*Notice:* Our guess at the financial records can be found <u>here</u>. **Red numbers** are total guesses; **orange numbers** are based on some information we have, but should not be assumed to be accurate. Please be aware that **these are based on near-total speculation**. If you know anything that may help to improve the validity, please send an email to <u>mandopls@gmail.com</u> or leave a comment on this page.

We're after the following in particular:

- Numbers for:
  - Regular attendees
  - Skylounge ticket purchases
  - Raffle tickets sold
  - Charity T-shirts sold
  - Attendees at the celebrity dinner
  - Attendees at the music concert
- How many vendors paid for electricity
- Additional charges from the Riviera (e.g. labour)
- Any figures for autographs estimates for number sold would be helpful
- Sponsor packages were there any sponsors named on the lanyards, banners or hand sanitizer bottles? (i.e. were any <u>sponsor packages</u> sold)

#### Recent Updates/New Information (newest first)

• Anyone interested is welcome to chat to us <u>here</u>. I'd be interested to know what's caused the sudden surge in popularity.

#### Foreword

What follows is merely a compilation of details that could link in some way to the financial issues LPU ran into. We're not trying to start rumors with this document; this is all based off of what others - EFN, DHN, volunteers at the con etc. - have said. Sources have been included to support most points. Assume that any statement featured in this document with no source of evidence is unconfirmed and not necessarily trustworthy information.

Please Note: We currently have no reason to believe there was any criminal intent behind the controversial occurrences at the con. As more information emerges, it's becoming apparent that Sandi was simply inexperienced and unable to successfully host a con of this magnitude.

"Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by incompetence." - Robert J. Hanlon

#### **Summary of Events**

#### 1. What happened?

During the third day of Las Pegasus Unicon (LPU) it was announced that the event organizers had

"overextended their funds", causing schedules to be re-written so that emergency measures could be taken to reduce the debt. This caused panels to be canceled or merged to allow the guest stars to sell more signatures.

Around late-afternoon, the venue reportedly began attempts to reclaim owed money from vendors, prompting many to pack up and leave. As the extent of the debt became clear, the convention came to a halt and a number of attendees began efforts to raise a contribution. Media teams at the con (EFN, Celestia Radio, EQD etc.) raised \$12,000 over the course of two days. As it stands, however, many of the guest stars (VAs, writers etc.) remain unpaid for their attendance, and many guests staying at the hotel were either denied rooms or presented with unexpected fees (some over \$1000). It has emerged that Sandi Haas, the con organizer, gave the call for the hotel to charge the guests to help to reduce her debt.

Estimates for the total convention intake are around \$150,000. A call to the hotel came back with a sum of \$193,000 outstanding, though this is likely to be false information given the sheer magnitude. Far more realistic is the sum of \$18,000 <u>cited by Final Draft</u>. There is a considerable sum of money unaccounted for, which we can only assume remains in Sandi's possession.

#### Timeline of events here

#### 2. What was wrong with the con?

Besides the financial issues, the con in general appears to have been managed and produced poorly. There are many claims that there was a gross lack of staff - one volunteer reports having worked two 17-hour shifts. Bitter, a head of security, was asked to take on multiple responsibilities (con ops, hotel liason, volunteer coordinator, guest relations, guest transport) as early as Friday. Other downfalls include (but are not limited to):

- Some guests were apparently left at the airport after being promised they'd be picked up. Tara reportedly took a cab at her own expense to get to the Riviera.
- Many identity cards were hand-written at registration, including Amy Keating Rogers'.
- 5000 pamphlets were promised but it seems likely that less than 100 were made.
  - Those which were made were not handed out to attendees spontaneously.
  - They were reportedly being lazily hand-made, with some pages of adverts missing.
- Pre-paid meals that were included in ticket packages were reportedly not delivered.
- Tara Strong was <u>served eggplant</u> (to which she is allergic) and supposedly non-vegan food.
- There were many basic errors made in con publications, such as <u>Daniel Ingram being labeled as</u> <u>a voice actor</u>, Mitch Larson's name being spelled "<u>Mith Larsen</u>", or the repeated misspelling of "vendor".
- Communication from the con staff was seemingly poor the vendors were some of the last to find out that the con was shutting down and they had to leave.
- The "unicon bits" were hand-drawn, and no contracts were in place to ensure those that used them could later exchange them for legal tender.
- As staff were stretched so thin, there were failures of security where attendees with regular tickets were able to access the skybox lounge.

#### 3. Who's responsible?

LPU seems to have been almost entirely organized by Sandi Haas, 41, currently an exotic-animal handler living in Las Vegas. It's assumed that she held full responsibility for all financial matters, as no accounting

staff are represented on the LPU website Note: The LPU website has been down since 5th March. She is also the <u>sole owner of Las Pegasus Unicon FFN.</u> She's gone by a number of aliases over the past decade, mainly due to marriage, and has had dealings within the Pagan community. She <u>became an</u> <u>ordained minister</u> in Florida in 2004 and appears to have ran a Pagan church in Winter Haven. Sandi has a background in event management - most notably cruises, though she stated in an <u>interview in January</u> that she has been on the board for at least one convention. Sandi, birth name Miller, married her first husband Mark Adao in February 2000 and divorced him in late 2008. He later passed away on the 22nd May 2010 - the same week Sandi married Eddie. Sandi has known Eddie for over 7 years, and was in a relationship with him in 2006. He seems to be the reason she moved to Arizona in 2007.

