

Stop the Presses!! #3

-- a quickie newszine rider to the 13th *Mimosa* mailing --
from Dick & Nicki Lynch, P.O. Box 1350, Germantown, MD 20875, USA

DUFF

The 1993 Down Under Fan Fund election is drawing to a close. Deadline for voting is February 1 -- unfortunately, too close to warrant including DUFF ballots with this issue. However, DUFF will gladly accept monetary contributions, even after the voting deadline; send them to the North American DUFF administrator, Art Widner, at P.O. Box 677, Gualala, California 95445.

We've also heard that Australian fan Phil Ware will become the new Australian administrator for DUFF. We don't have his address yet, but have heard that mail previously sent to the address of the late Roger Weddall will be forwarded.

TAFF

The 1993 Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund election (Europe to North America) is now underway; deadline for voting is May 1, and you will find a TAFF ballot enclosed with this issue. This also seems like a good place to correct some misinformation that appeared in *Stop the Presses!!* #2 last summer: the mail auction of old fanzines by former TAFF administrator Robert Lichtman is **not** for the benefit of TAFF. The fanzines are from the collection of the late Dick Ellington, and proceeds are for Dick's wife, Pat Ellington. If you send Robert a long envelope SASE (with a 29¢ Elvis stamp), he'll send a newsletter listing current bids on some of the items, along with his world-famous impression of The King. For a long envelope SASE (with a 52¢ Love stamp), he'll send you a copy of the full Auction Catalog, sealed with a kiss.

Corflu

Speaking of fanzines, here's a reminder that the 1993 fanzine fans' convention, Corflu, is not all that far distant on the calendar. The dates to circle are weekend of May 21-23; the site this year is Madison, Wisconsin, at the Inn on the Park (next door to the state capital). Attending memberships are \$35 (which includes the Sunday brunch), while supporting memberships are \$10. More info can be gotten from SF³, P.O. Box 1624, Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1624.

1993 TAFF Ballot - Europe to North America

Michael Ashley

True Confessions: I went to my first convention -- Novacon 7 in 1977 -- aged 15. Been to one or two more since then plus have written innumerable fun-packed fanzine articles. Been voted best British fanwriter in 1988 and 1991 Nova awards. Edited eight issues of award-winning SALIROMANIA. Member of all-powerful Leeds Group Mafia for last seven years, with intimate knowledge of all leading UK fans. Interests: drink, gossip, and good writing. TAFF pledge: will write trip report to end all trip reports. Why vote for me? Easy -- the alternatives are too dull for words. Plus I'm young, cute and single. You want fannish fun? *Sorted.*

Nominators: Hazel Ashworth, Lucy Huntzinger, Linda Krawecka, Robert Lichtman and Ian Sorensen

Tony Berry

As befits a Secret Master, Tony appears to stay in the background, whilst quietly shaping Fandom at large. Expert at stating the obvious, founder member and nomenclator of Frank's APA, fanzine producer, twice Novacon chairman and committee member of several others, and all-round good guy.

Asked why he would like to win TAFF, he replied "There are three good reasons to go to San Francisco: to ride the trams, visit the micro-breweries, and to hire a Ford Mustang and re-enact the chase sequence from 'Bullitt'. Oh yeah, and I'd like to go to an American Worldcon as well".

Nominators: Harry Bell, Linda Blanchard and Dave Bridges, Anne Page, Spike Parsons and Martin Tudor

Abigail Frost

YOU SHOULD VOTE FOR ABIGAIL BECAUSE:

Anything she could say about Tony Berry would only make him sound more interesting *** Ashley Watkins just hasn't been the same since he gave up transvestism *** Michael Ashley will not, as promised, spend all the money on drink, but will keep TAFF in apple-pie order, thereby depriving us all of honest mirth, which we badly need in these hard times *** All the other rumoured candidates were only trying to stop each other *** It will get right up Avedon Carol's nose.

Vote for the woman of your choice!

