

The Tuppence

The Official Newsletter of Coppercon 21

Saturday Evening, September 8,

A Velavision Publication

Heather Alexander Concert

Anyone who missed the Heather Alexander concert missed a real treat! After a rollicking and enjoyable warm-up performance by The Bringers, Heather Alexander entertained an overflow crowd with stories, lyrics and ample musical talents. Singing a long set of highly varied songs, Heather had the crowd alternately clapping their hands and sitting spellbound. The evocative song, "Gypsy Bardic Tinker People," and the moving drum song, "Gypsy's Fire," are both from her current fourth album (*A Gypsy's Home*). She also performed several pieces from an upcoming, fifth, CD.

During the process of the concert, Heather hinted that she might be coming back to the Phoenix area during the third week of October. More information can be obtained from her web site: www.heatherlands.com

The concert ended with a sassy and very entertaining couple of pieces featuring Heather and The Bringers all playing Celtic tunes in good old fashioned, toe-tapping hoedown style. Although the performers were clearly tired, the audience was reluctant to let them go.

Both Heather and The Bringers promised to be present for SOME of tonight's filking, but there's an "o' dark early" plane ride back to the Pacific Northwest lurking, so those who want to hear more of this incredible combination need to be sure to show up early. You won't be sorry!

Saturday Evening Parties

There are many parties tonight. These are the ones of which we are currently aware.

TusCon 28 sponsors the Con Suite

Saturday 9 to 11 PM

Arizona in 2004 (WesterCon 57)

Room 105 Saturday 9 PM to ?

"Back to School" (LosCon 28)

Room 119 Saturday (after the Masquerade)

Pirate Party

Room 115 Saturday 8 to ?

United Federation of Phoenix

Room 325 Saturday 7:30 PM to ?

There is also a dance after the Masquerade in the Navajo Terminals I and II.

WorldCon Highlights

By Jeff Richards, Staff Writer

The Millennium PhilCon was (in our opinion) one of the best WorldCons in recent years. The Philadelphia Marriott and Convention Center provided ample facilities and abundant access to food and brew. A hard rock café, a brewpub, the Reading Terminal Market, and a multi-level shopping mall were all attached to the convention facilities. The historic sites within walking distance, or a short drive away, only added to a well-planned and well run WorldCon.

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Nights at PhilCon consisted of wandering through an endless maze of corridors on the four party floors searching for beer and munchies (an ample supply could be found at the Boston and Charlotte 2004 bid parties). Boston edged out Charlotte for the 2004 WorldCon bid. Charlotte is now aiming for NasFic in 2005 assuming Glasgow wins the WorldCon bid. The Japan in 2007 bid party was the place to be on Friday and Saturday nights given the number of fans wearing the "Japan in 2007" *tenugui* (headbands).

Anime fans were treated to three features from the Legend of Galactic Heroes series courtesy of Takayuki Karahashi.

The masquerade featured a company of Darths launching a pre-emptive strike on the use of their good name (i.e. Darth Fall, Darth Crawl, Sprawl, Ball, Y'all, Gaul, Call, Brawl—you get the idea), a well choreographed, toe-tapping medly reprising favorite Twilight Zone episodes, a surprising transformation featuring a Chinese dragon, and a group called the H-Mercs that inspired costumer envy with their neat space armor, complete with lighting effects (not to mention the large dragon they had to un-assemble and then reassemble to get inside the hotel).

Esther Friesner, self-proclaimed "Rap Master Toast," and the ever-popular Connie Willis, went head to head for the most humorous presenter at the 2001 Hugo Awards Ceremony.

Sunday morning the talk of the convention was the Junkyard Wars competition held in the exhibit hall. Sixty-two people participated while about 400 people watched the competition. The object was to build a device to throw an egg over a barrier, as far as possible, while keeping the egg intact. Various approaches were used for the delivery system such as a low-tech, not so accurate, sling ("Hey, he almost hit a Hugo") and a much too powerful trebuchet ("How are they going to get that egg off the ceiling?")

Volunteers Needed!

Tuppence desperately needs volunteer staff! If you would like to cover an event, write an article, or in any other way contribute to the newsletter, please come to room 224 or leave a message in the Green Room (room 104). We are not proud, but we are eager for help.



Story and art courtesy of James Reade.

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