



The newsletter of the B.C. Science Fiction Association

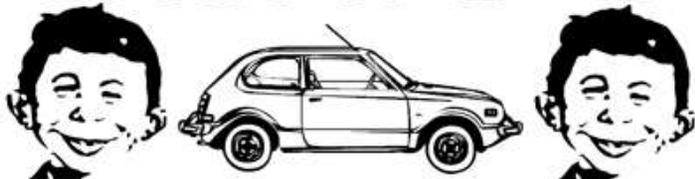
#399

\$3.00

August 2006

The Anti-Drinking-and-Driving Organization That's Totally

MADD



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Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead..... masthead
Felicity Walker ... cover, pp. 1, 3, 7, 13, 16, 26, 38, 44
Tara Wayne..... 5, 15, 41

Stuff You Won't Read

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For comments, subscriptions, suggestions, and/or submissions, write to: BCSFAzine, c/o Box 15335, VMPO, Vancouver, BC, CANADA V6B 5B1, or email garthspencer@shaw.ca.

BCSFA Executive

- President & Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-526-7522
Vice President: TBA
Treasurer: Kathleen Moore-Freeman, 604-277-0845
Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973
Editor: Garth Spencer, 604-325-7314
Keeper of FRED Book, VCon Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

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Our email list: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assoc/

BCSFA Events

- Friday, Aug. 11: BCSFAzine deadline - see Garth at FRED if you want to submit to issue #400
Saturday, Aug. 12: BCSFA meeting/party at Kathleen Moore-Freeman's place, 7064 No. 1 Road, Richmond; phone 604-277-0845 for directions.
Saturday Aug. 19 @ 7pm: August Feeding Frenzy at Knight & Day Restaurant, 3684 Loughheed Highway, Vancouver
Thursday Aug. 24 @ 7pm: August book discussion at "Our Town" café, 245 East Broadway, Vancouver.
Friday, Aug. 25: BCSFAzine production - distribution starts at FRED
Saturday, Aug. 26 @ 7pm: Kaffeeklatsch, our group exercise in hard-headed imagination, at Garth Spencer's place, 82 East 41st Avenue, Vancouver;

EDITORIAL

First, errata. For months I have been listing an out-of-date number for Barb Dryer; that is corrected in this issue.

The cover illustration last issue was actually conceived and lettered by Felicity Walker. The art was by Joe Devoy.



No. 1: Joe Devoy, *contemplating more cartoon ideas*

Also, last issue did not contain a science news section; this issue does.

By mistake I included *Opuntia* among the list of clubzines. *Opuntia* is unusual, because editor Dale Speirs devotes different issues to different contents (as mentioned under "Fanzines - Received", in this issue).

Second - egoboo! Among other more noteworthy people, I won an Aurora Award, for editing *The Royal Swiss Navy Gazette*. When I saw Dennis Mullin's email my mouth sagged open and I said "Bedad." One of the reasons I was surprised was that I've been editing and producing *BCSFAzine* every month, but only published one issue of RSNG in the eligibility period. There's some kind of irony there, but it's recognition. People know me. In fanzine circles, that is.

Come to think of it ... Vcon is hosting the Aurora Awards next year. Probably we ought to familiarize ourselves with Aurora Awards nominees from *other* circles than our own subfandoms. I trust you will look up the filk group Urban Tapestry, and other 2006 award winners, on the Internet.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INFERIOR SUBSTITUTES

Call for International Delegation to Draft Youth Space Resolution

VALENCIA, SPAIN - The Space Generation Advisory Council in support of the United Nations Program on Space Applications announced today that applications are being accepted for the Space Generation Congress that will convene this year on Sept. 28-30. The fifth annual congress, to be held in Valencia, Spain, calls for an international delegation of young professionals and students to define the future direction of the world space arena and to produce a joint youth space resolution. This year's congress will meet in conjunction with the International Astronautical Congress, a premier international space industry conference. ...

Information and applications for Space Generation Congress delegate positions are available at: <http://www.ExplorersWanted.com/> [see also <http://yurisnight.net> -GS]

(by Tim Bailey, Tim@YurisNight.net; forwarded July 10, 2006 by Greg Slade)

OpenOffice.org welcomes Microsoft's tentative moves towards OpenDocument

"OpenOffice.org welcomes the news that Microsoft has bowed to pressure from the marketplace, which is demanding Microsoft adopts ISO 26300 Open Document Format (ODF) as its native file format for all its Office products. Microsoft's announcement of official support for a proposed ODF converter is the first step towards meeting that demand, and will give users of its Office software partial access to the standard.

"Microsoft has previously tried to deflect the market pressure by proposing its own 'Microsoft standard', called 'Office Open XML'. OpenOffice.org calls on Microsoft to drop its proprietary 'standard'. Instead, Microsoft should give users of all its Office products the ability to use ISO 26300 as their default file format. This facility should be provided as a free-of-charge upgrade for all versions of MS-Office, as the marketplace today is dominated by older versions of the software. ..."

Links: The OpenOffice.org Community can be found at <http://www.openoffice.org>. To learn more of the project, see <http://about.openoffice.org/>. OpenOffice.org 2.0.3 may be downloaded free of charge from <http://download.openoffice.org>. Further information about the suite may be found at <http://www.openoffice.org/product>.

John McCreesh, July 6, 2006

As Others See Us

Transhumanist Dr Nick Bostrom talks about genetic modification of humanity and draws the usual line: "When I first got interested in this area a few years ago, the discussions would typically revolve around the question, "Is this science fiction? Or are we dealing in realistic future possibilities?" (Guardian, 9 May) [I]

Ansible 228, July 2006



Seed Vault in Norway

[AP, Doug Mellgren, 06/20/06] "This facility will provide a practical means to re-establish crops obliterated by major disasters," said Cary Fowler, executive secretary of the Global Crop Diversity Trust. Crop diversity is also threatened by "accidents, mismanagement and short-sighted budget cuts."

It sounds like something from a science fiction film: a doomsday vault carved into a frozen mountainside on a secluded Arctic island ready to serve as a Noah's Ark for seeds in case of a global catastrophe.

Norway's ambitious project, however, is on its way to becoming reality as construction begins on the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, designed to house as many as 3 million of the world's crop seeds. ...

<http://www.crmbuyer.com/story/XYhU9i58KARVPr/Norways-Seed-Bank-a-Plan-for-Doomsday.xhtml>

forwarded by Felicity Walker to BCSFA group, June 21, 2006

Microsoft Robots, Yet

[London, Parmy Olson, 06.20.06] *Domo arigato* Mr. Roboto: Ken Olson's 1977 assertion, that there was "no reason anyone would want a computer in their home," rarely fails to incite a knowing chuckle these days. Yet it seems that even some of the most tech-savvy among us can't help but roll our eyes in unknowing homage to the onetime boss of Digital Equipment, when it comes to talk of robots.

Microsoft, the company that helped revolutionize the erstwhile concepts about the personal computer, now wants to yank the field of robotics out of its long-time association with science fiction and *The Jetsons*. The software giant, currently coming to terms with the stepping down of its chairman and co-founder, Bill Gates, is previewing its first-ever robotics software.

Microsoft Robotics Studio is a toolkit for Windows that can be used by a [wide] range of users ...

http://www.forbes.com/2006/06/20/microsoft-gates-robots-cx_po_0620autofacescan03.html

forwarded by Felicity Walker to BCSFA group, June 21, 2006

Author Back to Give Keynote Address at Robot Hall of Fame Ceremony

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Timothy McNulty, Tuesday 20 June 2006] With the robot world increasingly seeming like a mash-up of real-life science and goofy pop culture, it makes perfect sense for former Pittsburgher Daniel H. Wilson to be the keynote speaker at Carnegie Mellon's Robot Hall of Fame ceremony tomorrow.

Wilson's humorous book, *How to Survive a Robot Uprising*, partially based on research by fellow scientists at CMU's Robotics Institute (he got his doctorate there last year), is being made into a movie starring Mike Myers of *Austin Powers* and *Saturday Night Live* fame. And like Wilson's book, CMU's ceremony honors the real and unreal, from industrial robots to ones famous from movies.

The lines between robotic fact and fiction have become so blurred lately that Wilson - who used to worry his fellow scientists wouldn't realize he was joking about robot uprisings - has become a voice of reason. ...

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/06171/699548-44.stm>

forwarded by Felicity Walker to BCSFA group, June 21, 2006

Make Your Own Energy

Bill Irwin, a homesteader in BC's Yalakom valley, took it upon himself to build and operate his own hydroelectric plant. A recent edition of *Maisonneuve*, a magazine of "eclectic curiosity" from Montreal, covered Bill Irwin's do-it-yourself approach, the setting, his background, and the scattered community of counterculturists in the area. The noteworthy thing about Bill Irwin's enterprise is that he found a do-it-yourself way to generate energy for himself and his small community; either that, or that he is a sort of dropout engineer without a license.

"Off the Grid: Bill Irwin's backwater hydroelectric revolution"
- *Maisonneuve* #20, summer 2006

UFO Hacker to Be Extradited

[Nigel Watson (NigelXL5)] - "After four years of legal wrangling and several hearings, British Home Secretary John Reid has signed papers to

extradite Gary McKinnon to the United States. McKinnon has until 18 July 2006, to make a final appeal against this decision.

"McKinnon is charged with gaining unauthorized access to U.S. security computer networks at a time when it was still recovering from its worst-ever terrorist attack on 11 September 2001. This is accordingly seen as equivalent to a terrorist attack itself on U.S. security networks. ..."

"Gary McKinnon's defense is that he was searching for evidence for the existence of UFOs and for the technology of free energy. ..."

Links:

http://english.ohmynews.com/articleview/article_view.asp?article_class=4&no=303990&rel_no=1

To pledge your support for Gary McKinnon or to add your comments online visit: <http://www.pledgebank.com/FreeGary> or

<http://FreeGary.org.uk>

References:

The Disclosure Project at: <http://www.disclosureproject.org/>

"Gary McKinnon: Complete Moron or Ufological Hero? Or both?" *UFO Review*, March/April 2006, Number 15 at:

<http://www.uforeview.net/documents/issue15.doc>

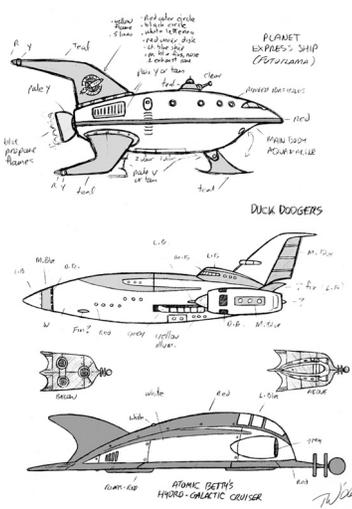
US District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Indictment at:

http://files.findlaw.com/news.findlaw.com/hdocs/docs/cyberlaw/us_mck1102vaind.pdf

US District Court, District of New Jersey, Indictment at:

<http://news.findlaw.com/hdocs/docs/cyberlaw/usmck1102njind.html>

forwarded by Felicity Walker to BCSFA group, July 10, 2006



Science-oid Events

Every second Monday (7-9 pm): **Perpetual-Motion Inventors & Gadgeteers Meet** at Ariel Café, 73 Kingsway near Broadway.

Aug. 19, 2 pm: **Red Bull Flugtag Vancouver** at Concord Pacific Place, near Science World, in Vancouver, BC. Free admission! Form your own team and enter your home-built aircraft! Entry rules and event news at www.redbullflugtag.ca.

Aug. 26: **all-day vehicle show** by The Vancouver Electric Vehicle

Association (<http://www.veva.bc.ca/>) at the Pacific National Exhibition, Vancouver, BC.

WRITERS' WORLD

2006 Aurora Awards

Toronto Trek 20 presented the 2006 Aurora Awards on Saturday, July 8, 2006. The winners are:

Best Long-Form Work in English / Meilleur livre en anglais: *Cagebird*, Karin Lowachee (Warner Aspect, Apr/2005)

Meilleur livre en français / Best Long-Form Work in French: <<Alégracia et le Serpent d'Argent>>, Dominic Bellavance (Les Six Brumes)

Best Short-Form Work in English / Meilleure nouvelle en anglais: "Transubstantiation", Derwin Mak (*Northwest Passages: A Cascadian Anthology*, Windstorm Creative)

Meilleure nouvelle en français / Best Short-Form Work in French: Montréal: trois uchronies, Alain Ducharme (*Solaris* 155)

Best Work in English (Other) / Meilleur ouvrage en anglais (Autre): *Tesseract Nine: New Canadian Speculative Fiction*, Nalo Hopkinson and Geoff Ryman, editors (Edge Publishing, July/2005)

Meilleur ouvrage en français (Autre) / Best Work in French (Other): *Solaris*, réd. Joël Champetier (www.revue-solaris.com)

Artistic Achievement / Accomplissement artistique: Lar deSouza [www.lartist.com]

Fan Achievement (Publication) / Accomplissement fanique (Publication): *The Royal Swiss Navy Gazette*, Garth Spencer, ed. (www.eFanzines.com/RSNG)

Fan Achievement (Organizational) / Accomplissement fanique (Organisation): Barbara Schofield (TT Masquerade)

Fan Achievement (Other) / Accomplissement fanique (autre): Urban Tapestry, filksinging [www.urbantapestry.org]

The nomination statistics, given on the Aurora Awards website, are:

286 Total nomination forms received (duplicates not counted)

268 Valid nomination forms

18 invalid forms (improperly filled out, etc)

Over twice as many people voted in 2006 as in 2005 (128 nominations last year).

