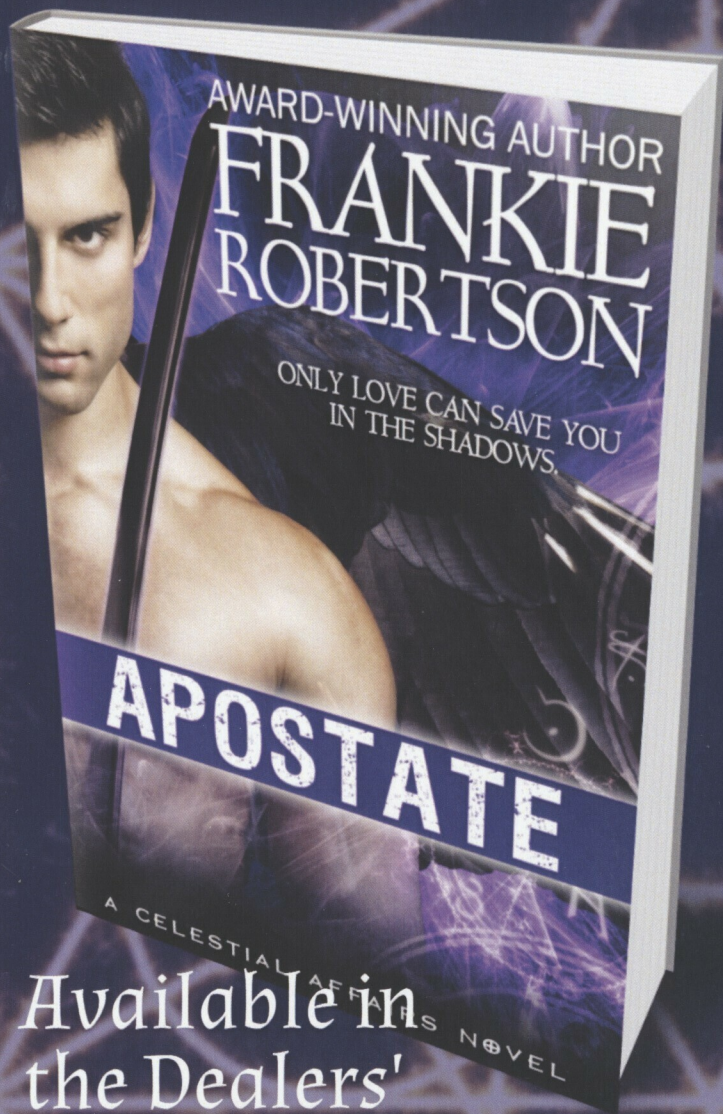


TUSCON 2019



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WELCOME
TO

TUSCON 46

November 9-11, 2019

Author Guest of Honor:

Jonathan Maberry

Artist Guest of Honor:

Chaz Kemp

TOASTMASTER:

Weston Ochse

SPECIAL GUESTS:

**Geoff Notkin
Frank Powers
BurlEscapades
Madame Askew**

FEATURED GUESTS AND PANELISTS

Alfred B. Anzaldua

Autumn Ivy

Brenda Huettner

Bruce Wiley

Cameron D. Blackwell

Carolyn Kay

Catherine draper

Catherine Wells

Chris R. Chavez

Christin Pike

Curt Booth

Cynthia Ward

Dania Wright

David Lee Summers

Dean Hux

Dee Astell

Diana Terrill Clark

Earl Billick

Eric Schumacher

Eric T Knight

Frankie Robertson

Gareth Ortiz-Timpson

Gentleman Robot

Gloria McMillan

Hal C. F. Astell

J.L. Doty

James Sabata

Janni Lee Simner

Jared Pike

Jared Pike

Jeffrey J. Mariotte

Jen Senft

Jennifer Roberson

Jessica Feinberg

Jill Bauman

Jill Knowles

Joe Palmer

Justin Hackert

K.S. Merbeth

Kathryn (KL) Lance

Kevin McAlonan

KJ Kabza

Larry Hammer

Larry Vela

Linda D. Addison

Liz Danforth

Lois Miller

Mark Evenson

Marsheila Rockwell

Marty Ketola

Mermaid Spectra

Michelle Rouch

Mike Cassidy

Paul Clinco

Peter Valentine

Ross B. Lampert

S.A. Bradley

Scott Glener

Suyi Davies Okungbowa

Tabitha Bradley

Tanya Gouchenour

Thomas Watson

Uncle Yuhki

Wendy Trakes

William R. Herr

Wolf Forrest

Yvonne Navarro

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Convention Badge Artwork:	Chaz Kemp
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The TusCon 45 Program Book is published by BASFA (Baja Arizona Science Fiction Association), a non-profit, 501(c)4 organization. Donations are not tax-deductible. Please send all inquiries to TusCon, PO Box 2528, Tucson, AZ 85702-2528.



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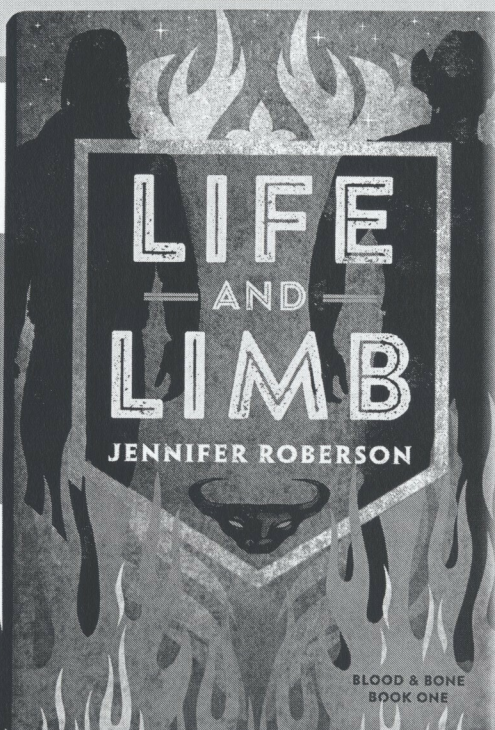
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"A new Jennifer Roberson novel is always a treat, but
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—DEBORAH J. ROSS, AUTHOR OF *THE SEVEN-PETALED SHIELD*

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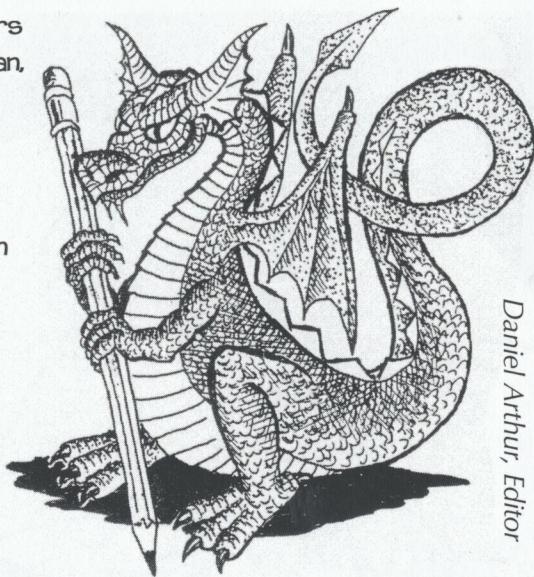


ON SALE NOVEMBER 5



TusCon 46

Can you believe 46 years of TusCon? Wow. I mean, wow. How many cons have gone on for 46 years, even with the short hiatus we had way-back-when (TusCon skipped a year in the early days, and was a "relax-a-con" the two years after Tucson's second World Fantasy Con in Tucson in 1991). The whole purpose of TusCon is to get together with like-minded folks and have a great time. Don't miss the Art Show (buy art!). Make



Daniel Arthur, Editor

FROM THE EDITOR

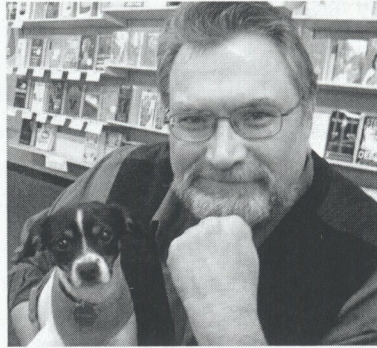


sure to spend bucks for Christmas/Hanukkah/Kwanza/Winter Solstice gifts in the Dealers Room (who wants generic stuff from the mall?!). Experience the wonderful vittles in the ConSuite. Check out a few panels. Most of all, don't miss the chance to chat with friends old and new, including our Guests of Honor and Special Guests. With this guest lineup -- this May berry well be one of the best TusCons ever!





