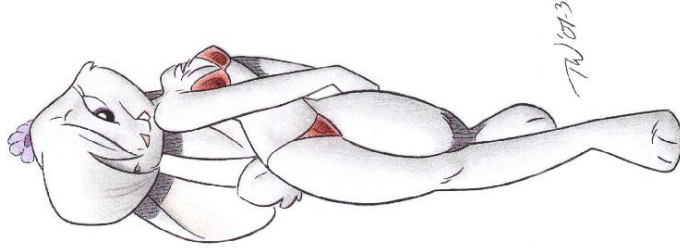


# BCSFAzine 365

Vol. 31 no. 10 \$3.00 October 2003



\* RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY \* COME AGAIN SOME OTHER DAY \*

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# OCTOBER EVENTS

\* WCSFA executive meeting and AGM – you get to elect new officers (including the editor)! Be there or be semicircular!

Oct. 1, 7PM	<b>Lois McMaster Bujold signing <i>The Paladin of Souls</i></b>	at University Book Store main branch, 4326 University Way NE, Seattle WA 98105; Tel. 206-634-3400 or 1-800-335-7323 (outside local area)
Oct. 3, 7PM	<b>Terry Pratchett signing <i>Monstrous Regiment</i></b>	Kane Hall, (University, Seattle) Room 130; <b>Free tickets required to guarantee a seat</b>
Oct. 3 – 5	<b>Anglican XVI</b> (British media con)	SeaTac Radisson, SeaTac, Washington
Oct. 4	<b>Tales of the Lost Formicans</b>	Last showing at UBC's Frederic Wood Theatre
Oct. 5, 2PM	<b>Robin McKinley signing <i>Sunshine</i></b>	at University Book Store main branch above
Oct. 9, 7PM	<b>Book Discussion Group</b>	"The Brickhouse" 730 Main Street, Vancouver. Book to be discussed: <i>Lords of Light</i> by Roger Zelazny
Oct. 10-12	<b>VCon 28 AND WCSFA elections</b>	Days Hotel Surrey, Surrey, BC
Oct. 15, 7PM	<b>Brian Herbert signing <i>Dune - The Machine Crusade</i></b>	University Book Store main store branch above
Oct. 17	<b>BCSFAzine 366 deadline</b>	
Oct. 17 – 19	<b>Incon 2003</b>	DoubleTree Hotel, Spokane, Washington
Oct. 18, noon	<b>Feeding Frenzy</b>	Bon's Off-Broadway, 2451 Nanaimo Street, Vancouver.
Oct. 18, 7PM	<b>BCSFA A.G.M. MEETING</b>	election of executive, at Kathleen Moore-Freeman's, 7064 No. 1 Road, Richmond
Oct. 20, 7PM	<b>Spider Robinson signing <i>Callahan's Con</i></b>	at University Book Store main store branch above
Oct. 24-26	<b>RingCon</b> (Tolkien con)	Sheraton Tacoma Hotel
Oct. 26	<b>Toy and Collectables Show</b>	Heritage Hall, Vancouver, BC

## Plain Speaking

So far, as your editor, I've managed to lose membership cheques, lose track of how long memberships run, and never quite figured out what articles here would best serve our membership. Got any suggestions?

### What I Learned from Editing BCSFAzine

Some things that I learned are actually common to editing any kind of fanzine. You have to keep your materials where you can find them and identify them, and this I haven't done very well. The materials include not only "overset", like the illustrations or articles that are not particularly time-bound, but also your mailing list and its updates. I have to apologize to some recipients, like Eugene James and the famous David Langford: I kept forgetting to send you .TXT instead of .PDF versions of BCSFAzine.

In the case of a clubzine, you *must not* neglect the expiry dates on membership/subscriptions, as I did - you may not be able to depend on anyone else to reconstruct the expiry dates.

Another thing that only came home to me while editing BCSFAzine is the full extent of your editorial obligations: It isn't enough merely to attribute the source of every quotation, or paraphrased information. I neglected to ask permission to quote people, fanzines, websites, and to run illustrations, as Ulrika O'Brien pointed out in *Chunga* #5. That was my fault.

And I broke another cardinal rule. People generally can't take criticism. When it's understated or anonymous, they don't get it, and when you name names, they just get angry and feel attacked and don't get the point. Besides that, whatever you say is going to go places, and be "reinterpreted", in ways you can't possibly expect.

## Locs

### Michael Morse, 30 August 2003

*September Events*: I have several free tickets to "Lord of the Things" somewhere. I'll try to find them.

*Con Report: Westecon 56*: Good con report! I'm glad to hear getting across the border isn't too hard. I might want to go to a con in the States someday. Good button suggestion.

*Calendar - Vancouver Comicon*: I'm looking forward to this. I haven't had a chance to shop for cheap old comics for a long time.

*Gatecon 2003*: I have no interest in *Stargate SG-1*, but it occurred to me the convention might be fun anyway, just for its

connish aspects. (Then again, it could be a Creation con.) Plus it's in Richmond. I could tell Corin Nemeck that I liked *Parker Lewis Can't Lose*, and ask him why he was cast as Harold Lauder in the TV mini-series of Stephen King's *The Stand*. I could tell Don Davis that I liked his character, Colonel Briggs, on *Twin Peaks*, and congratulate him on his calm, precise delivery of the Colonel's speeches. I'll check Gatecon's web-site and try to get an impression of what to expect, and whether it's too expensive.

*Ditto 16*: From its description, it sounds like that fannish fandom for which you've always been looking might be found at this con, Garth.

*((And naturally I can't afford it. Figures.))*

*Fanzines*: "Let's see: what fanzines have we received in the past six months or so, since I last listed our trades?" What about *This Is What Happens When You Don't Eat Your Vegetables*, *Drawings of the Vancouver Goth Scene*, *Who Copies the Watchmen?*, and the zine you're holding right now?! ☺

*((Oh, yeah. Your mini-comics. You sure you can't do a serialized storyline, like Colin Upton did?))*

*Opuntia* - Great zine—my favourite of all the zines I inherited from you when you had to get rid of your surplus. Dale Speirs is a honest zine-trader: a few months ago I sent him some of my mini-comics and he sent back some Opuntiae and a thank-you note. In appreciation I want to send him detailed LOCs on each zine, but I can't think of anything to add!

