



Goat Droppings

The Official E-Newsletter of Phandemonium / Capricon

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February 9-12, 2012

Pre-registration: \$50
Through Dec. 31, 2011

January 1—31, 2012
\$55 for the full weekend

Online Registration is
available!

Visit us today at
www.capricon.org

**Capricon 32
will be held at:**

**Westin Chicago
North Shore
601 N Milwaukee
Ave, Wheeling, IL
60090
847-777-6570**

**[www.westin.com/
chicagonorthshore](http://www.westin.com/chicagonorthshore)**

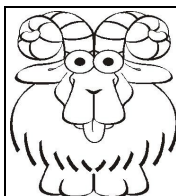
Capricon 32: Amazing Adventures!

Hi there! This year's convention will prove to be quite an adventure! We have some amazing Guests of Honor this year, with Author GoH **Cory Doctorow**, Artist GoH **Les McClaine**, Fan GoH **Steven H Silver**, and Special Guest **Javier Grillo-Marxuach**.

What should you know right now? So glad you asked. Here are the highlights:

- First, bookmark www.capricon.org to keep updated on all our activities. Find us on Twitter @ CapriciousGoat and Facebook @ Capricious G Oat.
- **Pre-registration deadline has been extended! The current rate of \$50 ends December 31, 2011.** Register online right now! Stop reading! Go! Go now! If you wait until January it will be \$55!
- The Hotel room block is open! Get our convention rate of \$103 / night until **January 19, 2012**. Reserve your room online today by going to www.capricon.org—you must book through the Capricon website or call the hotel directly to get the convention rate.
- We will once again be having a **food drive** (drop off items at the Greening table by registration) and a **book drive** at Capricon. More information about the book drive on Page 2.
- Capricon 32 is again hosting a **World Wide Catan Championship Pre-Qualifier** on Friday and Saturday. Win a trip to GenCon! Details on Page 2.
- Want to throw a **party**? Fantastic, because we want you to throw one! It's great when a plan comes together, isn't it? Suites are \$149 / night, and we have a few left. Email parties@capricon.org to reserve your party space now!
- Information on exhibiting in our **Art Show** is up on the website, or email artshow@capricon.org
- Our **Dealers Room** is filling up quickly! Email dealers@capricon.org to reserve your space.
- Our Exhibits area has been growing each year! If you have anything to loan us that you feel represents Capricon's history, please email exhibits@capricon.org.
- Our main **programming** survey is up! Go to the Programming page of www.capricon.org to submit an idea for a panel or to volunteer to be on program panels. You can also email us at programming@capricon.org
- We are working on having a full track of young adult programming this year. Please feel free to submit ideas or volunteer to be on these program items – follow the steps above.
- Volunteers are always needed to help out at the convention. If you are interested in volunteering, and possibly earning your registration fee back, email volunteers@capricon.org to sign up!
- The **Midwinter Faire** returns on Thursday evening for games, crafts, and general carousing, plus pizza! Interested in helping out? Email us at faire@capricon.org
- **Fan Tables** are still available. These tables are free to groups who would like to promote themselves to the Capricon membership. Email fantables@capricon.org for more information.

Want to know more? Have questions? Email us at info@capricon.org — see you in February!



Capricious says...

"It's been a really hectic year for me since last year's Capricon. Having successfully Escaped, I've been getting myself in shape and preparing to be your guide for this year's Amazing Adventures! I'm really sorry that I haven't been able to put out as many issues of *Goat Droppings* as usual, but I'm looking forward to our Adventures together in February!"

WWCC Catan Qualifier

Capricon 32 will be hosting a World Wide Catan Championship (WWCC) Pre-Qualifier on Friday and Saturday from 4pm-9pm.

Players will compete on Friday or Saturday by playing three (3) games of *Settlers of Catan*. The players are then ranked and the top 16 players will play one semi-final game, with the top four playing a final round to determine the winner on Sunday.

The winner will be sponsored by Capricon and Mayfair Games to compete at GenCon Indy 2012 for a seat in the WWCC.

