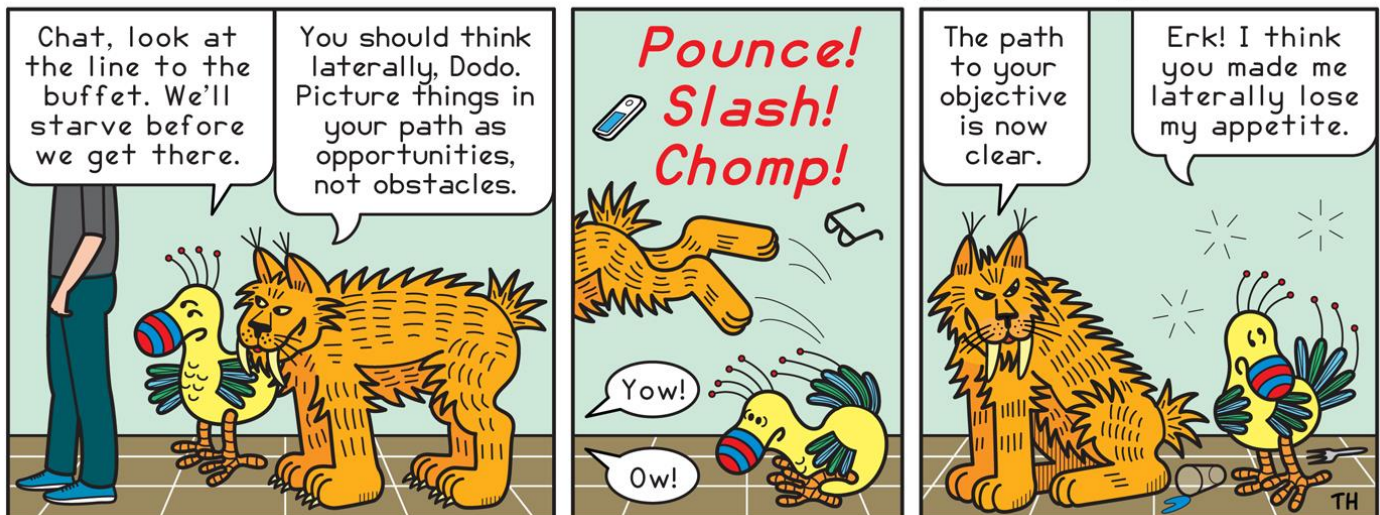


the rare crime novel that'll stick to your ribs after the story's played out. Back in 2014, filmmaker Jim Mickle made a film version of *Cold In July* starring Michael C. Hall, Sam Shepard, and Don Johnson, but that hardly seems necessary. Lansdale's novel was already perfect. The pages burned and the characters did too and the reader couldn't help but get caught in all that smoke rising up and around them. It was a tune that simply didn't need to be covered or made more cinematically palatable.

Then again, that's probably why Joe R. Lansdale grins as wide as the grill on Jim Bob Luke's Red Bitch Cadillac. The novel he birthed in 1989 is given a new day, a fresh chance to be read and discussed and debated against Mickle's film. And, considering that this resurgence of Lansdale's buried gem may invite some readers (ahem, right here) to rediscover their old trusty friend, that old tale-spinning snuff-maker that's bound to be fun, that in itself is its own form of redemption. For Lansdale and for the reader.

- Kevin Still

CHAT, the 4th Fannish Ghod *by Teddy Harvia*



Sadly, it appears that one of the long-running features of this fanzine may have come to an end. Bill Fischer, my long-time friend in Minneapolis, is recovering from a second heart attack, and may not draw any more episodes of "Figby," the comic strip series that Bill and I began while working on our undergraduate degrees at the University of Minnesota back in 1975. He assures me that he is feeling pretty good for being 70 years old now, but just wants to take it easy for a while. I told him to stop watching Minnesota Viking games and stay away from political news stories on television and the Internet. He doesn't need that kind of idiotic stress, especially the Vikings.

