The Drink Tank Issue 93



garcia Ocomputerhistory.org



Closer, Clarice...

I'm getting more and more excited about WorldCon. Even more so than about the girl I've discovered over the last couple of days (her fave piece of clothing ever is the corset. Match made in Heaven, no?) and more than the event at 12 Galaxies on the 20th. There's nothing that's been more a piece of my mind than WorldCon.

Last week, I got my sched and I've been going over it and starting to think about my panels and plans. Here now, for your reading pleasure, is my sched for WorldCon 2006.

Blogs and eFanzines-Wednesday 2:30

Just as the con gets rolling, I'm on a panel, so that nap I was hoping for won't be happening. This is a good panel people-wise. There's me, Friend of The Drink Tank Andy Trembley, Lisa Deutsche Harrigan, former TAFF winner James Bacon and Patrick Nielsen Hayden. I've never met Patrick or James, though I've read a lot about them over the years. My big thing here will be the ease of use and lack of cost for eThings that make them at least somewhat preferable over the

print versions. This could be a volatile panel...but there's no one I can find who would be on the panel who isn't hip to the ways of the web.

Basically, I'll be talking about keeping up with a zine, how the web makes things easier and the ways in which blogging and zining are different.

Preserving Your Collection- Wednesday 4pm

I'm interested in this one mostly because one of the people from the Eaton Collection's gonna be on the panel with us. Also there are Joe Siclari, my buddy Bob Hole and Fred Lerner. I know I've met Fred (I think we did a panel or two at either NASFiC or maybe LosCon), and I know Bob, but the others are new to me. Mostly, I'll be bringing a few small things to look at and discuss as issues, like the issue of Odd where they used a Band-Aid as a part of the art. That's caused all sorts of issues.

will also be on the panel, wh interesting. Larry Person, an I've never heard of, will also panel. He sounds interesting should be a fun panel especial to that came up on my date: Description of the cases) data from obsolete for be of utmost import as time interesting. Larry Person, an I've never heard of, will also panel. He sounds interesting should be a fun panel especial to the came up on my date: Description of the cases) data from obsolete for be of utmost import as time interesting. Larry Person, and I've never heard of, will also be on the panel, who interesting. Larry Person, and I've never heard of, will also be on the panel, who interesting. Larry Person, and I've never heard of, will also be on the panel, who interesting and interesting should be a fun panel especial that came up on my date: Description of the case of the case of the panel of the

What's New In Fanzines-Thursday 10am

Here's a panel I'm excited about because of the folks I'm on it with. There's Jerry Kaufman (I know him but I don't think we've ever paneled together), Vanessa Van Wagner (LA fan who was one of the contributors to The Minute Sixty at BayCon) and Milt Stevens, LetterHack and FAPA's OE. I'd fully expect me to talk about Banana

Wings, eI, various eFanzines and of course, as the paragon of virtue, Vegas Fandom Weekly.

Jobs of the Future-Thursday Ipm

Well, here's my panel that could easily be at a Potlatch. I'm really glad Justin Lloyd is on the panel as he's a guy who I've really enjoyed paneling with in the past. J.G. Herzler, a regular Klingon in the Star Trek series of late, will also be on the panel, which will be interesting. Larry Person, an SF writer I've never heard of, will also be on the panel. He sounds interesting and this should be a fun panel especially since it lets me talk about one of the topics that came up on my date: Data Archeology. Finding people who can extract ancient (more than a year, in some cases) data from obsolete formats will be of utmost import as time goes on.

I Was Promised Flying Cars-Thursday 5:30

I've done this panel so many times, I could do it in my sleep. This time, the panel has Jordin Kare, a rocket scientist and filker, Steven Lopata, a guy who has worked for the Army and for NASA, Me, and David McMahon, who is a geropsychiatrist. That's right, a profession I'll have to remember for the previous panel.

