

STEREO VIEWS

A Monthly Publication of Cascade Stereoscopic Club, Portland, Oregon

October 2001 - Volume 8 Issue 10

Reinventing the 3-D Comics

by Ray Zone

Part two of a three month series.

I couldn't restrain myself. It was January 1982 and I was jumping up and down on my mother's kitchen floor with excitement. Susan Pinsky had just commissioned me to write a 3-D comic book history of stereography. First, I would write a synopsis and bring it to her at a meeting of the Stereo Club of Southern California the following week. Pinsky loved it and hired me on the spot. She was working at the time at the 3-D Video Corporation which was converting old 3-D films to anaglyph for broadcast TV, making millions of 3-D glasses and they now wanted to publish a 3-D comic book.

I dreamed up a superhero character named "Stereon" who fought for stereography. The villain, of course, had to be "Cyclops," who, since he only had one eye, could not see 3-D. When Pinsky informed me that Jack Kirby, king of the comic book artists, was going to illustrate my story, I couldn't believe my good fortune.

After finishing the 3-D comic script, I talked myself into a job at 3-D Video Corporation in the 3-D "Cosmic" Publishing Division and worked there almost a year. While at 3-D Video I met Tony Alderson, who did the actual 3-D conversion of Jack Kirby's art for the comic book which was published in December 1982 under the title "Battle for A Three Dimensional World" and I also received a crash course in the business possibilities of 3-D. In 1983, I started my own company, The 3-D Zone, to convert "flat" art to 3-D, create anaglyph printing and manufacture 3-D glasses.

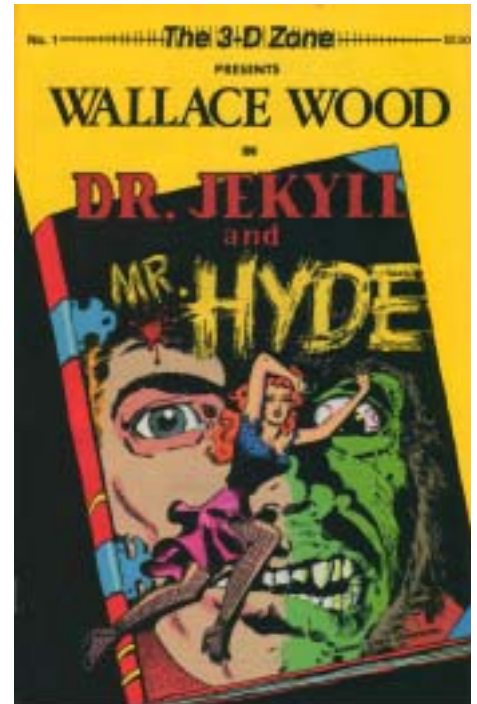
My first 3-D conversion jobs consisted of a bootleg Beatles anaglyph LP record jacket, a "Star Trek" 3-D Coloring Pin-Up poster and 3 different cereal premium "Sports Action" 3-D posters for Honeycomb Cereal. In 1984, I did my first 3-D conversion work for comics with "Three Dimensional Alien Worlds" published by Pacific Comics.

"Three Dimensional Alien Worlds" received attention in the comics world and was reprinted to meet the demand. This 3-D comic book led other publishers to leap into the field and soon I had all the 3-D conversion work I could handle producing books like "Sheena 3-D" and "Merlinrealm in 3-D" for Blackthorne Publishing, "AV in 3-D" for Aardvark-Vanaheim and "Three Dimensional Seduction of the Innocent" and "Miracleman 3-D" for Eclipse Comics.

At the same time, I was producing 3-D conversions for coloring books, toys and games and advertisements in the form of 3-D posters and magazine inserts. One of the innovations that always interested me was full-color, or "polychromatic" anaglyph using more than just 2 colors to produce the 3-D image. Tony Alderson had produced a full-color anaglyph backcover for the Kirby 3-D comic book and I began using the process in 1985 with three "Deluxe Playsets" for the Colorforms company featuring licensed properties such as "Golden Girl," "Thundercats," and "The Muppet Babies."



The 3-D Superhero "Stereon" from Battle for a Three Dimensional World (1982)



First Comic from The 3-D Zone (1987)

In 1987 I began to publish my own line of "3-D Zone" comics and books. To date I have produced or published over 130 3-D comics. In 1998, I began using a computer for 3-D conversions and produced a twelve-issue run of polychromatic anaglyph books for Image Comics entirely in color 3-D.

Next: How to create a 3D conversion.

Welcome Puget Sound

In an historic move, CSC and the Puget Sound Stereo Club have planned an exchange. The Puget Sound SC will be attending our October meeting as our guests. In order to accommodate their travel arrangements, the CSC meeting will begin at noon and will be a potluck. There will be time to eat and socialize before the meeting begins. Both clubs will need to judge slides to choose the 6 slides they will enter in the International Club competition.