We can hope that Bill continues his recuperation and can resume producing "Figby" strips in 2019. With the 50th issue on the distant horizon, I personally would love to have "Figby" return for that. In the meantime, I have plans to collect all of the "Figby" strips available and publish them as a book. I have told Bill of this, and he approves. Ponder if you will such a tome...

fanzines are your friends

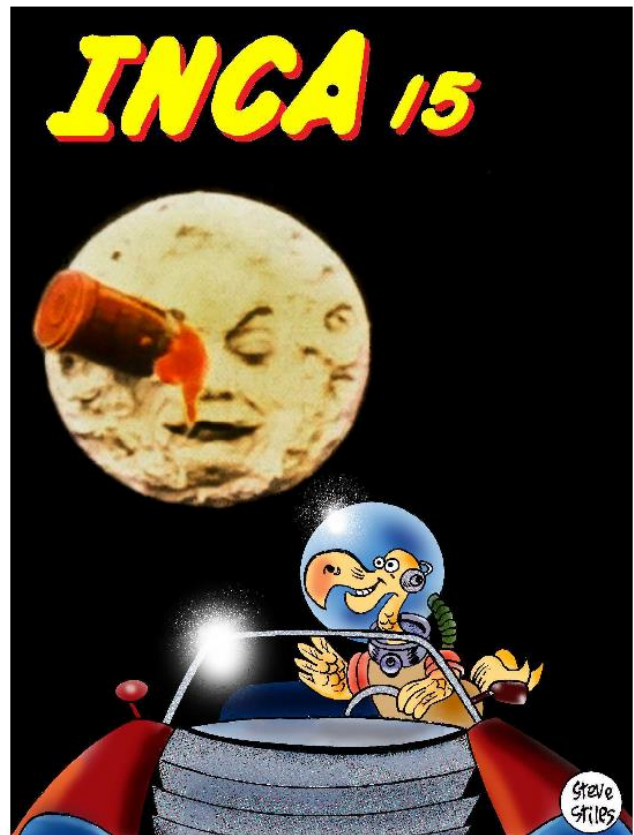
Remember that. Especially if you yourself produce one of these beasts.

Since I have been producing, writing for, and responding to fanzines for over forty years now, I believe that I have formulated some ideas about what constitutes a decent fanzine – in general, that is – and what sorts of things I enjoy about fanzines.

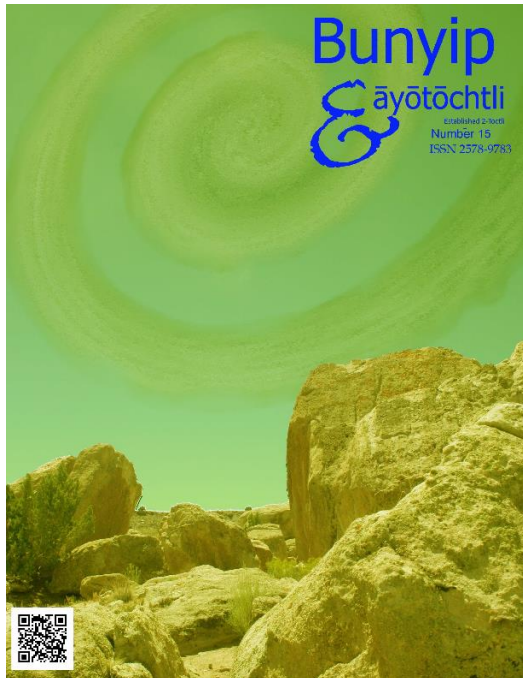
Perhaps the biggest aspect of science fiction fanzines that affects me the most is the simplest and most obvious item: people produce these things. That is pretty easy to understand. Even I can handle that. As a result, there is a wealth of variety of fanzines because everybody has different ideas, perspectives, senses of humor, interests, and so on, and all of these topics can be found in fanzines. The old fannish dictum of “All Knowledge is Contained in Fanzines” is undoubtedly true: reading a fanzine like, say, *Banana Wings*, teaches me about esoteric topics like train schedules in the British Isles, running conventions, the nuances of the art of brewing beer, running in a marathon, campaigning for a Parliamentary candidate, art museums, European taxation laws, and do sheep fart, just to name a handful of topics I recall from the past few years’ worth of issues. (In truth, I am not sure about that sheep farting article, but I know I read it in somebody’s fanzine.) The bottom line here is that any topic is worth writing about in a science fiction fanzine so long as a fan is writing it and the resultant article is (a) informative, (b) entertaining, (c) thought-provoking, and (d) generates letters of comment. Oh, heck: I might as well add (e) all of the above because they are all totally true.

