

Again: Print Zine



Chris for TAFE and All That
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So, the race is well and truly underway. It's been fun so far, but I've been forgetting to bring ballots places all month. It's rather annoying. I've got to keep working on it so that I can firstly keep myself busy, and secondly discover that people might actually want to vote for me! I often feel guilty when I take a ballot from a group and then go and vote for the other people (like I did at NAS-FiC with the Kansas City folks when I voted for Montreal). I haven't done as much campaigning this year because...well, there's a girl...

OK, that's not quite true, I've done a fair bit of writing and this is the second issue of PrintZine, but I did more last year, that's no doubt true. Then again, no one had any idea who I was lost time and this go-round I'm slightly better known. GO figure.

But yes, there's a lovely lass that I've written about who goes by the name of The Lovely and Talented Linda. She's dreamy and I've been spending a lot of time with her. No, this is not leading to a female-dragged GAFIation. Why can I say that? Because she's a fan! Largely she's a costumer, but she goes to the cons I go to (and a couple of other ones) and she's been wonderful enough to give me a piece of writing for The Drink Tank.

I've never dated a fan before and only dated two other women while I've been zining. I wasn't dating anyone last year when I ran for TAFF, so I never noticed how hard it can be to make time for pubbing and such.

But my Ghod is it worth it!

You see, Linda's wonderful and we're having a wonderful time and I'm finding myself less distracted by my own busy-ness. She is actually energizing me by making me want to write about the little adventures we have (like the first time I ever went to a Renn Faire to see her perform) and she certainly centers me and keeps me honest.

So, this issue has an article by me about...waiting for the word to come down...

The Waiting...

So, this year is going to be all about the waiting. I kinda knew this by the middle of the year, but now I'm 100% sure that the waiting is what happens. Why am I waiting? Because there are dates on calendars and things I want to know.

The mundane ones are actually the scariest. I've gotta go and get myself scoped in November to make sure that I don't end up with the same stuff that killed my Pops. That's a slightly scary thing, especially since they're saying I should have one every other year, but I do want to make sure I'm around long enough to be at the 100th WorldCon.

There's the dates that relate to work, the biggest being the delivery of the content outline for the Timeline of Computer History we're putting together as our next big thing. That's a huge job and it's requiring more of my attention, but I've got to wait to see how the words I've been putting to paper (or in this case, a private Wiki) turn into exhibits and interactives.

And then there's the Hugo.

You see, they tell you 4 sometimes 5 months before these things happen and they expect you to wait! Now, I have no illusions, I don't think I'm going to win, but there's always that little part of the brain that says 'you're on the ballot! You CAN win!' and that makes you worry and wonder if it's possible. As a guy who is prone to day-dreaming, it's rough, but I've also got Linda to day-dream about now, so that's taken some of the pressure off.

I'm figuring that I'll never have to

worry about this again, it was a perfect storm that got me nominated, so I have to worry and wait a little hear. Still, I suspect that Plokta or Banana Wings will walk away with it, and that's fine: they're both brilliant zines.

I recently sent off my issue of The Drink Tank all dedicated to Cocktails. I had some great writing: Howeird, Claire Brialey, Kevin Roche,





Dave Gallaher, the inimitable M Lloyd, some Anonymous Person, Judith Morel and a lot of art from folks like Mo Starkey, Frank Wu, Espana Sheriff and more! It was one of those wonderful issues that just felt beautifully refreshing when I finished it and sent it off to Bill.

And I waited.

And I waited.

A day went by. Bill's a busy guy, so I don't mind waiting a day or two to get stuff up, but this one was so much fun, I was a little antsy.

And I waited.

Day 3: The zine has not yet arrived. Provisions are running low and morale is at an all-time low. What brave men I shall lose before this business is through.

Now, I figure Bill's busy with something like a con, or maybe he's just under the weather, but I waited four full days and then it appeared! I had somehow managed

to keep 10% of my nails from being unbit-

ten!
The last wait is the hardest of all: TAFF. I've wanted to be the TAFF delegate for year now, and last year ending the way it did was rough. I'd be happy if any of us win (I just found some stuff that Chris Barkley wrote and he's pretty damn good! Chris for TAFF!) but I really just wanna know.

