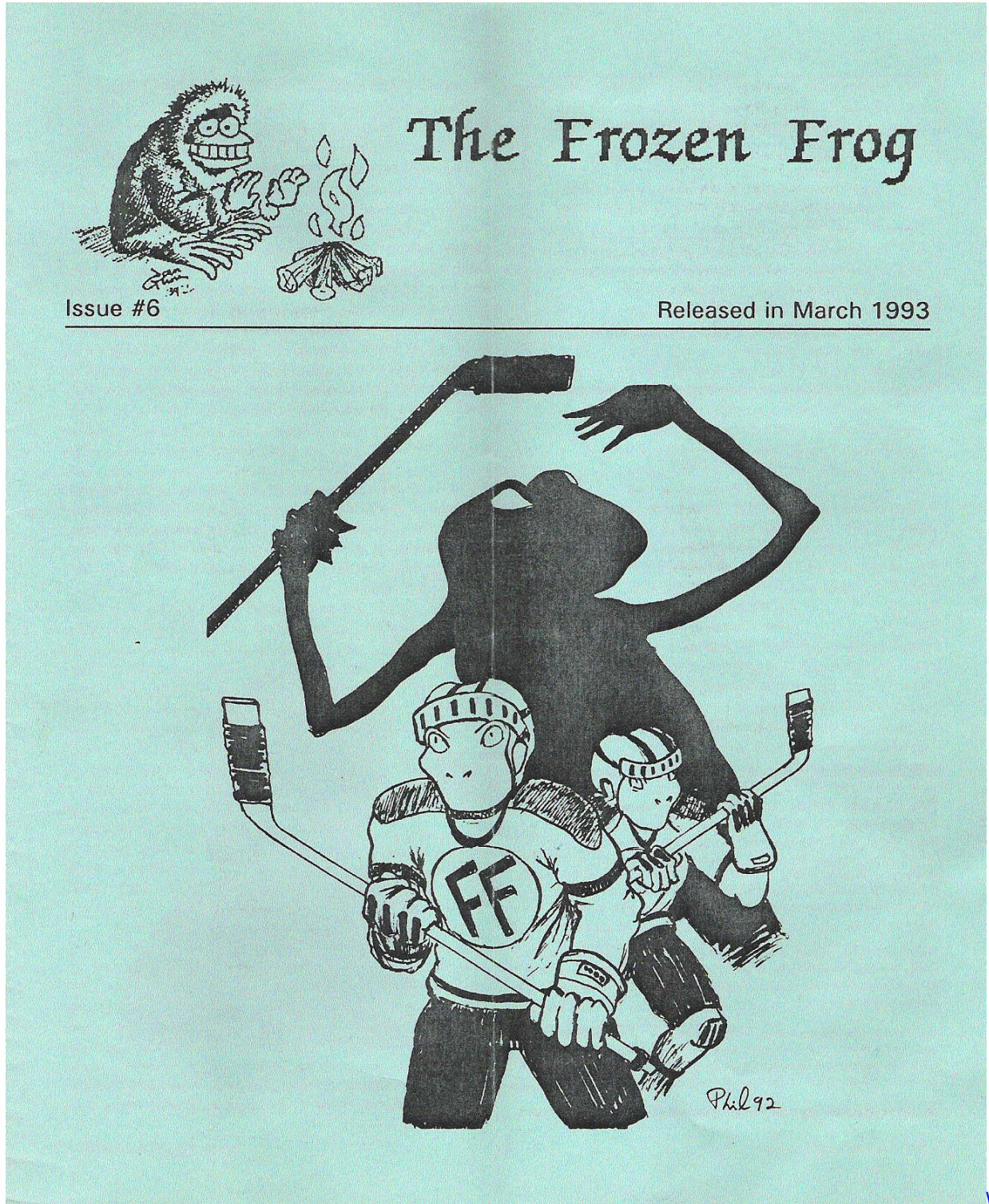


WCSFAzine

The Fannish E-zine of the West Coast Science Fiction Association
Dedicated to Promoting the West Coast Science Fiction Community

#19

April 2009



Faned: Benoit Girard. Cover art by Philippe Labelle. Logo by Ian Gunn.

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Note: All uncredited articles are by the Editor.

ART CREDITS:

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Barry Kent Mackay: 25, 30, 37, 51

Scott Patri: 26, 46

William Rotsler: 8, 10, 48

ART CREDITS FROZEN FROG #6

David L. Russell: 13

Teddy Harvia: 14

Craig Hilton: 16

Ruth Shields: 18

EDITORIAL



Yes, I'm OK, sort of. Been suffering from extreme exhaustion and fatigue. Not sure why. Seems to have hit me like a ton of bricks since they put me on the box-making machine at work. Lots of constant repetitive movement. Leaves me so tired my wife is often unable to wake me when I take a nap. Missed quite a few suppers because of that.

Only been able to do a bit of fanac on the weekends and then not very much.

To put it another way, previous bouts of mental alertness and enthusiasm lasting for hours now measure only minutes in length.

Suddenly I feel a lot older than I actually am.

And so the March WCSFAzine comes out in April. I honestly don't know whether I can go back to a monthly schedule, or settle on once every two months, or maybe stop. Am especially frustrated I've done nothing on the Space Cadet now due.

What else have I not done? No rebuilding my Canfancylopedia site. No participation in the Aurora nominations or the FAAn Awards voting. No more locking other fanzines. Hardly any reading. Sometimes I'm so tired even watching TV is too much effort.

Anyway, I'm hoping it's just some sort of temporary glitch. I guess I'll just have to declare the frequency of publication a fannish 'soonest' for the duration and see what happens.

Next issue should be ready by May 1st. If not, maybe June 1st. Many thanks to Bill Burns at < <http://www.efanzines.com> > for hosting. Please send me feedback! < rgraeme@shaw.ca >

FANDOM NEWS & NOTES

This item is of course now out of date:

LOCAL FANS NEEDED FOR TV BROADCAST!

By Valorie Hoye

Hello Everyone,

As many of you know, I run the local Battlestar Galactica Fan Club. We are being given a really cool opportunity. Space Channel, Canada's Sci-Fi TV channel, is considering sending one of their on-air talent out to Vancouver to join us for the broadcast of Battlestar Galactica's final episode on March 20th, starting at 6pm, and including us in a live broadcast after the show finishes at 8pm. This would be the first time Space has gone to so much effort for a Vancouver based club. This is the end of Battlestar Galactica, so we will never have another opportunity like this.

Space would like a guarantee that I can get 100 people out to the event. I think we can do it, but it means we have to get the word out to all the science fiction fans in Vancouver, and get as many of them as possible to commit to coming out for the Finale Party. And we need that commitment by early next week in order for Space to go ahead with the plan.

This is our chance to show Space Channel that Vancouver has a vibrant and enthusiastic crowd of sci-fi fans!



Please pass along the message to anyone you know who likes Battlestar Galactica...or who you think might know someone who likes the show!

Our event is FREE. The Finale airs at 6pm, on Friday March 20th. Our event is at the LaFontana Caffe in Burnaby, 3701 Hastings St in Burnaby (NE corner of Hastings & Boundary)

There will be people out in costume, and lots of stuff for the camera crew to take pictures of, but anyone who attends should understand they will be seen on national television.

Thank you very much! Valorie

Fortunately the success of this event was not dependent on WCSFazine spreading the word, as witness this comment by Greg Slade of B.I.F.F. (Burrard Inlet Fan Fellowship):

“110 fans cheered, jeered, hissed, exulted, cried, raged, raved (and possibly even reaved, although not within my sightlines) as Vancouver fandom bid farewell to Battlestar Galactica at the joint "Frakking End" party at La Fontana. As we hoped, Space: The Imagination Station was there, so now the rest of the country has seen what real fen look like.”

2009 CUFF NOMINATIONS OPEN!

By Lance Sibley, 2008 CUFF Delegate

I'm writing to announce the opening of nominations for this year's Canadian Unity Fan Fund (CUFF) delegate. CUFF provides for a Canadian SF fan to travel to the current year's Convention, or Canadian National SF Convention. This year's Convention coincides with Anticipation, the 67th World

Science Fiction Convention, being held in Montreal from August 6-10.

Since the Convention is being held in the East, this year's CUFF delegate must be chosen from west of the Ontario-Manitoba border. As the 2008 CUFF delegate, the responsibility falls to me to select the 2009 delegate. I am therefore asking that you consider who from among your fannish circle may be a good delegate for this year. It could even be you!

To be nominated for CUFF, the successful delegate must: provide a short biography detailing their activities in fandom. As well, nominees must show that they have the support of other Canadian fans by having their nomination co-signed by three fans from the East and three fans from the West. The successful nominee must also agree to administer the fund for 2010, including selecting the 2010 delegate.

To submit a nomination, or to ask for more information, please feel free to contact me at lance_sibley@yahoo.com And please feel free to forward this email to others as you see fit, or publish it in your fanzine, clubzine or newsletter.

Regards, Lance Sibley

MORE INFO ON 2009 CUFF!

By Murray Moore

During a conversation today with Lance I learned that Lance received approximately \$1,000 from Brian Davis. Lance received this money last May.

The current balance in the CUFF account, including the Brian Davis money, is \$2,162.03.

As for the current race, recently Lance sent info about the CUFF race to 35 groups west of the Ontario border, organizations and clubs and cons and magazines Neo-Opis and On Spec. He will follow up soon with a nomination deadline.

And a race is possible this year. Lance has received two strong expressions of interest; in which case Lance will send a ballot to the same 35 groups, leading to income from the voting fee for the CUFF bank account, plus more publicity.

LEGENDARY CANADIAN FAN PASSES ON!

FROM MIKE GLYER'S FILE 770:

Randy Reichardt sends word that **Chester D Cuthbert** passed away in Winnipeg on Friday, March 20, 2009:

Chester was a member of First Fandom, and had two stories published by Hugo Gernsback in the February and July 1934 issues of Wonder Stories. Chester was good friends with Sam Moskowitz and Forry Ackerman, both of whom visited him at his home during the Worldcon in Winnipeg in 1994. He was an integral part of the Canadian sf scene for decades.

My university, the University of Alberta, accepted his amazing collection on donation in the fall of 2007, and the donation received international news coverage at the time.

Update 03/24/2009: A detailed obituary about Cuthbert plus a photo is posted [here](#).

Gary Farber Says:

I visited Chester, along with Diane Drutowski, Phil Paine, and Patrick Hayden, in our cross-Canadian trip in 1975 from Toronto onwards and down to Mipple-Stipple. He was a great old guy, and it was a thrill to go though his collection, and reminisce with him. I'm so sorry all our old greats are going.



Rich Lynch Says:

I also visited Chester during the 1994 Worldcon. I remember that he had a huge collection of books in his attic, so much so that he would allow only one visitor at a time up there to look around to avoid a possible structural collapse. He was a warm and friendly person, and a great correspondent who you could count for a letter of comment to a fanzine.

Randy Reichardt Says:

For the record, when we moved Chester's collection to the U of Alberta in October 2007, it took three 54-foot tractor-trailers to haul ~2,150 boxes of books weighing ~47 tons. Amazing that that little house at 1104 Mulvey Avenue in Winnipeg was able to hold it all.

Chester's memorial service was yesterday in Winnipeg, and I attended and spoke briefly. A number of ex-DWF (Decadent Winnipeg Fandom) members were there, as was his entire family - five children, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren. It was a warm and memorable service, fitting for a man as great and respected as Chester.

The Graeme Says:

I used to correspond with Chester Cuthbert now and then. He very kindly donated a number of very important items to the WCSFA/BCSFA archive. I hope to find time to write an article about him for next issue.

2009 FAAN AWARDS

Full voting results from Corflu 26 held in Seattle March 13-15, 2009.

Best Fan Artist

Dan Steffan – 75, Brad Foster – 48, Steve Stiles – 41, Taral Wayne – 24, Alan White – 18, Marc Schirmeister – 17, Harry Bell – 12, Alison Scott – 8, Ditmar – 8, Charlie Williams – 5, Genevieve – 5, Georgie Schnobrich – 5, Ken Fletcher – 5, Mo Starkey – 5, Ulrika O'Brien – 5, Alexis Gilliland – 4, Espana Sheriff – 3, Kurt Ericksen – 3, Stu Schiffman – 3, Sue Mason – 3, Frank Wu – 2, Craig Smith – 1, Dave Hicks – 1, Delphyne Woods – 1, Lar deSouza – 1, & Terry Jeeves - 1

Best Fan Writer

Bruce Gillespie – 35, Claire Brialey – 28, Randy Byers – 19, Earl Kemp – 18, Mark Plummer – 15,

Curt Phillips – 14, Andy Hooper – 13, Chris Garcia – 10, Eric Mayer – 10, Nic Farey – 9, Taral Wayne – 9, Joe Major – 8, John Hertz – 8, Sandra Bond – 8, Dan Steffan – 7, Guy Lillian – 6, Mike Glycer – 6, Dave Langford – 5, Dave Locke – 5, David Levine – 5, John Coxon – 5, Lisa Freitag – 5, Robert Sabella – 5, Steven Silver – 5, Graham Charnock – 4, Ted White – 4, Bruce Burn – 3, Jae Leslie Adams – 3, James Bacon – 3, Jim Sullivan – 3, Joyce Worley – 3, Kate Yule – 3, Leigh Ann Hildebrand – 3, Robert Lichtman – 3, Steve Green – 3, Arthur Hlavaty – 2, Arnie Katz – 1, Dick Lupoff – 1, Gene Stewart – 1, Jeff Boman – 1, John Nielsen Hall – 1, & Milt Stevens - 1

Best Fanzine

eI, ed. Earl Kemp - 47

Prolapse, ed. Peter Weston - 40

Banana Wings, ed. Claire Brialey, Mark Plummer - 35

Chunga, ed. Andy Hooper, Randy Byers, and carl juarez - 28

Askance, ed. John Purcell - 20

Steam Engine Time, ed. Bruce Gillespie, Janine Stinson - 18

File 770, ed. Mike Glycer - 16

Bento, ed. David Levine, Kate Yule - 15

Challenger, ed. Guy Lillian - 14

The Drink Tank, ed. Chris Garcia - 12

Time & Again, ed. Dave Locke - 11

Alexiad, ed. Lisa Major, Joe Major - 8

AmaZed and Corfluzed, ed. Luke McGuff - 7

Trap Door, ed. Robert Lichtman - 7

The Knarley Knews, ed. Henry L. Welch - 6

Argentus, ed. Steven Silver - 5

Derogatory Reference, ed. Arthur Hlavaty - 5

No Sin But Ignorance, ed. Claire Brialey - 5

Journey Planet, ed. James Bacon, Claire Brialey, and Chris Garcia - 3

Plokta, ed. Mike Scott, Alison Scott, Steven Cain, Steve Davies, Sue Mason - 3

Procrastinations, ed. John Coxon - 3

QuasiQuote, ed. Sandra Bond - 3

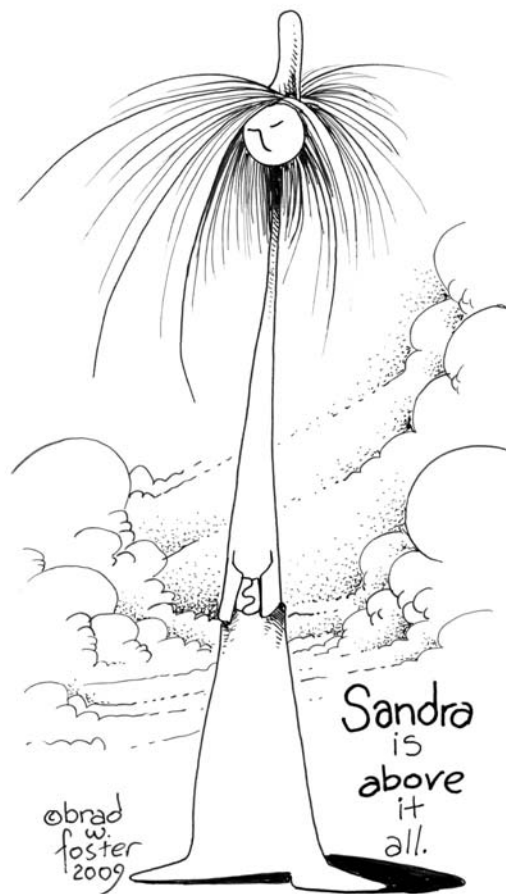
The Original Universe, ed. Jeffrey Boman - 3

Beam, ed. Nic Farey - 1

Opuntia, ed. Dale Speirs - 1

The Reluctant Famulus, ed. Thomas D. Sadler - 1

Vegas Fandom Weekly, ed. Arnie Katz - 1



Best Letterhack

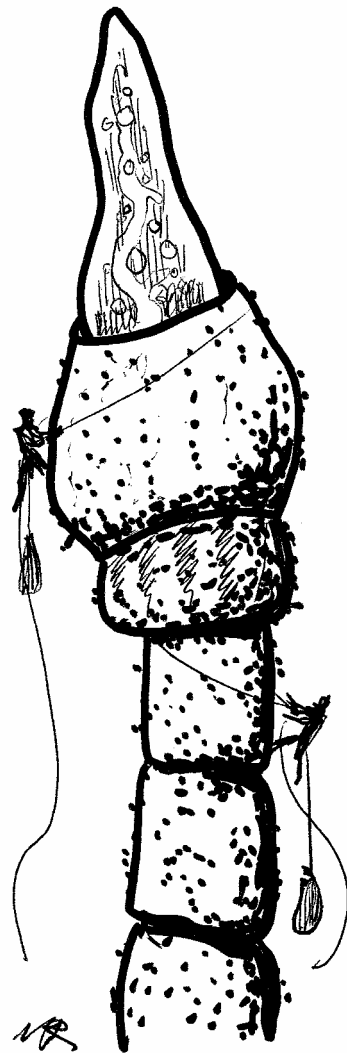
Lloyd Penney – 52, Jerry Kaufman – 35, Robert Lichtman – 34, John Purcell – 24, Eric Mayer – 22, Joe Major – 15, Michael Moorcock – 10, Milt Stevens – 9, Sheryl Birkhead – 8, Chris Garcia – 7, Graham Charnock – 7, Joseph Nicholas – 6, Mark Plummer – 6, Chuck Connor – 5, Dick Lupoff – 5, Claire Brialey – 3, Curt Phillips – 3, David Locke – 3, Marilee Layman – 3, Martin Morse Wooster – 3, Richard OIngrove – 3, Sharee Carton – 3, Cy Chauvin – 1, Greg Benford – 1, John Hertz – 1, Joy Smith – 1, Mike Meara – 1, & Sandra Bond - 1

Best New Fmz Fan

Jean Martin – 13, Katrina Templeton – 13, No Award – 10, Warren Buff – 10, Kristina Kopsky – 10, Bryan Follins – 5, Jason Burnett – 5, Peter Sullivan – 5, John Toon – 3, Liam Proven – 3, Lisa Major – 3, Anna Davour – 1, Jason Schachat – 1, John Nielsen Hall – 1, & John Scalzi - 1

Best Online Site

eFanzines.com - 129
file770.com - 21
fanac.org - 17
corflu.org - 15
news.ansible.co.uk - 14
nielsenhayden.com/makinglight/ - 11
Southern Fandom Classic on Yahoo Groups - 5
The Wasted Hour - tfvn.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-1.html - 5
TheVoicesOfFandom.com - 5
Torque Control - vectoreditors.wordpress.com/ - 5
Virtual Tucker Hotel - efanzines.com/VTH/index.htm - 5
efanzines.com/DrinkTank/index.htm - 5
gostak.co.uk - 4
livejournal.com - 3
sideshow.me.uk - 3
Trufen on Yahoo Groups - 3
Yahoo Groups - 3
www.conflux.org.au/progress.shtml - 3
scifidimensions.com - 3
Plokta.com - 2
community.livejournal.com/scans_daily/ - 1
InTheBar on Yahoo Groups - 1
lasvegrants.com - 1
sfsignal.com - 1
stevestiles.com - 1
taff.org.uk - 1
io9.com - 1
efanzines.com/RSNG/index.htm - 1
fandomonium.net – 1



AURORA FANZINE NOMINEES, THEN AND NOW.