*Getting Into the News* - Could Mimick go to the media with her story?

*Goth House* - I bought a copy of *Goth House* from Paul Carpentier. It was a fun comic. I've got to remember to get around to writing Julie McGalliard a LOC to that effect.

*Dark Laundry*: This was predicted by *Almost Live!* back in the mid-nineties. They did a commercial for a fictional occult detergent called Gothic which contained black crystals that mystically trapped light, thus taking it out of your clothes.

*Media News*: "*Doctor Who: 2B or Not 2B*" - "(Presented almost entirely unedited from the hand of Ray Seredin.)" Earlier this weekend, I proofread a nice short story by Ray. I'd be happy to do the same for "Media News."

*New Battlestar Galactica?* - The old *Battlestar Galactica* was disappointing, in that it was basically a western, only one with *Star Wars*-era production values, but I have even lower expectations for the new series. It's probably going to have that boring look that all

new television has, painfully self-conscious writing, and misandrist female characters, and it could still be a western in space.

*Books in Review: The Action Hero's Handbook* - This book sounds fun.

There had better be a good reason for the subsequent *Action Heroine's Handbook* beyond a politically-correct completeness. I hope that the reason is that both books poke fun at action hero clichés (while ostensibly believing in them), and over the years action heroines have developed their own peculiar ones.

*The Art of Shen Ku* - This book also sounds cool, as well as marketed at some people I know.

*How to Be a Villain* - I like Peter Anspach's Evil Overlord List. Fewer stories would be frustrating if the villains therein followed these rules.

*Art Credits*: Hey, my art's not in this issue!

*Hrothgar Weems, August 30, 2003*

Way to go, Garth! At last your contempt for yourself is unmasked. At this rate you'll alienate everyone in Vancouver fandom by VCon; everyone in western Canada by Christmas ... who knows? Maybe they'll declare open season on you throughout the Western Seaboard!

*(Dear Arch-Nemesis: No-one this side of the Rockies actually says "Western Seaboard". -GS)*

*Allegra von Troppo, August 31, 2003*

How DARE you talk down to BCSFAns and VCon committee members in print! In *BCSFazine!* In PUBLiC!!! What gives you the right to denigrate Vancouver fans?? Just before a VCon, yet!! ... *(much snipped)*

*(You still haven't forgotten our meeting in Kamloops, have you.)*

*Lloyd&Yvonne Penney, penneys@netcom.ca, 1706-24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON, M9C 2B2, September 11, 2003*

#363...After reports and comments that the club was moribund if not dead, with 8 members left, I can see where there comes a time to refocus or start fresh. I think you've tried to contact lots of past

members to see if they'd be willing to come back and rejoin. How successful has this been? I've seen Lisa Smedman's name on the Trumpeter Gaming Club website recently. What is the response of the existing membership and interested parties? Is a club worth carrying on and keeping, or is a reinvention necessary?

The Auroras were handed out at Torcon...if you don't have them already, they'll be listed on Dennis Mullin's Aurora site.

I see mention of Kathleen Moore-Freeman. Met her at Torcon, and she gave me issues 2 and 3 of *Why You Got This Zine*. Issue 3 is dated 2003, and issue 2 is dated 1988. Fifteen years, that's not too many...

I also met Karl Johanson at Torcon, and told him that I plan to dredge out some old stories of mine for *Neo-Opis Magazine*. I have no illusions about reviving any writing career, but I thought I should see what could be done with some old stuff for a new audience.

For your membership info form...you've got my name, address and telephone number, and e-mail, I don't have a website, I prefer to get this zine by e-mail because it helps the club treasury, and my birthday is June 2, 1959. Old pharthood is just around the corner, if it isn't already here.

364...I haven't even had a chance to print it out for myself. The job hunt still continues, but with nearly no results. I've had two interviews in six months, and I'm sure the EI will be running out in a short time. I don't want to have to fall back on telemarketing, but if I have to...

How do you suppress filkers? Refuse to give them empty function space after midnight. Works every time; trust me on this one.

Seattle did win its NASFiC bid, and will call its convention CascadiaCon. Vice chair of this convention is Alex von Thorn of Toronto.

Now that Torcon is done, reviews are mixed. I shall try to be an objective as I can on this one... Some areas were disorganized, such as publications and programming, but other events like the Hugo ceremonies, were very smooth and speedy. Spider Robinson rocked as MC, and I'd like to see him do it again. He added speed and some excitement to the proceedings, and there was a level of Cancon I hadn't seen before. Excellent stuff. Over all, in spite of all the years of politicking, Torcon 3 was a good convention, and I had a great time, meeting people I hadn't seen in 5, 10, even fifteen years. It was a family reunion for me. We directed our efforts to helping the LA in 2006 Worldcon people, and they won. If you'd like to go to L.A.con IV in three years, and you don't want to go and buy US funds, Yvonne and I are Canadian agents, and you can buy your memberships through us with a cheque. Check out the website at

[www.laconiv.org](http://www.laconiv.org), and there's lots of information for potential Canadian members.

I am taking a day off from the travails and disappointments of the job hunt, so I will wrap this up and get ready to go on a picnic for myself. I'll bring along some fanzines, too, and make some notes on comments. Take care, and I guess I'll see issue 365 RSN.

[Rajiv Witherspoon-Li, August 31/September 1, 2003](#)

Nice going, Garth. I've often wished I could tell off everybody who predated us in BCSFA; but I didn't think you would diss them publicly for not being the fans you *assumed* they should be.