Dennis Mullin to Garth Spencer, July 9, 2006
www.sentex.net/~dmullin/aurora/, July 16, 2006



No. 33: Garth Spencer, observed while musing, "why don't clubzines appear on the Aurora ballot?"

Among the Greats

"J.K. ROWLING was voted 'Greatest Living British Writer' by readers of the new UK *Book Magazine*, winning by an unspecified 'long margin'. Terry Pratchett came second; other familiar names on the list include Philip Pullman (6), Iain (M) Banks (14), Alasdair Gray (=19), Neil Gaiman (=21), J.G. Ballard (=28), Jasper Fforde (=36), Diana Wynne Jones (=36), and Michael Moorcock (=44). Muriel Spark appeared in 15th place as, presumably, Greatest Living British Writer Who Is Dead."

Ansible 228, July 2006

SF Canada Members' News

Tuesday, July 11, 2006: Edward Willett sells second novel to DAW

Edward Willett has sold a second novel to DAW Books for publication in 2007. The as-yet untitled book will be a stand-alone SF novel, not a sequel to *Lost in Translation*, which DAW is bringing out in mass-market paperback this October. (A *Lost in Translation* sequel remains a possibility for the future.)

Ed notes that the new book was born on September 20, 2005, during the Writing With Style workshop on writing speculative fiction taught by Robert J. Sawyer at the Banff School of Fine Arts, when he and fellow workshopppers were asked to write, as a classroom exercise, the opening lines of a story. The opening line Ed wrote became an unfinished short story, which in turn became the basis of the synopsis that sold the new novel to DAW.

Monday, July 10, 2006: Deborah Jackson novel now available for pre-release purchase

Deborah Jackson's new middle grade/YA novel, *Time Meddlers*, is now available for pre-release purchase on Amazon.com and Chapters.ca; the official release date is October 28.

Saturday, July 08, 2006: Simon Rose's fourth novel now available

The Emerald Curse, Simon Rose's fourth novel for young readers, is now available from Tradewind Books.

Thursday, June 29, 2006: Phyllis Gotlieb novel sold to Robert J. Sawyer Books

Phyllis Gotlieb has sold her latest novel, *Birthstones*, to Robert J. Sawyer Books. Sawyer writes on his blog: "... it is a wonderful far-future, off-Earth, spaceships-and-aliens novel set in Gotlieb's famed Galactic Federation. We'll be releasing it in the spring of next year."

Janine Cross's Shadowed by Wings reviewed by Publisher's Weekly

Janine Cross's new book *Shadowed by Wings*, book two of the Dragon Temple Saga, has been reviewed by *Publisher's Weekly*, the review finishing with the memorable line, "Think X-rated Tolkien set in the Middle East."

Monday, June 26, 2006: Eileen Kernaghan's The Alchemist's Daughter makes Our Choice list

Eileen Kernaghan's novel *The Alchemist's Daughter* made the YA novel list in the 2006 edition of *OUR CHOICE: Annual Guide to Canada's Best New Children's Books*. Notes Eileen, "There aren't a lot of fantasies on the list - contemporary realism remains the order of the day."

Claude Lalumière story chosen for Best New Erotica anthology

Claude Lalumière reports that Maxim Jakubowski will be reprinting his science fiction story "Different Flesh" in *The Mammoth Book of Best New Erotica 6*. This is Claude's third consecutive appearance in that "year's best" series. Both stories he published in 2005 have been selected for a "year's best" book (his story from *Tesseracts 9* story was chosen for *Year's Best Fantasy 6*).

Friday, June 23, 2006 Tony Pi second in Writers of the Future contest

New SF Canada member Tony Pi's novelette "The Stone Cipher" won second place in the Writers of the Future Contest, First Quarter 2006. Tony is a linguist, and this is one of several stories he has written which feature linguistics.

The Writers of the Future Contest is an international writing competition for new science fiction and fantasy writers. Entries are judged anonymously. Winners are invited to an all-expense paid trip to a one-week writing workshop and a gala award ceremony.

The judges in the first quarter of 2006 were Robert Silverberg, Anne McCaffrey, Algis Budrys and Eric Kotani.

Tony's story will appear in the *Writers of the Future anthology, volume XXIII*, to be published in Fall, 2007.

Wednesday, June 21, 2006: James F. Beveridge designs Andre Norton Award emblem

James F. Beveridge designed this emblem for the Andre Norton Award for Best Young Adult Science Fiction or Fantasy Novel of the Year, which will be used on the covers of the books that win the award, in the tradition of the Newbery and other distinguished literary awards. The gryphon is symbolic of Norton's Witch World series, while the starry background represents her young adult science fiction books such as *Storm Over Warlock* and *Star Rangers*.

The first Andre Norton Award was presented in May to *Valiant* by Holly Black (Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing).

Monday, June 19, 2006: A.M. Dellamonica nominated for Sidewise Award

A.M. (Alyx) Dellamonica's short story "The Illuminated Heretic" (*Alternate Generals III*, edited by Harry Turtledove, Baen) has been nominated for a 2005 Sidewise Award for excellence in alternate history.

Other nominees for the short form award are William Barton, "Harvest Moon" (*Asimov's*, September 2005), Kim Newman and Paul J. McAuley, "Prix Victor Hugo Script," Jason Stoddard, "Panacea" (*SciFiction*, September 14, 2005), and Lois Tilton, "Pericles the Tyrant" (*Asimov's*, October-November 2005).

The awards will be presented at LAConIV, the World Science Fiction Convention, in Anaheim, CA, in late August.

Sunday, June 18, 2006: Dave Duncan's *Children of Chaos* now on sale

Dave Duncan reports that his latest novel, *Children of Chaos*, is on sale in the US and "possibly" in Canada, where "Some stores have it, others seem to be waiting for the official release date of June 26."

[*The Lonely Cry website*, a tool for Western Canadian authors to promote their works, adds that "With *Children of Chaos* (Tor Books, June 2006) Dave Duncan will begin a two part fantasy series set in a new world, *Dodec*. A new fantasy tentatively entitled *The Starfolk* has sold to Patrick Nielsen Hayden at Tor, with the possibility of a series to follow."]

Author Writes Worst Book of the Year: Latest Bulwer-Lytton Winner

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) "Jim Guigli is the worst of the worst. His tortured prose is the winner of San Jose State University's annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest for bad writing. The retired mechanical designer impressed the judges with this passage from his detective story.

"Detective Bart Lasiter was in his office studying the light from his one small window falling on his super burrito when the door swung open to reveal a woman whose body said you've had your last burrito for a

while, whose face said angels did exist, and whose eyes said she could make you dig your own grave and lick the shovel clean.'

"The contest is named for Edward George Bulwer-Lytton, whose 1830 novel *Paul Clifford* began with the oft-mocked, 'It was a dark and stormy night.'

<http://www.ktvotv3.com/Global/story.asp?S=5137124&nav=1LFs>

Felicity Walker to BCSFA group, July 12, 2006

His Five-Year Mission: To Seek Out and Acquire New Awards

Canadian author Robert Sawyer's science-fiction book *Mindscan* has won the 2006 John W. Campbell Memorial Award, the world's top juried science-fiction award, at a July 7th banquet at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. The only other Canadian writer in the running, Robert Charles Wilson, came in second with his book *Spin*.

Robert J. Sawyer now joins the most-select club in all of science fiction, the seven writers who have won all three of the field's top awards for best novel of the year:

* the World Science Fiction Society's HUGO AWARD, which he won in 2003 for his novel *Hominids*;

* the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America's NEBULA AWARD, which he won in 1996 for his novel *The Terminal Experiment*;

* and the JOHN W. CAMPBELL MEMORIAL AWARD, which he has now won for *Mindscan*.

The 12 finalists for the John W. Campbell Memorial Award this year were:

Transcendent by Stephen Baxter (Gollancz)

The Meq by Steve Cash (Del Rey)

Child of Earth by David Gerrold (BenBella)

Mind's Eye by Paul J. McAuley (Simon&Schuster UK)

Seeker by Jack McDevitt (Ace)

Learning the World by Ken MacLeod (Tor)

The Summer Isles by Ian R. MacLeod (Aio)

Counting Heads by David Marusek (Tor)

Mindscan by Robert J. Sawyer (Tor)

Accelerando by Charles Stross (Ace)

The World Before by Karen Traviss (Eos)

Spin by Robert Charles Wilson (Tor)

Links:

<http://www.cbc.ca/story/arts/national/2006/07/08/scifi-mindscan-award.html>

<http://www.ku.edu/~sfcenter/campbell-conference.htm>

Robert J. Sawyer to BCSFA group, July 7, 2006

Meanwhile ...

"CHELSEA QUINN YARBRO is the latest horror/dark fantasy author to be declared a Living Legend by the International Horror Guild."

Ansible 228, July 2006

Bear and Williamson to receive Heinlein Award

"The Heinlein Society announced yesterday that the 2006 Robert A. Heinlein Award will go to Greg Bear and Jack Williamson. The Award will be presented at the Society's annual dinner, which will coincide with the World Science Fiction Convention in Los Angeles, California in late August.

"This is the fourth year for the award for outstanding published work in hard science fiction or technical writings inspiring the human exploration of space. The winners are selected by a panel of judges.

"Robert Anson Heinlein (1907-1988) was arguably the most influential writer in the science fiction genre. He received 4 Hugo awards and the first SFWA Grand Master Award. His 31 novels are rarely out of print and include *Starship Troopers*, *Stranger in a Strange Land* and *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*. His widow, Virginia Heinlein, authorized the creation of this award prior to her death earlier this year."

Posted July 7, 2006; see full article at:

<http://www.sfw.org/news//2006/06heinleinaward.htm>

forwarded by Richard O'Shea to sfnorthwest group on July 10, 2006

Bram Stoker Awards

NOVEL (tie): David Morrell, *Creepers*; Charlee Jacob, *Dread in the Beast*

FIRST NOVEL: Weston Ochse, *Scarecrow Gods*

SHORT: Gary Braunbeck, 'We Now Pause for Station Identification'

LONG: Joe Hill, 'Best New Horror'

ANTHOLOGY: Del Howison & Jeff Gelb, *Dark Delicacies*

COLLECTION: Joe Hill, *Twentieth Century Ghosts*

NONFICTION: Stephen Jones & Kim Newman, *Horror: Another 100 Best*

Books

POETRY (tie): Michael A. Arnzen, 'Freakcidents'; Charlee Jacob, 'Sineater'

LIFE ACHIEVEMENT: Peter Straub

SMALL PRESS: Necessary Evil Press. [ED]

Ansible 228, July 2006

Contests

Sept. 2-4: **29th Annual International 3-Day Novel Contest** in Vancouver, BC, the contest that challenges you to write a whole, original, unpublished novel in *just three days*. In practice, entries average 100 typewritten double-spaced pages. See www.3daynovel.com for background information, rules,

and registration form; submit with \$50 non-refundable entry fee, postmarked before Friday, September 1, 2006 to 3-Day Novel Contest, 341 Water Street, Suite 20, Vancouver, BC V6B 1B8; outlines before the weekend are permitted, but the actual writing must begin no earlier than 12:01 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2 and stop by midnight on Monday, Sept. 4 - any location, anywhere in the world. Collaborations are permitted (no more than two authors per novel). Copy must be typed, double-spaced, on 8.5 x 11" or A4 white paper, numbered pages, no folders, clips or staples; manuscripts must be postmarked no later than Sept. 8, 2006; include a 9.5 x 4" SASE plus Canadian postage or IRC, and a statement signed by a witness, confirming the novel's completion over the 2006 Labour Day weekend. Manuscripts will not be returned, but entrants will retain all copyrights; the winning author will be offered a publishing contract, and other entrants may develop or publish their novels as they wish. The winner will be announced in January 2007.