JONATHAN MABERRY - LITERARY BARBARIAN



JONATHAN MABERRY

by Weston Ochse

I first met Jon on the cold, bloody battlefields of Cimeria after the Scythian Hordes had swept through us, leaving only him and me alive, back to back, beyond exhausted, yet still

able to wield our gore-splattered blades. Had we not been so enjoined, we would have fallen over. Truly, as brothers, we formed a four-armed beast able to kill and maim all that came at us.

Or did we meet on the steppes of Mongolia, running before the Mongolian hordes, their short horses unable to keep up with our Arabians, still their hail of arrows pin cushioning the land around us and the shields on our backs—his barbaric yawps spurred us on as my laughter joined his, never two warriors so happy to be alive?

Come to think of it, I believe it was in a bar in a hotel in Maryland at a convention, where he'd just published a non-fiction book called *Vampire Slayer's Field Guide to the Undead* and was eager to make everyone's acquaintance, even mine as I sat drinking greyhounds with Paul Wilson and Brien Keene, staring at the NYC Blackout of 2003 on the television and watching the citizens trudging across the bridge into New Jersey, much like they had two years before after the attacks of 9/11. Back then, he went around as Shane McDougal, someone so different than the Jon I know. I'd imagined Shane with a Sherlock Holmes hat, an ascot, a kilt, and a Burberry jacket. Certainly not the California-living, Hawaiian shirt-wearing, sandal-footed literary barbarian we've invited to be our Guest of Honor.

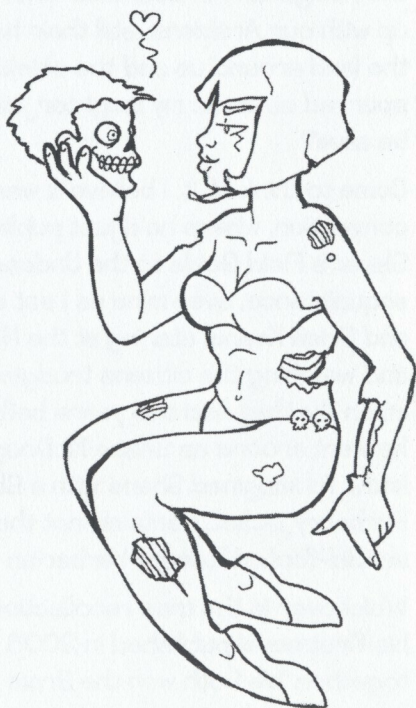
Whichever is the true recollection, I've known Jon well before he had his first novel published in 2006. In fact, he and I are in a select club together. We both won the Bram Stoker Award for Best First Novel. If

you want to know what he's had published, you can Wiki him or Google him or ask him in person. That's not what an appreciation is for. An appreciation is written so that others can see the side of an author or artist they might not already know.

So let me speak freely about Jonathan Mayberry for a few lines. Jon has won more awards, and more martial arts accolades, than probably any other human on the planet save Joe Lansdale, last year's Guest of Honor. What they share in achievements, they also share in their graciousness to other human beings. But they are different men. They are different writers. When you read a Lansdale book, once you've heard Joe's signature East Texas drawl, you read the words in his voice. Likewise with Jon. When I read his words, I read it with the same excitement and almost childish delight as he does. I've never seen an author as excited about the written word as I have Jon.

Jon gives of himself far more than most authors. Where I'm a curmudgeon and barely allowed out in public because of my tendency to eat little children, Jon wants to hug the world in his huge, brawny arms. He holds meetings at coffee houses, schools, and in vacant lots just so he can answer the questions of burgeoning authors. Is he afraid of their competition in the marketplace? No. He welcomes them and wants to share his giddiness about being published and being read.

Jon is that friend you go to when you're in trouble or when you need a shoulder. I know without asking that it's always there for me and will be for as long as the two of us share this version of Earth. So stop Jon when you see him, welcome him to our little big-hearted convention, and don't be surprised if you find yourself in an excited conversation about comic books, favorite authors, or dogs, because his laughter is the way he breathes.



CHAZ KEMP - ART MONKEY SUPREME



**CHAZ
KEMP**

by Carolyn Kay

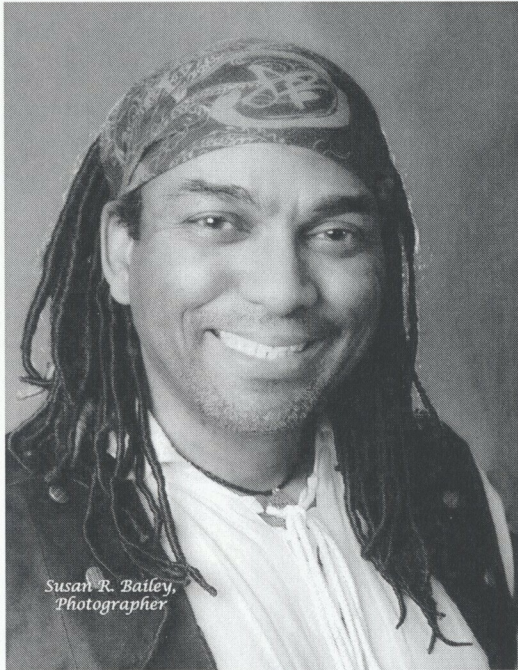
Chaz was born in the little hamlet of Chelsea-Under-Dramish: the product of a tempestuous union between his human mother and the King of Faeries. Or so he claims. His mother, on the other hand, swears she found him under a rock by the river one morning while taking her daily stroll.

Regardless of the veracity of his birth, he led a charmed life in the little hamlet. Favored by the fae, they taught him music,

poetry, dance and most importantly, art.

There's not much to do in Chelsea-Under-Dramish once a young man grows into adulthood, so Chaz bid his mother farewell and set off to explore the world at the adventurous age of eighteen.

Now, because he was beloved by the fae - who called him ShadowCat - Chaz didn't have to travel like you or I would. Instead, he travelled the Ways; the ancient pathways through Avalon. And because these Ways are unpredictable, they led him



Susan R. Bailey,
Photographer

to the most amazing people and places. Here are just a few quotes from people he met during his years of travel.

"Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat." - Cicero ~45 BC

Cleopatra was very fond of Chaz, however what she said cannot be repeated in polite company. Suffice it to say that they had a grand time during their "experimental" phase in college. ~49 BC

Van Gogh credits Chaz with helping to bring "Starry Night" into being saying, "If he hadn't convinced me to go out drinking that night, I never would have seen such a beautiful sky." ~1889

Albert Einstein also gave Chaz props. "It was the spirals in his art. They are the perfect mathematical representation of Relativity.

I couldn't have finished the theory without him." ~1905

Billy the Kid said, "He wasn't much of a poker player, but boy, did he have a way with the ladies. Or rather lady. Or, rather, Fred." ~1879

"What a piece of work is man! how noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! in form and moving how express and admirable! And Chaz isn't bad either."
William "Bill" Shakespeare
~1601



"Chaz was always good for a laugh. He wasn't good for much else, but boy did we laugh at him." Groucho Marx ~1914

"Out of all the men I've ever known, Chaz was certainly one of them." Marilyn Monroe ~1950

"He's got a real knack for song writing, that one." Gilbert and/or Sullivan ~1879

"Yeah, baby, yeah! Chaz is a cool cat!" Austin Powers ~1960

"He's not a very sinister individual, but I've seen some of his darker work, and it gives me chills." Bram Stoker ~1900

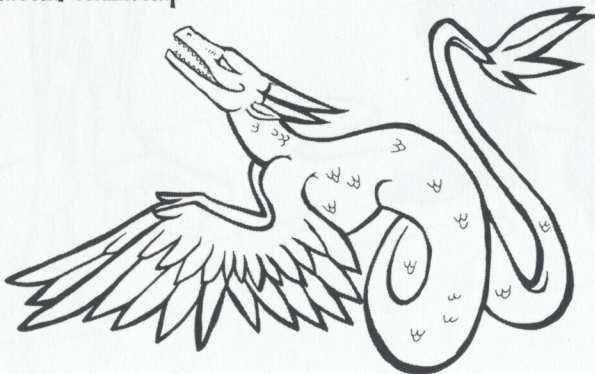
After a couple of decades of traveling, Chaz had amassed quite a list of talents, including acting (he won an Emmy for voiceover work), playwriting, directing, song writing, singing, drumming, fencing, and cat herding (you should see his scars). He has now decided to settle down in the suburbs of Denver with his wife, a changeling from the court of the Morrigan who goes by the mundane name of Carolyn Kay. Together they're working on bringing the world of Ashelon to life through stories and an oracle deck.