You and I have talked over a lot of the omissions in past BCSFA events and recent conventions; how could you make sweeping generalizations about BCSFAs past and present, about previous VCon committees, and miss the *critical point*, all in one tantrum? ((*Okay, okay, so I was emotional and not thinking too clearly. Cut me a little slack, I've been silent about my unhappiness and frustration here for sixteen years.*))

[Ernest Wolfaang Friedrich Siegfried Gunther Klaus Inger Stroheim Ruprecht Hentzau Schleswig Holstein Trishtrash-am-Wiesen von Ulm, September 1, 2003](#)

Wenn ist das Nurnstuck gott un Slotermeyer? Ya! Beierhund das Oder die Flupperwald gersput! ((*What he said. -GS*))

## Birthdays this October:

- 3: Cecilia Griffith, con hiebner
- 4: Harry Andruschak, Darryl Huber
- 7: Philip Freeman
- 10: Doug Finnerty
- 14: yuki witherspoon-li
- 17: Alan R. Betz
- 21: Vicki Oates
- 25: Jim Miyashita, Luanne Robinson
- 26: Bruce Hawick

Come, now: how many of you remember con hiebner's handmade chocolates? Harry Andruschak's letters? Darryl Huber at Westercon? Vicki Oates and the Leather Goddesses? Or do I have to explain who Bruce Hawick and yuki witherspoon-li are? Well, maybe I have to. If

you want to send any and all of these unique characters some birthday cards ... well, maybe I have to dig up their addresses for you ...

## ADVERTISEMENTS

<p><b>DRAGONFLY MUSIC</b> 106 Harrison Village Mall 196 Esplanade (Box 118) Harrison Hot Springs, B.C. V0M 1K0 Tel. 604-796-9289 <i>10% DISCOUNT to card-carrying WCSFA members</i></p>	<p><b>BCSFAzine is on sale at WHITE DWARF BOOKS</b> 3715 W. 10th Avenue Vancouver, B.C. V6R 2G5 tel. 604-228-8223 email <a href="mailto:white dwarf@deadwrite.com">white dwarf@deadwrite.com</a></p>
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## STOP PRESS

(*Garth Spencer*)

*Books \* Fanzines \* Other Crap*

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## SF and Fandom News

THIS YEAR'S HUGO WINNERS are:

Best Novel - *HOMINDS* by Robert J. Sawyer  
 Best Novella - "Coraline" by Neil Gaiman  
 Best Novelette - "Slow Life" by Michael Swanwick  
 Best Short Story - "Falling Onto Mars" by Geoffrey A. Landis  
 Best Related Book - *BETTER TO HAVE LOVED: THE LIFE OF JUDITH MERZL*, Judith Merrill and Emily Pohl-Weary  
 Best Professional Artist - Bob Eggleton  
 Best Short Form Dramatic Presentation - "Conversations With Dead People," Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Directed by Nick Marck; Teleplay by Jane Espenson & Drew Goddard  
 Best Long Form Dramatic Presentation - *THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS*, Directed by Peter Jackson; Screenplay by Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens, Stephen Sinclair & Peter Jackson; based on the novel by J.R.R. Tolkien  
 Best Professional Editor - Gardner Dozois  
 Best Semiprozine - *LOCUS*, Charles N. Brown, Jennifer A. Hall, and Kirsten Gong-Wong, eds.  
 Best Fanzine - *Mimosa*; Rich and Nicki Lynch, eds.  
 Best Fan Writer - Dave Langford  
 Best Fan Artist - Sue Mason  
 John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer (not a Hugo) - Wen Spencer

Paul Carpentier, Sept 11, 2003

ADVENTURES:

**Ed Bryant** had (scheduled) quadruple/quintuple bypass heart surgery on the 11th. Updates are being posted at [www.wormholebooks.com](http://www.wormholebooks.com).

Ellen Datlow reported last week on [sff.net](http://sff.net) that Ed is doing fine.  
 (James Fiscus, Aug. 17)  
 (Patty Wells, Aug 17)

PRIX AURORA AWARDS

The 2003 Prix Aurora Awards were presented Saturday, August 30th, at Torcon 3 in the Concert Hall of the Royal York hotel. The afternoon ceremony had Marcel Gagné as Master of Ceremonies. The presenters were: Candace Jane Dorsey, Mark Shainblum, Doug Smith, Eric Gauthier, Dale Sproule, Christian Sauvé, Theresa Wojtasiewicz, Brian A. Davis, Ann Methé, Donna McMahon, and Paul Valcour.

*Best Long-Form Work in English* - *Permanence*, Karl Schroeder (Tor)  
*Best Long-Form Work in French* - *Le Revenant de Fomalhaut*, Jean-Louis Trudel (Médiaspaul)  
*Best Short-Form Work in English* - "Ineluctable", Robert J. Sawyer (Analog Nov/2002)  
*Best Short-Form Work in French* - «La Guerre sans temps», Sylvie Bérard (Solaris 143)  
*Best Work in English (Other)* - Edo van Belkom, editing *Be VERY Afraid!* (Tundra Books)  
*Best Work in French (Other)* - Due to insufficient nominations, no award will be presented for this category.  
*Artistic Achievement* - Mel Vavaroutsos  
*Fan Achievement (Publication)* - *Made in Canada Newsletter*, Don Bassie, ed. [webzine]  
*Fan Achievement (Organizational)* - Georgina Miles  
*Fan Achievement (Other)* - Jason Taniguchi, one-man SF parody shows

The Convention Business Meeting was held 1-2:45pm on September 1st, in the Royal York hotel at Torcon 3. One change was ratified: a nominee must now have a minimum of 3 nominations or 5% of the votes cast in the category (whichever is highest) to appear on the Aurora voting ballot.

There were no bids presented at the meeting to host 2004. The 2003 Prix Aurora Award administrator, Dennis Mullin is in charge of finding a host. So if you wish to host the 2004 Auroras, contact Dennis Mullin at [dmullin@sentex.net](mailto:dmullin@sentex.net) for more information.

