

# Claims Department



The Ancient Sacred  
Review of E CorFlu Vitus

# CorFlu 28: The Ancient Sacred Order of E CorFlu Vitus

The thing starts like this: I love fanzines.

That's a good start, isn't it? I love fanzines. I've loved them ever since I learned to read off of old copies of Granfalloon and Niekas, even if there've been times when I have been actively enjoying them. And when I think about fanzines, I think about the people who produce them. There are editors and writers and artists and the like who put these things together, as much as I'd like to find a machine that could make a fanzine with a higher level of efficiency. When you have a group of people who do something, you have gatherings of those people. For fanzinistas, it's CorFlu (or Ditto or the FanEds Lunch at WorldCon or...) and I was lucky enough to get to put CorFlu on this year, and this is the story of that convention...kinda.

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You see, I go to cons for one reason, to be with people who I enjoy being with, so if I'm going to tell the story of my CorFlu, I've got to tell it through the people I went through it with. So, in my weird little way, I'll talk about the con by talking about the people. Stick with me, this might get messy...

## **SOME NUMBERS!**

*81 total members, including Supporting, from four countries*

*60 people at the con for at least part of the time*

*50 people at the banquet.*

*111 Room Nights at the Hotel*

*52 bottles of wine drank on Saturday & Sunday nights*

## **Sandra Younger**

When I started thinking about places to hold this festival of Festivities, I had a few places that talked to, and the Domain was right up there, but then I met with Sandra Younger, Group Sales. She was the reason I stopped all other meetings because she was so professional and we got a good set of talks in and the numbers were right. Without Sandra, it might have been a very different Con.

## **Spike**

OK, I'm terrible at planning. I tend to try and fly by the seat of my pants and some-



times it works really well, but sometimes it just flat blows. From the beginning, Spike was there to pick up my slack and make sure this thing came off. I had her in mind from the start for the role of FAAn Administrator because of everyone I knew, I completely knew that Spike would be amazing as the Administrator. She's powerful force for good and/or awesome! She did a great job at the Admin stuff, and even better just making sure this thing came off. I could not be more thankful for all she did for the con and for me! Also, she talked wrestling with me at the con! Do you know how often that happens?

Spike sent the numbers for the top five on the FAAn Awards. And here they are!

## **FAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR 2010**

### **Presented February 13, 2011**

#### **BEST FAN WRITER (53 nominees)**

*Roy Kettle*	72
Claire Brialey	61
Mark Plummer	56
James Bacon	51
Taral Wayne	38

#### **BEST FAN ARTIST (31 nominees)**

*Steve Stiles*	115
Dan Steffan	100
D West	74
Brad Foster	52
Harry Bell	31

#### **BEST FANZINE (40 nominees)**

*Trapdoor (Robert Lichtman)*	100
Banana Wings (Claire Brialey & Mark Plummer)	87
Chunga (Randy Byers, Andy Hooper, carl juarez)	54
Challenger (Guy Lillian III)	37
Sense of Wonder Stories (Rich Coad)	37

#### **BEST FAN WEBSITE (22 nominees)**

*eFanzines.com*	140
Ansible - <a href="http://www.ansible.co.uk">www.ansible.co.uk</a>	32
file770.com	29
Fanac Fanhistory Project - <a href="http://www.fanac.org">www.fanac.org</a>	26
fiawol.org.uk/FanStuff/	25

#### **Harry Warner, Jr., Memorial Award for**

#### **BEST FAN CORRESPONDENT (46 nominees)**

*Robert Lichtman*	78
Lloyd Penney	43
Jerry Kaufman	40
Mike Meara	39
Claire Brialey	31

*47 people voted.*

*Andy Hooper, Audrey Trend, Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Bill Burns, Bob Sabella, Bruce Townley, Chris Garcia, Claire Brialey, Colin Hinz, Curt Phillips, Dave Hicks, Dave Locke, Eric Mayer, G T Trend, Greg Benford, Guy Lillian, Ian Maule, Jack Calvert, James Bacon, Jay Kinney, Jim Linwood, John Hertz, John Nielsen Hall, Katrina Templeton, Kim Huett, Lenny Bailes, Lloyd Penney, Mark Plummer, Mike Deckinger, Mike McInerney, Mike Meara, Murray Moore, Nic Farey, Pamela Boal, Pat Charnock, Randy Byers, Rich Coad, Rob Jackson, Robert Lichtman, Roy Kettle, Sandra Bond, Spike, Steve Stiles, Taral Wayne, Ulrika O'Brien, William Wright, Yvonne Penney*

Also, she got me a SnoGlobe, and an AWESOME SnoGlobe!