This year, as listed with the other nominees in the Filthy Pro section, there are four fanzines nominated for the Auroras. Better than last year, when there was only one, and it lost to no award!

Canadian zinedom was a little healthier back in 1990/91, to say the least. The list of potential nominees for the 1991 Prix Aurora Awards included: BARDIC RUNES edited by Michael McKenny, BCSFAzine edited by R. Graeme Cameron, BLANC-CITRON edited by Mario Giguere, CSF edited by Eddy Szczerbinski, CON-TRACT edited by John Mansfield, FICTONS FREE-FOR-ALL edited by Don DeBrandt, I'M NOT BORING YOU AM I? edited by Robert Runte, IMPULSE edited by Colleen

Magnussen & Trudie Mason, MLR edited by Michael Skeet, NEOLOGY edited by Catherine Girczyc, NEWSLOG edited by Marjorie McKenna, OSFS STATEMENT edited by Lionel Wagner, PILONE edited by Philippe Gauthier, SAMISDAT edited by Claude J. Pelletier, SHORT TREKS edited by Jacqueline Collett, SOL RISING edited by Larry Hancock, TEMPTS TOT edited by Christian Martin, TORUS edited by Keith Soltys & others, TREK LETTER edited by (?), WARP edited by Keith Braithwaite & Michael Masella, and XENOFIL edited by Ron Currie.

22 zines in all. How many of these zines still publish? BARDIC RUNES (I think), BCSFAzine, IMPULSE, OSFS STATEMENT, SOL RISING (maybe?), and WARP. Under current rules four would be ineligible for 'fanzine' because they're club zines, and the other two might be ineligible as they are more semi-pro than fanzine. All the same, heck of a lot of activity back then.

Maybe just 8 of the 22 fanzine nominees I listed in BCSFAzine #214 back in March 1991 were 'fanzines' under the current rules. The following four nominees to be voted on for the 1991 Awards:

Fan Achievement (Fanzine)

Accomplissement fanique (Fanzine)

- *The Original Universe*, Jeff Boman, (Ed.)
- *Opuntia*, Dale Spiers (Ed.)
- *Clair/Obscur*, François-Bernard Tremblay, (Réd.)
- *Brins d'éternité*, Guillaume Voisine, (Réd.)

...do not include my SPACE CADET GAZETTE, Garth's SWISS NAVY GAZETTE, or Felicity's ISH. Hmm, the number of 'fanzines' (as defined by the modern rules) has only dropped by 1 from 1991 to 2009. That's not so bad. I guess...

But when I throw in the 4 club zines still publishing, plus WCSFAzine, the grand total comes to a mere 11 zines. That's a drop of 50% from 1991. Definitely unhealthy.

Still, 3 of the 4 fanzines nominated this year I've never heard of. That astounds me. Makes me think there may be more. Perhaps Canadian zinedom isn't terminal yet... I can dream...

FANDOM HISTORY

CLIPPINGS FROM CANADA

By Leslie A. Croutch

In several issues of Rosenblum's FUTURIAN WAR DIGEST from the 1940s posted online by UK fan Rob Hansen, Canada's own Leslie A. Croutch (Publisher and editor of LIGHT) contributes a column of which I quote the following sample:

Futurian War Digest #11, August 1941

Well, it is happening. Remember what I said about American prozines being published in Canada? During the past four weeks (typed June 24) there has appeared on the newstands, various detective and western publications. This means the changeover has begun. When will fantasy prozines be affected? First company turning out Canadian editions from Toronto is Popular Publications. Street & Smith are also in there pitching. Get that? S & S. When will ASTOUNDING and UNKNOWN WORLDS come over? Time will tell.

In his latest letter, John Russell Fearn shows a growing boredom it and is turning towards books. During last winter he turned out three; "One Was Absent", "Little Winter", and "Then Came War". The last had just been completed and is 110,000 words in length. They will not go to America as he says there is a growing demand in England for books, and so he will send them to London. "Then Came War" is a simple little story of an ordinary family caught in the whirlwind transition from peace to war and shows the effect it has on their characters and respective ambitions. When that is tied up, as it were, Fearn will begin his "The Impossible Neighbours". It will be 110.000 words also. He has not dropped off stf entirely. Recently he did "Prenatal" for UNKNOWN and "The Eternal Outcasts" for whoever takes it.

Have any of you read the OCCULT DIGEST? It uses the most advanced occult articles on Yoga, Alchemy, Kaballah, Astrology, etc.. No spirit stuff used. Only fictional accounts of historical events in which occult forces operated, or fictional accounts of occult laws are used. It might be worth investigating this from a fantasy viewpoint.

TUNE IN, TURN ON, AND FALL OUT,

July 1983

Published in *Carefully Sedated*

by *Tara Wayne*

Periodically, I go through my things for the purpose of throwing away whatever I can. It's emotionally satisfying to cleanse yourself of the fetishes of a decade. (Emotionally harrowing too, but that's a different article.) While going through boxes of stuff from the late '80's – you remember how crazy the news was ten or fifteen years ago? – I found a lot of precious keepsakes, as well as obvious junk that had been packed away for storage without sorting.



Among the self-sealing bags and plastic folders I found a number of out-takes from my first animated zine. (By the way, they proved me completely right, and Mike Glycer's review wrong. As is usually the case, I couldn't find the clips when I needed them, and here they were.) Held in a bundle by a rubber band was a collection of potato chip bags in forty-one flavours – Anchovy Pizza, Sauerkraut, and Fruit Punch were among the more imaginative. I threw these out at once. I used to keep a file of newspaper clippings of anything that had something to do with fandom. They were found between files labeled Abnormal Psychology and Malthusian Populations, but I can't imagine why I had ever put them there. Without further ado, I can state that most of the clippings had long ago lost relevance.

Some few were amusing enough to share with you before consigning to the circular file once and for all. The fandom of today's more humane and enlightened age may ask themselves, "were we ever as silly as this?" I leave it to you to find an answer.

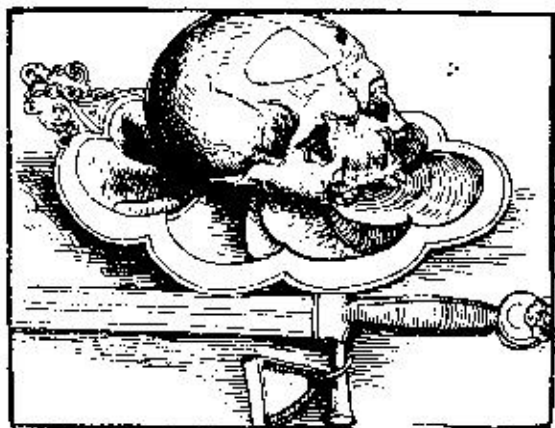
From somewhere in the back pages of the Toronto Star, dated August, 1984:

“Survivalists’ Turn to Fall Out”

“Survivalists collected in Washington DC yesterday for their national convention. Unlike other events cancelled in Washington in memoriam of the 40th. anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, the annual gathering of those planning to outlive civilization, after the expected nuclear holocaust, went ahead. It was, however, the second year in a row that Survivalists were frustrated by unexpected developments. Last year, the convention was cancelled when the organizing committee failed in its attempt to re-take a small African nation from the People’s Provisional Government (which had ousted the original hosts of the convention in a bloodless coup.) The Guest-of-Honour-to-Be was killed in the action, along with several thousand black nationalists.

“This year the Survivalist fraternity returned to the United States, in regard for its greater stability as a convention site. A new Guest of Honour was chosen. He is Jerry Pournelle, a leading figure in an important contributory branch of the survivalist movement – Science Fiction.

“Not merely a Sci-Fi writer, Pournelle is a Libertarian, and a social philosopher in his own right. Author of many Utopian novels such as *Oath of Fealty*, he has helped shape the political thought of many of the young technical elite, who are the future of America. Interviewed several days before the convention – it is presumed he was on the site of yesterday’s opening ceremonies, and can no longer be reached – Mr. Pournelle gave many examples of the dry wit and penetrating thought that has marked him as a leader in his field. Asked about his views on pacifism, he produced a flick knife under the reporter’s nose and quipped ‘I’m going to kill you. Are you a pacifist now?’ On another topic, Mr. Pournelle corrected the historical misunderstanding of Benito Mussolini. ‘He made the trains run on time,’ reporters were told. And again, remarking on his critics, Mr. Pournelle observed that artsy-fartsy intellectuals failed the modern literacy test by lacking even the minimal computer skills of his least reader. It is easy to see why Mr. Pournelle has inspired such loyalty and refreshing iconoclasm among his many thousands of fans.



“During the convention, the Survivalists award recognition to their choice of the year’s outstanding contribution to their cause. Last year the coveted G. Gordon Liddy Award was given to Harrison Ford for his role as the post-Holocaust hero in *Armageddon A+14*.

“The popular adventure series, set fourteen years after the destruction of civilization as we know it, is based loosely on a story written by Harlan Ellison. A script by the author led him directly from filming *A Boy and His Dog* to this ABC smash hit. The original story is a nihilistic statement of the dehumanization of Holocaust survivors. In contrast, the television series celebrates the adaptability of human beings in even the worst imaginable catastrophe. The obvious key to the show’s success is this inversion of the original, downbeat ending. Harrison as Albert Shock must also take credit for this show’s appeal. His superb characterization of the cool, competent Shock – played against his comic foil, the cowardly robot canine, Blood – was cited by TV Guide as the ideal model of a survivalist, and the show described as the perfect medium for the dissemination of survival education.

“A list of program items was submitted to the press before the convention opened. Among many films, guest speakers, panels, and seminars scheduled for the weekend were the following topics of special interest to anyone who wishes to live through the coming End of the World:

“Surviving a Nuclear Attack on Your Downtown Office. (Ten Effective Things You Can Do in That First Vital Second.)

“Decontaminated Air From Hydrolysis of Bottled Vichy Water.

“Your Stock Portfolio for the Post-Holocaust Economy.

“Interruption of the Food Chain, and Your Special Diet.

“Controlling Mutated Populations in the Recovery Period. (Guest Speaker, F. Jagger.)

“Choosing the M-16 or the AK-47 – More Than a Fashion Statement.

“Future Convention Sites After the Destruction of Major Centers of Population.

“The first day of the convention opened quite uneventfully, with more than 3,000 attendees from all over California, and several hundred from other parts of the U.S. Notables seen checking in at the hotel included many of the Guest of Honour Mr. Pournelle’s friends and peers. The writers on hand were united in speculation that the Dean of Sci-Fi, Robert A. Heinlein, would be awarded the Liddy for his life-time achievements. Mr. Heinlein was reported to be resting comfortably in his wheelchair in the privacy of his room.

“Several Pentagon officials, and many representatives from the aerospace and national defense industries, had begun to arrive that morning, to set up their displays. A motorcade had already left the White House to deliver President Reagan at 11 a.m., when he would officially open the convention as Honorary Toastmaster. Expectations were that the proceedings would have continued until Monday, had WW III not broken out twenty minutes before the opening ceremonies.

“The Survivalist movement was vaporized by the lone missile accidentally launched by an off-shore Soviet submarine, along with the greater part of the population of Washington DC, and neighboring communities. Fortunately, the Russians apologized promptly, sparing the world global annihilation.”

It would appear to have been an act of providence that DC area fans, who we needn’t name, were away from Washington that day, all except two who were found miraculously alive beneath protective layers of old fanzines they had pulled over themselves. Quick thinking had spared their lives.

FANATICAL FANZINE FABLES

RETRO CANADIAN FANZINES: THE FROZEN FROG #6

Faned: Benoit Girard

THE FROZEN FROG #6, March 1993:

TFF was published out of Guillaume-Boisset, Cap-Rouge, Quebec, Canada for 12 issues from January 1992 to August 1997. As Faned Benoit Girard explains: “Cap-Rouge is a suburb of Quebec City. A narrow valley opening on the magnificent St. Lawrence river.”

TFF was intended to be “a semi personal fanzine... It is centred on science fiction but ranges widely around to include considerations on science, politics, history, gaming, writing and whatever its readers or editor may happen to be interested into.”

In his editorial Benoit ties the cover to an extraordinary NHL story: “I didn’t ask Philippe Labelle what was the inspiration for this issue’s cover illustration, but it is a fact that this year’s hockey season is a cause for deep satisfaction here in Quebec City. After more than five years at the bottom of the National Hockey League’s totem pole, Quebec’s Nordiques have made a spectacular recovery... And we owe it all to Eric Lindros...”

“I should explain... that the Nordics were entitled to take their pick among the new and promising rookies last year. First on anybody’s list, was Eric Lindros, 18 years old, 6’6”, talented, natural scorer in the minor leagues, etc. He was a living promise of better days for the team. Except that he flatly refused to come to Quebec City... He was adamant to the point of skipping an entire season when the Nordiques refused to exchange him.”

“This year, the Nordiques, having made their point, were willing to part with the troublemaker. Philadelphia offered no less than five young and talented players, two first-choice picks for later rounds and \$15 million dollars for him.... The Nordiques got a whole new team out of the deal. A new gestalt of talent and enthusiasm that catapulted it to the top of the scores....”

“The first time Philadelphia came to visit the Nordiques this season, that is, Lindros’ first appearance on Quebec City’s ice, the hockey world was expecting some kind of partisan trouble. Reporters from all over North America came to witness the events... Under the leadership of a local radio station, the crowd went instead for making fun of Lindros’ kiddish tantrums: They brought baby nipples and sucked noisily whenever he appeared on the ice, and such. The reporters were disappointed but the partisans got their point across without disgracing themselves too much.”

“All in all, exchanging Lindros was a very good deal for the Nordiques.”

There follows two highly perceptive reviews by Girard, one on Allan Bloom’s GIANTS AND DWARFS – ESSAYS 1960-1990, and one on SYMPHONY NO. 3 by Henryk Gorecki, but I’ll skip over these to get to the meat of the zine, namely 25 locs (not to mention the 68 locs he WAHFed!) Many of these locs are remarkable for their continuing fannish relevance. I will quote excerpts:

(By the way, for them as does not know, WAHF stands for “we also heard from,” a standard Faned practice of listing the names of correspondents for whom there was no room to print their locs.)

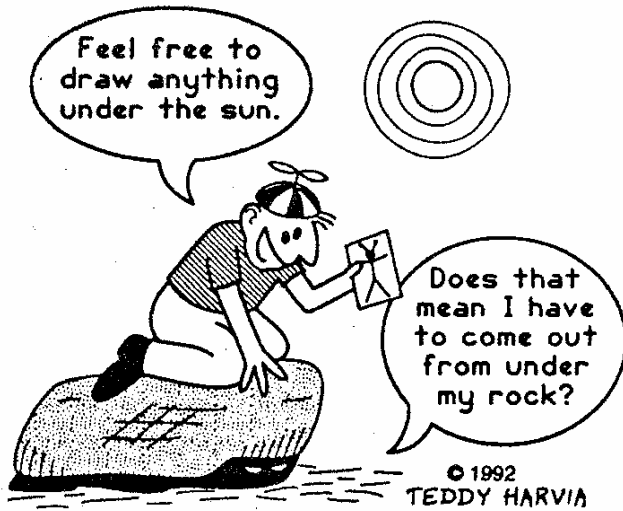


I got this one after complaining I was getting much more “Frogsicles” than “Frog princes”.