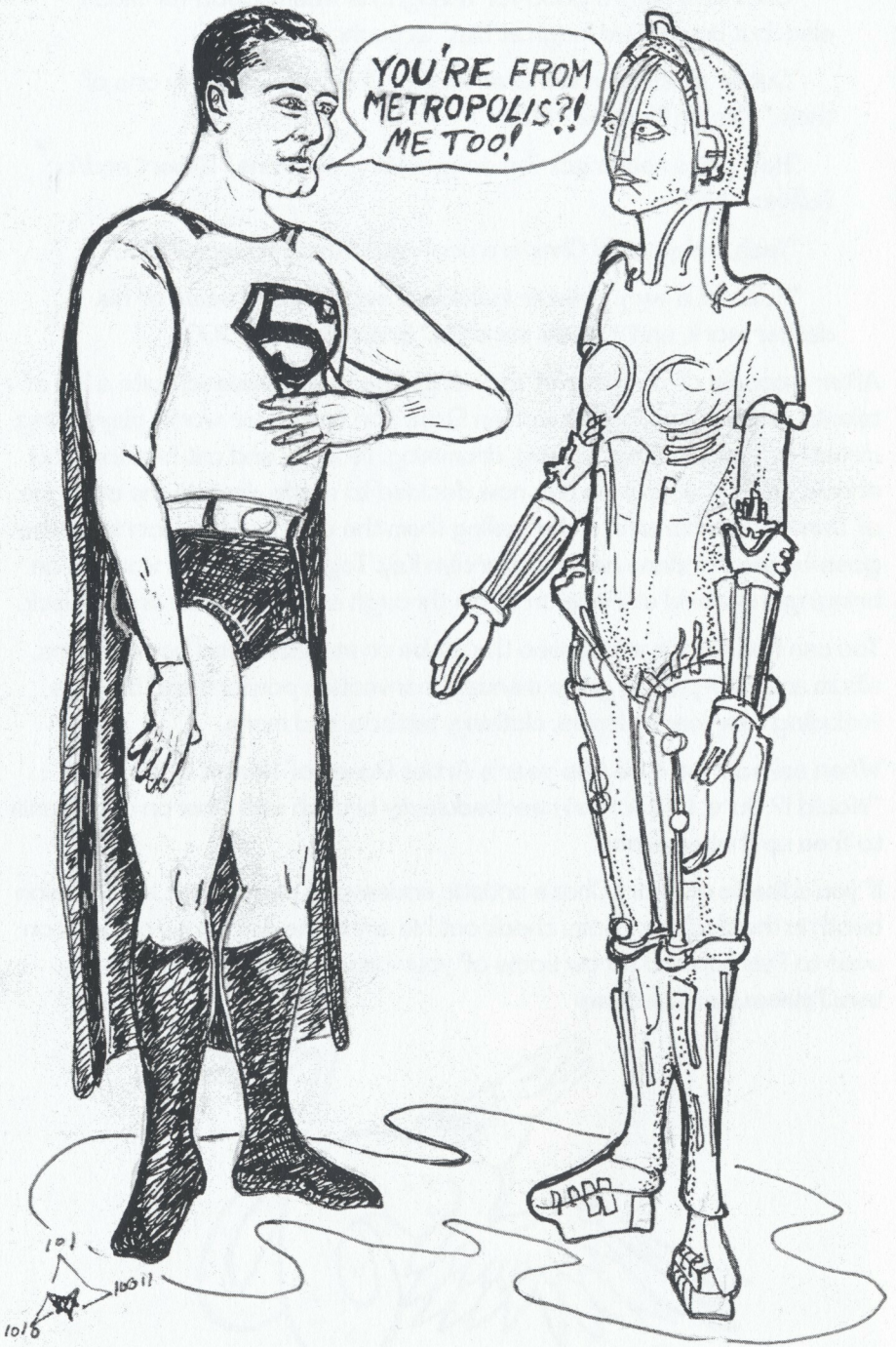
You can find Chaz's art across the globe on magazine and book covers, album art, role-playing game manuals, convention posters and badges (including this year's), logos, clothing, tattoos, and more.

When asked if he'd be this year's Artist Guest of Honor, Chaz said, "Would I? Sure, I think I can reschedule my brunch with Oberon and Titania to free up that weekend."

If you'd like to support Chaz's artistic endeavors please visit the Ashelon booth in the dealer's room, check out his art in the Art Show, or head on over to Patreon and throw some of your hard earned dollars his way.

www.Patreon.com/ChazKemp





OTM



WESTON OCHSE

by Yvonne Navarro

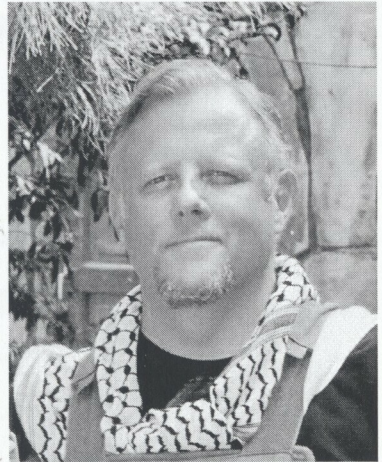
This is an Ode to Weston Ochse, our illustrious Toast Master, or an "OTM." (Remember, that's OTM, *not* ATM. If you try to stick a debit card in him, he will probably chew it up and spit it out. I'm sure, however, he'll be willing to take deposits of cash.)

Writer, teacher, soldier, son, husband, father, chef, problem solver, reader, friend.

Weston Ochse wears a lot of hats, not the least of which is one that says *BRONCOS*, obviously his favorite football team. Sports aside, he is a man who knows what he wants, and he won't stop until he gets it. I'm not talking about something so banal as money or fame. Weston is a person who has taken stock of himself, of the world around him, and of his place in that world. He will tell you he did this at age thirty and the result was a decision to be a writer. No matter what he says, I believe he wanted to be a writer, first and foremost above everything else, starting way back in grade school. There he wrote a morality tale about what happens to bad kids who don't listen to their parents (they get eaten by bears). Although the story ended up censored, the seed was planted. Then it was nurtured by a creative imagination and fed by thousands of books.