Edward and Sandi own <u>Curious Critters Creations</u>, an obscure company for balloon art and exotic animal display. A similar site of theirs, <u>Reptile Reps</u>, was also run from Las Vegas (it appears that Reptile Reps was CCC's predecessor). They also have <u>two pages</u> offering psychic readings for \$1.29 a minute under the aliases Master Eric and Lady Silverstar respectively.

According to a recently dug <u>Facebook post</u> <u>[backup]</u>, Sandi allegedly participated in a <u>blackjack</u> <u>tournament</u> in Las Vegas in the month of November before the con.

From what we can tell, Edward had little to do with the organisation of LPU, though the LPU site lists him as Coordinator / Convention Eyes & Ears. It's been reported that Edward spent most of the time manning the Curious Critter Creations booth in the vendor's hall.

Other people listed as staff for LPU include:

Andrea Gray - Music Coordinator Shin Vallos - Costume Guest Coordinator Riley Smith - Special Announcements Donielle Bradshaw - Artist Panel and Vending Coordinator Mike Bernstein (AKA Final Draft) - Streaming Consultant

Note: In Mike's <u>post-con Q&A</u> he states that he doesn't work for LPU and "never did".
 Drew Cornett - Volunteer Coordinator
 Natalie Joffrion - Registration Coordinator
 Andrew Ellingwood - Panel Coordinator
 Anthony Gentuso - Panel Coordinator and Facebook Organizer

Gentuso allegedly helped Sandi draft LPU's most recent statement, according to the Facebook post leaked from the Las Vegas Bronies group page. Other staff members apparently proof-read it before it was released.

#### 4. Is it true this was a scam?

Considering all evidence and background research that has been carried out so far, we are under the impression that there was no intentional foul play. We believe that the failure of the con was purely down to catastrophic management failure on Sandi's part. However, we will continue to take relevant details until all suspicion of criminal intent has been extinguished.

#### 5. What gave you reason to believe it could have been a scam?

Delving into Sandi's past, we found a number of things that don't quite add up:

- The cruises:
  - In her Pagan Cruise posts, she claims two separate cruises in the same year to be the "5th annual [*company name*] cruise", despite the fact there seems to have never been a "Wings of Change" or "Dragonfly Shoppe" cruise in the past. One was scheduled for January 2008, the other for May 2008.
    - <u>"This is the 5th annual Wings of Change cruise"</u> (bottom line)
    - <u>"This is the 5th annual Dragonfly cruise</u>" (bottom line)
  - None of her cruises seem to have any record of existing, though, given her brief summaries of previous years, they likely did.
- <u>Curious Critters Creations</u> has a number of suspicious notes:
  - The company appears to be <u>illegitimate</u> (link now broken)
  - The WHOIS lookup shows the registrant as Sandi Edward
  - The website itself is of very low quality, as are many of the publications that Sandi produces.
  - The store was <u>broken into the day after it opened</u> most likely down to pure misfortune, but potentially insurance fraud.
    - Note: Sandi had many break-ins, including one around Christmas 2010, according to her Facebook.
  - Side note: The ownership of some species in Nevada requires a permit.
- Few details exist for <a href="http://wings-of-change.com">http://wings-of-change.com</a>, though Sandi used a Wings of Change email address for all of the LPU payments (image)
- Sandi's faith-healing ventures with Eddie are suspicious to say the least:
  - <u>http://www.keen.com/psychic-readings/life-questions/lady-silverstar---master-eric/529298</u>
  - <u>http://www.keen.com/psychic-readings/tarot-readers/lady-silverstar---master-eric/567564</u> <u>0</u>
- At least \$3000 (*Details to be found towards the end of this document*) was paid by sponsors to have adverts published in the LPU pamphlet, "at least 5000" of which Sandi promised would be distributed to all attendees. In actuality it appears that possibly less than 100 were produced, hand-made, with some lacking pages.
  - http://www.laspegasusunicon.com/sponsorship-advertising.html
- Sandi implemented a substitute token system for the vendors "Unicon Bits". The vendors signed no contract or formal agreement that they would be able to exchange these hand-drawn tokens for cash. Many of those who used these bits are severely out of pocket at this stage, and have reportedly been instructed to mail them to a currently unknown address.
  - https://dl.dropbox.com/u/5348815/lunatokens1.jpg
  - https://dl.dropbox.com/u/5348815/lunatokens2.jpg
  - http://laspegasusunicon.com was registered through a third party.
    - <u>http://whois.net/whois/laspegasusunicon.com</u>
- The Riviera claim that Sandi's statements are "without merit and completely false"
  - http://www.laspegasusunicon.com/
  - <u>http://i.imgur.com/8wVNecl.png</u>
- LPU have pointed fingers at others, namely Everfree Network, with seemingly no basis. It appears Sandi wishes to sue EFN for libel and slander. If they are innocent of criminal intent, they could remove all speculation simply by coming out and talking to us.
- According to unverifiable sources, Sandi is currently in possession of around \$40,000 of the con earnings. A more accurate value will not be known until Sandi publishes her financial records,

though it is likely she has already used it to pay the hotel. Given that her checks to <u>Daniel Ingram</u>, <u>Tara Strong</u>, and presumably others bounced, it could be inferred that any money she has with her is cash. She remains out of contact, though it is believed she is still in Las Vegas.

