

THE DRINK TANK ISSUE 110



WANTS YOU TO KNOW THAT WE LOVE YOU...

Warning: Weird Issue Ahead!

Let me start with introduction. There are a bunch of people who are around who I haven't introduced, so here's a little piece that'll introduce them and maybe give you an idea of the strange sorts of friends I've got.

I'll be following that up with a Year in Review article and a few words from some good friends.

A strange year deserves a strange issue, don't you think?



These Two Crazy Bastards are the rest of the team that's making the Cactus Club Documentary. Top is Lon, who I went to High School with and who was once in a great band called Statue Man. Bottom is Aaron, who came on as a Producer about a year ago and has done great stuff since. He used to play drums (or guitar) for a ska band called Flat Planet.



We're gonna finish in 2007, completing a 2+ year run, and then who knows what we'll do?



That's Claudia and Mattikins. Claudia works with me and co-founded the CPU group that does parties. Matt is her husband, a screenwriter and a movie buff to the nth degree. They're a ton of fun to hang out with.

That's Michelle. We used to do High School ComedySportz together. I seldom manage to see her, for which I'm very sorry. Still, good lass and I miss her. Maybe we'll go for Mongolian.



That's Vinh. He's an IT guy at work, he's on the CPU and he's the one we always pick on. It's jsut so damn easy to do! Here's a typical Vinh story. Shannon (more on her later) asked if he wanted to go to a New Year's Eve party and Vinh asked when it was.

That there is my good friend Natasha. Met at through Cinequest. She's Russian and a good sort and has spent a lot of time in India recently and even fought off an assault! Good for her!



This here is Billiam. He's a fellow Computer History Museum guy and a nice Dude. He's also hella emo, if you know what I mean. Fun guy, often hilarious.

This is Shannon and her kid Aidan. He's three months old (born August 31st) and Shannon is exactly 10 years younger than me (born October



21st, 1984, the same day as the opening of the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Nice girl and a good friend.



This is Alana. She was the one whose cube I wrapped in gift wrap. She's my favourite at work, no doubt. She's also got nearly as caustic a wit as I do, which is saying a lot.

These folks deserve a little mention because they never get the love from me in the page of The Drink Tank.



This year has been rough/wonderful. Most years are like that. The good was really good, the bad was really bad. I've been generally happy with the year in FANAC, and very happy at some points, especially with the cons and meeting of folks. There's a lot of thank you in my thoughts at the moment.

Let me start with some of the bad, which I've mentioned in The Drink Tank before. First, Gen and I broke up, which was OK because it was mostly without drama. I still get to see Evelyn and that's good. Then there was Pops dying, which sucked, but I'd had time to get ready for it so it was OKish at the same time. That was pretty much the end of the real drama. Still, I had fannish friends to lean on and I got all sorts of wonderful support from all these wonderful people, so for that I say Thank You!

The good was really good. It

started early in the year when Pete Sullivan sent me the eMail that started me down the path to TAFF which was one of the biggest thrills of my life. Yes, it was a tad bit crushing when it ended so suddenly, but along the way there was all the meeting of new people and such that made it so very entertaining. If it hadn't been for the TAFF race, I wouldn't have met so many great folks at WorldCon and I certainly wouldn't have been quite so excited about the last 1/2 of the year. It was a major pick-me-up in a way. It was also a lot of hard work and a good time.

And then there was WorldCon. No question that a good WorldCon can reopen your eyes to the power of fandom, and this one certainly did for me, but it also did more. I really discovered that I belonged in fandom when I strolled through the halls, greeting people, handing out ribbons, shaking hands and talking. Yeah, part of that was for TAFF, but a lot of that was just me going through what I'd love to do all the time. I had such a blast, especially getting to talk with folks who I hadn't met before like Lloyd & Yvonne Penney, The Bushyagers, John Hertz, Marty Cantor, Mike Glycer, Roger Sims, Espana Sheriff, Rusty Hevelin, The Moffatts, Silver-Bob and Guy Lillian. I had wonderful conversations with those folks. I had a great time talking with people like Art Widner, Randy Byers, Jerry Kaufman,

Suzle, Jason Schachat, Teresa Cochran and James Taylor, my good friends from Vegas and so many others. I came home exhausted but ecstatic. There's no other way to describe it. If you've read issue 96, 97 and 98, you'll see just how much of an influence WorldCon had on me.