The prize for the winner includes travel, room (based on double occupancy), badge, and a seat in the GenCon competition at GenCon 2012 in Indianapolis. The winner of the GenCon competition will represent the United States in the World Wide *Catan* Championship in 2012 for the World title.

Players must be 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen, and should expect to play the entire tournament. Cost for the event is the purchase of a badge for admittance to Capricon 32. Please see the Capricon website for more information on exact format.

Capricon Book Drive

The Science Fiction Outreach Project

Last year, a team of science fiction fans went to WonderCon, a celebration of comics and fantasy media held annually in San Francisco. This team of fans, affiliated with the World Science Fiction Convention, spent three days giving away 6,000 **FREE BOOKS!**

The plan to reach out to the science fiction and fantasy readers who pass through the exhibit hall continues this year, moving to the Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo (C2E2) right here in Chicago! C2E2 will be held at McCormick Place April 13-15, 2012. Along with a free book, these readers will be given information about the amazing things going on in the "fannish" community, including Worldcons and regional conventions.

Many fans have often contemplated a trimming of their book collections. Don't just recycle your books — donate them to this project so they can be the lure for new fans! **Books can be dropped off at the Greening table, next to convention registration.**

For more information on the Science Fiction Outreach Project, visit their website at <http://tinyurl.com/SFOutreach2011> or "like" them on Facebook (Science Fiction Outreach Project USA).

Energy Outpost

The Capricon Café returns! Energize yourself for your Adventure!

Our café offers a selection of flavored coffees, espresso, mocha, tea, hot chocolate, and baked goods to help you on your way. While fueling up, let your mind escape and enjoy our live concerts and readings by authors.

The café will be featuring an Open Mic on Thursday from 5:15 - 6:45pm. 10-minute slots will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, with the sign-up sheet located at the control table (to the right of our stage). Music (accompanied or a cappella), spoken pieces, comedy, etc. are all welcome.

It's Easy Being Green!

In addition to being an amazing adventure, Capricon is also a lean, green Sci-Fi Machine! Help us with our Greening efforts by participating in 3 or more of the Greening action steps listed below, and you will earn an "It's Easy Being Green" ribbon!

- If you're traveling by car, try to carpool.
- Look into public transportation to get to the convention. Check out www.transitchicago.com for more information.
- Instead of using multiple disposable cups throughout the weekend, bring your own re-useable water bottle or coffee mug.
- Bring your own bag for use in the Dealers Room.
- Commit to eating vegetarian or vegan during the convention.
- Donate an item (or more!) to our **food drive** or **book drive**.
- Purchase a carbon offset.

We will have a display next to Registration with information on ways to offset your carbon footprint, plus details on the convention and average attendee footprint so you can see how the numbers were derived, as well as information about the project that we will be funding with our carbon offset dollars.

If you would like to get involved, please contact us by e-mailing greening@capricon.org.

We're online — are you with us?

www.capricon.org
Facebook: Capricious G Oat
Twitter: CapriciousGoat

Evening Adventuring

Amazing Adventures continue well into the night at Capricon! We are really proud of having great evening hospitality events year after year. Our party hosts throw some of the best parties we've seen around the country, and we know that this year will be no different.

If you are interested in throwing a party, hooray! Send an email to parties@capricon.org for more information and get ready to guide the members of Capricon on their Evening Adventures!

Prizes!

We will once again be giving out prizes to our fabulous parties! This year there will be four awards:

- Best Overall Party – self explanatory, yes? Winner gets a comped suite for one night at Capricon 33 for throwing a party.
- Best Thursday Night Party – Capricon is a four-day convention! We love to start the party on Thursday!
- Concom's Choice Award – The Party Facilitatrix will poll the concom on Sunday morning to see which party wins this award.
- Best Themed Drink – How will you incorporate "Amazing Adventures" into a drink? Ingredients? Name? Presentation? All will be considered for this award.

The Ides of Phandemonium



Join us for **The Ides of Phandemonium—Et tu, Capricious?** On the 15th of each month (or darn close to it), we'll be hanging out at various restaurants / pubs around the Chicago area.

