



*The Drink Tank 206*  
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**That's a Ditmar cover! That man is awesome. Far too awesome. He's one of the two or three greatest fan artists out there at the moment. I am hoping y'all remembered the man on your Hugo ballots.**

### **CorFlu People are the Luckiest People in the World**

As always, I loved CorFlu. I also loved capitalizing the F in the middle. It just looks so much cooler. I don't understand why folks are so weirded out when I capitalize letters in the middle of the words. I mean there's WorldCon and BayCon and such that just work much better with the Cap in their looming over all those lower-case letters. Maybe it's the tyrant in me.

Anyhoo, it was CorFlu and I had a great time. How could I not? There were all those folks I love seeing every year and the discussions that I always get mixed up in that are wonderful. As always, my review in The Drink Tank shall be only one of people and thanks. If'n you really wanna see what I thought of the con, go and read SFSF. It's got the whole thing going on in there.

First off, I thank That Lovely & Talented Linda (who is also referred to as The Long-Suffering Linda, because 1 1/2 years of putting up with me qualifies!). She got up at 4:30 with me and we went to the airport to go to the con. I'm always amazed she puts up with me at cons because I'm always running around and stuff.



She was wonderful company and an exceptional auction bidder. She won the complete set of LACon IV badges, which makes her far too many win!

And I gotta say Thank You! to Randy Byers. The man chaired the con and did a great job. He did an amazing job putting it all together and the hotel was wonderful and the people all showed up and it all ran relatively smoothly. No one died, the con didn't blow up, it's all good stuff!

And of course, Randy didn't do it alone! There was Ulrika O'Brien, Suzle, Jerry Kaufman, Marci, Hal and various others who put things together and made sure we had a fine experience. These things don't run on the power of one person, but sometimes I forget everybody who helped!

Andy Hooper did the program, and I owe him a big 'I'm Sorry!' because I didn't get anything done while I was at Cinequest

so there was a lot of digging that he had to do. Still, the panel he had me moderate was strong, especially because of Bill Burns and Rob Latham from the Eaton Collection. They really pulled everything together and folks seemed to appreciate. I always love it when good panel comes together on the fly.

I have to say thanks to my good friend Art Widner for putting out the most wonderful issue of YHOS in ages! It's dedicated to the memory of Jack Speer, his good friend who passed away last year.

And speaking of zines, I have to say thanks to both Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer. They do Banana Wings, which is one of the top zines in the world (and they came third in the voting for Best Fanzine in the FAAn Awards) and they printed my article about the scarf that we'll be auctioning at WorldCon. Claire is the classiest English fan I've yet met, and Mark regularly capitalizes the C in GarCia. I have to admit, it's just awesome. That C over-powering those lower case letters! Awesome! I also have to continue thanking them for all the stuff they've done for TAFF and for just flat-out being awesomely wonderful folks. Also, Claire had one of the best verses in the Secret Song sung by Nic Farey.

I also must say that Nic Farey is what would happen if you took Tobes and James Bacon, put them in a blender along with a perpetual motion machine and a splash of Jim Beam Rye Whiskey. He's awesome! I'm so glad I finally got to meet

him and I can't wait to see him again. Some guys are just icons, and I'd say that Nic is one of them. The Blessed Bobby is also good people, and I'm equally glad I got to meet her. Nic's songs were great, and the one he sang in his room late on Saturday was just about Snarktastic in the brutality it leveled on some of his best friends!

You know, I'd never met Stu Shiffman and I was pleased to get to chat with him, especially at the banquet. He's a funny, funny guy and a great artist. I've loved his piece since I first became largely aware of them once I returned to fandom. I'm hoping he'll do me a cover in the future. I also have to say he did a helluva restaurant guide. It was clear, well-written and best of all, it was right! His top recs were the places we ate and they were great!

I also met Steve Stiles for the first

time at CorFlu. There's a great guy. I got a chance to chat with him, though as always, you can never seem to make enough time to get as much of a chat with the folks as you'd like. He has a great goatee. It gives him a certain white guy playing Captain Nemo look that is highly excellent.

