

After Event Report
Archon 2003

Date: Oct. 2 - 5, 2003

This year's Archon was a banner event. It would be easier to list who **didn't** attend. I haven't checked the final numbers, but attendance is, quite likely, going to exceed 3000.

Friday night saw the annual Klingon Party (thrown by Rob & Rona Chandler of the Eyes of Kahless), in the Holiday Inn courtyard. The twist this year, was that HI was having some trouble keeping the lights on. Every time they tuned the lights on, a breaker went out. A pair of work lights in the yard, and a table lamp on the bar, provided enough light to see by, and the cool air kept people close to each other. All in all, it was a very friendly event.

Now, most people are used to seeing Klingons volunteering for Security at conventions, and most Archon regulars are used to seeing me on the overnight detail. This year, however, I was asked to assist at the Grande Masquerade, as a stagehand.

While it doesn't sound hard, think about this: We presented 85 entries in just over 90 minutes. This included some contestants that were getting snagged on railings as they walked up the stage ramp and some contestants couldn't see because of the headpieces they were wearing.

My pet project for the evening was one gentleman who was dressed as a Minotaur. He stood 6' 11", covered head to toe on fur, and had a full headpiece that any Klingon would cringe at the thought of wearing. After being a human handrail, to assist him up and down the ramps, I spent 45 minutes keeping him stocked with ice water, as he looked like he was about to pass out.

The highlight of the Masquerade, however, was when Mike Evans (the sound engineer) brought Archon Committee member Jenny Overkamp (X.O. of the Purple Haze) up on stage, and proposed in front of the entire audience. After a few seconds of playful hemming and hawing, she finally gave an enthusiastic 'Yes.'