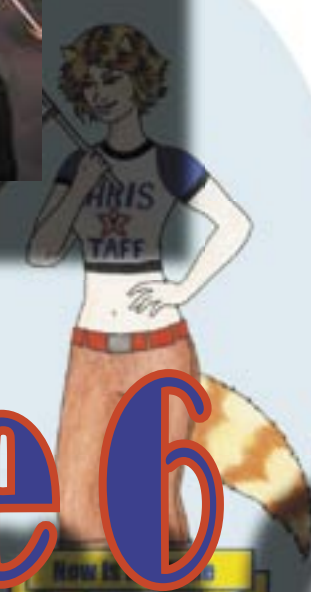


CHRIS FOR

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PrintZine 6



CHRIS

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You've probably already heard, but the 2006 race to be the 2007 TAFF Delegate has been cancelled. This has been a rough race on the administrators and I have to say that cancellation wasn't the call I'd have made, but I totally understand the reasons they made the call and support them for making it. There are a bunch of reasons stemming from the cancellation of Convoy.

EasterCon is where the Eastbound TAFF delegates go when there's no WorldCon in Europe. That's the tradition, though this year it would have made sense to scrap that and go with another con later in the year like Novacon. Or, it could have been Eurocon, which will be in Copenhagen in September of next year. That was my plan originally, but then the Convoy committee announced that the TAFF winner would be the Fan Guest of Honor, thus tying the winner to attending Eastercon. When the first signs of cancellation showed up, there was a lot of thinking done about opening up the nominations for any time in 2007. There was even interest from a nominee who couldn't go during the Easter timeframe. The probable announcement of a replacement con made that idea go away.

When the signs of the con getting cancelled got stronger, there was no certain replacement, but something happened that made it unattractive to send the TAFF delegate to the ReplacerCon.

That's the part that confuses me. We knew a while back that Convoy was going to be cancelled, yet we went forward with things knowing that there'd be a ReplacerCon on Easter Weekend, but once we got close to the point where an official announcement was going to be made one way or another, the cancellation happens. The timing is weird. I get the idea of not wanting to send a TAFF delegate to a smaller convention, but the ReplacerCon hadn't been settled on, so there was no certain knowledge of what the con would have been. And that led to conspiracy thoughts from some folks, including one person who said that

the real reason for the cancellation was that I knew I was going to get killed in the vote from the UK and asked for the cancellation to keep from embarrassing myself. I can say for sure that that is not the case. A few folks bring up the point that the decision was also very UK-centric, that there were other cons that could have been chosen as the point of visitation, including Finncon in July, and EuroCon, and even Novacon in the UK. That's true, though most of the TAFF voters are English and EasterCon is traditional, but I've been over my thoughts on that a few times already.

So, what now? The race'll start again next year and I'm planning on running. I hope Mary Kay will run again too. And if anyone out there has ever thought about running, I whole-heartedly invite you to join the fray. Hell, I might even nominate ya! I'll get a little rest and start working on The Drink Tank, reading a few books I've got sitting around and then start the whole thing up again the moment it's announced. That's the way I roll.

And then there are the thank yous. I just want to take a moment to say thank you to all the folks who have given me wonderful support all throughout the race. From Pete Sullivan, whose email got things started, to Lloyd & Yvonne Penney who were wonderful supporters, to Arnie & Joyce and John Purcell, wonderful nominators and friends and they were so wonderful to push me in their zines, and to Frank and Brad Foster and Jason Schachat and Robert Hole and Espana Sherrif for all the art and help and all the great folks who sent emails and LJ posts. I'm forever grateful to y'all.

And now I slowly fade away...for about twenty minutes. There's zines to be writ and cons to be attended and TAFF to be campaigned for! That last one'll be on the backburner for a while.

And so Goodbye from PrintZine for a while. It'll be back when England needs it most...no wait, that's the King Arthur myth. Never mind.

