This past weekend (Saturday, May the 4th, to be exact) I spent my day celebrating! I was not, however, celebrating the franchise you might guess based on the date. Instead, I was celebrating the franchise you’d guess based on knowing me even just a little bit. That’s right, it was A Celebration of Doctor Who!

Paul Booth of DePaul University organized a truly lovely event. I spent my day surrounded by Doctor Who fans. What could possibly be better?

There were two tracks going simultaneously. One room was for screening Doctor Who episodes. Sadly, I wasn’t able to make it over there at all, I was so busy with the other track—the roundtable discussions. These were fabulous—and not just ’cause I was on two of them.* I got to talk about “The Long Appeal of Doctor Who” and “Doctor Who Fandom.” Both were fun discussions with lovely and intelligent people.**

After the roundtables, Robert Shearman did a live commentary of his episode “Dalek” and a Q&A after. He was as hilarious and informative as always. He even did a short reading from one of his stories. It was delightful! (…if disturbing—he excels at disturbing!)

A particular highlight of the day was getting to meet so many Verity! fans. I lost track of the number of people who approached me between panels to tell me they liked the podcast. I couldn’t be more chuffed. Thank you to everyone who made me feel so so special.
Here are some other highlights in no particular order:

- I bought a book and a Big Finish audio adventure!***
- My heretofore twitter-only friend Mel Heeres (https://twitter.com/GeekilyGF) brought me a gluten-free donut!
- Rob Shearman (https://twitter.com/ShearmanRobert) drew a Dalek for me.
- Jody Lynn Nye (http://www.sff.net/people/jodynye/) showed me her fabulous photo album w/ pictures of John Pertwee, Tom Baker, Peter Davison, Colin Baker, Lis Sladen, Ian Marter, Janet Fielding, and probably more I've forgotten. It was SO. COOL.
- I got to hang out with friends I don’t get to see often enough: Lynne (https://twitter.com/lynnemthomas), Michael (https://twitter.com/michaeldthomas), Caitlin, and Felicity (https://twitter.com/Feliopolis)!
- Mary Robinette Kowal (http://www.maryrobinettekowal.com/) gave me advice on shoes.
- My parents came along with me and enjoyed it thoroughly. They saw almost every single panel and had a blast!
- Jody Lynn Nye (https://twitter.com/JodyLynnNye) brought Jelly Babies (in a TARDIS lunchbox) and passed them out to our panel—and the audience!
- I had lunch (and then coffee) with Carole Barrowman (http://www.carolebarrowman.com/), who is as lovely and entertaining as her brother.
- The Well-Tempered Schism (http://www.welltemperedschism.com/) provided some lovely Who-themed music during the reception after the events.

I could probably go on and on about how awesome it was, but I shall stop here. If another event of this sort happens while I’m still in the USofA, I will most definitely make it a point to attend. I encourage anyone in the Chicago area to keep your eyes open and do the same.

As a matter of fact, if you’re a Doctor Who fan, look around and see if there are any local Who-themed meet-ups or events. There’s something magical about gathering in person to celebrate something we love so very much.

*I even moderated my first panel EVER. Scary. And, as it turned out: Fun!

**One of those people was my Verity! cohort Lynne!

***Yes, ME. I bought an audio. Even I’m not sure what to think about that.

This entry was posted in Fangirl and tagged Convention, Dalek, DePaul University, Doctor Who, Robert Shearman. Bookmark the permalink.
4 Responses to A Celebration of Doctor Who-Boy Was That Fun!

1. Paul Booth says:
   May 7, 2013 at 11:07 am
   I’m so glad you enjoyed it! What audio did you get? :)

   Reply
   - Erika Ensign says:
     May 7, 2013 at 11:10 am
     On Rob’s recommendation, I got “Deadline.” Several people have told me it’s very good, so I’m looking forward to it!

     Reply
     - Paul Booth says:
       May 7, 2013 at 11:14 am
       Oh yes – it is FANTASTIC. I’d love to know what you think when you’ve listened to it

     - Erika Ensign says:
       May 7, 2013 at 11:15 am
       My Verity! cohost Liz has already demanded that I write a review when I’m finished, so that’ll probably happen at some point. :)