(Aurora Awards website, Sept. 2, 2003)

*(Editor asks: How many people haven't a clue who the artistic and fan achievement award winners are? Maybe future Auroras should give a short background paragraph on fans and pros who may be unfamiliar. -GS)*

FORMER BCSPAN and contributor to BCSPAN John Mullock was one of the Kelowna people to lose his home to the Kelowna fire. It was burned to the ground but the pool shed survived along with the pool area.

Steve 40, Sept. 11/03

## WORLDCON FALLOUT

AS OTHERS SEE US. "Rebecca Eckler of Canada's *National Post* took an unprejudiced view of the Torcon Hugos:

"I wasn't happy about attending, to say the least, as it was a Saturday night, on the long weekend, and I could think of a trillion things I'd rather be doing -- like absolutely nothing -- than hanging out with a bunch of sci-fi geeks. (It's OK to call them geeks because they call themselves geeks. This year's Hugo winner, Canadian Robert J. Sawyer, even described himself that night as a "fat, bald geek who knows way too much Star Trek trivia.") (2 Sep) [EW]

A notable feat of telepathic reporting, since Robert Sawyer's Big One was presented last and (after getting substantially less polite) Eckler also brags about walking out halfway through the awards.' Another mordant comment, couched in tones of sartorial horror, was that "75% of those in attendance were wearing glasses'. How geeky of them."

*Ansible* 194, Sept. 2003

There was coverage on TV, Radio, and in the Press. I believe the number of Press Passes issued was between 60 and 100. There were a couple of documentaries being shot, as well as reporters for magazines. The CBC did some recordings of the Filk singing for radio.

Peter Jarvis, Sept. 8/03

## Oddy Knockies (Fandom News)

**VCON 28 plans to screen "Mutant Aliens,"** an animated film by Bill Plympton (creator of "Your Face," "The Tune," and other award-winning films). The feature will be accompanied by a trailer for his new film, "Hair High."

Plympton will not be in attendance, as he will be conducting screenings on the island of Macau at that time.

Time and date to be announced later, as our live speakers' schedules will take priority over a film.

-Paul M Carpenter, VCON 28 Chair, Aug. 21, 2003

James Ernest, of Cheapass Games will be coming back to Vcon this year. James has now made 5 straight Vcons, including one trip as

GOH - and is always one of our most popular guests. Writer Lynda Williams, who helped inspire much of our science programming last year will also be back this year.

Palle Hoffstein, Sept. 12/03

## EVERY BLACKOUT HAS A SILVER LINING

After the summer power blackout in eastern Canada and the northeastern U.S., a British Internet user wrote to his ISP:

> "I've noticed a dramatic reduction in spam over the last  
> day or so. The reduction coincided with the power  
> blackout in the US. Much better than all those filters  
> and spam catchers.  
>

> "In order to keep the spam volume as low, will management  
> please arrange for the US grid to collapse on a more  
> regular or permanent basis.  
>

> "Thanking you in anticipation of your prompt attention."  
(relayed to fmzfen by Dave Langford, August 2003)

## LOUIS RUSSELL CHAUVENET, 1920 - 2003

"**Mr. Louis Russell Chauvenet** died peacefully in his sleep on the night of June 24th, 2003. Russ was born in Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 12, 1920, and was raised near Charlottesville, VA, the oldest of six children. At the age of ten he became deaf as a result of bacterial meningitis. He attended Harvard University, Boston College and the University of Virginia. He worked in the computer field as a civilian employee of the US Defense Department from 1948 until his retirement. ..."

Arthur D. Hlavaty <[hlavaty@panix.com](mailto:hlavaty@panix.com)> 16 Aug 2003

"Russ attended Corflu III, and I realized a few weeks after the event that I'd made a major *faux pas* in not introducing him as the fan who coined the term "fanzine." (He also coined the term "prozine" but it's the former that really should have been noted at a convention celebrating fanzine fandom.)"

rich brown (DrGafia)

## ONLINE FANZINES:

Erika Maria Lacey's new apazine, *Taste Not The Pierian Spring* #1, is now on line at [efanzines.com](http://efanzines.com).

The first issue of John's new e-zine, *In a Prior Lifetime*, is also on line at [efanzines.com](http://efanzines.com).

Bill Burns (from [fmzfen@yahoo.com](mailto:fmzfen@yahoo.com)), Aug. 16/03

## **Pravda (Realnews)**

The European Space Agency plan to launch an unmanned probe to the moon.

What sets this apart from previous lunar missions pioneered by the US is that the ESA will be using a new solar-powered ion engine.

The Smart-1 is light (370 kg), almost 900 lbs, and cheap (less than \$200 million dollars). This is part of the European strategy of applying the "small is beautiful" paradigm, making lighter and more economical spacecraft than NASA.

As well, the Smart-1's engines have a longer period of use than chemical-based rocket engines.

<http://www.cbc.ca/storyview/CBC/2003/04/04/space030404>  
(Steve Kawamoto, Aug. 20, 2003)

## **Broken Saints**

Michael Morse's Wrap Party Report  
Thursday 11 September 2003  
at the Purple Onion

Initially, I had three volunteers interested to go with me--Fruvous, Ryan, and Ray--but one by one they bailed for various reasons. So, after a ride downtown graciously provided by Joe, I went in alone.

The invitation didn't say when it started, only that the web-cast started at 9:00 p.m., so to be on the safe side, I went by there at 7:00 p.m.--and the doors were closed. I came back at 8:00 p.m. and the doors were open. A guy standing outside said he could sell me a ticket for \$8 instead of \$10 because he was in one of the bands and they'd given him extra tickets to sell. However he didn't have change for a twenty, so I ended up going inside and paying the normal cover charge anyway.

In the foyer at the top of the stairs, I bought my ticket from the platinum-blonde woman behind the counter, the security guard stamped my hand, and there was a coat and bag check counter. At first, the security guard told me I'd have to check my bag, for a \$1.50 fee, but then he said I could take my bag with me. (Maybe he was impressed that I'd tipped the ticket woman.) There was some confusion while buying the ticket. The woman asked if I was "on the

list." I said I didn't know; I thought I might have been since I'd RSVPed Brooke Burgess. She asked my name; I told her. She said if I was on the list I didn't have to pay. I said that in that case maybe I \*wasn't\* on the list; Burgess had told me it would be \$10 for me.

