

# The BLUE CAT

#708

Dec. 2020

## MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

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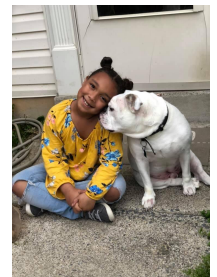
Dagon, a now occasional fanzine of commentary on science, science fiction, fantasy, mystery novels, comic art, history role-playing games (RPGs), family, genealogy and anything else that seems like a good idea at the moment, is published by John Boardman, 2548 Carrington Way, Frederick, MD 21702. My landline phone number is 301-801-7970 (the ringer is not always on due the volume of robocalls) However, I may also be reached through Deirdre via cell # 301-514-7073, or at her email address - Deirdrebp@gmail.com.

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Tank the Bulldog (May 17, 2012 - Oct. 12, 2020)

It is with sadness I must relay the passing of Tankie. Melissa and her partner at the time, Rashaad Tate (Elliana's father), got Tank when Elliana was about 9 months old, he was about 4 months old. The two infants have grown up together and Elliana took it pretty hard when the decision to put Tank down was made. The average life span of an English Bulldog ranges from about 8-10 years old. Tank just celebrated his 8th birthday this past May. He was having several gastrointestinal related issues, wasn't eating well, his abdomen was greatly distended, he was having a hard time getting up and walking, as well as having to urinate excessively. The vet suggested Melissa take the time to weigh the pros & cons- the costs to definitively diagnose the problem which was likely to be terminal but expensive to determine for sure and his quality of life. Many household changes were made to adapt to his needs, but this meant for his crate (while he was never locked up, his crate was his bed & safe place) to be on the entry level, as the stairs were becoming extremely dissimulation for him, especially due to the multiple times he needed to go out now. Tank loved being part of the family and with being on the entry level he was not in the center of family life (away from his "sisters" Elliana & Alesia), as the kitchen and living room are on the upper level. Then one day he couldn't manage to get up and urinated on himself where he was laying down, so Melissa made the difficult call.





governor, Larry Hogan, but he is by no means a tRump clone and has the reputation of being an independent thinker. We live in Maryland's sixth congressional district, and I voted for the re-election of its Democratic representative, David Trone. He was re-elected, and in the 117th Congress Maryland's delegation will still be seven Democrats and one Republican. They were 36 contests for the U.S. Senate in 35 states. We won't know for certain how the Senate will stand until Georgia has its run-off election on January 5, 2021 they are worse ways to senatorial contact, which are headed for a run-off on January 6, 2021. When both of these Georgia contests, the Senate will be evenly divided, apparently, with 50 Democrats and 50 Republicans. This means that vice president Harris, as president of the Senate, will be able to break ties and I just give the Democrats a majority in the Senate I'll be 117th Congress.

President tRump is now in a gap between election day and inauguration day, and is still president until January 20, 2021 however he has refused to except the results of this election, and still insists that he not only won, but won by a large majority. He has proclaimed stories about allegedly dubious votes in several states but so far they have all been refused by the by courts because no details are given of any specific crimes that have allegedly been committed. This is likely to continue, since Donald tRump has gathered about him a group of Republicans who agree with him vigorously about his claims of election fraud. I can easily predict a difficult outcome if this continues, this will consist of President-elect Biden being sworn into the presidency by a federal judge in Washington on inauguration day. And, while, several hundred miles away from Washington, another federal judge is persuaded to swear Donald tRump into a second term. Such a judge would likely be one of tRumps three appointees to the United States Supreme Court. This would remind Long-time political observers of the silly situation of existed in Georgia in the 1940s, when two men both claimed to be, and to act as, the governors of Georgia. As the President of the United States is also Commander-in-chief of the U.S. Armed Forces, presumably all members of the Armed Forces respond to the call of the man who tell them he is the real president. A subsequent *situation* might even be called "Civil War II", especially if some members of the military regard Biden as Commander-in-chief, while others regarding tRump as Commander-in-chief. However, the national response to the present situation of the ballot counts indicates that President-elect Biden will eventually be the winner, since Joseph Biden has been accepted as a president-elect by most Americans.

