

GOAT DROPPINGS

Volume XXXI, Issue 3

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



Saturday, February 12, 2011

We're halfway there!

It's been a great Escape so far, folks! We hope you are having as much fun as we are this weekend!

First things first, we'd like to thank the Westin Hotel staff, who have been really helpful and awesome this weekend.

Friday saw lots of great programming - panels, readings, and concerts. We enjoyed the return of Thee Bluebeard, Jeopardy!, and of course, the Geek Prom. Who was chosen as Prom King and Queen? Who won for Biggest Hair? We promise we'll let you know in Sunday's

issue, and announce them again at Closing Ceremonies on Sunday.

Some rockin' parties on Friday night - we had two Worldcon Bids here, from Texas and London. Thanks for flying all the way out here guys! (Show 'em some love this weekend and visit their fan tables, okay folks?) We welcomed back the Cow Asylum and last year's Best Party winners, the MIB Pirate Party, both of whom again showed why they're always so popular.

Woo hoo! On to Saturday!

May We Suggest - Saturday

The Escape is in full swing! Join us for some great programming items, such as John Picacio's Art Presentation, a Q& A with John Scalzi, and a tour of "Down Under" with our Fan GoHs Stephen Boucher and Janice Gelb. We are offering three Art Show Docent Tours today, with Butch Honeck, Ray vanTilburg, and John Picacio; it's the last day to see the show, and they will be excellent guides for you!

At 10am today in the "Curtain Room" in Con-suite, there will be a *Settlers of Catan* NACC Qualifier. Anyone is welcome to compete.

The Olympiad returns for another round of fun, silly fannish games! The Art Auction is this evening, and we welcome back Klingon Karaoke as well! Loads of readings, concerts, and autographing sessions today too!

The highlight today of course is the LIVE performance of *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*, 7pm in River C. You do not want to miss this! We've seen some of the rehearsals and it's going to be full of awesome!

Programming Changes

The *Settlers of Catan* NACC Qualifier has been moved from the "Curtain Room" in Con-suite to the Pine Room, also in Con-suite.

The Wild Mercy concert on Saturday will start at 8:30pm, not 8pm. It will be "Semi-Feral Mercy", as Sally and Barry Childs-Helton are unable to attend Capricon this year.

We are working with Bryan Palaszewski to see if we can have him teleconference in for his 11:30am Saturday presentation. At press time we still aren't sure, so please check with Info Desk before the panel.

Lost and Found

Did you misplace your oxygen mask? Found someone's spaceship keys lying about? Lost and Found is located at Con Operations in the Oak Room. Thanks!

The Luna Project requests that the person who took the hardcover books from the Luna Project fan table on Friday please return them. They are going to Boskone next weekend and the books are part of the display, and were not meant as freebies. If you need to contact someone from the Luna Project about this, please go to Capricon Operations, where they have phone contact information. Thank you.

Interview with the Gatt: John Scalzi, Author Gatt

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

At the 2004 Worldcon, I was on a panel with Esther Friesner, Craig Shaw Gardner, Terry Pratchett and Connie Willis on how the future would view the 20th Century. Since at the time I had nothing published in science fiction, there was some question as to why I was even on such a panel with so many high-wattage folks, but hey, I wasn't going to complain. During the panel, Terry Pratchett was talking about archeology and how some things could be remarkably well-preserved, and as an example he talked about latrines in Jerusalem which thanks to a low presence of oxygen had their contents preserved since the time of Jesus. To which I responded, "Holy crap!" And then got to enjoy the benefits of my sitcom timing as the audience laughed for several long seconds. It's not every day you get to deliver a punchline to Terry Pratchett, even one that's essentially a bad pun. It's one of my favorite convention memories.

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

None! However, this is because I grew up poor and as a result learned how to read paperbacks without breaking their spines, so that I could keep them longer. As a result I have paperbacks that I have read and reread over 25 or 30 years -- their pages are yellow but their spines are GORGEOUS.

Best escape that you've seen in film, TV, or literature?

George Clooney escaping Batman & Robin with his career intact.

You take a lot of pictures and post them on your blog, What- ever. What attracts you to photography?

The fact that it makes you pay attention to the world you inhabit and find beauty (or at least compelling imagery) in it. As in writing, you look for the telling detail that makes a work stand out.

What is your number one comfort food?

Probably pecan pie. Which is not a good thing for my waistline. And yes, I know, people were expecting me to say bacon. Not everything is about bacon, people!

Your daughter is approaching the teenage years. What are you most looking forward to, and what is most terrifying?

I'm looking forward to the same things I enjoy about her now -- her wit and her world view. There's nothing I'm really thinking will be terrifying, because we've already shown her how to bury in the backyard anyone who tries to cause her trouble. Hmmm. Probably shouldn't have admitted that.

You are serving as Toastmaster for Chicon 7, the 2012 World- con in Chicago. What are you most looking forward to about that?

Are you kidding? What's NOT to look forward to about it? Oh, the plans I have! [insert mad scientist chortle here]

What is your favorite word? Least favorite word?

Like children, I love all words equally. Except "pancreas." AND IT KNOWS WHY.

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

"Purchase buckets," since it occurs to me that at the moment I don't own any.

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

1. Oxygen 2. Lifetime supply of Red Vines and Coke Zero 3. My house keys. Because, hey, we could come back.

Parties!

Tonight is the last night to vote for all the party awards! Ballots and Ballot Boxes are located on the 15th and 16th floors. The winners will be announced on Sunday at Closing Ceremonies.

Saturday Night Parties

- 1501: London in 2014 Worldcon Bid
- 1509: Duckon
- 1514: Farscape / Chicago Scapers
- 1525: GT (General Technics)
- 1534: MIB Pirate Party
- 1601: Lance's
- 1607: Penguicon and ConFusion
- 1627: Musecon
- 1634: Cow Asylum



Don't forget to drop off items for the Food Drive and the Book Drive at the Greening Table by Registration! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Out of CON-text

"Whichever way you want to go, we've got a position for you."

- Dave McCarty

"I have a hard time solving problems when I'm in a horizontal position." - Bernadette Burke

"He can't wear my heels." - Mike "Ciggy" Cyganiewicz

"The turkey loaf can be used as a loofah." - Skippy et al

"They went to the dollar store because they needed a cow."

- Cary Williams

"Your chest is bigger than my chest!" - Amazon

"Talk to Geri about being a bimbo." - Jesi

"Oh, is that what I was licking?" - Erik Olson

"This is totally going in my pants!" - Dawn Kuczvara

Plus a special Bonus Out-of-CONtext conversation...

"I charge \$10 a night." - Guinea Pig

"Here." - John Scalzi

"I only take American money." - Guinea Pig

Goat Droppings is edited by Helen Montgomery. This issue's contributors were Helen Montgomery and the Capricorn Concom and YOU!