



Capricious Says:
"PICK IT UP, OR YOU MIGHT STEP IN IT!"

Volume 32, Issue 2

Friday
February 10, 2012

Goat Droppings

The Adventure Is Afoot!

Our story begins Thursday afternoon...

The intrepid adventurers of Capricon 32 began their quest by gathering together at the annual Midwinter Faire. Much fun was had playing games, participating in activities, and fueling up for the adventure with pizza.

Where will you go next?

Want to look at pretty pictures? Go to the Art Show in Ravinia C.

Want to go buy things? Go to the Dealers Room in Ravinia D/E/F.

Want to go talk about cool things? Go to a programming panel.

For those who chose the Art Show, they were not disappointed by the opening of this year's show! Jam packed with some beautiful art from very talented people, there's something here for everyone.

If you chose the Dealers Room, we have no doubt that your wallet is already considerably

lighter than when you arrived.

If you went to programming, there were many great choices this afternoon.

What will you do next?

Go to Opening Ceremonies.

Go to Parties.

Go to The Princess Bride Pajama Party.

All excellent options! Opening Ceremonies featured Capricious rescuing our GoH Cory Doctorow from a certain mouse, and presenting Cory with his very own red cape. John Scalzi also appeared and waved his ukulele menacingly.

Parties were rocking Thursday night! Make sure you vote for your favorite. Capricious finds it a hard choice...

The pajama party was inconceivably excellent, with popcorn!

This weekend, you can choose your own adventure—Science Fiction, Fantasy or Alternate History. You can choose as often as you want! Starting on Friday, stop by Registration to get your badge ribbon identifying your adventure for the day!

May We Suggest—Friday

We're in full adventure mode on Friday! Every department is up and running—Anime, Gaming, Art Show, Dealers Room, Kids Program, Autographs, Fan Tables, Readings and Concerts in the Cafe...it's all here for you to experience!

New to the Con? Stop by Intro to the Con tonight at 7pm (Elm) and find out everything you need to know to have a good time.

Author GoH Cory Doctorow has a reading / Q&A at 4pm (River A/B). Join Artist GoH Les McClaine and Special Guest Javier Grillo-

Marxuach as they give live commentary on an episode of *The Middleman* at 2:30pm (River A/B).

The first of the *Settlers of Catan* World Wide Catan Championship Pre-Qualifier is today at 4pm in Ravinia B. Details in the program book.

Tonight at 8:30pm, join us in Botanic A/B for our 80's Dance / Winter Formal—DJ'd by none other than last year's Author GoH, John Scalzi. Everybody cut Footloose!

Have fun choosing your Friday adventures!

PROGRAMMING CHANGES

Remember: The Pocket Program trumps the Program Book. *Goat Droppings* trumps the Pocket Program.

The Anime schedule can be found at Registration and Info Desk. Anime is not in the Pocket Program this year.

Our three annual Euchre events are not in the Pocket Program. Euchre 101 is Friday at 7pm. The Euchre Tournaments will be Friday at 8:30pm, and Saturday at 11pm. All three will be in the 16th Floor Lounge.

Due to a severe snow shortage, the Snow Goons! panel at 1pm Friday is cancelled.

Panelist Pat Sayre McCoy will not be attending this year.

RESTAURANT DISCOUNTS

Wear your Capricon badge and receive 10% off at the hotel's delicious restaurants!

Saranello's—breakfast and lunch; alcoholic beverages in the bar at night

Tramonto's—dinner (food only)

RT Lounge—dinner (food only)

Interview with the GoH: Steven H Silver, Fan Guest of Honor

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

I first found fandom in 1986 when Joel Rosenberg mentioned that he would be attending Windycon and invited me to meet him at the con. I showed up and went to one of his panels, figuring I would introduce myself to him after the panel. Before the panel started, Joel came in, walked up to me, and introduced himself. I wound up hanging out with Joel for the entire weekend, during which he introduced me to Harry Harrison, Robin Wayne Bailey, Donald & Elsie Wollheim, and many of the other pros who attended that year.

