#### Costume-Con 26 – San Jose, California



# **Pumping Iron**

Amy Calcote and Coleen
Crosby prove that costumers
too have to work out to
maintain those lovely figures.
Exercise is important (though
maybe not as effective in
stunning pumps!)
— Yvette Keller

#### **Lost & Found**

Bring found items and check for lost items in Con Operations, the Zinfandel Room (aka 266) on the second floor. Hours through Sunday are 9am – midnight, Monday 9am – 3pm.

#### **Lost – Glassses**

Rimless with small ovalish lenses. Lost during Friday Night Social, sitting in back left corner. If found, please deliver to Con Ops.

## **Submit to My Evil Plan!**

My Ent Plan, the Costume Con 26 newszine, is published twice daily. User-generated content is welcome. Please turn in your friends articles, reviews, interviews, photos, even poetry. Our electronic in-box is <newszine@cc26.org>. There also are drop boxes at Con Ops and downstairs at Information.

- Tom Becker

This issue was brought to you by Tom Becker, ace reporter Jean Martin, and chief minion Spike. The views expressed in this zine are not necessarily those of Costume-Con 26, its management, or the authors. Responsible parties may be provided the opportunity to generate more content for us to publish.

Saturday, April 26, 2008 – Morning Edition



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# **Pocket Program Corrections**

The Pocket Program is correct! Use the Pocket Program! Go to programming and enjoy yourselves!

### Friday Night Fun at Costume-Con 26

I didn't finish packing until late afternoon and so I didn't get to the hotel until past 6:00 p.m. Such is life. But as soon as I drove into the hotel parking lot, I felt at home like I always do at cons at this particular hotel. I felt relaxed and told myself that I would just wind up where and when I wind up and not worry about what I've missed.

Fortuitously my friend David arrived at the same time and helped me with my luggage. He remarked on how many I had with me and my answer was: "It's a costume convention!"

After I checked in, I went to pick up my badge at the registration desk. Chris Garcia, my co-editor for the news zine Science Fiction/San Francisco (SF/SF), was in the Coffee Garden by himself and so David, who's our layout editor, and I joined him for an impromptu dinner and staff meeting. Our regular columnist España Sheriff joined us a little later. What a fun way to begin the con!

I dashed off after dinner to change for the highlight of Friday night, the Friday night social in the big ballroom.

The theme for the evening was Victorian underwear. My costume included a black top hat with goggles, a necklace made of watch parts, a black and red corset and black Victorian boots. Most women were wearing an amazing variety of mostly white Victorian undergarments.

There were a lot of people already in the ballroom when I got there. I saw several familiar faces and chatted with a few people in the hallway while a blues band played inside the ballroom. Apparently, I missed Kevin Roche's opening remarks and

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him singing some songs. I also missed a set of Victorian and Regency dancing. But I got a lot of chances to dance as there were several sets of vintage dancing in between different acts on stage.



It felt quite amazing to be dancing these types of dances at a con. The reactions of people were quite gratifying. We did several set dances as well as waltz mixers. I missed dancing the Congress of Vienna, my favorite dance, as I went outside and several people wanted to take my photo and I chatted with several friends. When I came in, the dance was already in progress. I could have joined in but I couldn't find anyone who knew how to dance this romantic and beautiful choreographed dance. I did, however, participate in an impromptu promotional demonstration for PEERS of the Bohemian National Polka. I literally just learned this elaborately patterned dance a

month ago. I'm glad my partner for the dance was my friend Jim who is such a fabulous dancer and leads very well. I love this dance too and I'm glad to have been able to be a part of this for PEERS. I did have trouble doing the numerous pivot turns and polkas as my corset was laced too tight around my diaphragm (I laced it myself) and I couldn't breathe very well. These steps are quite energetic and aerobic! But I managed to make it through the dance.

The Twilight Vixen Revue, a burlesque troupe did a couple of numbers interspersed with the vintage dancing. They were quite entertaining and fun to watch. Kevin came back on stage as well and introduced H.G. Wells (Steve George of PEERS) whom he introduced as the man who made it possible for all of us (through time travel) to be at the con that evening.

The last dance I did was a set dance called Sir Roger de Coverly with my friend Dr. Noe, who is one of SF/SF's staff writers. He's also one of the people involved in the Time Travel Demo I'll be participating in on Saturday.



# Saturday, April 26, 2008 – Morning Edition



After the Friday night social ended, most of us went to the party rooms on the second floor. There was only one party that was going strong. It was the Pretty Pretty Princess party, which was put on by members of the GBACG. The room was full of women in 18th century underclothes and tiaras on their heads. It was quite a sight. It was like an erotic, but tasteful, fairy tale come true. Everyone looked so beautiful and elegant but naughty and liberated at the same time. When I walked in, the women

were dancing and singing on the beds to tunes that were all a celebration of being strong, independent and fun females. There were drawings of pretty princesses on the walls and someone handed me a Pretty Princess pink ribbon for my badge. Yeay, I'm a pretty princess and I'm proud of it. Too bad I left my tiara at home. If I knew they were doing this, I would have brought mine to wear as well. There were some men in the room and they seemed to be enjoying themselves.

There were a lot of people in the con suite as well but it was a quieter affair. There were the familiar-looking League of Evil Geniuses photos on the wall and there was actually food being served. Other than these two rooms, it was a quiet night for as far as parties go.

I went back to the Pretty Pretty Princess party room afterwards but I was starting to get tired. And it wasn't even midnight! But I still have a long and eventful weekend ahead of me and I still had articles to write for the con newsletter. So I headed back to my room and went to work for around three hours. Watch out for my next report on Saturdays activities. And I hope you are all already having as much fun as I am!

- Jean Martin

#### Overheard at the Friday Night Social

You can tug my laces any time. Wonderful! Romance covers gone wild!

It warms my heart; just like the Summer of Love. I bet a lot of husbands who don't think they like costume events are going to wish they'd come to *this* one when they hear about it.

Isn't that her Majesty in that lovely corset?

I'm not a minion of evil; I am upper management.

— Sarah Goodman