Buck Coulson, Hartford City, IN. USA:

“I’ve seen most... of the bad covers mentioned... the Gor covers are pretty bad. (On the other hand, Juanita and I have an original cover painting for TRANSVESTITES OF GOR, from “RAW Books”, that we and most of our guests find hilarious.)”

“Reenactments seem to be enormously popular... the next town west of us, Marion, has a War of 1812 reenactment of a skirmish which actually took place, but which now includes artillery and British regulars, neither of which were at the original fight. It was American militia against Indians, originally. The ‘British’ unit came down from Canada and wanted to participate, so they were allowed to do so, with a warning from the announcer that this wasn’t entirely accurate...”



After I'd announced I'd given up on stopping you from drawing all those frogs, for fear of overkilling the joke

technology may not allow either... they are pouring scorn on a newsletter produced with primitive desktop software and a 9-pin printer. I shall put it down to technological snobbishness, and will publish anyway... when money allows...”

Benoit comments: *Curiously, I've got three or four comments from various sources about people having been inspired to do their own fanzine after reading TFF. Will the Frog preside over some much wished for Renaissance? How ironic! If I didn't conform to the average formula fanzine, it's simply because I didn't know enough to do so....*

Ben Indick, Teaneck NJ. USA:

“Our mutual name (sort of) results in various nicknames. ‘Benny’ is my least favorite.. ‘Benjy’ is standard... ‘Benj’ ... My father-in-law used ‘Benito’, and ‘Ben-yuchas’, a pun on Yiddish... Benoit wouldn't be bad. Rather exotic down here!”

Benoit comments: *...I stopped liking [my name] when, at 10 or 11, I discovered that, through some mysterious French literary tradition, it used to be closely associated with ‘simpleminded’ or ‘stupid’ ... When I first crossed the border and met with Anglophones, I voluntarily instituted the practice of using ‘Ben’... much simpler for everybody... Oh yeah, incidentally, ‘Indic’ in French popular language means ‘police informer’...*

Lloyd Penney, Brampton, Ontario:

“...over fifteen years of fandom for me, I’m still learning about it, still finding out the nuances, the customs, the injokes and the BNFs of this engaging subculture... part of my fascination with fandom is how intricate, detailed, complex and convoluted it is...”

“ Another good effort... it makes me want to get moving with my own fanzine, but money doesn't allow. The way some local fans are responding to a convention-oriented publication of mine,

Rodney Leighton, Pugwash, Nova Scotia:

“The more I see of fandom, the more it looks like wrestling fandom. Various publications, complete with feuds, some running in different publications. Why would a zine publish a critique of a letter to another zine?”

Michael McKenny, Ottawa, Ontario:

“I really enjoyed THE STORY OF A BOOKAHOLIC (TFF #3).. I like the reaction I get when a visitor standing in our house says “You have a lot of books” and I say “Most of them are upstairs.” One difference between me and so many fans I’ve met is that I buy books at the pace I read them. So if you ask me about a book on my shelf, I’ve read it and can talk about it.... The significant change in the past 2 years are the Russian ones. I’m still a slow reader in Russian...”

Benoit comments: ...I am a VERY slow reader. Just imagine, a book lover who happens to be a snail-paced reader. Right now, I have more than a lifetime’s supply and I keep buying supposedly for ‘later.’ Over the years, I’ve devised all kinds of delaying tactics to avoid buying books. Rules like ‘Read three before buying one’ and ‘Buy only outside the city, while on travel’ ... Useless! I’m a desperate case of compulsive book buying... Mr. McKenny writes and says his house is full of books but he only buys them at his reading pace and that to slow him down a bit the books have to be in Russian! ARGGGGHHHHH! Off with your head! I say....

Harry Andruschak, Torrance, CA, USA:

“I also thank Curt Phillips for his comments on Sharon McCrumb. I had read her book HIGHLAND LADDIE GONE, and had done a review to the points that the murder plot was totally unbelievable, and that I had never met any of the characters at any gathering of Scots in the Los Angeles area. Now Curt claims she does authentic research, so I must conclude that perhaps they do things differently back east. Interesting.”

However, if Sharyn had REALLY done her homework, she would have known that there was no such thing as THE Clan Tartans prior to the Proscriptions. The book shows that she more or less accepted the ancient clan tartan system that, in fact, never existed. Or maybe I misread the book, but I doubt it.”

Steve Jeffery, Kidlington, Oxon, UK:

“A long and impressive letter from David Palter... Unfortunately he beat me to the observation that the whole existence of the Universe is geared to the strong Anthropomorphic Principle... There’s a Rotsler cartoon in the latest issue of FOLLY which goes “In the beginning was the Word” and the Word was ‘Publish!’ which rather supports this view of creation as a special case of fandom.”

John Francis Haines, Station Road, Padgate, Warrington, UK:

“Found your survey of cover art interesting... I sometimes wonder if the awful artwork isn’t one of the main reasons why some people dislike SF – what they REALLY dislike is SF art, and that prevents them actually reading the book or magazine. If the book came in a plain cover would they manage to forget that it was SF for long enough for them to become hooked by the story?”

Algernon D’Ammassa, Brooklyn, New York, USA:

“There is a curious habit among many fannish writers, and Ben, you seem to have picked it up yourself. Maybe there is a reason for it. The question is: why is it that so many con reports, and other accounts of fannish events, seem to be written for people who were THERE?”

Benoit comments: *I can think of two answers to your rhetorical question. The first one is that surrounded by about five thousand people, you easily get the impression that everybody must be there. The second is that so many things go on at once that I always leave a con thinking that I missed all the essential events. Therefore, I can hardly report on them.*

Stephen R. George, Winnipeg, Manitoba:

“Your own excitement at discovering fanzine fandom comes across clearly, and it brought back fond memories. I, too, remember my first loc, from Harry Warner, Jr., in my case, and my suspicion it would be the only response I got. God, how wrong I was. I don’t think I ever got over the thrill of opening my mailbox and finding it stuffed with letters addressed to me. Publishing a fanzine is an excellent method of simulating popularity!”

Don Fitch, Covina, CA, USA:

“Reading this issue made me aware that fanzine fandom today is even larger and more fragmented than I had thought. It’s something of a shock to discover that such an excellently fannish fanzine could reach its fourth issue in the course of about a year without me being aware of its existence. (The fault is probably mine; since returning from FAFIA about four years ago I’ve neglected to re-connect with LAN’S LANTERN, & you constructed your mailing list from the LetterCol therein. *sigh*”



“Your problem in locating fanzine fans at MagiCon is understandable... as far as I know it was the first U.S. Worldcon to actually HAVE such a place... Most large Cons have some sort of fanzine room, but it’s often hidden away in some remote corner... MagiCon Chair Joe Siclari, however, was once an active fanzine fan (and is still a collector and fan historian), and he cooperated fully with Minneapolis fan Geri Sullivan’s idea of a Fan Lounge in the Exhibit area during the day... the experiment was successful enough that I hope it will become a tradition...”

Benoit comments: *As a relative newcomer, maybe I can shed some light on the problem of fanzine fan recruiting. I was aware of fanzines maybe ten years before getting involved. But aware in a remote and uncommitted kind of way. When first introduced to fanzines, I thought of fanzines as some kind of half-baked professional products. Something I could buy and read, but from which I wouldn’t get the same level of pleasure as I can from prozines or books because they are produced by amateurs. I was missing the point entirely. Fanzines are a form of communication among friends, among equals. Not a commercial deal between pros and consumers. In fact, it’s only when I decided that I was not getting enough fan communication from cons alone that I suddenly saw the special appeal of fanzines.*

So I would propose that any effort toward fanzine fans recruiting should emphasize the personal ‘keeping in touch’ aspect of fanzines and should put as much distance as it can between fanzines and commercial publishing.

Second point: we are not going to recruit anyone by emphasizing the special pleasure to be derived from publishing or letterhacking. This pleasure, like the taste for science fiction itself, is either instantaneously recognized or is never felt at all. It can almost never be taught. A better asset for the recruitment is the CONTENT of fanzines. Fans interested in just about anything can be attracted to fanzines if they learn that this particular subject is discussed in their pages. But imho, the best asset of fanzines are the PEOPLE themselves. And never were they so well showcased in fanzines. If we wanted to advertise fanzines, this is the asset that should be emphasized. Give a glimpse of who fanzine fans are, of who one can expect to meet in fanzines, and I really can't see why we wouldn't attract newcomers.

...if fanzine fans would accept to behave like a special interest group, they could use the convention framework advantageously; Fan Lounge, fanzines exhibit, fanzines related panels with titles designed to attract newcomers... and so on.

Sharon McCrumb [in BIMBOS OF THE DEATH SUN] ... certainly seems to scorn fans (much as F.T. Laney did in 'Ah! Sweet Idiocy') for not turning their talents and energy towards more important things.... Her portraits... (accurate to type& to individuals) seem to me to be misleading because there's an implication they depict typical fans, whereas the vast majority of fans are far less spectacular...

You seem to have gotten almost phenomenal returns in the way of locs... FROG exhibits not only intelligence, but also the sort of sense of humour, and of playfulness, which are basic to 'fannishness' – not many new faneds display these traditional virtues...

Harry Warner Jr, Hagerstown, Maryland, USA:

I had experiences when entering fanzine fandom very similar to yours, as far as the kindness of most people was concerned. Material for my first fanzine came in from most of the people I asked for it, comments on my first few issues were gratifying, and aside from one or two bad moments, the experience was good enough to keep me going to this very day. Occasionally I read about someone who claims to have experienced great trouble making himself known in fandom or finding kindred souls, and I can't help but think that these rare individuals somehow alienated other fans by their attitude or conduct on first contacts...

Craig Hilton, Collie, Western Australia:

...I thought [BIMBOS OF THE DEATH SUN] was awful. I called it a murder mystery with one murder and no mystery... the problem wasn't that the characters were unbelievable,, the problem was that it could have been done so much better. There were long – really, overly long – descriptions of the key figures, with unnecessary volumes of documentation of each one's motivations (for the sake of the imperceptive), but the broader aspect of the con was missing. It describes what some parts of a con looked like, but failed to capture what one felt like....

One other thing. McCrumb's descriptions of role-playing games are enough to turn anyone off them for life. If I were in a game where it was clear that the GM was simply running an exercise in sado-masochism I'd quit there and then. Any chance for an outsider to pick up the book, read it and think "science fiction conventions, and gaming, and filking. They sound like really great fun." Is a forlorn hope.

Benoit comments: *I tend to believe Curt Philips when he says that Sharyn McCrumb was never a fan and never interested in fandom. I think of her as someone who has rediscovered the old gimmick*

that outrageous stuff will sell and attract notoriety. She did it with other groups, and has discovered that fandom will buy her books just to see to what length she is ready to go... I've enjoyed BIMBOS for its outrageousness, and I'll probably read ZOMBIES too. But I also think that it will probably be enough. I'll drop her as soon as she starts to repeat herself.

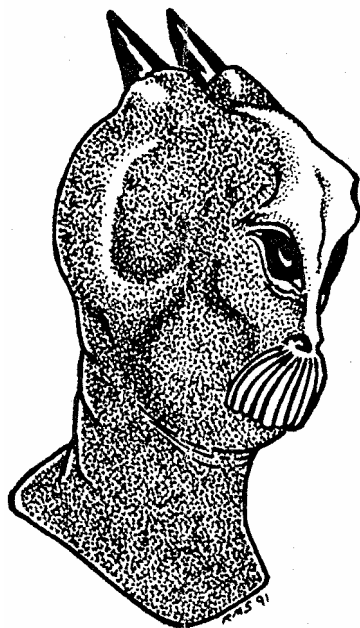
Derek Pickles, Bankfoot, Bradford, West Yorkshire, UK:

Congratulations on the first anniversary of TFF, the speed at which you have developed the style, layout and persona of your magazine is a credit to you. What really makes a fanzine are not just the artwork, letters and articles that are printed but the personality of the editor that shines through the magazine and generates the right kind of attractive artwork, letters and articles.

Joseph T. Major, Louisville, Kentucky, USA:

You do not mind being thought of as a woman's sex toy? My, my. Well, then, just report it to the God-Editor of BCSFazine in Vancouver and Graeme will put you in touch with the Leather Goddesses of Phobos, who will no doubt be immensely pleased at their new acquisition. We will miss you...

I am still waiting for Sharyn McCrumb's forthcoming novel on mystery fans, given her presentations of SF fans, Civil War re-enactors, Scots-Americans, et cetera, as being inept geeky nerds who could succeed at life if they put the same effort into their real lives (and so unfit and unworthy to criticize her). I am not holding my breath, though.



Walt Willis, Donaghadee, Northern Ireland:

...I was interested in your expression of the desire to be sent maps of where your readers live. I understand this very well, having always been a devotee of maps. I remember during the war, when it was illegal to have ordnance maps, for fear they would fall into the hands of invading forces, going to immense trouble to obtain maps of Northern Ireland for gloating over...

Buck Coulson's vision of fandom as particles of impurities floating in a cosmic beer may not be far off the truth.

Thank you again for another outstanding issue. It's amazing how short a time it has taken for TFF to become an essential of fandom.

Benoit comments: "Come on Ben, did Walt Willis really write that last sentence?" "Yes, he did! I can prove it. Just take a look aqt the original letter in that gold frame on the living room wall!" – Seriously folks, I usually edit out most of the egoboo I receive in your locs, even if

I've been somewhat more self-indulgent with the present issue. But I simply couldn't resist printing this one. Thanks Walt.

Benoit concludes his LetterCol by listing 68 or 69 WAHFs from such as Sheryl Birkhead, Ned Brooks, Brian Earl Brown, Chester Cuthbert, Brad Foster, Karen Pender-Gunn, Judith Hanna, Lynn Hickman, Andy Hooper, Terry Jeeves, Karl Johanson, Jerry Kaufman & Susanne Tompkins, Robert Lichtman, Eric Lindsay & Jean Weber, Dick & Nicki Lynch, Bruce Pelz, Robert Sabella, Tom Sadler, Leyland Sapiro, Alexander R. Slate, Dick & Leah Smith, Dale Speirs, Mae Strelkov, Alexander

Vasilkovski & many others. Some, alas, have since passed away, some gafiated, but a surprising number are still very much active in fandom today, unlike Benoit Girard himself, who gafiated after his last issue and has not been heard from since. But what a fantastic cornucopia of locs he got in his heyday! I is envious.

Last but not least, Benoit floats his wonderful idea for:

THE FROZEN FROG'S FANARTISTS COLLECTIBLE CARDS PROJECT

There are baseball cards, hockey cards, cards of every kind and now even Dungeons & Dragons cards. Why not fanartists cards?

Somewhere on this page, you will find a template which fanartists may use to create their own collectible card. Every fanartist in the world, old hands, neos, near pros, merely passable virtual unknowns, all are hereby invited to use this template and the guidelines that follow to produce his or her own original collectible card and send it to me for official registration and publication.

Each card received will be attributed an official number in order of arrival. As soon as I have accumulated 16, I'll publish them in the central pages of the next issue of THE FROZEN FROG.

Here are the guidelines:

- 1) Front of card should show a self-portrait of the fanartist. 'Self-portrait' can be liberally interpreted. Directly below the 'TFF' label I will put the official number of the card. The name of the fanartist should appear directly to the right of the number.
- 2) The back of the card is yours entirely. It should be used in the usual way, to give statistics, artist's biographical notes, etc. One rule though: it should include at least one piece of shameless bragging.
- 3) Send your originals to Benoit Girard, **** Guillaume-Boisset, Cap-Rouge, Quebec, Canada, *** **. And please, pass this on among fellow fanartists. See you next issue.

SUPER SCIENCE STUFF



ASK MR. SCIENCE!

(As submitted by Al Betz, Corresponding Secretary for Mr. Science.)

Many have written to ask:

WHERE DID MR. SCIENCE LEARN ALL HE KNOWS?

Mr. SCIENCE: If Mr. Science were to divulge this information he, like the groundhog, would be unemployed most of the year. He has stated, however, that the secrets of the universe cannot long withstand the intense probings of one imbued with curiosity and uncommon sense.

Mr. EH, of Vancouver, B.C., asks:

WHAT IS SPRING FEVER?

MR. SCIENCE – An infection by the antibiotic resistant micro-organism “vernal-bacterium equinoxii” is responsible for this disease. The major symptoms are an unusual sensitivity to cloudless skies and a slight irritation of the joints of the limbs, which can only be relieved by walking to and fro while making sweeping motions with the upper torso. Fortunately, this infection is of short duration, and recovery is generally complete.

MEDIA MADNESS

RETRO FILM REVIEW: SPACE MONSTER (1965)

By The Graeme

You'll be glad to know that this 1965 AIP film is much better than *The Wizard Of Mars* reviewed in WCSFAzine #4, although that's not saying much.. The *Space Monster's* alternate title was *The First Woman Into Space*, which gives you an exciting preview of the sophisticated theme of this classic movie.

We start with footage of an Atlas rocket taking off. Cut to the interior of a finned 50's style SF rocket, a cramped interior cockpit, crowded with gauges, dials, switches and, of course, four stereotypical characters:

- 1) gruff, woman-hating, all-business Colonel Hank Stevens,
- 2) cynical, woman-mad co-pilot John Andros,
- 3) quiet, older & wiser, not to mention fatter, father figure Paul Martin, and
- 4) all-woman-despite-being-intelligent heroine Dr. Lisa Wayne.

Director/Screen Writer Leo Katzman wastes no time. Lisa turns to Hank and purrs "I hope you're not still bitter about my being on board?"

"I'm not bitter. On a ship carrying only four crew there's no place for a woman."