The November 10th CSC meeting will be held at noon in Federal Way, just south of Seattle. Carpools will be arranged to make the trip more interesting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 13 (Sat) Noon - 2:30, CSC meeting. Program: Selection of 6 slides to represent CSC in Int'l Club Comp and Puget Sound Stereo Club will attend. Refreshments: *Potluck as we host the Puget Sound Club for lunch.*

Oct 16 (Tues) 7pm, CSC Board meeting. Rich Dubnow's house. Call 503-885-2465 for directions.

Oct 24 (Wed) 7pm, Special Goal Setting Session for all friends of CSC at XZYX

Nov 10 (Sat) noon - 3, CSC meeting will be held in Federal Way in conjunction with the Puget Sound Stereo Club meeting. Carpools and maps provided.

Nov 13 (Tues) 7pm, CSC Board meeting. Obie O'Brien's house. Call 503-981-8189 for directions.

CSC Goes To Camp

by Ted Welker

The Cascade Stereoscopic Club slide collection went to Camp Christmas Seal (aka "asthma camp") August 19-25 this year. I hauled my TDC projector and a dozen pairs of glasses to the Suttle Lake United Methodist Camp near Sisters, Oregon. The campers were suitably entertained, but were ready to move on to other camp activities, such as constructing and consuming s'mores. The week was scheduled for 9-12 year old campers, and at that age youngsters are inclined to move rapidly from one activity to another.

The most interested group was the camp counselors and medical staff who spent time relaxing in the staff lodge using a viewer to look at the slide collection. If "ooh's" and "aah's" are a measure of good stereoviews, this selection is top notch. I answered many questions about making stereo images and handed out all the CSC brochures I had with me.

Camp Christmas Seal is a medically supervised camp for kids with asthma. It is part of the American Lung Association of Oregon's statewide asthma program, sponsored by individual and corporate donations.

Remember, it ain't easy bein' wheezy.

Approximately 150 persons from the United States, Great Britain, France, Netherlands, Japan, Switzerland, Denmark, Russia, Germany, Thailand, Finland, Australia, Sweden, Ireland, New Zealand, and India attended the 13th ISU Congress held in Sydney from Sept 19 through Sept 24. The destruction of the World Trade Center Buildings the week before forced some participants to cancel due to cancelled flights and airline closures. In

spite of the New York tragedy and the overwhelming concern about the victims and the hunt for the terrorists involved, the Congress was a great success.

Unlike the two previous ISU Congresses I have attended, the Sydney Congress did not have any workshops and had a very small trade fair consisting of 5 or 6 tables lining the walls of the projection room. However, the Congress offered wonderful projections and a greater emphasis on socializing and meeting new faces.

The three excursions and the Congress Dinner did not conflict with the five evenings and two afternoons of projections. As usual, there was a vast assortment of topics and images presented, including scenic shows, humorous topics, scientific subjects, and some shows that did not fit easily into one category. The shows ranged from 4 minutes to 20 minutes each. Some had musical backgrounds while others were narrated by the presenter.

The Monday night closing dinner provided entertainment, good food and great conversation along with a vast array of door prizes. From beginning to end the weather was terrific and the companionship was unsurpassed. Rooms at the hotel faced out over the city providing a beautiful view of the Sydney Opera House and bay. The excursions were well organized and the friendly relaxed atmosphere was conducive to a good time, and hopefully, good stereo images.

The 14th ISU Congress will take place from May 28 to June 2, 2003 in Besancon, France, near the Swiss border. A slide presentation from the members of the Stereo-Club Francais inspired those present to start saving money and make plans to attend.

Tidbits, Potpourri, Odds and Ends

◆ October CSC's meeting starts at noon and is a potluck for our guests from Puget Sound Stereo Club. Bring your favorite dish and your best slides. We will select CSC's entries for the Internat'l Club Competition. Please bring a folding chair, if possible..

◆ Congratulations to Gordon Battaile who won an Honorable Mention at the Oregon Salon of Photography 2001 Color Awards exhibited at the Oregon State Fair for his flat version of "Aqua Fork Madness." Those of us who have seen some of Gordon's "fork" series in 3D know how beautiful they are in all dimensions.

◆ Mark your calendars for the October 25 CSC planning session. This is an important step in setting the future goals and direction of the club.

◆ Twenty-seven attended the September CSC meeting. Besides the card competition, we were treated to open projector images from Loren Mills, Jim Apilado, Dick Markley, and Eugene Weast. It was nice to have Ron and Jeanne Kriesel back from their long trip to the Midwest. We also had several guests.

International 3D Connection



Of the 24 Americans attending the ISU, six were from CSC, the largest number from any single club from overseas. Pictured here at the Olympic village near Sydney are John & Sylvia Dennis, Diane Rulien, Daphne Schneider & Mark Gehlar, her father. Shab Levy is the photographer

September Stereocard Competition a Tour de Force for David Allen

Twenty-one cards were entered in CSC's card competition. The theme of the contest was "purple." Some cards depicted purple items such as flowers or clothing. One of the most imaginative was Dave Allen's 2nd place card entitled "A purple bug on a flower," a flower with a miniature purple VW Beetle on it. Dave's "Red and White Flower" (right) took 1st place. Ted Welker was 3rd with "Linda's



Orchid," Diane Rulien's "Home At Dawn Again" and "Adrienne In The Round" took 4th and 5th, and Ron Kriesel used Photoshop and purple coloring to enhance his beautiful "Sunflowers." After the judging, all cards were passed around with viewers so everyone could form his/her own opinion of a favorite. Obie O'Brien, Neil Steller, and Greg Leedy judged.