### **Ted White**

Admittedly, I had been thinking about running a CorFlu back in 2007 when Ted and I were sitting and chatting in Austin and he off-handedly asked “Have you ever thought about running a CorFlu, Chris?” I admitted I had, but much like Peter Sullivan, whose innocent email about running for TAFF, which I had already decided I would do, FORCED me to stand, Ted White is completely to blame for my CorFlu. I’ve not spoken with Ted much over the years, we didn’t meet at the ’05 CorFlu, though we had a couple of fine conversations in both 2007 and ’09, including teaming up and coming within one point of unseating Sandra Bond and Peter Weston’s team in the Trivia contest in Seattle. That was a highlight. It was good to get a few minutes talking with Ted at E CorFlu Vitus, but we started a conversation about how Charlie Parker really died, and he left to enjoy himself on the balcony and there was no conclusion! I need closure on that anecdote!



## **Tom Becker**

First off, Tom ran the first CorFlu I ever went to. That alone should be enough, but Tom was the one who came up with the E CorFlu Vitus idea. I still think it's the best idea for a CorFlu theme ever! I wish I had gone further with it, but alas, I suck. The idea struck as we were having lunch at a Halal Chinese restaurant in San Jose. It was a really good lunch. Tom also did the awesome brass plates that were used as the FAAn award trophies! Really, I've never been more envious of a winner than any of those who took home one of the plaques that were presented at E CorFlu Vitus. I really wish I had a chance to hang with him some more last weekend, but he was ill, as I understand it, and I only got to see him for a few minutes. I did remember to get him a rousing ovation from the audience, though!

## **James Bacon**

No single moment better established The Ancient Sacred Order of E CorFlu Vitus than one when I was not present. As has become something of a tradition, the person bidding for the next CorFlu was not at the CorFlu where things were being decided. I sent word to James Bacon that he would need to do my presentation. I sent him some serious information and a lot of details that were fuzzy. I didn't actually need to send anything, James can talk just about anyone into anything. His presentation, which I've never seen, was apparently an imitation of me amped up to Baconian energy levels. That must have been something. His presentation was basically what made it happen and I will always be grateful in a way that I can only describe as Wow.

## **Claire Brialey**

Dear Claire,

I'm not in the habit of writing letters of admiration to individuals who deserve far better fans than the likes of me, but I am your biggest fan. No, don't argue, it's me, no question. I have often said that I consider you the greatest fan writer in the World at the moment, and I'll add to that the fact that I think your LoC to The Drink Tank last year was my single favorite piece of writing that I got to run all year. You rule in a way that should be unlawful, even in your backwards country that doesn't understand it should be 54th of the United States of America, following Puerto Rico, Canada and Cuba, of course.

In addition, I have also claimed that you are the best editor I've ever worked with and you somehow make James and I sound like we can actually write in the language of English when you edit us. There are English professors who wake up in the middle of the night screaming when the psychic vibes that come from the mad writerlings that I put out, only to be quieted when I finally send them to you for inclusion in your fine zines as they know you will perform a miracle and make them actually, you know, readable. It's like a soothing blanket has been placed over those terribly troubled humans who despair at the thought of paragraphs like I am apt to produce hit the streets.

This is not a note to thank you for such things, my tribute offerings at the altar I've built will have to suffice, but to say thanks for agreeing to be our UK/Europe/Other agent and doing a damn fine job of it! That, though, was not your greatest accomplishment to the entire E CorFlu Vitus thing.

That would be being there.

You see, to me, having you at a CorFlu is an important thing. I read my second issue of Banana Wings on the BART back from CorFlu and LoCed it that evening, after you handed it to me. That was a good thing, as it opened up mine eyes to the glory that flow'd from 'ence.

And thus, it was just having you out with us, and enjoying a delightful conversation after you'd had a few, that I am writing to say thanks for.

Yours in Awesome,

Chris

## Mike McLaughlin

I needed a logo. You can't have a CorFlu without an awesome logo. It's just not doable. I was thinking of all the artists that I had worked with, all of whom had previously done logos for CorFlus. I banged my head against a wall of no-thought when a name came to mind.

Mike McLaughlin.

The name might not be too familiar to y'all, but he's a helluva artist. I mean he's just great, but he's busy like all of us, so he doesn't appear as often as he should. I asked him for something



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in the theme and he produced CorFlu Clem, the mascot for the Ancient Sacred Order of E CorFlu Vitus! He did a great job of the prospector with the alien in the pan, and I think it might be the best logo I've ever got to work with! I was very happy to have it.