And I guess that's the point of a race, idinit? You run it and you wait, the anticipation building until that final moment when you all know and things are better for some, worse for others, but they're resolved. Maybe that's why awards ceremonies are so grand and special: you need to provide the winners with a moment that is bigger than they could possibly have imagined and you have to give the not-winners something special so they don't feel too bad. It's a theory at least.

Now, there's no TAFF ceremony, though I'm pretty sure we could get the Shrine Auditorium to hold it and probably even SilverBob to host the thing, but alas, it is not to be. I'll just wait and write out my nervous energy.

Waiting ain't easy, and everybody does it for big things and small. I've been waiting for this weekend since last Wednesday, and now it's here. My wait to know that I am officially a Hugo loser ends tonight, my wait to get to hang with the Lovely and Talented Linda ends shortly before that and my wait for the next issue of PrintZine is now over. Go figure.

My Back-handed Endorsement

***by
M Lloyd***

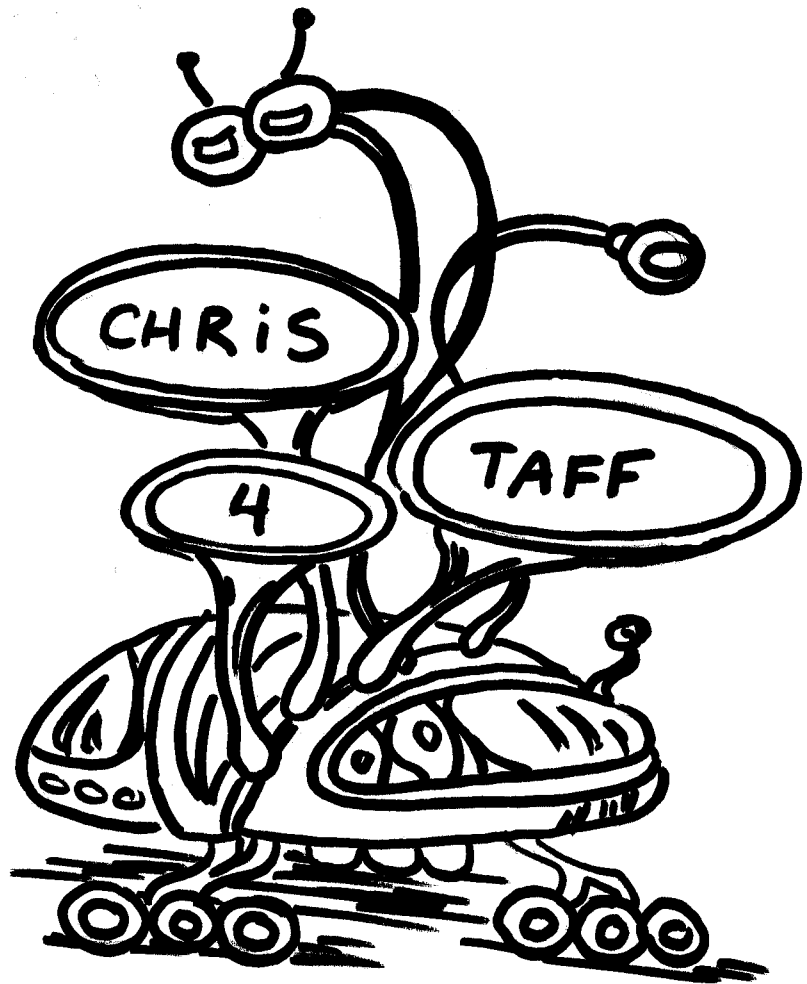
Since it's probably the only way we'll ever get Chris out here to Europe (despite my repeated offers to fly him out!), I say vote for Chris Garcia! The boy's got a good heart and he's one of those guys who can turn a room into a party by simply adding himself and a lot of booze.

I can say this, he'll come to Europe, he'll charm the pants off the place, he'll fly back home and, in the words of TMBG, you'll wonder why you liked him.

In addition, he'll write one of his zines every few days which no one but those of us who already love him will ever bother reading. It'll be entertaining for those of us who get him (all 20 or so of us) and someday someone will discover that he's not the bumbling idiot he thinks he is.