After that, there was the great time at SiliCon and another at LosCon. I'm going to LASFS for the first time ever in a couple of days which should be fun.

Outside of fandom, there was good stuff too. I got a film into a couple of film festivals, which was nice. I made a film in 48 hours, which turned out alright, even won us an award. Guidolon came out hard and fast, though it's still not got a major distributor, but it will. It's done very well on the festival circuit and will play more and more. I'm glad I got to be a part of it and I think Frank's really on to something.

Frank won himself another Hugo and I'm quite proud of him. I think I used more of his fanart than any other zine in the US which is a fun little fact that makes me puff myself up. I'm very thankful for everything Frank did for me over the last year. The man did so much Chris for TAFF art and had the unmitigated gall to nominate me for TAFF! I'll never be able to say thanks enough to that guy.

In addition, I gotta say thanks to all of the great folks who have sup-



ported The Drink Tank throughout the year. Folks like Niall Harrison, Mark Valentine, Brad Foster, Bob Hole, Espana Sheriff, Spring and others who made their debut in The Drink Tank this year. I hope y'all'll be kind enough to participate in the Second AnnIsh. I got LoC from Ted White, Leigh Ann Hildebrand, Andy Porter, Lloyd Penney, John Purcell and Mark Plummer, Kevin Standlee, Claire Brialey, Marty Cantor who supplied wonderful LoCs that allowed me to pad issues...I mean share in the communication!

And there's more. I gotta say thanks to Arnie and Joyce. The two of them, two of my favourite people on Earth, are certainly wonderful for nominating me for TAFF, but even more wonderful for just being two of the nicest people in fandom to me and

have always been so gracious to me. Nothing but love for those two.

Same goes for Merric and Luba. They're great Vegas folks, and even though Merric didn't make either WorldCon or Loscon, the two of us did some damage to SF when he came out this way.

Can't forget all of Vegas fandom. They're great people and I'm sorely annoyed that I only got to visit the once this year. I'm hoping for another visit in 2007 (First Half) and to run into some of them at various events. I should point out to them that BayCon and Westercon are both within easy drives.

M and Jay and SaBean and Judith and Mike and Kathe all had rough years tinged with joy. Kids, marriages, cancers and moving, lost boyfriends, lost jobs, they all piled on one another. And they all stuck together and made what they could out of it. I love y'all.

I can't say enough Thank Yous to Bill Burns for this amazing site.

Peter Sullivan was the reason I started the whole TAFF thing and was one of my nominators. I bow my head to him in utmost respect. I hope my race did your hard work proud. I'm so grateful and I'll run again.

Yvonne Penney! You rule! Lloyd Penney! You too! If I had to choose my favourite people in fandom (the under 5'7 division) you'd both be there!

John Purcell was another nomi-

nator and I have to say thanks for pushing me so hard in every one of your zines.

What would my life be like without BASFA? Hard to say, but it has been so much fun. I love you guys!

No Thank You list would be complete without tanking the great and powerful forces of BayCon. I had a great year, really enjoyed running the fanzine lounge and can't think of a better con.

Also, gotta thank the folks who ran Silicon, WorldCon, Wondercon and LosCon. I can't wait to come back next year to each of them.

Of course, if I don't say thank to David and Jean and Eva and Espana and Howie and Bob and Dr. Noe and the rest of the SF/SF crew, they may well stop doing the zine and I can't have that.

So, those aren't all, but they're all the ones I'm gonna write in this issue. It has been a year, that's for sure, and I'm so happy that 2007 looks to be setting itself up as a good 'un. I'm gonna slow the Drink Tank a little bit, probably down to 40 issues next year, but don't you fret: I'll still be here to drop all of these nonsensical issues at your feet!

This issue is dedicated to the memories of Bob Leman, Bob Tucker, Jack Williamson, Helen Wesson, Dick Eney, rich brown and my Dad. I'm sure he'd love that list.