## The Lovely & Talented Linda Wenzelburger

She's the best girlfriend a guy could ask for, and I could not have done the ConSuite without her. She had major car trouble, which meant that I had to go and get the badges from her as she had printed them when I couldn't figure it out. She also had the cupcakes. Those were important. Her car blew its cooling system and she had to get to the hotel on Friday, which was made possible by Mr. Dave Gallaher. She got in and almost instantly got to work on making the Suite happen. She was awesome.

She did such great work the entire weekend, but the real good stuff was that she kept me settled and sane. That's always a big thing.

Linda and I were hanging out in the outer bathroom area which we used as drink service area and prep station. She was talking with Ian, who is endless amusing, and I was spent. I mean I was so tired that I could think of nothing else to do but climb into the empty tub. I sat down and was relaxed. Ian observed that as there were drinks surrounding the tub, I was obviously in my personal Drink Tank. I liked that. Linda then starting edging like she was

going to turn on the tap to the tub, which would have soaked me, so I did all I could do: I grabbed a Dr. Pepper, shook the can and held my finger on the tab. We had ourselves a Mexican stand-off. It was a good bit. We were engaged in Mutually Assured Destruction. It was a lot of fun.

I should also mention that The Lovely & Talented Linda is amazing in all sorts of ways!!!

## Lisa Deutsch-Harrigan

Lisa came on board very early, which is a good thing as she's perhaps the finest treasurer I know of. She did an amazing job, even when I wasn't being much help. I could not have gotten through this on my own, and I wouldn't even have tried unless I had Lisa on-board anyhow. Also, she provided the awesome CDC Disk Pack trays that we used for much of the food. Those are awesome!

## John D. Berry

Is there anyone you really admire who is so good at something that you don't even slightly understand? For me, that guy is John D. Berry, a human who understands typography with a fiery intensity that rivals the hatred I have for 90% of the work of Mr. Robert a' Heinlein. And



he not only understands it, but he GETS it, knows how to use it to his best advantage and has been in everything he does. He was the first attendee I ran into while I was roaming the lobby on Thursday night. We chatted and I did a recording of John talking about his CorFlu experiences and then threw a question at him about what font he would use for a newsletter geared towards HAM Radio enthusiasts. He was very thoughtful! He was one of the nominees for the Past President of Fan Writers of America (FWA!) and tied with Spike on the first vote. It was pretty awesome. He's a great guy and it was wonderful to have him at E CorFlu Vitus.

### **Mark Plummer**

Mark is awesome. He's funny, a kind of quiet that is punctuated by moments of sheer brilliant comedy, and he's got good hair. Did we have nearly enough time to sit down and chat this weekend? No, though we never do manage to have enough time. This year, he had some great booze. They'd gone wine tasting and there's nothing better than wine provided by someone from out of town who has enjoyed our fine varietals.

Also, one thing that should be noted about Mark Plummer is that I've known him since our days as the first TransAtlantic Bobsledding champions at the 1988 Olympics...

### **Graham Charnock**

He wasn't supposed to be there. On Thursday, I was in the Lobby, chatting with all the good folks who had come early, and in walked Graham. Claire had mentioned that he wasn't coming because he was about to become a Grandparent. Well, he showed up and TAFF candidate Charnock was in his zone, slinging bitter hilarity and surrealist whackiness. His appearances on the Virtual ConSuite were awesome.

### **Peter Sullivan**

The man who is largely behind the Virtual ConSuite brought it off as always because he's amazing.

'nuff said!

## **Kat Templeton**

Kat always reminds me that it's all my fault. I, apparently, was the one who opened her eyes to fanzines during the 2007 BayCon (or maybe it was the Westercon) and that she took off from there. She was the at-con driving force behind the Virtual ConSuite and it's a good thing because she did a huge amount of work and spent a ton of time and energy putting it all together. I'm so glad she got to the Con as there was question that it wouldn't be able to happen. She made it and I'm pretty sure she had a good time as she was trying to drag out more and more minutes on Sunday night, not wanting to leave. It was awesome to have her around and I'm hoping that we get her out to more CorFlus in the future!

## **Andy Hooper**

Andy did two huge things: he put together a Trivia contest and he did his annual CorFlu reader theatre play. The Trivia contest was great, I was on the North American team with Canadians Murray Moore and Alan Rosenthal and with American Robert Lichtman. We lost in the first round to Sandra Bond's team, but we placed respectably.