She asked what group I was with. I said I wasn't with a group. She asked what individual, then. I said I wasn't with an individual, I was on my own. She said that wasn't what she meant...I began to lose hope of communicating with her, so I just paid the \$10. She said there would be free food and drink inside.

I looked at the pass, which was a letter-sized piece of paper folded into a square, with the information photocopied onto it. According to that information, the doors had opened at 7:00 p.m.! Only the lounge (or side room, as it was called on the program) was open, so I went in there. It was about half full. A band was playing very loud acoustic music. A bartender in a cowboy hat and black sleeveless t-shirt was serving drinks. I made my way across the lounge to an unoccupied sofa and sat down, laying my bag next to me. I noticed that when I had crossed the room to sit down, I had walked across the path of a large camera that was filming the band. I was afraid that I had been not supposed to do that and that that was why the sofa was empty, but the cameraman didn't seem to object. Then I wondered where the free food and drink was. Again crossing the path of the camera, something I would have to do many times over the course of the evening, I went to the bar.

I caught the bartender's eye and he came over. His nametag said "Yankee." Before ordering, I said, "OK, this is all free, right?"

Yankee: "No, nothing is free here."

Me: "I was told there was free food and drink."

Yankee: "Who told you that?"

Me: "The woman working at the counter out there, plus it was on the invitation."

Yankee: "The food and drink are only free for the performers."

Me: "Oh. How much is a Coke?"

Yankee: "\$2.50." (starts making one before I order)

Me: "OK. With grenadine and a slice of lemon, please."

Yankee: (gives me the drink)

Me: "Thanks." (puts \$1 in the tip jar)

Yankee: "That's bottomless, by the way."

Bottomless pop--finally, things were looking up. I went back to my sofa with my drink. I surveyed the room again. It occurred to me it would be nice to take photos. I got up again and looked for one of the people with a badge I'd seen earlier; finding none, I selected someone who seemed to be guarding the door to the main room. I walked up to him and asked him if he was one of the people

running this event. He replied, "I'm the \*sound\* guy, yes..." I asked "Do you happen to know if photography is permitted?" He said, "I think it's prohibited."

I wondered if Burgess were there, and whether I might get a different answer from him. I noticed an attractive girl on the sofa next to me--long kinky hair, horn-rimmed glasses, a green silk shirt worn untucked and loose yet following her curves, a pleasingly strong jaw. She seemed to have someone already, though, judging by the fact that she kept touching the man sitting next to her. I scanned the crowd--diverse. Roughly half male and half female. Some mainstream teenagers with the usual looks; a couple of guys my age with thinning long hair and beards; some fiftyish businessmen in suits; a couple of stoners; and one older fannish guy with long silver hair, wire-rim glasses, a soul patch, and a black t-shirt, holding a satchel in his lap. There was a guy that looked like a balder version of the Music Geek from \*Beat the Geeks\*, only with a Satanic-looking goatee.

I got my first refill. The band stopped. A DJ started playing music--boring reggae at first, but then rave music with a juicy keyboard sample. It was almost like dance music from 1993, but too repetitive for that era (when the genre was younger and more creative). Finally, I spotted the free food on a table at the back of the room. When I got there I discovered it was all pasta--"Pasta with Cream Sauce," "Pasta with Tuna," "Penne." I tried the penne. It tasted slightly sour--possible mayonnaise alert. I gave it the sniff test--definitely sour. I tried putting baking soda on it (I carry some with me for just such an occasion) hoping to salvage it and thus not have to waste food by abandoning it, but then it tasted like fish. So I did abandon it. An oily-looking, tanned, blonde teenage girl in a white tank top, who was sitting on a nearby sofa, guffawed when I shook my baking soda onto my pasta, but I couldn't tell if she was laughing at me or something else.

A young man came over and sat down next to me. He said his name was "Jager." He asked me how I was, how I liked the event so far, if I was having a good time, and what bands I liked. I said I was so-so, the event was OK, I was having a so-so time, and I liked anything that sounds good. He concurred with this last opinion, and said he liked some of everything, and would be willing to try anything new. He agreed with me that the rave music the DJ was playing was too repetitive. He said that a place called the Morocco had catered this event, and that our free food probably cost the promoters about \$150. He asked me if I was into computers, and said he liked Flash. I told him I'd recently discovered Flash can be used to make vector graphics, and that I wished I had the hard drive space and the

connection speed to download the massive Flash program file. He confirmed this, saying that Flash could take a bitmap image and turn it into a vector graphic, which is of course scalable with no loss of quality. He said I should get a new computer. Then he left, saying he was "going to scope out the territory." I kept writing my notes, and so didn't notice that what meant was that the door to the other room was open; eventually I saw in my peripheral vision that the lounge was starting to get empty, and noticed the open door to the main room. On the other side I saw a lot of candles.

I sauntered over to the main room, where Sanctuary (Vancouver's main goth night, every Sunday at 9:00 p.m.) is usually held. The speakers were playing loud rock/rap with an electronic texture. The room was more crowded than at Sanctuary. There were multiple cameras set up and a couple of small movie screens on either side of the stage playing what appeared to be trailers for Broken Saints. On stage was a drum kit and some other stuff. I couldn't see the front of the room very well because of the crowd. One of the cameras was set up at the back of the central dance floor, and next to it was a mixing board of some sort.

Three young men charged onto the stage. The one in the centre was wearing a hooded sweatshirt and dark glasses, which made him look like the Unabomber. He was smiling fiercely. He began speaking, saying that this evening was to celebrate the completion of two years of work. He thanked the sponsors, and said that they would be giving out some prizes tonight, including a cell phone. He pulled back the hood and took off the glasses; he was good-looking, with reddish-brown hair buzzed short and some short facial hair. Then I noticed that the movie screens were now showing what the cameras were filming and there was a subtitle: "Brooke Burgess." So this was he.

