

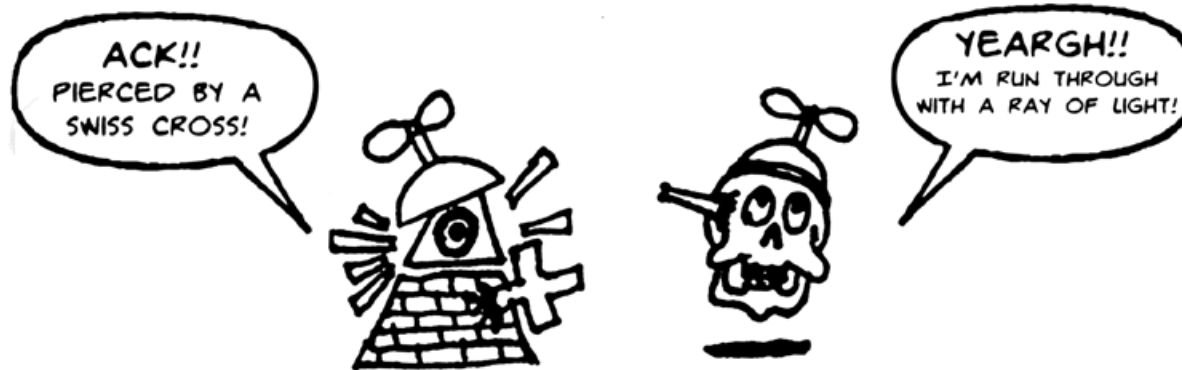
BCSFA Zine

The newsletter of the B.C. Science Fiction Association

#422

\$3.00

July 2008



Contents

The World According to Me	1
Letters of Comment	2
Calendar.....	5
News.....	10
Media File.....	24

Colophon

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Please send comments, subscriptions, suggestions, and/or submissions to Garth Spencer (the Editor), at garthspencer@shaw.ca or Box 15335, VMPO, Vancouver, BC, CANADA V6B 5B1. *BCSFAzine* solicits electronic submissions, and black and white line illustrations in JPG or GIF format, and offers contributor's copies.

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This Month in BCSFA

Friday, July 11 from 8 pm: *BCSFAzine* deadline – see Garth at FRED (at Boston Pizza, Broadway near Granville) if you want to submit to issue #408

Thursday, July 17 @ 7 pm: July book discussion at "Our Town" café, 245 East Broadway, Vancouver, starting at 7 pm. Book to be discussed will be *Fool's Errant* by Matthew Hughes.

Saturday, July 19 from 7 pm: BCSFA party/meeting at Kathleen Moore-Freeman's, 7064 No. 1 Road, Richmond, BC V7C 1T6

Friday, July 25 from 8 pm: *BCSFAzine* production – distribution starts at FRED

Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead Masthead, p. 10
Joe Devoy cover
Felicity Walker pp. 5, 24

The World According to Me

A while ago I contemplated starting a new column here, where anyone can brainstorm an original idea for science fiction, or fan activities, or maybe an amateur film or a game or something. For a while I was going to start by offering a sample crank theory of mine, but I gather too many people are frightened by formulas and graphs and things that look like math. Now, I think I can offer a game concept, and see what you bright people can do with it.

Let's call this game "Connect the Dots". The basic idea is, you wake up one day and nobody quite makes sense anymore. Faces are the same, clothes are the same, the language seems to be the same but there's some kind of disconnect between their speech and their behaviour. Everybody has a hidden agenda, or at least forgets to tell you half of what they mean to say. Your task is to pick up on scattered clues, and hidden cues, and from insufficient information, make the best guess you can – as quickly as you can – what it is that people want from you.

There's no rule against asking people directly, but they won't give you answers. Not meaningful ones. They can't help it; the kinds of information we're targeting with this game are precisely the kinds that are subliminal or subconscious for people – and almost anyone will be irritated and exasperated, when you ask them what every other word and phrase means. Hardly anyone can *articulate*.

Like a lot of science fiction (and fantasy), this game proposal is a metaphor for something about contemporary life: for the way life looks to autistic people, or people with Asperger's syndrome. Interestingly enough, the kinds of things they (oh all right, we) Just Don't Get are much the same kinds of things small children, or foreigners, or new Canadians don't get: the meanings of common idioms, gestures and facial expressions; the connotations of fashion, of portable accessories and cars and other bling, or what passes for cool.

For some fairly stable world knowledge – traffic rules, for instance, or the basics of copyright, or when you really need to see a lawyer and when you really don't – I suppose we could work up a life skills guide, which new Canadians and Aspys would equally find useful. For some things, like the latest version of English or the street definition of cool, some perceptual training is required; and a lot of people won't benefit by any amount of training, any more than a colour-blind man is likely to learn how to colour-coordinate his clothes.

Constructing a “Connect the Dots” game is a useful thought experiment, mainly because just going to the effort highlights what the issues are, in non-verbal communication – and can spotlight what kinds fail, and for whom.

Anybody else want to start an Autistic Anti-Defamation League?

Letters of Comment

John Purcell, 31 May 2008

(to *BCSFazine* 420)

Here is a quick loc to let you know that I have once again read and enjoyed your club's newsletter. There are actually two things in here that really caught my interest: first off, that charmingly lewd cover art by Taral Wayne (he's been drawing these lithe nymphets for many years now, hasn't he?"); and secondly, I am wondering what FRED stands for/ I tried figuring out the acronym from clues in this issue to no avail. Please enlighten me, kind sir. Thank you.

((FRED originally meant “Fuck Reality, Enjoy Drinking”, then they amended it for public consumption to “Forget Reality...”))

Okay, I found something else to comment on. Anthony Murfet mentions in his loc that BCSFA has been running for something like thirty years now. That's a nice stretch for an sf club to be maintaining. Judging by the info in the *BCSFazines* I have read, it looks like the club is a good size in terms of membership. That in turn makes me wonder if you have any idea of the actual numbers. Once again, I request your indulgence to provide said information. This is the fan historian acting up in me; information like this is somehow interesting to this old phart fan.

((When I gave up waiting for Steve and did my own BCSFA membership directory, I found that we had between 75 to 100 members at any given time. The number of members we fall out of touch with – moved without forwarding address, died without telling us, stopped trading zines – versus the irregular bursts of new members joining, is highly variable.))

The Norwescon 31 report was a reminder to me of what Minicons were like when they cracked the 3000 membership barrier: chaotic fun. As a matter of fact, Cosmic Ray's write-up sounded very much like what a Minicon of the 1980s was like. I am glad that everyone who was there enjoyed this con behemoth. Back in the day, those huge Minicons were fun, although it was very easy to get burned out by attempting to take it ALL in. That is how I learned that there is only a certain amount of fannish fun that I can take. Still, Ray makes it sound like A Good Time Was Had By All, and that is most certainly important.

((I went to one Norwescon. Once. I tend to burn out easily at conventions, and can't tolerate very great numbers. I'm just weird that way.))

Thanks for posting this, and I hope to see you someday in the future.

((Vancouver is more accessible than some places I can think of, like Victoria. We've got a connection to the I-5, and an airport, and everything. We even drive on the right, like Americans do.))

BCSFAZINEzine, Volume 1, Number 70.421, Friday 27 June 2008

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

Things in My Mailbox - "Who wants to do reviews for me?" Let me take a look at the premises on the backs of the books and see if I'd be the right person to review any of them.

((I have in hand Clan of the Dung-Sniffers, about a gang of cynical ironic social outcasts who have to Fix the Glowing Tchochkis of the Marble Tower; Righteous Anger, about sword-duelling space-pilot aristos; and Lachlei, about a Red Sonja clone fighting with gods in a para-Iron Age setting. All these are Edge Publishing review copies.))

I re-read BCSFAzine #420 and I can't find any anti-Americanism either.

((Actually Mike Glycer was reacting to RSNG #15, my personalzine.))

"((I wasn't aware that Utopia was an ideal.))" Not in the sarcastic sense that Thomas More intended, but fuck him. A world without suffering is still worth aiming for.