I usually talk about the same five things: the 1950s Houses of the

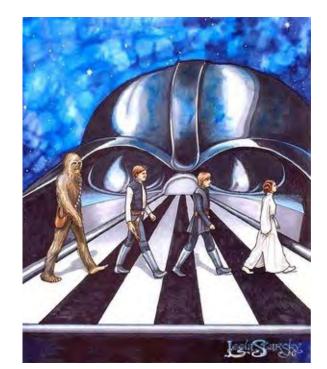
Future, books like Yesterday's Tomorrows and the way in which food was presented. That's right, the fat guy'll be talking about food, what a surprise!

Fanzines I'd Like To Publish-Friday at 10am

This one'll be interesting for the very different people who are on the panel. There's me, the electronic guy who is all over the place. You've got Jerry Kaufman, the long-timer who still puts out one of the best fanzines you'll ever read, Littlebrook. There's TAFF winner Bridget Bug Bradshaw who's British. That'll be a fun one. I'm betting that I'll talk about very different things than Jerry and Bug, mostly because I've got different ideas of what makes a fanzine. For me the ultimate would be a daily PerGenZine like The Drink Tank that was 10+ pages and talked about everything there is under the Sun.

Famous Fannish Pranks & Stunts-Friday 1pm

Think I'll talk about how I pranked a run for Mayor and then it turned out to come true? Yeah, I will, plus a lot of talk about Hollister in 2008, which is a bid that has gone far better than I'd ever have thought. The other folks on the panel include Mr. Mike Glyer of File 770 fame and Roger Sims, who chaired the 1959 WorldCon and has done just about everything there is to do in fandom since 1949.



I've never met him and I'm excited to get the chance.

The Match Game-Two Versions: Early Thursday and Following the Hugos on Saturday

The match game was a hit at BayCon and much of the same crew is reassembled for WorldCon. There's me, Leigh-Ann, Tom Galloway and Lynn Gold along with Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley who were both on the WesterCon edition. Added to that stew is Len Wein, one of the creators of Swamp Thing and a great guy. This should be fun. I'll be announcing the Daytime version, which will be light and fluffy. The Night version will be Match Game After Dark which will get

a little blue. I'll be an actual player on that one and it should be filthy fun.

The Roast of Jay Lake, which was going to be a lot of fun, has been cnacelled. Talk about Sucktarded!

Why Do People Write For Fanzines-Saturday 1pm

If you've ever wanted to see a panel where they pull a bunch of very different people from very similar strata of fandom and they all have very different reasonings, this is a panel for you. There's Lenny Bailes, a BArea fan who dates back to the old days when he did zines with Arnie Katz, there's Chaz Boston-Baden, photographer and LA mad man who also ordered all my ribbons, Me, the electronic guy who does it mostly out of a combination of boredom, and there's Andy again. It's being moderated by Guy Lillian III, the editor of Challenger and a damn fine fan writer himself. This is a gathering of interesting Fanzinistas.

Cool New Technology- Sunday 11: 30am

The last panel is probably going to be the one where I'm the quietest. David Brin is on the panel and he will just talk and talk. There are a couple of other guys on the panel, but really, David'll be the only one who gets a word in edgewise. Still, I'll have a thing or two to say.

Read For Yourself, Book of the Law

93 is an important number. It's the year I graduated High School (feel old, average reader!) and it's also important to another group that I don't think I've ever talked abou: The Thelemites.

There are lots of references to Thelema, the Greek word for Will (usually of God) but it wasn't until a crazy British dude took up the cause that it gained some prominence. True, he wasn't crazy, he was Aleister Crowley, a smart guy, a great writer and a man who saw things very differently. It was his concepts, or at least his practice of various combinations of concepts, that led to what we think of today as Thelema.

A few words on Crowley. He was either the most brilliant spiritual thinker of the recent centuries or a decadent who managed to get people to buy into his bullshit as truth. It's hard to argue either viewpoint as being wrong. He was certainly a charismatic and an intense individual. There are a great many stories of his exploits and a great deal of his writing has strong ties to the philosophy of Magick and sex. His books of erotica were very popular in early Hollywood (as was Crowley himself, though I believe he only visited briefly) and the book in which the love letter from Mary Miles Minter was found was a copy of Crowley's White



Stains (though that's been debated as to its authenticity). Crowley wrote a number of books about ceremonial magick over the years, with the most famous being the Book of the Law. That's where he outlined the most important points of Thelema that carry on to today.