He called for a moment of silence for the victims of September 11th. He asked for thirty seconds, although I think we went longer. He said, "That puts tonight in perspective. That was a moment of silence for the nearly 3000 lives that ended two years ago today. And now, for the number one industry in the world, that kills a person every minute, the \*global arms industry\*, this is a \*moment of noise!\*" The band behind him began to play good, energetic, funky, heavy rock. Burgess rapped and sang. I couldn't make out any of the words, but it had a good rhythm.

When his band was done, he introduced another band called Perfect Strangers. (No Balki, though.) Their music was slower and more folky, not as much to my liking. Also, I couldn't find a seat in the main room, it was much hotter in there than in the lounge, and



I wanted a refill and wasn't sure if it would be free from anyone but the bartender who'd sold me the original drink. Thus, I returned to the lounge.

It was much less crowded, and much cooler. I got my free refill and noticed that something was being projected onto the wall. It looked like it might even be Broken Saints itself. I thought since I'd attended the wrap party I might as well read the actual work. It was an interesting new medium for comics--each panel was projected onto the same space one panel at a time, just long enough to read. The lettering was a computer font--Blambot Custom, I think--which looked surprisingly decent. This being a computer medium, some of the text and art was animated. This was used tastefully. The art was mostly in black and white and shades of grey, with frequent red, and the occasional judicious use of green or blue. The episode I was watching was "Chapter 7: Lucid." After a somewhat boring and pretentious start which slowly and methodically made basic philosophical observations on existence, it turned into a really neat and poetic (in a good way) comment on September 11th and the War on Terror. A nice parallel was drawn with words and images between two events in the Middle East, one about 2,003 years ago, and the other within the last couple of years.

I realized my abandoned food had been cleared away. I left my drink on the table with a note telling the waitress not to remove it; that I had just gone to the bathroom. After I got back, another Broken Saints episode was played. This was "Chapter 4: Epiphany." It wasn't as interesting, or as well-drawn, as the last one. It was more colourful, but not very well inked; the line quality was sketchy.

I realized that standing behind me and to my left was Peter Tupper. I hadn't seen him since the dead dog party at the last V-Con. He seemed friendly enough then, but I couldn't think of anything to say now, and it was too loud for anything I could have said to be heard clearly from where he was standing, so I decided to just stare at him until he noticed it, and then say something. We shook hands. He sat down next to me. He said he'd interviewed the Broken Saints guys a year ago. I asked him what he thought of comic itself, but he chewed his pasta and ignored the question. After a long silence he asked me, "Had you heard of this series before this?" I said that I had not. He did not say anything further until after another long silence; then he added, "These guys did this on their own, with their own money, plus some donations, and it took two years." Then, without a further word, he got up and walked away.

I went to the bathroom again. While I was there, I heard Burgess's voice booming through the speakers, talking about the

prizes. I wandered over to the main room. However, this was unlike Sanctuary, where it's a draw based on ticket number. Burgess said that the giveaways would go to whomever danced the hardest. I returned to the lounge. In the foyer I saw two very different people; one, a glam rocker with a ruffled boa collar, sunglasses, and Prince-like facial hair, and the other a big frat boy in a green football jersey. It doesn't seem like that big of a deal now, but at the time it seemed quasi-noteworthy, which I guess tells me that I must have been somewhat depressed and bored by that point.

After a while I decided I'd had enough, and figuring that I'd need to allow an hour's margin of error with the buses, I left. (I was right about the margin of error. It was only quarter after ten when I decided to leave, but I didn't get home until quarter after twelve.) While waiting at the bus stop, a film student who introduced himself as "Alleycat" struck up a conversation with me. Most of it is not fannish in content, but I mention it because when I said that I'd been at the wrap party for Broken Saints, he immediately recognized the title and elatedly said, "Wow, you were at a wrap party for Broken Saints?" He knew that the series had been going for two years and wondered if the fact that this was a wrap party meant that it had officially ended.

## Izvestija (MediaNews)

*Canadians Connect on New Animated 3D Edison Film August 19, 2003*

Vancouver-based Mercury Filmworks and Perfect Circle Productions are partnering on a new animated movie, *Edison & Nemo*, produced with a unique blend of stop-motion and 3D animation. The film is an adventurously comic reworking of the mythical and legendary inventor, Thomas Alva Edison. The film will be produced by Perfect Circle's Dean English (award-winning producer of the Genie nominated *Kissed* and the Grammy-nominated *Guitar*), directed by William Morrison (Much Music Video Awards Best Director 2001 and Juno and Grammy Award nominee) and James Dunnison (*Stuff, Organ Music, Celluloid Dreams*). The feature is exec produced by Karen Powell (*Something Else, On The Corner*) and Mercury's Clint Eland. ...

(forwarded from Animation World Network  
by Michael Morse, Aug. 21/03)

A federal appeals court rejected a lawsuit by *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* actress Chase Masterson (Leeta) against the dating service Matchmaker.com, ruling that a fake Internet profile posted with the star's image was not the company's fault, the Associated Press reported. ...

(forwarded from SciFiWire by Michael Morse, Aug. 21/03)

#### USA Orders *More Dead*

USA Network announced that it is renewing its supernatural series *The Dead Zone* for a third season, with an order of 13 new episodes.

The show also adds a new executive producer, Karl Schaefer (*Strange Luck*). The series is set to resume production this fall.

*The Dead Zone* premiere remains the highest-rated and most-watched original dramatic series debut in the history of basic cable, the network announced. ...

(forwarded from SciFiWire by Michael Morse, Aug. 22/03)

## Convention & Movie Calendar

(Note: titles in **bold** are conventions; titles in *italics* are movie premieres.)

### October 2003

October 3 - *Bad Santa* - *Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star* (James Spade movie) - *Hidalgo* - *Mystic River* - *Out Of Time* - *Scary Movie 3* (satire)

Oct. 3 - 5: **Anglicon XVI** - at the SeaTac Radisson, SeaTac, Washington (Annual British Media Convention) Our media GOH is actor/musician Bill Blair. Our writer GOH is author **Donna McMahon**. Please check out the website [anglicon.com](http://anglicon.com) for more details. Send the fliers to Anglicon, P.O. Box 75536, Seattle, WA 98175-0536.