"That's not what Noah said when he built the ark," she retorts, implying what, that they should mate as soon as possible for the good of the human race?

Hank sighs. "There's billions tied up in this project...I thought I'd at least get a chance to pick my own crew..."

"Well, I know where some of those billions went," Lisa says, "...to build a special helmet to fit that fat head of yours." She goes off to the laboratory as the crew burst out laughing.

"Deadlier than the male," comments Paul, then starts talking about the usefulness of carrying a female crew member, how they weigh less and the weight saved means they can carry more equipment.

"She carries some pretty good equipment herself," snickers John, ever the subtle lad.

Annoyed, Hank speaks up, "Let's just hope the time doesn't come when we regret she isn't a man." Revealing what about your personal tastes, Hank? Thinking about shore leave mayhaps?

"If I ever find myself regretting it, it's going to be too late anyway," adds John in a rather cryptic fashion. What's he talking about? Who knows?

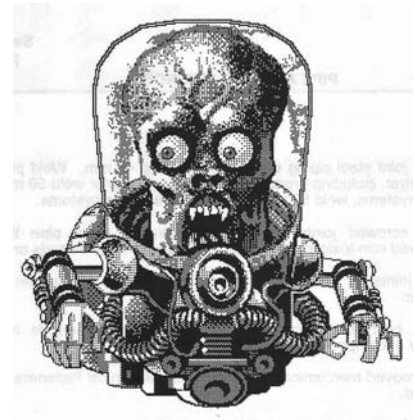
All of a sudden they find a drifting alien spacecraft, a chunkier version of their own ship, though instead of having a pointy nose it's surmounted by a rotating ball of crystal. They contact Earth for instructions.

"Intercept, board, report procedure," comes the meaningless, and useless, reply. John and Hank get into space suits.

"Anything goes wrong," says Hank to Lisa, "contact Earth for procedure." I think he's being sarcastic. Probably pissed off at the boys back at headquarters for being so laconic when risking the crew's lives.

One feature of their spacecraft - named the "109 Hope 1" - is that all doors and airlock hatches take forever to open. So Hank must have been delighted to discover the doorway into the alien ship was already open, its location marked by a naked lightbulb screwed into a socket above the door. You'd think aliens would have a more advanced technology than that!

Despite the fact the interior of the alien vessel is exposed to vacuum, Hank & John are confronted by an alien, namely a chap in a silver lame jumpsuit wearing the brain-exposed head from *The Wizard Of Mars*. He sticks his tongue in and out and squeaks. Hank is confused. He doesn't realize this is the alien's way of saying "Are you female? Are you female? I'm so lonely."



Suddenly the alien attacks John and tries to strangle him. Obviously he's understood the newcomers are male, and he's frustrated. Confused, Hank takes out his pistol and shoots the alien.

Hank radios back to the Hope 1. "We had to kill the alien. All hell's breaking loose in here. Put a grade A bomb with a timer in the airlock."

Hank & John make it back to their ship. Hank grabs the bomb. "What are you doing?" John asks.

Replies Hank, "Gotta destroy that ship. It's just drifting loose out there, radiation building up. If it falls to the Earth there's no telling what might happen." I notice though, when he's back aboard the alien ship, he places the bomb right next to the alien's body. I call that getting rid of evidence!

The alien ship kabooms! "Nothing left but a bad memory," says John.

Hank reports to Earth. "The alien ship has been destroyed. We found one crew member, but he attacked, so we had to kill him." Earth control finds this an adequate summation of events and instructs them to continue their mission. Good thing for Col. Hank, he's off the hook. Alien? What alien? Only good alien is a dead alien. Right?

Oddly enough, John has these very thoughts in mind. "I'm the first man from Earth to make contact with someone from another planet. You know what the boys from the magazines would pay for that story?" Yeah, peanuts.

"Another life form means nothing?" demands Paul, outraged that the profit potential is so low.

"The way I figure it," explains John, "We've got enough troubles on Earth now. We're barely keeping from killing each other off."

"So?" What's that got to do with setting up a sure-fire retirement fund to compensate for the lousy Space Service pension?

"Suppose we had managed to make contact? So we treat them nicely and we become friendly. What happens then? Pretty soon someone on Earth decides we don't like the way they look. Or maybe they won't like us. After all, one of us is going to be a minority group! Pretty soon, whamo! We're trying to blast each other out of existence!"

The others fall silent as they contemplate the profundity of this viewpoint indicating that all endeavour whatsoever is completely pointless given the suicidal/homicidal nature of life itself. So does the audience. Struck dumb would be another way of putting it. No wonder NASA won't let John make fund-raising speeches!

John falls asleep and dreams of Lisa cavorting on a beach in a skimpy bikini while somebody plays a hot sax. Hank, ever the killjoy, wakes him up. John asks him if he likes beach parties.

"I like fun as well as anyone, but flying this ship is a 24 hour job." Sorta like long distance trucking. Didn't they tell Hank that when they recruited him? What kind of pills does he take to stay awake while exploring the infinite?

"You can't cuddle up to a spaceship," declares John with the conviction of someone who has actually tried. Very lonely in his solo bunk it seems. "I'm sure you've noticed our lady doctor fills out a space suit better than any of us."

Hank rather sensibly refuses to deny this, and changes the subject. So John hotfoots it down to the lab to watch Lisa mix retorts. "How many times are you going to check that stuff?" he asks. "You don't have to prove anything to me."

"What's that supposed to mean?"

"We're not all like Hank, you know. You don't have to crusade for equality. I'm more than happy to have you aboard. Think of the long nights ahead." Feminism-advocate to cockpit-Romeo in four short sentences!

While toying with a retort possibly full of flesh-consuming acid she gives him the brush-off. "I don't want to take advantage of the fact I'm the only woman available," she says sweetly. This leaves him feeling confused.

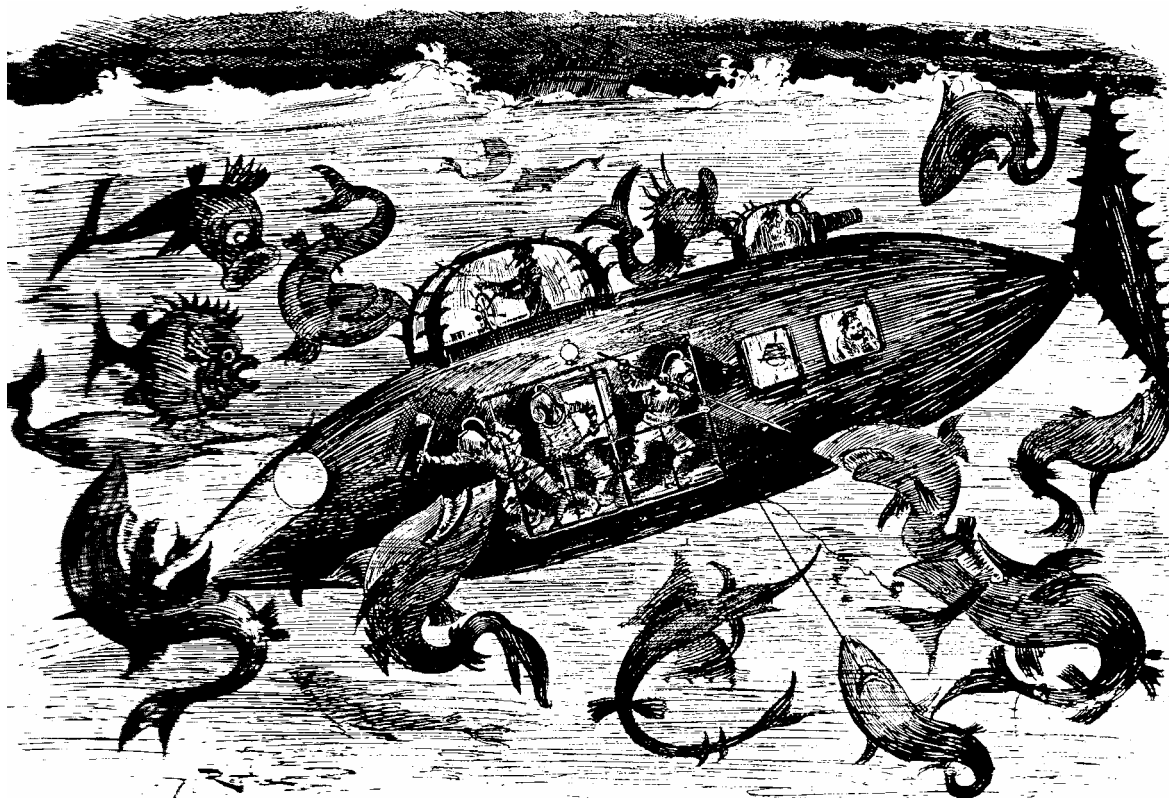
Meanwhile Hank is confessing to Paul some problems of his own. "The more we know about flight, the less there is for people like me to do. In the early days men flew the machines, now machines fly the men." Aha! Masculine insecurity rampant!

Paul, who designed and built the on-board computers, tries to comfort Hank by telling him the computers are far too stupid to cope with real emergencies. For some reason this makes Hank edgy.

Next follows a hoary old cliché of a scene, Lisa handing out food "pills" as if they were sumptuous dinners, except for John. "Here, yours is a meatball."

"Gives me a heartburn", he comments symbolically, or metaphorically, or something.

The attack of the dreaded cliché! Meteorites flaming wildly in a vacuum as they are often wont to do strike the ship just when Hank rather stupidly turns off the force shield, knocking the reactor for a loop all the way to a moon of the "Triangular Galaxy". Seems rather far. They land, but unfortunately sink to the bottom of an ocean rather than actually 'land'. Paul explains that the reactor "burned on its own heat" and thus is to blame for his misjudging the landing trajectory. Not his fault at all, you see.



"Being stuck here on the bottom of the ocean isn't making me any money," comments John astutely. "How do we get out of here?"

Hank explains, "The generator is feeding electricity to the reactor (Oh yeah? What's feeding the generator?) which converts it into heat. We're stuck here till we generate enough power to take off."

Adroitly, John changes the subject from nasty, boring stuff and addresses Lisa about what is truly important, "You ever think about good times back on Earth? Assuming there were times when you forgot you were a lady doctor?"

"With someone like you around, how can I think of anyone else?" Letting him know she's prepared to fight him off anytime.

"Touche. When I get back to Earth, I won't let any female with an education higher than high school get next to me. You read me like a book." Yeah, a book about perverts.

Snickers Hank, "And I thought you were going to write a book."

"I'm going to devote some space to you in my book," replies John, cleverly insulting his commanding officer. "About one line should do it."

"Ooh, I struck a nerve" says Hank, musing over ways to kill John's career, or maybe just kill.

"But think of the suspense," John goes on, "we're stuck under water, how do I save the ship? And will the strength of my personality keep us all from cracking up?" This would be endearingly self-deprecating humour, were it not for the fact that he's dead serious. About the plot of his book. Not about the pickle they're in.

"I can see it now, a love story," declares Lisa. "I can see the title: 'Me And My Mirror.'"

They stop the idle chitchat, what with becoming as bored as the audience and all, and settle down to repairs, until Hank discovers Lisa brooding in the cockpit. He's inspired by his memory of the alien lightbulb. Suddenly he knows how to get back at John, how to screw him but good. "Look, I shouldn't have popped off about having a woman along. I'm glad you're with us."

"Are you married to your job?" She asks, hoping the answer is yes.

"I can arrange a temporary separation." Two minutes or an hour? She needs to know more before she can agree to a freefall tumble.

"Only temporary?" she asks, lips quivering. Sounds disappointed already.

"Can't teach an old dog new tricks." Damn! The rumours are true! The supply depot forgot to load the case of Viagra!

She flares up. "Look, you can play Tom Swift & his flying machine forever if you want."

"Ooohweee! What a temper." Hank is suitably aroused. "That's tomorrow's job," he adds, leaning over. Cut away as they kiss.

Next we see the three male crew members working on the computers. John is feeling a tad jealous. "I noticed you weren't in YOUR bunk last night."

"Take a sleeping pill," says Hank. "And hand me that wire."

John switches tactics. "In my book I'll talk about the crash."

"Yeah, well unwritten books by dead heroes are in very short demand." Now that's a humdinger of a threat! On top of stealing his woman. Ah, the perks of command.

The argument threatens to get out of hand, then Paul interjects with "I'd offer to let the two of you step outside to settle your differences, but you'd both get wet!"

At this point the ship is surrounded by giant crabs. Paul takes this as a hopeful sign there's life on the land. "See the legs on those things! In the pattern of nature they wouldn't have legs just to live in the ocean!"

"What do you mean?" asks Hank, speaking for everyone in the audience.

"Many people believe the first Earth mammals were fish! They crawled out of the sea and evolved into animals!" He's left out a few things, like amphibians, reptiles...but I guess he's trying to keep his story simple. It works.

Hank's eyes light up. "What's to stop us from exploring the land?"

"The giant crabs, for one thing," points out John.



"I think I can handle them," says Hank, meaning of course that *John* can handle them. Yes, indeed. Hank's master plan. He stays behind and lets John swim to shore. Oh sure, Hank pretends that by flicking the force field on and off he's made the ocean safe, but this fools no one, least of all the Merman (whose face is a mask left over from *War Gods of the Deep*, a film made by AIP earlier that year) who attacks John and proceeds to crush him to death.

"Use your torch, burn him off!" suggests Hank helpfully, after waiting a few bone-crunching moments.

Turns out to be a good idea, much to Hank's chagrin. John swims gratefully back to the ship, climbs into his bunk, reports the land is safe for habitation (but watch out when walking on the beach), spits up a little blood, and dies.

"It wasn't worth his life," states Lisa. Hank pretends to agree.

Murmurs Paul, "Depends on your point of view." Which startles Hank, till he realizes Paul is probably contemplating the fortune to be made from inter-planetary real estate speculation.

They take off. Hank contacts Earth. "Mission accomplished. We found a liveable planet, and we've named it Andros"... after John, the guy the liveable planet has just killed. "Make sure you spell it right."

Lisa falls into his arms.

Obviously Lisa loved John after all, and is overwhelmed by Colonel Hank's tribute to him.

Then again, maybe she's making a play for Hank and his ability to always come out on top. Always thinking ahead, that Space Gal!

UPCOMING NIFTY FILM PROJECTS:

TOTAL RECALL is to be remade for Columbia by Original Films offering 'a fresh way' of looking at the story **WE CAN REMEMBER IT FOR YOU WHOLESALE** by Philip K. Dick. Emphasis on state of the art effects. I have a bad feeling about this.

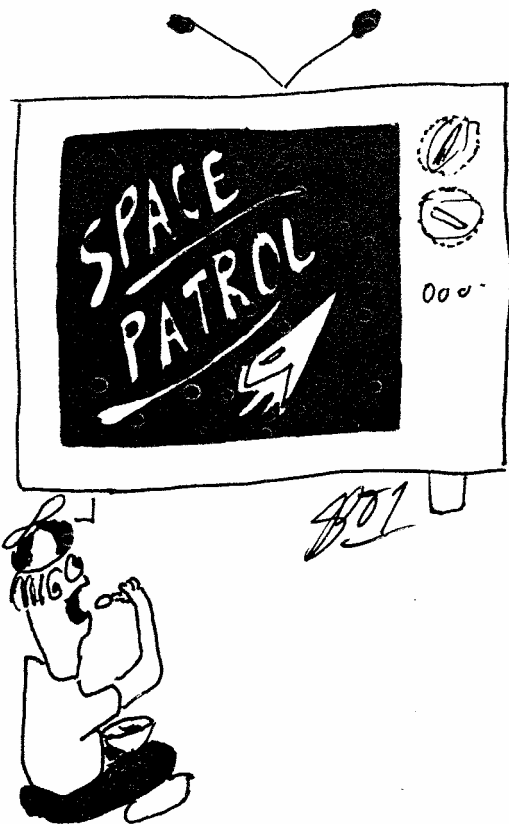
BIG MAN JAPAN is about a poor slob whose only job is to be transformed into a giant wielding a big stick whenever a hostile monster attacks Japan. Every time he saves Tokyo he gets abuse for all the property damage and loss of life he causes. His morale is poor. Said to be hilarious, full of 'brilliant, dry humour.'

HOT TUB TIME MACHINE is a proposed film, Screenplay by Josh Heald, about three bored buddies who decide to use their hot tub to travel back in time. That's it. That's the plot. Sounds abysmally lame, but who knows? Maybe it will be intelligently written, wonderfully witty, and filled with awesome effects.... Maybe...

PONTYPOOL is a Canadian film directed by Bruce McDonald. Something about a local radio station in a town called PontyPool suddenly flooded with calls about outbreaks of violence caused by... Zombies? Virus infectoids? Monsters? Outraged hockey fans? Who knows? Where the heck is Pontypool anyway? Might be fun.

PRIDE AND PREDATOR is a “Jane Austen 18th century genre” film to be made by Elton John’s Rocket Pictures about your usual upper class twits menaced by one or more crash-landed alien monsters. Could be both boring and bloody unless they handle it right. Has potential.

INGOURIOUS BASTERDS (actual spelling) is a Quentin Tarantino film about a team of nerdy Jews dropped behind enemy lines in France, each determined to collect 100 Nazi scalps, led by a character played by Brad Pitt. I expect ultra-violence, extreme bad taste, and nothing subtle.



BOOB is a short short about 3 minutes long about a flying artificial breast with a mind of its own, a mind mostly consisting of killer instincts. An evil, evil breast, apparently. Said to be quite striking.

DOGHOUSE is by Jake West. Something about a vanload of good buddies driving into a town inhabited by frenzied murderous women fired up by an airborne chemical. A “splatter-comedy.”