Dec. 31: deadline for **The National Fantasy Fan Federation 2006 amateur short story contest**. Stories must be original SF, fantasy, paranormal, and related genres. Submit in standard competition format plus \$4 fee, cash or cheque payable to Jeff Redmond (contest manager), 1335 Beechwood NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505-3830 or email to redmondjeff@hotmail.com for more information. Prizes are \$50 (first place), \$30 (second place), \$20 (third place), etc. All rights remain with author. For more information about the N3F, see www.nfff.org and www.scififan.org.

Sept. 30: deadline for the first annual **Penknife Press Short Story Writing Contest**. From the entries received, we will be creating an anthology of contemporary short stories that say something insightful about contemporary society. Some of the rules: Entrant must be 21 years of age. Contest begins at 12:00:01 a.m. Chicago Time on Saturday, July 15, 2006 and ends at 11:59:59 p.m. Chicago Time on Saturday, September 30, 2006. Submit your entry online to contest@penknifepress.com. Each entry must be 1000 - 5000 words. The story should have a social and/or political theme that reflects current events. Only one entry per person. More than one entry from any person or e-mail address will void all entries from that person or e-mail address. The following prizes will be awarded: First Prize: \$1,000.00. Second Prize: \$600.00. Third Prize: \$400.00. More information at <http://WWW.PENKNIFEPRESS.COM>. Copyright (c) 2003 by Penknife Press, Ltd., 7544 S. Phillips Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60649

SAVE TALEBONES MAGAZINE!

Talebones magazine is undertaking a major subscription push in order to keep going past December 2006. Patrick Swenson writes, "... Based on what renewals come in over the next month... we will see if *Talebones* can continue

on past 2006. ... We have Paypal ready to go if you'd like to go that route. Or you can send money order or check payable to *Talebones* to our physical address at 5203 Quincy Ave SE; Auburn, WA 98092." Issue #33 is already in its final preparation stage. *Talebones* is a worthy genre magazine that has exhibited at Vcons.

See also: *Talebones Magazine*, <http://www.talebones.com>; Fairwood Press, Inc, <http://www.fairwoodpress.com>.

Via Donna McMahon, July 13, 2006



No. 7: A science fiction fan reading a book (rarely observed in the wild)

How to Write (was: "Thog's Masterclass")

Eyeballs in the Sky Dept. 'His eyes ran like weasels over the faces of the other players ...' (Philip Jose Farmer, 'Attitudes', *F&SF* 10/53)

Dept of Spung! 'Even through two layers of combat armour, I felt her nipples brush against my back ...' (Karl Hansen, *War Games*, 1981)

Close Shave Dept. 'Moonlight ran up her cheek like a knife.' (Nancy Kress, *Beggars in Spain*, 1991)

Dept of Submersion. 'The impact rattled his bones, and he dog-paddled furiously before he realized that the flood was only waist-deep at the bottom, instead of wholly submerged as it would have been in the real world.' (James Stoddard, *The High House*, 1998)

Neat Tricks Dept. 'The priest's richer, deeper voice chased the Thiefmaker's objection right back down his throat.' 'The Thiefmaker tried to let a vaguely sincere expression scurry onto his face, where it froze in evident discomfort.' (Scott Lynch, *The Lies of Locke Lamora*, 2006)

Ansible 228, July 2006

New Releases

"Robert Sawyer's next novel, *Rollback*, will be published by Tor in April 2007, following full-text serialization beginning in the October 2006 issue of *Analog Science Fiction And Fact*."

Robert Sawyer, July 7, 2006

SMALL PRESS. "I thought it must be a hoax, but no: the latest book from Wildside Press is Jim Theis's 1970 'classic', *The Eye of Argon*." [SW]

Ansible 228, July 2006

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Sue Shi

- * Martial arts master
- * Ex-Intelligence agent "XX7"
- * alleged freelance assassin
- * daddy pays for everything

"Painful"

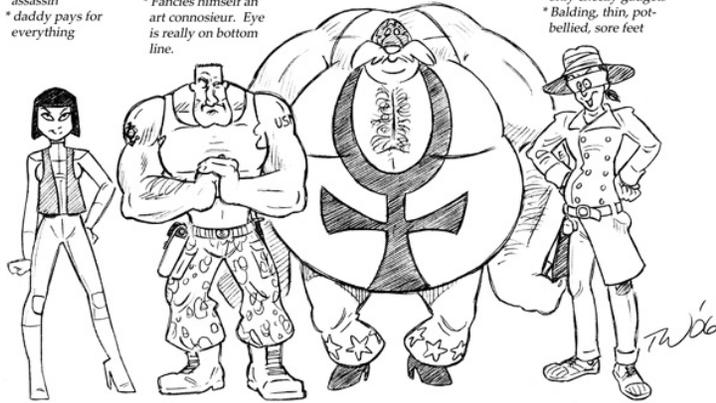
- * Sgt. Elwood R.E. Lee Payne, ex-USMC D.I.
- * Cashiered for improper relationship with certain arms dealers
- * Fancies himself an art connoisseur. Eye is really on bottom line.

The Magic Mountain

- * Real name Jesus Minudo Grandez
- * Ex-pro Mexican masked wrestler
- * Previous job as circus freak
- * Into flakey counter-culture & mysticism

Nimbus

- * Real name unknown but answers to "Cosmo"
- * 2nd. rate retired so-called superhero
- * No known "powers", only cheezy gadgets
- * Balding, thin, pot-bellied, sore feet



Flintheart Glomgold's Bodyguard, "Lost Kingdom of Prester John"

No. 3: *several fan types, in their secret freelance identities*

BCSFA: Members' Birthdays

Aug. 3: **Frank Skinner** is currently living and working in San Diego; he came originally from the US, became a Canadian citizen, and moved back to the US in order to take advantage of job opportunities. He is taking treatment for a bad case of punning, which prevents the development of authentic, Pythonesque humour.

Aug. 4: **Katie Kelly** is one of Allan Kelly's daughters; her superpowers are jewelry design, costuming, and a fanatical devotion to Duran Duran.

Aug. 6: **Christina Carr** is very busy in Vancouver's theatre scene and the film industry. Not satisfied with her challenges, she and husband Martin Hunger have started a new multi-purpose website, and they are also trying to found a Renaissance Faire in the Lower Mainland.

Aug. 9: **Carol Polok** is not appearing at FRED.

Aug. 12: **Shelly Gordy's** superpowers do not, as far as we know, include playing the ophicleide.

Aug. 16: **Bernie Klassen** is one half of the marital team of Paula Johanson and E.B. Klassen, authors of Ben and Lily. He is currently occupied with carpentry and market farming in Alberta. Unless he's gone back to library science. We've been out of touch for a while.

Aug. 17: **Vaughn Fraser** is a former VCon chair, truncheon, former BCSFA member, skillet, former ESFCAS member and former comics apa fan.

Aug. 24: **Jackie Barclay** is a former star member of the Leather Goddesses of Phobos, and now half of the marital team of Steve and Jackie Barclay, authors of several fine children.

Aug. 30: **Howard Cherniack** lives quietly in East Vancouver in a loft-style condominium that has a splendid view of downtown Vancouver and the mountains. He attends VCons, and can occasionally be coaxed to attend FRED.

Aug. 31: **August Witherspoon-Li** is not appearing in this issue.



No. 17: *Kathleen (left), our Hostess with the Mostess*

Rebuilding our Membership Information / Renewal deadlines coming

A number of BCSFAs are helping me to reconstruct our somewhat scattered and dated membership information. I think it was Steve Forty who told me who some of our lifetime members are, but does anyone have a current address for Kat Ferguson?

Other correspondents have politely told me they are not going to subscribe, including Gayle Koyanagi, David Malinski and Andrew Murdoch.

Between Kathleen Moore-Freeman's records, and some scanty receipts I just turned up, it appears the following members will have to renew their memberships soon:

** Ray Seredin - August 2006

The Freeman family - October 2006

Andrew Kacerik - October 2006

Dale McGladdery - October 2006

Lynda Williams - October 2006

Ken Wong - October 2006

Changes of address have come in from Robert Runte and Penelope Harris. (Penelope also submitted art and has resubscribed.)

Kathleen thought that maybe Cecilia Griffith and Cecilia Parrott are the same person, if she married; in that case, which is her current name and where is her current address?

June BCSFAzines were returned after I sent them to out-of-date addresses for the following: Ellen Battle; K. Christie Bowler; Christopher Brayshaw; Andrew Brechin; Remy Carleton *; Chilam; Darrin Hildebrandt; Andrew Irvine; Adrian Kleinbergen; David Langtry; Merina Matthew; Don & Lisa McGovern; Darrell Mercier; Nadine Miller; Camille Poirier; Robert Runte; Liana Worsfold; Raven Carleton Wright * (same person?).

I am adding some people to the BCSFA distribution list who I *think* should have been included all along, but were missed.

I'm also missing addresses for the following writers, who should get complimentary copies:

Crawford Kilian (pro)

Rhea Rose (pro)

Lisa Smedman (pro)

Most of the following will be added to the email list, and they can tell me if they are current members/ pros/ fanzine trades who missed some issues: Jo Burrows; Don Debrandt (pro); Barb Dryer; Sam Dulmage; Jon Foster; Bonnie Gayle; Colin Hinz; Stan Hyde; Guy H. Lillian III (*Challenger and Zine Dump*); Darcy Mann; Duncan MacGregor; Gary Meuse; Cathy Palmer-Lister; Lexie Pakulak & Steve Pikov; Spider and Jeanne Robinson (pro); James Stewart Smyth; Diana P. Statt; Marc Wells; Len Wong (contributor)

Art (I think ...)

[CHICAGO, June 20 UPI] As mysterious plaques calling for resurrecting the dead on Jupiter appear on city streets, Chicago treats them as graffiti and removes them.

They're called Toynbee plaques, and they contain the same cryptic messages pressed into intersections in Philadelphia, New York, Washington, Buenos Aires and Santiago, Chile.

They all contain the same message: "Toynbee idea, in Kubrick's *2001*, resurrect the dead on planet Jupiter," and the Internet is a hotbed of people with theories about their origin and message, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reports.

The toynbee.net Web site says they may refer to Ray Bradbury's short science fiction story "The Toynbee Convectur."

The site lists eight Chicago intersections to spot the plaques but the newspaper found only two, and then found out why.

"It is considered vandalism," said Brian Steele, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Transportation. "If we see them, we'll look for a way to remove them. We treat it no different than graffiti."

<http://www.dailyindia.com/show/35844.php/Jockstrip-The-world-as-we-know-it>

Felicity Walker to BCSFA list, June 21, 2006

"Waste of a fish"

Calendar

Weekly Events

Monday

Astronomy Café is an informal weekly gathering of people interested in Astronomy. Every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Bruno Quenneville, the Vice President of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Victoria Centre. (<http://victoria.rasc.ca/events/AstroCafe/Default.htm>)

Tuesday

Kamloops Anime Club (<http://www.geocities.com/kamloopsanimeclub/>) holds casual meetings on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. at Boston Pizza in downtown Kamloops. (Note that the meeting times and locations are occasionally different, so check the schedule on the Kamloops Anime Club web site if you are planning to attend.)

Thursdays

Ink Studs (comix radio show) from 2 pm to 3 pm on CiTR (101.9 FM or <http://citr.ca/live.rm>); <http://inkstuds.livejournal.com/>

- Aug 3rd - Abby Denson - Creator of *Tough Love: High School Confidential*.
- Aug 10th - James Kochalka - *American Elf*, *SuperFuckers* and tons more.

Fridays

5pm to 6pm: Hi-Sci-Fi (science-fiction radio show) on 90.1 FM and <http://www.cjsf.ca/listen/listen.m3u> Info and archived shows at <http://www.hiscifi.com/index.php?cat=Show>

6:30 p.m.: **BIFF** (formerly F.A.N.S.) - Watch videos, and generally hang out every Friday night until closing at: Eighties Restaurant, 110 West 14th Street, North Vancouver. See biff.digitaldoodles.com for more details.

7:00 p.m.: **COME TO FRED!** every Friday at Denny's Restaurant til whenever on Davie Street at Thurlow, Vancouver, BC - a casual drop-in gathering of fans for conversation. (Soon to try out a new venue - Ryan is still looking)

Saturday

Kamloops Anime Club (<http://www.geocities.com/kamloopsanimeclub/>) holds its main meetings on Saturdays from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. downstairs at High Octane Comics & Collectibles, 250 3rd Avenue, Kamloops.

