



## ***Tardum Flumen #5 — Saturday Afternoon***

### **Saturday Night Parties**

Convolution, 1227, 8:30pm  
San Diego in 2015 victory party, 1223-5, 9pm  
Kansas City in 2016, 1222  
Phoenix in 2014, Presidential Suite, 9pm-midnight  
Kaotic Mythicals, 1221, 9pm-1am  
Casino Royale, 1215  
No bids, food, kids, or bright lights, 1203, 10ish

### **Art Show Review**

Cats and dragons were once again the favorite subjects at this year's art show, although Sarah Clemens perhaps gilded the lily by showing both species in a number of her paintings. The next natural evolutionary step would be dragon-cats, but I didn't see any portrayed. The other notable theme this year was angels, with three of the best in show being Bob Keck's luminous "Ascension of Passion", Ruth Thompson-Soden's sultry "The Fourth Sin", and Frank Cirocco's ornate "Aphrodite". David Lee Pancake wins the award for most delicious name, and his nebulous "Oceans" also scores high in artistic taste. It's hard to choose a favorite from Julie Dillon's display, but we'll settle for the moody "Artificial Dreams," which are the finest kind.

*Randy*

### **Hild, Who Changed the World**

Nicola Griffith read from her upcoming historical novel, *Hild*. It is about the amazing woman who became an advisor to kings, teacher to bishops, and was canonized as St. Hilda of Whitby. She changed Britain if not the world. Very little is known about her early life. Nicola used her science fiction world-building skills to figure out who Hild was. She researched the period intensively, put Hild in the world, and saw what happened next. The passages she read to us were gritty, vivid, and rang true. The book follows Hild up to her 19th year. There will be more.

*Tom Becker*



*Bjo and John Trimble in baronial finery — by Brandy Grote*

### **Program Changes**

*Regency Dance: Sunday, 12:30pm in the atrium.*  
*Hugh Daniel Memorial: Sunday, 1:30pm in the atrium.*

### **In Case You Wondered**

I'm so glad everyone enjoyed the Friday night concert! A number of fans expressed concern about The Phenomenauts sound mix. The band's bus got stuck in traffic, and we were not able to do as complete a sound check as we would have preferred. Our crew from SmashWolf Productions was working valiantly to make sure we would have a great show that started on time, and I want to applaud them publicly for a job well done under those somewhat difficult circumstances.

*Kevin*

### **Attention Party Hosts**

The city of Sacramento has a strict 2am alcohol curfew. NO alcohol may be sold *or served* after 2am. ConOps will make the rounds after 1am to reconvey this message.

## Child-Free Lifestyle and IDIC

### Panels

As a new panelist, I spent the weeks before Westercon 66 preparing, preparing, preparing. I compiled notes on Star Trek, reread various science-fiction novels set in California, and selected readings for the "Page 119" panel. How refreshing to know that I qualified for two panels just because of who I am: a middle-aged, unmarried, heterosexual male with no children, but with experience living in a foreign culture. No study needed there. I've been cultivating myself in this regard for forty-seven years, so on to a certain two panels I went.

The first of these, "Child-Free Lifestyle," was comprised of panelists and audience members who decided not to have children to pursue certain professions or lifestyles, or to avoid passing on a health condition, or, as in the case of yours truly, because life progressed until "not giving it much thought" became "not for me." No one present, however, chose to remain child-free because they hate children. Much of the discussion involved how society presses us to have children, to fit in by starting families. But it is necessarily responsible to do so just because society seems to demand it? The majority answered emphatically, "no!" If children are in your life plan, and I emphasize PLAN, bless you. If they are not, bless you too.

The second panel stemmed from the Vulcan philosophy of Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combination (IDIC) and extended to a consideration of how this applies to the real world. The conversation quickly left Star Trek and moved on to an enumeration of trends in the global village that slow progress toward tolerance and acceptance. For example, the labeling of cultures or peoples as "others" perpetuates inequality. On another level, the weakening of critical thinking in education inhibits children's abilities to defend against specious arguments, like those leading to a belief in "others" needing to be brought around to "our" way of thinking. Finally, the United States, desperately in need of educational reform, needs to bolster foreign languages in the general curriculum. Let's give a shout out to our teachers, shall we? Both the panel and the audience was filled with these brave individuals, and the stories they shared provided strong evidence as to why they need and deserve our support.

I fondly hope that science-fiction conventions continue to hold panels or tracks that deal with lifestyle issues, or how science fiction relates to such issues. Each one I've experienced has been well-attended, and participants on both side of the table bring clear thoughts and fresh perspectives to any topic at hand. In the spirit of IDIC, I say live long and prosper.

*Chuck Serface*

## Found

A Lauren Hill wood needlework tool. Misses its owner. Waiting in Ops.

## Westercon Business Meeting

The only item on the agenda of this year's Business Meeting was site selection for Westercon 68 in 2015. Beating out Kevin & Andy's Back Yard in a landslide was San Diego, which will host the convention July 2-5, 2015. Author Guest of Honor is Spider Robinson, Artist Guest of Honor is John Picacio, Fan Guest of Honor is Seanan McGuire, and Special Guest is William F. Nolan, who amongst other things was co-chair of the 1952 Westercon. The membership rate is \$45 through the end of this weekend and will go up by \$5 starting on Monday. The convention has a table in the Shasta Room.

*Randy*

Ballot	Count
Both	1
None of the Above	1
TriPoint	1
Cotati, CA	1
Juneau, AK	1
Hawaii	1
Alaska	1
Kevin and Andy's Backyard	1
456 Restaurant	1
Reno	2
None of the Above	5
San Diego	92
No Preference	5
Total ballots	113
Cast with preference	108
Need to elect	55
San Diego wins in the first round	

## Messages

O2WAB

*Tardum Flumen* is the Westercon 66 news zine. Published by Tom Becker, Randy Byers, Chris Garcia, Craig Glassner, Al Megaw, and Chuck Serface. Logo by Eric Shanower. Contributions are copyright 2013 by the original artists and authors, used with permission.