Arguably, the most important tenet of Thelema was adapted from the writings of one of the greatest Christian thinkers ever. Saint Augustine once wrote "Love, and do what thy will." Crowley openly said that his phrasing "Do what thou Will shall be the whole of the Law" and "Love is the Law, Love under Will" were adapted from Augustine's saying and that his teachings had greatly affected Crowley as a youth. This is a stark contrast to the man often discribed as "The Wickedest Man in the World".

Thelema really got going in 1904. Crowley and his wife were in Egypt and Rose Crowley started acting a little weird. Crowley's not the only one who noted this. He then claimed that he performed an invocation of Horus that turned out to reveal the Book of the Law over the next few days. That's a great story and there's some evidence to back it up...at least as far as timing goes.

Like in all of these stories, Horus told Crowley that he was about to become a prophet, and what's wrong with that. He went about writing and would start to gather followers by 1910. That's where it gets real interesting.

His followers gathered into Lodges, as Crowley had been a Mason, and they called themselves the O.T.O., or Ordo Templi Orientis. Today, the O.T.O. exists around the world and is gaining more and more popularity due to the internet and an explosion of interest in Crowley.

Here's a few things that I really like about Thelema. The phrase "Do what thou Will..." isn't really a charge to go nuts and do whatever the hell you want to. Instead, it's a call to find 'True Will', that calling that can not be denied and must be examined. Theoretically, no two True Wills can contradict each other, so there's no way that one person doing their True Will will butt up against another doing their own.

What I don't like about Thelema: the ceremony and Magickal components. I understand that there are things beyond mankind that are strange and mysterious, but I just can't buy into all of this calling on Dark Powers and whatnot. It just doesn't jibe.

Now, with Thelema, you get interesting figures who were or are members. Jack Parsons, one of the founders of the Jet Propulsion Lab, quite possibly the most important non-computing research lab of the 20th Century, was a Thelemite, which may sound weird, but there've been many people who have come forth and said that every time a rocket got shot off in the early days, Parsons would invoke the god Pan. He was chosen by Crowley to head the Agape Lodge. That's heady stuff. Parsons and Elron Hubbard had a tangle over a women and they got in a bust up over money at one point. Sadly, Jack died when some chemicals he stored at home exploded.

William Breeze of the brilliant Goth-SynthPop-noise-weirdness band Current93 is also a member of the OTO. Jane Wolfe, a Silent Movie actress, was a long-standing member and one of the people who brought Crowley to Hollywood.

And of course, there's Good Old Kenneth Anger. He's probably the one who's most open about his OTO membership and has been a very good



promoter of the way for a number of years. Hollywood Babylon is full of little remarks about Crowley and it opens with what I consider to be Crowley's most important saying: Every Man and Every Woman is a Star.

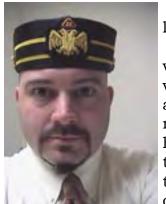
Today's Thelema is very interesting and growing in so many different ways. the internet has brought folks together and from what I understand there's been serious growth in the OTO and the various member Lodges over the last few years. The best of the web introductions you can get is on MySpace. There's a podcast called

Thelema Coast-to-Coast hosted by John L. Crow. They discuss ritual and internal OTO issues which really aren't my cup of tea, but they also discuss the life of Crowley and several of the other founders and there's even discussion about Jack Parsons which I really enjoyed. In addition to all that, they also do a lot of music, much of which is ceremonial, but it also tends to be very interesting. I've listened to most of the podcasts and I have to say that it's a good listen, especially if you jump around in the individual episodes and find the most interesting parts.

Speaking of music, there's a guy who represents the modern OTO for me who drops fat rhymes like Sonny Liston got dropped by Ali. He goes by Scholar and he's the Thelemic rapper.