However, it now seems that President Trump is trying another way of securing is the election by the electoral college. The constitution, including amendment XXII does not make it clear as the whether electors are chosen by U.S. states voters, or by the state government. President Trump is therefore trying to induce states with Republican governors and Republicans legislatures to instead appoint electors who will vote for him rather than for Biden. If this can be done, and supported by law, tRump might get these new electors to vote for him and supposedly making him re-elected president and his second term.

This makes it obvious that the electoral college should be dispensed with as a part of a presidential election. It is therefore necessary to consider a new procedure for a presidential elections. In the new procedure, the election of the president should be considered by the numbers on the same basis as every other election in the United States from gubernatorial election down to elections in labor unions, Fraternity houses, and garden clubs. Each state regulates its own elections for president, and the candidate getting the most votes from the entire country, if more than 50%, should be declared the new president. In the case of a situation where no one obtains an absolute majority of the vote, then a run-off Election could be called for.

## FILK Song File

In the earliest years of science fiction, authors tended to make human beings the heroes and alien beings the villains. This became almost a stereotype. It got to the point where non-humans were usually portrayed as monsters. The term “Bug-I’d monsters” became so common among science fiction fans that that way it was often turned into an acronym “BEM” for “bug-eyed monster”. This was often spelled BEM. And, while we’re on the subject, the appropriate abbreviation for “science fiction” is not “Sci FI” but “S-F”. The term “Syfy” is often used by people with little or no acquaintance with science fiction, but yes-F is the form used by people with a long acquaintance with science fiction and this fandom and so, a few decades ago, I wrote the following verses:

### HALLELUJAH I’M A BEM

(Tune: The traditional hobo anthem - “Hallelujah I’m a Bum”)

A “monster” I am, and “Bug-Eyed” as we,  
But the acronym BEM makes me madder than hell.

I almost have won a world by my wits,  
Then Conan or Kinnisson chops me to bits..

Chorus:  
Hallelujah, I’m a BEM. Hallelujah again!  
Hallelujah! Write me a story I can win.

Chorus  
I was hatched on a planet of Alpha Centauri  
But always an Earth-man wins out in the story

Sometimes I’m from Mars, sometimes I’m from Ploor  
But always the hero knocks me to the floor.

Chorus

Chorus

(If I should remember or write more verses, they won’t be included in future issues. Also, if any reader wishes to compose verses to this song, I will gratefully acknowledge and print them in a future issue.)

As for explanations, Ploor is a planet of villains in a S-F story whose author and title I have mercifully forgotten. Conan is a muscular barbarian hero in the writing in the fantasy works of Robert E. Howard (1906-1936). The stories were set in a prehistoric Europe of the author’s own invention, and I have summarize one of them in the limerick aside.

A Shemite named Khumbanigash  
Attempted at Conan to slash.  
At the end of the Fray  
There was naught left to say  
Except, “Yizgadal V’Yizkadash”.

As for the Kinnissons, they are a family of heroes in a series of S-F novel by the author E.E. “DOC” Smith (1890-1965). And alpha Centauri is the name of a triple star which is the nearest stellar system to our Sun. It’s distance from us is a mere 4.3 light years away. A light-year is a standard measurement for stellar distances, and is based on the fact that light travels at the speed of light travels in a vacuum excuse me vacuum at a speed of 300,000 km/s. (For those who still use medieval units of measurement, the speed of light is 186,000 mi./s.)



One of the best known American war songs was composed during the American involvement in World War I. The song was called “Over There”, and supporting American involvement in the war during the American invasion of Vietnam, I felt that a revision of “Over There” was necessary, so I wrote these verses to the song to the tune of “Over There”, but the word “Where” in this version is not to be sung by spoken in a tone of incredulity.

Over there. Over *where*?