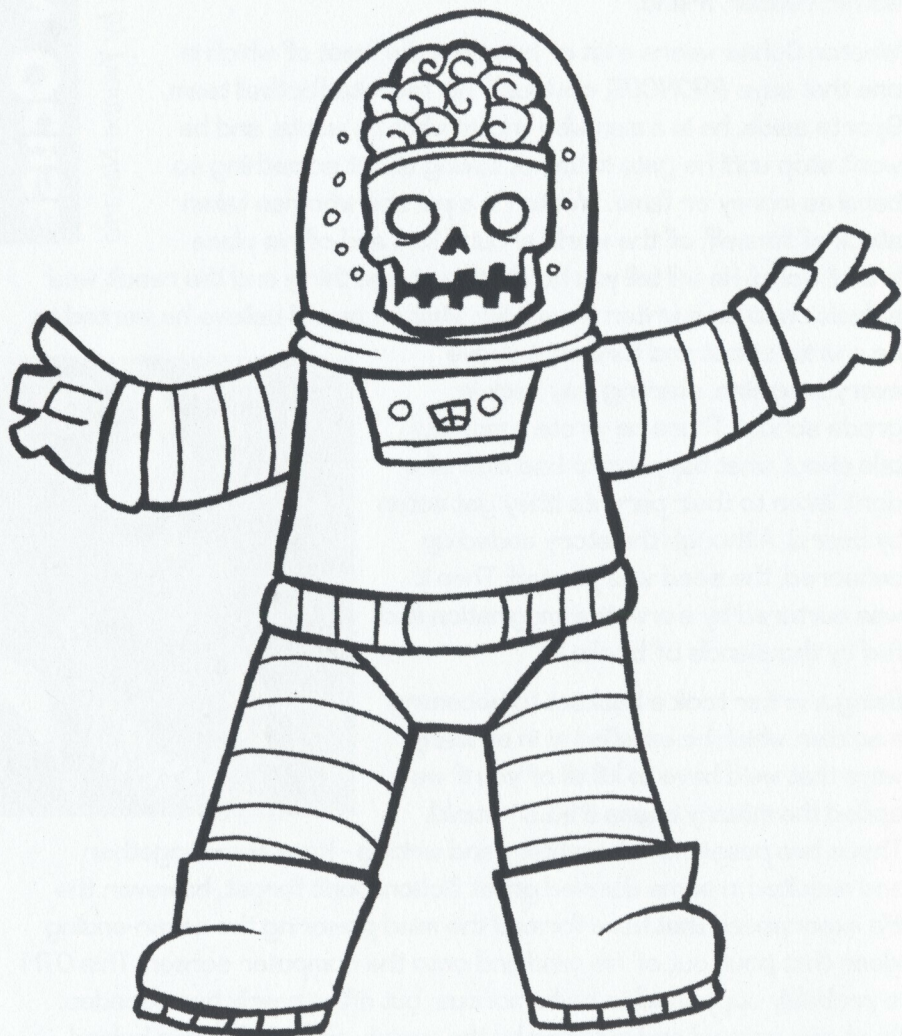
Being a writer took a backseat to becoming a soldier, which he excelled at in so many ways that we'd have to kill all of you if we spilled the military beans (MREs - *yuck*).

These two passions - the military and writing - have come together and resulted in some damned great fiction. Don't forget, however, the life experiences that have formed the mind powering the never-ending ideas that pour out of his mind and onto the computer screen. This OTM is probably supposed to be humorous, but after nearly two decades, I'm always amazed and humbled by the variety and *intelligence* behind his stories. Whether he offers those ideas in novels, short stories, or



essays, there is a true sense that he knows not just the characters he creates, but humankind in general.

Top that off with a wicked, sometimes naughty sense of humor, and you've pretty much got it all when you read his work. Step up and introduce yourself to him at TusCon this weekend. Weston is a true man of the people: the best of everything.

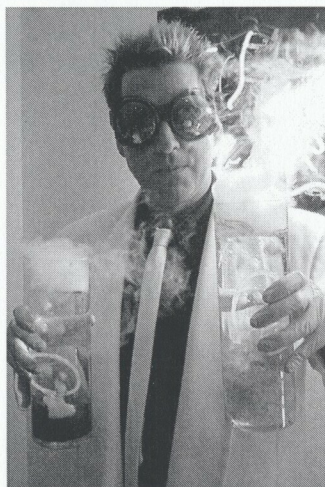


SPECIAL GUEST

GEOFF NOTKIN



Geoff starred in three seasons of the multi award-winning television adventure series Meteorite Men for Discovery networks and two seasons of the educational series STEM Journals, for which he received two Emmy Awards. He has also appeared in shows for Nat Geo, History Channel, Travel Channel, TLC, PBS, A&E, NASA EDGE, and the BBC. He is an author, publisher, photographer, world traveler, meteorite specialist, TEDx speaker, and President of both Aerolite Meteorites, Inc., and Desert Owl Productions, Inc. Geoff has appeared on Coast to Coast



and the Today show, and has been interviewed by The Washington Post, The Huffington Post, Space.com, and Universe Today, among others. He is also a television and film producer and credits include Philip K. Dick's Radio Free Albemuth and the documentary Neil Gaiman: Dream Dangerously.

An award-winning author, Geoff has published hundreds of articles on meteoritics, paleontology, astronomy, adventure travel, history, and the arts. His work has appeared in Astronomy, Astronomy Now, Sky & Telescope, All About Space, USA Today, Wired, Reader's Digest, The Village Voice, Seed, Rock

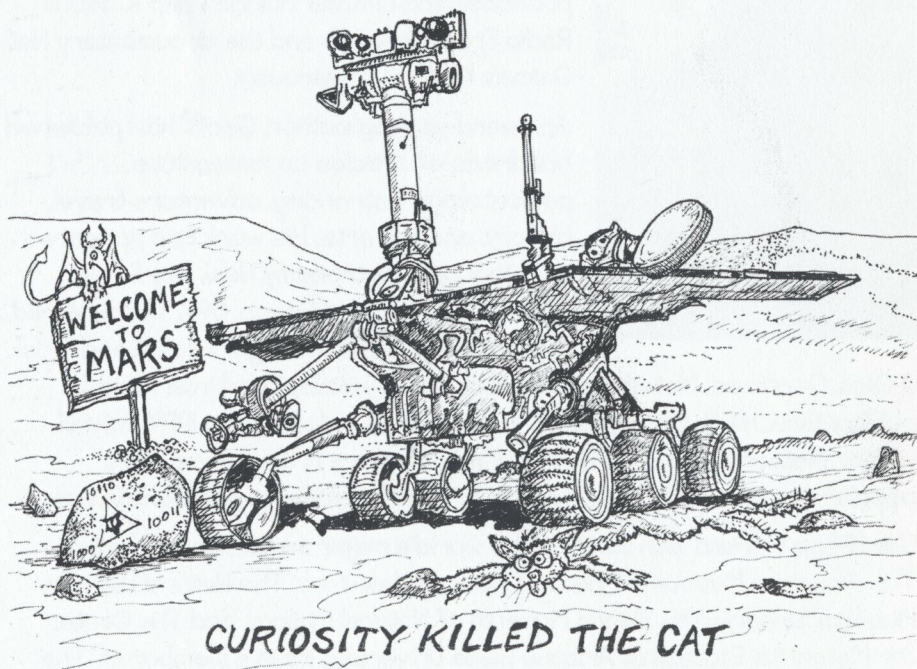
& Gem, Geotimes, Meteorite, and many other national and international publications. He is the author of three books including the IPPY Award-winner Meteorite Hunting: How To Find Treasure From Space and a popular science and arts blog, Searching the Skies, at GeoffNotkin.com.

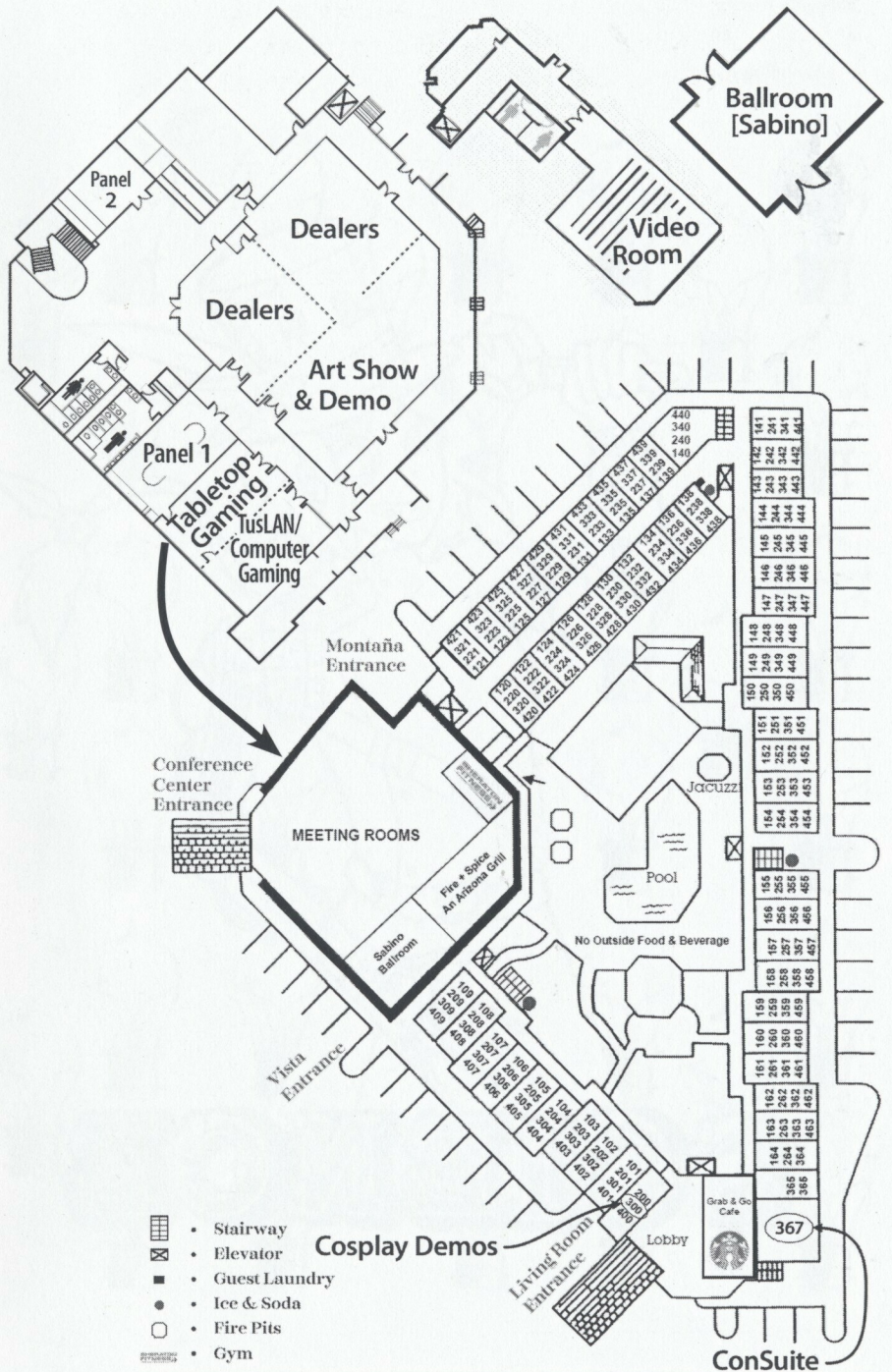
Geoff has worked with most of the world's major institutions including The American Museum of Natural History, New York; The Natural History Museum, London; the Vienna Museum of Natural History, and The Center for Meteorite Studies at Arizona State University. He is a member of The Explorer's Club, is on the Board of Governors of the National Space Society, the Advisory Board of Deep Space Industries, and the Board