I also got to meet, though hardly talk with, Dan Steffan. He's one of my top three fan artists of all-time and a nice guy.

I gotta thank Peter Sullivan, and frankly, I should be thanking him everyday since he's the guy who led me into TAFF and is one of the guys who has made internet fandom something that so many folks are now finding themselves participating in. He was there on the Virtual Fan Lounge, along with Moshe Feder, Linda Bushyager, James Bacon and various others. I participated a bit, but since I didn't have my own connection to the net, I had

to use the general use one that was in the ConSuite. I love the way fandom has changed and that we can get together in new, exciting ways! I even sang a bit for the entire crowd. Suddenly, the bit rate increased because so many people signed-off!

Andy put together two reading pieces, one that was about 25 years of CorFlu reporting that featured Claire, Sandra Bond (who was giving out Quasi-quote and that's a really good zine!), Stu, Me, Mike Glycer, Murray Moore, John Berry and maybe one other. It was a lot of fun and there was even my piece about the time Frank Wu drew Dinosaurs fighting penguins. Claire read it, so it turned out lovely.

The second thing was a Doc Fandom radio adventure! It was real fun to get to be a part of it, along with Lise, Jack William Bell, Lenny Bailes, David Levine, Ian



Sorensen and Ted White as Doc Fandom. It was hilarious and we had all sorts of fun with it. I got to be the sometimes hysterical, always clueless blogger reporter. It was a role I was built to play!

Rob Jackson is the guy who is putting on the next CorFlu (in Winchester, UK) and did a trivia quiz. My team was one of six and had both the Morningstars, The Lovely & Talented Linda, Ted White and me. We were in the lead early,



but we ended up losing by 1 point to the team that featured Sandra Bond and Peter Weston. It was fun. I'm hoping I can get the folks at Windycon to let me run a Pub Quiz there.

I really wanna thank all the voters in the FAAn Awards for giving el the FAAn Award for the Best Fanzine. el has been my favourite fanzine for the last few years and it was the second zine I ever LoCed, after an issue of Peregrine Nations. Earl Kemp is a great editor and a wonderful guy. I'm glad he won, a full 40-something years after winning his Hugo for Who Killed Science Fiction at the last Seattle WorldCon.

And to Earl Kemp for getting me involved in the entire Eaton Collection scheme, which I'm referring to as the Earl Kemp Plan. I like it.

And to Mike Glycer, I say Thank You again! I like Mike and he kindly joined us for Brunch. I don't get much chance to chat with Mike, but it's always good to chat with him.

And there are so many others. Everyone who gave me zines. Everyone who took the time to sit around and chat. There's a ton of thanks to go around.

### The Things of CorFlu

I really should have packed smarter. I should have known that I'd be gathering a lot of zines and the like. Maybe I didn't. I'm again in a downswing when it comes to economics, so I didn't expect to buy

much. I did get enough zines that I would have needed another suitcase-y thing, but I did not bring one. I ended up slow-boat FedExing a pile of zines back with me.

The first zine I fell in love with was Banana Wings. I love Banana Wings. I really do. It's always on all my ballots, no matter what the award is, and this year was no different. It's gone to a smaller size, which is nice, and the writing is pretty much awesome. Claire and Mark are both great, and Taral

and I had articles in the issue as well. I wrote a thing about the magic of the TAFF scarf that Leigh Ann made. I read it waiting for the flight with Linda. I read it while I was sitting, waiting for the plane to take off. I read it while we were in flight. I put it back into my bag. I got off the plane, and it was gone. No where to be found. Now, I'd have thought I'd have noticed someone reaching in to my bag, pushing aside the clothes and passing up both the computers in the bag to get to the issue.



That's how good Banana Wings is. It's worth stealing when there's more valuable stuff in there.