Born Christian Fitzharris, he was a year ahead of me at Santa Clara High. He was way into Public Enemy and Black History back in the day. I think it was during his junior year he started getting interested in Crowley and such. Over the years, he's become a rapper who has performed in various venues, mostly around his now hometown of Las Vegas. He's a talented guy and his raps are intricate and intelligent. For example...

I'm back, who's that, not Shae St. John, but I'm known to the rapper with the lexicontroversial lyrics so that when you hear it you know things are about to get tim-ult-u-ous

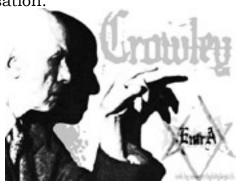


Them's good lyrics.

While it would be easy to write Scholar off as a gimmick, he's really earnest and has a good sound that harkens back to the Old Skool rappers like

Grandmaster Flash and The Sugarhill Gang, as well as more modern work by groups like NWA and there's even a bit of Eminem in him. His methods and syncopations are tight and fast and varied. He's multidimensional and his topics are bizarre at times, intense at others.

So, what does Thelema have to do with 93? Well, most Thelemites greet each other with 93, which corresponds to the numberic values of the letters in the words thelema and agape in Greek. Once in a while, I'll greet folks with 93 just to see what they do...much the same way I'll sometimes say 'Free Mumia' at the end of a conversation.





Sadly, I won't be able to do the full WorldCon issue I had hoped for. Not enough articles made it to me and I've just plain run out of time. I'll be running the ones that I have in the next issue and very happily thank everyone who sent things in. Sadly, it turns out that one of the articles I got was eaten by my email for some

reason, so I hope to be able to run that eventually, if I can get him to resend it.

But there will be more WorldCon coverage following LACon than you can shake a stick at. If you're going, please drop me a line to tell me how you liked it or even write a review. I'm gonna need lots of reviews for SF/SF, The Drink Tank and maybe even the official Chris for TAFF organ PrintZine (which you can find out about by visiting ChrisforTAFF.org)

The Current Religous War at the Computer History Museum

The fieriest battles are the ones fought over the lowest stakes. I've gotten in near fistfight brawls over the dates of release of certain

films. There's no good reason for more of them, but once in a while there's a battle worth fighting to the death because it affects every reality. During a recent meeting at The Computer History Museum, we were talking about Philly.

Now, there's a lot of Philly connection in the museum. Our Registrar is from Jersey, I spent ages in Philly



watching wrestling and returned a couple of years back for PhilCon. Our Software Curator had spent years there as had our Archivist. We were sitting around gabbing and we mentioned lunch, where the Registrar said the following:

"You know, the Country Deli does a real good Cheesesteak."

"With real Cheez-Whiz?" Asks Al, our Software guy.

"No! With Provolone, the only kind of Cheese that should be on a Steak." She answers.

She may as well have called the Pope a Nazi. Al got the most indignant look on his face, as if there was nothing she could have said that would be more wrong.

"It's not a REAL Cheesesteak without Cheez-Whiz" he said through great anger.

The archivist, Paula, walked in. "You've lived in Philly," Al said, "What's the right cheese for a Steak?"

Paula didn't even hesitate. "Geno's does Cheez-Whiz, so that's gotta be right."

"Geno's? Geno's? Nah, Pat's is the only REAL place for Cheesesteaks." I said.

And that's how it all began. After the meeting ended, mixed with various snide remarks, we started sending emails back and forth to defend our positions. I had my date on Friday night and I told her about it.

"Well, you're right. Provolone is the right cheese. Cheez-Whiz shouldn't be used on Cheesesteaks or in Grilled Cheese." she said.

"You know the next question I'm going to ask, don't you?" I said.

"Pat's. No question." Is she perfect or what?

Things have quieted down, but the slightest breeze could bring it all back to us, the battle that must be fought. I'm getting a steak today, and there better be no Whiz on it!