Illustrating the above statement is easily done by looking at fanzines. Therefore, here are some fanzines of relatively recent vintage that I feel motivated enough to comment upon.

On the top right corner of this page is the latest issue of Rob Jackson’s genzine – the portmanteau for a general interest fanzine – *Inca*, which I always find to be entertaining and enlightening, and sometimes disoriented. That last adjective is because Rob is a member of a listserv group called In The Bar, and from time to time he culls articles from discussions in that listserv and I have nary a clue about what



they are nattering on. (For what it's worth, I am a member of In The Bar, too.) As with many fanzines these days, *Inca* is available for downloading from the wonderful website efanazines.com, which is a massive repository of old and new fanzines. In the fifteenth issue are articles from Taral Wayne (his interest in model cars that to a career as a car cartoonist) and Jim Barker (a medical story about his



recent liver ailments and surgery), plus a trio of trip/convention reports by the editor, Rob Jackson. A lengthy lettercolumn likewise inhabits *Inca*, and is always fun to read. If you have been active in fandom for a few decades and traveled to England for a few conventions as well, *Inca* is good reading.

The fanzine to the left here comes from Robert Hole, Jr., and is a good example of fannish eclecticism. The links to *Bunyip* are provided on efanazines.com, and its contents run the gamut from book and movie reviews, to the occasional story reprint (issue #15 here contains a Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., tale, "2 B R O 2 B"), word search games, one letter of comment, a coloring page, a science article by Sharon Fernandez on Membrane Theory, and artwork by Jose Sanchez and Bob Hole himself. All in all, this zine is interesting, yet different. And that is okay.

A few months ago Joe and Lisa Major published the 100th issue of their general interest fanzine, *Alexiad*, which is a milestone worth celebrating. *Alexiad* is definitely a fanzine for a very genre-interested science fiction fan. Each issue is packed with book reviews, obituaries of significant writers and others, convention reports and sf awards, a solid lettercolumn, plus small filler illustrations from Alexis Gilliland and Marc Schirmeister break up the print. Congratulations are in order for Joe and Lisa for maintaining this general interest fanzine for so long. Near as I can figure it, *Alexiad* is now in its 18th year of continuous publication. That's damned impressive. Not many genzines make it that long.

Pablo Lennis, from John Thiel, has enjoyed an incredibly long run, too. This zine also falls into the general interest fanzine category, although it does feature a lot of short fiction – some of which are very, very short- and poetry, with some editorial natter from John. Usually there are brief opinion pieces about science, philosophy, and even science fiction. Who knew, eh? It is not for everybody's taste, but that's fine. The fact that John Thiel has produced 372 issues so far (that's the most recent issue I have on hand) is a testament to how much he enjoys doing this.

And that, my friends, is why fanzines are produced in the first place. ' Nuff said,

All of these fanzines – except *Pablo Lennis* – are available on efanazines.com, thanks to the efforts of Bill Burns, whom I plan on nominating him for knighthood Real Soon Now.



Even though this issue is a couple months past due, no fanzine is complete without letters of comment. Not surprisingly, one of fanzine fandom's prolific loc-writers leads things off. So let's get this letter column started with our Northern friend, Lloyd Penney.



1706-24 Eva Rd.
Etobicoke, ON
CANADA M9C 2B2

August 31, 2018

It is the end of the month, and for many, the end of the summer. There's a big different between August 31 and September 1. I guess you are prepping for your new school year, and I have been at home, once again job hunting. If I had \$5 for every resume I've sent out, I wouldn't need to send out resumes. Anyway, I have *Askance 44* here at the top of a big stack of zines, and I should get with it.