- Sandi was also a blackjack player and has participated in at least one tournament, as alleged on her <u>Facebook page</u>.
- The Riviera confirmed that it is expected that a credit card would be put down for the hotel rooms that would be charged should the expected occupants not arrive. The Riviera had no credit card on file for Sandi.

#### 6. Sounds like a scam to me.

We aren't ignoring the possibility, but nothing we've listed above is enough to categorically accuse her of foul play. We are still looking into the suspicion that she is in possession of a large sum of money owed to others - especially the charities (i.e. Kiki's Cancer Fund, College View School). We will continue to make notes of any relevant details until all doubt of good intentions has been removed.

#### 7. What does Sandi/LPU have to say?

Anthony Gentuso, a staff member for LPU, <u>posted on facebook</u> on the Tuesday that an official statement was being written up. This statement was posted on the Las Pegasus Unicon website, which was taken down on the 5th March. The statements made included:

- Any donation drive, charity etc. claiming to be collecting money for Unicon or its guest stars is doing so fraudulently (See the Facebook post)
- They had legitimately booked the venue until midnight on the Sunday but were unable to convince them that this was so until the after vendors had begun clearing out.
- "This convention was run out of our own shallow pockets, the only supplementation being the ticket sales."
  - They fail to mention the multiple thousands of dollars taken in through hidden fees, sponsorship sales, the raffle...
- "We have records of payments totalling in excess of \$40,000 to the various agents. However, an unknown amount of cash was witnessed, on more than one occasion on Sunday, being directly removed by an agent of the stars from our cash box."
  - PurpleTinker claims that <u>the agent in question is being penalized</u>, though Sandi had stated that he isn't.
  - PurpleTinker confirmed that <u>Tara Strong fired her agent</u>. Note: It is currently unclear whether is was a consequence of his actions during the con or something that happened previously
  - Tara Strong claims to have <u>"not been paid a dime"</u> by LPU.
- "The reason that the vendor hall closed when it did was simply because the Riviera stated that, despite the convention space being paid in full until midnight well before the start of Unicon, they would be closing the doors at 6:00 PM. They then changed this to 7:00, and then finally admitted that we had paid in full for the event space. However, this confirmation from the Riviera came much too late to forestall the chaos instigated by their first proclamations. This matter we place on the shoulders of the unprofessional Riviera staff."
- "However, when it came to monies, the hands of the stars' agents were constantly being filled. Whether it be from autographs, auctions, or personally removing T-shirt sale money from the cash box. Due to the chaotic nature of the con at this stage of the game, and a complete and utter refusal of the agents to sign records, an exact ledger of what was received by the agents on

Sunday is impossible to produce."

- It's been reported by multiple witnesses that T-shirt sales were being crudely recorded using a crayon and a scrap of paper
- This seems to suggest that the charity auction money was indeed spent elsewhere.
- "As some of you are aware, some attendees suffered from the questionable tactics employed, for whatever reason, by the Rivera Hotel upon their checkout most notably, ignoring all payments made by Unicon towards their room comps and charging them full balance."
  - Multiple witnesses [1] [2] state that this is false, and that Sandi gave the call to charge convention-goers for their rooms.
- "We did our best to help these more experienced folks salvage the convention"
  - Various reports suggest that Sandi made little to no effort to help with any salvage attempts. Some report that her presence at the convention centre following the hand-over wasn't known for many hours.
    - (24th February) <& EightTrack> I'm pretty sure the con organizers have bailed, because there's about 200 people who got kicked out of their hotel rooms, charges on their cards, and kicked out of vendor halls that probably want to cause them physical harm.

The following details (copied and pasted - grammatical errors are present) come from an anonymous informant who claims he is not able to post the audio recording of an interview he conducted with Sandi for legal reasons. In it she claims:

- The convention was made to make everyone happy.
- Agents had more stars there, and convinced her to go with it, despite her thinking they wouldn't be able to cover it. She took bad advice.
  - None of the guests of honor live or work in Las Vegas.
  - In line 275 of <u>this chatlog</u>, Sandi makes the following statement: "We WILL be making announcements of additional guests coming up in the next couple of days. And it is all BY MY contacts and no one elses that I was and able to make this happen. It is by my perserverance."
  - It's been reported that she knew Tara Strong's previous agent well, and that he attempted to have the rest of the VAs attend LPU.
  - She seems to have had <u>no issues with the agents</u> back in January.
- She got talked into doing the concert, although it was expensive.
- That people hit the register button several times, making false entities, adding to their list of "people attending"
  - The likelihood of such an error being possible is disputed by many
- Finances were based on what they thought they had, rather than what they really did, because "that's what they were being talked into."
- Claims no one is willing to talk to her directly. Major Brony news sites such as EQD, DHN, want to stay out of it.
- Claims EFN is the only one that would talk to them, but won't let their side of the story out.
- E&S claim that people want them to post their entire financial track record, yet also claim that no one will believe them unless it was notarized.
- Sandi claims she is guilty of two things: listening to bad advice and overextending her funds, and trying to make people happy with this convention.
- Claims EFN fundraiser was not authorized by them. However, the Picardo club thing that they sent out to was a legit deposit.
- States that EFN's claims that "rooms were not secured" was a lie E&S claim they were secured,

paid first night deposit on every single room + personal debit card to be charged on Tuesday if nonpayment occurs. Riviera attempted to charge card on Sunday morning.