The next club competition will be in October when we will chose the best 6 CSC slides to represent CSC in the Int'l Stereo Club competition. There is no theme or required format. Bring your best four stereo slides and help us select the slides we will enter to represent CSC.

CSC's Point System for Club Competitions

CSC hosts six different member competitions/exhibitions throughout the year: three International Club slide competitions, two card competitions, and one annual club slide competition. The International Club competitions are in October, January, and April. The card events are in May and September. The CSC annual slide competition is July.

Members are invited to enter up to four image pairs per competition. Entries which have previously won an award of 1st through 3rd, duplicates thereof, or near-duplicates are not eligible. Honorable Mentions can be resubmitted. Judges will not be permitted to enter slides in the competition for which they are judging. To compensate, each judge will receive four points for his or her participation.

The three ratings will be combined to make up the total score for that entry. Once all entries have been scored, judges will use the total scores to award prizes for the event. The three top entries will be awarded as the First, Second, and Third prize winners. Generally, the next three highest will each be awarded as Honorable Mention.

The following points will be awarded: Non-award winning entry - 1 point,
 Honorable Mention - 2 points,
 Third - 4 points,
 Second - 5 points,
 First - 6 points.

Maximum of 10 points awarded per entrant per event.
 Maximum of 2 awards per entrant per event.

If an entrant were to win both first and second prize, that entrant would receive those awards but would only receive a total of 10 points for the event.

The first three place winners in an event will be asked to resubmit their entry to the Competition Committee for the selection of an "Image of the Year" for the Annual Awards in April.

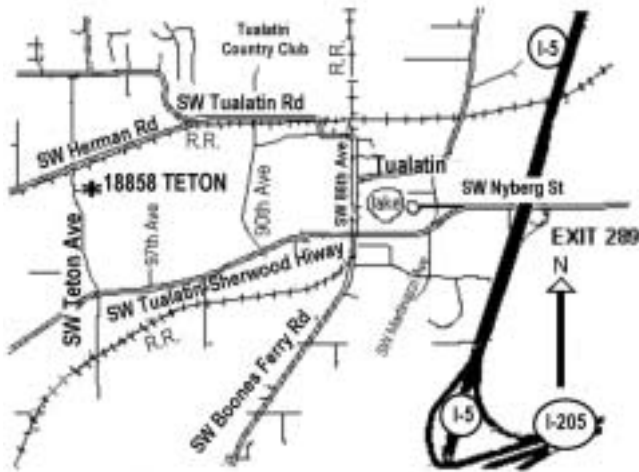
A designated club member will record the scores for each entry in each competition in an electronic database for the record. These points will be tallied and yearly awards will be presented. Awards such as "Image of the Year", "Card of the Year", "Slide of the Year", "Points Leader", "Most Improved", and "Most Entries" May be awarded. The awards will be presented at the CSC Annual Meeting held in April each year.

SCOREBOARD - CSC COMPETITION

April 1, 2001 - March 30, 2002

	5/12	8/11	9/8	
	<u>Cards</u>	<u>Slides</u>	<u>Cards</u>	<u>Total</u>
Peter Abrahams	5	-	-	5
Dave Allen	4 (J)	8	10	22
Jim Apilado	-	4(J)	-	4
Rich Dubnow	6	-	-	6
Mike Kersenbrock	-	4(J)	-	4
Les Konrad	-	4(J)	-	4
Ron Kriesel	7	-	3	10
Greg Leedy	-	-	4(J)	4
Shab Levy	10	-	-	10
Loren Mills	3	8	4	15
Obie O'Brien	-	5	4(J)	9
Dave Qualman	-	-	1	1
Diane Rulien	4 (J)	-	6	10
Neil Steller	-	10	4(J)	14
Jerry Weigel	4	4	-	8
Ted Welker	4 (J)	-	4	8

“Cascade Stereoscopic Club is Dedicated to Presenting and Preserving Three-Dimensional Images”
 CSC corporate records and 501 (c) (3) tax exempt documents may be obtained from the club secretary.



Monthly meetings are held at 9:30 am on the second Saturday at XYZYX, 18858 Teton, Tualatin, Oregon. All meetings are open to the public. For program and club information check:

www.cascade3d.org

Membership and Contributions:

Dues are \$18/year; \$32/2 yrs; \$75/5 yrs; \$500 lifetime.
 Checks payable to CSC, c/o Shab Levy, Membership Secretary, 6320 SW 34th Ave., Portland, OR 97201

Stereo Views is published monthly by the Cascade Stereoscopic Club, Portland, Oregon, USA. Submittals are due by the 25th of each month for the next issue.

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Cascade Stereoscopic Club is a member of:

- International Stereoscopic Union (ISU)**
- National Stereoscopic Association (NSA)**
- Photographic Society of America (PSA)**

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