My own activities have kept me busy, and kept dementia away (I hope)...this summer has been spent making jewelry, finding new venues and markets to sell to, thinking of new products to make, travelling around our part of the province, and hoisting our various boxes, tables, gazebo tent, etc. So, I am kept mentally busy in the making process, and physically busy lifting and loading. (Call it the Twilight Zone years all you like, as long as our old friend Rod doesn't show up...)

Yvonne is indeed retired, but...we have decided we want to return to England. I can't contribute much, but Yvonne is set, so she has taken a job at a casino just to the north of us, and she will be working in their accounting department. A short-term assignment may turn out to be one of the busiest and most

important jobs she's ever had, and she is looking forward to it. The money she gets from this job will mostly go into the London in 2019 fund.

This aging thing...all the things we used to joke about, like getting enough fiber, getting to bed early, dressing warmly enough, drinking enough water, etc., well, they're no jokes now. I have never smoked, Yvonne's quit for a long time now, and we rarely drink, although a cold hard cider on a hot day has been very refreshing. I hope this will mean benefits and longer life along the way.

When we do go to England, we do hope to meet up with the local fanzine fans in the area, and go for a First Thursday pub night. This summer, we met up with Londoners Jared and Marian Foley, who came to Toronto for a vacation, and met up with the local steampunks, including us. We hope to return the favour. And, there is so much we didn't see the first time, and some things we'd like to see again.

The Ex Taral writes about is the Canadian National Exhibition, which is on right now, as I write. (I can hear jets streaking overhead; the airshow is getting ready for the weekend.) I am reading the article carefully, because it has probably been over 20 years since we've been at one. For us, there's usually too many people, and not enough to attract us. I have been in the CNE grounds working on registration for various trade shows and conferences, so I know the Enercare Centre well. For the record, I haven't had a Leafs sweater in a very long time.

IIRC, I placed fourth for Best Letterhack for the FAAn Awards, not bad. The N3F didn't bloc vote per se, but they were encouraged to participate via their publications (of which I do get and respond to some), and the members did. And now, it's our turn, to participate more.

My "Tale from the Convention!"...we still get the odd reminder of our Winnipeg and Montreal fanzine lounges, and there is still the odd scrap of egoboo to come from them. Our days of doing that are done, mostly because, I doubt there will ever be another Canadian Worldcon.

My loc...when we do return to England, we will not be going to the 2019 Asylum, as much as we enjoyed it in 2016. That means a lot less expense right there. And, we learned so much about being a smart traveler then, and we are learning even more now. I am sure we will have enough money for the whole stay (now looking to be three weeks), and maybe some for any future travelling we might do, too. Penney's Steampunk General Store has had five successful shows so far this summer (including the annual anime convention, one of our best three-day events ever), and we have five more to go to, right up to the beginning of December.

We hope you enjoy the Steampunk November. Our annual big event, the Grand Canadian Steampunk Exposition, has been unfortunately postponed (not cancelled) to an as-yet unannounced date, but other events do spring up here and there, so we will stay busy.

I believe I am done for the moment, and I hope this can get in before the next issue. Enjoy the Labour Day weekend, and happy school afterwards. See you with that next issue.

Lloyd

Sadly, we couldn't make it to Steampunk November: too busy with schoolwork and real world invasion things (grading, family: you know the drill). However, Valerie are planning to go to the Texas

Renaissance Festival over Thanksgiving weekend, which is the last weekend of this 10 week long affair. Besides being a grand way to end the season, Sunday November 25, 2018 is our 29th wedding anniversary, so celebrating that in our Elizabethan costumes would be a bit of fun.



Steve Jeffery
44 White Way
Kidlington, Oxfordshire
United Kingdom OX5 2XA

August 19, 2018

Taral never did mention whether he finally found the full size butter sculpture of Red Skelton alongside those of Justin Trudeau and his companion capybara, various raccoons, squirrels and a gorilla in a clown suit. Unless Red was disguised as a gorilla and then further dressed up as a clown in case anyone saw through the original disguise.