Monthly EventsSecond Tuesday

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Okanagan Centre (<http://www.ocrasc.ca/>) meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 in the Science Building at Okanagan College on KLO Road, Kelowna. (Note that the Vernon and Kelowna meetings are occasionally combined, so check the schedule on the RASC: Okanagan Centre web site if you are planning to attend.)

Second Wednesday

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Victoria Centre (<http://victoria.rasc.ca/>) meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., in the Elliott Lecture Theatre, Room 060, University of Victoria. (Note that the meeting times and locations are occasionally different, so check the schedule on the RASC: Victoria Centre web site if you are planning to attend.)

Second Thursday

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Vancouver Centre (<http://www.pcis.com/rascvan/>) meets on the second Thursday of each month at

7:30 p.m., downstairs in the auditorium of the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre, 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver. Each meeting usually has a program which is a blend of current astronomical research and local amateur activities. The meeting is followed by an informal gathering at the Gordon MacMillan Southam Observatory for coffee, cookies and conversation. Visitors are welcome to attend most meetings, which are free.

Third Wednesday

The Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association (<http://www.veva.bc.ca/>) meets on the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August) from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., in the cafeteria of the Electrical SE1 Building at BCIT.

Last Wednesday

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Okanagan Centre (<http://www.ocrasc.ca/>) meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:15 p.m. at the Okanagan Science Centre, 2704 Highway 6, Vernon. (Note that the Vernon and Kelowna meetings are occasionally combined, so check the schedule on the RASC: Okanagan Centre web site if you are planning to attend.)

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Prince George Centre (<http://www.vts.bc.ca/pgrasc/>) meets on the last Wednesday of the month from August to November and January to May from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Prince George Astronomical Observatory (20 km South West of Prince George near West Lake on Tedford Road.) Topics of discussion include astronomy viewing tips, constellations, star charts, photography and much more. The meetings are informal and visitors are welcome.

"You couldn't get a cat to eat it"

Conventions2006 SMOFCon Scholarship Now Available

The Seattle Westercon Organizing Committee has announced a \$500 scholarship offered to conrunners to attend SMOFCon, the conrunners' convention held annually in December, usually in North America. Applications should contain the applicant's name, address, phone number (or email), a fannish biography (one 150-word paragraph), how the applicant's attendance will benefit Pacific Northwest fandom (one 150-word paragraph), sent via regular mail by September 15, 2006 to: SMOFCon 2006 Scholarships, c/o SWOC, P.O. Box 1066, Seattle, WA 98111, USA. For more information, contact info@swoc.org.

SMOFCon will be held this year in Kansas City, Missouri, over the weekend of Dec. 1-3, 2006.

C-Cubed to sfnorthwest group, July 14, 2006

C-Cubed Fallout

Barbara Scutt of the Vcon 31 committee attended ConComCon 2006, the Pacific Northwest conrunners' convention. ConComcon, or C-Cubed, is held annually in June in the northwestern United States.

Barb very kindly obtained a CD-ROM of conrunning guides when she attended ConComCon, and had Doug Finnerty pass it on to Garth Spencer, who collects this kind of stuff.

(Adventitious notes: Garth keeps threatening to condense all the available written conrunning material into a major thesis, or at least a looseleaf reference book, as if he hadn't already archived such material online, along with links to even more. Conveniently, Garth now has a computer with a built-in CD reader/writer.)

Here We Go Again

Vcon 32 (October 2007) will host the 2007 Aurora Awards. Presumably, after Vcon 31 is over, plans for Vcon 32 will be posted at www.v-con.ca (or www.vcon.ca).

Upcoming Conventions

August 2006

Aug. 4-6: **Fandemonium 2006** - Idaho's Media Culture Entertainment Expo! at Nampa Civic Center, 311 E 3rd St. S, Nampa, ID 83651; tel (208) 468-5500. An annual celebration of Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Gaming, Anime, Horror & Comics Fandom. Range of memberships, from 3-Day Adult (Age 13-54): \$30.00, down to free for children 5 and under. Website: <http://www.fandemonium.org/>; Message Board: <http://www.fandemonium.org/fanforum/>. Contact Daniel (Borneo) Armstrong, Fandemonium Chairman, borneo@fandemonium.org.

Aug. 11-13: **Con-Version 22** at the Best Western Hospitality Inn in Calgary, AB. GoHs: David Weber, Larry Niven, Adrian Kleinbergen, Jeremy Bulloch. Canadian GoH: R. Scott Bakker. FanGoH: John Hertz. Dealers room now sold out. Rooms \$129/night at the Best Western Hospitality Inn, 135 Southland Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 5X5, fax (403) 225-5834, toll-free 877-278-5050. Memberships \$40 at the door. Write to Calgary SF & Fantasy Society, P.O. Box 20098, Calgary Place RPO, Calgary, AB T2P 4J2; for more information see www.csffs.org

Aug. 19-21 (note change of dates): **Anime Evolution**, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC. Anime convention. Guests Rob Bakewell (voice director), Harmony Gold (Robotech), Kumiko Kato (singer), ZZ (Japanese band), Keith & Kosine (local band), and more. Accommodations through SFU Guest Accommodations or Executive Plaza Coquitlam. Passes (3-day or one day): see table at www.animeevolution.com.

Aug 23-27: **Worldcon 64/LACon IV** at the Hilton Anaheim, Anaheim Marriott and Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, CA. Writer GoH: Connie Willis, Artist GoH: James Gurney, FanGoH: Howard Devore, Special Guest: Frankie Thomas. Reservations: (Hilton) 714-750-4321, (Marriott) 714-750-8000, rooms \$99 single/double.

Memb: \$175 / C\$210 / €150 / £100 / A\$225 to 7/1/06. Info: L.A.con IV, c/o S.C.I.F.I., Inc., Box 8442, Van Nuys CA 91409. International Agents: Canada: Lloyd & Yvonne Penney, 1706 - 24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9C 2B2, Canada (Canadian cheques to Lloyd Penney). LACon IV, c/o S.C.I.F.I. Inc., POBox 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409; email info@laconiv.org, or see www.laconiv.com.

Aug. 25 - 27: **Dragonflight 2006** in Bellevue, Washington (Seattle's longest running gaming convention)

Aug. 25-27: **Penny Arcade Expo (PAX)** at Meydenbauer Convention Center, Bellevue, Washington. See: <http://www.pennyarcadeexpo.com>

Aug. 27 (11 am - 5 pm): **Comix & Stories** at the Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (Main & 15th Ave.), Vancouver, BC. Dealer Tables: \$45/wall; \$35/centre. Admission: \$3.00 Kids under 14: free. Creators and publishers appearing (as of 9/7/06): James Jean (*Fables, Process Recess*); Corey Lewis (*Peng, Sharkknife*); Brandon Graham (*Escalator*); Steve Rolston (*One Bad Day, The Escapists*); Marc Bell (*Nog a Dod, The Stacks, Worn Tuff Elbow*); Robin Bougie (*Cinema Sewer*); Fred Grisold (*Hate Song*); Camilla d'Errico (*Burn, Zevon-7*); Robin Thompson and Ira Hunter (*Champions of Hell*); Kelly Everaert, (*Eyes of the Zombie, Jungle Tales*); Susan Ferguson (*Antic Comics*); James Lloyd (*Other Stuff, The Trip*); Jason Pultz (*Comic Strip (scarybear & Friends)*); Laura Eveleigh (*Little Illustrated Books*); Ken Boesem (*The Village, 1918*); Jason Pultz (*Comic Strip (scarybear & Friends)*); Verne Andru (*420, Rock and Rule*); Mike Myhre, (Space Jet Comics); Jordan Neufeld (*Sticks and Stones*); Trevor Metz (*Crossfire Comics*); Justin Pasieka (1989); RC Johnson (Eraser Dust Comics); Mary Kim; Don King; The Radar Friends; Critical Hit Comics; Perro Verlag Books; Skeleton Key Press. Creator Tables: \$30. Publisher Tables: \$60. Dealer Tables: \$60. Admission: \$3.00 per person. Please note that some of the material at this show may not be suitable for all ages. For more information, email lswong@uniserve.com, call 604-322-6412 or see <http://mypages.uniserve.com/~lswong/Comicon.html>

September 2006

Sept. 2-4: **Kumoricon 2006** at the Red Lion on the River, Portland, OR. Anime convention. Hotel rooms: write Red Lion on the River, 909 N. Hayden Island Dr., Portland, OR 97218, tel (503) 283-4466. Memberships \$35 to August 10. Information: Kumoricon, 960 Anderson Ln #1, Springfield, OR 97477; email chair@kumoricon.org; see www.kumoricon.org.

Sept. 8 - 10: **STAR TREK 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration and Conference** - Seattle, Washington (Star Trek Media)

Sept. 10: **Vancouver Comicon** at the Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (Main & 15th Ave.), Vancouver, BC. Dealer Tables: \$45/wall; \$35/centre. Admission: \$3.00 Kids under 14: free. For more information, email lswong@uniserve.com, call 604-322-6412 or see <http://mypages.uniserve.com/~lswong/Comicon.html>

Sept. 22-24: **Foolsap VIII** at the Sheraton Bellevue Hotel in Bellevue, WA. GoH: C.J. Cherryh. Kage Baker regrets she cannot attend. A flat-paper-stuff convention, featuring artshow, dealers' room, programming, a banquet at \$26 a head. Room rates

about \$85/nite; contact Bellevue Sheraton, 100 112th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98004-5817; tel (425) 455-3330; fax (425) 451-2473. Memberships: \$50 to September 21, \$60 at the door to Foolscap, c/o Little Cat Z, POBox 2461, Seattle, WA 98111-2461, or via PayPal to treasurer@foolscapcon.org; URL www.foolscapcon.org.

Sept. 30 - October 1: **Robothon** - Seattle Center - Seattle, Washington (Robots related event)

October 2006

Oct. 6-8: **VCON 31** at the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel, Richmond, B.C. GoHs: Writer GoH Barbara Hambly; ArtGoH, Lynne Taylor Fahnestalk; FanGoH: Randy McCharles. Toastmaster: Michael Walsh. Chair: Clint Budd. The Gaming Room will be run by the Vancouver Gaming Guild. (In fact, they are running their Cloud City Gaming Extravaganza at the con.) three daily themes: Master Classes in Genre Fiction Writing on Friday, Green Science on Saturday, and Media on Sunday. BIFF will not be held at its usual location; there are plans to have a BIFF table in the Dealers' Room, and member Val is looking for stock and volunteers to make the table a success. The question of the week is: "Where's the Commander's Log panel?" Adult memberships: until Sept. 15, \$50; at the door, \$60. Child in Tow rate: half adult; Tot in Tow, free. (A child in tow is 7-12, and a tot in tow is 6 and under.) Daily Memberships: Friday only, \$30; Saturday, \$35; Sunday, \$25. Registrar: Howard Cherniack, #302 - 1330 Graveley Street, Vancouver, BC V5L 3A2, tel. (604) 255-0796, email clintbudd@dccnet.com. See also www.v-con.ca.

Oct. 6 - 8: **CreepCon 2006** - Eugene, Oregon (horror related convention with a media emphasis)

Oct 7: **24 Hour Comics Day**. More info at <http://www.24hourcomics.com/>

Oct. 8: **Portland Comic Book Show** - Portland, Oregon (reportedly Oregon's largest Comic Book Convention. Held twice a year in Portland, Oregon)

Oct. 13 - 14: **SciFan** - Lynnwood, Washington (Northwest's Premier Science Fiction Fantasy Modeling Event)

Oct. 13-15: **Anglicon 18** at the Holiday Inn Seattle Airport, Seattle, WA. GoHs: Virginia Hey (*Farscape*); Heather Alexander; Phil & Kaja Foglio (Studio Foglio). Rooms: Write Holiday Inn Seattle Airport, 17338 International Blvd., Seattle, WA 98188, tel (206) 248-1000. Memberships \$25 prereg, \$50 at the door. Write Anglicon 18, PO Box 75536, Seattle, WA 98175-0536; tel (206) 789-2748; email angliconinfo@yahoo.com, or see www.anglicon.com.