of Directors of the Astrosociology Research Institute. The minor planet 132904, discovered at Mount Palomar, was named after Geoff in recognition of his contributions to science and education.

Adventuring has taken Geoff to over fifty countries and some of our planet's most remote areas, including northern Siberia, Chile's Atacama Desert, the Australian Outback, and he has three times crossed the Arctic Circle. By the age of seven, Geoff was already an avid rock hound, fossil collector and amateur astronomer. "I was amazed that you could see other worlds from a suburban London garden," Geoff states. "The epiphany came when I visited London's Geological Museum as a child. In the Hall of Meteorites, I realized that studying meteorites would be the perfect combination of geology and astronomy. I have been hooked ever since."

Geoff was born on 14th street in Manhattan and grew up in London, England. He studied in London, Boston, and New York, and now resides in the Arizona Sonoran Desert. We're extremely proud and honored to welcome back Geoff Notkin to TusCon 46!



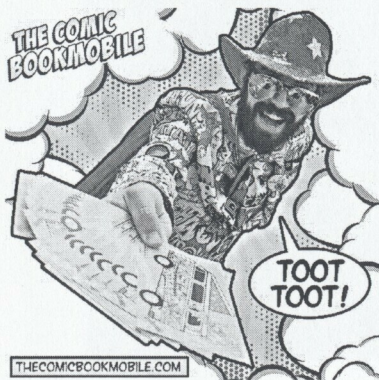




FRANK POWERS



**FRANK
POWERS**



THECOMICBOOKMOBILE.COM

Frank Powers is your BFF and with him, that means your Best Frank Forever! The founder of the Comic Bookmobile, he is obsessed with helping the Tucson community embrace individuality and chase creativity through cartooning and performance. Powers is on a mission to show you that honesty, optimism, and a positive

mental attitude can lead to a better state of mental health on the long, long, LONG journey to achieving the goals you set out for yourself...as a kid, or an adult. When he isn't trying to save PLANET Tucson, he's just a local DJ, wacky game host, and generally fun guy to be around. #TootTootTucson

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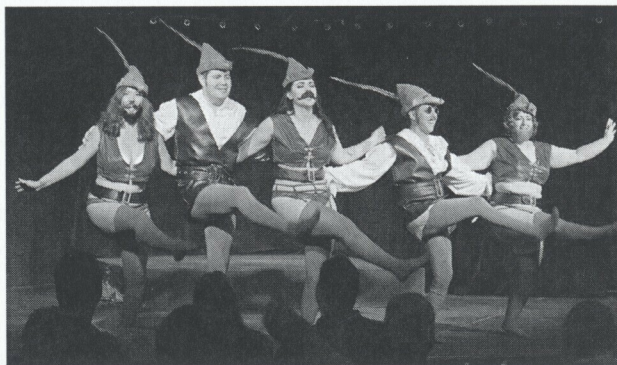




BURLESCAPADES

BURLESCAPADES

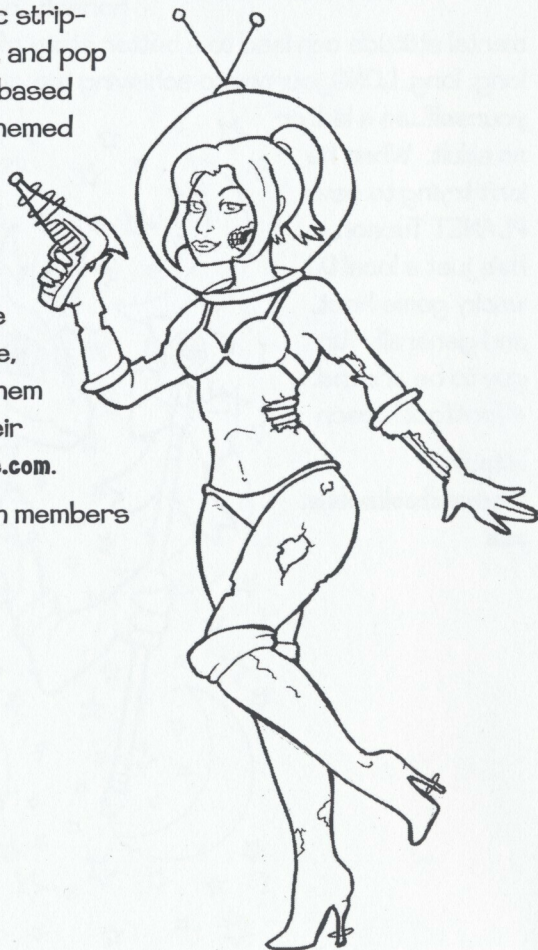
Sponsored by Wendy Trakes



Combining classic strip-tease, vaudeville, and pop culture, Phoenix-based

BurEscapades specializes in themed shows for a variety of audiences. BurEscapades features several talented individuals, each with their own specialty. The troupe's creative performers never fail to titillate, inspire, and entertain! Follow them on Facebook and check out their website at: burlescapadestroupe.com.

This 18+ show is free to TusCon members only.