- Sandi was behind the scenes on Sunday, hence her non-appearance. Going back and forth between register, hotel, talking to agents, in back room, etc... she did NOT run away, but was emotionally distraught.
- Reason she isn't speaking herself publicly is because of fear of people "taking things out of context".

It's believed that Sandi was considering suing EFN for slander/libel.

- Some are questioning Sandi's ability to hire a lawyer but not to pay her debts
- Kefka of the Round Stable <u>disputes this suggestion</u>

#### 8. What does the Riviera have to say?

Little has been heard from the Riviera. Bronies for Chaos <u>contacted them</u> to receive a reply claiming that the statements made by LPU are "without merit and completely false." They claim that Sandi did not uphold their agreements, and that they went over and above to accommodate the attendees.

#### 9. What happens next?

At this point, our primary goal is to gather financial details. We are assuming that there is no criminal intent behind these events until significant evidence in support of the contrary emerges. In such a case, we will inform the relevant authorities and withdraw from our involvement in the investigation.

We're now trying to find accurate figures for:

- LPU's gross intake prior to the weekend beginning
  - Using ticket sales information from the LPU website it can be inferred that \$136,650 was taken assuming 1000 regular tickets were sold.
    - NOTE: Some were sold at a discounted price of 40% on a promotional offer.
    - This is not including the retail vendor tickets, which, assuming 14 regular tables were sold along with one premiere booth for \$400, comes to \$4250
      - <u>http://laspegasusunicon.com/Vender\_Map.html</u>
      - Two large premiere booths are listed as UNAVAILABLE. It's unclear whether these were sold-out or not for sale. Their prices are not shown.
  - It is unknown how many tables at Artist's Alley were sold. The intake here could be as high as \$4500.
  - There seemed to be additional on-site costs, for example \$30 for the use of electricity for vendors. It's unknown how much may have been taken in from such sales.
    - There was a \$5 entrance fee for the music concert
    - Tickets for access to the "skylounge" could be bought during the con for \$175
    - \$3 raffle tickets, or 10 for \$25. \$1 from each sale was to go towards Kiki's fund, but it seems doubtful that this happened. No significant donations from any related names have been made on Kiki's GiveForward page. IMPORTANT - The pamphlets given out at the con say that 100% of the proceeds from raffle ticket sales will go to Kiki's charity, and that all donations are tax-deductable.
  - The amount raised for Kiki's cancer fund is unknown, as is its current whereabouts. There have been no significant donations with any related names.

- <u>http://www.giveforward.com/supportkikiscancerfund</u>
- The con brochures had advertising space in them, though they reportedly very scarce (correlates with reports of low printing resources). The website promises "at least 5000" copies, though sources indicate that less than 100 were printed. They were not readily handed out.
  - <u>http://laspegasusunicon.com/Sponsorship\_Advertising.html</u>
  - http://f0xybat.tumblr.com/post/44985918380/guidebook-from-the-unicon-that-wen t-wrong
  - <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13Ybkjsa4F8</u>
- In an <u>interview recorded in December</u>, Sandi states that charity T-shirts are \$30 for one, \$50 for two, with 250 in stock. 30% would go to Amy Keating Rogers' son's school. At the time of recording, 33 had been sold.
- The charity auction on the Sunday for College View School raised \$6570. A card reader was used for some (not necessarily all) transactions. The recipient of this money is currently unknown. According to the LPU statement, "...when it came to monies, the hands of the stars' agents were constantly being filled. Whether it be from autographs, auctions, or personally removing T-shirt sale money from the cash box." Given that the auction-goers were under the belief that this money would go to charity, this could be regarded as obtaining money by false pretense, depending on whether or not a donation was made. Considering that charity money was also raised through T-shirt and raffle ticket sales, along with other sources, the charity total could be closer to \$10,000. The percentage of the auction proceeds that would be donated wasn't stated on the LPU website, though other fund raisers had a 30% rate.
- LPU's total expenditure
  - A call to the convention centre came back with a quote of \$20,000 per day (for a weekend in November) for room rental.
    - Convention space was as follows:
      - Three panel rooms
        - 25,000 sqft
        - 12,000 sqft
        - 6,000 sqft
      - Vendors room 12,000 sqft
      - Artist's Alley 5,000 sqft
      - She also got the Skylounge space, which had free lunch provided for all three days.
  - PurpleTinker's guesstimates for GoH fees
  - Andrew Francis and Tara (and possibly others) are believed to have requested rooms at the Wynn. <u>Tara disputes the suggestion</u> that her non-payment is due to her requesting a suite at the Wynn, however. Andrew Francis <u>tweeted photos from the foyer</u>.
- The outstanding debt owed to the venue and GoH/agents
  - An anonymous caller reported that the Riviera were owed \$193,000, but this is unconfirmed and highly unlikely.