October 10 - *Intolerable Cruelty* - *Kill Bill*

Oct. 10-12 - **VCon 28**, at the Days Hotel Surrey, Surrey, BC. Your basic annual SF convention. Guests of Honour: Nalo Hopkinson (*Brown Girl in the Ring*, *Midnight Robber*, *Skin Folk*), Esther Friesner (*Chicks in Chain Mail*, *Men in Black 2*, *Death And The Librarian And Other Stories*); Science GoH Jordin Kare; Art GoH Adrian

Kleinbergen. Other attending guests include Spider and Jeanne Robinson (*Callahan's Con*) and Don DeBrandt. Rooms \$79/night: write the Days Hotel at 9850 King George Highway, Surrey, BC, Telephone (604) 588-9511, or fax (604) 588-7949. Memberships: U.S. \$40/Can. \$50. For more information, write to VCon 28, c/o 2116 Macdonald, Main floor, Vancouver, BC V6K 3Y5 or [vcon@shaw.ca](mailto:vcon@shaw.ca).

Oct. 10-12: **Ditto 16** at the Valley River Inn in Eugene, OR. GoH: Stu Shiffman, famous fanartist, prominent steampunk, Wodehouse, Holmes fan and Hugo winner. A make-your-own-program fanzine fans' convention. Room rates: \$95/night single or double, extra persons \$20/night, plus 9.5% sales tax; suites available for \$175/night. Membership rates: US\$45 / C\$70 including Sunday banquet. Make checks to Janice Murray, P.O. Box 75684, Seattle, WA 98125, U.S.A. See also the Ditto 16 website, <http://home.att.net/~ditto16/>

October 17 - *Eulogy* (Limited) - *The Runaway Jury* - *Veronica Guerin* - *The Whole Ten Yards*

Oct. 17 - 19: **Incon 2003** - at the DoubleTree Hotel, Spokane, Washington (General SF) Featuring: Elizabeth Moon Leslie D'Allessandro Hawes Seattle Knights And much more! Contact the DoubleTree Hotel at 1100 N. Sullivan Rd, Spokane or phone Reservations, 509-924-9000. For information on the Dealers Room, contact Roberta Rice at 509-535-1199, Gaming: For information, contact Wesley, [nightcrawler@wallpaper.zzn.com](mailto:nightcrawler@wallpaper.zzn.com) or Harry, [arcade@gunsmithcats.com](mailto:arcade@gunsmithcats.com). InCon Convention, PO Box 9112, Spokane, WA 99209-9112, U.S.A.

October 24 - *Beyond Borders* - *Gothika* - *In The Cut* - *My Baby's Mama* - *The Singing Detective* - *Ted And Sylvia* - *Who's Your Daddy?*

October 24-26: **RingCon** - "A Gathering of the Clans of Middle Earth", at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel. Special Guest Star Appearance By "Rumil" (brother of "Haldir") Jørn Benzon. For room reservations contact the Sheraton Tacoma at 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, Washington, or telephone 888-627-7044. RingCon is now seeking actors, performers, artists, artisans, storytellers, Tolkien experts, merchants and others interested in participating. Write to 12016 134th. Ave. KPN Gig Harbor, WA. 98329, U.S.A., telephone 1-800-359-5948 or E-mail: [info@ringcon.com](mailto:info@ringcon.com)

October 26 -- **Toy and Collectables Show** at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (Main & 15th Ave.), Vancouver, BC. For more information about this show, please call 604-322-6412 or e-mail Leonard S Wong at [ls Wong@uniserve.com](mailto:ls Wong@uniserve.com). See also <http://mypages.uniserve.com/~ls Wong/Comicon.html>.

### November 2003

November 5 - *The Matrix Revolutions* (science fiction? Action/adventure? Rasta? Keanu Reeves? You tell me)

November 7 - *Brother Bear/Elf - Jersey Girl - Love Actually*

November 14 - *Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind - Looney Tunes: Back In Action - Master And Commander: The Far Side Of The World* (a Russell Crowe movie)

Nov. 14 – 16: **Orycon 25** at The Doubletree Hotel Portland Columbia River in Portland, Oregon (General SF). Guests of Honor Author Guest of Honor: Nina Kiriki Hoffman, author of *Past the Size of Dreaming* and *A Fisful of Sky* Science and Author Guest of Honor: Ken Goddard, forensic scientist and author of *First Contact* and *Outer Perimeter* Editor Guest of Honor: Toni Weisskopf of Baen Books Special Editor Guest: Martin Greenberg of Tekno Books Featured Artist: Gail Butler Friends of Filk Guest: Uffington Horse OryCon 25 will be a weaponless convention. Smoking will be allowed in designated areas only. OryCon offers programming, workshops, small group discussions, an art show, a dealers' room, filking, dances, gaming, a masked ball, the Susan Petrey Scholarship auction, and much more! Room Rate: \$95 (plus tax) per night, for up to four people in a room; each additional person adds \$15 for rollaways. If you specifically ask for a river-view room you'll pay \$15 extra. The Interstate Wing is designated as the party wing. If you plan to hold a party, you need to make sure your room is reserved there. As before, the hotel will charge a \$100 deposit against damage/cleaning for open parties (they do this for all groups, not just OryCon). Open parties also need to be registered in the convention office. The best way to book a room is to call the hotel directly at 503-283-2111. You can also book your room through the hotel's web site, using the "Group Code" ORY for OryCon Non-party or ORP for OryCon Party. Memberships Until 10/1/03: \$40.00 Children age 6-12 are half price. Children 5 and under are free. Children must be accompanied by an adult with a membership. Memberships will be limited to a total of 1600. Contact us by email:

ory25vicechair@yahoo.com, or [Orycon25Chair@attbi.com](mailto:Orycon25Chair@attbi.com); or write to: OryCon 25, PO Box 5464, Portland, Oregon 97228-5464; or telephone: 503-646-0731.