Letters - Lloyd Penney: "There may be some who are old-fashioned enough to think they aren't getting their membership money's worth..." That raises a good point. Do I get a refund on the issues that won't see print? (Am I a paid member currently?)

To: Felicity Walker - “((You really must spell out in plain English what your reasons are.))” Doing so here would open a can of worms. Ask me the next time you see me in person.

News - Our President Mugged Near His Home:

Holy shit.

I like going out at night. I need martial arts lessons and a gun so I can be safe. I can't afford to give away my wallet or purse and the money in it. I need my driver's license to drive, so I can't leave that at home. I don't want Vancouver to become just another decaying city where it's not safe to go out after dark. We have to organize and fight back, make people like Graeme's attacker conclude that it's not worth the risk.

((Pick your words carefully. Bear in mind that a gun is a weapon, not a shield, and we both need to get in shape even before considering martial arts. Graeme had no particular reason to expect to be attacked, there and then, except it's just that part of Surrey.))

PodCasts: Both sound interesting!

Lloyd Penney, 1706 - 24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9C 2B2, penneys @ allstream.net, June 27, 2008

Thanks for *BCSFazine* 421...the front page was sideways in the .pdf, but that may be a quirk of the new software. Anyway, comments ensue...

The books from Edge...*Clan of the Dung-Sniffers*? Sounds like another Sharyn McCrumb book, actually. It's titles like that that make other literary types wonder about us, you know... a glass was raised re the World Wide Party on June 21; we were at the home of David Clink just north of Toronto, and had a fine time.

A new editor? Look, I get angry with fandom, too, and with people in general. Society today seems to be little more than a waste of good brain cells. But, we've got our own internal editors that allow us to think what we like inside, and say what we should outside. Being anti-Bush or even anti-American-lifestyle should not be the same as being anti-American. In the long run, they are friends, and I think deep down, they'd like their own country to be better than it is, just as we wish for a better Canada. I get the feeling a change in the presidency will mean lots of changes for the good in the US and elsewhere. The membership will have to speak on this, and see if there is someone willing to step into your shoes.

My definition of sercon probably isn't anyone else's, but for what it's worth... Sercon is short for serious and constructive, and sercon makes things happen. Sercon gets the cons, clubs, parties and bids organized and functioning. Sercon lets the good times roll, especially when you leave your ego at the door, and learn to

work well with others. Sercon may even have a political bent to it, but it is positive politics, and not the usual negative we're all subjected to. It's goal-oriented, and group-oriented.

How are you now, Graeme? Physically, it'll take a while, and psychologically, it'll take a lot longer, but I hope you've been able to put the worst of this behind you.

The convention panel at Anime North that Marc Nadeau wrote about...he was the moderator, but Yvonne and I were the panelists. The audience mostly consisted of the concom of AniMaritime, the annual anime con in Moncton, New Brunswick. Good folks to talk to, and as soon as time allows, we should get back in touch with them, and see what's going on.

One page should do it for now...this weekend is the annual General Assembly of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, being held at York University, and we are attending and working it. This afternoon is a grand tour of MacDonald Dettwiler's plant in Brampton, and perhaps we can see some more of the work they're doing on future Canadarms. Enjoy the warm summer, hope this loc got in to you on time, and see you next issue.

He who is afraid of asking is afraid of learning.
- Danish Proverb



Calendar

July 2008

July 6 - Vancouver Comicon. Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (corner of Main and 15th Ave). Special Guests: Camilla d'Errico (*Nightmares and Fairytales*); Rusty Beach (*Outnumbered*); Jordyn Bochon (*Radar Friends*); Kelly Everaert (*Trilogy of Terror*); Robin Thompson (*Champions of Hell, Hemp Island*); Stephanie Blakey; Jonathon Dalton; Heather Frayne; Donald King; Citty Riphick;

Carrie McKay; Lisa Simon; Critical Hit Comics. Admission: \$3.00; Kids under 14: Free! Dealer Tables: \$50/wall; \$40/centre. For more info about show, please email lswong@uniserve.com or call 604-322-6412

July 18-21: PDX Lan - Portland, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.pdxlan.net/portland/>

July 19 - Aug 24: Summer Village Festival - Duvall, Washington. See Website: http://www.camlann.org/summer_festivals.htm

July 25-27: MerpCon - Spokane, Washington. See Website: <http://www.merpcon.com>

July 27-29: CMP Conclave at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver, Vancouver, BC.
<http://www.conventionindustry.org/events/conclave2008.htm>

August 2008

Aug. 1-3: Fandemonium in Nampa, ID. (General, but with gaming, anime and comics emphases): <http://www.fandemonium.org/>

Aug. 1-3: SpoCon 2008 on the Gonzaga University campus. GoH: Tim Zahn. See <http://www.spocon.us/>

Aug. 2: Subversion Anime Fest - Portland, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.dreamlandjapan.com/events/?p=14>

Aug 02 - 03, & 16 - 17: Washington Renaissance Fantasy Faire - Belfair, Washington. See Website: <http://www.washingtonrenfaire.com/>

Aug 3: Zuiichi in Vancouver, Washington. "Dreamland Japan announces Zuiichi one-day event Dreamland Japan is pleased to announce Zuiichi- the ultimate treat in random fandom, a new experience in fan run events. Zuiichi provides four star food, modern theatre-style viewing rooms with leather seating, sake and wine tasting, and a staff trained to personally cater to the attendees' needs, all included in the ticket price. The programming is fans for fans, though special consideration is taken on adult-age fans, giving a balanced approach to fandom activities. Fans will be able to take pleasure in a mixed palate of viewings and events. Those attending may sip tea at the Ouran Host Club tea party, view the latest Lolita fashion, and see *Serenity* on the big screen at this unique celebration of high-end fandom. Furthermore, Zuiichi offers a new twist on food: all meals are included. Rather than depending on a diet of ramen and pocky, fans will be able to feast on roast beef, salads, pastries, and pastas from a custom gourmet catered four-star menu. These dining experience will also include local wines and a specialized selection of sake. The food, viewing, tasting, guests, and world-class service are all part of the experience. Dreamland Japan events emphasize indulging in the very best. www.zuiichi-event.com

Aug. 6-10: Worldcon 66/Denvention 33 in Denver, CO. New rates from 1 Jan to 10 Jul: \$200 reg, \$50 child or supp. Contact Denvention, PO Box 1349, Denver, CO 80201, USA. Memberships: \$200 reg, \$50 child or supporting. _Advance booking closes 10 July._ At-door rates TBA. Contact Denvention, PO Box 1349, Denver, CO 80201, USA.

Aug 7-10: Fragapalooza - Edmonton, Alberta. See Website: <http://www.fragapalooza.com/>

Aug. 8-10: Animethon 15 - Edmonton, Alberta. See Website: <http://www.animethon.org/>

Aug. 8-10: Dragonflight - Bellevue, Washington. See Website: <http://www.dragonflight.org/>

Aug. 12-24: GateCon - Vancouver, BC. See Website: <http://gatecon.com/vancouver/>

Aug. 15-17: Con-Version - Calgary, Alberta. See Website: <http://www.con-version.org/>

Aug. 22-24: Anime Evolution - Burnaby, BC. See Website: <http://www.animeevolution.com/>

Aug. 23: CybCon - Tacoma, Washington. See Website: <http://www.ggaub.com/tf/cybcon2k8.html>

Aug. 23-24: Portland Zine Symposium - Portland, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.pdxzines.com/>

Aug. 24, 11am to 5pm: Comix & Stories is involved with the Vancouver Art Gallery's KRAZY! show (http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/the_exhibitions/exhibit_krazy.html) at the Vancouver Art Gallery, 750 Hornby Street, Vancouver, BC
Special Guests: Kim Deitch Derek Kirk Kim Jesse Hamm
Creator tables: \$25 by June 30; \$35 after June 30
Publisher tables: \$50 by June 30; \$65 after June 30
For more information about either show, or to be removed from this list, please email lswong@uniserve.com or call 604-322-6412 -- Leonard S Wong lswong@uniserve.com
<http://mypages.uniserve.com/~lswong/Comicon.html>

Aug. 29-31: **BC Renaissance Festival** - Ft. Langley, BC Canada. See Website: <http://www.bcrenfest.com/>

Aug. 29-31 (tentative): ValhallaCon 2008 in Bellingham, Washington. ValhallaCon is the successor to VikingCon, Bellingham's premier SF/F convention. Our website is at <http://valhallacon.com/>.