Our next Ides event will be **Sunday, January 15** at 7pm at the Fox and Hound, 918 W. Dundee Road, Arlington Heights.

On **Wednesday, February 15**, it's time for one last Adventure as the Dead Dog Party becomes the Zombie Goat Party! Join us at Ram Restaurant and Brewery across from the Westin, at 700 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling.

Head down and join us down south on **Thursday, March 15** at 7:00pm—Brixie's, 9526 Ogden Avenue, Brookfield

Food, fun and frivolity—Capricious awaits you!

Phandemonium Book Club



Welcome to the Phandemonium Book Club! We've been having a great time for many years, and hope you'll join us!

We meet bimonthly at **Barnes & Noble**, 1630 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201 (Phone: 847-733-8852). We meet upstairs. Look for the Capricon t-shirts!

On January 8 at 6:30pm, join us for a discussion of Robert Silverberg's *A Time of Changes*.

We will be holding our February meeting at Capricon, time TBA. We are reading *Little Brother*, by our Guest of Honor, Cory Doctorow.

In March, we'll be back at B&N—we'll be choosing the date and what we will read at our January 8 meetup.

For up-to-date information, follow our blog <http://capricon.org/blog/> or "like" us on Facebook (Capricious G Oat). You can also email bookclub@phandemonium.org. See you soon!

Phandemonium Euchre Club

The Euchre Club meets on a bimonthly basis, Sundays at 5:30pm.

For up-to-date information, follow our blog <http://capricon.org/blog/> or "like" us on Facebook (Capricious G Oat). You can also email euchre@phandemonium.org if you have questions.



Next up — Join us at Capricon for our Euchre tournaments on Friday and Saturday evenings (times / location TBA).

Our next meet up will be in April 2012 at **The Grafton**, 4530 N. Lincoln, Chicago. They have Bailey's milkshakes. Shuffle up and deal!

Volunteer at Capricon

Volunteering at Capricon is a great way to get your registration fee back, be a part of the convention, and have fun! We have prizes, limited crash space in The Gopher Hole, and of course our World Famous Grand Gopher Banquet!

By working 12 hours you can have your registration reimbursed, and we offer 2 for 1 hours during Move In / Move Out (MI/MO) on Wednesday, Thursday before the convention opens, and Sunday after closing ceremonies.

For more information contact gophers@capricon.org

You're One of Us!

Members of Phandemonium,

We want YOU! Yes, YOU! Wonder why? It's simple. Every one of you makes Capricon the convention that it is. Now, we are looking for members interested in making Capricon the convention that YOU want it to be. The Board of Phandemonium is currently seeking candidates for Two **Phandemonium Board Member** Positions.

Every year the membership of Phandemonium elects two new people to serve a three year term on the Board of Directors. The six elected board members, along with an appointed Secretary, Treasurer, and SMOF (Supreme Minister of Fun) are tasked with keeping the corporation running and enabling the convention and other outside activities to take place. Submission deadline: 1/15/2012.

For more information, or to notify us of your candidacy, please email boardpresident@phandemonium.org. Looking forward to seeing you all at Capricon in February!

Mike "Ciggy" Cyganiewicz

President of the Board, Phandemonium, Inc.

Out of CON-text

"I'm a cougar for Wil Wheaton. IAC4WW!" - Liz Gilio

"Was it naked?" - Liz Gilio

"It had strategically placed decals." - Helen Montgomery

"Do you want something hard?" - Tim Miller

"Every conversation I have turns to necrophilia." - Jesse

"If any of the GoHs want to have fun with goats, just let me know."
- Sondra de Jong

"I want to take a picture of Nigel when he's flashing." - Nina Marie

"You've lost your bottom privileges." - Andrew Jarvis

"My chicken's water broke." - Ciggy

"That really frosted my Twinkie." - Erik V. Olson

Goat Droppings is edited by Helen Montgomery. This issue's contributors were Helen Montgomery, Marinda Darnell, Sondra de Jong, Dennis Dombrowski, Isabel Schechter, and Xap Esler.