



# Goat Droppings

CAPRICIOUS SAYS: "PICK IT UP OR YOU MIGHT STEP IN IT!"

## PROGRAMMING CHANGES

### Friday Panel Changes:

"Dramatic Readings from the *Weekly World News*" at 2:30pm has been cancelled. We promise that Bat Boy will fly again next year.

Debbie Gates will be unable to perform today at 2:30pm in the Café. We welcome Amy McNally instead.

### Panelist Updates:

Lee Darrow is unable to attend this year; his Hypnosis panels on Friday (5:30) and Saturday (4:00) will not take place.

Jim Rittenhouse and Valli Hoski are unable to attend this year.

Want to contribute to *Goat Droppings*? We are now accepting email submissions of Out-of-CONtext quotes! Email us at [oooc@capricon.org](mailto:oooc@capricon.org) or go old school with pen and paper and drop it off in Ops.

## THURSDAY: WE CREATED A PARADOX

So, yeah. First day and we created a paradox. It was only a small one, though. Capricious managed to encounter his future self during opening ceremonies, but no worries. It was a great beginning to the convention. We look forward to larger paradoxes as the weekend continues!

We were delighted to see so many people enjoying this year's Midwinter Faire,

where crafts and games and pizza were in abundance. Opening Ceremonies featured a performance by our Musical Guests of Honor, Silent Nightmare. This was followed by Capricious's future self coming back in time to give us a time capsule full of Capricon memories, read by Con Chair Laura Dombrowski. We welcomed our GoHs —Silent Nightmare, Tom Peters, S.M. Stirling and Special Guest Jan

Stirling. Our other Special Guest, Sherrilyn Kenyon, was unable to be here in time for Opening Ceremonies. Our Fan Guest of Honor, Tadao Tomomatsu, couldn't attend in person, but his life-size standup image made an appearance.

Remember, the reason why time exists is so everything doesn't happen at once. Be sure to enjoy every minute of your weekend at Capricon!

We are excited to welcome Amy Rutledge from WGN today! She and her film crew will be visiting the convention from 10:30am—12:30pm. We have added some special programming and hope to see you there: At 10:30am, Bill Roper & Amy McNally will perform in the Café, and at 11am Artist Guest of Honor Tom Peters will be discussing his work in the Art Show. At 12 noon in Birch B, one of our Author Guests will give an exclusive reading. Ms. Rutledge will also be visiting and filming in the Dealers' Room, Consuite, and Gaming around 11:45am.

## MAY WE SUGGEST: FRIDAY

Friday Friday Friday! So many things to do! Gaming abounds at Capricon today, just in time for the Olympics! This afternoon, the *Settlers of Catan* pre-qualifying event begins at 4pm in River A. Come by at 11am for a game of Ogre, and check out some gaming related panels at 4pm and 5:30pm in Birch B.

Theater and music are also featured amongst today's festivities. SpaceTime Theater will be performing at 8pm in Ravinia A/B, followed by the Thieving Magpie Concert. The Time Warp Dance begins at 8:30pm in Botanic A/B. You know you want to do it again!

Our Guests of Honor are busy today with multiple panels—please see page 8 in your program book for details! Some great Anime and Films today—we're excited about *Godzilla vs King Ghidorah* at 8pm, and more Bad Films Festival starting at 11pm! Go Kaiju, go!

## INTERVIEW WITH THE GOH: TOM PETERS

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

My funniest convention memory involves a Canadian national, an ex-Air Force journalist, and missing time. It is, sadly, unprintable. Literally.

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

All too many. First and foremost, I'd have to say every book I've owned by Arthur C. Clarke. I am on at least the third, and sometimes the fourth, of each of them.

*If you had a Virtual World pod at home, would you play Red Planet or BattleTech more often? What's your vehicle/mech of choice?*

Red Planet, without doubt. It was all internally conceived, and a lot of the VGL lab folks contributed ideas, so it was a real labor of love. Also, I designed the logo for the game! As for favorite vehicle, it would have to be the bug. I loved the speed and maneuverability of the thing and I did the initial concept design for it.