Aug. 29-31: HårnCon VI - Vancouver, BC. See Website: <http://www.vancouvergamingguild.com/Harncon/>

Aug. 29-31: Penny Arcade Expo(PAX) - Seattle, Washington. See Website: <http://www.pennyarcadeexpo.com/>

Aug. 30 – Sept. 1: Kumoricon - Portland, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.kumoricon.org/>

September 2008

Sept. 13-14: Shrewsbury Renaissance Faire - Kings Valley, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.shrewfaire.com/>

Sept. 19-21: FallCon - Calgary, Alberta. See Website: <http://www.fallcon.com>

Sept. 20: Evergreen Air & Space Museum Model Show - McMinnville, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.geocities.com/oregonshow/>

Sept. 20-21: Portland Pirate Festival - Portland, Oregon. See Website: <http://www.portlandpiratefestival.com/>

Sept. 23: Northwest Event Show - Seattle, Washington. See Website: <http://www.nweventshow.com/>

Sept. 26-28: Foolsap X in Bellevue, WA. (general SF with an intimate atmosphere and an excellent chance of meeting and having close encounters with the Guests of Honor) <http://www.foolscapcon.org/>

Sept. 26-28: RainFurrest - Sea-Tac, Washington. See Website: <http://www.rainfurrest.org/>

Sept. 27-28: Aurora-Con - Anchorage, Alaska. See Website: <http://www.auroracon.org/>

Sept. 27: Bell-Con- Bellingham, Washington. See Website: <http://www.myspace.com/bellcon2007>

October 2008

Oct 18: 24 Hour Comics Day (24HCD). This is an annual event that started in 2004 "where cartoonists around the world each try to create 24 pages of comics in 24 hours. .. To help these cartoonists, some [organizations] will host special 24 Hour Comics Day events." During 2004 to 2007 Elfsar (in downtown Vancouver) has been the location of the only 24HCD-event in British Columbia, so Elfsar will probably have a 24HCD-event this year. More info at <http://24hourcomics.com/>

Oct. 24-26: MileHiCon 40 - Denver, Colorado (General SF in the mile high city)

Oct. 30 - Nov. 2: World Fantasy Convention 2008 in Calgary, Alberta. Theme: "Mystery in Fantasy and Horror." GoHs: David Morrell, Barbara Hambly, Tom Doherty; ArtGoH: Todd Lockwood; TM: Tad Williams. World Fantasy is a literary focused convention that is in a different city every year. This is only the third time it has been in Canada and the first time it has been west of Ottawa. The convention is aimed at authors, developing writers, readers and artists. Attendance is limited to 850 attendees. The convention theme in 2008 is "Mystery in Fantasy and Horror". During the day there will be two streams of discussion panels and two streams of author readings. Major events are the Friday night autograph session and the Sunday afternoon World Fantasy Awards banquet. More details coming on www.worldfantasy2008.org

Oct. 3-5: VCon 33 at the Compass Point Inn, Surrey, BC. The confirmed Guests of Honour are Author Patrick Rothfuss, Artist Lisa Snellings-Clark, and Gamer James Ernest. Make reservations with the Compass Point Inn at 9850 King George Highway. See www.vcon.ca

Oct. 30 - Nov. 2: World Fantasy Convention 2008 in Calgary, Alberta. Theme: "Mystery in Fantasy and Horror." GoHs: David Morrell, Barbara Hambly, Tom Doherty; ArtGoH: Todd Lockwood; TM: Tad Williams. World Fantasy is a literary focused convention that is in a different city every year. This is only the third time it has been in Canada and the first time it has been west of Ottawa. The convention is aimed at authors, developing writers, readers and artists. Attendance is limited to 850 attendees. The convention theme in 2008 is "Mystery in Fantasy and Horror". During the day there will be two streams of discussion panels and two streams of author readings. Major events are the Friday night autograph session and the Sunday afternoon World Fantasy Awards banquet. More details coming on www.worldfantasy2008.org

December 2008

Dec 30/08 – Jan. 1/09: M.E.W. Convention at the Red Lion at the Quay at Vancouver, Washington. M.E.W. is a New Year's cross genre celebration offering a diverse programming lineup of anime, costuming, fantasy, gaming, manga, science fiction, and much, much, more. M.E.W. is pleased to welcome The Slants (Chinatown Dance Rock synth rock band) and A-Key-Kyo (J-Pop) as our honored guests. The sponsor, Manga and Exotic Worlds LLC, is an independent business based in Beaverton, Oregon whose mission is to promote creativity and imagination through all forms and mediums of art and literacy. Fans, writers and artists alike are encouraged to have fun, connect and exchange ideas through events, forums, web content and meetings. For more information, visit www.mewcon.com.

July 2009

July 2-5: Westercon 62: FestaCon - Tempe, AZ

August 2009

Aug. 6-10: Anticipation (67th Worldcon), Palais des congrès de Montreal, Montreal, Canada. GoH Neil Gaiman, Elisabeth Vonarburg, Taral Wayne, David Hartwell, Tom Doherty. Contact C.P. 105, Succursale NDG, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H4A 3P4. Author Julie Czerneda will be Master of Ceremonies. Artist GoH announced: Ralph Bakshi. Memberships: \$Can190/\$US190/£95/€130 reg _to 31 July_; \$Can55/\$US55/£30/€35 supp; discounts for site selection voters, presupporters, etc. See <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/> , email: media@anticipationsf.ca or write to: Anticipation The 67th World Science Fiction Convention, P.O. Box 105, Station NDG Montréal, QC H4A 3P4.



News

Member News

Portland member John Bartley began employment with Yahoo at the beginning of June 2008.

New Westminster member Ray Seredin's mother passed on before the end of June 2008. He has our condolences.

AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

Kathy Tyers, who was a big hit as an author guest at BIFF back in October 2006, finished the novel that she's been writing as her arts thesis, and read from *Wind and Shadow* in the new library at UBC's Regent College, 5800 University Boulevard, at UBC. This reading was part of the "Integrative Projects in the Arts and Theology" series.

Greg Slade, 21 May 2008

Spider Robinson Reading and Signing

Spider Robinson will be reading from *Very Hard Choices* on July 6th, at 3pm on Sunday, July 6th at White Dwarf Bookstore, 3715 West Tenth Avenue in Vancouver <<http://www.deadwrite.com/wdaut.html#1>>. He'll be signing books following the reading.

For more information and to listen to Spider reading several chapters of *VERY HARD CHOICES* on his weekly podcast, go to <<http://www.spiderrobinson.com/index2.html>>.

BTW, Spider says that anybody that brings a real-live polar bear to the reading gets a free autographed book. Hope to see you there!

Jeanne Robinson, June 27, 2008

Lynne Fahnestalk at Dragonspace

VCON 31's Artist Guest of Honour, Lynne Taylor Fahnestalk, has some of her pieces on sale at Dragonspace, on Granville Island. They're there on trial, only until mid-July, so if you want one, or want to support one of our own, you don't have to wait until you visit the Art Show or Dealers' Room at VCON.

Susan Walsh, 20 June 2008

GENERAL HAMMOND PASSES ON: Actor Don S. Davis dies in Gibsons
(from Chad Skelton's article in the Vancouver Sun, Monday, June 30, 2008)

"BRITISH COLUMBIA - Don Sinclair Davis, a B.C. actor best known for his recurring role on the TV show *Stargate SG-1*, died of a heart attack Sunday morning at his home in Gibsons. He was 65. ...

"Davis, who had a PhD in theatre, was born and raised in Missouri and began acting in the early 1980s while teaching at the University of British Columbia. In 1987, he gave up teaching to act full time.

"Davis served three years in the army in the 1960s and two of his best-known TV roles were playing military men: General George Hammond in *Stargate SG-1* and Major Garland Briggs in *Twin Peaks*. ..."

