



L.A.con IV Supports Literacy

L.A.con IV is supporting a book exhibit and raffle to benefit Reading is Fundamental (RIF) and the Los Angeles Public Library. Books, magazine subscriptions, games and other science and SF-related materials will be on display in the Exhibit Hall. Raffle tickets will be sold for packets created from these materials, with the drawing to be held as a program item on Sunday at 11:30am in the convention center, room AR-1 (your **ticket** must be present to win, as packet choice occurs immediately after the drawing).

Val and Ron Ontell



There are some interesting vehicles such as a '66 Batmobile or a DeLorean time machine that are standing next to a wonderful star trike and the OBISHWN custom H-Wing.

On your way over to the Space Port Lounge, you can admire the old moon lander and rover, or walk along the wall of



history of science fiction Worldcons and fandom (sign your name where you came in!)

There's also the Easton Collection, FANAC Fan History, the Rebridgeamator (interactive poetry) and the Chaos Machine for hands-on enjoyment.

While you're here, before you go into Art Show or Dealers' Room, remember that site selection closes Friday at 6pm.

Jan van't Ent



Furries Wanted!!!

Any Furries in the Phoenix, Arizona area - or any Furries who can drive there and back in a weekend - this notice is for you. For more than 20 years, I've been breeding Oriental Shorthair cats for intelligence - and they've got it. Five years ago I bred in thumbs, too. These little critters aren't exactly anthropomorphic, but they're about halfway there. For tales of the adventures of some of my cats, see: <http://www.kayshaper.net/FishTale.htm>

Right now I have a bunch of these super-intelligent cats who need homes - kittens from three to eight months old, and some young adults 10 months to two years old. I'll give them, free, along with their pedigrees, biographies and instruction manuals, to any serious cat-loving fan who's willing to take one. Please get hold of me at lesliefish@cox.net, after Worldcon or 310-502-5477 during the convention, or leave a written note at the Random Factors table in the dealers' room.

Leslie Fish <:))><

Overheard

"Meet me in front of Hall A"
"OK. Dressed or naked?"



classic robots & human admirers

Exhibits/ The Quad

As the operations manual briefly mentions, there's plenty to see in the quad of Cadet Central every time you pass through. No doubt you'll have seen Fred Barton's the-robotman.com line-up of celebrity robots (from the Terminator 2 via Jessica Robot down to Gort and a Dalek).

You may want to pass on experiencing the weapons display and torture machine in the corner, but you can more easily get into things like the Star Trek bridge of 40 years ago.



Writers Workshop

The L.A.con IV writers workshop is a mutual-help function for either experienced or beginning writers, based on the principle that good critiquing skills make good writing skills. It provides members the opportunity to submit their manuscripts and have them evaluated by their peers, selling writers, and other professionals in the speculative fiction industry who enjoy helping them grow as artists.

L.A.con IV would like to thank the following professionals and moderators for their availability to this project: Gerri Balter, Hilari Bell, Janice Bennett, Maya Kaathryn Bohnoff, Charlene Brusso, Jeff Carlson, Adam-Troy Castro, Richard Chwedyk, Brenda Cooper, Lillian Csernica, William Fawcett, Jim Fiscus, Richard Gilliam, Adrienne Gormley, Ashley Grayson, P. C. Hodgell, James P. Hogan, Elizabeth Anne Hull, Ph.D., Mark Kreighbaum, Nancy Kress, Jay Lake, Aaron B. Larson, David D. Levine, Jacqueline Lichtenberg, Barry Longyear, Jean Lorrain, Ph.D., Louise Marley, Sean McMullen, Deirdre Saoirse Moen, Devon Monk, Mike Moscoe, Edward Muller, Kevin A. Murphy, Kathleen H. Nelson, G. David Nordley, Jody Lynn Nye, Jenny Rappaport, Dianna Rodgers, Mary Rosenblum, Darrell Schweitzer, Karl Shroeder, Catherine Smyth-McMullen, Jefferson P. Swycaffer, Amy Thomson, James Van Pelt, Lori Ann White

Writers workshops come in assorted varieties. Some confuse seminars, where the seasoned pro gives a lecture then have the audience do exercises, as writing workshops. When the word workshop is used in the writing community, however, those who have been in it very long immediately think critique group. In a critique group format a few members submit their work beforehand, then the others evaluate it and prepare their comments for when they meet (which can be either a schedule where the participants meet on a regular basis or a one-shot meeting such as L.A.con IV). The participant who is "on the hot seat" then takes the comments from the others and utilizes them as they feel appropriate.