Oct 14-15: **Con*Cept 2006** at the Days Hotel, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Info: email: conceptsff@conceptsff.ca; website: www.conceptsff.ca

Oct. 17 - 22: **The Vancouver International Writers Festival** - Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (premiere literary events, held annually over 6 days in late October. It was inaugurated in 1988 as the brainchild of founding Artistic Director Alma Lee)

Oct. 22: **Model, Toy and Collectables Show** at the Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (Main & 15th Ave.), Vancouver, BC. Dealer Tables: \$45/wall; \$35/centre. Admission: \$3.00 Kids under 14: free. For more information, email ls Wong@uniserve.com, call 604-322-6412 or see <http://mypages.uniserve.com/~ls Wong/Comicon.html>

Oct. 26 - 28: **Con-Fusion** - Victoria, BC, Canada (Gaming)

November 2006

Nov. 2-5: **World Fantasy Con 2006** at the Renaissance Hotel at the Arboretum, Austin, TX. GoHs: Glen Cook and Dave Duncan, TM: Bradley Denton, Editor GoH: Glenn Lord, Artist GoHs: John Jude Palencar, Gary Gianni. Reservations: 9721 Arboretum Blvd., Austin, TX 78759, (512) 343-2626. Memberships TBA??. World Fantasy, c/o FACT Inc., POBox 27277, Austin, TX 78755, email wfcinfo@fact.org, or see www.fact.org/wfc2006/

Nov. 4 - 6: **AmberConNW** - Troutdale, Oregon (Amber related role playing convention)

Nov. 5: **Vancouver Comicon** at the Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (Main & 15th Ave.), Vancouver, BC. Dealer Tables: \$45/wall; \$35/centre. Admission: \$3.00 Kids under 14: free. For more information, email ls Wong@uniserve.com, call 604-322-6412 or see <http://mypages.uniserve.com/~ls Wong/Comicon.html>

Nov. 17-19: **Orycon 28** at the Portland Marriott Waterfront, Portland, Oregon. Guests of Honor: Editor: [Ellen Datlow](#); Writer: [Cory Doctorow](#) Membership rates are \$45 to Oct. 31; \$55 thereafter and at the door. Children age 6-12 are half price. Children 5 and under are free. Children must be accompanied by an adult with a membership. To transfer a membership, send a signed letter to the convention PO box (below) with the new member's name and address. Mail registration to: Orycon 28 PO Box 5464 Portland, OR 97228-5464, USA. URL: www.orycon.org

December 2006

Dec 1-3: **SMOFCon 24** at the Hotel Phillips, Kansas City MO. The convention-Runner's con. Info: www.smofcon.org

January 2007

Jan. 12-14: **Rustycon 24** in Seattle, WA. Memberships \$25. See www.rustycon.com

February 2007

Feb. 24: Noon to 9:00 p.m. ?? UAA Student Union, Anchorage, Alaska (Anime - please note that their web site is under construction, but there is a link to a forum where you can find out more))

March 2007

Mar. 9-11: **Potlatch 16** at the Red Lion Hotel Portland Convention Center, Portland, OR. Memberships TBA. Information: Potlatch 16, c/o OSFCI, Box 5703, Portland, OR 97228-5703; tel. (503) 283-0802; email potlatch16@gmail.com; URL www.spiritone.com/~jlorentz/potlatch

Mar. 16 - 18: **Anime Oasis V** - Boise, Idaho (anime)

Mar. 24: **Nishikaze III** - Lethbridge, Alberta (anime)

Mar. 29 - Apr. 1: **World Horror Convention 2007** at the Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre, Toronto, ON. GoHs: Michael Marshall Smith, Nancy Kilpatrick. ArtGoH: John Picacio. MC: Sephera Giron. Publisher GoH: Peter Crowther. Editor GoH: Don Hutchison. Email Amanda@whc2007.org; URL www.whc2007.org.

Mar. 30 - April 1: **Gamestorm** - Portland, Oregon (gaming)

Mar. 31 - April 1: **Fifth Annual Emerald City ComicCon** - Seattle, Washington (Comics)

April 2007

Apr. 5 - 8: **Norwescon 30** - SeaTac, Washington (The premiere northwest regional general science fiction convention)

Apr. 6 - 8: **SakuraCon 2007** - Seattle, Washington (Sakura-Con is the premier Pacific Northwest Anime Convention devoted to East Asian Culture, with a particular focus on Japanese animation (anime), Japanese Comics (manga), and video gaming)

May 2007

May 19 - 20: **OtaFest** - Calgary, Alberta, Canada (Anime)

May 20: **Eugene Comic Book and Collectible Show** - Eugene, Oregon (Comics)

May 25 - 28: **Miscon 21** - Missoula, Montana (Miscon comes of age :-). Full spectrum science fiction/fantasy/horror convention)

June 2007

June 22 - 29: **SeaTrek 2007** - Starts and ends in Seattle with the middle in the Pacific Ocean (Cruise based science fiction media convention - check their web site for details on this cruise based con and others)

July 2007

July 6-8: **Robert A. Heinlein Centennial** at Hyatt Regency Crown Center / Westin Crown Center, Kansas City MO. Memb: \$100 to 7/7/06, \$125 to 5/1/07, then

\$150 (checks to Heinlein Centennial Inc.). Info: Heinlein Centennial, Inc., Box 4313, Citrus Heights CA 95611; email: Info@HeinleinCentennial.com; website: www.heinleincentennial.com

September 2007

Sept. 27 - 30: **Bouchercon 2007** - Anchorage, Alaska (Mystery related but also with some SF influence on occasion)

October 2007

Oct. 14 - 16: **Sci Fan** - Lynnwood, Washington (Premiere Science Fiction Modeling Convention)



I'm an eccentric,
bohemian, middle-aged
geek—exactly the audience
Apple should be targeting.

I'm an obnoxious
yuppie punk, here to
alienate the Mac's
long-time users.

Apple—Not Knowing Our
Audience Since 1991

Faanfiction:

“Not A Moment Too Soon”
(A sequel to “The More Things Change...”)

(Note: Taral's above-mentioned stories are also appearing in Guy Lillian's fanzine Challenger. -GS)

by Taral Wayne

One crisis shrugged off, Floyd and Sid returned to the front room. While relatively large as most apts go, Sid's spare room was a

tight fit for two chairs and a work station. As well, the lease stipulated no food or drink to leave the food preparation area of the front bed-sitting room, and after the scare of momentarily “losing” 30,000 volumes of hard found fantasy, science fiction, alt, media, and porn, Sid wanted a drink.

“I’m having a gin and meth, what about you?”

“Ice tea or cola’s fine, unless you have caffeinated soy milk?”

“Does the pope have tits? Sure I got caffe milk.” He took a couple of plastic bubbles out of the wall fridge by the front door security panel, and squeezed the mouth bulb, popping it before handing the egg-shell coloured milk to Floyd. He popped a bubble of gin next and pezzed in a gel of meth before drinking. “The building grocer stocks my fridge every week, same menu as everyone. Though, I hear some grocers will leave more fats or carbs if you let them double-debit you under the table. Wouldn’t do it myself, mind. Totally bad enough having a “listed” hobby, let alone asking for trouble with Lifestyle Enforcement.”

“Y’tthink? They’re mullahs all right. Sister of mine got in trouble once with the white-coats and had her calorie intake slashed by half until she reduced to the official slimline. Everyone knows that’s a joke. Twenty pounds under ideal if an ounce. But it looks good on the city calorie sheets at the end of the month, if they can get enough people down to the official body fat index.”

“Better than the *fat farms*.” Sid suppressed a shudder. A neighbour down the hall disappeared one night, and wasn’t seen for six months, and when his sentence was up he reappeared a skeletal hundred and twenty-five pounds -- for a five foot eight inch man now the official *norm*. It was best not to talk about such things.

“Y’know,” said Floyd, “couple of days ago I ran across a Robert J. Sawyer title in a very late index that’s not in the Library of Congress.”

“I know the name... uh... well can’t be American then. A *Canadian* writer? That must have been very near the end! Almost all of them made their reps in the last decade or two.”

“You can’t guess how late!”

“Twenty-ten?” hazarded Sid. Seeing no reaction in his friend’s face, he guessed again, wildly. “Not twenty-twenty?”

“Oh hell, no. The last known skiffy text that can be dated for sure, not counting later massaging and spins, is twenty-eighteen. This is the last book in an octology about proto-humans apparently, and was actually published *on paper* in twenty-seventeen.”

“Not! That beats me. Last text in my collection was a second edition in twenty-fourteen. There can’t be half a hundred texts in the genre later than that. Can I copy?”

Floyd looked away and was silent a moment. “Wish I could let you, but I found the list on a dealer site, and the guy wants to sell the actual paper hard copy. He won’t sell a payload. Figures he can

get a lot more for it if it’s the only access, than if he sells it as just some curious object. I can’t afford it.”

Sid’s face grew a sly expression. They both knew Sid was born with a cleaner credit line than Floyd, who’s parents had both run up debts by living beyond their basic gerontal coverage. “Maybe I could. It would be awful weird having a lump of paper around. I can hardly imagine reading such a thing. Print on non-illuminated surfaces hurts my eyes.”

“Gives me a headache. But if you scan it for actually reading, you can burn me a copy.”

“Just think of that or have it in mind all along?” Sid laughed. “No kidding. What’s the guy want for it, paper and all.”

Floyd got that far away look again. He seemed to look into a Maxwell Parrish print called “The Muse” that Sid hung on the wall, and think about another time, when all books were paper and were the common heritage of all readers, rich and poor. A simpler more humane time was the twentieth century. Then he shook himself out of it. “A hundred a ten thousand Yuan. Or three hundred something thousand Euros, I think.”

“Uh, what’s that in Eagles?”

“Jesus, I don’t know. Who sells anything on the Internet in U.S. funds any more? That’s just for your protein and rent; toys and servers.”

Sid picked up the housekeeper. Like most, it came with the apt and controlled everything from the microwave auto-cook, telecom bundle, home shopping routines, media pick-ups, security settings, personal scheduling, to setting all the clocks, but was useless for anything that wasn’t built in when he moved there. He brought an Internet site up on the front room wall screen. “I know a conversion page.”

“Never mind” said Floyd. “I worked it out with my celtel. It’s about eight million dollars. Eight million two hundred and fourteen thousand.”

Floyd and Sid both stared at the print on the wall for nearly a whole minute.

“That *is* rather a lot,” said Sid finally.

“Tell me about it. At the rate I’m payloading as it is, I’ll use up my natal credit line before I’m sixty-five. And I wasn’t counting on retirement before the minimum seventy-two.”

“Well, it was only a thought. I don’t really have anywhere for a bulky useless object anyway.” Sid brightened suddenly. “I could eebay it again after scanning; get most of my credit back right away. Only lose a few thousand in interest and charges.”

“Wishful thinking, much?” Floyd said, disgusted. “You and I are already on the watch-list for keeping unusual collections, you want to be actively monitored for owning an actual, physical *book*. Putting it on the eebay would draw instant attention.”

Miffed with being told the obvious, Sid stood up and took the two steps to the wall fridge for another gin and meth. “Aw, *somebody* with more credit and better norms will buy it, and it’s only a matter of time before freeloads are on the net.”

“Here’s to freeloading,” Floyd toasted the other, raising his bubble of milk.

* * * * *

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The lights came on automatically. This time of year, there was not much sunlight to saturate the roof panels and distribute illumination through the miles of optic fibre that lit the building. Sid’s apt looked rather dingier in the true spectrum, dim as it was, than it might have in the brave yellow incandescence of the twentieth century. Not at all warm. More like a tool cabinet, with its human occupant neatly stowed away along with his few compact possessions.

“Ever thought you’d like to have been born a hundred years ago?” said Floyd.

“What, before universal credit? And have to work all your life first, for all the things you needed in your life? That wasn’t the only way they were backward either. To see the Louvre or the Himalayas you had to actually go to one of those weird places, instead of a convenient casino sim. People in lots of parts of the world didn’t even speak English or Spanic like everyone in America. You had to have a celtel programmed to translate something vile... like French. Most recreationals were illegal, f’Christ sake. People stuffed their faces with pie and sausages instead, courting heart disease.”

“It wasn’t all like that,” persisted Floyd. “I mean, it’s true we didn’t have all sorts of things we take for granted now, but most things were available in a rudimentary form. People watched vid on a simple display screen called teevee. It wasn’t interactive or accessible to your computer or workpad or anything, but you could watch things. Isn’t that the point? You had to lug around a paper book, but you had texts to read. Music came on large black platters originally – did you know that? – but you had something to listen to. When you come right down to it, *what* would you have to do without if you were born in 1950 instead of 2050, really? I think even the very last planetary photos, the ones from the Zhang Heng Venus Surface Lander, were in that lifetime.”

“Mmm... how sad is that?” Sid had been an avid follower of space exploration as a child, but there had been no missions since he was fourteen or fifteen. “Even Kashmiristan has about a dozen first strike satellites, not to mention the orbital depth reserved for corporate uses, but no one bothers with deep space any more.”

“That’s exactly what I mean.” Floyd continued, “There’s hardly anything new any more. Hair fashions, novelty food colour additives,

sound bites from the vid, but nothing with substance. It’s as if the human imagination ground to a stop, what, forty... fifty years ago?”

“That’s not fair. Creativity is as common as ever. Just not in the same... um... art forms. That’s all.”