#### 10. Is Sandi at any legal risk?

At this stage it's difficult to be sure - it depends on whether or not affected parties wish to press charges. The following details have been compiled to explain the possible outcomes should they seek retribution. **All charges associated with Sandi's actions that have been mentioned in this section contain** 

# clauses that detail a reliance on evidence that so far remains to be seen. Do not assume that these are charges she is definitely guilty of.

Sandi may be guilty of repeated breach of contract, which may provide the grounds for a lawsuit from a number of those violated, but this can't be shown to be true with our current information. She may also be eligible to be found guilty of theft in accordance with Chapter 205 of Nevada State Law, as seen in the following statutes: (*Note: Relevant clauses only have been copied*)

#### NRS 205.0832 Actions which constitute theft.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person commits theft if, without lawful authority, the person knowingly:

(d) Comes into control of lost, mislaid or misdelivered property of another person under circumstances providing means of inquiry as to the true owner and appropriates that property to his or her own use or that of another person without reasonable efforts to notify the true owner.

(i) Draws or passes a check, and in exchange obtains property or services, if the person knows that the check will not be paid when presented.

If found to be guilty in a court of law, Sandi could face imprisonment for a minimum of one year:

#### NRS 205.0835 Penalties.

3. If the value of the property or services involved in the theft is \$650 or more but less than \$3,500, the person who committed the theft is guilty of a category C felony and shall be punished as provided in <u>NRS</u> <u>193.130</u>.

4. If the value of the property or services involved in the theft is \$3,500 or more, the person who committed the theft is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 10 years, and by a fine of not more than \$10,000.

The values of the bounced checks that Sandi had sent to the guests of honor are currently unknown. PurpleTinker, organizer of a number of pony-related conventions, estimates Tara's appearance fees to be in the region of \$6000.

Sandi could also be guilty of gross demeanor, as outlined here:

#### NRS 205.130 Issuance of check or draft without sufficient money or credit: Penalties.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsections 2 and 3, a person who willfully, with an <u>intent to defraud</u>, draws or passes a check or draft to obtain (services) drawn upon any real or fictitious person, bank, firm, partnership, corporation or depositary, when the person has insufficient money, property or credit with the drawee of the instrument to pay it in full upon its presentation, is guilty of a misdemeanor. If that instrument, or a series of instruments passed in the State during a period of 90 days, is in the amount of \$650 or more, the person is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130. In addition to any other penalty, the court shall order the person to pay restitution.

3. A person who willfully issues any check or draft for the payment of wages in excess of \$650, when the person knows he or she has insufficient money or credit with the drawee of the instrument to pay the instrument in full upon presentation is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Depending on the whereabouts of the money raised by the charity auctions/sales, this could come under

obtaining money under false pretenses. It may be that Sandi has sent this to the respective charities as promised, however - we simply don't know until she tells us.

#### 11. Unanswered Questions

- Sandi used her personal bank account for all LPU funds did she use any of it for gambling in November 2012/during the weekend?
- Why would Sandi make seemingly baseless accusations against others for her own shortcomings?
- Why are some members of the Vegas Bronies in total defense of Sandi?
  - It has been claimed by some anonymous representatives that the VBs know little about the convention. They say that Sandi and Eddie have always come across as nice people, and don't believe that she would have intended for something like this to happen.
- Anthony Gentuso seems quite involved with the con, and continues to make efforts to defend it. Is he at risk?
  - Reports from an anonymous Vegas Brony say that "he seems fine financially" and that he "mentioned that Sandi would help him pay off his credit card". Apparently Andrew covered a few of the LPU costs.
  - The same VB stated that Anthony was their second in command if Eddie and Sandi are considered to be one entity.
- How much money is unaccounted for?

#### 12. How can I help?

While we wait for Sandi to make a statement, there isn't a whole lot we can do other than attempt to tidy up loose ends. If you know anything that we haven't mentioned here, or know someone who may be able to help answer the above questions, please let us know. You can post in the <u>etherpad</u> or send an email to <u>mandopls@gmail.com</u>. At no point should you break the law or cause anyone any harm in effort to find more information. We want to keep things as legit as possible - only information that is relevant and publicly available and will be added to this document.

If you are able to interview Sandi, please ask these questions as a priority:

- Why do you continue to use the name Adao rather than Haas in most cases?
- Has the Riviera taken any legal action against you?
- To your knowledge, is Anthony Gentuso at any financial risk as a consequence of his involvement with LPU?
- Is it true you're considering legal action against EFN?
  - (If yes) Can you cite any evidence to support your case?
  - (If no) Were you at any point considering legal action against EFN?
- You mentioned plans to go gambling with Drew Flashy during your interview with Dustykatt in January. Did you spend any time during the convention weekend gambling?
- Do you have sole responsibility for Las Pegasus Unicon's accounts?
- Did Deane pay the money entrusted to him into your paypal account?

