

The Crystal Rose – A Cross-Country Journey

In 2010, Sandy P. Shelton (the writer) provided this mini-history of the Crystal Rose Fan Club:

The founding members were JoAnn Grant and Vicki Thomas. They roped me in right after the show went off the air. We started a newsletter with a few other fans in the area that JoAnn knew (Mickey Sayles, Carla McRorie, etc). I started off reviewing zines for the newsletter, then later on started writing stories, then zines.

JoAnn was the driver in our efforts. She met Chandler at a convention and she sent her some artwork. I remember JoAnn calling me and saying we might have an artist named Sandy Shelton; I laughed, of course. Anyway, I remember her nurturing Chandler during those early days of her artwork. Most of them are in our zines. She always "mothered" Chandler quite a bit and helped her build her confidence. The cartoon that appeared on Chandler's interview was of us. Chandler and I were good friends then.

As JoAnn's health became a problem, we couldn't go to the cons as we did. Vicki left the group and it came down to JoAnn handling the online site and staying in touch with everyone. [JoAnn Grant passed away in 2006.] I remember JoAnn sending books to Jan. People would contribute them or we would buy them. I'm so glad to hear that those efforts are continuing.

Sadly, in January 2011, Jan Sutter passed away and our fandom lost a cherished family member. But during the transition of the CRLI to its new home, Jan provided this information about the Library:

Sandy P. Shelton was one of the three original Crystal Rose Fan Club members along with JoAnn Grant and Vicki Thomas. When they were unable to continue running the library, I had been a "customer" for a while, so I offered to move the library to Texas [from North Carolina].

I think the library had a listing of about 300 or so zines at the time, and there were at least 50 missing that I worked on replacing. The original zines were boxed up (in about 4 boxes, I think) and I paid to have them air freighted over here. When CABB discontinued their library, they gave me first shot at zines I didn't have and I got many then. There were a couple of other huge bulk purchases, people getting rid of zines and giving me first shot.



The Library Jan turned over to a new caretaker contains over 1,000 individual zines (some duplicates), fandom newsletters, etc., held in a baker's dozen filing cabinets.