We don't care what's unfair over there

For the Yanks aren't coming

We won't go slumming

We aren't succumbing over there

Over there. Over where?

Send no mercy, send no cash, send no dare

for were sober,

we won't go over,

and we'll all stay home til it's over, over there.

\*

## MISCELLANY

continued from P. 1

News reports about the Covid-19 pandemic indicate that many people are not paying attention to the recommendations about how to prevent catching the virus. Precautions about face masks and social distancing in public seem to be ignored increasingly often. Readers should be careful about these precautions. To add a few words with my own on the topic:

If you throw all your face masks away,  
And say “COVIDs a hoax” everyday,  
There is no need to heed what you say,  
For you'll soon be dead anyway.

\*

A new method is developing in this country about describing the historical years. Conventionally, years has been described as “BC” or “AD” according to whether they are before or after the presumed year of the birth of Jesus. In ancient Rome, years were dated from the founding of the city, or to use the initials of the Roman phrase “year of the founding of the city” AVC. Early Christians established to their own satisfaction that Jesus had been born in the year 753 ABC. This became the year one A.D. and Christian reckoning. Earlier years were labeled in English “BC” meaning “before Christ”. However, chronology should not be the property of any one religion. Therefore, “BCE” and “CE” have been used as initials for “before the common era” and “common era”. If you are a Christian, is it would be perfectly proper to use “CE” and standing for a “Christian era”; after all, we have Freedom of Religion in this country.

When Julius Caesar was in the process Of turning the Roman Republic into the Roman empire, he realized that the Roman calendar of his time was in a total mess. The process is Roman gods, who are regulating the calendar, tended to extend the years in which their friends were in the office, and shorten the years adversaries were in the office. So Julius Caesar consulted a Greek astronomer named Sosigenes Who designed a new calendar the first big step he made was to expel the Moon from the calendar. All previous calendars had made the day of new moon the first day of a month, and made a year or equal to a cycle of the seasons. However the month is defined in this way and the year were incommensurable. The nearest any previous calendar Designer could come was the discovery by the astronomers of ancient Babylon About 500 years earlier. They had discovered that 19 solar years we're almost equal in length to 235 lunar months. This 19 year calendar is still the basis of a Jewish and Muslim religious calendars. But Sosigenes decided to alternate the length of

the month between 31 and 30 days. Since the average length of time from one new Moon to the next is  $29 \frac{1}{2}$  days, this made it possible to have the same phase twice in a month under the plan of Sosigenes. To this day, any month with two full moons in it is called a “blue Moon”. “Once in a blue moon”, is there for a very rare occurrence, but not an impossible one. A new moon appears when the moon is on a straight line between the earth and the sun, and between them.

After the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44BCE, his grand nephew Octavianus Succeeded him after a ten-year Civil War among Rome’s aristocratic families. He took the title “Augustus” which means “revered”. The month of July, originally called “Quintilis”, meaning “fifth” Because it was the fifth month after March, was renamed Julius and this today: July. Later, the sixth month after March, which many Romans regarded as the first month, was renamed after Augustus. Since “Sextilis”, Originally the sixth month, and only 30 days, another day was added to make it as long as the months of Julius. The extra day was taken from February, as Romans usually did when they need an extra day elsewhere. Sosigenes Considered the length of the year to be  $365 \frac{1}{4}$  day. Show the calendar design by Sosigenes had three years of 365 days each followed by a fourth-year call her now a leap year, had 366 days. thus , three “common years” in which February had 28 days, followed by a “leap year” in which February has 29 days. Many people still believe that the calendar operates by this rule, although as we shall see some changes still needed to be made.

This Roman calendar became a Christian calendar after the reign of the first Christian emperor, Constantine the first, in the early fourth century CE. Yes calendar, still called the “Julian calendar”, actually turned out to be a little fast, a fast calendar operates in the same way as a fast watch. Yes watch registers hours which has not yet happened and they have to be eliminated I said in the watch back until it registers the proper time. In the same way if I asked calendar registers days yet happened. To correct it, some days must be eliminated to set the calendar back Appropriately. But the best present the measurements of the year indicates that 365 days and six hours, but 365 days five hours 48 minutes and 46 seconds.