“Name some.”

Sid pulled at his chin a few times. “Politi-pop. Adspin?”

“Seriously? Do you really consider making rhymes from old campaign buzz to be an art form? Or adding somebody’s advertising graphics to your family photos? Here’s me and the guys, and Toyota-Daimler’s All New Three-Seater Sollis, with Pre-Installed Smart Nav, Standard Road Guide Quad Reader Heads, All Starting at Only \$12,495,000. This is Granny and me and the \$198 McCombo TVP Lo-Carb Meal. You even have programs that’ll choose from that month’s defaults and punch up the photo for you. Art? So’s decal-tagging your apt then!”

“Okay, so none of that is exactly Shakespeare or Andrew Lloyd Webber. It gives people a sense of self-expression.”

“Yeah,” snorted Floyd, “a *sense*.”

They’d had this discussion many times more, but Sid had never seen Floyd as upset as he was now. It was as if his old friend had groped for a long time for an understanding of something just out of reach, and was on the very cusp of grasping it. Frankly, it was rather unsettling to watch. New almost always meant unconventional, and trouble.

“People, these days,” Floyd went on, “are satisfied with only thinking they think, with substituting phoney experiences for real ones, with connecting the numbers to simulate real creativity! We’re all copy-cats, every dot accounted for and never a line astray!”

“Oh, you *think*? We’ve gone over this before, more than a few times!” said Sid, loading his voice with sarcasm. “We both know there’s nothing inferior about the modern mind. We just live in modern times, and pretty much everything has been done already. Every idea has been gone over again and again, every intellectual property long ago trademarked... That’s all. “ He petered out sullenly, unsure where to go with that thought.

“That’s all? As if that weren’t indictment *enough* against society. How can we go on, what kind of future lies before us this way, our lives a lame remake of past epics?”

“But don’t you see? That’s why there’s no new creativity. We have nothing new to say. Its all been said and done, so why loop the same track? Now that humanity has built for itself a virtually inexhaustible supply of culture, our role has evolved into connoisseurs, not creators.”

“Consumers, you mean. Culture is marketed to us like soy-flakes or designer cornea implants. Culture was once something people did for themselves, that they didn’t pay for pre-packaged and sanitized.”

“No. That’s where you’re wrong! They did pay! We don’t have to pay for culture today!”

Floyd stood dumbstruck. This was not where he wanted to go with his thought at all.

“We have broken out of the need to pay for our common artistic heritage now,” Sid continued relentlessly. It’s allllll at our fingertips – Mozart, Beatles, Blake, Lao Tze, Hobbes, Surak, Vermeer, Picasso, Voltaire, Hitchcock, Spielberg, Herge, Rushdie, Sophocles, Ovid, Chaucer, Tolkien, Twain, Melville, Miyazaki, Tezuka, Dickens, Dante, Rodenberry, Aristotle, Freud, Moore, Gilbert & Sullivan.... “ Sid stopped to take a breath and continued, “Da Vinci, Disney, Mucha, Van Gogh, Nuriyev, Kelly, Guinness, Bogart, Omar Kayyam, Carroll, Baum, Bacon, Debussy, Doors, ... “ Another breath, “Sinatra, Caruso, Sondheim, Hiroshige, Hokusai, Watterson, Wells, Verne, Asimov, Freas, Pleger...”

“All right, all right!”

“ – and all we have to do is google for it. Nobody to pay a dime to, nothing to prevent us from enjoying all the greatest intellectual achievements of history! And you want to go back to a time when you had to charge up a week’s or a year’s worth of credit whenever you wanted to enrich your life? Unless you were very rich, people in the 20th century must have led lives that were culturally impoverished compared to ours!”

“All the same...” Floyd paused, searching through his misgivings for a loophole in Sid’s logic. “...people did create brand new things, all the time. Maybe not everyone could enjoy all that came of so much creativity and originality, but it was so plentiful that everyone had access to all they wanted.”

“With it costing a week’s budget to see Cats on Broadway? Or a whole day’s budget for an old-fashioned hard copy book? I doubt it.”

“Yet there must have been large enough audiences to support a cast of actors, not to mention cameramen, film editors and all the rest. Or support writers, agents, editors, printers, and booksellers.”

Sid conceded there was a time when the cost-benefit equation worked better in favour of the consumer. “But it all changed, sometime a little after the Second Millennium, didn’t it?”

“It’s one of the big mysteries of the Pre-Digital era. Just as it was finally possible to make all artistic endeavours universal, removing every financial obstacle from between artist and audience, the culture seemed to come to a dead stop.” Floyd threw his empty milk bubble over his shoulder, a contemptuous dismissal of the irony. “Well, look, it’s nearly twenty-one double-oh, I’d better get going. There’s work tomorrow, and they power down the transit for the night, shortly. Seems earlier every year.”

“Yeah, the power assistance for the lights goes out at twenty-four hundred too. In fact, the building’s fuel cells are over ten years old

and a little wonky. Sometimes they brown out even before twenty-three. I guess we’d both better think about packing it in.”

“Still,” said Floyd, “it vexes me. Why on the verge of utopia does the human genius go dumb?”

“We’re lucky at that.”

“How’s that, Sid? Lucky there hasn’t been much of anything new for most of our lives? Wouldn’t you like to read a book, see a vid, or download a piece of eye-candy that wasn’t forty years old? Or wasn’t the product of some embarrassingly amateurish community arts centre?”

“I think I totally wouldn’t know what to think of such a novelty! Ha ha. But at least we have the past. It’s all preserved for us, forever, thanks to the revolution in digital storage media and the net. It came as just the right moment. Imagine if there had been no digital formats or hard drives for another twenty years. When the technology finally arrived, it would have been too late. With only a finite number of paper books and magnetic tapes to preserve the works of the Modern Age before it ended, we might have lost who knows how much invaluable art. It could have gone the way of lost Elizabethan plays and ancient Greek tragedies. But the timing was perfect. You’d almost think there was a connection; that one caused the other.”

“Now that would be crazy,” laughed Floyd.

But suddenly Sid seemed to see something his normally more thoughtful friend and fellow collector had missed.

“Just in time... just when all art and literature was freely available to everyone at the push of a button... artists everywhere stopped creating. It’s as though art having a cost had somehow... *caused art?*” But no, somehow that couldn’t be quite right. But it was too hard for the 21st. century man who was too used to cradle to grave security (of a sorts) to wrap his head around a variety of unfamiliar concepts, and he let the thought go.

“Now who’s being silly?” said Floyd on the doorstep. He gave Sid a high five, and took five on the rebound. Seemingly of one mind, they both looked back into the apt, eyes lingering on the wall poster. The Muse in her nimbus of taffeta and brunette tresses mesmerized them with her elusive smile. What wisdom did she possess that she withheld from them? Then they broke the spell with a shake of their heads. Floyd headed down the hall, a little drunken still from the moment of hypnosis, and Sid closed the door to the apt behind him. Both silently wondered, puzzled by the same disturbing thought. Just what was it they, heirs to the future, had done to deserve The End of Art?

Perhaps fortunately they never worked it out.

Fan Funds

TAFF: The 2007 eastbound race was announced on 25 June. Aspiring candidates from North America need to provide nominations from 5 fans (3 NA, 2 European), a 100-word platform, \$20 bond, and a pledge that if they win, they'll travel to Britain for the 2007 Eastercon, Convoy. Contact: Suzanne Tompkins (NA administrator), PO Box 25075, Seattle, WA 98165, USA; SuzleT at aol dot com.

The TransAtlantic Hearing Aid (1985): this is the Dave Langford TAFF trip report, whose publisher Rob Jackson has found a stash of copies in the attic. ... A5 booklet, 74pp+covers, many fine cartoons: Pounds5 or \$10 post free from me, with all proceeds to TAFF.

Ansible 228, July 2006

Fanzines

Famous the Energumen Fanzine Online and Archived Yes

"Taral has finished scanning the remaining issues of Mike Glicksohn's *Energumen*, which after a little delay at my end are now available at <http://efanzines.com>.

"The Energumen Archive is now complete. For anyone who'd like *Energumen* in slightly more tangible form, Taral plans to produce the archive on CD, with some extras. I'll notify the [efanzines] list when the CD is available."

Bill Burns (efanzines.com), July 16, 2006

Received:

Ansible 228, July 2006, From Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU. Web ansible.co.uk. Fax 0705 080 1534. ISSN 0265-9816 (print) 1740-942X (online). Available for SAE or operating manual for offog.

Ethel the Aardvark, July 2006, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, Vict. 3005, Australia

Opuntia 61.3, July 2006, c/o Dale Speirs, P.O. Box 6830, Calgary, AB T2P 2E7, including FAPA mailing comments and fanzine reviews

This Is What Happens When You Don't Eat Your Vegetables and Drawings of the Vancouver Goth Scene, both Jan. 31, 2006, from Felicity Walker, \$209 - 3851 Frances Road, Richmond, BC V7C 1J6 (morbius@vcn.bc.ca)

Locs

Doug Finnerty, June 15, 2006 (to BCSFA list)

[The] "Scientology sponsors NASCAR" post reminds me of something similar.

At this year's Hyack Festival parade (in beautiful uptown New Westminster) the Church of Scientology were nice enough to have one of their "spiritual rescue teams" as one of the marching contingents. Falun Gong also sent one of theirs.

If you ever played the Avalon Hill board game edition of "Dune", you'll see how close this comes to the rule where the Bene Gesserit player gets to send one of her tokens on a free ride down to the planet (in the name of "spiritual assistance") every time one of the warring factions tries to land troops.

Heather Merriman, July 5, 2006

Director of Publicity, MBT Creations, 410 NE 3rd Street, Pompano Beach, FL 33060, 954-298-5481, h_merriman@yahoo.com

Hello Mr. Spencer,

My name is Heather Merriman. I am Director of Publications for MBT Creations. I am currently creating a distribution list of a new Press Release pertaining to the Fantasy / Sci-Fi genre.

I wanted to ask if you would be so kind as to advise me the person at BCSF, that I would want to forward this to? If possible, please reply with the contact person's name and email address and I will make sure they receive a copy of the Press Release as soon as it's available.

Thank you very much for your time, and should you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

BCSFAZINEzine Volume 1, Number 47.398, Friday 7 July 2006

BCSFAZINEzine is from Felicity Walker, #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond, British Columbia, V7C 1J6, felicity4711@hotmail.com.

BCSFA Executive / Our E-Mail List

There's also <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcsfa>, although, for the sake of clarity, it is *not* the way to reach the Executive.

Art Credits

Correction: The cover was written by me and drawn by Joe Devoy.

Questions for You All

"Do you have suggestions for reorganizing BCSFAzine, or creating more interesting content?"

I hadn't thought about this much until I went to look up the date for the Kaffeeklatsch and found that the BCSFA calendar had moved; however, I realised then that I preferred having the BCSFA events listed on the inside

cover. This month, they were consolidated in “BCSFA News” rather than merged with the rest of the events, and that was helpful.

The section of *BCSFAzine* that I use the least is the convention calendar. I skim through it and skip anything that’s not in the GVRD, since I have no money or time off for travel. (Given that this is *BCSFAzine* and not *GVRDSFAzine*, I don’t object to listing events elsewhere in British Columbia.)

I’m planning to write more comics reviews.

Sadly, I can’t get my mom’s scanner to work with Xandros Linux, so no more art from me, or anyone else whom I would normally scan (and no all-comics issue of *BCSFAzine*), until I solve that problem. The cover illo for *BCSFAzine* #398 was “scanned” by taking a photo of Joe’s drawing with my digital camera, then editing it in Photoshop. It required heavy adjustment and did not turn out perfectly (notice the oddly thick and broken line quality, particularly on the computer monitor in the drawing).

((It’s about time I learned to use my scanner anyway. –GS))

Who’s Out: Lexi Expelled from Meeting Site House

I like this article. ☺

Clubzines Received

Is *Opuntia* a clubzine?

((All right, so I misplaced it!))

“Fandom: The Gatherings”

Robin Bougie (co-host) draws his own ads for *Ink Studs*. I checked, and he says you have his permission to run them next to the listing for the show.

Re Fridays: I guess I should write a description for those who are new to *BCSFAzine* and are not sure what FRED is. Please add “a casual drop-in gathering of fans for conversation.”

LoCs

Felicity Walker [on Klingon jokes]

“((Christ, can’t I think of anything original?))” Sure! Tons of things! I’ve seen you do it!

The More Things Change

That was great (even if it was on parchment). ☺

Comic Book Covers Copyright

I was disappointed that these three professors [*the authors*] went to the trouble of making a comic book guide, but couldn’t be bothered to give it competent lettering.

