



# DARKCON

## BULLETIN

### 2014

JANUARY 9TH-12TH

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### IT'S COMING...

Hello friends, I'm your Publications Dude, and let's talk about Fall. Yes, Fall, the beginning of those few precious months when the temperature in the Valley drops, and you can finally dig into the back of your closet for your specialty garb. Long sleeves, long coats, long scarves and anything else to pull off your Time Lord costume. Always a good idea to get a jump on the Doctor Who fiftieth anniversary programming we've got for DarkCon 2014! Halloween's over, but why put away the cosplay when we'll only be pulling it out again in a couple months? And that's not all you'll have to look forward to, this January! More guest news, gaming, and then after hours? Oooh la la. So come one,



come all, but please come for everything I have to give in this latest DarkCon Bulletin.

### USS ARTEMIS

Space... the ultimate target-rich environment. These are the voyages of the starship Artemis, and its sister ships, in their ongoing mission to blow the crap out of marauders and each other. Gather your command staff and sign up for this popular starship bridge simulator, and reenact your favorite space battle versus another crew!



### GUEST NEWS!

I'll bet you thought we were all done lining up the talent for this show. Oh, faithless, how dare you doubt us... we still had a few surprises for the guest list.

### LOCK S-FOLDS

Star Wars fans, rejoice! DarkCon is thrilled to announce that Michael Stackpole, author of the X-Wing series and numerous Star Wars comics for Dark Horse, will be joining us this January! Michael will be happy to discuss his contributions to the Star Wars universe, as well as his Age of Discovery trilogy and an upcoming novel for the World of Warcraft.



### I CONFESS...

Susan Wright, the best-selling author of over 30 novels and nonfiction books on art and popular culture, will also be joining us! Susan will be on hand to discuss her books in the supernatural romance and Star Trek genres, as well as her work as the Founder and Spokesperson for the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom, a national organization committed to protecting freedom of sexual expression among consenting adults.



## SHALL WE PLAY A GAME?

### JACK IN

Meet Tom Dowd, co-creator of the award-winning cyberpunk RPG Shadowrun, associate professor and Coordinator of Columbia College Chicago's "Game Development" curriculum, and game writer extraordinaire. Tom has written not only for Shadowrun, but also the MechWarrior franchise, Axis & Allies, Leisure Suit Larry, and Duelmasters, and he'll be with us this January!



### BLOODY 'ELL

John Wick is a multi-award winning game designer and author, best known for his Houses of the Blooded RPG, and will be at DarkCon! John got his start creating the world and characters for games such as Legend of the Five Rings and 7th Sea for AEG. He has started his own publishing company, and written online gaming columns and content for companies like White Wolf, Inc. and Pinnacle Entertainment Group.



### MOON RISE



Todd Van Hooser will be with us and bringing his creation, the Laughing Moon Chronicles RPG. An educator with a degree in English and creative writing at the University of Missouri, Todd was recognized as Teacher of the Year for the 2006-7 school year.

### TROLLING

Ken St. Andre is a fantasy author, and game designer, best known for his work with Tunnels & Trolls. He has been an active member of The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America since 1989. St. Andre is the original designer of the 'pen-and-paper' role-playing game Tunnels & Trolls and will be with us in 2014.



### BRING IT!

Our friends with gaming groups the Unnamed Association of Gamers, the Steve Jackson MIB, Time Renegades, Laughing Moon Productions, and Catalyst Game Labs will be on hand with experience, advice, and a whole lot of games. Check out what we have in store:

**MaricopaCon Gamer Olympics** - a ranked competition where the players play multiple fast short games over a given time period, and are awarded points based on how each game is finished. Prizes for all participants.

**Bolt Action** - a WWII tabletop miniatures war game made by Valley-based Warlord Games. Demos will run all weekend.

**Thunderstone** - sign up for a tournament of this fantasy deck-building card game by AEG.

**Heroscape** - a fun, out-of-print and easy-to-learn miniatures game, scheduled for Saturday play.

**Heavy Gear** - demos and a tournament will run for this sci-fi mech minis war game by Dream Pod 9.

**Laughing Moon RPG** - takes gamers into a treacherous setting where nothing is what it seems.

**Firefly** - come play the newly released shiny board game, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday!

**Fortune and Glory** - play as treasure hunters traveling the globe in search of ancient artifacts, fending off danger and villains in this pulp-styled adventure game scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

**Raiding Parties** - Join local game designer Nick Pace while he demos his creation, this deck-building game where you as commander select a pirate crew as part of your Raiding Party in a fast-paced card battle.