SFNorthwest email list, 02 July 2008

AWARDS

Broadening v. Eliminating Fan Aurora Awards

You may have heard (here) about the Aurora Awards sort of Having Issues this year. For one thing, it took a while to see this year's results, which Graeme has kindly supplied:

(posted in issue #10 (June issue) of *WCSFAzine* online at Bill Burns efanzines.com site)

"Got the info from <http://sfcanada.ca/> the Cdn sf writers site:

- Best Long-Form Work in English / Meilleur livre en anglais: *The New Moon's Arms*, Nalo Hopkinson (Warner)
- Meilleur livre en français / Best Long-Form Work in French: *Cimetière du musée*, Diane Boudreau (du Phoenix)
- Best Short-Form Work in English / Meilleure nouvelle en anglais: "Like Water in the Desert," Hayden Trenholm (*Challenging Destiny* #24) (novelette)
- Meilleure nouvelle en français / Best Short-Form Work in French: "Sur la plage des épaves," Laurent MacAllister (*Solaris* 164)
- Best Work in English (Other) / Meilleur ouvrage en anglais (Autre): *Under Cover of Darkness*, Julie E. Czerneda & Jana Panaccia, eds., DAW
- Meilleur ouvrage en français (Autre) / Best Work in French (Other): No Nominations
- Artistic Achievement / Accomplissement artistique: Lar deSouza (*On Spec* Winter 2007, Parsec Spring/Summer 2007)
- Fan Achievement (Fanzine) / Accomplissement fanique (Fanzine): No Award / Pas de prix
- Fan Achievement (Organizational) / Accomplissement fanique (Organisation): Penny Lipman, masquerades
- Fan Achievement (Other) / Accomplissement fanique (autre): Paul Bobbitt, editor, *The Voyageur*

As Taral put it, "Has anyone noticed that the results of the other Auroras seems to be top secret? At least none of you have forwarded them and I didn't get the news from Keycon ..."

There has been particular discussion about stretching the fanzine category to include online activities and publications. The 2008 business meeting minutes, *finally* posted at the new Aurora Awards website, includes this interesting amendment:

MOVED THAT:

Article II...Section 5: Fan Achievement:

.....A: Fan Achievement (publication): For a Canadian fanzine or fannish newsletter or amateur publication relating to science fiction and fantasy fandom published at least once during the previous calendar year. Publications may be either hard copy/paper or electronic. Club publications, such as clubzines, are not eligible for this award.

BE AMENDED TO:

Article II.....A: Fan Achievement (publication): For a Canadian fanzine or fannish newsletter, amateur publication or blog or other type of publication relating to science fiction and fantasy fandom published either in hard copy/paper or electronically at least once during the previous calendar year. Club publications, such as clubzines, are not eligible for this award. This award is open to a wide range of fannish publications in all media.

Moved by Clint Budd and seconded by Robert Sawyer Carried +# 11 -# 0

Not everybody has helpful suggestions; one sardonic writer said that "by comparison, Canadian fandom really is dull, lacklustre, mundane, self-absorbed, incurious, and largely untalented in any way that interests me at least. US, British, and Aussie fandom really is more interesting. I hate to say it, but as far as the print medium goes that's where fandom is. Other than Dale Speirs (relatively mediocre) *Opuntia*, there virtually is no fanzine fandom here." He sounded a lot like me on some days.

There was at least one reasoned, considered response from Taral Wayne. After ending one email by concluding that the Auroras could just as well eliminate its fan categories, Taral later added:

I nearly forgot to mention - we might as well be prepared, and not surprised if a tweaked version of the fan (pub) category doesn't produce any better results than they did this year. What guarantee do we have that the fans will read on-line fanzines, web pages, or blogs just because the rules recognize them?

Taral Wayne, 21 May 2008

FINALISTS FOR EIGHTH ANNUAL SUNBURST AWARD ANNOUNCED

TORONTO, ONTARIO (May 26, 2008) - The short-listed works in the adult category for the 2008 Sunburst Award are:

Double-blind - Michelle Butler Hallett

Darkness of the God - Amber Hayward

The New Moon's Arms - Nalo Hopkinson

Wonderfull - William Neil Scott
Axis - Robert Charles Wilson

The short-listed works in the young adult category for the 2008 Sunburst Award are:

Choices - Deborah Lynn Jacobs
Retribution - Carrie Mac
Darkwing - Kenneth Opper
Anthem of a Reluctant Prophet - Joanne Proulx
The Night Wanderer - Drew Hayden Taylor

The Sunburst Award for Canadian Literature of the Fantastic is a prized and juried award that is presented annually. Named after the debut novel by Phyllis Gotlieb, one of the first published authors of contemporary Canadian speculative fiction, the award consists of a cash prize of \$1,000 and a hand-crafted medallion, which incorporates the "Sunburst" logo, designed by Marcel Gagné. It is based on excellence of writing; the jury selects five short-listed works and one winner, representing the finest of Canadian fantastic literature published during the 2007 calendar year. The requirements of the young adult award are the same as for the adult award except for the age of the audience to which the work is addressed. The winner of the annual young adult award will also receive a medallion and prize of \$1,000.

The jurors for the 2008 award are: Timothy Anderson, Kelley Armstrong, Barbara Haworth-Attard, Dena Bain Taylor, and Robert J. Wiersema. ...

For further information about the Sunburst Award, including information about past nominees, winners, and jurors, please visit: www.sunburstaward.org.

Rebecca * 29 May 2008

BIFF

A few months back, somebody at BIFF (probably Val) shared a statistic which must be disheartening for wannabe authors. Apparently, 80% of books published sell fewer than 99 copies. If everyone who was at Kathy Tyers' reading last Friday buys a copy of *Wind and Shadow* when it comes out, then she's guaranteed to reach the 81st percentile on that basis alone. Of course, she's got fans elsewhere, but the crowd at Regent tonight was large, and plainly biased in her favour. But that didn't stop one of them from getting excited when she learned that there were real live science fiction fans there who aren't associated with Regent College. (Apparently, Kathy has managed to win over a large crowd of new fans during her time there, just on the basis of her personality. She really is a very nice person, so that's no surprise.)

But, of course, the one thing I came away with from the evening is the knowledge that I. Must. Have. This. Book. It's sort of a "Firebird: The Next Generation" story, but even the condensed version of the first three chapters that she read to us was enough to hook me. The bad news is that she doesn't have a contract for it, so it's anybody's guess which publisher will end up buying it. She did let slip that one press has expressed interest, with enough clues that I can guess which one, but what with all the lead time in book publishing, it could well take a couple of years before I'll actually be able to lay hands on my very own copy. (Note to Santa Claus: I hope you're paying attention, here.)

We've been having so much fun swapping videos around that we're going to do it again. Yes, BIFF will be holding yet another Video Crossing Night. Just bring any science fiction, fantasy, anime, comic, or gaming related videos (on DVD, VCD, VHS, Blue-Ray,

HD DVD, Beta, Laser Disc, or whatever) that you don't want to keep any more, and give them away. Then, take your pick from the selection that other Befits bring in, and we can all go home happy.

Greg Slade, 28 May 2008

Aside from the usual "where did you find *that*?" discussion, we talked about Colleen's plan to drive herself insane (well, okay, more insane) by watching movies for 48 hours straight, to raise money for the CKNW orphans fund. (Upon hearing this, I immediately began plotting which movie would kill the most brain cells. Do I bring H.G. Wells' *The Shape of Things to Come* out of its lead-lined box, or maybe *The Star Wars Holiday Special*? Or should I put away all compunction, and try to source a copy of *Battle Beyond the Stars*? Or should I have pity, and pledge money for her to watch something she'd actually enjoy, like Phil the Alien?)

We also discussed tomorrow's location scouting event for the 13th Colony (Lonsdale Quay at 1:00: be there, or be mundane), various rumours of Battlestar Galactica projects to tide fans over another long hiatus, and the rumour that Illuminares won't be happening this summer.