Andy's plays are things of legend, and this one, His Ghu Friday, was one of the best of them. He put together a fine cast, including Kevin Standlee as the corrupt Chair of the ChiCon committee who had kept the WorldCon in Chicago for 18 straight years. I laughed and laughed and laughed, it was the combo of screwball comedy with sly fannish commentary, a combination that is sure to win with me! Andy's a good guy and we sat up on Sunday and chatted about everything from Zappa to Community. His theory on YIPE! was fascinating. I dug it.

## **Randy Byers (aka Lord J. Randrew Byers)**

Hugo Award Winning FanEd and raconteur Randy Byers is a good guy and one of the most amusing guys in fandom. I had hoped to have a Fanzine Reviewing panel with Randy on it, but alas, it didn't happen. My bad. Such is the way of things when you fly by the seat of your pants. My all-time favorite Randy story is the one about how he once pulled me out of the mud with Charlie swarming all around me at the Battle of La Choy. It was a dark time. Dark time...



## **Dave Hicks**

There are a lot of fan artists out there, some of them even English! Dave Hicks is one of the best, and he's a damn fine guy. He was the recipient of the CorFlu 50, a fan fund that brings someone to CorFlu every year. Past recipients include Steve Stiles and Earl Kemp, so Dave's in good company. He was a riot to have around and even with the amount of booze he had, he was always a great guy to sit and chat with. Nothing made me happier than seeing him and Mo Starkey chatting and going through Mo's art book. Artists are good people. I hope to get some art from Dave, as that would make my year! His Fan Art presentation was both humorous and informative, and there were only minor tech problems! That's a plus. I used my FlipCam to record the whole thing.

## **Milt Stevens**

Milt'll sneak up on ya! He's one of the funniest guys I know because he's so deadpan and when he goes for the comedy jugular, he rips it like Daltion in Roadhouse. There was a hilarious moment when Linda found a cup-



cake that had been dropped and just left there. She then did a wonderful Disappointed Mom bit, which she was excellent at, and then I came in with my Dad bit by saying to Milt, "Milton Aurielius Stevens! You listen to your mother!" He got the exact look of a kid who had just been caught with his hand in the cookie jar, then stopped and said "You're not my real Dad!" That made me laugh and laugh a lot! I always enjoy having Milt around, and I was glad he made the trip up.

### **Mike & Pat Meara**

Sadly, I didn't get too much of a chance to chat with Pat Meara, though Mike and I had several fine conversations along the way, mostly in the front bathroom area. He also brought much fantastic wine into the Suite and that was a wonderful thing as the guy has a serious palate and that means he got us good drinkin'! I've really enjoyed his LoCs, I hope I'll get a chance to sit down with 'em more at some point, perhaps on their side of the Atlantic!



### **Jim Benford**

It was two years ago when Linda and I went to the Eaton Conference that I met Jimmy-Jam Benford and his brother Greg. They were on a couple of panels and we enjoyed dinner together at a little Greek place. I had the lamb. He was kind enough to come along and talk a little about the Little Men along with Dave Rike, Mike Ward and myself. He brought along and read from *A Wealth of Fable*. He's a fun guy and sadly, I didn't get much of a chance to talk with him. I went into this plan with the hopes of giving at least a little bit of local fan history to the folks, and this was part of it!

### **Steve Green**

I failed him. I was planning on getting an issue of *The Drink Tank Presents* done in time to pass around at CorFlu, but between my running around and getting things done and the lack of two articles (one of which was stuck in my SPAM folder) made it late. Sadly, my computer where I'd already started the issue crashed and now I'm without it, but I'll be putting it together as soon as I can. It was good to hear that he was in the Virtual Fan Lounge.

### **Art Widner**

See R Twidner

### **R Twidner**

You can't go wrong with Art. He's been around since the dawn of fannish time and though he GAFIated for longer than many fans today have been alive, he came back and is still kicking ass and taking names! I was most happy when I heard that he was coming to the Con, and we got a few nice chances to talk during the con, and then there was a wonderful moment.

Along the way, we talked about giving an award to Art, in this case the Lifetime Achievement FAAn Award. We got to the con and I got to announce that we'd like to give Art the Lifetime Achievement Award and asked the audience to grunt their approval, which they all did. It was a nice moment and Art seemed to really enjoy the plague he got. I've always said that when they turn the lights out on Fandom, it'll be me and R Twidner as the ones who are turning off the lights.

## **Lenny Bailes**

Lenny does this great zine called Rasterman Blues. I got the first issue at the 2009 (or maybe it was the 2007) CorFlu and this was a nice follow-on. I only started to read it after the con was over but it's good stuff with a format that's really innovative. It's the merger of on-line content and printzine within a framework that takes advantage of the benefits of both.