# Additional Sources

# 1. What happened?,

# 2. What was wrong?

EFN explanation: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynn1VEvX2ns</u> Fund transfer: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_0JaBJgp0yE</u>

• Note: The Robert Picardo Fan Club is a legit account owned by John de Lancie's agent. Final Draft Q&A: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGIv5IQv7fA</u>

- (Summary <a href="http://www.roundstable.com/forums/viewtopic.php?p=333289#p333289">http://www.roundstable.com/forums/viewtopic.php?p=333289#p333289</a>)
- http://maguszeal.tumblr.com/post/44202148412/las-pegasus-unicon-efn-q-a

Derpysquad report: <u>http://derpysquad.tumblr.com/post/44191124106/the-legend-of-las-pegasus-unicon</u> Round Stable write-up: <u>http://www.roundstable.com/2013/03/01/fear-and-loathing-in-las-pegasus/</u> <u>http://www.fimfiction.net/blog/134576/las-pegasus-unicon</u> DHN: <u>http://www.derpyhoovesnews.com/editorial-las-pegasus-unicon-bad-moon-rising/</u>

#### 3. Who's responsible?

- Sandi's Facebook: http://fb.com/reptilereps
- Known aliases:
  - Adao Sandi
  - Cindi Adao
  - Sandi Lea Adao
  - Sandra Adao
  - Sansi Adao
  - Sandi Lea Miller
  - Sandi Edward
  - Lady Silver Star
  - ladysilverstar71
  - o Mughi
- Ebay account: <u>http://myworld.ebay.com/ladysilverstar?\_trksid=p2047675.l2559</u>
  - Sandi sold her wedding ring and dress in June 2010, immediately after getting married to Eddie
- Article on home-grown remedies: http://www.yumasun.com/news/adao-36573-people-products.html
- Before Florida, Sandi lived in Yuma, AZ from 2007 to 2008. Before that, Sandi lived in Portland, ME from 1996 to 2009.
  - o 2004: Florida: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Pagan-Forum/message/9778
  - 2005: Maine: <u>http://dir.groups.yahoo.com/group/mainepagans/message/302</u>
  - 2005: New Hamspire/Vermont: <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pagan\_nh/message/12</u>
  - 2006: Arizona: <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AzWitches/message/2533</u>
  - http://www.usidentify.com/sandi-adao
  - Las Vegas, NV
  - Lewiston, ME
  - Portland, ME
  - Zachary, LA
  - Winter Haven, FL
  - Yuma, AZ
  - Albany, LA

- Livingston, LA
- o Deltona, FL
- Enterprise, FL
- Gray, ME
- Worcester, MA
- Westbrook, ME
- Henniker, NH
- Marriage to Mark:
  - https://portal.maine.gov/marriage/archdev.marriage\_archive.display\_info?v\_id=963452
- http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AzWitches/message/2533
- <u>http://www.meetup.com/LasVegasBronies/members/40045272/</u> Joint account for Eddie and Sandi, presumably operated by Sandi.
- Images of Eddie:
  - <u>http://i.imgur.com/1zXN2qb.png</u>
  - http://i.imgur.com/RISGY10.png
  - <u>http://i.imgur.com/E3M1y0z.png</u>
  - <u>http://i.imgur.com/9Ca48vY.png</u>
  - <u>http://i.imgur.com/fRlt1FF.png</u>

#### Blackjack Tournament details

Nov 16 to Nov 18 (Fri-Sun) Las Vegas, NV The D \$50,000 Blackjack Tournament Prize Pool: \$50,000 with \$25,000.00 first place. Entry Fee: \$100.00 Phone: 800-274-5825

### **General Information** (No formatting)

- The Las Pegasus Unicon website may have been edited:
  - <u>Ticket prices and sales details</u> have been updated <u>(previous page here)</u>. It now only displays at-the-door prices. This edit was made several days after the convention ended. <u>[current tickets page]</u> [old tickets page] note the navbar changes
  - The following links have been removed from the navbar:
    - <u>Special Guest Stars</u> [page removed]
    - Sponsorship Advertising [backup]
    - <u>Vender map</u> <u>[backup]</u>
    - <u>Vender information</u> [backup]
  - The following links seem to have been added to the navbar:
    - <u>Autograph Information</u>
    - Brony Speakers and Venders

"Sandi seems to have vanished from Skype since our last meeting. While I'm trying to remain unbiased, she is not giving me much to work with." - **Koavu DaBrony** 

#### New message from Koavu:

"Ok, so I don't know her per se. How this goes, is we heard about the con. So we sent our security team and few other positions from our staff to volunteer and get some training with working a con. So I knew people who were in contact with her, nothing more.

The second I heard about this mess, I contacted those people and had them setup a meeting with me, them, and her via skype. She agreed to do a interview, although she was adamant about not doing a video. Only a call. That kinda threw up a flag in my head, but I knew even a call with the right questions could make or break her, so I agreed. Here it is 3 days later and she still has yet to get back in touch with me.

All the info you have, along with the bits and pieces I've gather, is more than enough to make me almost 100% positive that she's a con artist. A damned good one at that considering she's been getting away with it for years. Right now, I'm working on accessing her public records. I'll probably have to drop some \$\$\$, but the potential story behind this is worth every penny.

If I find out anything else you don't have, I'll be sure to share since you did the same for me."