VAN DIEMEN’S LAND is an Australian film depicting the true story of 8 convicts who escaped from a penal colony in 1822 and, unable to live off the land, resorted to cannibalism to survive.

ALIEN TRESPASS is supposed to be an affectionate spoof of 1950s era SF alien on the loose films. Effects are deliberately bad, acting deliberately poor, and script deliberately cliché-ridden. Trouble is, it apparently is too boring, repetitive and unimaginative to be a proper spoof. Said to be worse than the films it makes fun of. Naturally I can’t wait to see it.

PANDORUM is about two amnesiac astronauts awakening aboard a spaceship. The tagline is: “Don’t fear the end of the world. Fear what happens

next.” I suspect plague mutants or nasty aliens aboard.

FORBIDDEN PLANET remake suffered a setback when someone published the completed script online. Consequently the project is on hold while a new & totally different script is written from scratch. This sucks, especially if the original script is a good one. Hopefully the second will be OK.

THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF H.P. LOVECRAFT, a graphic novel by Mac Carter and Jeff Blitz, is set to be filmed by Universal, and rumour states Ron Howard will direct! Hope it’s true!

THE THREE STOOGES, to be filmed by the Farrelly Brothers, will feature Sean Penn as Larry, Benicio Del Toro as Moe, and Jim Carrey as the original Curly. Fantastic! Except it apparently will not be a biopic, but a fictional treatment set in modern times. Can’t see how that would work. Bad idea.

CONVENTION STUFF

(BECAUSE WCSFA IS ALL ABOUT CONVENTIONS)

CONCOMCON 16 COMING TO SURREY!

By Alex von Thorn

ConComCon 16, June 5–7, Surrey BC

I am pleased to announce that the site for ConComCon 16 will be the Compass Point Inn in Surrey, British Columbia. The conference will be held June 5–7, 2009.

The hotel room rate is \$90 Canadian. Please quote 'ConComCon' or 'CCubed' (or 'C3') when making a reservation (which I did today). The hotel is all non-smoking. We are the only function in the hotel that weekend (though they've got plenty of room, so they could still book a wedding). Surrey is an easy and pretty two-hour drive north from Seattle.

Gene Armstrong has agreed to organize our hospitality room. E.J. Fadgen is helping us with registration. Danielle Stephens is our hotel liaison; she works with our hotel for her bigger convention, VCON. Marah Searle-Kovacevic and I are serving as co-chairs (which means she keeps a list and supervises everything and I do what she tells me). :-)

REGISTRATION: US\$35 until April 15, 2009.

Membership by paper mail: Please send your name, address, phone number, email, and a check for US\$35 (made out to "SWOC") to:

ConComCon 16
c/o SWOC
Box 1066
Seattle, WA 98111

or send a check for C\$45 (made out to "ConComCon 16") to

ConComCon 16
151 Gamma Street
Toronto, ON M8W 4G3

Program Suggestions

We have a few ideas, but a conrunning convention is most useful by giving people information they can use. Tell us you would like to see, or know about, or preset to your fellow conrunners. Please send email to co-chair [Alex von Thorn](#).

Program Ideas

Some early, unedited program ideas follow:

Fandom Without Borders (Not!): What you need to know about the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. Tips for dealers, artists, costumers, authors, and other fans traveling to and from Canada and the United States (and elsewhere, if time permits).

From Fanzine to Blog: How to use fan history, fan writing, and fannish culture as tools to grow your convention.

Long-Tailed Fen: Filkers, furies, gamers, readers, GLBT, cosplayers, shippers, SCAdians, otaku, LARPer, readers, even SMOFs. How to pull appeal to disparate interests to build a fannish community.

The World Beyond the Parking Lot: Traveling fandom: Why you need to go to conventions outside your home town.

Supply, Demand, and the Myth of Fannish Poverty: The income panel: how to make enough money from your convention attendees to keep the convention afloat without annoying too many people. Basics of economics, discretionary income, wants, and needs.

Blood from Stones: The expense panel: Publicity, hospitality, insurance, function space. Basics of financial statements, budgets, and corporate governance. What are you spending money on that your members don't care about, and what can you cut?

Hotel-Hopping: The obligatory hotel panel: A convention has to be somewhere if it's going to happen. When should you stay? When can you leap? The obligatory hotel panel about things to watch for and/or demand in a hotel contract. Problems and opportunities in new facilities.

Playing Nicely With Others: The recruiting panel: The dirty secret of fandom--Finding people is easy, keeping them is hard. Does any individual or group "own" your convention? Do they allow new people to join the decision-making group? How to mend fences, find ways to work with people you don't like, rotate department heads, dismantle fiefs, and channel energy from fan feuds into discussion and then diversity. How to use mission statements, by-laws, and committee meetings to actually solve problems.

The Purpose of Programming: How do you come up with program ideas? Who are you creating a program for? Is your convention program helping your convention grow, or just building cliquish walls to keep out newcomers? Can the program have a positive effect even on people who don't attend?

SEATTLE 2011 WORLDCON BID WITHDRAWN!

By Bobbie DuFault -- Seattle 2011 Bid Chairman

It is with grave regret and a deep disappointment that I must announce that the Seattle bid has to pull out of the race to host the Worldcon in 2011. This is due to an unforeseen event and our inability to reach a formal first option agreement with our preferred facilities. We had initial options on facilities, but when it came time to reduce them to formal writing, we found that our preferred facilities had groups willing to make the financial commitment ahead of us. Seattle is such a popular destination for conventions that all of the reasonable dates (early August through early September) already have groups that have firmer commitments than we do.

After examining the options and alternatives, consulting with our respected advisors and exploring any number of other possibilities we have determined that there are just no viable alternatives, which make sense for the fannish community available to us. We do not want to host the Worldcon in a venue and situation that would prove to be less than World class. In this economy, it is refreshing to know that Seattle remains a popular destination for conventions and tourists even if it is one of the saddest things I can think of at the moment.

I want to personally thank all of the fannish community, our supporters, my advisors, friends and

family for giving so completely of yourselves over the last several years. I can personally not think of anyone I would not have wanted to produce this event with other than you - You all gave so much and went so far to make this happen. Thank you for everything!

We will be reviewing future opportunities with our potential facilities with an eye toward bidding for a subsequent year.

SETBACK FOR ANTICIPATION WORLDCON

Rene Wallings has announced that "Ralph Bakshi will not be able to come to Montreal this summer because of health reasons." All future flyers and publicity documents will be adjusted accordingly. The search is on for a new GoH to replace him.

The Anticipation website states: "We were all looking forward to seeing him and are all disappointed by this turn of events, and hope things will get better for Mr. Bakshi soon."

PREREG FOR VCON 34!

By Keith Lim

1. 2009 CONVENTION--VCON 34

VCON 34 is happening on Fri-Sun 2-4 October 2009, at HOTEL LOCATION CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW.

The Guests of Honour (so far) for this year are Tanya Huff (Author) and Miles Teves (Artist), with podcasters GeeksOn (Special Guests). This year's theme is "Creatures of the Night". (Think astronomers, late-night inventors, theatre and cinema, folk songs around a campfire, bats, vampires,)

Visit the VCON website: <http://vcon.ca/> to learn all about VCON! Being a website, it's all progress report, all the time.

2. VENUE (HOTEL)

VCON room rates have not been finalized at this time.

3. REGISTRATION

Pre-Registration is at a discounted rate ends on 15 September. Your registration form must be postmarked or your PayPal form sent by this date. After this date, there is only on-site registration.

Pre-registration rates (until 15 Sep) are Adult: \$45, Student: \$34, Child 7-12 years: \$23, and Children 6 years and under are free. There is a limited-access Games and Exhibits Only pass for \$30, which grants access to only the Gaming Room, Dealers Room, and Art Show.

At-the-door weekend rates will be Adult: \$60, Student \$45, Child 7-12: \$30. One-day rates are available only at the door.

Registration opens at noon on Friday; some programming starts at 1 pm Friday, getting into full swing by 5.

Registration page with further details and registration forms: <http://vcon.ca/registration.htm>

VCON 34 will be accepting payment by cheque (make payable to 'VCON'), money order (make payable to 'VCON'), and VISA by regular postal mail to the Registrar, and online by Paypal. The address:

VCON 34 Registrar, Box 78069, Grandview RPO, Vancouver, BC, V5N 5W1, Canada.

4. GUESTS & PANELISTS

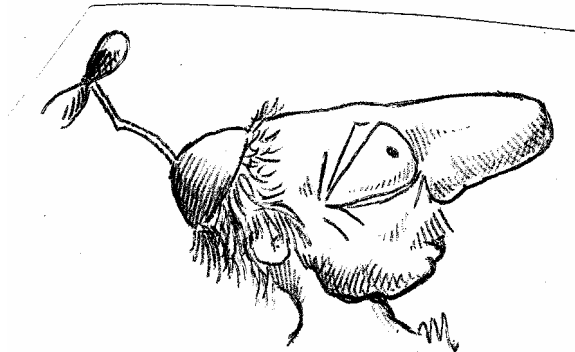
Guests of Honour (GoHs):

TANYA HUFF (Author GoH) is the author of the Blood series, which follows detective Vicki Nelson and vampire Henry Fitzroy as they investigate supernatural threats. She has also authored its follow-up, the Smoke series, four other book series, and several novels and short story collections. Blood Books was adapted for television as Blood Ties.

MILES TEVES (Artist GoH) is a special-effects make-up artist and designer working in film, television, and computer games. His credits include Iron Man, Men in Black, Galaxy Quest, Robocop, Total Recall, Spider-Man, Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines, and Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl.

Special Guests:

GEEKSON is a weekly audio show created by geeks for geeks, covering topics that geeks like to talk about, such as science fiction & fantasy, movies, video games, comics, tv, the internet, board games, and role-playing games. Shows are about an hour and a half long and are available from the GeeksOn website <http://geekson.com/>



The Geeks of Geeks On:

AARON HENDRICKS, the editor of GeeksOn, is a graphic designer in Los Angeles and an independent filmmaker. He co-founded Group101 Films (<http://group101films.com/>), the largest producer of short film entertainment in the world. He is married to a Group101 co-founder, Maureen Hendricks.

MATT YANG KING is an actor in Los Angeles, with recurring roles on both Numbers and Strong Medicine. Matt has also guest-starred on CSI, ER, Friends, and Frasier as well as being in Species III and the Disney movie The Stevens Get Even. His geek claim to fame is that he is the voice of Illidan from Warcraft III.

DONALD MARSHALL works for a 'secret' video game company as a Quality Assurance test lead, heading up a group of people as they test upcoming video games, looking for programming bugs, game play continuity errors, exploits, game balance issues, and more. Basically, he's in charge of making sure that the final video game you buy is as clean of bugs as possible. He plans to one day be a producer or a game designer—it's only a matter of time.

PETER ROBINSON does mainly ghostwriting. As he and we can't legally name names, we suggest going out and reading every book out there and perhaps one of them will be his. He aspires to be a writer-director. His interests include screenwriting, film-making, movies, video games, board games, Powers and anything else written by Brian Michael Bendis.

5. PROGRAMMING, ATTRACTIONS, & ACTIVITIES

ARTISTS ALLEY. New for VCON 34, the Artists Alley is the centre for artists to not only showcase and sell their work, but also to present their art in person and to meet and greet the interested or merely curious. Think Dealers Room, but for artists.

ART SHOW. Works on display include paintings, sculpture, cartoons, and other objets d'art with some relationship to science fiction, fantasy, gaming, horror, and related themes. The auction will be Sunday afternoon.

BREAKFAST BUFFET. VCON is hosting a Breakfast Buffet on Saturday and Sunday morning. Buy tickets when you register.

CHARITY AUCTION. We are having a charity auction benefiting the Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC). Founded in 1976, the CCBC is a national, not-for-profit organization dedicated to encouraging, promoting and supporting the reading, writing, illustrating and publishing of Canadian books for young readers. Know any sponsors willing to donate items for the charity?

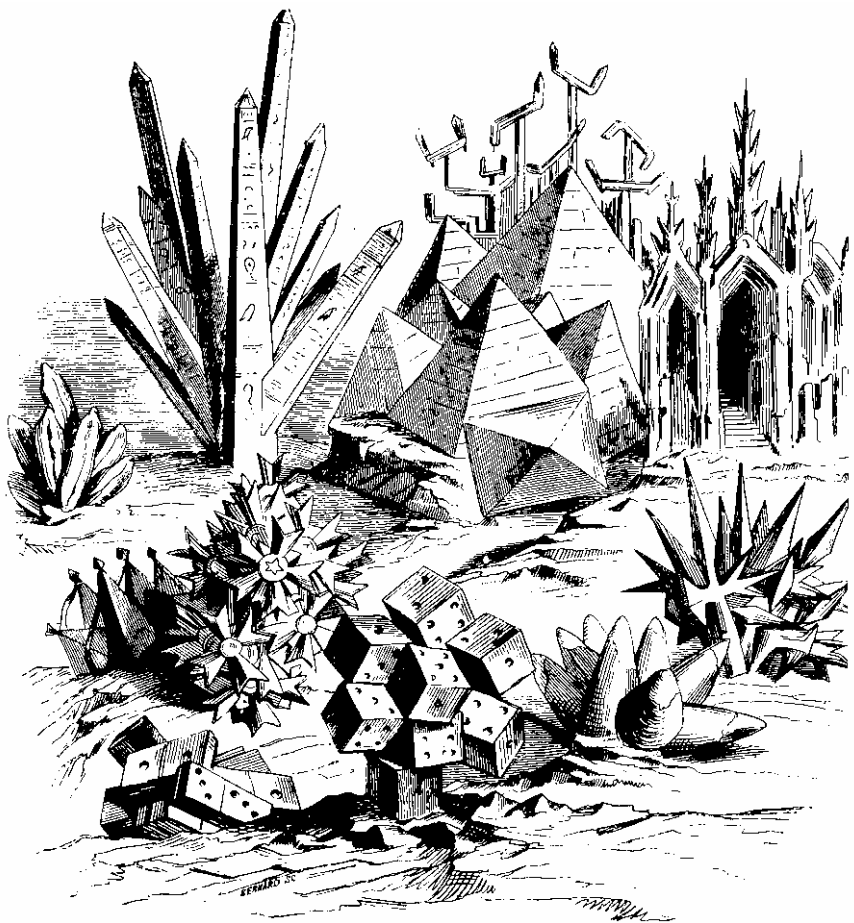
COMICS. We're putting a focus on comics this year--the Vancouver region has a small but active comics scene that we want to help nurture. Appearing at the convention will be Cloudscape Comics, a local comics collective which has so far released two collections, Robots, Pine Trees, and Broken Hearts, and Historyonics: Stories Drawn From the Past.

DANCE. The Saturday night Dance is a VCON tradition, and is of course back this year to spin fan-friendly music into the early morning.

DEALERS ROOM. Your corner bookstore just isn't going to be able to stock the variety of titles which fans are looking for, and you can look high and low at an electronics shop without finding a TV remote in the shape of a light saber. Look for books, toys, comics, collectibles, costumes, gaming supplies, cards, prints and jewelry.

ELRON AWARDS. The Elron Awards--Canada's oldest science fiction awards and North America's oldest Fandom "spoof" awards--are VCON's annual recognition of the "Most Dubious Achievements in Science Fiction" of the previous year.

FAN CLUB TABLES. Fan Club Tables are our way of showing the great appreciation we have for the many groups who keep the flame alive during the other 362.25 days of the year.



FILKING. Filking, the folk music of fandom, has been a part of convention life ever since that famous (or possibly infamous) con which had a typo in the program book where they intended to advertise "folk singing" and got "filk singing" instead.

GAMES ROOM. Fans and gaming have always gone together. There has been a person in charge of organising gaming at VCON since VCON 12, in 1984, although there were panels on subjects like "Dungeons & Dragons" as early as VCON 6 in 1978. Sign up for your favourite game or game demo, or drop in to find a pick-up game.

HOSPITALITY SUITE. Hungry? Thirsty? Looking for a place to sit and socialize with other convention goers? Then the Hospitality Suite is the place to go. There you can nosh on goodies and gab with authors, editors, costumers, prop builders, gamers, scientists, screenwriters, filkers, artists and the adherents from other fandoms.

KIDCON. VCON is open to fans of all ages, but we'll also have activities specially suitable for younger members.

MASQUERADE. The Masquerade on Saturday night features contestants vying for the "Best in Show" trophy, with prizes awarded in "Junior", "Novice", "Journeyman", and "Master" categories.

PARTIES & MEETUPS. Room Parties & Fan Meetups have always been part of any good convention and VCON is no exception. Our hotel is room-party friendly. Check out the program book for previously planned parties and keep an eye on the Voodoo Message Board for spontaneous social celebrations.

TURKEY READINGS. You think you know how bad SF and fantasy can get? You don't know nothin'. The Turkey Readings are a horrifying and hilarious revelation. Bid to make the reader stop, but you might be outbid by a masochist (or a sadist) who bids to keep the reading going. The torture stops when the high bid to stop the reading goes unchallenged. Only the strong survive. Proceeds go to the Canadian Unity Fan Fund.

VOODOO MESSAGE BOARD (because it uses pins, and is eerily efficient). Look for it near Registration. To leave a message for someone, stick a pin in the board next to their name and leave a note in the alphabetically organized file box nearby. To retrieve a message, remove the pin by your name and find your message in the box. Pins come with the board.

FILTHY PRO NEWS

AURORA NOMINEES ANNOUNCED!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anticipation: Press Release #19, March 2009
Aurora Nominees Announced

Anticipation, the 67th World Science Fiction Convention, is pleased to announce the Prix Aurora nominees for 2009. The Auroras recognize Canadian science fiction and fantasy artwork, writing, and fan activities. Any Canadian citizen or resident may vote in the Aurora selection process. Mail-in or online ballots must be submitted before Wednesday, July 15th, 2009.