16th century, the fact of the calendar was fast began to become obvious. If it continued, Christmas will be celebrated in early spring and Easter and summer. So in the 16th century, Pope Gregory the 13th however did like Julius Caesar had done some 16th century 16 surgeries before. He hired an astronomer to Regulate the first calendar. The astronomer he hired was a German name is Christoph Schlüssel, Who like most scholars of his period Changed his name into Latin so scholars in other countries knew they could talk to him, even if their native language was different. He is therefore found in reference books as “Christopherus Clavius”. He also subtracted 10 days from the calendar, so that in 1582 October 4 was followed by October 15. He also worked out a new year rule for leap years. Every year who’s number was evenly divisible by four what is a leap year except for numbers that ended in “00”. Such years were only leap years if they were evenly divisible by 400. That would mean 1600 would be a leap year but 1700, 1800, 1900 would not. As we all remember, 2000 was a leap year, but those few of us who live until 2100 will discover it will not be a leap year.

The average length of the year, has worked out by Clavius is still 26 seconds too long. However this will mean that each year gains only 26 seconds That means calendar of Clavius is fast, but will only gain one day in 3323 years. When that distant time arrives, it will be sufficient to eliminate one more February 29, and the calendar will be back in order.

Pope Gregory the 13th proclaimed the new calendar, which is therefore called Gregorian calendar. All Catholic countries immediately began to use it, but he then no protestant reformation objected. The Netherlands were the only person in the country that immediately adopted The Gregorian calendar, because of the real state religion has the Netherlands is not Christianity, but trade. It is therefore useful to have the sender and the recipient of goods agree on their calendar. Sweden also changed over, but by simply dropping the next 10 February 29. It took them 40 years but

But their calendar eventually came into harmony with the Gregorian calendar. Great Britain and its colonies change to the Gregorian calendar and 1752, by which time the discrepancy had grown to 11 days this change was met with rioting in some parts of the country, because some people believe that the government was removing 11 days from their lives. However, in the English colony of Virginia, a young and prosperous land owner named George Washington excepted the new calendar. Probably because he knew enough mathematics to be the surveyor of all his estate. He's therefore changed his birthday from February 11, which would have been other Julian calendar, to February 22. When his birthday was a national holiday, it was there for Mark on February 22. Nowadays, however, Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays are no longer national holidays instead the third Monday of every February has become "presidents day", honoring all presidents, Including, John Tyler Who later betrayed his country, and Franklin Pierce, who is a hopeless alcoholic.

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OK popular figure of speech once called "wooden swearing" what's made colorful additions to the English language. Using words that were similar to expletives considered improper impolite speech, So that no fussy person could've checked their use. Among these are saying "darn" for a damn damn" and The popular practice called in the Bible "taking in the name of the Lord in vain" this is ours, for example, replacing "god!" By "Golly!" Or replacing "Jesus Christ" by "jeepers creepers". Use the word "hell!", Which is improper usage only when used in a sermon by a minister who is there telling us where evil doers will eventually go. Is the word "hell!" Is substituted by "heck!"

But from where does the word "heck!" Come? It comes from a land of remarkable geological features, Iceland. Iceland, a part of the mid Atlantic Ridge that is raised above sea level, was first discovered by Norwegian Viking in the ninth century CE. It contains glaciers volcanoes geysers and other rarely found geological features. So violently the clouds of gas, dust, and ash circle most of Europe to the British Isles and France or Eastwood towards Scandinavia. One of the most active volcanoes is called HEKLA, leads to be an entrance to hell. When it irrput's, and since sometimes sends the irruption to the mainland of Europe, it produces great wonderment As to where all this geological debris coming from. That's became famous throughout its range, and "heck!" Became a euphemism for hell.