Chris also has one thing that no one else in this race has: the desire to be proven wrong. You see, Chris doesn't think he should win. Anything. He's one of those guys who has a view of himself that's actually slightly short of what the truth is and he still thinks he thinks too highly of himself. Electing him for TAFF would do the thing that I've been waiting for years to experience. It'll turn Chris into a ego-maniacal idiot who finally understands that he's a genius!

So yes, Vote for Chris. Send him across and make everyone experience the ride that is Chris Garcia.



Editor's note: I do not!

The Next big thing for me, after this weekend, is Silicon. It's the Media Con that behaves like an SF con and is a lot of fun. I'll be passing out ballots and chatting folks up there all weekend. SF/SF is going to be doing a party too, officially turnign ourselves into one of those Zine Groups that does things like that! I hear there's a bunch of folks in the UK like that. I wish I could remember their name...

In addition to evverythign else, Evelyn wants to learn Karate and Gymnastics (both of which she can take through the Campbell Parks & Rec Department) and learn how to make costumes for herself and her dolls. I've picked up a couple of books (and will be mining Linda and Kevin and Andy and others for info) and we're going to start simple: making a simple traveling cloak for her American Girl doll. Now, I know that's not exactly simple, but it is easier than what she really wanted to do: make a pirate outfit. What have I gotten myself into?

Evelyn's Mom, Genevieve, isn't thrilled with me of late because I've been away and not watching Evelyn a lot, and I feel kinda guilty about that, but on the other hand, I've got a life too. Evelyn sometimes thinks I see her too often and other times says she misses me because I'm never around. These things are rough, aren't they?

2008 TAFF Ballot — North America to Europe

What is TAFF? The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and popular fans familiar to those on both sides of the ocean across the Atlantic. Since that time TAFF has regularly brought North American fans to European conventions and European fans to North American conventions. TAFF exists solely through the support of fandom. Interested fans all over the world vote on the candidates, and each vote is accompanied by a donation of not less than \$3 or £2. These votes, and the continued generosity of fandom, are what make TAFF possible.

Who may vote? Voting in the 2008 race is open to anyone who was active in fandom prior to April 2006, and who contributes at least \$3 or £2 to the Fund. Larger contributions will be gratefully accepted. Voting is by secret ballot: only one vote per person, and you must sign your ballot. You may change your vote any time prior to the deadline.

Deadline: Votes in this race must reach the administrators by **Midnight, PST, Saturday 17 November 2007. This is 8 AM, GMT, Sunday 18 November 2007.**

Voting details: TAFF uses a preferential ballot system which guarantees automatic runoffs until a majority is obtained. You rank the candidates in the exact order of your preference for them. If the leading first-place candidate does not get a majority, the first-place votes for the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped, and the second-place votes on those ballots are counted as first-place votes. This process repeats itself until one candidate has a majority. Your votes for second and third place are important, but you may give your candidate only one ranking on your ballot. In order to win, a candidate must receive at least 20% of the first-ballot first-place votes on both sides of the Atlantic, separately. Any candidate failing to receive this minimum percentage on either side will be dropped, and the second-place votes on their ballots counted as first-place votes in the next ballot count. Thus candidates and their supporters will need to canvass fans on both sides of the pond. You may send your ballot to either administrator, but it will be tabulated with the other votes from the side of the Atlantic on which you reside. Votes from fans not resident in either Europe or North America will not count towards either 20% minimum, but are important to the outcome of the race.

Hold Over Funds: This choice, like "No Award" in Hugo balloting, gives you the chance to vote for no TAFF trip this year, if the candidates do not appeal. Hold Over Funds may be voted for in any position, and is exempt from the 20% requirement; thus, if it receives a majority of the votes on the final ballot, no TAFF trip will be held this year regardless of how many votes Hold Over Funds received on the first ballot.

No Preference: For voters who prefer not to choose between candidates, but don't want the trip held over.

Donations: TAFF gratefully accepts your freely given money and material for auction; such generosity has sustained the Fund for over 50 years. TAFF is fandom's oldest travel fund, and one of its worthiest causes — give early and often! Please contact your nearest administrator for details.

Candidates: Each candidate has posted a bond, promising — barring Acts of God — to travel, if elected, to: Eastercon 2008, and has provided signed nominations and a platform (overleaf).