## **Rich Coad**

I have huge amounts of respect and admiration for Rich Coad. His zine Sense of Wonder Stories is pretty darn spectacular, and he's responsible for the CorFLu 50, so he's aces in my eyes. He had an issue of Sense of Wonder Stories to pass around and I've got it but I haven't read it yet. I can't wait to get a look at it.

## **Robert Lichtman**

Everybody loves a winner! Robert won two FAAn Awards, one for the Best Letterhack (aka the Harry Warner Jr. Award) and one for Best Fanzine. Trap Door is pretty darn awesome and this most recent issue is worth every vote that it got!

I had never met Robert in person until CorFlu (though I think we may have briefly crossed paths at Pantheacon) and it was good to get to chat for a bit. In fact, I'd say he was one of the coolest cats at the con! He lives about a mile (as the Crow flies) from Linda, and yet, it was only now that we met. These things happen!

## **Murray Moore**

Here's history: in 1812, there was a war. The US totally won that war, if my Public School history was correct, and bombed England back to the Stone Age using the Enola Gay to Carpet bomb London as they were celebrating Tet.

Or something like that.

I've often said, when the English lost the War of 1812, the Americans were given ownership over the English language. I repeated this joke when someone corrected one of my many wordishisms. Murray, in his traditional deadpan way reminded me that the original objective of the War of 1812 was to unite North America under the American flag, which is true, for a certain value of truth, and he claimed that CANADA was the winner of the War of 1812.

Can you believe that?

I mean seriously, Canada? They may have repulsed our invasions, but that's only because we weren't really trying. I mean, Canada, why would we want that? Maybe Montreal, perhaps Vancouver, but the entire country? No. But Murray held on to his belief and brought it up more than once.

We didn't win the War of 1812? HA!

## **Alan Rosenthal!**

There were only 4 attendees from the wild Canadas, and Alan was one of them! He was the trivia team captain, and though we lost in the first round, he led us nobly and well! Let's hear it for Alan!!!

## **Victor Gonzalez**

Surprise number two – I was in the ConSuite, minding my own and saying Hi to folks as I was going through with setting things up and then in walks Victor Gonzalez! I've only met the GAFIate a couple of time, most recently at the Seattle CorFlu, and he's good people. Watching him and Andy and Randy play off each other is excessively entertaining.

## **Randy Smith**

I seldom get to hang out with Randy Smith save for cons. I think we've been at the same party a few times, but it's rare. So, when I run a CorFlu, I am excited to see the name Randy Smith on the registration list! He's one of those people who would be in my Dream Fanzine Lounge. Sadly, he didn't get to stay as long as would have been nice, but he was there and that's what matters! He's looking into having a roast pig at WorldCon. Awesome!

## **Bob Hole**

Who doesn't love Bob? His zine is e2PMI, and it's a fun little zine that has a combination of poetry, writing, art and, of course, photos. Bob runs some of the best covers. I'm glad he came by and spent Saturday with us. I didn't get to talk with him much, Saturday was my running around day, but I've promised to put up the resources I found for the Fanzine Archives in a publication, which are as follows –

### *1) The Eaton Collection at UC Riverside*

The largest collection of SF fanzines in the US and likely the world. It holds the Terry Carr collection, the Rick Sneary collection, and the Bruce Pelz collection, which isn't well catalogued but is still there. You can arrange for a class which will explain the collections and the methods for access for up to 15 people. That's a good thing and I don't think any of the other archives offer anything similar. <http://eaton-collection.ucr.edu/> is the website.

### *2) The M. Horvat Collection at the University of Iowa*

Possibly the second largest Fanzine Archive in the US, and very well organized. They have a listing on their website that's very solid, though not very specific. I know people who have worked with the collection and have said that it's pretty easy to get into. [http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/MS/ToMsC800/MsC791/MsC791\\_horvatfanzines.htm#boxlist](http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/MS/ToMsC800/MsC791/MsC791_horvatfanzines.htm#boxlist) is the list of the boxes and what's in them, while the general site is [http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/MS/ToMsC800/MsC791/MsC791\\_horvatfanzines.htm#biohist](http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/MS/ToMsC800/MsC791/MsC791_horvatfanzines.htm#biohist)

### *3) The British Library*

There's a requirement that everything produced in the UK has to have a copy deposited at the British Library. That means they've got to have one of the larger collections in the world, if not the largest. This means that there are copies of Journey Planet deposited in the place and that means that I'm in there! I know you can make requests of the place and probably get access, though I haven't found too much on that subject! Here's a note from their website - Zines or fanzines are magazines written by enthusiasts, "fans". They have various forms but are typically self-published, designed, written or edited by a single person. They tend to use inexpensive production techniques such as photocopying, and are distributed through local and personal networks and specialised distributors ("distros"). Although zines usually have more than one issue, some are one-offs. While the pages on the web tend to talk music, comics, womyn's and sports zines, they have a huge holding of SF zines of all kinds. [http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhel-prestype/news/zines\(part1\)/zines1.html#libraryscollections](http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhel-prestype/news/zines(part1)/zines1.html#libraryscollections)