*If you could have lunch with any one person, living or dead, who would it be and why?*

What a great question. I would have to say, Carl Sagan. Not only for his intellect but for the effusive and infectious enthusiasm shown for science, for ideas and for speculative thinking.

*If you could time travel to any single time and place, forward or back, stay as long as you wanted, and then come back:*

a. Where and when would you go? b. Why?

c. How long would you stay? d. Would you come back at all?

a) To a future where the technology exists to upload humans, or human memories and personalities, into hardware. b) I'd like to try out immortality for a few thousand years, to see if I like it. c) Well, say, 10,000 years within option on another 10,000, to start. d) I doubt it, but I would really miss my cats.

*What is the thing you love to talk about that nobody ever asks you about?*

Eugene Delacroix and the 19th century French neoromantic painters. Do you understand why I never get to talk about it? I started out as an art history major. I did get a chance a few years ago to actually visit Delacroix's final residence, and his last studio. They actually had one of his last mixing boards, paint dry where he put it. It was a pretty amazing experience.

*What Science Fiction concept from your childhood has become a reality?*

The data pad from *2001: a Space Odyssey*. I use my iPad every day, and carry my portfolio around in it! I'm also dictating the answers to these questions on it right now.

*How has technology / innovation changed the way you do things: Research, organizing, collaborating, writing / art / expression, day-to-day business?*

Visual artists have always been technologists. Until very recently, the artist has been required to be a chemist, understand the physics of light, the mathematics of perspective and the qualities of meteorology and atmospheric phenomena. The tools that I use range from paintbrush and pencil to software not even dreamt of when I was in school. I, and most of the working commercial artists I know, will use any tool available that lets us communicate our message more effectively and creatively.

*Favorite story regarding subcontracting for NASA?*

We had an engineer and machinist on staff who had been in the business of building practical space hardware for many, many years Jack was the archetypical "steely-eyed missile man". At one point, we were working with ESA scientists on flying an experiment which deployed a long, fragile boom out of the shuttle bay. They hadn't come up with a solution to get rid of the boom in case it wouldn't retract. If it didn't retract, we couldn't close the... (continued)

## INTERVIEW: TOM PETERS

(cont'd) ...shuttle bay doors and come home. The problem was, the boom was so fragile, if you used explosive bolts to jettison it, the force would collapse the boom, wrapping the thing AROUND the shuttle. After thinking about it for a weekend, Jack came in playing with his grandson's Slinky. Turned out, a Slinky would push the boom with just enough force to get it out of the bay without collapsing it. So that experiment flew, with six Teflon-coated Slinkies.

*When sitting down to play a game with friends and family, what's your favorite?*  
The first science fiction paper and pencil Role Playing Game — *Traveller*.

## PARTIES!

Capricon 34: Partying like it's 2099...

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

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 can be found on the 15th and 16th floors during the evenings, and in Ops during the day. No time travelling to vote more than once though!

### Friday Night Parties

1501	Adventures of Buckaroo Barfleet
1509	KC in 2016 Worldcon Bid
1515	Duckon
1525	Not The Film Room
1534	Party at the End of the Universe
1601	Cow Asylum
1607	Chi-Fi
1627	Lance's Room
1634	Irish Party



## OUT OF CONTEXT

"I know I've seen it, that's why I can't remember it."

- Kevin O'Malley

"If you can't be part of the problem, be part of Ops." - Moooo!

"I walked into hooker boots and short skirts." - Ciggy

"I never knew that was tight like that." - Dave McCarty

"This is Tadao's first time coming out." - Marinda Darnell

"Thank God Google has a search function." - Helen Montgomery

Goat Droppings is edited by Helen Montgomery. Capricious drawings by Deb Kosiba. This issue's contributors were Helen Montgomery, Dan Berger, and the Capricon Concom. © Phandemonium, Inc. 2014