[03 June 2008] was the 25th anniversary of the premiere of *War Games*, a comedy that explores Cold War paranoia, hacking, nerdiness, love, hope, despair, and learning to swim. To celebrate this auspicious occasion (only three days late), we will gather with our liked ones, and await the fiery end of the human race by nuclear holocaust. Or, if that fails to happen, we'll just watch the movie.

[08 June 2008] another joint event with the 13th Colony, to (well, "celebrate" isn't exactly the right word... I know!) "observe" the last episode of *Battlestar Galactica* for this year, and burn the programming executives at the Sci-Fi Network in effigy for making us wait so long to see the rest of the story. (Or maybe we'll skip the effigy-burning. It might make the restaurant management nervous.)

Since we figure there's a limit of about 30 people who can fit into the "Green Room" comfortably, if you're on Meetup.com, you should RSVP through the Frakkin' Cliffhanger page. Because the show starts at 7:00, we will be moving the usual start time for the meeting up to 5:30, to give people a chance to order and eat before the show starts. Val has also announced a "creativity challenge", asking people to bring any artistic creation in any medium (including macaroni) on a BSG theme.

Greg Slade, 04 June 2008

BLOGS & CLUBS

Isaac Alexander writes: "Some of you are aware that I've been writing a weekly blog about news taking place in the Pacific Northwest (Cascadia) called Cascadia News Bytes. In addition to that, I've been collecting not only a list of conventions and events taking place in the region, but also a list of clubs, groups, and organizations that meet as well. I'm currently in need of everyone's help in looking at a list I've organized to insure that all the respective groups in Cascadia are listed. If you don't see one that you know listed, please contact me PRIVATELY with the following information so I can update it again at the end of the month: Name, Website, Type of Organization, City/State or Province.

- Complete List of NW Clubs, Groups, & Attractions: <http://nwsfsnews.googlepages.com/othernwclubs%2Cgroups%2Candattractions>
- NWSFS Blog (where my posts appear): <http://nwsfsnews.blogspot.com/>

"I'm hoping by creating this list, convention/festival organizers will have an easier time contacting local fandom to invite them to their respective event. Thank you."

NWConLeague email list, 17 May 2008

N3F in Crisis

Anyone remember the National Fantasy Fan Federation? Apparently they have had sufficient problems finding and keeping editors for their publication(s), the question has been raised whether they should fold up.

Susan van Schuyver writes:

Over the years I have resisted having the zine strictly online with copies mailed only to those without online access and in a much simpler form like a Word document, but I am ready to make the change. We have struggled for years trying to find and keep zine editors; it is a big job and few people have the time or desire anymore. Along with the zine change would need to be a significant reduction in dues. I don't know how we would make the change exactly. I'm pretty sure it would mean changes in the Constitution and Bylaws and a vote of the membership.

I like Sarah's ideas for the website, but I do not have the expertise to make those additions to the website either. Truthfully, my membership expires in July and I was considering not renewing. Like Sally, I have additional personal responsibilities and little time to try to rejuvenate the N3F. I would renew to help make these changes to try to keep the club going. However, I no longer think a membership drive would make a difference. We have done flyers, ads, con booths--we just can't sustain the club anymore in its current form.

This followed from a previous message, from Sarah E. Harder, head of the N3F Artists' Bureau:

I think N3F /could/ be a viable club now and in the future...we've talked about changing with the times and have done so to some degree, but not even close to the rate of technological (and other) changes/advances including changes in fannish and communication trends.

Perhaps the zine should be strictly online and only printed out and mailed to those without computer access. I'm suggesting this only as a possible way to help the club because personally I prefer the zines in the mail. Ruth has seemed to intimate that doing the online zine is easier than the snail mail. If doing the zine online will make members more apt to volunteer to edit then perhaps we should consider it.

I know we had trouble with spam on the forums but if there was a way to make the n3f website a more up-to-date and interactive experience perhaps we would lure new members. Perhaps we could offer new things we haven't offered before - sort of like a con experience on line. Our old flyers used to say "The Con experience doesn't have to end"...perhaps we should make that more of a reality. Even if we have members who don't or can't attend cons it's still a way for them to keep informed of what's going on in the world of fandom, which does primarily take shape in the form of cons.

Some examples of what we could have on the site (names can be changed):

CONnection - a place for con directors (or whomever) to list their cons. Also a place for attendees to write con reports.

Filk Fun - a place for dealers and artists to list their new cd's available. Also a place for filking circles across the USA to list their events

Gatherings - a place for local/regional fan groups to list their clubs, meeting times, etc.

Online Round Robins - this doesn't seem to have garnered too much interest with our current membership but since most folks are online nowadays it could be a possibility.

Here's one last thought - a last resort I suppose... we could put the word out (at cons in particular) that we are experiencing hard times and put out a plea for fans to join and volunteer... we could say when we were founded and say "don't let this historical organization die!". Well, perhaps not those exact words but you get the idea... we can educate the up and coming fan and by doing so hopefully get them interested in a club that's been around for so long. Any thoughts on anything I've written? I'd be willing to help "get the word" out. I'm afraid I do not have the tech know-how to accomplish the suggestions regarding the website.

For more information, see www.n3f.org.

Timebinders email list, 28 May 2008

COMIC ARTISTS

"There is a Goth House update here: http://www.gothhouse.org/gh_features/night.php

"It is Clarion West Write-a-thon time! I am once again asking for donations in the extremely lucky amount of \$13. My page isn't up yet, but it will be here: <http://www.clarionwest.org/events/writeathon>

"Or, you know, you could just decide to donate to somebody else. It will make me cry a little, but it's fun to make me cry, isn't it? Isn't it?"

Julie McGalliard, 13 June 2008

CONVENTIONS

RALPH BAKSHI TO BE 2009 WORLDCON GoH

"Anticipation, the Montreal Worldcon in 2009, announced in June 2008 that Ralph Bakshi has accepted an invitation to be Artist Guest of Honour.

"Mr. Bakshi's career spans five decades, during which he has created memorable and groundbreaking films including Wizards, Fire and Ice and the first film adaptation of The Lord of the Rings. In addition, he has worked on and directed a variety of television shows including Rocket Robin Hood, Spiderman, The Mighty Heroes and The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse.

"Our newest Guest of Honor joins those we announced in September 2007: Neil Gaiman, Elisabeth Vonarburg, Tom Doherty, David Hartwell and Taral Wayne. Author Julie Czerneda will be Master of Ceremonies.

"Anticipation Announces Competition to Design the 2009 Hugo Award Base

"The World Science Fiction Convention has presented the Hugo Awards for achievement in science fiction for 55 years. They are named after author and editor Hugo Gernsback. A rocket has always been the central element of the trophy, and its manufacture has been standardized over the past several decades. The base design changes yearly, often reflecting the country, state, or province in which the Convention takes place. Design of the Hugo Award Base The winning proposal will conform to certain general and technical specifications. Those are: • Bases may be made of wood, metal, lucite, or any other material which has a fixed form. Materials that are fragile or change form with age or extremes of temperature are not suitable. • Bases must be designed in such a way that the silver Hugo rocket is an integral part of the design. Rockets for the bases will be supplied. • Rockets will be bolted to

the bases from below the tailfins and must be able to stand on a flat surface. Hanging designs are not acceptable. • Specifications on the Hugo rocket are:

“(English) 13" tall 2" across from fin-tip to fin-tip weight 3 lb. 2 oz. bolt 5/16-18 machine screw thread (Metric) 33.02 cm tall 5.08 cm across from fin-tip to fin-tip weight 1.42 kg bolt 5/16-18 machine screw

• Space must be left for a plaque or plaques indicating the convention, winner, and category of award won in an easily readable 12 pt font. • The winning design should have a theme appropriate to Canada and Québec. • It should be kept in mind that designs will be traveling home in people's luggage. Fragile parts, fiddly bits, things that fall off, and anything that would make airport security too nervous is strongly discouraged. Designs shaped like sub-machine guns, for example, are right out. Sharp pointy things are also a bad idea.