OK, a short issue today. Why? I've got work to do. I've gotta start layout on the WorldCon-ish ish, gotta edit James Bacon's article (which I'm told could take a while) and I've gotta work on getting more Chris for TAFF (http://www.chrisfortaff.org) things done, including getting issues of PrintZine printed.

Other than that, the next issue will be the WorldCon issue and should be very interesting. It won't be the massive undertaking I was hoping for, but there'll be plenty of content from names like Steven Silver, Ted White, John Purcell, myself, My Pops and James Bacon to keep me goin'.

Remember to visit Chris for TAFF's website and maybe even buy a shirt at the Cafe Press store. It'll be what all the well-dressed Chris Garcias will be wearing at WorldCon!

Speaking of WorldCon: if you're going and you've read this, you OWE me a report on the con! Sorry, no choice in the matter. I've got The Drink Tank and SF/SF to get full of WorldCon-y goodness and if I'm going to be going out on a date the week after WC2006, I'm gonna need some help filling up pages, dammit!

Also, buy Greetings from Lake Wu: The Luxury edition!

Letter Graded Mail

sent to garcia@computerhistory.org

by my Genteel Readers

Let's start with Canada's Favourite Band: Lloyd Penney!

August 5, 2006

Dear Chris:

I've had a few days rest after my loc marathon in July, but now it's time to get to what's in the hopper since then. Here's some comments on The Drink Tank 91.

I'd heard of various suspicious murders in Hollywood since the 1930s, and of course other suspicious stories that have baffled the police, but had not heard anything about the murder of William D. Taylor. I wonder if there's been a video investigation into this cold case on A&E. This is the kind of case any of a handful of shows on that cable network could turn into an entertaining hour of TV.

Murder network...I'm sorry, A&E, does those great specials about Unsolved murders that I love. There's a movie coming out about the Black Dahlia, the other great Hollywood Unsolved Murder, and I've heard that someone is working on a somewhat experimental script about a group of guys who are



Hollywood buffs today who manage to solve the crime.

Who knows, Chris, I might get back to the serial loccing if I bring back plenty of fanzines from LA! I've had a look at the programme for the L.A.con, and I am going to be busy. There's a ton of fanzine programming, and with Milt Stevens running the fanzine lounge, this could be a great time for all of us. I finally figured out why I see so many Hollister shirts...there is a chain of clothing stores called the Hollister Co., and one of their locations

is in a major shopping mall just south of us. There must be other locations elsewhere. Hey, you might not have to deal with CafePress, just hit a Hollister Co. store.

The sched looks nice and full, especially for fanzine panels. I'm on four of them (as you saw in the lead article) and there's some great names on the sched. I'm looking forward to meeting a lot of folks I only know through print, like Guy and Lenny Bailes.

And who's this Alana? I know a

local Alana here, and she's got, shall we say, some great curves I enjoy perusing from time to time. I was one of the founders of the Bunch of Seven writers group that produced fine SF authors like Tanya Huff, Karen Wehrstein, Shirley Meier and Steve Stirling. I was about the only one that never got any benefit out of the group, but at least it got some friends in print.

Yeah, Alana's a cutie. Nuts, but adorable. Sounds like a good group out there. I've never actually been in a writer's group, though I've regularly hung out with folks who made up writer's groups. I mustn't let myself be dragged back into fiction, though...

I was on the website earlier today...just 18 days to go! We purchased our travellers' cheques today, we have our tickets, and we're just itchin'. There's a great restaurant Yvonne told me about...she found it when she was in LA earlier this year, and it's called The Proud Bird. It's near the end of one of the runways at LAX. We are definitely going there. Our first day there will be at the Hilton, and we are going to relax, take advantage of the hotel's facilities, hit the pool, do all the things we rarely get to do at a Worldcon.

If you've seen shows from the 1970s that show a spider-lookin' thing, that's a restaurant too. We ate there during LosCon this year. Lots of fun, though very pricey. I'm staying at the Super 8, but I'll spend a lot of time on the party floor. I'll be carrying signs, impossible to miss.