It sounds a fascinating event. I can't think where else you expect to buy Fraggles plush dolls, a samurai sword, or a replica Kalashnikov while looking at assorted exotic fauna rendered in creamy dairy produce (you really have to ask why here) and eating jerk chicken and deep fried Mars Bars. I'm a bit astonished these latter have caught on outside the UK. Even the thought is quite revolting. And then I see a notice in the window of our local fish shop that proclaims they also do deep fried Creme Eggs. Oh come on. Creme Eggs have to be among the mostly sickly confections already, and this is definitely over-egging, never mind over-battering, the pudding.

I haven't conducted a thorough analysis, or any sort of analysis, of the voting figures in Nic's *Incomplete Register* but I see from Rob Jackson's *Inca* that you may have revised your ideas over the idea of a slate voting bloc on behalf of N3F titles. I see one of Nic's suggestions is that voting for yourself immediately disqualifies your vote, and while I don't think this is rife (or probably even happens) in the FAANs, it is understandable that a group of people who produce a number of different zines may well vote for each other's zines. And, when you extend this out wider, isn't this just what the FAANs are: people voting for other people's fanzines, usually those by friends or people they have something in common with, even if only in terms of fannish outlook and interests.

I suspect that one of the problems is that, like the Novas, the voting figures are sometimes so low in different categories that the difference in one or two votes, as well as the way votes are tallied, can appear overly significant on the final results.

Steve

I think a lot of Nic Farey's ideas about the FAAn voting procedures were fair and reasonable. Like you intimate – and Nic has said before – it is all about the egoboo. As for the Nova Awards go, it appears they are now almost gone, if I recall correctly. The voting numbers have been practically nonexistent these past few years, and Claire Brialey, Mark Plummer, Graham Charnock, Rob Jackson, and other British fans have proffered their opinions on the fate of the Novas – a British fanzine/fandom award

presented at the annual fall NovaCon – in their own fanzines. I hate to see such a long-standing honour vanishing, but as the science fiction fanzine group dwindles in size, perhaps this is not an unforeseen nor unavoidable event.



Ian Millsted

Bristol, England

July 13, 2018

Thanks for the copy of *Askance 44*.

Your introductory piece about, essentially, work/life balance resonated. For the last couple of years my job has been local enough to allow me to walk in. A fair hike to be fair but I've benefited from the exercise. From September I start a new job which is better paid but will involve a drive rather than a walk. I'll need to find the time and opportunity to get in shape some other way. Before then I aim to get a fanzine completed and sent out. Like you, keeping up such engagement helps to keep one mentally positive. I'm further off from retirement than you and suspect it will actually be more of a gradual transition over some years rather than just stopping at a particular time.

The write up of your time in Paris shadows some of my own experiences in that city. So much that is brilliant and fascinating and yet not always a pleasant place to just 'be'. I've enjoyed travelling in other parts of France more.

Good stuff from Taral and Lloyd as well.

Ian

*Paris was fun once we had switched hotels and plunked ourselves down in the First Arrondissement. One of these years Valerie and I would love to visit other parts of France, in addition to Spain, Portugal, and Italy. We **really** want to return to Prague. Walking around all those cities during my TAFF trip was an exercise regimen that I did not mind at all. As for my retirement musings, I'm thinking of doing that once I hit the 20 year mark at Blinn College: this projects out at 2026, or when I'm 72 years old. That's not too many. The way I feel and act – don't smoke, don't drink that often at all, stay physically and mentally active, etc. – this seems very doable. We shall see.*

THE RITUAL "ALSO HEARD FROM" LIST:

Fred Lerner. Andrew I. Porter, Joe Siclari – promoting the FANAC History Project – and Taral Wayne.