Please visit <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/English/Convention> for more information or to vote.

Best Long-Form Work in English

Meilleur livre en anglais

- **After the Fires**, Ursula Pflug (Tightrope Books)
- **Identity Theft and Other Stories**, Robert J. Sawyer (Red Deer Press)
- **Impossibilia**, Douglas Smith (PS Publishing)
- **Defining Diana**, Hayden Trenholm (Bundoran Press)
- **Marseguro**, Edward Willett (DAW Books)

Meilleur livre en français

Best Long-Form Work in French

- **Une fêlure au flanc du monde**, Éric Gauthier (Alire)
- **Les vents de Tammerlan**, Michèle Laframboise (Éditions Médiaspaul, coll. Jeunesse-Plus)

Best Short-Form Work in English

Meilleure nouvelle en anglais

- **All In**, Peter Atwood (May–June, Weird Tales magazine)
- **Back**, Susan J. Forest (June, Analog magazine)
- **Ringing in the Changes in Okotoks, Alberta**, Randy McCharles (Tesseract Twelve, Edge Science Fiction)
- **A Bouquet of Flowers in a Vase by Van Gogh**, Douglas Smith (Impossibilia, PS Publishing)
- **Doorways**, Douglas Smith (Postscripts Magazine #17, PS Publishing)

Meilleure nouvelle en français

Best Short-Form Work in French

- **Ballade sur Pallide**, Michèle Laframboise (Virages 44)
- **La révolte des gilets-malins**, Michèle Laframboise (QUAD9 6A)
- **Le Dôme de Saint-Macaire**, Jean-Louis Trudel (Solaris 167)
- **Jos Montferrand et le Grand Brigand des routes**, Alain Ducharme (Solaris 161)

Best Work in English (Other)

Meilleur ouvrage en anglais (Autre)

- **The Gaslight Grimoire**, Jeff Campbell & Charles Prepolec, Editors, (Edge Science Fiction)
- **Neo-opsis magazine**, Karl Johanson, Ed.
- **Tesseract Twelve**, Claude Lalumière, Ed. (Edge Science Fiction)
- **Through the Window: a Journey to the Borderlands of Faerie**, Marcie Lynn Tentchoff (Double Edge Publishing)
- **On Spec magazine**, Diane Walton, Managing Ed.

Meilleur ouvrage en français (Autre)

Best Work in French (Other)

- Jean-Louis Trudel, Sophie Beaulé, (**Éditions David**)
- **Solaris**, Joël Champetier, édition et direction littéraire

Artistic Achievement

Accomplissement artistique

- Looking for Group, **Lar deSouza** (Online Comic)
- cover Neo-Opsis #14, **Stephanie Ann Johanson**
- Imagination, **Michèle Laframboise** (Imagination contre les pigeons spammers, Vermillion)
- Fear Agent #22, **Ronn Sutton** (Dark Horse)
- cover JEMMA7729, **David Willicome**

Fan Achievement (Fanzine)

Accomplissement fanique (Fanzine)

- **The Original Universe**, Jeff Boman, (Ed.)
- **Opuntia**, Dale Spiers (Ed.)
- **Clair/Obscur**, François-Bernard Tremblay, (Réd.)
- **Brins d'éternité**, Guillaume Voisine, (Réd.)

Fan Achievement (Organizational)

Accomplissement fanique (Organisation)

- Robyn Herrington Memorial Short Story Contest, **Renée Bennett** (Administrator)
- World Fantasy 2008, **Kim Greyson** (Guest Liaison)
- FilKONtario 19, **Judith Hayman, & Peggi Warner-Lalonde** (Co-chairs)
- World Fantasy 2008, **Randy McCharles**, (Chair)
- Anime North 2008, **David Simmons** (Organizer)

Fan Achievement (Other)

Accomplissement fanique (autre)

- World Fantasy 2008 Podcasts, **Kurt Armbruster, & Ryah Deines** (Producers/Ed./Hosts)
- Impulse, news bulletin of MonSFFA, **Keith Braithwaite** (Ed.)
- Through the Keyhole – 25 years of Keycon Memories, **Jennifer Ennis** (Ed.)
- Fan Writing, **Lloyd Penney**
- Heather Dale Concert, **Joan Sherman** (Organizer)

Anticipation is honoured to host Convention, the Canadian national science fiction convention and the Prix Aurora Awards (<http://www.prixaurorawards.ca>).

The 67th World Science Fiction Convention, known as Anticipation, will take place in Montréal, Québec, Canada from Thursday, August 6th through Monday, August 10th, 2009.

More information about Anticipation, including current membership rates, is available on our web site (<http://www.anticipationsf.ca>); you can also write to us for more information.

HUGO NOMINEES ANNOUNCED!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anticipation: Press Release #20, March 2009
Hugo Nominees Announced

Anticipation is pleased to announce the Hugo nominees for 2009. For more information about the award and the voting process consult our website <http://anticipationsf.ca/English/Hugos>

The Hugo Award, first presented in 1953, celebrate the best in the field of science fiction and fantasy. Recipients are chosen by members of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS). The Hugos are presented each year at the World Science Fiction Convention.

799 Total Ballots cast

Best Novel (639 Ballots Cast):

- **Anathem** by Neal Stephenson (Morrow; Atlantic UK)
- **The Graveyard Book** by Neil Gaiman (HarperCollins; Bloomsbury)
- **Little Brother** by Cory Doctorow (Tor)
- **Saturn's Children** by Charles Stross (Ace; Orbit)
- **Zoe's Tale** by John Scalzi (Tor)

Best Novella (337 Ballots Cast)

- **The Erdmann Nexus** by Nancy Kress (Asimov's Oct/Nov 2008)
- **The Political Prisoner** by Charles Coleman Finlay (F&SF Aug 2008)
- **The Tear** by Ian McDonald (Galactic Empires)
- **True Names** by Benjamin Rosenbaum & Cory Doctorow (Fast Forward 2)
- **Truth** by Robert Reed (Asimov's Oct/Nov 2008)

Best Novelette (373 Ballots Cast)

- **Alastair Baffle's Emporium of Wonders** by Mike Resnick (Asimov's Jan 2008)
- **The Gambler** by Paolo Bacigalupi (Fast Forward 2)
- **Pride and Prometheus** by John Kessel (F&SF Jan 2008)
- **The Ray-Gun: A Love Story** by James Alan Gardner (Asimov's Feb 2008)
- **Shoggoths in Bloom** by Elizabeth Bear (Asimov's Mar 2008)

Best Short Story (448 Ballots Cast)

- **26 Monkeys**, Also the Abyss by Kij Johnson (Asimov's Jul 2008)
- **Article of Faith** by Mike Resnick (Baen's Universe Oct 2008)
- **Evil Robot Monkey** by Mary Robinette Kowal (The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction, Volume Two)
- **Exhalation** by Ted Chiang (Eclipse Two)
- **From Babel's Fall'n Glory We Fleed** by Michael Swanwick (Asimov's Feb 2008)

Best Related Book (263 Ballots Cast)

- **Rhetorics of Fantasy** by Farah Mendlesohn (Wesleyan University Press)
- **Spectrum 15: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art** by Cathy Fenner & Arnie Fenner, eds. (Underwood Books)
- **The Vorkosigan Companion: The Universe of Lois McMaster Bujold** by Lillian Stewart Carl & John Helfers, eds. (Baen)
- **What It Is We Do When We Read Science Fiction** by Paul Kincaid (Becon Publications)
- **Your Hate Mail Will Be Graded: A Decade of Whatever, 1998-2008** by John Scalzi (Subterranean Press)

Best Graphic Story (212 Ballots Cast)

- **The Dresden Files: Welcome to the Jungle** Written by Jim Butcher, art by Ardian Syaf (Del Rey/Dabel Brothers Publishing)

- **Girl Genius, Volume 8: Agatha Heterodyne and the Chapel of Bones** Written by Kaja & Phil Foglio, art by Phil Foglio, colors by Cheyenne Wright (Airship Entertainment)
- **Fables: War and Pieces** Written by Bill Willingham, pencilled by Mark Buckingham, art by Steve Leialoha and Andrew Pepoy, color by Lee Loughridge, letters by Todd Klein (DC/Vertigo Comics)
- **Schlock Mercenary: The Body Politic** Story and art by Howard Tayler (The Tayler Corporation)
- **Serenity: Better Days** Written by Joss Whedon & Brett Matthews, art by Will Conrad, color by Michelle Madsen, cover by Jo Chen (Dark Horse Comics)
- **Y: The Last Man, Volume 10: Whys and Wherefores** Written/created by Brian K. Vaughan, pencilled/created by Pia Guerra, inked by Jose Marzan, Jr. (DC/Vertigo Comics)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form (436 Ballots Cast)

- **The Dark Knight** Christopher Nolan & David S. Goyer, story; Jonathan Nolan and Christopher Nolan, screenplay; based on characters created by Bob Kane; Christopher Nolan, director (Warner Brothers)
- **Hellboy II: The Golden Army** Guillermo del Toro & Mike Mignola, story; Guillermo del Toro, screenplay; based on the comic by Mike Mignola; Guillermo del Toro, director (Dark Horse, Universal)
- **Iron Man** Mark Fergus & Hawk Ostby and Art Marcum & Matt Holloway, screenplay; based on characters created by Stan Lee & Don Heck & Larry Lieber & Jack Kirby; Jon Favreau, director (Paramount, Marvel Studios)
- **METAtropolis** edited by John Scalzi; Elizabeth Bear, Jay Lake, Tobias Buckell, John Scalzi, and Karl Schroeder, writers (Audible Inc.)
- **WALL-E** Andrew Stanton & Pete Docter, story; Andrew Stanton & Jim Reardon, screenplay; Andrew Stanton, director (Pixar/Walt Disney)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form (336 Ballots Cast)

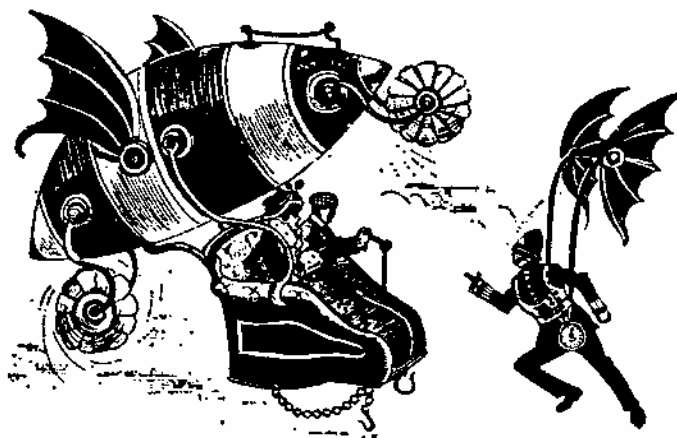
- **Lost: "The Constant"**, Carlton Cuse & Damon Lindelof, writers; Jack Bender, director (Bad Robot, ABC studios)
- **Doctor Horrible's Sing-Along Blog** Joss Whedon, & Zack Whedon, & Jed Whedon, & Maurissa Tancharoen, writers; Joss Whedon, director (Mutant Enemy)
- **Battlestar Galactica: "Revelations"**, Bradley Thompson & David Weddle, writers; Michael Rymer, director (NBC Universal)
- **Doctor Who: "Silence in the Library"/"Forest of the Dead"**, Steven Moffat, writer; Euros Lyn, director (BBC Wales)
- **Doctor Who: "Turn Left"**, Russell T. Davies, writer; Graeme Harper, director (BBC Wales)

Best Editor, Short Form (377 Ballots Cast)

- **Ellen Datlow**
- **Stanley Schmidt**
- **Jonathan Strahan**
- **Gordon Van Gelder**
- **Sheila Williams**

Best Editor, Long Form (273 Ballots Cast)

- **Lou Anders**
- **Ginjer Buchanan**
- **David G. Hartwell**
- **Beth Meacham**
- **Patrick Nielsen Hayden**



Best Professional Artist (334 Ballots Cast)

- **Daniel Dos Santos**
- **Bob Eggleton**
- **Donato Giancola**
- **John Picacio**
- **Shaun Tan**

Best Semiprozine (283 Ballots Cast)

- **Clarkesworld** Magazine edited by Neil Clarke, Nick Mamatas, & Sean Wallace
- **Interzone** edited by Andy Cox
- **Locus** edited by Charles N. Brown, Kirsten Gong-Wong, & Liza Groen Trombi
- **The New York Review of Science Fiction** edited by Kathryn Cramer, Kris
- **Dikeman**, David G. Hartwell, & Kevin J. Maroney
- **Weird Tales** edited by Ann VanderMeer & Stephen H. Segal

Best Fan Writer (291 Ballots Cast)

- **Chris Garcia**
- **John Hertz**
- **Dave Langford**
- **Cheryl Morgan**
- **Steven H Silver**

Best Fanzine (257 Ballots Cast)

- **Argentus** edited by Steven H Silver
- **Banana Wings** edited by Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer
- **Challenger** edited by Guy H. Lillian III
- **The Drink Tank** edited by Chris Garcia
- **Electric Velocipede** edited by John Klima
- **File 770** edited by Mike Glycer

Best Fan Artist (187 Ballots Cast)

- **Alan F. Beck**
- **Brad W. Foster**
- **Sue Mason**
- **Taral Wayne**
- **Frank Wu**

The John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer (288 Ballots Cast)

- **Aliette de Bodard***
- **David Anthony Durham***
- **Felix Gilman**
- **Tony Pi***
- **Gord Sellar***

*(Second year of eligibility)

Contacts:

Anticipation The 67th World Science Fiction Convention P.O. Box 105, Station NDG Montréal,
QC H4A 3P4 <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/> email: media@anticipationsf.ca

“WSFS”, “Worldcon”, “World Science Fiction Convention”, “Hugo Award” and “NASFiC” and



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THE ONGOING SAGA OF PROMOTING ALYXANDRA J. SHAW'S FANTASY TRILOGY 'A STRANGE PLACE IN TIME'

By The Graeme -- her husband

(The idea is that any beginning author, or readers interested in how authors get started, will find this blow by blow on-going account of her evolution from a fan fiction author to a professional author informative and possibly even inspiring. Just be aware it didn't happen over night. Alyx has put years of hard work into this.)

Alyx's first book in the 'A Strange Place in Time' trilogy, 'The Recalling of John Arrowsmith', continues to draw good reviews. Here's one from 'Cyberead.'

Magic, 'Magination and Motorcycles

By Makayla from Stafford, UK

Pros:

Original Story, Well Written, Easy To Read, Takes You To Another World, Deserves Multiple Readings.

Bottom Line:

Yes, I would recommend this to a friend

If there is one thing you can say about Alyx Shaw's writing, it has charisma. Reading her stories is like listening to the Bards of old spinning their yarns in front of warm fire at the local tavern.

Her heroes are a band of eccentric characters: an ancient mage who stands at five foot and is often mistaken for a pretty young girl; his wife, a priestess of a fertility goddess who stands for a symbol female strength and hunts with wolves; a blond half-elf with a strange addiction to honey-muffins and an affiliation with the Assassin-god; Infamous Keeper, a thief with pockets large enough to hold a solid-oak four-poster bed and holy status; a white prince; a walking, talking encyclopedia; the child of a human and Mycinocroft, the proverbial werewolf and, of course, the utterly confused, motorcyclist, John Arrowsmith.

Born and bred on Earth Arrowsmith does not know what to make of this new and unusual world he finds himself in and yet he finds himself fitting into it with a disturbing ease- although he does suffer through a few fainting fits of which he is not particularly proud...

The adventure is light-hearted and fun but does not make a world that pretends to be perfect. The characters have their own inner demons and the land that Arrowsmith find himself has its own darkness.

This first book focuses primarily on Arrowsmith's personal journey into this new world and how he comes to grips with the foreign environment and his place in it. A humorous tale with a whole new world to explore and fall in love with.

Unfortunately this book is not perfect, like all things it has its failings. For one it is undeniably not long enough, a heinous crime, but it also makes itself somewhat inaccessible because its main romance, being homosexual in nature, leaves it open for a limited audience.

For its better part, however, the tale is expertly spun clearly written by somebody with many years of experience and with careful and extensive planning.

Certainly a read worth repeating, The Recalling of John Arrowsmith is just the beginning in what promises to be an extremely enjoyable saga.

Alyx J. Shaw: < <http://alyx.wozupdoc.net/> >
< http://torquerebooks.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index >
< <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/B0019VTTFG/shelfari-20> >

AUTHOR HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST

(New information highlighted in violet.)

DON DEBRANDT < <http://www.sfw.org/members/DeBrandt/index.html> >

Don's 'Cyberjunk' website has recently begun renovation. See his other website under the name 'Donn Cortez' < <http://www.donncortez.com> > for a complete listing of books, stories, articles & comics under both names, including the mystery *'The Man Burns Tonight'*, the thriller *'The Closer'*, four volumes of the CSI MIAMI series, and his classic SF novels: *The Quicksilver Screen*, *Steeldriver*, *Timberjak*, & *V.I.*

Currently Don is returning to his roots by working on a Sci-Fi trilogy, starting with his upcoming hardcover mystery/sci-fi novel *'Lucidity'*, which is about two 'Ectives' (emotive detectives) in the near future where emotions can be read, implanted, bought, sold, and stolen. 'Lucidity' is scheduled for release in 2009 by Fivestar Press.

Lucky New York fans note that Don will be appearing at the < [New York Comicon](#) > at the Javits centre April 17-21, 2009. (Also Basil Gogos, legendary Famous Monsters of Filmland cover artist!)