((You’re alert and sensitive to issues of lettering. With me, it’s grammar, or clarity and specificity. Everyone has some point that others find trivial.))

Remake for Cult Show ‘The Prisoner’

I really hope that Christopher Eccleston does not get the part.

((Now you’ve done it!))

‘Alien Nation’ DVD

I like that bit about the Newcomers saying “That’s Fox for you.”

BOOK REVIEWS - The Meadowlark Sings

I’ll bet they’d have a heck of a time figuring out what to do with transgendered people in that universe. They can’t be said to be straight or gay until you decide whether to classify them by biological sex at birth, current sex (if post-op), or just the gender as which they identify. Even then, they may not be one or the other, but a combination of both.

“That’s Fox for you.”

Lloyd Penney, #1706 - 24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9C 2B2, July 18, 2006

I hope this gets in under the deadline, whatever that may be, but here’s a fast loc on *BCSFAzine* 398. It has been a number of years since your last one, but congratulations on winning another Aurora! Well deserved.

((Deadlines are always the second Friday before the end of the month. I have gone back to listing BCSFA’s upcoming monthly events on the inside front cover.))

I agree with you on the contents of “Fandom Classic” ...any other response to this from others, or do they agree with your dividing of activities with more recent origins and activities that go back to the 30s, 40s and 50s? Seeing you nearly have no illustrations, may I suggest getting in touch with this year’s Aurora winner for Artistic Achievement, Lar deSouza? Lar is an old friend. Check out his website at www.lartist.com, and maybe ask him if he has any illustrations to lend out to fanzines.

((No, no other responses. Good idea about Lar deSouza, though I have been getting more illos, and I may even get down to drawing something myself again. And scanning it.))

Best to check Robert Sawyer’s website, he’s won another major award, this time the John W. Campbell Award (not the one handed out with the Hugos) for Best Novel of the Year for *Mindswap*. I think those are the right details, but check with sfwriter.com to be sure.

((Already listed in this issue’s pro news.))

TT20 was actually a good time, a much better time than last year. This year, the Toronto Trek committee had their own history in mind, and

decided to honour all past chairmen of the event, and Yvonne in particular as the founder. In the opening ceremonies, all chairmen in attendance were introduced, and finally Yvonne as the founder, to the greatest cheer and round of applause. She was interviewed later on in the convention, but may have been forgotten in the closing ceremonies. And the con was doing so well... Still, there were people there I hadn't seen in years, we did have a good time, and we had no responsibilities except to ourselves, which may be the greatest reason for that good time.

Our next convention is the Worldcon in Los Angeles, and we are even now getting ready for it. Is anyone coming from Vancouver, and can they bring a big stack of VCon flyers down? Worldcon is always the best market to advertise your con, outside of your own area. After Worldcon, we plan to attend Con*cept in Montreal, Astronomicon in Rochester, NY, and the 2006 Canadian Space Summit in Ottawa.

[TAFF winner] Bridget Bradshaw is in the opening stages of her TAFF trip...this past weekend, she was in Toronto, staying with Colin Hinz and Catherine Crockett, who held a party celebrating the anniversary of the first lunar landing (a little early to also honour Bridget). Bridget also came to our Third Monday pubnight. Based on her itinerary, she should now be staying with the Gillilands in the Washington, DC area.

[Re my sardonic loccol comments] I have also read that the translation of the Dead Sea Scrolls is strictly controlled, with any new translations being held back because they reveal Judaism as sham and a hoax perpetrated upon the peoples of Israel and area. Before decrying this as anti-Semitic or anything like that, I would want to find out more, if it is possible or even allowed.

((This resembles a story modern Gnostics seem to be putting about, in works like The Laughing Jesus, that the Old Testament was largely fixed up in the first century BCE by a violently ethnocentric clique.

((I could as plausibly construct a case that the current US administration is the culmination of the triumphant Fourth Reich: a slow-developing plot to turn the USA into the regime that Nazi Germany aspired to be, planted by Reinhard Gehlen in the hearts and minds of the CIA subculture after World War II. This was the subtext of my joke about all Americans secretly being Germans, they just pretend during the day, then run home and speak Plattdeutsch at night.

((My point is, people make up stuff. Then people believe what they want to. Now, what sort of information do you consider an original source, or corroborating evidence? Because that's what is needed to clear up confusion.))

I actually have some hopes that Space: The Imagination Station might pick up something I'd like to see this year. I keep hearing that new shows

like Masters of Science Fiction might be picked up, but given the fact I haven't regularly watched anything on Space in many years... Some American fans I correspond with are equally disillusioned with the Sci-Fi Channel, seeing they now run infomercials and WWF Wrestling.

I've been letting other zines know this...I am trying an experiment. Few people actually see the bulk of my letter writing mostly because it is spread through so many zines. After I e-mail this off to you, I will archive it on my new LiveJournal. Yes, I said I'd never have one, but this suits my needs at this moment, and so far, the response to it has been very positive. You can see the letters I have written since July 1 on lloydpenney.livejournal.com.

You've got all the Aurora winners [listed], being one yourself, so I won't relay them, but I have tried my best to get that information to all zines that give awards column space. Take care, and see you next issue.

We Also Heard from: Michael "Fruvous" Bertrand, Clint Budd, Christina Carr and Martin Hunger, Julian Castle, Harold Groves, Ryan Hawe, Michael Morse, Robert Sawyer, and Fran Skene



"People almost never quote the Psalms in political discourse."

Michael Bertrand, June 23, 2006

Well-Known Fans / The Honoured Dead

Rich brown, a well-known fanzine, died July 6, 2006 after a lingering illness. Some of his friends have been examining his fanzine collection and disposing of it to fanzine repositories.

Bill Burns, the proprietor of efanzines.com, writes:

"As a tribute to the late rich brown, Andy Porter and I have made available the fannish story he wrote with Paul Stanbery in 1960. Now on

line at <http://efanzines.com>

"Here's Andy's introduction:

"The Golden Halls of Mirth" by rich brown and Paul Stanbery was originally published in 1960 in *Dafoe*, edited/published by Youngstown, Ohio's John Koning. It was a fannish retelling of Robert A. Heinlein's "The Green Hills of Earth," but hardly a parody. Its words resonate today; they still have the power to grab you, to rekindle that sense of wonder about all things sf and fannish that still smolders, however faintly, in all our hearts."

Timebinders group, July 7, 2006

Bill Burns to efanazines group, July 19, 2006

Karl T. Pflock (1943-2006), US ex-CIA author of some short sf and the debunking book *Roswell: Inconvenient Facts and the Will to Believe* (2001), died on 5 June; he was 63. [SFWA]

Ansible 228, June 2006

Aaron Spelling (1923-2006), highly prolific US TV producer responsible for *Fantasy Island* and *Charmed*, died on 23 June aged 83.

Ansible 228, June 2006

FANDOM LITE

Comics

Goth House on Hiatus

Julie McGalliard, producer of the comic *Goth House*, attended Clarion West for six weeks, starting about June 18th, 2006. Paul Carpentier, her husband, provided editorial content to the *Goth House* website in her absence. (See www.gothhouse.org.)

Alex Toth Dies at 77

"Comic book and animation maverick Alex Toth died May 27 at his drawing table at home in Burbank, reported *The L.A. Times*. He was 77.

"For 50 years he did what he wanted to do - smoke cigarettes, sit on the couch and draw," his daughter Dana Palmer said. "But in his final year there was such a great spirit in him, and he had made peace with everybody on Earth that he needed to make peace with."

Toth is best known for his character designs for such Hanna-Barbera productions as *Superfriends*, *Space Ghost* and *Herculeoids*.

"The work he did there touched more lives than anything else he had done," Paul Levitz, president/publisher of DC Comics, said. "He found ways to take characters [like Superman] from their more complicated printed form

into a simpler form for animation that still held on to their power and majesty."

Toth's achievement in animation came after years of jumping from company to company in the comics business.

"Toth was one of the most brilliant artists ever in comic books, but also someone who was the odd man out in many ways, which made him bitter," comics publisher and critic Gary Groth said. "He was never associated with a particular character, and he was pushed off to marginal titles."

Some say Toth's own attitude hurt his career with his changing styles, personality conflicts with editors and harsh public critiques of peers. In a 1970 interview with *Graphic Story* magazine, Toth said, "I expected to have done a lot more with it than I have. I am my biggest disappointment."

Toth was born in New York City on June 25, 1928, the son of a house painter. He developed his childhood love of sketching at the High School of Industrial Arts where, even before graduation, he was making money drawing short stories and small illustrations for Heroic Comics.

In 1947, he got a big break when Sheldon Mayer, an editor at DC Comics, hired him to work on *Green Lantern* and *Dr. Mid-Nite*.

By the end of the 1950s, after a run in the Army, Toth settled in San Jose, a rare decision in the comics and cartoon industry, which was concentrated in New York. Working for Dell Comics, he became a specialist of sorts in titles that adapted comics from television shows and film, which included *Sea Hunt*, *77 Sunset Strip* and *Zorro*, based on the Disney TV series.

Toth moved to Southern California and, in 1964, did his first work for Hanna-Barbera, which made good use of his affinity for economical composition.

Toth appeared at comic book conventions and became notorious for his strident views on art and peers.

Groth, who interviewed and sparred with Toth on several occasions, remembers the artist as an outsider of sorts because his politics were "to the right of [Ronald] Reagan," and he detested what he saw as the celebration of liberal or nihilistic comics in the 1980s that earned raves but contradicted his personal values.

But when it came to art, he often told audiences, "I spent the first half of my career learning what to put into my work, and the second half learning what to leave out."

In addition to his daughter Palmer of Mexico Beach, Fla., Toth is survived by son Eric of Holland, Mich., daughter Carrie Morash of Evanston, Wyo., and son Damon Toth of Costa Mesa - all from his marriage to Christina Hyde of Wolf Creek, Ore., which ended in divorce many years ago - and four grandchildren: Alex, Wyatt, Ethan and Anya."

Felicity Walker to BCSFA list, June 21, 2006

Film and Theatre

Coming Soon:

October 31st - November 12th: Wicked Awesome is putting on a *live* theatre production of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" at the WISE Hall in Vancouver.



No. 9 (a fannish mother): "Come on, kids, it's time for the Rocky Horror show"

Aug. 11: premiere of *The Visiting* with Nicole Kidman (behaviour-altering epidemic), *The Reaping* (former missionary debunks religious myths), *Zoom* (Tim Allen plays an out-of-shape superhero who loses his powers), and *Tideland* (Terry Gilliam directs a movie set in Canada, Saskatchewan yet)

Aug. 25: premiere of *DOA: Dead or Alive* (from a game of the same title)

Obviously Meant for Graeme Cameron's Library:

"One of the more underrated and overlooked sci-fi/horror flicks in semi-recent memory is Christian Duguay's *Screamers*, which debuted in 1995, featured Peter Weller in the lead role, and pretty much vanished without a trace. But you know what fate awaits any half-decent sci-fi flick after it dies a valiant box-office death: Cult Status! Entirely true: *Screamers*, which (like most good science fiction films) is based on a short story by Philip K. Dick, is about a planet jam-packed with homicidal robot creatures – and the gang of unfortunate soldiers who happen to be stuck there.

"So, and I'm sure you can see the punch-line coming: Someone's about to mount a sequel to *Screamers*, only we're not yet sure who or when or ... why. From the wonderful geeks at Twitch we get this rather vague promise: "The original writer and producers of the '90s sci-fi horror flick *Screamers* (and strangely one of my favorite sci-fi movies of the era, right behind *Hardware*) are coming back for a sequel. That's an exxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxclusive scoop."

"Wow, some love for *Screamers* AND *Hardware*! Someone out there really digs their sci-fi semi-obscura."

<http://www.cinematical.com/2006/06/21/another-round-of-sci-fi-screaming/>

Felicity Walker to BCSFA list, June 21, 2006
[I've seen *Screamers* and *Hardware* and they were both horrible.–FW]

Low Weirdness

See <http://theunfunnytruth.ytmnd.com/>

Julian comments: "I wonder if Scientology will take legal action against YTMND?"

Julian "Earthfurst" Castle to BCSFA group, June 15, 2006

Thog's Diacritical Masterclass

"The three-eyed barbarian chief of a lost tribe speaks: "I am Oom-laut," he said, and those two words seemed to convey the impression that he was afraid of nothing." (M. Howard Lane, 'Queen of the Huallaga', *Mystery Adventures* 11/36) [DL]

Ansible 228, July 2006

Media

[UPI News Service, 8 July 2006] "Filmmaker James Cameron [...] has two films in preproduction, *Project 880/Avatar* and *Battle Angel*.