Please read both sides of this ballot before voting. Send entire sheet as your vote.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number or e-mail address: _____

(We need your full contact details. TAFF may need to contact you regarding your ballot or to send out newsletters. We do not publish this data or pass it to any other organisation.)

Signature: _____

Enclosed is _____ as a contribution to TAFF.

Please make checks/cheques, etc., payable to:

'Suzanne Tompkins' for US dollar checks mailed to Suzanne.

'TAFF' for all UK (sterling) cheques posted to Bridget Bradshaw/Claire Brialey.

If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, then in order to qualify your vote, please give, in the space below, the name and address of an active fan (not a fan group, a candidate, or their nominator) who is known to them and to whom you are known:

Active fan known to the administrator: _____



2008 TAFF Ballot — North America to Europe

Chris Barkley

In many world cultures, the pilgrimage is seen as a serious undertaking; a sacred journey to a place of personal or spiritual importance. When I first entered fandom in the 1970's one of the first (and most exotic) things I learned about was the TransAtlantic Fan Fund, where sf fans were exchanged from the far-flung corners of the United Kingdom and North America. TAFF is not only our annual pilgrimage; it is one of our most important cultural traditions. It would be an exquisite honor to visit the land that gave us such icons as Olaf Stapledon and Doctor Who.

Nominators: Johnny Carruthers (US), Colin Harris (UK), Marcia Kelly Illingworth (UK), Michaele Jordan (US), Laurie Mann (US)

Linda Deneroff

For over 35 years I've had my fingers and toes in many fannish pursuits, ranging from convention running to Star Trek and Star Wars fanzines. I've worked on many conventions including Worldcons and Worldcon bids on both the left and right coasts, in capacities ranging from volunteer to treasurer to chair, starting with Lunacon in the early 1970s, (1980 chair, James White GoH!). Today I live in Seattle, where I help produce Foolscap, a small literary-and-art oriented convention. I love reading, traveling, and attending conventions. I'm thrilled to be nominated, and I hope you'll vote for me.

Nominators: Margaret Austin (UK), Hank Graham (US), Tim Illingworth (UK), Margaret Organ-Kean (US), Kevin Standlee (US)

Chris Garcia

Stop me if you think that you've heard this one before. Chris Garcia is a fan. He's from Northern California. He writes zines like The Drink Tank, Claims Department and Science Fiction San Francisco. He's been a member of ANZAPA, FAPA and a few other APAs. In general he writes as often as he breathes. Chris does game shows at cons, likes fried food, enjoys a good bourbon, plays a mean game of poker, likes cons with Fanzine Lounges that turn into parties, and will talk and talk and talk. He also once fell down a mountain. Ask him about it.

Nominators: James Bacon (UK), Arnie Katz (US), Mark Plummer (UK), John Purcell (US), Ted White (US)

Christian McGuire

I'm a reader, conventioneer, and club fan. I was a regular contributor/first O.E. of The Gallifreyan Home Companion (a Dr. Who APA), and written for other fine fanzines. I've met many British and European fans over the years without getting to know them. My theory of conventions is that everything serves the opportunity for great conversation. If chosen for TAFF, I'd sit down to as many parts of the conversation as possible to meet new people and get to know those I've only briefly encountered before. I'd take a ton of notes, some photos, and write a great trip report!

Nominators: Chaz Boston Baden (US), Vincent Docherty (EU), Mike Glyer (US), Milt Stevens (US), Robbie Bourget & John Harold (UK)

Please read and fill out both sides of this sheet. Send in entire sheet as your vote. Do not detach this portion!

I vote for (rank 1, 2, 3, etc.):

Chris Barkley

Christian McGuire

Linda Deneroff

Hold Over Funds

Chris Garcia

No Preference

Send ballot & donation to:

North America - Suzanne Tompkins, PO Box 25075, Seattle, WA 98165 USA.

Checks payable to: Suzanne Tompkins. Email suzlet@aol.com with questions/comments.

Europe - TAFF c/o Claire Brialey, 59 Shirley Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 7ES UK throughout the voting period, or Bridget Bradshaw, 39 (1F2) Viewforth, Edinburgh, EH10 4JE UK after 10 Sep 2007.

Cheques payable to: TAFF. E-mail bugshaw@cix.co.uk with any questions, or if you would like to use PayPal.

For more information on TAFF, visit: <http://taff.org.uk>

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