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Isis-House/message/3521 Bahamas cruise, 2004 http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Isis-House/message/3611 Pagan cruise, May 2005 http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Isis-House/message/3804 Pagan cruise, 2006 http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PaganRightsAlliance/message/6533?var=1 Wings of Change, Jan 2008 Claims it to be the 5th annual Wings of Change cruise

http://www.meetup.com/witches-1250/messages/1296256/ Dragonfly Gift Shoppe, May 2008

• Claims it to be the 5th annual Dragonfly cruise

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- The contact phone number for curious critters is the same as the phone number for LPU
- As claimed on the LPU website, control was handed over to the EFNW organisers after 2am Sunday
- WHOIS lookup of laspegasusunicon.com shows Network Solutions as the only contact (the registrant made their info private)
- In early 2010 they began looking for an investor for their shop
   <u>http://www.americanlisted.com/new\_hampshire\_29/misc\_113/wanted\_animal\_lover\_investor\_ple
   ase\_read\_las\_vegas\_14381650.html
  </u>

#### Details about the con

- A call to the Riviera came back with some interesting details:
  - Hotel rooms were quoted at around \$90 per night (for a weekend in November)
  - They usually ask for a credit card to be put down for the rooms the fact that one wasn't for YLPU remains suspicious.
- An anonymous Vegas Brony has claimed that the LPU staff are preparing a new statement with the aid of legal advice, and that they are unsure as to why the website is down.
- According to reports from the meetup, a volunteer from the con stated that Tara wanted a suite at the Wynn, which the con couldn't afford.
- The Las Pegasus Relief League has been able to more than cover the extra costs paid by attendees and the money owed to the charities..

- A number of pages on the Las Pegasus Unicon website have now been deleted (*note: these are cached versions*):
  - o <u>Staff</u>
  - o <u>Games/Fun</u>
  - o <u>Fanfic</u>
  - Possibly others
- Koavu DaBrony has uploaded a discussion with Unicon volunteers. *Note: A number of his statements at the start of the video are misinformed; see the comments for corrections.* 
  - <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQ84CewXQ2A</u>
- Statements from <u>'Bitter'</u> (Great and Powerful Solutions), a security volunteer at the con:
  - Volunteers who initially joined as security were being given multiple responsibilities (con ops, hotel liason, volunteer coordinator, guest relations, guest transport) as early as Friday.
  - Eddie reportedly told Bitter that Sandi had had a mental breakdown on Saturday evening and had left the convention. As Eddie was working the Curious Critters Creations booth, others were put in charge.
  - Sandi later returned, unannounced, on Saturday night, supposedly for several hours. By this point, other attendees (EFNW, EFN etc.) had begun efforts to rectify the shortcomings. Based on EightTrack's statements from this time, Sandi's presence at the con wasn't known
  - Bitter was asked by Sandi to make sure that any money that was raised went directly to her.
  - Sandi had her brother-in-law, <u>Deane Macbeth</u> take charge of collecting the money to deflect attention away from herself. Deane would later get it to Sandi.
  - The money collected from Sunday's auction went through Bitter directly to Deane, who apparently had access to Sandi's paypal account.
  - Sandi made the call to charge the hotel guests for their rooms. Marie, an employee of the Riviera, told Sandi that she could switch the pre-booked rooms from comp'd to 'on-own' status in order to lessen the amount owed to the hotel. This was explicitly explained to Sandi; there was no margin for misunderstanding. Sandi instructed Marie to make the switch.
  - As far as Bitter is aware, Sandi did not make anyone aware that this had happened. Reports from those affected support this idea.
- The 3 days of meals for \$20 were not provided according to con-goers.
- They were heavily understaffed, with no contingency plan for lack of volunteers. They didn't advertise for volunteers.
  - At least one volunteer claims to have worked two 17-hour shifts.
- A con volunteer has reported that there were two cashboxes at the convention centre
  - One was for the registration desk, the other for the con floor
    - Both had several thousand dollars each
    - There's speculation that a con organiser may have given the agent permission to access the cashbox
- All paypal payments were seemingly made to <a href="mailto:ladysilverstar@wings-of-change.com">ladysilverstar@wings-of-change.com</a>, an account she's held since 2004
- There were supposed to be banners from sponsors to be signed by the VIPs, though this never happened (perhaps because no banners were bought more information required)
- Nicole Oliver and Tara Strong (and perhaps even more VIP guests) were left stranded at the airport, without any pickup.