"I have two franchises, if you will, or films that play out over an arc of a number of films that I am going to be making," Cameron told the IGN FilmForce Web site.

"Cameron wants each film to stand on its own, even if he decides to make two trilogies.

"The first film in the making is *Project 880* or *Avatar*, as Cameron has begun to call it. Although it is in preproduction, no casting has been done yet. It is the first feature he'll shoot in digital 3-D.

"*Avatar* is a love story that takes place in the distant future as humans have begun to colonize other planets and meet alien races.

"Cameron has a track record in science fiction, having made the first two *Terminator* films and *Aliens*. [...]

<http://www.realitytvworld.com/news/titanic-filmmaker-james-cameron-planning-sci-fi-movie-trilogies-1009130.php>

Felicity Walker to BCSFA list, July 9, 2006

As Others See Us:

"[*The Sopranos* is] TV's equivalent of a *Star Wars* movie, except the fans don't dress funny and they're not all virgins." [Tom Jicha in *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, <http://www.southflorida.com/>]

Felicity Walker to BCSFA group, June 19, 2006

More Doctor Who Rumors

Confirming rumors that have been flying around for months, BBC Wales has issued a press release today that Billie Piper will be leaving her role as Rose Tyler at the end of the current series. "Billie Piper who has played Rose Tyler, the feisty young companion of both the ninth and tenth doctors, will leave *Doctor Who* in a nail biting series two finale. Over the past two years Rose has been on an adventure of a lifetime, traveling across the galaxy with the Doctor. She's visited far-off futuristic cities in the year five billion and beyond; landed on space stations where she's been a contestant in a deadly version of 'The Weakest Link'; traveled back in time and met Queen Victoria, Charles Dickens, Madame de Pompadour and her dead father; she has battled against the Doctor's deadliest foes the Daleks and Cybermen; taken on Slitheen, Sycorax and Krillitanes, survived the end of the world and the blitz. Now, in what is set to be the TARDIS's most terrifying adventure, The Doctor and Rose will face their biggest challenge to date. Back on Earth the human race rejoices as the ghosts of loved ones return home. But as the Doctor, Rose and Jackie investigate Torchwood Tower, a trap is being sprung; an almighty invasion is being put into motion which is set to destroy the whole of modern-day Earth."

The press release continues: "Billie Piper says: 'Rose and I have gone on the most incredible journey with Russell T Davies and the cast and crew of *Doctor Who* over the past two years. It has been an amazing adventure, and I can confirm it comes to an end, for now at least, as series two climaxes. I am truly indebted to Russell for giving me the chance to play Rose Tyler, and to all the *Doctor Who* fans old and new who have been so supportive of me in this amazing role. Thank you so much.' Russell T Davies writer and Executive producer adds: 'It has been a wonderful experience working with Billie - we will miss her - and wish her all the success in the world for her future. However, the *Doctor Who* team have had a whole year to plan this final scene and have created a stunning exit for Rose Tyler. The Doctor lives a dangerous life and when Rose joined him on his adventures she was aware of this. With a series climax called Doomsday on its way, I can't guarantee who will survive and who won't, but I can assure you the TARDIS is going on its scariest journey yet!' Since taking on the role of Rose Tyler, Billie has received both critical and popular acclaim. She was awarded The National Television Award for 'Most Popular Actress' 2005 and The South Bank Show's 'Breakthrough Award for Rising British Talent'. Billie is currently filming the BBC's adaptation of multi award-winning writer Philip Pullman's *The Ruby In The Smoke* in which she plays the title role, Sally Lockhart. Filming on the second novel *The Shadow In The North* will commence later this summer. *Doctor Who* series three also starts filming again later this summer and will return to our screens with a Christmas special in 2006 and another series of 13 episodes for 2007."

There have been rumors circulated for nearly a year that Piper would be leaving at some point during the second series; *Dreamwatch* magazine

originally made this statement last summer, though its report was discounted, while various tabloids suggested that Piper's tenure on the series would come to an end this year. Some news outlets are reporting the character might be killed off, although the BBC Wales press release suggests an air of mystery and does not state that Rose will be killed (taking Piper's comments that her trip "comes to an end" somewhat literally), although the release does ask the question, "Does saving the world mean the death of Rose Tyler?" (noting that "Billie Piper who has played Rose Tyler - the feisty young companion of the ninth and tenth doctors - will leave *Doctor Who* in a nail-biting series two finale"). The "death" report appears to originate in the Sun's early report today, being merely speculative. However, the production is being very strict about information regarding the finale; in fact, there may be no advance press screening of "Doomsday" to prevent the surprise from being released.

There are rumors elsewhere that this was a recent decision (including speculation on some fan sites that this was a dispute over money) although Outpost Gallifrey has been told that Piper's departure was planned as early as last autumn and that the script for "Doomsday" as originally written did contain the departure for the character (instead of a hasty rewrite that would have been needed if it had been a recent choice). A new co-star for David Tennant will likely be seen in the 2006 Christmas special.

The official *Doctor Who* website is carrying this story. The first report came from *The Sun*, and it has been reported today at a variety of sources including BBC News, CBBC News, *The Times*, *Ananova*, *Manchester Evening News*, *Daily Mail*, *The Scotsman*, *Irish Examiner*, *Sky Showbiz*, *The Is London*, *Evening Echo*, *Ireland Online*, *The Stage*, *Hollywood News*, *Waveguide*, *Daily Mail*, *EntertainmentWise*, U.TV, ITV, ITN, RTE, Contact Music, *Edinburgh News*. Also CBBCNews is asking viewers, "Are you gutted?" with reader responses to be posted soon. (Thanks to all of our readers who have been sending in news clips all day!)

** I just found out the time and date for CBC debut of season two of the new *Doctor Who* series: It will air at 20:00 (8 PM) on Mondays starting October 9th.

Ray Seredin to BCSFA list, June 15, 2006



No. 8: Cosmic Ray, channelling more Dr. Who/media rumours

“My nose bleeds for you”

AS OTHERS SEE US II

Despite critic Diane Kristine's suggestion that Scott Peters 'downplays the science fiction elements' in his post-abduction TV saga *The 4400*, Peters himself cheerfully admits the worst: 'I think any time you have a world where 4400 people appear out of a ball of light, you've already got a pretty strong sci-fi convention.' (Blogcritics.org, 7 June 07) Though not quite as big as a Worldcon. [DB]

Ansible 228, July 2006

Spielberg Developing Wormhole Adventure

"Paramount Pictures and Steven Spielberg are developing a space travel tale about a group of explorers who travel through a wormhole into another dimension, reports *Variety*. Spielberg plans to direct with Lynda Obst producing.

"Based in real science, the plot will be based on a treatment by Kip S. Thorne, a Caltech physicist who's an expert on relativity. Thorne is most famous for his controversial theory that wormholes not only exist, but can be accessed and used as portals for time travel.

"Spielberg recently attended a Caltech workshop with Thorne and other scientists, taking with him his 89-year-old father, Arnold Spielberg, a retired engineer.

"In the early, early stages of development, the film will not be Spielberg's next directing project. Most likely, the Oscar-winning director will either direct the fourth instalment of *Indiana Jones* with Harrison Ford, or an epic on Abraham Lincoln based on a Doris Kearns Goodwin book, with Liam Neeson as Lincoln, as his next film."

Conan The Barbarian Remake Swings at WB

"Warner Bros. has hired Boaz Yakin (*Remember The Titans*) to write and possibly direct a re-envisioned *Conan The Barbarian*, based on Robert E. Howard's original character, *Variety* reports. WB hopes to start production in early 2007 with Irving Azoff, Jon Jashni, Richard Alexander and Akiva Goldsman producing. Peter Sederowsky and Fredrik Malmberg of Paradox Ent., the intellectual property company that owns the rights to the Howard estate, will exec produce.

"Yakin's take on the character is more faithful to the Howard story than were the two Dino De Laurentiis-produced films that starred Arnold Schwarzenegger.

"Previously, WB had a new *Conan* film in development at different points with *The Matrix* directors Larry [Linda-FW] and Andy Wachowski, and then Robert Rodriguez."

Paramount & Pitt Ready For Zombie War

"Paramount Pictures has snatched up the screen rights to the Max Brooks novel *World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie WAR* in a high-six-figure deal, according to *Variety*. Brad Pitt's Plan B is set to produce.

"Brooks' follow-up to satire *The Zombie Survival Guide* spurred a bidding battle, which also included Warner Bros. and Leonardo DiCaprio's Appian Way.

"The story is a somber tale of the aftermath of a war fought against an army of humans who were inflicted with a virus, died and were reanimated into flesh-eating zombies.

"*World War Z* will be published in the fall by Crown."

Handelsman Skewers Ann Coulter in Editorial Animation

"Walt Handelsman has created a new editorial animation skewering recent comments made by right-wing pundit Ann Coulter about a group of 9/11 widows enjoying their husbands' deaths.

"In the animation, Coulter sings new lyrics to "My Favorite Things," including-"I write evil stuff...for the money it brings."

"Handelman produces animated cartoons for the *Newsday* website in Melville, New York. *Newsday* is also the home paper for Handelsman's Pulitzer Prize-winning print editorial cartoons, which are syndicated by Tribune Media Services.

"The Coulter editorial cartoon can be viewed at <http://www.newsday.com/news/opinion/ny-walt-handelsman-story.0.6454031.htmlstory>."

Venture Bros. Season One Ventures to DVD

"Adult Swim's first season of *The Venture Bros.*, a spoof of *Jonny Quest*, from Noodlesoup Prods., is currently available on DVD (Warner Home Video, \$29.98). All 13 episodes from Cartoon Network plus the pilot and Christmas are contained in this two-disc collector's edition featuring the adventures of dim-witted twins, Hank and Dean, who tag along with their scientist father and unsuccessfully try to combat oddball villains. The series offers the voice work of Patrick Warburton, who plays Brock Sampson, the family bodyguard.

Other extras include:

- * Deleted scenes
- * Behind-the-scenes with cast and crew

"Adult Swim (<http://www.adultswim.com>), launched in 2001, is Turner Broadcasting System Inc.'s network dedicated to edgy animated comedy and action series. Adult Swim shares channel space with Cartoon

Network, home to original and classic programming seen in more than 88 million U.S. homes.

"With operations in 90 international territories Warner Home Video, a Warner Bros. Entertainment Co., commands the largest distribution infrastructure in the global video marketplace. Warner Home Video's film library is the largest of any studio, offering top quality new and vintage titles from the repertoires of Warner Bros. Pictures, Turner Ent., Castle Rock Ent., HBO Home Video and New Line Home Ent."

Night Watch Creeps on DVD

"The first in the blockbuster vampire trilogy from Russia, *Night Watch*, bows on DVD (Fox Home Ent., \$27.98) June 20, 2006. Directed by Timur Bekmambetov, *Night Watch* is a present-day struggle in Moscow between the forces of light and darkness. Included in the two-disc set are both Russian-language and English-language widescreen versions. In fact, the subtitles are graphically inserted for creative effect. According to VFX supervisor Vladimir Leschinsk, who pulled together 16 vendors and several freelancers from across his country, *Night Watch* represents the first large scale VFX movie in Russian history, encompassing 700 digital shots blending multiple tools and software pipelines.

"Bonus features on the DVD include an extended ending titled 'The Roof' with optional director commentary, a sneak peek at the upcoming sequels and director commentary with the Russian version."

<http://www.awn.com>

all the above media items forwarded by Felicity Walker
to BCSFA list, June 21, 2006

Pirates (a new subfandom)

"The Portland Pirate Festival is happening Sat 23 Sep in Cathedral Park under the St Johns Bridge here in north Portland. The tall ship '*Lynx*' will be docked and open for tours, too. Details at:

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

"The site doesn't mention an admission fee but I have an email in to them and will post as soon as I hear back."

Brenna Sharp to GPACG group, July 7, 2006

((Ula Brennasdottir, also of Portland, suggests the admission fee will be on the order of US\$5 or US\$10. -GS))

WHY YOU GOT THIS

- You are a member. — You are a non-member.
- You drank and drove. — You use the word "Bedad".
- You are dealing in realistic future possibilities (that carries a penalty of five to ten years).
- You got trapped in the seed vault, and this is part of your flashback episode.
- You asserted in 1977 that there was "no reason anyone would want a zine in their home."
- You did a serious news segment on whether robots will take over the Earth.
- You've seen online evidence of UFO technology.
- You wrote the worst LoC of the year.
- Your eyes run like weasels.
- You treat Toynbee plaques like graffiti.
- You really dig semi-obscure.
- You're the man now, dog.
- You don't dress funny, and you're not a virgin.
- You skewered Ann Coulter. (Ew!)
- You just came out on DVD.