

# A Mark of Excellence

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## Empire FanFest Con



On 18 April, 2004, I spent the day at the Empire FanFest Con in Secaucus NJ. Mark was there as a guest, holding a question and answer session,

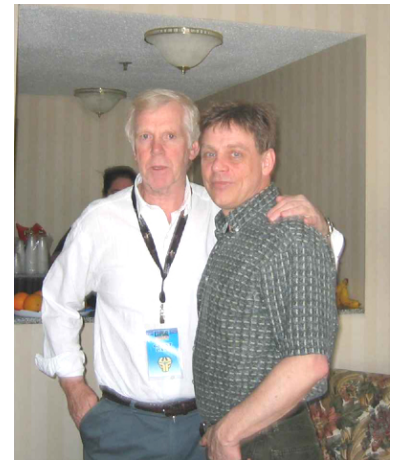
and afterwards posing for pictures with attendees who purchased the 'meet and greet' package deal. This was the first year for the con, and hopefully it will continue to be held yearly. It focuses on voice-over artists and animation, though Mark was there to promote *ComicBook:The Movie*. A good variety of questions were asked, spanning Mark's career from *Wizards*, to *Star Wars*, to the voice of the Joker. And fittingly, the audience had a fair representation of all age levels. But the main focus

was *ComicBook:The Movie*. Mark related a number of anecdotes, many dealing with the logistics filming at San Diego ComicCon. A young fan requested he do the Joker laugh. He more than obliged, explaining how different scenes required a different laugh, then doing examples.



For followers of the *Star Wars* post-*Return of the Jedi* books and role-playing games, there was the surprise appearance of Shannon McRandle, who was the model for Mara Jade, Luke's wife, for the Decipher card game, at the end of Mark's presentation. As the con promoter put it, this was the first time Luke Skywalker and Mara Jade had appeared together.

There was another reunion



most people did not get to see. Jeremy Bulloch, who played Boba Fett, was also at the con, promoting his autobiography, *'Flying Solo'*. Mark and Jeremy had a chance to talk a bit and discuss a certain scene in *ComicBook:The Movie* <G>

All in all, it was a fun day!



## Notes From the Editor...



The news that a special director cut of *'The Big Red One'* will be released on dvd next year was very satisfying to hear. *'BRO'* has long been one of my older son's (and my!) favourite 'Mark

projects', even with the American theatrical and general video release as 'incomplete' as it is. The first time I watched the video, Richard was in another room, working on a Lego project. Suddenly, he came running out of the room, shouting 'It's *\*Mark!\** It's *\*Mark!\**' with great joy, at the top of his 5 year old lungs. He proceeded to sit down, ask that I rewind the tape to the beginning, and just sat there watching it

the entire time. Yes, I fielded a few questions about the film, particularly the scenes in the concentration camp. Both grandfathers were also asked questions concerning the D-Day



## Did You Catch?



Mark at the Cannes Film Festival? He was there for a

special director cut of Samuel Fuller's *The Big Red One*. Approximately fifty minutes have been added back to the film, restoring it as closely as possible to Sam Fuller's original cut. Richard Shinkle did the majority of the work, with help from Curtis Hanson.



Look for a *\*possible\** limited theatrical release later this year. This new version will be released on dvd next year, coinciding with the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

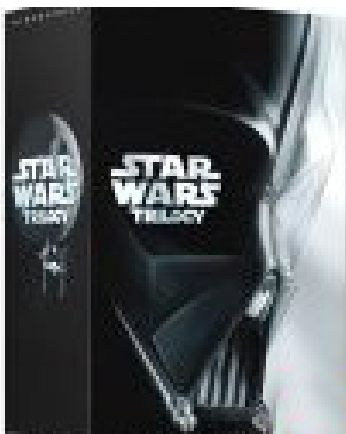


# Future Watch



Mark will be at the San Diego ComicCon in July. The tentative dates he'll be there are the 22nd and 24th. For more information, keep checking the IMHFC website.

time for the holiday shopping season. And there is a possibility of it being made into a movie as well.

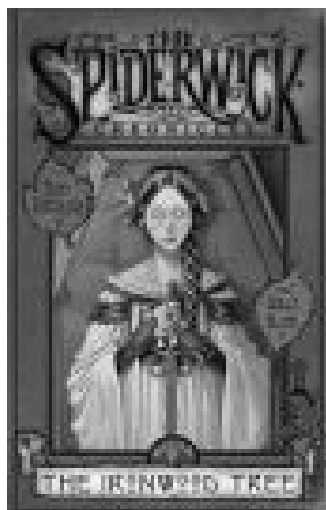


'Star Wars-SE' will be released on dvd 21 September 2004. Mark has done commentary for this edition.

nel, they additionally own ABC-TV

Last, but definitely not least is that while 'The Wrong Coast' is currently airing in Canada, Wednesday nights, 8.30 pm ET/PT, on TMN and Movie Central, there are \*still\* no plans to air it here on AMC. If you would like to write AMC, asking/urging them to air 'The Wrong Coast' in the United States, here is the address:

**AMC Viewer Mail  
AMC  
200 Jericho Quadrangle  
Jericho NY 11753**



Mark has done work on an audio version of the series 'Spiderwick Chronicles'. This is a collection of books along the line of the Harry Potter books, dealing with doppelgangers, goblins, and elves, geared towards the 8-11 year old age range. The audiobook should be out in



Previous experience with other stations have shown that snail mail is more effective than e-mail.

He has kept busy doing a voice on Disney's 'Super Robot Monkey' animated series, but no information on when or where it will be aired. Disney not only has their own cable chan-





PO Box 287  
Grand Blanc MI 48439  
USA  
[www.markhamill.com](http://www.markhamill.com)  
E-mail: [webmaster@markhamill.com](mailto:webmaster@markhamill.com)

## The Last Word...

*A Mark of Excellence* is the quarterly newsletter of the **International Mark Hamill Fan Club**. Yearly dues are \$15 US, and include 4 consecutive issues of the newsletter, a membership card, access to the fan club area on the website, and special mailings as appropriate.

Submissions, including photos or original artwork, are welcomed; final editing is the discretion of the editor. If you wish your photo or artwork returned please enclose a sase, and attach your name/address on the back of your submission.

**Webmaster:**

Sue Depping-  
[webmaster@markhamill.com](mailto:webmaster@markhamill.com)

**Staff Writers:**

Tina Lebelt- Germany  
Jeannine Adomaitis-  
United States  
Kari Lowry- United States