

**TAFF
2001
North America to Europe**

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 \$3 or £2. These votes, and the continued generosity of fandom, are what make TAFF possible.

Who may vote? Voting in the 2001 race is open to anyone who was active in fandom prior to April 1999, and who contributes at least \$3 or £2 to the Fund. Larger contributions will be gratefully accepted. Voting is by secret ballot: only one vote per person, and you must sign your ballot. You may change your vote any time prior to the deadline.

Deadline: Votes in this race must reach the administrators by **midnight, 31 January, 2001.**

Voting details: 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. Your votes for second and third place are important, but you may give your candidate only one ranking on your ballot. In order 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. Thus candidates and their supporters will need to canvass fans on both sides of the pond. You may send your ballot to either administrator, but it will be tabulated with the other votes from the side of the Atlantic on which you reside. Votes from fans not resident in either Europe or North America will not count towards either 20% minimum, but are important to the outcome of the race.

Hold Over Funds: This choice, like "No Award" in Hugo balloting, gives you the chance to vote for no TAFF trip this year, if the candidates do not appeal. Hold Over Funds may be voted for in any position, and is exempt from the 20% requirement; thus, if it receives a majority of the 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: For voters who prefer not to choose between candidates, but don't want the trip held over.

Donations: TAFF gratefully accepts your freely given money and material for auction; such generosity has sustained the Fund for over 40 years. TAFF is fandom's oldest travel fund, and one of its worthiest causes – give early and often! Please contact your nearest administrator for details.

Candidates: Each candidate has posted a bond, promising – barring Acts of God – to travel to Paragon, the 52nd Annual British National Science Fiction Convention, in Hinckley, Leicestershire, 13-16 April 2001, if elected; and has provided signed nominations and a platform (overleaf).

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

Name:

Address:

Phone number or e-mail address (we do not list or exchange this information):

Signature:

Enclosed is _____ as a contribution to TAFF. Please make cheques etc. payable to "Velma J. Bowen" or "Maureen Kincaid Speller", not to "TAFF", and in the currency of the administrator's country. If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, then in order to qualify your vote, 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:

2000 TAFF BALLOT
North America to Europe

Victor Gonzalez

The fine writing and sense of humor in British fanzines has appealed to me since I was a young fan. As a fanzine fan and convention goer I have contributed to many fannish activities: fanzines such as Apparatchik, Squib and Gloss; the Trufen mailing list and the Squib website; and the Corflu/Potlatch held in Seattle. British fanac has had a place in all of these efforts. I will not only write a trip report, I will also include a zoological guide to British fandom, with photos, preferred climates, and feeding habits.

Nominators: Tracy Benton, Dave Langford, Robert Lichtman, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Alison Scott

Tom Springer

My name's Tom Springer and I'm standing for TAFF because I want to contribute to the growing closeness between US and UK fandom and to play softball with Debbie Kerr again. Contact through Wild Heirs, Heirlooms, Nine Lines Each, Brodie and now Baloney made me a confirmed admirer of British fanac, but paper contact just isn't as good as the real thing. I've never been to the UK, and I'd love to chronicle my travels and adventures through the fabled British fandoms I've read so much about. My shield of 'Umor is polished and I ask only for your support.

Nominators: Andy Hooper, Arnie Katz, Christina Lake, Pam Wells, Ted White

Please read and fill out both sides of this sheet. Send in entire sheet as your vote. Do not detach this portion!

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

Victor Gonzalez

Tom Springer

Hold Over Funds

No Preference

Send ballot & donation to:

Velma J. Bowen, P.O. Box 156, Village Station, New York NY 10014-0156, USA

Maureen Kincaid Speller, 60 Bournemouth Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 5AZ, England

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