

# Virtual Tucker Hotel



## Issue Nineteen

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/the-virtual-fan-lounge>

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Boring webpage at <http://www.burdonvale.co.uk>  
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VTH is primarily an electronic fanzine, available on <http://www.efanzines.com>. Paper copies of this fanzine do exist, however, and will be available for the fannish usual. In any case, e-mails and letters of comment are, of course, welcome.

Thanks to: Bill Mills ("FanLounge"), without whom The Virtual Fan Lounge wouldn't exist.

Member fwa. Startling Press Production number 291. Today is Thursday, 9th October, 2008.

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## Looking Back & Looking Forward

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September, the Southern Fandom Classic chat session never quite got around to showing the seventh episode of The Wasted Hour, Arnie Katz's faanish 30-minute video production. Which we don't feel too guilty about, as it's already been released on the web at:

<http://TFVN.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-WH7.html>

Plus, there's a transcript of the episode later on in this issue. Instead, Dean Sweatman and Peter Sullivan played another game of Fannish Botticelli, with Peter taking not too long to guess Poul Anderson. Followed by a try-out of a three-way conference call using Skype, involving Dean, Peter and Fan Lounge founder Bill Mills.

The next event in the Virtual Fan Lounge will be another Southern Fandom Classic chat session, on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October. This **may** include a showing of the eighth edition of The Wasted Hour, if it has been released by then. However, if you want a sneak preview of this episode, it should be available on the web real soon now at:

<http://TFVN.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-1.html>

## Joining the Lounge

To use the chat-room, just go to <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/the-virtual-fan-lounge>. On the left hand side of the page is the live video feed – replaced by a slide show when there isn't anything happening. On the right is the actual chat-room. You can see what everyone else is typing in the top window, and add your own contribution in the smaller box at the bottom.

You will be assigned an initial user name in the format "ustreamer-12345." If you'd rather change this – to your real name, livejournal name, or whatever – you can do this by clicking the "Sign Up" link at the top to register for free. Some people have been slightly put off by the amount of information that the registration form asks for, which I can empathise with. But registration is entirely optional – you can simply stay as "ustreamer-12345" if you prefer.

## Video Library

As well as the live events, The Virtual Fan Lounge is beginning to build up a library of recorded material available for viewing. The clips are listed under the main viewscreen – just click to select.

Recently added videos include:

- The Wasted Hour episode 7
- Chris Garcia and Kat Templeton at the Denver Worldcon (audio only)

If you have problems with the streaming video, most of the videos are also available at our alternative/back-up site, The Fan Video Network, which is available at the web address <http://TFVN.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-1.html>

## Fannish Slide Show

In addition, Dean Sweatman has added some more scans to his Fannish Slide Show on ustream, which now has over 500 scans now being displayed at:

<http://www.ustream.tv/Burbank396/pictures>

## Art Credits

Front page: Screenshot from The Wasted Hour 7 – Arnie Katz with his "Persian Princess."

## Schedule for the next week

### Southern Fandom Classic chat-room session

Dean Sweatman and other members of the Southern Fandom Classic group will be holding their regular chat session in the Virtual Fan Lounge, and invite other interested fans from around the world to join them.

- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 1.00 pm PDT (Pacific Daylight Time)
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 4.00 pm EDT (Eastern Daylight Time)
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 8.00 pm UTC (Co-ordinated Universal Time)
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 9.00 pm BST (British Summer Time)
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 4.00 am WAST (Western Australian Standard Time)
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 7.00 am EADT (Eastern Australian Daylight Time) (**note change**)
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 9.00 am NZDT (New Zealand Daylight Time)

### And More?

Other ad-hoc events may be added around this 'core' schedule – see future issues of Virtual Tucker Hotel for more details. And, of course, the chat-room itself is open 24/7.

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## The Wasted Hour episode 7

Arnie Katz welcomed everyone to the seventh episode of The Wasted Hour, "the fastest hour in fandom, as it seldom lasts more than half an hour." There had been a few changes to the show -- some technical problems with the ustream service had tended to defeat the purpose of doing the show live. So, in future, in order to reduce the workload all round, episodes would be taped, edited and released a few days later. Shows would continue to be available at the Vegrants' website at <http://lasvegrants.com>, as well as at The Virtual Fan Lounge at <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/712318>

Talking of fannish audio & video, Arnie also gave a mention to The Voices Of Fandom website, a collection of historically significant -- or just plain entertaining -- audio and video clips, now available at <http://tvof.info>. Also, all the back episodes of the Wasted Hour could be found at <http://tvfn.renebooks.com>, along with several other audio and video shows. Arnie felt that Bill's work was one of the best arguments for using the term 'core fandom' rather than 'fanzine fandom' -- fan activity was much more than just fanzines these days.