### *4) The Dodd Center at the University of Connecticut Library*

This one I didn't have for the presentation at CorFlu. They've got a large collection of Alternate press and comix, but they also have a collection of SF&F fanzines. <http://doddcenter.uconn.edu/findaids/Fanzine/MSS20010012.html> has a good list of the zines, which isn't massive, but there are a few things in there that I had been looking for.

5) *The Cleveland Public Library*

Cleveland's been a major site for zines of the underground and comics variety. They've got a small collection of SF materials mixed in with all the other zines out there. This is very accessible for a collection, though like the SF Public Library's collection, is not very SF-oriented.

6) *Syracuse University*

I've got mixed reports as I've followed up on this one. They have holdings of SF-related materials, including a lot of Convention materials. I have heard that they had a large Music zine collection, which may not be the case. A lot of different Library and Archive folks pointed me towards the Syracuse collection, and it may be that Ben Fong-Torres is giving them his stuff and that's going to be the establishment of a much larger program. I'll keep y'all posted.

7) *University of Kentucky*

They have a collection of zines, mostly non-SF, but contains some SF zines, mostly from Kentucky creators.

## **William Wright**

How many panels have you been to that had a keynote? William Wright sent me a message that I will now reprint here!

Dear Faans at Corflu 2011,

Greetings from Bill Wright (Melbourne, Australia) who, having stumped up for a supporting membership, is with you in spirit. As my contribution to the festivities, I've ghost-written the keynote speech for the panel on Zine Archives...

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### **Wanted – Data, Dead or Alive**

"As goes the whole, so do to greater or lesser degree each of the parts," Edward Elmer Smith (1890-1965) in *Gray Lensman* (Astounding Stories Oct 1939–Jan 1940, Fantasy Press 1951)

This quote from *The Source* evokes two chains of thought. One strand focuses on Dead Data arising from the fact that, due to hardware redundancy, most of the information stored in computers thus far has been lost; and that much of the data captured from time to time via 'snapshots' of the World Wide Web is inaccessible to here-and-now Internet users. The other speculates on an imagined scenario where all data is Alive.

In the real world, anything lost for good has to be rethought and built again if it is to be tackled at all. The world goes on. The past is largely opaque to us in a detailed sense. And yet ... wouldn't it be nice if, for once, the World's legislators were ahead of (instead of reacting to) technological evolution. Starting with the legal doctrine of effective ownership rights accruing to the creators of data, parliaments all over the world might compel computer manufacturers and software suppliers to guarantee data reinterpretation facilities for all time. International covenants to that effect could be registered with the United Nations. The entire planet would be awash in a sea of information. Those alive in the here-and-now would have access to all the data created by themselves and a significant proportion of data created by anybody else, alive or dead.

Think of the consequences. With so much of the past to draw upon, what need then for original thought? Librarians would come into their own, at last – as they might have by now if the powers that be had twigged to their usefulness.

For inspiration in this milieu, we must look to the Antipodes. At Swancon 36 (the Aussie Natcon in Perth, Western Australia on April 21-25, 2011) Dr Chris Creath, academic chair of Physics and Nanotechnology at Perth's Murdoch University will unveil her Australian Science

Fiction Distributed Archive Project (ASFDAP) for critical evaluation by fans.

ASFDAP is a fan initiative and its working group is not asking for any money to get it going. It will be wiki and blog based, so anyone anywhere in the world can add information and material once they have verified they are human and not a bot. They are starting with Western Australian content because that is all they have i.e.

- SF collections in the Murdoch University library;
- Personal collections;
- group collections of materials that fall under the banner of the “History Project”; plus
- any interesting “stuff” from the ‘WASFF Shambling Mound’ (4 compacted boxes of material and archives that follows the Western Australian Science Fiction Foundation rotating chair around).

At the same time people could be contributing their materials to the blog and wiki from all other states in Australia and anyone in the world could also contribute any Australian content that they have. All that’s needed is people who have the time to put specifics of their material on-line. The aim is to have an on-line image of any item from any collection of Australian SF memorabilia accessible to researchers via web-search, complemented by a library network system that allows for PDF or hard copy of the material to be sent to the enquirer wherever situate for a small fee.