## FAMILY MATTERS VII

In the last issue of The Blue Cat, I discussed some of the family connections on my mother side this time I'll be taking up some notable people do when we are distantly related on my father side of the family. But I have the same begins with an Englishman named William Waldron, was born the subject of Queen Elizabeth the first.

The lineage begins with an English man named William Waldron who is born a subject of Queen Elizabeth the first. Unusually for her Elizabeth the first was quite tolerant in religion even though she had inherited from her father, King Henry VIII, the title of "earthly head of the church of England". Puritan such as the Waldron family, as well as Roman Catholics, could live without difficulty in England in her reign. Even those who were readmitted to England after having been banned by some Royal bigot during the middle ages. Really the only exceptions were a handful of Roman Catholics who believed that their religion requires them to assassinate the queen. When one of these was discovered, the next step was axes on Tower Hill. However, Queen Elizabeth the first never married, I was there for a known as "the Virgin Queen". This gave rise to a story about an alleged schoolboy essay which "Queen Elizabeth the first was known as the virgin queen has a queen she was a great success". The obvious implications of this sentence has been confirmed by modern historians, even though a colony in North America was named after her "Virginia". After the death of Queen Elizabeth the first, she was succeeded by a distant cousin James the sixth of Scotland, who later became King James I of England. William Waldron concerned about any change in the religious status of the country, and so move to the Netherlands where he married a Dutch woman and then begot a family. Their son, who bore the good Puritan name Resolved Waldron (1610-1690). He eventually moved to the Dutch colony of Neu Nederland, where he where he became a friend of Governor Peter Stuyvesant and eventually worked his way up to sheriff. My grandfather, Archibald 'Archie' Boardman was in the 8th generation of descendants from Resolved Waldron, and for those interested another 8th generation Waldron is a name anyone will recognize, we will get to that next.

### **Archie Boardman's pedigree line starting from Resolved Waldron-**

Resolved Waldron (1610-1690)→ Barent Waldron (b1655)→ Johannesburg Waldron (b1692)→ Pieter Waldron (1723-1790)→ Abraham Waldron (1770-1843)→ Joseph Waldron/Walden (1804-1860)→ Sarah Waldron/Walden (1839-1904 m. Elnathan Gates)→ Eliza Ann Gates (1856-1896 m. Martin Boardman)→ Archie Boardman (1878-1943)

### **Theodore Roosevelt's pedigree line from Resolved Waldron-**

Resolved Waldron (1610-1690)→ Wilem Waldron (1647-1710)→ Pieter Waldron (1675-1725)→ Rebecca Waldron (1719-1776 m. Johannesburg Yates / Jaets)→ Engeltje Yates (m .Cornelius Van Schaak)→ Maria Van Schaak (177-1845 m. James Roosevelt)→ Cornelius Roosevelt (1794-1871)→ Theodore Roosevelt (1831-1878)→ Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919).

This made Archie Boardman and President Theodore Roosevelt's 7th cousins.

Prudent Theodore Roosevelt made a reputation for himself as a colonel in the Spanish American war of 1898 (for further information about this, I referred you to Albert A. Nofi's book - "The Spanish American War, 1898 which was published on it's hundredth anniversary in 1998), this led him to be nominated as President William McKinley's running mate with McKinley around for a second term in 1900. After the assassination of President McKinley in 1901, Theodore Roosevelt succeeded to the presidency and was elected to another term in 1904.

The year of marriage for that and in a marriage in the year of their marriage His niece at

theater theater Roosevelt's niece, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was married to my presidents fifth cousin Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the White House Her Franklin Roosevelt is is, therefore, not directly related to our family though of course his wife was, as would her descendants.