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

The way I take care of my books, that generally doesn't happen. I think the only science fiction book I ever really read until the binding fell apart was The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, which I could recite from memory back in the 1980s.

You are a Flying Monkee (Vice Chair) for Chicon 7, the 2012 Worldcon here in Chicago. What are the top three reasons fans should attend?

Helene Hanff once wrote, "I used to go to English movies just to look at the streets. I remember years ago a guy I knew told me that people going to England find exactly what they go looking for. I said I'd go looking for the England of English Literature, and he nodded and said: "It's there." I feel the same way about Chicon 7. If you come to Chicon 7, you'll be able to find what you are looking for. A costumer will have a completely different experience at the con than a filker will. Obviously, the Hugo Awards and the Masquerade are the major events, but the beautiful thing about Worldcons are the thousands of small, and special, interactions that can't be predicted, but create memories and friendships through the ages. My older daughter was 2½ at Chicon 2000. Several months after the con was over, she asked me when we could go to Chicon again. I asked her what she liked about the con and she responded, "The people."

You're walking along the path, and come to a fork in the road. Do you go left or right, and why?

I calve off with half of myself going in each direction.

What book are you most proud of editing and/or publishing?

They all hold a special place. The three DAW Books "Beginnings" anthologies were the first professional editorial work I did and it was very cool reprinting the first stories by so many authors who I liked. Especially when I heard from some of them how nobody had ever asked to reprint their first story before. Each of the ISFiC Press books has been wonderful in their own way, and I loved working on the two volume Lester del Rey books for NESFA Press. I do have a shelf at home with all the books I've worked on and there is a real rush to look at it and think "without me, these books wouldn't exist."

How did you come to start the Sidewise Award?

In 1994, I was living in Bloomington, Indiana working on a post-graduate degree in Mediaeval history and my fannish activity was limited to attending Windycon, Rivercon, and Inconjunction, with a sideline of commenting on Usenet, through which I met Robert Schmunk and Evelyn Leeper, both of whom had an interest in alternate history. One day I came up with the idea of an alternate history award and suggested it to the two of them figuring that having a three member panel would give the award more credibility that just being something given out by one person. At one point we toyed with calling the award the Hodge Backmaker Award, which probably would have resulted in fewer misspellings of the award's actual name.

What is the most amazing adventure you have yet to experience?

If I told you that, you would know that I had access to a future-viewer and I'd have to kill you. I don't think either of us would like that.

Parties!

The Adventure Continues!

Please be respectful of the party hosts, and give them some in person thanks as well — either verbally or in the tip jar.

Please note two really important rules: First, **no alcohol off the party floors (15 and 16)**. Second, **wear your badge**, please, and **be prepared to show photo ID as well to prove you're over 21**.

Don't forget to vote! Ballot boxes are on 15 and 16 in the evenings, and in Operations during the day.

Friday Night Parties

- 1501 MIB / Pirates
- 1509 Sir Lance's
- 1514 Farscape / Chicago Scapers
- 1515 GT
- 1525 Goat Head Homebrewers Guild
- 1534 U.B.S. Abandon / Barfleet
- 1601 London in 2014
- 1607 Chicon 7: The 2012 Worldcon
- 1613 Pirates of Mars Book Launch Party
- 1615 Dellacon
- 1616 Minions of Chaos
- 1624 CONvergence
- 1627 Slay-A-Thon
- 1634 Cow Asylum

Out of CON-text

"Flip the switches and pull on the hole." - Karen Barnes

"I can go all night." - Meg Totusek

"I have done a horse. They bend over easily." - Dee C.

"Did I shave my head for this?" - Ciggy

"Last year you were angry at me because I kept dropping my feathers." - Ciggy

"I'm always the best party." - Sondra de Jong

"These cherries aren't going to pop themselves." - Julian

"You swill your tongue around and then suck really well."

- Stacey Lam

"I'm a snorter." - Mary Ann Grossman

"My little troopers can make it through jeans." - Dave McCarty

Goat Droppings is edited by Helen Montgomery. Capricious drawing by Deb Kosiba. This issue's contributors were Helen Montgomery and the Capricon Concom and You! © Phandemonium, Inc. 2012