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I have no doubt Dr Creagh’s visionary manifestation of Data Alive will determine parameters for discussion at Corflu 2011’s Zine Archiving session...

...No, no, don’t thank me. I’m only too pleased to furnish you all with the benefit of my wise advice.

### **Kevin Roche**

Kevin’s zine YIPE! is one of the best new zines of the last few years. It’s right up there with eI, SF Commentary, Banana Wings and Journey Planet as the ones that I can read over and over again. It would not have been a party without Kevin! The man understands the nuances of how best to let it all hang out!



And I loved his Bat-jammies! I know I've seen them before, I remember the squeaky thing in the tail, but they seemed to be particularly awesome at a CorFlu!

### **Marty Cantor**

Marty and I did the Fan Fund Auction, but due to my poor planning, it was placed after the dinner break, which meant that folks weren't back yet and there wasn't nearly enough cash slung, but it was fun. I've done a few auctions in my day, and I have a patter down, and Marty has his, and I think they would have worked with a full room to do a lot of good selling!

### **Ian Sorensen**

I misspelled his name on his badge. I spelled it Ian Sorensen. He said that I really meant to put Ian Sorensone, because he's from the portion of Scotland that was held by the Italians into modern times and made the famous series of Glasgow Spaghetti Westerns. I agree.

He stuck around the area for a few other days and even attended BASFA. He gave an impassioned speech attempting to dislodge the Nova Award from me, the only one held in North America. His speech accused me of 'Cultural Imperialism', which is true, though I claimed "I learned it by watching you!" It was a good bit and perhaps the funniest thing I've ever heard at a BASFA meeting and that includes the famous "Some of those are Beatle songs!"

### **Bill Burns**

Without Bill Burns, there'd be no E CorFlu Vitus! In fact, if there was no Bill Burns, it would be up to fandom to create him! The fact is, eFanzines.com has made a lot of what I've done possible. There's be no Drink Tank and certainly nothing like Claims Department where I could ramble on about a con by making another needlessly long list! Plus, he pointed out a mistake in our exhibit on the TransAtlantic Cable (which I'm still trying to convince the curator of that section is wrong!)

### **Steve Dallas (aka Dave Gallaher)**

Dave's a good guy. No, Dave's a great guy! He saved Linda by driving her to the con when her car wasn't going to be ready until the next morning. More importantly, Dave and the Good Folks at San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions Inc. (SFSFC) were good enough to sponsor CorFlu and without them I wouldn't have been able to put on the CorFlu. I think it turned out well, I do!

### **Kevin Standlee**

Kevin's one of those guys who, much like me, will throw himself into a thing even if it seems like a self-depreciational activity. The role he was given in His Ghu Friday was probably inspired by Kevin himself, or those that are most associated with him. Kevin can laugh at himself, which is a good trait.

He was also the perfect guy to play the heavy in the play, which is why it was so much fun. He was over-the-top in the way that all memorable performances are. He particularly did well playing off of Craig Glassner! I like that guy!



## **Andy Trembley**

Andy's always a blast, and I love his Shark jammies! Nothin' better than Shark jammies! He's only put out one issue of iKinook Reader and it's a good one. I hope the second one comes out soon. As always, Andy had some delightful wine, one of which was really really weird. I'm not 100% sure what it was, but I got to like it.

## **Sandra Bond**

Sandra knows more about what happened in the 60s and 70s than folks who were there! It was a rough draw to get to be the team against her team at the Trivia contest, but we did OK. Interestingly, her team didn't win.

I also love QuasiQuote. I really think it's an awesome zine and I can't wait for the next issue!

## **Jason Schachat**

Master Schachat lays out YIPE like a mad man, but it was him that was missing. He's a Fanzine Lounge master and it just wasn't the same without him. We'll get him down here for good sometime!

## **Abed Nadir & Troy Barnes**

OK, on Friday morning, I woke up and I was already feeling a bit slammed. I set-up my computer and then headed to Hulu to watch the episode of Community I had missed the night before. If you've never seen Community, you should take a gander, it's good stuff.

This was the Valentine's episode and Abed, played by Dani Pudi, and Troy, played by Donald Glover, both fell for the same women, a smokin' hot librarian named Mariah. They come up with a plan where they'll both take her to the Valentine's Dance and then she'll choose which of them she likes better. She had the best line after they explain their plan to her: "First off, I have to say that this is the cutest thing that's ever happened to me."

It was an awesome episode and I just wanted to make sure I noted that!