I remember remember Franklin Roosevelt administration quite vividly as he was the president during my childhood. In the spring of 1945, just after President Franklin Roosevelt had won his fourth consecutive term I was in eighth grade and grade and editor of the school newspaper of the junior high school which I then attended in El Monte California the newspaper was not a printed form as you might expect from its name, but a few mimeograph copies were made and posted on the bulletin board of the junior high school, As middle schools within called them. On a Thursday afternoon in April, 1945, I was meeting with the rest of the newspaper staff after classes in the school library when our strategy advisor entered, she told us "I have a real headline for you president Roosevelt is dead." This shocked us all, as Franklin Roosevelt was the only president we had known lifetimes. After we digested this news, I rode my bike sickle home, as I usually did after school. On the way home, I stopped to talk to a Few people, I did many cases I was the person who first brought the news that the president was dead. Act, some people first heard the news for me. Everyone was deeply affected, and one man actually broke into tears at the news. Many presidents are respected, but Franklin Roosevelt was loved by a great many of Americans, because he had brought this country through two of the greatest crises and it's history. The first was the Hoover Depression this economic collapse which followed for the economic policies of president Roosevelt predecessor, President Herbert Hoover. Unemployment was therefore widespread, add was mitigated by President Roosevelt's new economic ideas, which were collectively called the "new deal" and greatly helped healthy American economy recover. Also, do United States has been brought into World War II, which should be going to Europe in 1939, by the attack made by Germany's Allie, the Japanese empire, which on December 7, 1941 made during peacetime a violent naval and air attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. This Immediately produced a declaration of war against Japan from Congress, and a few days later also like the decorations of war by Japan is Allies, Germany and Italy. Yes however, in the spring of 1945 it appeared that most of the axis powers, as they were called, we're close to defeat. In fact European members of the axis surrendered about a month after President Roosevelt death. The warfare of America and its allies continued, however, in the pacific ocean. The war with Japan was ended by the use of two nuclear weapons against Japan in August 2019 45, after which Japan immediately surrendered unconditionally. this lead immediately to a entirely new world situation.

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## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

As far back as our records go, there have been festivals in this dreary time of year for celebration, feasting, gift giving and other pleasantries. Religious meanings have been attached to many of these festivities and several celebrate these holidays. Some like Yule and Noel, long anticipated Christianity as does the Jewish for holiday of Hanukkah observant about this time and the more modern festivity of Kwanzaa. The Winter Solstice is also during this time period, the shortest day of the year with the longest night. During that long night, the sky will have a unique celestial occurrence called the "Great Conjunction". The planets Jupiter & Saturn will be the closet since 1623, and due to the sun's glare interfering, the closet observable in the night sky since 1226. They will appear so close (0.1 degrees apart) that they will look like one very large "star". You can already see their nearness in the evening sky, just look for the brightest looking "star" in the southwestern sky, and that will actually be the planet Jupiter, with Saturn just its east (slightly to its left). However you celebrate this time of year, make sure you try to get out and see this amazing phenomenon!

What is so important about sat Jan 30, 2021?

For one thing, every Issue of the New York Times on a recent January 30 has contained a presumably paid notice lamenting the untimely death of King Charles 1 of England on January 30 30th 1649. However, this had been a richly deserves death for the king due to his policies of religious persecution. King Charles I, like all successors Of King Henry VIII down to the present day, had inherited The title "earthly head of the church of England". This Lead King Charles the first two preferred members of his own church to others in promotions, and to make life difficult, almost to the point of religious persecution, to members of other churches. Among other things, just lead my family, who were puritans, to emigrate in 1638 from England to the colony of Massachusetts. Many members of the other churches had settled in the American colonies, which were three months' sail from England and where English law could not be administered to the extent that it was in England. For example, Puritans tended to settle in Massachusetts, Roman Catholics in Maryland, and Quakers in Pennsylvania. Eventually it came to a flash of arms. In which parliament forces defeated those of the king and took a prisoner. King Charles first was therefore tried for treason And found guilty. Then before and large an enthusiastic crowd in London, King Charles the first was beheaded on January 30, 1649.

The Blue Cat #708

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you may find something of  
interest to you on page \_\_\_\_.