“How to enter the competition: Entry in the competition is open to all. Design proposals must be submitted by midnight (EST) October 31st, 2008, and all submissions should include: • Drawings, sketches, and/or a fabricated sample of the proposed base unit. • Cost estimate per base, and estimated total cost for the fabrication and shipping of 25 base units. • Lead time is needed for fabrication. The contest winner will be announced in January 2009. Delivery of at least 25 bases will be expected by 15 April 2009. • Your ability to either craft the bases or arrange for the work to be done. As a guideline, bases should cost no more than \$150 each or less to fabricate. Photos of past Hugo awards can be viewed at http://www.thehugoawards.org/?page_id=10 To enter the competition, proposals should be submitted either electronically or via postal mail. Do not forget to include your name and contact information. The winning designer will also receive a full 5-day membership to Anticipation and will introduce their base design at the Hugo ceremony. Competition entries, regrettably, cannot be returned. The winning entry will not be unveiled until the Hugo Ceremony. Strict confidentiality will be expected of the winner as to the specifics of the design until the Hugo Ceremony at Anticipation. Electronic submission. Please email proposals to hugodesign@anticipationsf.ca. Include the information above and a JPG, TIFF or GIF image of your design. Postal mail submission. Please send the information requested above along with a sketch/drawing/sample base (or a disk or CD containing your sketch/drawing). The physical address is: Anticipation Attn: Diane Lacey, Hugo Base Design C.P. 105, Succursale NDG Montréal, Québec Canada H4A 3P4 Questions? Write to hugodesign@anticipationsf.ca

“Anticipation also announced that their programme participant application form is available through the Programming page on our website.

“In English: <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/English/ParticipantForm>

“In French: <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/Fran%20ais/FormulaireParticipant>

“The tracks and track heads are: Literature in English - Graham Sleight; Literature in French - Jean-Louis Trudel and Christian Sauvé; Science and Technology - Dave Clements; Gaming - Eugene Fong Dere; Filk - Judith Hayman and Peggi Warner-Lalonde; Human Culture - Jo Walton; Children's Programming - Lisa Hertel; Writing Workshops - Gregory Frost and Oz Whiston; Academic (French and English) - Christine Mains and Graham Murphy; Visual Arts - James A. Owen; Costume and Craft - Dawn McKechnie and Martin Constantineau; Media - Howard Picazen; Fandom - to be announced.

“The 67th World Science Fiction Convention, known as Anticipation, will take place in Montréal, Québec, Canada from Thursday, August 6th through Monday, August 10th, 2009. More information about Anticipation, including current membership rates, is available on our web site (<http://www.anticipationsf.ca>); you can also write to us for more information.

“To be removed from the Anticipation press release mailing list please write to media@anticipationsf.ca

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

“WSFS”, “Worldcon”, “World Science Fiction Convention”, “Hugo Award” and “NASFiC” are registered service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

“PDF - http://www.anticipationsf.ca/files/uploads/Anticipation_Press_Release_En_07.pdf; Word - http://www.anticipationsf.ca/files/uploads/Anticipation_Press_Release_En_07.doc; Online - <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/Press/PressRelease07>.

“To be removed from the Anticipation press release mailing list please write to media@anticipationsf.ca

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Rene Walling, 27 May 2008

ConComCon

It appears from C-Cubed email that this conrunner's convention has adopted a stuffed-animal mascot, like Rustycon's slug ... only the C-Cubed mascot is a sea cucumber.

(9-13 June 2008)

Bobbie DuFault writes:

“This C-cubed was great with about 40 in attendance (I forget the exact number) we were able to get a lot of networking done. I feel really good about all the planning we did for the bid as well.

“My overall impression of the weekend is of course skewed by my focus on the bid and I must say that the time spent connecting with everyone including people from the Reno bid was just wonderful. I feel very good about our direction, the pitfalls we could hit, and the weakness and even strengths that were exposed.

“Sally, EJ, Bert and Kat (sorry if I missed anyone) did a good job and I am sure they learned from any mistakes they may have made - growth is good.

“Our location for next year is also very exciting - Vancouver BC - we had 3 people from V-con (Vancouver) and 2 from Toronto and I am really looking forward to making new friends and learning new things next year.

“Lot's of cons were represented, lots of con runners that don't always get the chance to talk - I know I am sounding sort of vague here but I just think overall the event was successful. We even had people from the new Steampunk con that is starting in Seattle - How fun is that!!

“The only really sad thing is we didn't have anyone from Sakura - they recently went through management changes again and no one came - maybe next year.”

Bobbie Dufault to C-Cubed email list, 17 June 2008

Con-Version Rooms

"We have made arrangements that will allow us to get rooms in a consecutive block this year. However, these arrangements involve rooms being charged to the Society master account and therefore must be pre-paid prior to the Society booking them.

All attendees who purchase a room package will be placed in the room block, unless otherwise requested.

Also, as a reminder room packages are not available after July 15th, and any room discounts with the hotel after this date will be subject to room availability.

Please do not contact us the day before con asking for a hotel room *as there will be nothing we can do for you*.

Any hotel room status updates will be posted to this thread.

To unsubscribe from these announcements, login to the forum and uncheck "Receive forum announcements and important notifications by email." in your profile.

You can view the full announcement by following this link: <http://www.csffs.org/forum/index.php?topic=1334.0>

05 June 2008

Crypticon

"Did anyone on this list attend Crypticon Seattle, at the SeaTac Doubletree [on the 26 May weekend]? If so, how was it, how many do you think were there, etc." <http://www.crypticonseattle.com/>

Michael Citrak to SF Northwest email list, 26 May 2008

Reports and pics of the event posted here: <http://nwsfsnews.blogspot.com/2008/05/cascadia-news-bytes-may-31st-2008.html>

Isaac Alexander, 31 May 2008

Ditto and Vcon reports by Murray Moore: See "<http://mm-fijagh.livejournal.com/14332.html>, and to be printed by Art Widner in his YHOS. Reference to Saint Fran of the Turkey Readings, Peter Cuff, and the CUFF panel.

Murray Moore, 02 June 2008

Emerald City ComiCon

"Pacific Fen Spotlight's latest episode is now up for viewing ... my coverage of Emerald City ComiCon. I had a lot of fun and so did all my interviewees. Hope you all enjoy the show: http://www.pac-fen.com/episodes/E109-Emerald_City_ComiCon_6/

Jim "J.C." Granger, 25 May 2008

Pacific Fen Spotlight

tenor@pac-fen.com

<http://www.pac-fen.com/>

Timeless Destinations?

Has *anyone* attended or heard about this Vancouver-area event? Back on May 16th, Isaac Alexander asked people on the NWConLeague email list about Timeless Destinations. At that time, he reported, their website had gone down. Michael Citrak responded, "I know nothing, but ya know, maybe it's not "Timeless" anymore.

"However, I did find a review of its 2006 event: <http://www.hollywoodnorthreport.com/article.php?Article=3308>

"and their yahoo group is gone: http://tv.groups.yahoo.com/group/timeless_destinations/

"but there is some stuff I found here: <http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=162019890>

"maybe you can hook up with someone on this myspace that knows something. I look forward to your report. but just watch out searching the net for "timeless destinations" as that's a travel company name."

NWConLeague list, 16 May 2008

Seattle v. Reno: The Unspeakable in Pursuit of the Uneatable

The Seattle Worldcon 2011 Bid:

"The Seattle in 2011 Worldcon Bid will have committee and supporters fanning out across North America to represent the bid at seven conventions on the Memorial Day weekend (May 23-25). Representatives will be going to the following:

BayCon (Santa Clara, CA): Bobbie DuFault, bid chair and Jerry Gieseke.

Oasis (Orlando, FL): Pat Porter, bid vice-chair

CONduit (Salt Lake City, UT): Charlie and Steve Harmon, and David Glenn Anderson (con suite Saturday brunch)

ConQuest (Kansas City, MO): Alex von Thorn and Marah Searle-Kovacevic

Wiscon (Madison, WI): Helen Gbala and Jeff Orth

Miscon (Missoula, MT): Hans Johnson

Marcon (Columbus, OH): Kevin Standlee (fan guest of honor, available to answer questions about the Seattle bid)

And the bid committee is still trying to get to one or two more conventions on this important weekend.