Take it easy, and this goes on the LJ as well. See you shortly!

Yours, Lloyd Penney

Thanks, Lloyd! It's less than two weeks now, so we better head over to Eric Mayer!

Chris,

Although I'm glad to hear that M is doing OK I don't like the phrase "ovarian cancer." Scary. What's really a shame is that she ought to be able to just enjoy the little ones right now. So often, it seems, we don't get to properly enjoy different aspects of our lives because of some crap going on. As for SaBean's description of that "house of love" maybe it oughta be airlifted to the mideast.

I dunno. I think there might be some pretty serious consequences of dropping that group anywhere near places where there's serious religious stuff going on.

Neat bit by Frank Wu about all those enemies working together stories. Isn't it interesting how we, collectively as humans, know what's right, and even tell ourselves these moral tales over and over, but then, in reality, won't follow our own teachings? Why is there this dichotomy between what we believe and what we do?

Well, there's always the choice between what is easy and what is right. Too often, what's easy wins.

Congratulations on that tower. They should name it after you. Or at least let you dedicate it.

That would be sporting of them, I'd say!

I didn't read Emerald City because I don't read sf but I don't understand how some folks have a problem with a zine full of reviews. If it weren't for the mystery zines and websites that review books small press authors like Mary and me would never



be heard about. No one would get read but authors the New York publishers chose to promote. Large newspapers and tv rarely mention books except those from the five major houses. I figure EmCit did the same sort of thing for sf since, I think, Cheryl covers books from all publishers

There were numerous books that I only heard about because of EmCit. In fact, I'd never have discovered China Mieville except that he was profiled in an Early-ish issue that really caught my eye. It's an important thing, and there are still zines that do that to a degree (Some Fantastic comes to mind) but really the thing I'll miss most are the WorldCon break downs.

Thanks, Eric! and now Mr. John Purcell!!!

Hey, Chris, I think you'd enjoy the synchronicity of how things are working out right now. The next two zines I have up for loccing are *SFinSF* and *Drink Tank*, but I am going to write the *Drink Tank* #92 loc first because it just happens to be the 92nd loc I've written this year. Unlike Lloyd Penney, I don't plunk my locs onto LiveJournal to track them; my method is to print out a copy of the letter and maintain a 3-ring folder subdivided by year, with each ensuing loc consecutively numbered in the top right corner. And this one will be duly printed out and



notated #92 a few minutes from now.

And now I just realized how organized the preceding paragraph makes me sound. Oh, well. Actually I am nowhere near as organized as it makes me sound; but it is interesting to keep track of things like this. (I also have hard copies of all of my current zines bound like this, too, in case you're wondering.)

Y'all are far too organized! I just type 'em up and send 'em out. 92 so far this year. I think I'm up around 70, but with Arnie out of commission, I don't know what I'm gonna do.

Ah, now **you've** gone three-column format like *Pixel*. Turns out that I've been playing with that format

in the latest issue of And Furthermore, which I'll be working on tonight after classes are over for the day. Almost done with it, too. Any way. The format looks good in your zine. Of course, Dave Burton does such a bang-up job with the layout and presentation of Pixel that it makes me want to puke green envy and slink into the nearest dark corner, muttering incomprehensibly things like "no can do...how do I...wah-wah-watusi....ah, feldergarb...." and so forth. Half the fun of doing these e-zines is playing with format and the graphic capabilities of the 'puter. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't.

Yeah, I like the new-ish format. It seems to work out nice, though if I'm gonna be printing a bunch of issues, I go back to the Old Ways.

I just downloaded Marty Cantor's *No Award #16* from efanzines, and his eye is quite different from yours, which is quite different from mine, which is quite different from Earl Kemp's, and so on and on. It all depends on what the individual wants to do, and I most certainly am enjoying the variety of zines that people are producing. 'Tis a grand time to be publing, ain't it?

Shhhh! I haven't gotten around to reading it yet!

Onward to the contents of DT #92.