"The Man Burns Tonight is a terrific innocent in trouble thriller that uses the Black Rock City Burning Man event to provide a delightful somewhat weird backdrop. The story line is driven by the eccentric cast (pink Darth Vader costume - need I say more), but held together by a misplaced on the lam Dex." -- Harriet Klausner

DAVE DUNCAN < <http://www.daveduncan.com> >

Dave lives in Victoria, B.C. His latest books: *'The Alchemist's Apprentice'*, *'Children of Chaos'*, *'Ill Met in the Arena'*, **and, just published *March 2nd***, [The Alchemist's Pursuit](#).

Dave has sold *'Speak to the Devil'*, the first book in his new swordsmen & sorcerers series *'The Brothers Magnus'*, to Liz Gorinsky at Tor Books. It will be published in 2009.

Many of Dave's books, including long out of print volumes, are available for e-download at

< <http://www.ereads.com> > .

Dave writes on his website:

During 2009, another six or more of my out-of-print backlist books should be issued in E-book and print-on-demand format. Technique in POD publication has improved greatly in the last few years. I am happy to see that old friends like *The Reluctant Swordsman*, Book One of "The Seventh Sword", are doing well in their new incarnation. That series was the most successful work I ever wrote, and if you don't know it, I do urge you to try it. (It is currently being published in French translation also.)

WILLIAM GIBSON < <http://www.williamgibsonbooks.com> >

Bill lives in Vancouver. Check out his web site for his Q&A interview 'Across the Border to Spook Country'. His latest book: *Spook Country*.

In his blog Gibson wrote way back in January 31st, 2003:

But THE DIFFERENCE ENGINE is the only book with my name on it that I ever go back to and deliberately read for pleasure. Probably because it feels to me like neither Bruce nor I wrote it, and our Third Man proved to be such a singularly weird dude. There actually are a few (very few) people who shyly confess to never having liked a word I've written, aside from TDE, which they love. They tend to be computer scientists or professors of evolutionary theory.

MATT HUGHES < <http://www.archonate.com/> >

Matt lives on Vancouver Island. The third Henghis Hapthorn novel, 'Hespira', will finally be out from Nightshade Books in February, 2009.

The complete Guth Bandar saga is now published as a novel titled *The Commons* from Robert J. Sawyer Books.

On his Website Matthew writes:

John Denardo's SF Signal blog occasionally gathers together a disparate bunch of sf writers and asks them all the same question, then posts the replies in a featured called Mind Meld. His latest query was: "what was the best writing advice you ever received, and who gave it to you?" There are answers from Robert Silverberg, Gene Wolfe (a short one), Kage Baker, John C. Wright, Mike Resnick, and lots of others, including yours truly.

PAULA JOHANSON

Paula lives on an island in British Columbia and a farm in Alberta. She has twice been nominated for an Aurora Award. Her latest book is 'Tower in the Crooked Wood', a young adult fantasy novel published by Bundoran Press Publishing House in November, 2008.

"Jenia is magically transported from her island tribe to become a slave under vicious rule – but only for a day and night. Jenia leaves her home to find the location of the tower to try to free the dying slaves and comes across a village with a culture very different from her own."

Sample from the first chapter:

More than the damp and the coming night's chill, Jenia worried about last night's unseen beast that had crashed through the prickly bushes only a few yards from her. She had huddled, barely breathing, in the dry nest she made for herself under a fallen log. Several times during the day she had wondered whether this beast was the one that had howled somewhere nearby as she was falling asleep, or the one whose wild cat-like scream had awakened her hours later. Neither cry was any nearer than the next hill-top, Jenia was sure, but she had fallen asleep with her good bronze knife ready in her hand. It had been an unnerving night.

EILEEN KERNAGHAN < <http://www.lonelycry.ca/ek/> >

Eileen lives in the Lower Mainland area. Check out her latest books: *‘Winter on the Plain of Ghosts: a Novel of Mohenjo-daro’*, *‘The Alchemist’s Daughter’*, *‘The Sarsen Witch’*, and *‘Wild Talent: a novel of the supernatural.’*

Eileen writes: **“March 21st, 2009 sees the US release of my historical fantasy, *Wild Talent: a Novel of the Supernatural.*”**

An excerpt from *‘Wild Talent’*:

But needless to say Alexandra’s curiosity overcame her fear, and she reached out to touch the picture. As she did so, M. Villemain suddenly cried out, “Be careful. You could be pulled in.”

“Into what?” she asked in alarm.

“Into the landscape. It is dangerous.”

By now I was quite caught up in this strange story. I leaned forward in excitement. “And what happened then?”

Alexandra shrugged. “That is all that happened. I felt all at once overcome with a terrible fatigue. And so we went downstairs for toast and tea.”

I longed for more. It was as though Alexandra had strayed to the edge of faerie, and returned to tell me only half the tale.

CRAWFORD KILIAN < <http://crofsblogs.typepad.com/> >

Continues to teach at Capilano College in North Vancouver. His latest books: *‘Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy’* (1998), & *‘Writing for the Web’* (1999). See E-address above for his blog. He is currently working on another novel, plus “a couple of nonfiction books and articles for online journals.” Both of the books mentioned above are available from Self Counsel Press;

< <http://www.self-counsel.com/ca/> >

Writing in his Blog, Kilian comments:

Thanks to Kelly Sonora for sending me the link to:

[100 Free and Useful Open Courseware Classes for Web Workers.](#)

They’re on a site with the unfortunate name of “Learn-gasm,” but the courses themselves look really good.

Most are MIT courses, but I’m proud to say that some are from Capilano University, where I taught—when it was just a college—for 40 years.

And as long as we’re talking about open courseware, I might as well mention my own course, [Write a Novel.](#)

DONNA MCMAHON < <http://www.donna-mcmahon.com/> >

Lives in Gibsons on the Sunshine Coast. She won a 2001 Aurora Award for her book reviews published in Tomorrow SF, BCSFAzine & other publications. Check out her novel *‘Dance of Knives’* which is set in Vancouver in the year 2108. The sequel *‘Second Childhood’* is pending publication.

Excerpt from *‘Dance of Knives’*:

THE KLONDYKE BAR

(operated by SisOpp, a venture owned by a lesbian residential co-op)

Finally, they rounded another corner and Klale caught sight of a big red K shining dimly through the rain. She gasped in relief. Everybody on the coast knew about the Klondyke. Its giant red K, perched atop the ruins of a rotary restaurant, was a Vancouver landmark. And the bar’s erotic floor shows were popular on CoastNet--especially with bored Fishers on long winter runs.

... She paused for a second, despite the rain, to stare at the antique neon sign over the door. It read "Ladies and Escorts", and a new lume sign below it announced:

The Klondyke, Est. 2068.

Visible weapons will be confiscated.

Absolutely no plugs, pimps or missionaries

Klale walked up red-carpeted steps and double doors swung open releasing a familiar tumult of voices, music and the smell of warm food, old beer and Fireweed. She took a few paces inside, then slid her duffel bag off her aching shoulder. Behind her, the doors drifted silently shut.

"I'm Canadian. I write a kinder, gentler future urban hell." – Donna.

NINA MUNTEANU < <http://sfgirl-thealiennextdoor.blogspot.com> >

Lives and teaches in Victoria, B.C. You can order her Sci-Fi novel 'Darwin's Paradox' by Dragon Moon Press from Amazon.ca. Nina contributes frequently to her blog site.

Nina's latest book is 'The Fiction Writer: Get Published, Write Now!' by Pixl Press with digital PDF and Print versions now available for [order and download](#).

In her blog Nina writes about writer's block:

....many writers complain of experiencing writer's block at some point in their career—that affliction of not accessing one's creativity, when the muses have all fled to Tahiti or someplace far away and you are left with a blank page or more importantly—and alarmingly—a blank mind. No desperate search, hot shower, long walk or discussion with a friend will seduce those holidaying muses back. You're stuck. Here's my solution: *simply let go*. Embrace the emptiness ... and something wonderful will fill it. We are all vessels, able to carry a diverse and fluid mixture of things. My belief—in fact my conviction—is that God dwells inside each of us, connecting us to the beauty and wonder of nature and to each other through means we need not know. And when I "empty" myself and let my "muse" enter me, I am communicating with God. That simple.

SPIDER ROBINSON < <http://www.spiderrobinson.com/index2.html> >

Spider & Jeanne live in the Lower Mainland area. See the above website for info on 'Variable Star', 'The Crazy Years', 'The Lifehouse Trilogy' (a reissue of 'Mindkiller', 'Time Pressure' and 'Lifehouse'), 'Very Hard Choices', audio versions of their books, the exciting Stardance movie project, and Spider's latest podcasts.

Callahan's the game has been rediscovered! Download it free for PC from [The Joystick](#).

Spider On The Web, the FREE podcast, is updated twice a month with fresh content.

See [Spider on the Web Podcast!](#)

Most [readers who've responded to VARIABLE STAR](#) by Robert A. Heinlein and Spider Robinson have expressed strong desire to know what happened next. Spider is delighted to report his agent Eleanor Wood has, in the worst times in sf publishing history, sold Tor Books not just one but three sequels to VARIABLE STAR, to be known collectively as The Orphan Stars Trilogy. For more information, listen to [Spider On The Web #59](#).

I was shocked to discover this crisis when I checked Spider & Jeanne's website. Spider writes:

Jeanne's recent surgery at Vancouver General Hospital was a great success, from which she is expected to make a full complete recovery. YAY!!!

But it was far more complicated than expected, taking over 9 hours; that recovery will be slower and more difficult than anticipated.

PLEASE DON'T send flowers or cards; we appreciate the thought, a lot, but neither of us has the energy to deal. Emails that don't call for response are OK, but please send them ONLY to my

website, spiderweb@shaw.ca --I want to keep her personal In Box as empty as I possibly can. Prayers, healing thoughts of any sort, are more than welcome; thank you.

And God bless Tommy Douglas, who created Canada's socialized medicine.

Jeanne is now home and feeling much better, though faces the prospect of further healthcare before things return to normal. Absolutely all her local fans, and fans worldwide, wish Jeanne a complete and total recovery ASAP!

ROBERT J. SAWYER < <http://www.sfwriter.com/> >

Robert lives in Mississauga, Ontario (but who is out here on the West Coast so often we view him as one of our own).

' *Identity Theft* ' is his second & final collection of short fiction, with an overall introduction by Robert Charles Wilson and RJS's own notes on each story.

Science fiction writer **Robert J. Sawyer**'s current project is the **WWW** trilogy, consisting of ***Wake***, ***Watch***, and ***Wonder***, all about the World Wide Web gaining consciousness

Wake will be published in hardcover in April 2009 jointly by Ace Science Fiction in the US and Penguin in Canada. You can all about the publishing deal in [this entry](#) in Rob's blog.

[More about Wake](#) (including the opening chapters!)

BCSFAzine #429 states: There will be a launch party in Toronto, of course, and Rob will be doing readings and signings in other Canadian cities: including Vancouver on Monday, April 20. (Location not yet listed on Rob's Appearance calendar.)

Robert, currently on the set of FLASH FORWARD, writes in his blog:

It was an incredible day to be on set: we had 152 extras and background players, making the chaos even more elaborate than usual. (I chatted with a bunch of the extras during the day; it was fascinating that most of them had no idea what project they were part of, or that "David" the director was, in fact, David S. Goyer of *Batman Begins* fame.)

We were shooting in an existing building, and David (and Rebecca Poulos, his incredible script supervisor) actually didn't watch from the room the filming was happening in, but from another nearby room, where monitors were set up to show what the cameras were getting. Carolyn and I were given headsets so we could listen in to what the microphones were actually recording, and we hopped between sitting in director's-style chairs behind David and standing discreetly out of shot watching the actual filming.

Everything was ramped up to the highest level: long dolly shots, Steadicam shots, etc. etc. The look is amazing.

ALYX J. SHAW < <http://alyx.wozupdoc.net/> >

(See also her live journal at < <http://alyx-j-shaw.livejournal.com/> >)

Lives in Surrey. Her novels ***The Recalling of John Arrowsmith*** & ***The White Palace Awakens*** (Books One and Two of her trilogy ' *A Strange Place in Time* '), are available from online publisher Torquere Press: **(Note: NEW link to Alyx's books at Torquere)**

< http://www.torquerebooks.com/index.php?manufacturers_id=17&main_page=index > in electronic download PDF format for **only \$5.95 US**.

Book one is also available in Kindle electronic book download at Amazon Books for \$4.99, for which see: < <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/B0019VTTFG/shelfari-20> >

'The Recalling of John Arrowsmith' (Book One of her trilogy) is available in hard cover for \$150 US (red Japanese book silk cover, French-style sewn on cord binding) by mail order from Doppelganger Press: < <http://doppelgangerpress.com/> > and also book two, **'The White Palace Awakens'** for \$260 US (illustrations in the second volume are by Eveline Koeppen of Leipzig, Germany,

with front piece by S. H. Desjardins. quarter bound in Asahi crimson Japanese silk book cloth and handmade pastepaper using a French groove style binding structure).

LISA SMEDMAN < <http://www.lisasmedman.topcities.com/> >

Lisa lives in Richmond, B.C. with her wife, their son, four cats, and two pugs. Her latest novels (on the 'Lady Penitent Trilogy'): Book 1 '*Sacrifice of the Widow*', Book 2 '*Storm of the Dead*', and Book 3 '*Ascendancy of the Last*'.

Lisa has also had a number of short science fiction and fantasy stories published in various magazines and anthologies, has designed a number of adventures and written short fiction for the Advanced Dungeons & Dragon roleplaying game's Ravenloft and Dark Sun lines, and also designed gaming products for Star Wars, Indiana Jones, Cyberpunk, Immortal, Shatterzone, Millennium's End, and Deadlands.

After working for more than 20 years as a journalist, Lisa now splits her week between her job as an editor at the [Vancouver Courier](#), a weekly newspaper (for which she writes the column *History's Lens*) and writing fiction.

'*Vancouver - Stories of a City*,' a volume by Lisa Smedman now available from the *Vancouver Courier* (\$44.95), "expands upon a 12-part series of cover stories. In this award-winning series, journalist Lisa Smedman explores the history of our city, neighbourhood by neighbourhood. More than 300 pages long and packed with historic photos, maps and illustrations. **Vancouver—Stories of a City tells the tales of the Royal Engineers sent from England to police the gold rush, the real estate barons who made backroom deals to bring the CPR railway terminus to Vancouver, and the immigrants from Europe and Asia who came by steamship, stage coach and CPR train. The lively and often poignant sagas contained in Vancouver—Stories of a City tell the tales of rich and poor, speculator and settler alike—covering the gamut of the early pioneers who wound up calling this city home.**"

C. JUNE WOLF < <http://cjunewolfdn.blogspot.com/> >

June lives in Vancouver, B.C. Her latest book is '*Finding Creatures And Other Stories*' published by Wattle & Daub. A Library Thing reviewer writes:

Once opened Finding Creatures and Other Stories turned out to be impossible to close, I had to keep going and read just one more until too soon I reached the end. Even the most fantastic dreams, beings from other worlds and wild creations of human mind were made so real you'd almost expect to see some when you raise your eyes from the page. If only the book itself was as magical as its contents, after finishing one story there would forever be another.

NOTE: Most of the novels mentioned above are available at **White Dwarf Books**, 3715 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., V6R 2G5. Phone (604) 228 – 8223.

E-address: < whitedwarf@deadwrite.com > Web site < <http://www.deadwrite.com> >

NEBULA AWARDS FINAL NOMINEES

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America will descend on Los Angeles, Calif., with an all-star lineup slated for the 2009 Nebula Awards® Weekend April 24-26.

Harry Harrison will be honoured as the next Damon Knight Grand Master, while M.J. Engh will be honored as Author Emerita. Joss Whedon will receive the Ray Bradbury Award. Singer/songwriter

Janis Ian will be on hand to serve as toastmistress. Award-winning creator, executive producer and writer Chuck Lorre will give the keynote address.