"Seattle in 2011" is a bid to host the 69th World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon") in downtown Seattle in 2011. The bid hopes to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Seacon, the 1961 Worldcon in Seattle. The bid is sponsored by the Seattle Westercon Organizing Committee ("SWOC"), which has hosted three Westercons and Cascadia Con, the very successful North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC) in 2005. SWOC also organizes ConComCon, a conrunning convention held in the Pacific Northwest each year, and SWOC is the parent corporation of ConFilkt, the new filk convention in Seattle.

"For further information, contact the bid at [bid-info\(at\)seattlein2011\(dot\)org](mailto:bid-info@seattlein2011.org). <http://seattlein2011.org>. <http://swoc.org>

"Pre-support online at <http://www.seattlein2011.org/online-reg.php>

Bobbie Dufault, 21 May 2008

The Reno Worldcon 2011 Bid:

"The intergalactic travel agents of Reno Convention Fandom, Inc. are delighted to announce a bid to host the 69th World Science Fiction Convention in 2011 (August 17-21) in the "Biggest Little City in the World," Reno, Nevada.

A 2011 Worldcon in Reno would use a combination of the Reno Convention Center, the Atlantis Resort, and the Peppermill Hotel -- one convention center, one directly connected hotel, and a second hotel a short walk (or even shorter shuttle ride) away.

Reno is situated just east of the Sierra Nevada mountains, on the edge of the Great Basin at an elevation of about 1300 meters above sea level. Its temperate climate and low humidity make Reno a delightful location for a summer Worldcon, with average high temperatures in the 80s Fahrenheit and lows in the 50s.

Just who is Reno Convention Fandom, Inc., you ask? We are a group of fans with a desire to host fandom's annual family reunion: a desire that requires just the right facilities. RCFI, an Oregon-based non-profit corporation, considered several cities before hitting the jackpot with Reno. Our group includes experienced convention runners from nine states and two countries.

Our goal is to work with our fannish friends and colleagues around the U.S. and the world to build a 2011 Worldcon that would be inclusive, exciting, fun, and with a healthy dose of "gosh!wow!"

The Reno in 2011 bid opens this weekend from Atlantic to Pacific: at Balticon in Maryland, at Marcon in Ohio, at Wiscon in Wisconsin, at ConQuest in Missouri, and at Baycon in California. Come chat with us -- see what we and Reno have to offer.

You will find us online at <http://www.rcfi.org>, or you can write us at info@rcfi.org. We'd be pleased to add you to our list of pre-supporters and friends. Online options are available to join our happy band.

Oh, and don't worry about getting to Reno. Come by planes, trains, and automobiles -- the Donner Pass is safe, now.

Reno writes to SFNorthwest email list, 23 May 2008

(The editor writes: "Friends don't let friends run Worldcons.")

World Fantasy Convention

Here are a few notes for May:

PR 3 is now complete and all members from the last couple of years as well as current members should be receiving it soon. I also recommend checking out our on-line version of PR 3. We've hyper-linked just about everything. It can be found in the "publication" section of our website.

Remember that registration prices are now \$150 US.

While there is still room during the convention itself, the Hyatt is pretty much book pre and post convention. Our overflow hotel is The International. Check our website for details.

For our US dealers and artists, we have customs information and documentation on our website. These can be found in the "details" section.

Our Guest Author, David Morrell, will be conducting a workshop on Wednesday, October 29th, the topic of which will be "Lessons From a Lifetime of Writing" This workshop is done in conjunction with the Calgary Regional Consortium (www.crcpd.ab.ca). While mainly aimed at educators, registration is open to all who wish to attend, however availability is limited and on a first come, first serve basis. Cost for this all-day workshop is \$85 CDN. Please check out (<http://www.worldfantasy2008.org/PDF/08CURR-Morrell.pdf>), for more information and to register.

Don't forget to listen to our podcast. Right now we feature an interview with author Guy Gavriel Kay

This e-mail was sent to those who indicated they would be interested in receiving updates from World Fantasy 2008. If you received this message in error or would like to be removed from our list, please let us know at info@worldfantasy2008.org

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions feel free to contact us:

e-mail us at info@worldfantasy2008.org

MySpace at <http://www.myspace.com/worldfantasy2008>

Visit forums www.worldfantasy2008.org and follow links

Voice mail 206-350-1932

Calgary World Fantasy Convention, 25 May 2008

FACEBOOK GROUPS

Donna Farley announced last May she is looking for regional/assistant administrators for the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Facebook group. She writes:

I would like to thank all the group members who have posted useful and interesting information on this group since we started last year. I think the interviews have been especially good.

Alas, it is becoming TOO successful for me to handle on my own! What I think would be really good is to have some co-admins from different regions of the country to track and post news and events from their own area. With admin status you will also be able to create events via this group.

We are also still planning interviews of Canadian pro writers on this group. Next in line, Robert Sawyer has kindly volunteered to be interviewed here, and more has agreed to just let me put out the call for anyone who would like to do the job! So if you are interested, send me a message and tell me why you think you would be a good person to do this interview.

Also a reminder to all the pro members that we would love to hear all your news about upcoming publications, so please feel free to post on the wall or start a discussion thread at any time.

Donna Farley, 24 May 2008

FANZINES

Posted online:

Science Fiction San Francisco #66, the latest issue of SF/SF is now available at <http://efanzines.com>. In this 26-page issue:

- News and Notes: Chris Garcia; Letters of Comment: Jean Martin; Editorial: Chris Garcia; This Old Fanzine: Mimosa No: 30: Chris Garcia; Craft and Laughs at Maker Faire: Carole Parker; Photos by Scott ; Beale/Laughing Squid; Early Makeup Demo at Costume-Con: Howeird: Photos by Howeird; Props on a Plane at Costume-Con: Howeird: Photo by Jean Martin; Murder and Dancing at Chicago Charity Ball: Jean Martin: Photos by Christina Becher and Jean Martin; BASFA Minutes; Bay Area Fannish Calendar: España Sheriff
- *WCSFAzine* #10: Graeme Cameron sends the latest issue of WCSFAzine, a 42-page issue of the monthly E-zine of the West Coast Science Fiction Association. Now available at <http://efanzines.com>

Bill Burns, 03 June 2008

Received in email:

- *Ansible* #251, June 2008 From DAVE LANGFORD, 94 London Road, Reading, Berks, RG1 5AU. Web news.ansible.co.uk. Fax 0705 080 1534. ISSN 0265-9816 (print) 1740-942X (e). Available for SAE or a six-ounce sheet of fluorine 80+.
- *Vegas Fandom Weekly* #106 "Corflu 25: A study in Silver" a special issue devoted entirely to an 18,000-word Corflu report lavishly illustrated with photos by Gary Mattingly, Bill Mills, Alan White and Nic Farey; and #107, "packed with 30 pages of fannish fun, continues the Corflu silver theme with pieces by Bill Mills, Shelby Vick and Nic Farey, all illustrated by still more photos from the 2008 Core Fandom world convention. It's not all about Corflu, though. ""Inside Story" spotlights my new fannish video feed, "The wasted Hour" and "Katzenjammer" details the current crisis at the N3F and what we ought to do about it.

Arnie Katz

PS: I hope some of you will come to The Virtual Fan Lounge to see and hear the 5/31 edition of "The Wasted Hour," my fannish TV show. If you haven't tried the VFL, go to LasVegrants.com and follow the links to the site, which features a chat room as well as video (and audio) feeds. It's free and you don't need special equipment. My guests this episode will be Joyce Katz and Teresa Cochran. The show starts at 8:00 PM PDT.

Arnie Katz (Las Vegas), 27 May 2008

New Fanzine Repository?

"I have a friend, Lynne Thomas, who is a librarian at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. Over the last three years, she's begun to build a sizable science fiction collection at the university library (<http://www.ulib.niu.edu/rarebooks/sciencefiction.cfm>) and has acquired the archives (or the promise of archives) for several authors (23 or so have already agreed and she spoke to about 35 authors this weekend at Wiscon, many of whom are considering donating their archives to NIU for their collection).