## **Rob Jackson**

Have you read Inca? I mean, it's one of the best things going and it's one of those zines that had a very long lay-off and then came back. I bought a full run of Inca at the Auction. I haven't gotten into it yet, but I will as soon as I'm fully rested, because I know I won't be able to stop reading it once I start! Rob also did Maya, which might have been my second favorite zine of the 1970s (after Seamonsters). Also, I was going to be reading it tonight, but On Her Majesty's Secret Service is on and I've never watched it all the way through.

## **Pat Virzi**

The best CorFlu I've ever been to? Well, that was Austin in 2007. It was only my second CorFlu, the one where I roomed with Mr. John Purcell. She did an amazing job and she was named the Past-President of FWA that year.

She was awesome in His Ghu Friday. She did her hair up with balloons and I believe to achieve the squeaky high voice she inhaled helium. She was obviously having fun with it, and so was the audience!

## **Craig Glassner**

Craig's an old-timer who is boss as they come. He's a ranger at Alcatraz, a sweet gig without question, and a good gentleman. He brought stuff for the Suite, including Roscoe's beer, a cooler and his good cheer! He's a Lounge regular so he knew the score! It's always good to have him around, and I must remember to get him to more CorFlus!

## **Mike Ward**

For me, one of the highlights of the program, such that it was, was Mike Ward showing his slides of Little Men members from the 1970s and 80s. There were some folks I certainly recognized and others that I had no idea who they were. Not only were there slides, but they were shown on an original Slide Projector! That's right, not scanned and projected with the digital projector over-head, but with a real slide projector showing real slides!!! He also had a bunch of the postcards that Alva Rogers would send out advertising the various Little Men meetings. They were great! Karen ran the projector, which is a job I don't know if I could do. It's been at least 20 years since I used a projector.

## **Mary Ellen Moore**

She had one of the highlights of the entire con for me. On Sunday, she came up and said 'You know, this has been the most fun I've had at a convention in a long time.' And gave me a hug.

That was awesome.

## **Unwoman**

I was sitting in the ConSuite around 7:30am on Monday Morning. I was exhausted, but still, there was work to be done and I was gonna do it. I have my laptop and a cable to hook it up to the television. I plugged in and pumped my iTunes.

It was Unwoman.

If you've never heard Unwoman, she's amazing. A doll-and-a-half and she's the sweetest woman you'll ever meet. She agreed to shoot a few videos with me at the museum. One turned out amazing. I played her album Blossoms and it made the cleaning so much easier. I love the way she handles her cello, and it was odd that the first time I saw her, she was playing piano and it was just as amazing. A couple of songs in and I realized that she was powering me through the morning. It must be why I didn't really hit the wall until about noon.



## **Fred Moulton**

The man is awesome! Fred's one of the BASFA regulars who joined us and he's a got some of the sharpest puns in a room full of punsters. It's always good to have him around.

## **Mo Starkey**

Mo does a lot of art. She wants to do more. You should ask her! Write her, colmahouse@yahoo.com! Do it now!!!! It was great to have her show up, Mo does some wonderful stuff for our community, and I'm loving her 52 Weeks covers of The Drink Tank!

## **Frank Herbert**

I hate you, Frank Herbert! Dune, my reading in the weeks leading up to the con, has never moved my soul like Dune, David Lynch's film version of the story. What is it about Herbert's writing? Maybe it's the fact that every line feels like a spot-weld on a massive inner-frame that was simply waiting for someone like Lynch to cover it with some sort of Christo-like canvas. It's an amazing story, but it's far too rough in Herbert's hands.

## **Joyce Katz & The Vagrants**

I am so hoping that I end my every-other-year CorFlu streak. I started in 2005, so I missed the '04 Vegas CorFlu. In 2008, I was Toastmastering CostumeCon, so I had to skip the 2008 Vegas CorFlu. Hopefully, I'll make the 2012 CorFlu, 2012 is a far less crowded year than 2011 has shaped up to be. I'm hopeful I'll make it largely because I love the Vagrants, miss Arnie & Joyce and all the rest down there! I didn't even get a chance to see 'em when I was down for Westercon in 2008. It's even better that there's another group for holding the CorFlu and this'll be a good one, I'm sure!

OK, that's enough. I can't personally say thank you to everyone, but everyone deserves it. This was one of those weekends that I loved, that made me realize why I'm around, why I still do The Drink Tank and run the Lounges and generally have a good time. This CorFlu was far from perfect, organizationally it was probably poor. I'm the kind of guy who would rather do everything himself because other folks have better things to be doing with their time than the stuff that I should be doing, but on the other hand, the folks who helped out were amazing! I'm so glad I had them around and I'm going to be paying them back for all their work over the next decade or so.