Frank Wu is asking the near impossible in his screenplay writing assignment. Personally, I don't give a shit for either bin Laden or Cheney. Let 'em both rot and die on that island. Either that, or the Mother Ship comes down, isolates and encapsulates this island in a protective shield, and then decimates the rest of planet Earth, leaving Cheney and bin Laden to either figure out a way to keep the human race alive, or let it die out completely. If it was my screenplay, I'd say "fuck it. Do over."

I'd rather see Condi Rice and Pro Wrestler New Jack stuck on an island together. That'd be HI-larious

I always thought you liked things hectic? Situation normal for you.

I do, but even I have my limits. Wait...what am I saying?

It is sad but perhaps not unexpected that Cheryl Morgan is ending such an incredible run with *Emerald City*. After reading her editorial on-line in the latest issue, it sounds to me like the poor dear is burned out and needs a break. Whenever I've perused *EmCit* I have always enjoyed the reviews and commentary. You are probably right that Cheryl reaches a far larger cross-section of fandom than thee and me (and others of our ilk, like Arnie, Earl, Claire & Mark, Randy, Andy, Marty,

and the rest of us fanzinistas), and that is definitely a good thing. Will *EmCit* continue as a separate website? Dunno. I guess that's possible, but this is for someone else to worry about and deal with. You're not thinking of doing it, are you, Chris? I mean, you're crazy, yes, but are you *THAT crazy?*

I will NOT be taking over EmCit! Just 'cause I did it with Jean when SF/SF was about to fold doesn't mean I'll do it every time a zine drops

"Chris for Taff" has a nice, succint ring to it. Once I get some bucks coming in next month, I'm going to visit the store on www.chrisfortaff.org. Only too happy to promote the cause, y'know.

I think I've shilled enough on that.

Eric Mayer apparently has remembered that bad puns are a staple in a fanzine fan's diet. (See attachment) If you really need an adversary for TAFF, maybe we can have you run against Ferdinand Feghoot or some obscure fan from the frozen steppes of Siberia. Just a thought.

I was think we should run Jophan, but I'd probably lose.

Do you really think attending a worldcon would be helpful in making Israel and Lebanon stop the insanity? It's a great concept, but highly unlikely. Too much ingrained hatred, stubbornness and stupidity to get past. Israel and Lebanon, that is. Not the WorldCon.

OK, date story: I was out with the new girl Jen and she's a Jewish girl who converted from Catholicism. Typically, it's converts who are the hardest line of the Israel supporters, so I had to see if she was cool. I made the following joke.

"You know, for centuries the Jews were accused of starting wars they had nothing to do with. I think they feel like they can get away with starting them whenever the spirit moves them now."

She laughed, fairly hard too.

Wow! Great news from SaBean. It certainly sounds like things are going in the right direction over there. I have always enjoyed visiting New York City; that's where my family's from. Dad was born and raised down by Gracie Mansion on Manhattan Island, and mom grew up seven blocks from Yankee Stadium. She and her siblings used to walk to games in the 30s. Yeah. That's right. When mom was a kidlet she saw some of the greatest Yankee teams in history. She didn't remember seeing Ruth play, but she could remember Gehrig, and eventually DiMaggio and company. Dad was a

Giants fan, though. I'm surprised their marriage lasted over 38 years! Which just proves that love is stronger than baseball. Eric Mayer might disagree, but I think it's true.

You know, then, we are like Half-brothers! My family has always been Giants-loving and anyone who is the son of a Giants fan is my brother...and though you had one Yankee fan in the line of your birth, you're only half. Doesn't matter what team you root for now, what matters is history (says the guy whose team hasn't won a World Series since History!)

Great issue, as always. And remember....

Chris for TAFF!!!!

All the best,

John

Thanks much!

The Drink Tank issue 93 was written by Chris Garcia, John Purcell, Lloyd Penney, Eric Mayer and posted to eFanzines.com by the legendary Bill Burns! Let's get that man a Hugo, people! Next issue is all about WorldCon! Anaheim, ho!!!