"Anyway, at lunch today, she mentioned that she would also like the library to build up a world class SF fanzine collection to go along with the author-archives they are building up. Therefore, if anyone has duplicates of fanzines they would like to donate, or if anyone is purging their collection or has not yet made plans for the eventual fate of their collection, Lynne would love to hear from you.

"She can be reached at (815) 753-0255 or lmthomas@niu.edu."

Steven Silver to Timebinders email list, 26 May 2008

MARKETS

The Gila Queen writes: *On Spec* "no longer require[s] submissions in competition format."

On Spec's listing is: PO Box 4727, Edmonton, AB Canada T6E 5G6. Quarterly. "Although we do respond to inquiries about the status of your fiction or poetry submission, we do not accept E-mailed submissions."

Fiction: "The *On Spec* editors are looking for original, unpublished speculative fiction (SF) and poetry-fantasy, horror, ghost stories, fairy stories, magic realism, etc. Our mandate is to give our readers the best SF we can find, regardless of the author's nationality, and we have published authors from Canada, the U.S., Britain, New Zealand, South America, and more. In order to qualify for grants, we do have to maintain 80% Canadian content, which means it may take longer (an issue or two) for a non-Canadian work to appear in the magazine than a Canadian work bought at the same time."

Kathy Ptacek, 23 May 2008

PODCASTS

Bill Mills announces the release of his new audio production: The latest TVoF Podcast is up at *The Voices of Fandom*. It's The Corflu Silver Con Report Special and is 60 minutes long. As always it's available at <http://TVoF.info>

Bill Burns, 31 May 2008

THE WASTED HOUR

The third episode of "The Wasted Hour" will air, live, in the Virtual Fan Lounge at 8:00 PM PDT on Saturday, June 7.

Among the scheduled segments are a discussion between Arnie and Joyce on the care and feeding of the neofan and a panel that will tackle the question of "What Makes a Good Fanzine?" Fandom's fastest hour - because the show's 30 minutes long - will also have two special guest stars contributing by phone. Fans in the chat room will also have the chance to make comments and ask questions.

For those who have not yet tried the Virtual Fan Lounge, this Internet destination combines a chat room with the ability to broadcast audio and video programs as well as slide shows. It is easy to get started: Just go to LasVegrants.com and follow the link located at the top-center of the page to the Virtual Fan Lounge.

As the program's host, I invite all of you to join me for what should be the best and liveliest episode of the show so far.

-- Arnie Katz, 06 June 2008

THOG'S MASTERCLASS

Fowl Play Dept. 'Ross Duval choked back an emotional swallow.' (Clark Howard, 'Cruel and Unusual', *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, 2008) [TM]

Dept of Sinister Sibillance. "'Edward," I hissed.' (Stephenie Meyer, *Twilight*, 2005) [BC/TM]

... *And Colourful Speech.* '... he said. His tone was livid.' (*Ibid*)

Alternate Tissue Dept. 'One of those old-fashioned protonic guns ... they kill without damaging tissue, by destroying brain cells.' (Gardner F. Fox, *Escape Across the Cosmos*, 1964) [AR]

Dept of Misadventure. '... they were on the verge of being sucked under a lake of molten magnetic lava when, by sheer theoretical knowledge, they pulled out and made off into space once more. / A barrage of cosmic rays, turned on them by inhabitants of a queer, elongated planet, had almost spelled disaster, but radio beams saved them. / Once, in mid inter-planetary flight, they were brought to a dead stop. The cause? They had entered the "no-man's land" between two planets, where, opposed to all normal theory, the two worlds, acting in complete unison, were poised on the same plane, although millions of miles apart.' (Terence Haile, *Galaxies Ahead*, 1963)

Ansible 251, June 2008



Media File

By Cosmic Ray Seredin

As you know, by the time you are reading this, the American film and TV industry is shut down once again, this time because the actors in SAG are on strike. Or, thanks to a last minute negotiation, there is no actors' strike and I look like a dumb-ass, because I should be telling you about the new line-up of science-fantasy series for the 2008-2009 TV season. The good news here is

if there is no actors' strike I'll be telling you all about the new shows in the September issue of *BCSFazine*. If you don't like this please send me hate mail.

OK, with the likelihood of a Hollywood actors' strike and the damage caused earlier by the 100-day writers' strike, the CBC is holding off the debut of season four (or season 30, if you are a long-time viewer like myself) of *Doctor Who* until September 19 at 9:00 PM. Yes, I know that's a Friday. Still, I'm sure the members who are going to FRED and BIFF own VCR/DVD-R/HDD recorders that they can watch it on later. Since I'm a die-hard fan of the series, I have seen all of the episodes so far this season, and the only thing I'm going to say is they are fantastic, even out-doing themselves from last season, and they are well worth the long wait for the members who will be seeing it on the CBC.

As for *Doctor Who's* sister series *Torchwood*, the CBC has neither said yes nor no to broadcasting season two of that series just yet. Many of the series' fans are writing the CBC to get them to pick it up, though, unlike *Doctor Who*, *Torchwood* is not a BBC/CBC co-production, meaning that its loss means another hour on the schedule freed up for a Canadian-produced series. Because of this, fans are also writing CTV Globe Media, Can-West Global, and Rogers about picking up *Torchwood* for one of their outlets.

The same thing could be said about the *Doctor Who* series itself. The CBC is cutting its foreign prime-time programming to 5.6 hours per week starting in the 2009-2010 season. With the CBC's two cash cows of *Coronation Street* and the hit American game show *Jeopardy!* filling the 7-to-8 PM week-night slot (when their biggest cash cow of all, playoff hockey, is not playing), the other 31 hours annually will be filled with yet another CBC cash cow, American feature films-meaning that the four one-hour one-off Doctor Who specials for 2009 and series five for 2010 will only air on the CBC if season four gets the total ratings of *Pretty Woman*, *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End* and *High School Musical* put together. Can you say "That will not happen," boys and girls? It's about time that us Doctor Who fans to also start writing CTV Globe Media, Can-West Global, and Rogers about finding a new Canadian home for the Doctor and his TARDIS when season four ends.

Meanwhile, back in Britain, it would look to an ill-judging observer that *Doctor Who* is getting his back-side kicked in the ratings, while he battles the highly successful ITV reality series Britain's Got Talent. If you thing that the BBC is once again putting the TARDIS back into storage and bringing back UN World Forum, you would be in the next galaxy over from the truth. The ratings in the UK are not like the ones here in North America; they include people recording the shows for later viewing, meaning that even if *Doctor Who* just got 4.9 million viewers in the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board Ltd.'s (BARB) over-night ratings, the only thing the BBC has to do is wait ten days for the overall ratings to see that that episode got a total of 8.41 million viewers when you include the people who recorded it-meaning that there will indeed be a series five coming in 2010 and series six in 2011.

As for who will be taking over *Doctor Who* after show-runner and head writer Russell T. Davies leaves after the four one-hour one-off specials: the BBC announced that well-known and award-winning series writer Steven Moffat will be the new show-runner and head writer with the start of series five. Steven has won two Hugo Awards for the season one episodes "The Empty Child" and "The Doctor Dances" and season two's "The Girl in the Fireplace" (the story that even made me cry), and is up again for another Hugo with season three's "Blink." He also wrote the season four stories "Silence in the Library" (the only episode when the Doctor himself is terrified) and "Forest of the Dead." (The two together are the best Doctor Who stories ever, and that will be me in Montreal in 2009, yelling "Steven, Steven, Steven," when he wins yet another Hugo.) With an impressive resume with TV series writing and production outside the Doctor Who universe, and a fan of the series since the Patrick Troughton era, I can't think of anyone who is more qualified for this position.

As for the ninth Doctor's reaction to Moffat's posting as show-runner: David Tennant said that he will return as the Doctor if asked and he doesn't see any reason why not. (Note to Steven Moffat: Please keep David Tennant on as the Doctor for another four seasons, since I want to see him break Tom Baker's record, unless you replace him with a female regeneration.)

OK, that's all for now, I hope to be seeing you in September and once again, if you don't like it, please send me hate mail.