NEBULA AWARDS FINAL BALLOT:

Novels

Little Brother - Cory Doctorow (Tor, Apr08)
Powers - Ursula K. Le Guin (Harcourt, Sep07)
Cauldron - Jack McDevitt (Ace, Nov07)
Brasyl - Ian McDonald (Pyr, May07)
Making Money - Terry Pratchett (Harper, Sep07)
Superpowers - David J. Schwartz (Three Rivers Press, Jun08)

Novellas

The Spacetime Pool - Catherine Asaro (Analog, Mar08)
Dark Heaven - Gregory Benford (Alien Crimes, ed. Mike Resnick, SFBC, Jan07)
Dangerous Space - Kelley Eskridge (Dangerous Space, Aqueduct Press, Jun07)
The Political Prisoner - Charles Coleman Finlay (F&SF, Aug08)
The Duke in His Castle - Vera Nazarian (Norilana Books, Jun08)

Novelettes

If Angels Fight - Richard Bowes (F&SF, Feb08)
The Ray-Gun: A Love Story - James Alan Gardner (Asimov's, Feb08)
Dark Rooms - Lisa Goldstein (Asimov's, Oct/Nov 07)
Pride and Prometheus - John Kessel (F&SF, Jan08)
Night Wind - Mary Rosenblum (Lace and Blade, ed. Deborah J. Ross, Norilana Books, Feb08)
Baby Doll - Johanna Sinisalo (The SFWA European Hall of Fame, ed. James Morrow & Kathryn Morrow, Tor, Jun07 [trans. from the Finnish by David Hackston])
Kaleidoscope - K.D. Wentworth (F&SF, May07)

Short Stories

The Button Bin - Mike Allen (Helix: A Speculative Fiction Quarterly, Oct07)
The Dreaming Wind - Jeffrey Ford (The Coyote Road: Trickster Tales, ed. Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling, Viking, Jul07)
Trophy Wives - Nina Kiriki Hoffman (Fellowship Fantastic, ed. Martin H. Greenberg and Kerrie Hughes, DAW Books, Jan08)
26 Monkeys, Also the Abyss - Kij Johnson (Asimov's, Jul08)
The Tomb Wife - Gwyneth Jones (F&SF, Aug07)
Don't Stop - James Patrick Kelly (Asimov's, Jun07)
Mars: A Traveler's Guide - Ruth Nestvold (F&SF, Jan08)

Scripts

The Dark Knight - Jonathan Nolan, Christopher Nolan, David S. Goyer (Warner Bros., Jul08)
WALL-E Screenplay - Andrew Stanton, Jim Reardon, Original story by Andrew Stanton, Pete Docter (Walt Disney June 2008)
The Shrine - Brad Wright (Stargate Atlantis, Aug08) Norton
Graceling - Kristin Cashore (Harcourt, Oct08)
Lamplighter - D.M. Cornish (Monster Blood Tattoo, Book 2, Putnam Juvenile, May08)
Savvy - Ingrid Law (Dial, May08)
The Adoration of Jenna Fox - Mary E. Pearson (Henry Holt and Company, Apr08)
Flora's Dare: How a Girl of Spirit Gambles All to Expand Her Vocabulary, Confront a

Bouncing Boy Terror, and Try to Save Califa from a Shaky Doom (Despite Being Confined to Her Room) - Ysabeau S. Wilce (Harcourt, Sep08)

LETTERS OF COMMENT

The Graeme's comments are in brown

From: **STEVE GREEN**, February 6th, 2009:

Hi Graeme,

Sorry to hear about your Canfancylopedia. I was a regular contributor to the Zinewiki project, only to see it derailed by a moronic hacker who destroyed the existing architecture and turned what had been a blossoming electronic resource into an empty wasteland. I wish you luck with your own restoration work.

If I could just find some energy...

If you're into classics of the "so bad, they're great" movie sub-genre, I take it you've seen *The Giant Claw*? This used to be a staple at Manchester's annual Festival of Fantastic Films, and I've actually seen people so convulsed with laughter they've fallen off their seats.

Jeff Morrow, the star of the film, held the premiere in his home town. He had not yet seen it and assumed it was state of the art effects as promised by the producers. He didn't know they had farmed it out to two guys working in a garage 'studio'. Consequently he was horrified when his numerous relatives and home town friends went berserk with merriment. Story is he crawled out of the theatre on his hands and knees before the film was finished so as not to have to face them. If you notice, he played the film absolutely straight under the impression it was a credible B-film. The disastrous premiere revealed the truth, to his everlasting regret. Fact is, though, it is one of the most entertaining films ever made. Definitely in my top ten, along with ROBOT MONSTER and PLAN NINE.



Rawhead Rex, on the other hand, is merely a bad movie, with lacklustre direction from George Pavlou (whose nonsensical *Underworld* had also been based upon a Clive Barker short story) and a truly ridiculous monster. Indeed, Clive, myself and Ramsey Campbell once engaged circa 1990 in a lighthearted argument over whether horror movies were best served by bringing their creatures out of the shadows; Ramsey, a lifelong fan of Lovecraft, argued against, whilst Clive pointed to his own *Hellraiser* as substantive evidence for the defence. However, I seem to recall that I'd no sooner mentioned *Rawhead Rex* than Clive changed the subject.

I still prefer the film to the short story though. Better not to tell him.

Nope, the putative UK bid for the 2010 Corflu wouldn't be the first time the event's left the United States, or even the first time it's been held on these shores. That would be Leeds, 1998.

All best – Steve

From: BRAD FOSTER, February 7th, 2009

Greetings Graeme ~

Glad you were able to find a home for the "Fishstick Funeral" piece, and even, amazingly, have it fit in with the subject of the text next to it, and least in a somewhat bizarre way. Very cool! (Of course, now I'll be curious to see if you can pull off the same trick with the "Cuboid" and "Sandra" fillos you still have on hand, or have to use them in the "usual" filler way.)

Have no idea as yet...

"Retro" fanzine review from 1990. "Retro" movie review from 1986. Hmm, I WAS feeling pretty good a few minutes ago, now, for some reason, I suddenly feel... old...

Hmmm, could it be my interest in Retro Sci-Fi that's dragging me down? Naaah! That's what helps keep me going! I live for the past. I certainly don't live for the future, cause I know it'll suck even worse than the present. But the past!... Selective memory makes it glorious!

stay happy~ Brad

From: LLOYD PENNEY, February 16th, 2008

Dear Graeme:

Thank you for WCSFAzine 18...hope you and Alyx had a great Valentine's. We're enjoying Family Day today just lounging at home and getting caught up on a great many things, and for me that also includes writing locs.

That cover takes me back...I think that was the only zine Paul Valcour ever edited. It was a good one, though...Mike Skeet was busy with TAPA at the time, and was also providing artwork for FilKONtario in its early years. I hope Mike and Paul will get copies of this.

Trouble is, I make only one copy for myself because money is so tight. Now I feel guilty. Hopefully they'll see it on Efanazines. I wish Paul had gotten around to the proposed second issue describing the actual convention experience, but as you say, the first is a good one.

I think Garth is doing the right thing. Based on my own readings, he didn't seem to be enjoying editing BCSFAzine. I hope Felicity will be able to get in tune with other members, and produce a clubzine the members can identify with. How long was Garth editor, anyway? I suppose I could dig out my past zines, but it would turn into an archaeological dig. I have zines that date back to when Steve 40 was the editor (I think). Did Tam Gordy ever have a hand in editing the zine?

Garth is the longest serving BCSFAzine editor, with myself a close second and Steve Forty third. I'll look up the facts and figures and print them nish. But as far as I'm aware, Tam never served as editor. I believe Mr. Science was the shortest lived editor, producing but one issue in honour of Hugo Gernsback. Then he bowed out to lesser fen, proving he well deserves his reputation for great wisdom. Not to mention survival skills.

I can't afford to go to Seattle for Corflu, so it's unlikely that I could go to the UK for same, unless 6/49 finances me. I have filled out my Aurora, FAAn and Hugo ballots, all in the mail or e-mail. We've also nominated TAFF and DUFF candidates this year...it is always good to be involved, for as much as you can. I think the CanFAAns would be a viable award if there were more of us to participate and vote. Instead, it would look like we were gladhanding each other, handing ourselves

awards for our fanzine efforts. To see any level of viability, perhaps we need a list of Canadian fanzine fans so we know who we're dealing with, and how far we can go.

I'd love to see a complete list of active zinefens, find out how many there are. On the other hand, your idea of a few people glad-handing each other is positively inspirational. Why not go whole hog for efficiency and lack of expense? I could simply award myself, declare ME the CanFAAn winner of best editor, best fanzine, etc. Give myself a trophy. Every year award myself a bigger and more elaborate trophy. Sooner or later other Canadian Fen would be so pissed off they'd start pubbing their ish in order to compete and deny me victory. But of course there are all kinds of ways for me to cheat, like allowing myself multiple voting privileges but no one else. The CanFAAn Award could become the Holy Grail of Canadian Zinedom. The annual award no one can win no matter how hard they try. I LIKE it..... no visible flaws... seems perfect logical... hmmm....

I haven't heard much from Lance Sibley about how the CUFF race is coming...yet to hear anything. He's pretty busy as a department head with Anticipation, but I hope he'll find the time to carry out his CUFFish duties.

As noted in the two articles upfront he is getting things underway. No sign of a trip report yet. Dang! The archive hungers for another CUFF Trip Report.....

Why is it so warm at SF meetings? Must have something to do with the amount of hot air that arises from the head table.

Not as hot as the air UNDER the table, but that's a different issue...

VCon 34 should be a very good time, especially with Tanya Huff as your guest. Don't forget to give her some time to do a little filking. She's gotten into that over the last five years or so, and she attends most FilKONtarios now, not as a guest, but as a member, just singing away on her guitar.

Ah, good that you mention this. I'll pass your suggestion on to the ConCom.

I did try to find a record of who won the Caspers, and who was nominated for them...can't find that information anywhere. It was Garth Spencer who was in charge of them at the time, so I hoped that he might have the information somewhere.

With the advent of social sites like LiveJournal, FaceBook, Twitter and others, if I thought I had a hard time keeping track of all SF sites on the web, that task got a lot tougher. If you are doing some research into fannish FaceBook sites, for instance, that sure would help. Websites of interest, too. I have noticed there is no Toronto fandom FaceBook site. Wonder if anyone local might like to start it up? (Don't look here. I know enough about FaceBook to have an operational page, but I know nothing of starting up FaceBook pages, and I don't really want to know.)

I'm on Facebook, including yours in fact, but I only check it once a month if that. I never seem to have the time to experiment anymore.



Tonight is our regular Third Monday pub night at Orwell's Pub and Grill around the Bloor and Islington area, so we should get ready for it soon. In about six weeks, Ad Astra 2009 will come around. We are planning... Yvonne's in charge of the space, science and technology panel track, I will be in charge of our fan table where we will be operating L&Y's General Store, we'll be running a quiet, little steampunk tea party, and we'll also be debuting out steampunk costumes, and Yvonne is doing a little something Harry Potterish as well. We will be very busy, and that should enhance our weekend.

Take care, and I look forward to the next issue. Always something of interest to read.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

From: DAVE HAREN, February 28th, 2008

Graeme,

Can't believe how fast things fly past these days.

I was amazed to hear about the John Carter of Mars movie. I can't wait, even if they make a mess of it it has to be better than nothing.

On another sad note, the passing of Phillip Jose Farmer so soon after Forry has carved a couple more lines in my facade.

Hope to write something about Farmer soonest. Some of his more obscure books are among my favourites.

Anyway had to get this off before the end of the month.

And the irony is, there was no deadline to meet after all. We'll see how preparations for the next issue work up...

Warmest Regards, Dave Haren

INFORMATION RESOURCE!

Permanent: Upcoming Conventions / Local Events / Local Clubs

Rotating: Canadian Sci-Fi Web Sites of Interest

Next Month: Canadian Sci-Fi Awards

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

SOURCES: < <http://www.locusmag.com/Conventions.html> > & < <http://www.sfnorthwest.org/northwestcons.html#cons> >

STARGATE SG-1/ATLANTIS MEDIA APR 2-4, 2009 BURNABY, B.C.

< <http://www.creationent.com/cal/sgvan.htm> >

EMERALD CITY COMICON COMICS APR 4-5, 2009 SEATTLE, WA:

< <http://www.emeraldcitycomicon.com/> >

NORWESCON 32 MAJOR REGIONAL SF CON APR 9-12, 2009 SEATAC, WA:

< <http://www.norwescon.org> >

SAKURACON 2009 ANIME APR 10-12, 2009 SEATTLE, WA: < <http://www.sakuracon.org/> >

CALGARY COMICS & ENTERTAINMENT EXPO COMICS APR 25-26, 2009 CALGARY, ALBERTA: < <http://www.calgaryexpo.com/> >

2009 EATON SF CONFERENCE ACADEMIC APR 30 – MAY 3, 2009 RIVERSIDE, CA:
< <http://eatonconference.ucr.edu/> >

WORLD HORROR CON 2009 HORROR APR 30 – MAY 3, 2009 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA:
< <http://www.whc2009.org/> >

ZOMPIRE UNDEAD FILM FESTIVAL MAY 15-17, 2009 PORTLAND, OREGON:
< <http://www.zompire.com> >

CONCOMCON 16 CON RUNNERS CON JUN 5-7, 2009 SURREY, B.C.
< <http://www.swoc.org/ccubed/> >

ANIME EVOLUTION ANIME JUN 12-14, 2009 VANCOUVER, B.C.
< <http://www.animeevolution.com/> >

FIESTA CON / WESTERCON 62 MAJOR REGIONAL SF CON JUL 2-5, 2009 TEMPE, AZ:
< <http://www.fiestacon.org/> >

SPOCON GENERAL SF JUL 31 – AUG 2, 2009 SPOKANE, WA:
< <http://www.spocon2009.com> >

ANTICIPATION (WORLDCON 67) WORLDCON AUG 6-10, 2009 MONTREAL, QUEBEC:
< www.anticipationsf.ca >

VCON 34 GENERAL SF OCT 2-4, 2009 SURREY, B.C. < >

WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION FANTASY OCT 29 – NOV 1, 2009 SAN JOSE, CA:
< <http://www.worldfantasy2009.org/> >

LOCAL CLUBS

B.C. BROWNCOATS (FOUNDED APRIL 2004, FIREFLY & SERENITY FANS):
< <http://www.browncoats.ca/> >

B.C.S.F.A. – THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION:

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ADDRESS:

BCSFAZINE EDITOR (submissions, letters of comment, trades) – BCSFAzine, c/o Felicity Walker at < felicity4711@hotmail.com > or #209–3851 Francis Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V7C 1J6. BCSFAzine solicits electronic submissions and black-and-white line illustrations in JPG, GIF, BMP, or PSD format, and offers printed contributor's copies as long as the club budget allows.

BOOK DISCUSSION: Thursday April 9 @ 7pm "The Grind" coffee house and gallery. 4124 Main Street, Vancouver. This time we're reading "Snow Crash" by Neal Stephenson. In May, we're reading "Ubik" by Phillip K. Dick. In June, we're discussing "World War Z" by Max Brooks.

ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday April 10 – Send to Editor's Address/Email above.

BCSFA MEETING/PARTY: Saturday April 18 @ 7:00 PM, Garth Spencer's place—82 East 40th Avenue, Vancouver, near Main Street & 41st Avenue intersection (two major bus routes). Phone 604-325-7314 for directions.

BCSFAzine PRODUCTION: Friday April 24.

BCSFA YAHOO DISCUSSION GROUP: < http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assc/ >

B.I.F.F. MEETINGS (Burrard Inlet Fan Fellowship): – Every Friday (except long weekends & VCON weekend) @ **6:30 PM till closing time (officially 9:00 pm)**. A weekly social meeting for SF fans, founded June 11th, 2005. Held at The Eighties Restaurant, 110 West 14th Street (at Lonsdale) in North Vancouver: < <http://biff.realityfree.ca/> >

FANCOUVER: VANCOUVER SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY MEETUP:

< <http://scifi.meetup.com/278/> >

F.R.E.D. MEETINGS – Every Friday @ **8:00 PM**. Weekly social meeting for SF fans, founded May 3rd, 1979. Usually held at Boston Pizza, 1333 West Broadway @ Hemlock (2 blocks East of Granville), Vancouver.

For details & info: < <http://www.facebook.com/group.php> > or Ryan Hawe at:
< luxdoprime@yahoo.com >

MONSTER ATTACK TEAM CANADA: <

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MonsterAttackTeamCanada/?yguid=8788>

MONSTER FIGHTERS ONLINE CLUB (MATC): <

<http://movies.groups.yahoo.com/group/MonsterFighters> >

THE 13TH COLONY – VANCOUVER’S BATTLESTAR GALACTICA FAN CLUB:

< <http://13thcolony...> >

USS MAJESTIC NCC-78601 (REGION 10 STARFLEET -- VICTORIA):

< <http://www.uss-majestic.org/> >

VANCOUVER FIREFLY/SERENITY MEETUP GROUP: < <http://firefly.meetup.com/12/> >

CANADIAN SCI-FI WEBSITES OF INTEREST

CANADIAN SF -- THE CANADIAN SPECULATIVE FICTION FORUM:

< <http://www.pippin.ca/cgi-bin/YaBB/SF/> >

FANDOM.CA: < <http://www.fandom.ca/> >

THE MERRIL COLLECTION: < http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/uni_spe_mer_index.jsp >

NCF GUIDE TO CANADIAN SF: < <http://www.uleth.ca/.edu/runte/ncfguide/> >

SF CANADA: < <http://www.sfcanada.ca/> >

SF SITE: < <http://www.sfsite.com/home.htm> >



COLOPHON

WCSFAzine Issue # 19, March 2009, Volume 3, Number 3, Whole number 19, is the monthly E-zine of the West Coast Science Fiction Association (founded 1993), a registered society with the general mandate of promoting Science Fiction and the specific focus of sponsoring the annual VCON Science Fiction Convention (founded 1971).

Anyone who is a paid member of VCON 33 or who has paid a membership fee of \$5.00 to WCSFA is a member of WCSFA till noon, Friday, October 3rd 2009 (when VCON 34 registration opens). No other criteria applies. Said membership involves voting privileges at WCSFA meetings.

Current Executive of WCSFA (effective recent 2009 Annual General Meeting):

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MEMBER-AT-LARGE: *Garth Spencer.*

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WCSFA Website: < <http://www.user.dccnet.com/clintbudd/WCSFA/> >

WCSFAzine *IS* a fannish E-zine publication sponsored by WCSFA to promote and celebrate every and all aspects of the Science Fiction Community on the West Coast of Canada.

You can download the latest issue (and past issues) from < <http://efanzines.com> > or contact the Editor at: < rgraeme@shaw.ca > and ask me to email you a PDF version.

WCSFAzine is not intended to be an information newswire service, or an industry promotional outlet, but rather an eclectic ongoing anthology of bits and pieces of nifty rumours and misinformation as viewed through a fannish lens. You can expect the focus to be on the West Coast, but with a peripheral vision including the entire world of fandom. Anticipate info on upcoming books, fannish events, local clubs and conventions, film reviews, short essays, weird cover art, spin doctor publicity announcements, peculiar speculations and astounding bits of trivia to put you in touch with your fannish heritage.

Anyone (even non-members) may submit short articles, mini-essays, letters of comment, art fillers (small pieces of art) and/or cover art to the Editor at:

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