MADAME ASKEW



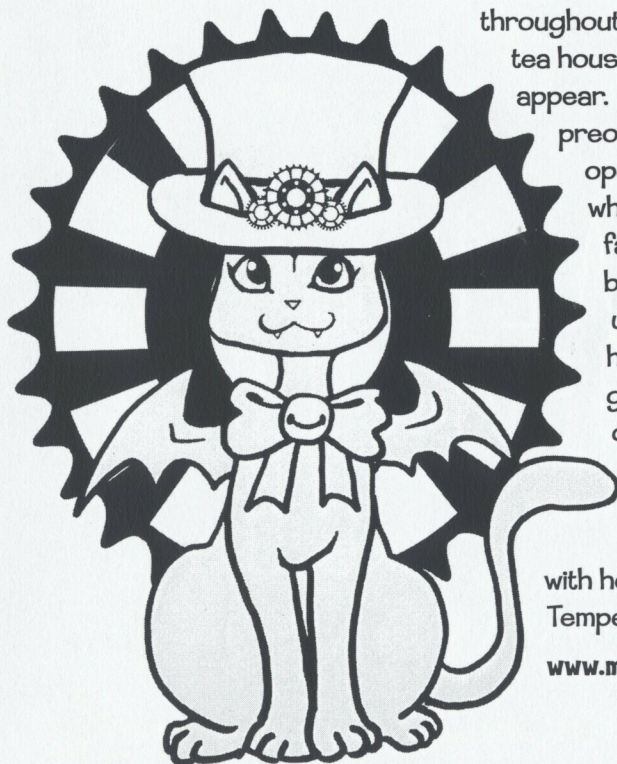
MADAME ASKEW



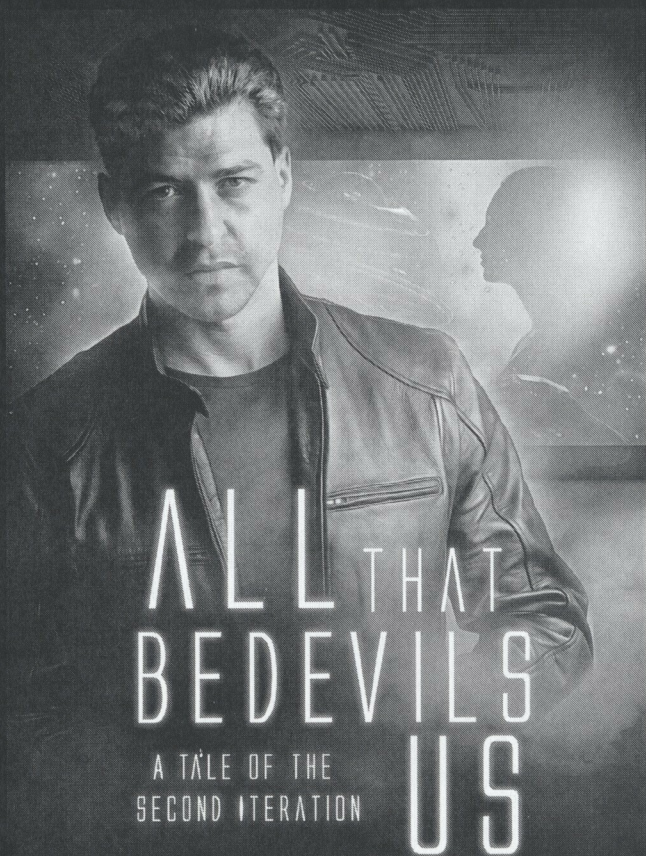
Madame Askew is a time-travelling tea aficionado, obsessed with tea, fashion, and the proper use of headgear. Whilst she is often the center of tea-inspired escapades, especially Tea Dueling and splendid Teapot Racing, she is also a great advocate of Compliment Dueling. Madame loves nothing so much as meeting charming and talented individuals across time, throughout the universe, and in tea houses wherever she may appear. When Madame is not

preoccupied with tea, she operates a small atelier where she creates fanciful and charming bespoke garments, underpinnings, and hats for ladies and gentlemen. She is also quite delighted to teach sewing workshops and to host regular live sewing teatorials with her dear friend Temperance.

www.madameaskew.com



He survived a holocaust.
What price will Jan Costa
pay to prevent the
next one?



THOMAS WATSON

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1. Membership badges must be worn at all times and be clearly visible for admission to any convention function. If you lose your badge, for a fee, Registration will provide you with a replacement.
2. The legal drinking age in Arizona is 21 years of age. [A.R.S. §4-101(18), A.R.S. §4-244(16)] Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of 21, or providing alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21 is grounds for expulsion from the convention and notification of law enforcement.
3. Use of cameras and/or recording equipment is not permitted in the Art Show, Artists' Alley, or any video presentation room. If you are planning on using pictures/video/film/audio of TusCon for any promotional purposes, you MUST CONTACT US IN ADVANCE.
4. TusCon is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged property, actions of other individuals, injuries, or death sustained during the course of the convention.
5. Announced events and guests are subject to change and/or cancellation without notice.
6. Smoking, vaping, or other tobacco use is not permitted anywhere on the hotel grounds, except for a few specially-designated areas. Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites is a tobacco-free property.
7. No outside (non-hotel provided) food is permitted in any of the hotel indoor function spaces. Eating is not permitted in any of the Panel Presentation rooms. Eating or drinking is not allowed in the Art Show or Artists' Alley.
8. We reserve the right to ask you to leave the convention and refuse to refund your membership. We also reserve the right to ban individuals from attending future TusCon Conventions.
9. ALL weapons must be peace-bonded. Blades must be cased/sheathed at all times in public areas. No clowning around or horseplay in the common areas. Any weapon used in an offensive, threatening, and/or careless manner will be confiscated, Rule #8 enforced, and law enforcement notified.
10. No projectile weapons. Anything that looks like a real firearm, will be treated like a real firearm by the convention security staff, hotel security, and law enforcement.
11. Costumers: no costume is NO costume. [A.R.S. §13-1402]
12. Do not abuse the hotel facilities or the hotel staff.
13. Do not abuse the convention staff.
14. Harassment is not acceptable behavior.
15. Selfie sticks, GoPro poles, or any device that extends your camera or phone away from your hand, are not allowed at TusCon. If you're seen with one of these devices, you will be asked by convention staff to put it away and not use it at TusCon. This policy applies to any TusCon function space.



CONVENTION POLICIES

16. No devices may be flown or tethered within the confines of any TusCon function space. This includes helium balloons and helium filled products, drones, or any lighter than air objects either powered or unpowered. Use of any of these devices in an exterior environment is acceptable after:
 - A. taking appropriate and reasonable precautions for the safety and well-being of convention attendees and any other individuals that may be present, and
 - B. receiving written approval from a member of the TusCon Committee.
17. TusCon and Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites are making every reasonable effort to be ADA compliant and friendly.

What does all of this mean?

1. Yes, that means you need a stinkin' badge. Wear it. Be proud of it. Don't expect to be able to go anywhere without it.
2. It's like, you know, the law. We do not post bail.
3. For safety reasons, please check with Masquerade personnel PRIOR to using any flash photography during the Masquerade. For promotional pictures/video/film/audio, we have a professional publicity consultant that we will put you in touch with to make proper arrangements.
4. We will be very sympathetic. What we would like to be responsible for, is you having a great time.
5. Every effort will be made to announce any changes via the internet or at-con, but sometimes last-minute changes can occur. That's life.
6. No smoking, vaping, or use of other tobacco products (Yes, we understand that vaping is not using a tobacco product) at TusCon – including traditional cigarettes, pipes, cigars, E-cigarettes, any vaping product or device, or chewing tobacco (including 'cuts' or 'pouches'). This policy applies to any TusCon function space, including the ConSuite (Hospitality). You are welcome to step outside to smoke / vape / dip in designated smoking areas, but ONLY in those designated areas. This policy is in place not only for the comfort of attendees but also to comply with Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites tobacco-free policies and State of Arizona smoking ordinances prohibiting smoking at public events within 20 feet of any doorway, entrance, exit or operable window. [A.R.S. §36-601.01]
7. As for food and drink, this hotel policy is why food and/or drink is not allowed to leave the ConSuite. And the reason eating is not permitted in any of the Panel Presentation rooms - it's not only messy, it's just downright rude. Do we really have to explain the no food or drink policy in the Art Show, Artists' Alley?
8. If you are behaving in an unacceptable fashion - in other words, acting like a jerk - expect to be treated like a jerk and asked to leave. And possibly asked to never return.



LOKALON

SEPTEMBER 4-7 **ZUZU** PHOENIX, AZ



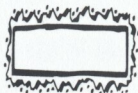
Authors - Art - Concerts - Workshops - Gaming - Panels

9. Use common sense. We do not post bail nor cover medical expenses.
10. The hotel does not permit the use of any type of functioning projectile weapon (including but not limited to Nerf, Ping-Pong ball, rubber band, and marshmallow shooters). If mundane law enforcement gets involved, we do not post bail nor cover medical expenses.
11. Pima County and the State of Arizona have public nudity laws. [A.R.S. §13-1402] Again, we do not post bail nor cover medical expenses. You notice a theme going on here?
12. If you are having an issue with the hotel and cannot seem to get it resolved, we have people for this. Please find one of the convention staff and report your problem. We will really do our best to work it out to everyone's satisfaction.
13. While we try to be as accommodating as possible, we aren't Burger King. There are reasons we do things a particular way. If you're unhappy with a policy or protocol and there doesn't seem to be an equitable solution, please be reasonable. Please accept our apologies and understand that you can't always get what you want.
14. Do you really have to ask? Okay, harassment includes offensive verbal comments [related to gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion], sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention. What's going to happen? Refer back to Rule 8. If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact a Committee member immediately.
15. Too many problems and injuries at other conventions have occurred, and this is rapidly becoming a standard policy across the nation. Need your picture taken and your arm isn't long enough? Ask a passer-by. We do have lots of friendly folk who would be glad to help.
16. <sigh> Really? The areas are too confined for the safe use of flying objects, be they paper airplanes, "Air Swimmers", or a XactSense Titan drone (look it up).
17. TusCon and Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites will make every reasonable effort to see that everyone has an opportunity to access everywhere that is convention function space. If you feel your special assistance needs are not being met, please contact any TusCon Staff or Committee member.