All reading is done in advance. The time spent on site at L.A.con IV is for citing the good and bad points found. There is no on-the-spot reading for critiques.

This is not a competition. Participants work in a quiet, secluded room to elaborate on the story structure, logistics, and style of the entrants' submissions. Due to the critical nature of this workshop, it is closed to non-participants. While most entrants find it an encouraging and exhilarating experience, others find it rougher than they expect.

Those interested in participating next year should contact Nippon 2007, the 65th World Science Fiction Convention and specify your interest in a critique group style workshop. Buying your membership several months ahead of time keeps you up-to-date on the latest developments of the convention and the entry deadline for the writers workshop.

Adrienne Foster

Unofficial Ribbons Exhibit

— "Oooh, you must be important, you have so many ribbons."
— "Well, actually..."

Official badge ribbons are one way that a Worldcon committee identifies itself and its members. Ribbons are used for access control, to reward volunteers and mark participants, or to indicate who's in charge. L.A.con IV ordered more than 70 different official ribbons with the rocket/starburst design.

Badge ribbons can also express fans' creativity and whimsy. Ordering your own isn't difficult, so a number of fans printed their own ribbons to hand out at L.A.con IV. Over 100 different unofficial ribbons were ordered for serious and silly ribbons. They are on display in the LA in 2006 bid exhibit, near Chaos Space Pirates in Hall A.

Most of the ribbons were ordered independently of the convention and without the knowledge of the Executive Committee. A few department heads ordered some to hand out on their own, making their ribbons quasi-official in a sense. (The line between official and unofficial activities is a bit fuzzy at Worldcons.)

How can you get some ribbons like these on display? Talk to people. Participate. See the exhibits. Visit the Fan Lounge. Volunteer. Go to the open parties. Give blood. Ask people where they got their ribbons. Many of these ribbons are free for the asking, if you just figure out the right person to ask nicely.

Chaz Boston Baden

Overheard

"I'm building a reputation in my kingdom."



Christine Brockway in Godzilla's Grasp



Christine Brockway in Godzilla's Grasp

Declassified News

- ❖ HANA (Hertz Across to Nippon Alliance) is the one-shot special fund to send John Hertz to Nippon 2007. Hana = flower. Cheques to Janice Murray, PO BOX 75684, Seattle WA 98175-0684. More info: <http://sjhntnippon2007.livejournal.com>. - *Murray Moore*
- ❖ Stephen Dahlin: Please stop in at the Palisades room, Hilton 4th floor between the elevators. I have a package for you. - *Chaz*.

"Dead Dog" Dual Purpose

An astronomical observation: The demise of Pluto's planethood gives new meaning to the Dead Dog Party at the end of this con.

Anonymous

TO SAY NOTHING OF THE NEWS #9
Edited by Jan van't Ent and Craig Jones. Publisher Chaz Boston Baden.

Assistance by Paul Fischer, Martha Holloway, Gary Blog, David Gibbs, Arlene Satan, Susan de Guardiola, Sean Leonard, Sachiyo Matsushita, Tamie Inoue, Vanessa Van Wagner, Colleen Crosby, and Adam Tilghman.

Pan-Galactic Express couriers can be found at Hilton ext. 3080. Team includes: Pearl Newton, Ben Massoglia, Maria Rodriguez, Chaos Savitzky, Nicholas Hipp, Scott Hipp, Connor Foss, Roadkill, and Phil Welborn.

Art by darcee cashman. Photos by Jan van't Ent (front) and Jerry Shaw (back).

Cut-off for the Saturday morning edition is 9pm. Drop off news items at Palisades Room (Hilton 4th floor, between the elevators) or at any newsboard that has a submission envelope. Please sign your contributions. We reserve the right to ignore anonymous notes.