Food Drive, benefiting the Vernon Township Food Pantry. Please drop off your donations at the Greening Table by Registration.

Our Book Drive this year benefits The Science Fiction Outreach Project, which is giving away free books at comics conventions in an effort to reach SF / F fans and introduce them to Worldcon and other local Fandoms. Drop off your books at the Greening table by Registration.

Our Art Auction on Saturday evening will benefit the Science Fiction Writers of America Medical Fund.

We will also be collecting donations for the SFWA Medical Fund following the performance of *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog* on Saturday evening.

## Out of CON-text

"No testing in production." - Erik V. Olson

"Don't get drunk and pass out in the dorm lounge. That's my best advice to college students." - Helen Montgomery

"Sanity is back ordered." - Mike "Ciggy" Cyganiewicz

"10% is still pink." - Helen Montgomery

"You had me at missile bra." - Paul Schreiber

*Goat Droppings* is edited by Helen Montgomery. This issue's contributors were Helen Montgomery and the Capricon Concom.