Regional Convention Calendar

Well, there is always something sf-related going on in Texas and its immediate environs. While you feast your eyes on the lovely scenery outside Austin, Texas – the is dockside at the County Line BBQ restaurant, where 21 ArmadilloCon 40 attendees feasted after the convention was over - check out the assorted goings-on in my neck of the woods



Dickens on the Strand

Galveston's World Famous Victorian Holiday Festival
WEAR A VICTORIAN COSTUME FOR 1/2 PRICE ADMISSION!
(Presumably December 2018)
Strand National Historic Landmark District
Strand & Mechanic Streets between 20th & 25th
Galveston, Texas

The annual holiday street festival, based on 19th-century Victorian London, features parades, non-stop entertainment on six stages, strolling carolers, roving musicians, bagpipers, jugglers and a host of other entertainers. Costumed vendors peddle their wares from street stalls and rolling carts laden with holiday food and drink, Victorian-inspired crafts, clothing, jewelry, holiday decorations and gift items. Continuous entertainment on several stages, over 150 craft and food vendors, children activities abound at Piccadilly Circus, 3 grand parades, Victorian Bed Races, London Wharf and the Official Tall Ship of Texas ELISSA, GHF Member Club, Costume Contests, Scrooge Scavenger Hunt and wonderful special events throughout the weekend.

BrazCon: Brazoria County Teen Comic Convention

(Presumably February 2019 one-day from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
Shadow Creek High School
11850 Broadway
Pearland TX

(Greater Houston, TX area)

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS AGES 10-18, BUT ALL ARE WELCOME!

Doors open at 8:45 for registration and freebies!

Sessions and activities based on comic books, graphic novels, manga, anime and popular fiction:

Marvel, DC, Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, Dr. Who, Star Wars, and more!

Brought to you by Brazoria County Library System, Alvin ISD, Brazoria County Communities in Schools and other School Systems

ConDFW XVIII

A Science Fiction & Fantasy Literary Event

February 15-17, 2019

Radisson Hotel Fort Worth Fossil Creek

2540 Meacham Blvd

Fort Worth, TX 76106

(DFW Metroplex area)

GOH: Charlaine Harris

GOH: Yoon Ha Lee

Literary science fiction & fantasy convention featuring writing/publishing based programming, science programming, an excellent collection of guests, art show, a charity book swap and auction, & a slew of non-traditional activities such as the Sci-Fi Spelling Bee, Celebrity Artemis, and a Poetry Slam.

Brought to you by the Texas Speculative Fiction Association, a 501(c)(3) organization. 100% volunteer-run.

Cyber City Con

"The Ultimate Robot Experience"

(Presumably February 2019)

SAT 9 AM - 6 PM

SUN 9 AM - 6 PM

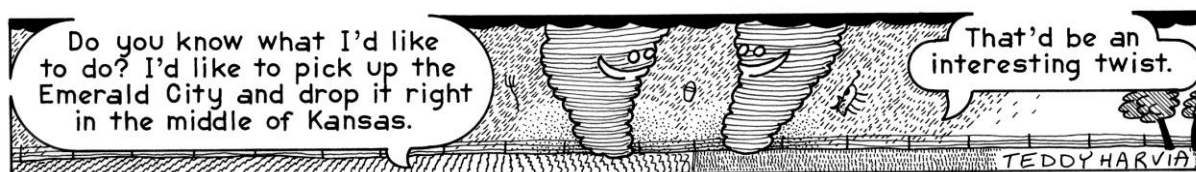
Greater San Antonio, TX area

Texas's largest convention celebrating Transformers, Gundam, and other robot franchises! Includes artists, celebrities, panels, & more!

Gundam Model / Gunpla Contest 18 February, 2018. What's Gunpla, some of you ask? Well, it's the construction, painting, and enjoyment of Gundam Model Kits, that's what!

Transformers Art Contest 18 February 2018.

Alamo City Toy Show joins 2nd Annual Cyber City Con for the future home of both events.



Owl Con LII

Gaming, Fantasy, & Science Fiction Convention

(Presumably February 2019)

RMC/Ley Student Center

Rice University

Houston, TX

OwlCon is an annual gaming convention at Rice University, Houston, TX, dating back to 1980. We feature table top and live action role playing games, miniatures games and events, historical miniatures, board games, card games, a dealers room, and more.