COMMODE O' DRAGON



ART SHOW

ART SHOW

*Liz Vela,
Art Show Director*

The TusCon Art Show will feature a Silent Auction, an affordable Print Shop, and art panels and discussions.

Please join us - view and bid on our amazing art!



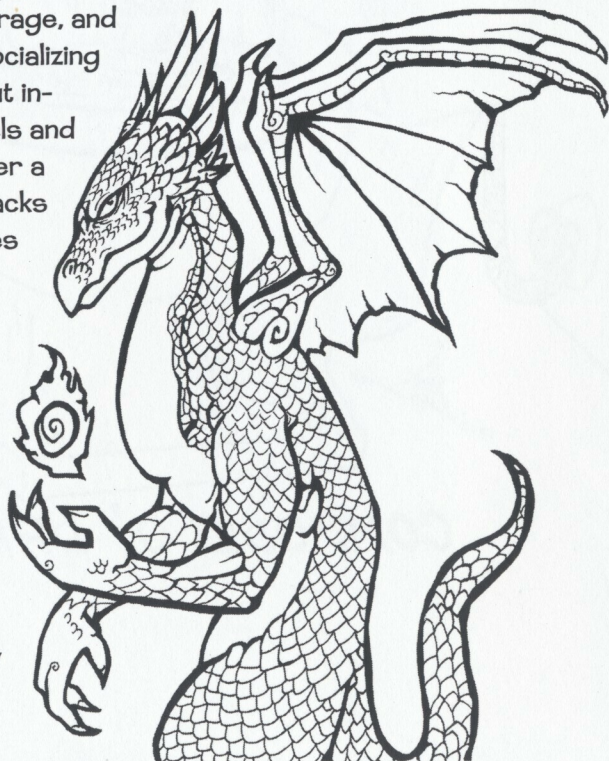
CONSUIE

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ConSuite is a place to grab a snack, beverage, and spend time socializing or hanging out in-between panels and films. We offer a variety of snacks and beverages and are open

to all attendees of TusCon 46.

The ConSuite will be open Friday - Sunday, closed for Meet the Guests Friday night, and will serve the traditional Hotter-than-Hell chili (and a milder variation) Sunday afternoon at the Dead Dog Party.

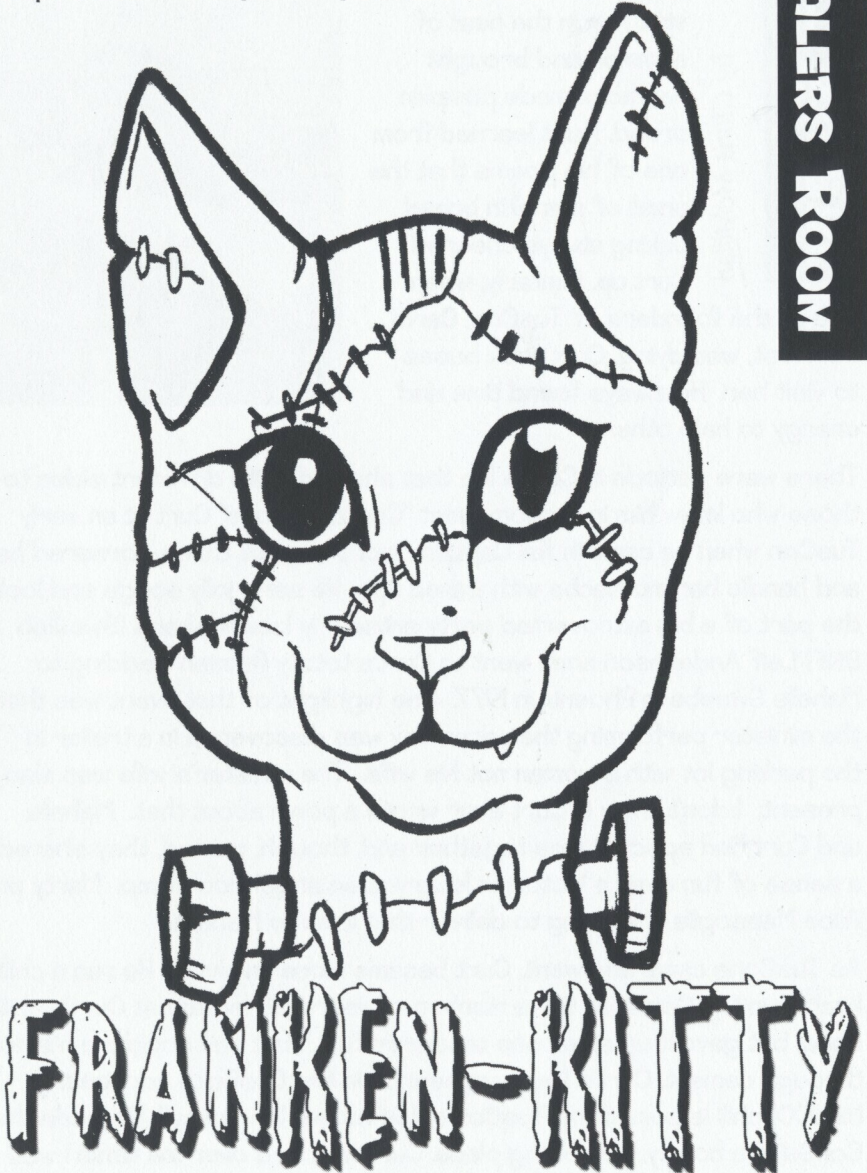


DEALERS ROOM



Need a holiday gift for family or friends? Visit our Dealers Room for a wide variety of unique and unusual items. The Dealers Room will be open Friday - Sunday. Come support our dealers and find that special item which you'll only see at TusCon!

DEALERS ROOM





CURT STUBBS

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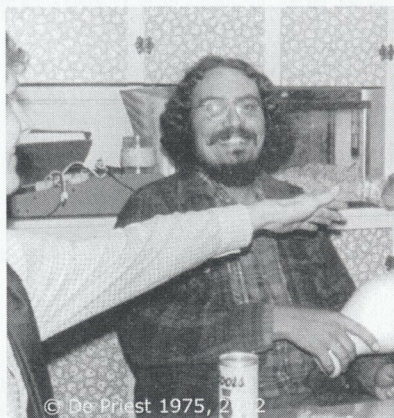
by Gloria McMillan

Foremost, Curt was one of the hearts of fandom. If Curt knew you, he was there when you needed a friend. I recall that when Jan Locket, a longtime TusCon fan was dying, Curt took buses to visit her in the heat of summer and brought her homemade pumpkin bread. I just learned from one of his poems that the smell of pumpkin bread baking always cheered Curt up. Similarly, when

one of the founders of TusCon, Carol DePriest, was dying, Curt took buses to visit her. He always found time and energy to help others.

There were periods in Curt's life that showed quite different sides to those who knew him in fandom. I met "Captain Coors" Curt at an early TusCon when he came in full Captain Coors regalia: three-cornered hat and handle bar mustache with waxed tips. He sang jolly songs and looked the part of a big extroverted party animal. My late husband (Swedish BNF) Leif Andersson and I went to Curt's totally fannish wedding to Mahalia Sweebe in Phoenix in 1977. One highlight of that event was that the minister performing the ceremony was discovered in a trailer in the parking lot with a woman not his wife. The minister's wife was also present. I don't know if Curt ever wrote a poem about that. Mahalia and Curt had special times together and, though, parted, they shared a sense of fun over a Victorian lachrymose angel floor lamp. Marty and Alice Massoglia are going to deliver that lamp to Mahalia.