The next zine that I spent some time with was Quasiquote. Sandra Bond, who I finally met in Seattle, does a great



job with it, and I had a LoC for the last issue, so as always, I go and check that out first. After the required checking-out of my own leaving, I read the rest and it was a lovely zine with a fine piece on Novacon from Mike Meara that I think was the best of the bunch. There were pieces from David Redd, Sandra and Taral that were also really good. The art was nice, especially the stuff from D. West, Steve Jeffrey and Sue Mason. John Toon is quickly becoming one of my favourite fan artists, and he's got a fun little piece in this issue too.

Brad Foster is the man. He won himself another Best Fan Artist Hugo and if he keeps doing stuff like the cover for MEO (Mimeography Experimenters of WorldCon) he'll get another one. It's a fantastic cover, a cat having fanzine pages rained down upon him. Fun! This was a fun little experiment to see if we could do a fanzine via Mimeography at the Denver WorldCon. I was most pleased. I had a piece in it with Teddy Harvia illustrating it. It was good stuff. There were also pieces by Greg Trend, Steven Silver, Colin Hinz, Cheryl Morgan and Guy Lillian. There's art by a bunch of great folks, including Frank Wu and Brianna who drew their things straight to stencil!

I had already read Random Jottings from Michael Dobson on eFanzines.com, and I was lucky to get a printed version that I can put out at the Fanzine Lounges. The Alternate History 1973 portion was awesome. Jim Young, a name I don't see enough, had some good stuff, and the art

of David Birdsong was great. I like that guy's stuff. I don't think I've met him, but I really should try and get him to do a piece or two for me.

Curt Phillips was the CorFlu 50 delegate, so he got brought to the con, which was awesome. He did his first fanzine in 23 years which was awesome. He had articles that were fantastic, including a great piece from Ted White and an interview thingee with Bob Tucker. I loved it. It was a great read and I really should LoC it soon. There are also some great LoCs in it from names that I miss. One of them is Harry Warner, the greatest Fan Writer who ever lived.

Andy Hooper, the FWA Past-President this year, gave out two Turbo-Charged APazines this year, which I was pleased to get. Andy might be the best Interlino guy in the world at the moment. Lugalanda The Lost is a fine little zine that takes its name from a Sumerian ruler of Girsu who was also the villain in the Doc Fandom radio piece. I haven't been able to keep up with APAs (It takes me so much longer to write APazines for some reason) and seeing what Andy manages to do is impressive.

Murray Moore put out A Zine for CorFlu ZED that was a review of Boskone and had some silly photos of himself. I have to admit, it was slightly difficult for me to read since there were no indents for new paragraphs. I have that problem. I do have to say that the discussion about the proper pronunciation of Faneuil Hall was



one that I've had many times in real life. I think it's "Fan-yul" but honestly, I have always had trouble figuring out the Boston accent.

I will say this: INCA might become one of the best zines in the world. It's damn good, and with more issues, it could become one of those that you really find yourself waiting for. Issue 4 was about Rob Jackson's trip to CorFlu in Las Vegas last year. The photos are great. The cover photo of the Fremont Street Experience that Rob took made Inca 4 all on its own, but the rest of it was just as good. The interior art from the likes of Harry Bell and Stu Shiffman mix with the photos of Vegas and the CorFlu there perfectly well. I love Inca and I can't wait to read the next ish. I hope it doesn't take another year!

The only thing I bought in the auction was Stan Sieler's NASFiC membership packet. I know Stan, he's a volunteer at my Museum, and I'm going to see if he'll sign it for me so I can have another awesome story about coincidences that just rock.

You may notice something of a slowing of The Drink Tank over the next couple of months. First, I'll be taking a little extra time to do Handicapping The Hugos and then it's the Jazz issue. After that, I'll be doing regular issues, but I've also agreed to work on a couple of things for up-coming cons, so I've got a bunch of stuff that's gonna be getting done.



**The Photos in this issue were taken by Christopher J Garcia with the camera he got for Christmas, which explains why they're not the best photos you'll see in The Drink Tank. The cover was from Ditmar, who is one of the greats. I'm hoping he'll get himself a Rotsler someday. His stuff is so very different. I'm hoping that the next issue will be next week. If you've got anything Watchmen related, send it to me for the issue!**