**Tunnels & Trolls** - Come play the Deluxe version of this classic game with Ken St. Andre on Sunday!

And here's even more games that are scheduled: Hollow Earth Expedition, Night's Black Agents - Sentries, Call of Cthulhu: The Wives of March Part 1 & 2, Delta Green: When the Levee Breaks, Revolution, Illuminati, Munchkin Quest, GURPS: Walking Dead, GURPS DF: Troll Hunters Wanted!, GURPS Traveller: Spinward Marches, Ogre 6E, Castellan, Lord of the Fries/Give Me the Brain, Frag, Zombie Fluxx.

# IT'S MY PARTY, CRY IF YOU WANT TO.

## IT BEGINS!

This is how your weekend begins, my friends! Enjoy the live performance of the internationally renowned Traveler on Thursday night from 9:00 pm to midnight. Traveler is a multi-cultural musical experience fusing Gypsy, Middle Eastern, Celtic, Greek and Turkish styles with Rock. He will be performing with traditional ethnic instruments combined with all the power of a full blown rock band. It'll be a unique experience and a fantastic kick-off for DarkCon 2014, and there'll be a no-host bar in the offering as well. We're thrilled to have such a high energy, passionate performance to offer our attendees.



## TIME LORD'S BALL

A 50th Anniversary is reason enough for a party! The Dark Ones and AZ TARDIS will be bringing all kinds of wibbly wobbly timey wimey fun, so remember to bring your banana on Saturday night! But watch out for the costume contest, and anyone resembling a madman with a box...



## PAJAMA TIME

Don't you dare miss this one last hurrah! Some conventions have a Dead Dog Party to wind down their weekend, but for DarkCon, that's just not our style! Stick around as we crank up the party that Sunday night with our famous DarkCon Pajama Party. So don't check out, and don't plan on driving home just yet (at least not without a designated driver), you just might miss something! Come party into the night with the other attendees brave enough to stay for this legendary event. The bar'll still be flowing, and there'll be a raffle for prizes, but ONLY to those in attendance. C'mon, you know you won't want the weekend to end without a proper send-off!



## GEAR UP FOR FUN



Connect with Arizona's Steampunkers, and dance fanciers in DarkCon's premier musical event, the ever-popular Steampunk party on Friday night. In the infamous Dark Suite there will be cordials presented by Craig of the White Cliffs; with food and snacks for those who feel peckish during the party.

As part of the festivities, DarkCon is proud to present for your listening pleasure the music of Arizona's only local Irish rock band, Keltic Cowboys! Join us as we kick it 'Irish style' with the Arizona's premier Irish Rock Band.

The Keltic Cowboys will be in the Yuma Ball Room from 9:00 pm to midnight with a no-host bar available for your drinking pleasure.



# ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK

## MOVIE SIGN!

Hal C F Astell of Apocalypse Later will open up a string of mini-film festivals at local conventions in 2014 with a presentation at DarkCon of short films covering enough steampunk, cyberpunk, diesel-punk and stitchpunk to make you feel lucky, punk. The full program will feature a ninety-minute set of short films, followed by a feature presentation. Like DarkCon itself, these selections will span the range of punked genres and are sourced from local to abroad. If local filmmakers are available, there will also be a Q&A. This film festival will take place on Thursday and Friday evenings.

## GO ALL IN!

[Register now](#) for our No Limit Steampunk Texas Hold 'Em Charity Tournament on Friday night! All you'll need is the required \$10 donation for your seat at the table, and maybe your steampunk formal wear. Follow the link for more details, and proceeds are to benefit the charity, The Peace Fund.



## MAKE IT, DON'T FAKE IT

DarkCon will once again offer a great selection of Make-and-Take classes and workshops this January. Register now at [darkcon.org](http://darkcon.org) while space is available for the following:

- Owl Feather Steampunk Pins
- Cyberpunk Hair Falls
- Steampunk Weapons
- Steampunk Holsters
- Steampunk Goggles
- Fascinators
- Home Brewing and Cordials
- Leather Pouches
- Leatherworking 101
- Cyberpunk Fallout Mask



## PLAYTIME...

In addition to all of our General programming ([check the website](#)), DarkCon is excited to bring you programming for our attendees **18 years of age and older** in the late-night hours. There'll be workshops



to educate and demonstrate kinks, flogger make & take, and more on Friday and Saturday night, for you, our dear freaks, geeks, and friends. Go to [darkcon.org](http://darkcon.org) to see a full breakdown of just what we've got in store.

## STAY TUNED

Well boys and girls, the clock is ticking down, and it'll be January before you know it. There's no time like the present to purchase your membership online at [darkcon.org](http://darkcon.org), and the sooner you reserve your room at the Phoenix Airport Marriott the better! There's even a link on the website for making reservations!

There's also our official Facebook page, go ahead and "like" us at [www.facebook.com/darkcon](http://www.facebook.com/darkcon) to receive updates in your newsfeed. And of course there's these handy Bulletins, which will reach your inbox with the latest information.

That's all for now, friends. I'm your Publications Dude, and you'll just have to trust me on this.