

UtahSF Quarterly Meeting
held 16 June 2007 at the Main Branch of the SLC Library

Meet and Greet

--nobody new (big surprise--I have GOT to do better at publicizing these meetings beforehand)

Event Updates

--MountainCon has a carwash on June 30th, go support them if you can! CONduit staff very deeply appreciated the help MountainCon staff rendered this year and look forward to returning the favor.
--CONduit survives, by the skin of its teeth, but has got to find and implement some effective fundraising methods this year.
--WHC needs sponsors! Charlie is working up document to request sponsors. I will help with edits. This document can then be modified for other events' use, if said events so desire. Charlie would like to contact Pete Ashdown, head of XMission, about sponsorship, but is having trouble finding viable contact info. Can anyone help with this?
--LTUE just had its college sponsorship yanked out from under it, so it will definitely be putting Charlie's document to use for 2008 while it tries to arrange another long-term sponsor. Update: Charlie, bless her heart, already has an LTUE-version written up and almost ready to start sending around.
--Tolkien Festival 2008 will happen. Yay! Dates are available. They REALLY need volunteers. Contact Gloria Jensen for more info.
--Anime Banzai will be at the same hotel that royally screwed over CONduit in 2006. There's much concern over this, and we tried to warn them, but at this point, all we can do is try to support them and hope they don't get as screwed over as CONduit did.

While event updates and the subsequent financial discussion is going on, we swap bookmarks so that everyone has a mixed pack to distribute to stores in their locale. We were able to get bookmarks for LTUE, MountainCon, WHC, and UtahSF.

Finances

--Ruth informs the group that, due to some changes to IRS code, we will need to file a 990 this year, after all. Charles will take care of this before the end of the year.
--Heather needs to make sure we have receipts and memos documenting all donations.
--Heather also needs to get on the UtahSF account. Past attempts to do so have failed--Heather and Ruth need to be at the same bank at the same time to get things straightened out.
--We need to raise money, to help local events, to help designated charities, and to get our own organization on its feet and in a position to render help when needed. We bounce around some ideas and come up with some that might actually work. The signature quilt I did last year at MountainCon was great fun, but due to the cost of materials and signatures, it was more effective as a publicity tool than as a fundraiser. However, handicrafts themselves aren't a bad idea--it's an area where many locals have strong skills and many people out of the area do not have strong skills and are willing to pay for the services and products of those who do have them. Pam would like to see a sci-fi/fantasy-themed artwork/crafts/performances fair, but admits (and all agree) that logistics would be rather a nightmare, and it would have to be done for a couple of years in a row before it would start to turn a profit. So...good idea, but tabled until we have enough people to do it justice. Charlie points out that, through WHC channels, she has good access to a strong market for horror-themed handiwork, and the Demon Babies quilt and Sunbonnet Cthulu pillow that were raffled off at the WHC2007 room party were a huge hit. Charlie had people asking her if there were more they could buy. So, we'll give it a try. Charles and Heather will check with the Utah Costuming Guild to see if they're willing to help with quilt squares. Ideas for things to make and sell include more demon babies quilts, more Sunbonnet Cthulu pillows, Goth Kitty/Hello Cthulu pillows, bead spiders, skull bookmarks, and so on. We'll do some quilts, but will focus more on smaller items, since they cost less to produce, are quicker and easier to make, and generally provide better return on investment. Since it'll be UtahSF people (those who are interested--if you're not interested, nobody's gonna make you) providing materials and producing the stuff, but WHC2008 people getting stuff to its target market and actually selling it, UtahSF will get most of the profits, and WHC2008 will get a fair and mutually agreed-upon commission. Exact percentages TBD at next meeting, by which time hopefully we'll have stuff to sell. If other events want to set up similar cooperative ideas for their events, we are all ears.

Postal Stuff

--Ruth brought forms that need to be completed for a charitable organization bulk mailing permit. Heather will work on the forms (bleck, more lengthy, wordy federal documents to untangle) and will have

them complete and ready to file no later than the next meeting.

Website

--Joe is updating it to have a link on the main page that takes visitors to a list of big local fannish events (mostly conventions and symposia, though if other people want on, we're happy to put 'em on), with those events' dates and locations, and with links to those events' own websites. (Yes, this is something we should've thought to do a long time ago.)

--Joe is also working on an online month-by-month calendar that people can populate with club meetings, committee meetings, game days, fund raisers, etc.

--The ClubWiki that Joe built a while back could use some updating. If you have time and inclination, please go sign up and help him edit stuff. You can access ClubWiki from the main UtahSF page. Joe has also updated the Wiki software used there so that it talks with current browsers a bit better.

NEXT MEETING

August 11, 4 p.m., Main Branch of the SLC Library, Conference Room D

Looking ahead, we'd like to hold our last-quarter meeting (at which annual elections will be held) in early November, so that it'll be after this year's conventions and after Halloween, but before things start gearing up for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The meeting was adjourned, and we hung out and ate cookies and chatted until people needed to go. I forgot to pass around an attendance sheet, but if I remember correctly, we had Ruth and Caroljean Hanson, Charles Galway, Steve and Charlie Harmon, and Joe and Heather Monson in attendance. If you were there, and I forgot you, please let me know, and please forgive my bad memory.

Heather