Nominators: Lilian Edwards, Jeanne Gomoll, Dave Langford, Joseph Nicholas and Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden

Ashley Watkins

Did I really attend a con in drag? Yes, but not many people know I'm a lesbian. What is the horrible truth behind the "Dear John" Prevert cover? Why was there a trail of broken hearts among the cast of "Spock in Manacles"? Is it true the hotel manager fancied the only Amazon who wasn't a woman? Were all the seats really wet after the show?

Only I can kiss and tell ...

Mr Flibble says that if I win TAFF I can stay in America and attend cons until they get sick of me, or at least until the money runs out.

Nominators: Bill Bodden, Don Herron, John Jarrold, Darroll Pardoe and Geoff Ryman

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

I vote for (rank 1, 2, 3, 4 etc):

Name and address (legibly, please):

_____ Michael Ashley

_____ Tony Berry

_____ Abigail Frost

_____ Ashley Watkins

_____ Hold Over Funds

_____ No Preference

Signature: _____

Enclosed is _____ as a contribution to TAFF. Please make cheques etc. payable to Jeanne Bowman or Pam Wells, not to "TAFF", and payable in the currency of that administrator's home country.

If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, then in order to qualify 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:

Reproduction of this form is encouraged. It is the official voting vehicle and must be reproduced verbatim. Anyone doing so should substitute their name here: **Dick & Nicki Lynch**

1993 TAFF Ballot

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. The candidates are voted on by interested fans all over the world, and each vote is accompanied by a donation of not less than \$2 or £1. These votes, and the continued generosity of fandom, are what make TAFF possible.

Who may vote? -- Voting in the 1993 race is open to anyone who was active in fandom prior to September 1991, and who contributes at least \$2 or £1 to the Fund.

Contributions in excess of the minimum will be gratefully accepted. Voting is by secret ballot: only one vote per person, and you must sign your ballot. "Write-ins" are not permitted. You may change your vote at any time prior to the deadline.

Deadline -- Votes in this race must reach the administrators by 1 May 1993.

Voting details -- (1) 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. It is therefore *important* to vote for second, third and fourth place on your ballot. Also, it is a waste of time to vote for any candidate in more than one place.

(2) One other requirement obtains. 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. It is therefore important for candidates and their supporters to canvass fans on both sides of the Atlantic. It should be noted that, while you may send your ballot to either administrator, it will be tabulated with the other votes from the side of the Atlantic on which you reside. Finally, votes from fans not resident in *either* Europe or North America will not be counted towards either 20% minimum (but are almost certain to affect any given race, so don't let this stop you from voting).

Hold Over Funds -- This choice, similar to "No Award" in Hugo balloting, gives voters the chance to vote for no TAFF trip this year, if the candidates don't appeal to them or if they feel TAFF should slow down its trip frequency. Hold Over Funds may be voted in any position, and is exempt from the 20% requirement; thus, should it ultimately receive a majority of 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 -- Voters who prefer not to choose between the candidates, but do not want the trip to be held over, may enter a vote of No Preference.

Donations -- TAFF gratefully accepts freely given donations of money and of material for auction; such generosity has sustained the Fund for 40 years. If you are ineligible to vote, or do not feel qualified to make a choice, why not donate anyway? TAFF is fandom's oldest travel fund, and one of its worthiest causes.

Candidates -- Each candidate has posted a bond, promising -- barring Acts of God -- to travel to the 1993 World Science Fiction Convention, Confrancisco, in San Francisco, California (September 3-6, 1993) if elected; and has provided signed nominations and a platform, reproduced overleaf above the ballot.

Send ballots and contributions to:

In North America:

Jeanne Bowman
P.O. Box 982
Glen Ellen
CA 95442-0982
USA

In Europe:

Pam Wells
24A Beech Road
Bowes Park
London N11 2DA
UK

N.B. Make cheques payable to relevant individual, NOT TO TAFF.