Nov. 18 (7 pm): **Alex Ross signing *Mythology*** -- Kane Hall, University of Seattle. Further information will be forthcoming. University Book Store main branch 4326 University Way NE Seattle WA 98105 206-634-3400 or 1-800-335-7323 (outside local area)

November 21 - *Barbershop 2 - Dr. Seuss' The Cat In The Hat* (a Jim Carrey movie) - *Radio*

November 26 - *The Haunted Mansion* (an Eddy Murphy movie) - *In America - Timeline*

November 29-30th: **Kumoricon** - Oregon's Premier Anime Convention at the DoubleFree Inn, Eugene, OR. Featuring "... all the usual anime-con activities: anime watching, a cosplay contest, a dealers room, an AMV contest, and much more! Reservations: contact The DoubleFree Inn Eugene/Springfield, 3280 Gateway St., Springfield, OR 97477. (Right off I5, next to the Gateway Mall). Memberships: There will be different prices for pre-registration and at the door. We will be accepting pre-registrations shortly. You will be able to pay with a credit card (probably via Paypal), or by sending us a check in the mail. You can get in touch with us at the tunac web forum, located at <http://tunac.uoregon.edu/forum/viewforum.php?f=7>.

### December 2003

December 5 - *The Last Samurai* (a Tom Cruise movie)

## Fanzines

by *Ted White*

Fanzines are a basic part of science fiction fandom, having been in existence as long as fandom itself – the past 70 years. Fanzines are a reflection of many fans' interest in the printed word and amateur publishing. The publication you are reading this in is a fanzine, but a specialized one. A

variety of other fanzines are also available – many of them by request – and this column will cover some of them each issue.

All fanzines are published as a hobby and lose money. Their editors appreciate money to defray their expenses and sometimes list single-copy or subscription prices, but they appreciate even more your written response – a Letter of Comment, or LoC. Feedback – better known in fandom as “egoboo” – is what fanzine publishing is all about.

Check out the fanzines below and broaden your participation in fandom.

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This time around we’re going to look at four fanzines, each of which has had previous issues reviewed here.

**MIMOSA** #30 (Rich & Nicki Lynch, P.O.Box 3120, Gaithersburg, MD 20885; email to [fiawol@cdcug.org](mailto:fiawol@cdcug.org); \$4.00 a copy) is the *final* issue of *Mimosa*, coming after two “best of” issues (#s 28 & 29) and it features 21 (!) contributions plus editorial and no letter column, in 68 pages. This is *Mimosa*’s swan song and goodbye, but it is so jam-packed with material that none of its contributions stands out; all are swamped by the surrounding material. That’s a shame, because much of the material deserves more attention than it will get here. I’m reminded of a friend who had a story published in a fat Barnes & Noble mystery anthology – his story was but one among 100, all new and none over 3,000 words long. “I wish I’d sold it somewhere where it stood a chance of being noticed,” he lamented. *Mimosa* #26 was reviewed here in February 2001 and #28 in August 2002.

**THE KNARLEY KNEWS** #101 (Henry L. Welch, 1525 16th Ave, Grafton, WI 53024-2017; email to [welch@msoe.edu](mailto:welch@msoe.edu); \$1.50 or adequate response) has been plugging along steadily, six times a year, and has now passed its 100th issue. By keeping his sights low and relatively unambitious (averaging 20 page issues) and by maintaining a regular stable of contributors and columnists (Gene Stewart and Rodney Leighton contribute columns to this issue), Welch is able to produce a consistent fanzine on a regular schedule. What *The Knarley Knews* lacks in excitement it makes up for with an ongoing community of readers and contributors. *The Knarley Knews* #86 was reviewed here in April 2001.

**ARGENTUS** #3 (Steven H Silver, 707 Sapling Lane, Deerfield, IL 60015-3969; email to [shsilver@sfsite.com](mailto:shsilver@sfsite.com); published once a year for \$5.00 a copy or “the usual” – letters, contributions, other fanzines in trade) has been developing as a fanzine faster than an avowed annual schedule might suggest. Silver has abandoned the running heads which cluttered the first issue and *Argentus* has evolved into a looser and less-pretentious but more solid fanzine which has established its own distinct personality. This issue has 56 pages (counting covers) and nine articles before the letter column. Following the letters is *Argentus*’s special feature, the “Mock Section” in which fictitious books or movies are reviewed. This time four fictitious places are visited in “Travel Reports.” *Argentus* #1 was reviewed here in November 2001.

**CHUNGA** #5 (Andy Hooper, Randy Byers & Carl Juarez, 1013 N. 36th St, Seattle WA 98103; email to [fanmailaph@aol.com](mailto:fanmailaph@aol.com), [rbyers@u.washington.edu](mailto:rbyers@u.washington.edu), or [cjuarez@mvrealbox.com](mailto:cjuarez@mvrealbox.com); \$3.50 a copy) is also maintaining a roughly bimonthly schedule, although Byers was the most recent TAFF winner and managed to squeeze in a trip to England. *Chunga*’s 34 pages (including excellent covers by D. West) are the best-designed and best-looking of these four fanzines. The five articles include two by Brits (Dave Hicks and the long-vanished Graham Charmock – what a delight to see him in a modern fanzine!), and maintain a high standard complementary to their visual presentation. In other words, *this* is what a really good fanzine is like. *Chunga* #1 was reviewed here in September 2002.

## Colophon

**BCSFAzine** © October 2003, Volume 31, #10, Issue #365 is the club newsletter published by the B.C. Science Fiction Association, a social organization. Single copies \$3.00 each. For comments, subscriptions, suggestions, and/or submissions, write to: BCSFAzine, c/o Box 15335, VMPO, Vancouver, B.C. CANADA V6B 5B1, or email [hrothgar@bcn.bc.ca](mailto:hrothgar@bcn.bc.ca).

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