As TusCons came and went, Curt became more involved. He ran a chili kitchen in the ConSuite for a number of years. I tried to eat Curt's chili once, but gave it up after one teaspoon full. That chili could burn a hole through cement. Curt's happy presence in the ConSuite concocting his XXX chili is something TusCon elder fen will long recall. He made the ConSuite a homey, welcoming place. Curt watched over me when I was



© De Priest 1975, 21 2

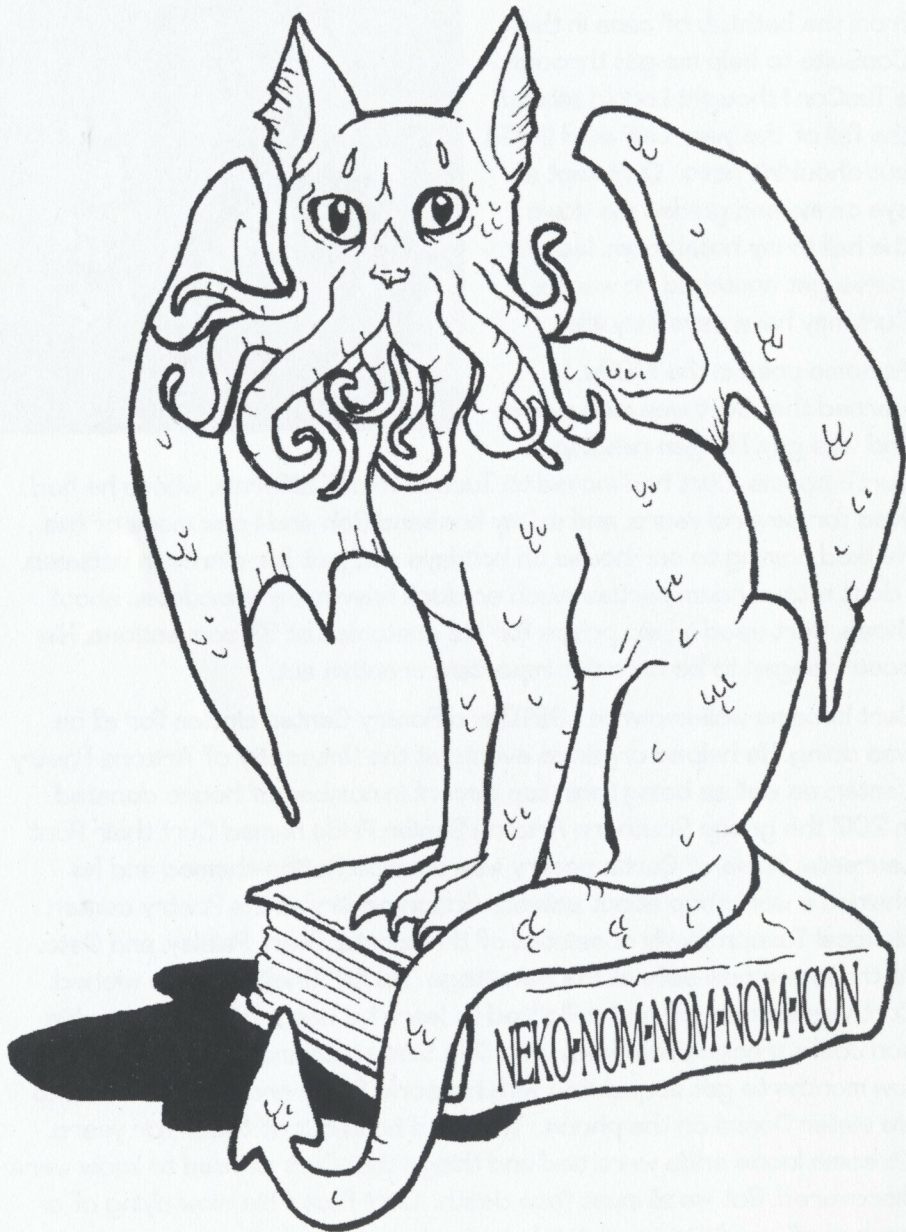
thirty when my first husband died at 35. I had drunk a "few" beers from the bathtub of cans in the ConSuite to help me get through a TusCon I thought I could attend, the fall of the year Leif died (1979), but shouldn't have. Curt kept an eye on me and guided me down the hall to my hotel room, lest my purse get snatched or worse. Curt may have saved my life.

At some point in the 1980s, I learned that Curt was also a poet and was gay. I began reading Curt's poems. Curt had moved to Tucson from California, where he had lived for several years, and so my husband Bob and I saw more of him. He liked coming to our house on holidays and just for dinner in between. I don't attend room parties much so don't have many anecdotes about those. Curt used to win prizes for his costumes at SF conventions. His poetry began to be his most important creative act.

Curt became well-known in LGBTQ and Poetry Center circles for all he was doing. He helped organize events at the University of Arizona Poetry Center, as well as being their top docent in number of hours donated. In 2017 the group Southern Arizona Senior Pride named Curt their Poet Laureate. Some of Curt's poetry was science fiction-themed and he chaired a workshop about science fiction poetry at the Poetry center. His local Tucson family consisted of three cats: Pearl, Paisley, and Gato. All three are now safe at the Hermitage "No Kill" Shelter, as he wished. Curt was astounded and delighted to learn he was a father, due to his son Joel's tracking him down via a DNA test at 23 and Me. He only had a few months to get acquainted with his son's family and to re-connect to his sister Donna on the phone. They had been out of touch for years. So some loose ends were tied and things that Curt needed to know were discovered. But we all must face death. Curt faced his slow dying of a number of conditions resolutely and uncomplainingly.

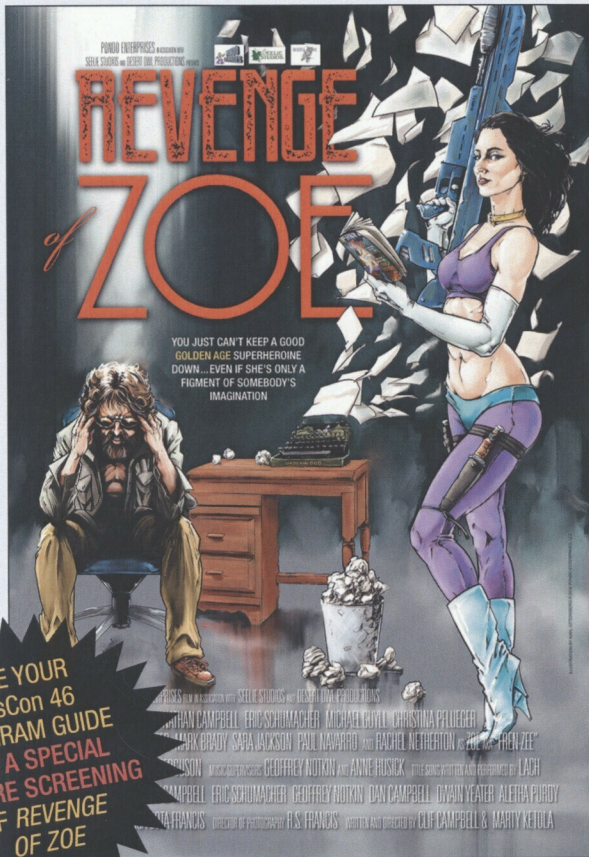
I am glad to count him as my friend and TusCon was fortunate to have Curt as one of its "hearts."





HEY, KIDS ... WANNA BE IN A COMIC BOOK MOVIE?

In 2018, at TusCon 45, we presented the world premiere of the live-action indie feature film *Revenge of Zoe*. Set in the world of comic books and featuring a Tucson-based cast, it has screened around the country and recently won "Best Science Fiction Film" award at the Silver State Film Festival in Las Vegas.



SEE YOUR
TusCon 46
PROGRAM GUIDE
FOR A SPECIAL
ENCORE SCREENING
OF REVENGE
OF ZOE

This year, at TusCon 46, we are filming the sequel —
The Love Song of William H. Shaw — and *you* can be in it!
Ask TusCon staff about appearing as an extra. Support the film or
become a bigger part of it by joining our Indiegogo campaign at:

igg.me/at/billyshaw