Arnie introduced his first guest -- someone who had never been on the show before, the

Persian Princess (but who bore a striking resemblance to Joyce Katz). She revealed that she was now the star of an audio book, being the reader of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. Arnie explained that this was already available as a download for \$3 at the REB website <http://rebaudiobooks.com>, featuring the "sensual voice" of Joyce Katz. Joyce explained that this work had always meant a lot to her since she had first discovered it in high school. She had always had copies of it since, and given copies to people as gifts. Arnie felt she shouldn't have had it "spray painted on the house," however. Joyce said that as long as it was the line about "A loaf of bread, a jug of wine and thou," she felt Arnie had no need to complain. Arnie rather unromantically pointed out that he didn't drink wine...

Joyce asked Arnie about an audio book he had been involved in, "Of Late I Think Of Cliffordville," a reading of the short story which had been adapted for an episode of the Twilight Zone in the 1960s. This was also an REB audiobook, due for release soon. Arnie said he wasn't the star -- Ross Chamberlain played the main protagonist. Arnie just had a "bit part" as The Devil, which he felt was a bit unfair, but noted with some relish that Joyce had also been cast -- as the Devil's secretary. It would be released in a few weeks.

Arnie announced that he had on the line the chairman of next year's Corflu Zed, Randy Byers. Arnie asked Randy to explain what Corflu was. Randy said that Corflu was a convention specifically for fanzine fans, which had been going since 1984. Seattle had hosted it twice before. He admitted that he had never been involved in con-running before, and so had been a bit hesitant, but Seattle had been 'pencilled in' for 2009 and no-one else was stepping forward to chair. But there were lots of experienced con-runners in Seattle that he could lean on.

The con was scheduled for March 13th to 15th 2009, in the Hotel Decca, an old art-deco style hotel, which had recently been sympathetically refurbished, with most of the art deco features brushed up. Being in the university district, it was close to many restaurants, pubs, book stores and other essentials of fannish life. The hotel was 16 stories high, and they had already reserved the three rooms on the top floor, together with the terrace, for the hospitality suite.

There was lots more information about the con on the web page at <http://www.corflu.org>, which was still being run by Tracy Benton. Arnie noted that Tracy had been a great help with keeping the website updated for the Las Vegas Corflu too. Paypal had not quite been set up yet, but would be operational real soon now. In the meantime, there was a downloadable membership form on the website. Randy said that what he most liked about Corflu was the opportunity to meet people who produced fanzines, who were usually very creative and intelligent, and a lot of fun to talk to. Especially some of the old-timers, with their great stories.

Arnie moved on to give some items of Wasted Hour News:

- He noted that The Corflu 50 had selected Curt Phillips to be their nominee to next year's Corflu in Seattle. Many people in fandom had never met Curt, and were especially looking forward to seeing him at the con.
- The Las Vegants club had continued their regular meetings over the summer, and had embarked on doing a group fanzine (a long-established Las Vegas fan tradition), this time called Idle Minds. It would be available at <http://efanzines.com/Idle/index.htm> soon. It included a piece by new Vegants member Brenda du Pont.
- Arnie claimed that Scott Anderson was now calling himself Merrick Anderson, but, suspiciously, **not all the time**. So there were plans to hold a contest to definitively "Rename Scott Anderson" -- Arnie gave the e-mail address for new name suggestions.
- He also mentioned SNAPS, the Southern Nevada Amateur Press Society, an electronic APA that had just released its most recent mailing, with 77 pages, including contributions from a variety of Nevada and non-Nevada fans.
- The results of the Annual SNAPS Egoboo Poll had been in this issue, with Robert Lichtman 1st, Joyce Katz 2nd, Arnie Katz 3rd, John Purcell 4th and Ross Chamberlain 5th.

Finally, Arnie thanked everyone for their patience during the gap since the previous episode, and said that the next episode should be out in a few weeks, in early October.