- Tsitra took the most vendor bits out of all of the vendors
  - http://tsitra360.deviantart.com/
    - "Ok first things first, I am at a deep loss financially."
- Curiouscritterscreations (Sandi and Eddie's company) had both an advert in the brochure and a booth at the con.
- Financial records from the Riviera suggest that Riviera Holdings Corp is operating at a loss
  - <u>http://www.sec.gov/cgi-bin/browse-edgar?action=getcompany&CIK=0000899647&owner</u> <u>=include</u>
  - It is also believed that they have a history of kicking out previous occupants for non-payment. It's likely they were willing to extend credit to Sandi, which correlates with what we've heard so far.
- Photos from the con:
  - http://imgur.com/a/Eeoms
- Footage of the con shows that there are CCTV systems in place within the convention centre
- LPU states that they have records of payments totally in excess of \$40,000 to various agents, however Final Draft disputes this (as heard in his Q&A)
  - <u>http://www.roundstable.com/forums/viewtopic.php?p=333289#p333289</u>
- As reported by Saberspark (and supported by DJ Calcos), Sandi instructed the Riviera to charge the guests for their stay.
  - https://dl.dropbox.com/u/5348815/bill.jpg
- The dealers had to work with a fake currency at the con called "Vendor Bits". Kefka is being quoted: The vendor bits were taken in good faith by the dealers but due to the con going bust, they were worth exactly nothing.
  - The vendors were not given any contract saying they would be able to exchange the unicon bits for money
  - <u>https://dl.dropbox.com/u/5348815/lunatokens1.jpg</u>
  - https://dl.dropbox.com/u/5348815/lunatokens2.jpg
- A portion of the ticket sales for the celebrity dinners was promised to be donated to Kiki's cancer fund. The portion is unknown.
  - The website displays that 4 tickets were sold, yet footage from the convention confirms that there were many who attended the celebrity dinner. This could be a failure to update the website or due to packages offered through normal registration (where 61 dinner-inclusive packages were sold).
    - http://laspegasusunicon.com/Exclusive Celebrity Dinner.html
- Admin of the military bronies page charged unfairly for his room
- <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wsWvN2nq8a8</u> documentary

Statements from 24th Feb:

(EightTrack is a founder of Everfree Network, and was partly responsible for the reimbursement efforts from attendees - these statements were copied from the EFN IRC.)

<&EightTrack\_Mobile> Chaotic\_Harmony: Sure, Basically guys, if the show talent doesn't get paid, and end up having to stay completely out of pocket for this con (as they currently are), would you want to go to future cons, or would you be hesitant? Also, Hasbro could say 'well, its obvious these cons dont know what theyre doing, we will no longer allow show staff to attend any cons'. That would be bad for

#### <&EightTrack\_Mobile> all of them

<& EightTrack\_Mobile> EFN-Pony\_5122: I don't know the total number, I just know its very large. But we're not trying to get the whole number, the Show staff is waving all their apprearnce fees and everything, they just want to be able to pay their credit card bills for the flights and hotel rooms they paid for up front.

<& EightTrack\_Mobile> EFN-Pony\_6647: No, I meant we wont reach the original contracted amount with appearance fees, etc. But the Show staff is fine with that. We're just trying to get them reimbursed for money they have already spent to get here

<& EightTrack> I'm pretty sure the con organizers have bailed, because there's about 200 people who got kicked out of their hotel rooms, charges on their cards, and kicked out of vendor halls that probably want to cause them physical harm.

<u>https://etherpad.mozilla.org/Vx0F55xIOO</u> - editable info dump <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Isis-House/message/3511</u> Wings of Change <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dieganpagans/message/5690?var=1</u> Dragonfly Shoppe <u>http://www.screenshots.com/thedragonflygiftshoppe.com/2008-04-02</u> Dragonfly Shoppe

Some meetups links from an anon:

http://www.meetup.com/LasVegasBronies/members/40045272/ http://www.meetup.com/LasVegasBronies/events/87099432/

#### Additional Details

- <u>http://www.rivierahotel.com/</u> venue
- <u>sean@wtvy.com</u> Wrote an <u>article</u> on LPU;
- <u>dzweifel@theriviera.com</u> vice president of sales at the convention centre

Assuming 1,200 attendees as per reports:

They had 1000 attendees x \$64 ticket price = \$64000

Also:

Package B sales 48 \* \$125 = 6000 Package C sales 32 \* \$175 = 5600 Package D sales 41 \* \$250 = 10250 Package E sales 31 \* \$400 = 12400 Package F sales 17 \* \$600 = 10200 Package G sales 11 \* \$900 = 9900 Package H sales 9 \* \$1200 = 10800 Founder Package 5 \* \$1500 = 7500 (That also includes free tickets to all future Unicons, ho ho ho)

TOTAL \$136650

Sponsors:

http://www.aardvarktees.com

-full page, \$250 http://www.equestriaLA.com -full page, \$250 http://ChaoticBrony.deviantart.com -half page, \$175 http://Toxic-mario.deviantart.com -half page, \$175 http://www.shirts4bronies.com -half page, \$175 -back cover, \$500 http://Tsitra360.deviantart.com -quarter page, \$80 http://fesoferbex.deviantart.com -quarter page, \$80 osu4ev included Famosity -full page, \$250 http://www.ponyplushies.com -full page, \$250 E the Pony Embroidery -half page, \$175 http://mikevioecarnev.deviantart.com -half page, \$175 http://www.BigApplePonycon.com -full page, \$250 http://drawponies.deviantart.com -half page, \$175 Valkyrie Komics (local comic company) -half page, \$175 http://www.BinsToyBin.com -half page, \$175

#### \$3310 total

#### Additional Notes

Old Unicon threads, in order of creation: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8586161 http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8591797 http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8595448 http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8598954 http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8599408 http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8617114 Ms. Sandi's Wild Ride 1: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8672370 Ms. Sandi's Wild Ride 2: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8677299 Ms. Sandi's Wild Ride 3: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8697046 Ms. Sandi's Wild Ride 4: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8730796 Ms. Sandi's Wild Ride 5: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8742377 Ms. Sandi's Wild Ride 6: http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/S8797172 http://archive.heinessen.com/mlp/thread/8837804