OwlCon 32 gaming events will include RPGA and PFS events and specials, official tournaments for Warhammer 40k and Warhammer Fantasy, many tabletop games, several LARPS including Vampire and Call of Cthulhu, and many other games with prizes galore! OwlCon will once again be swarming with official demo folks for various game systems to give you a chance to try some of their great games. We will also have an anime room and a Dealers room.

All-Con XV

Multi-format convention featuring autographs, gaming, comics, & a burlesque show.

March 14-17, 2019

Crowne Plaza North Dallas

14315 Midway Road

Addison, Texas 75001

(DFW Metroplex area)

For three days All-Con provides an umbrella of content supporting fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Renaissance, Anime, Costuming, Theater / Performing Arts, Mystery, Art, Crafts, Collecting, and Film Making. To help 'give back' there are several charity events at the convention every year.

All-Con is fan organized and built on community participation. We offer a track dedicated entirely to cross promoting clubs, conventions, and events. The best part is you may cross promote as a panelist for FREE as long as we have space and your content is appropriate. Don't forget to bring flyers for the flyer table.



Hill Country Comicon

Comic convention

March 16, 2019 10 AM-7 PM

March 17, 2019 10 AM-5 PM

New Braunfels Civic & Convention Center

375 S Castell Ave

New Braunfels, TX 78130

Greater San Antonio / Hill Country area

Here to promote FUN, ART, LITERACY, & IMAGINATION through comics and pop culture.

Embrace your nerdiness at a family-friendly, comic convention. Comic books, toys, cards, games, artwork, cosplay, apparel, guest creators, celebrity . Break out your capes, helmets, light sabers, and wands as we gather for a fun weekend in the lovely Hill Country

AggieCon 49

Anime, gaming, & cosplay con.

March 22-24, 2019

Hilton College Station & Conference Center

801 University Dr E.

College Station, TX 77840

Bryan/College Station, TX area

We are excited about the return of AggieCon classics such as the 24-hour tabletop, anime, and video gaming rooms. As we get closer to Con we will be releasing more information. Hope to see all of you there! [Note: as of November 14, 2017, on [Facebook page](#).]

We cater to all fandoms, including Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Gaming, Horror, Anime, and many more.

See also [AggieCon Facebook page](#)

Brought to you by [Cepheid Variable](#)

RevelCon 30

March 22-24, 2019

Houston, Texas area

RevelCon is THE only fan-run relax-a-con/zinefest in the Southwest US. It's a fab weekend of vids, panels, art, zines, merchandise, food and frolic! [Note - Revelcon is an adults-only/18-and-over con.]

Overheard in the Hallways of Academia, Dept. #2:

“I must go and assess!”

Teen Book Con: The Greater Houston Teen Book Convention

Mission: To celebrate and promote reading by connecting teens with authors.

March 30, 2019 Doors open at 9 a.m.

Clear Springs High School

501 Palomino Lane

League City, TX 77573

Greater Houston, TX area

NOTE: TeenBookCon is open to everyone (and FREE thanks to our generous Sponsors). Priority seating will be given to teens at all sessions.

Q: How does TeenBookCon work?

A: Part 1: The Keynote Address begins at 10 a.m. in the Theater. The doors will open at 9 a.m. for book sales and entertainment. We will have booths set up with fun activities leading up to the Keynote Address. Everyone will want to make their way to the theater by 10 a.m. for author introductions and the Keynote Address.

A: Part 2: After the Keynote Address, authors will head to their panel rooms and teens will choose from different panels to attend. Panels are listed here. All authors will speak on their panels multiple times. You choose which panels you would like to attend. The authors will stay in their rooms and **teens will move from room to room to attend the different panel discussions** (kind of like classes during the day in high school, only WAY more fun)!

A: Part 3: After the Panel Sessions, we reconvene in the Theater for the Closing Speech!

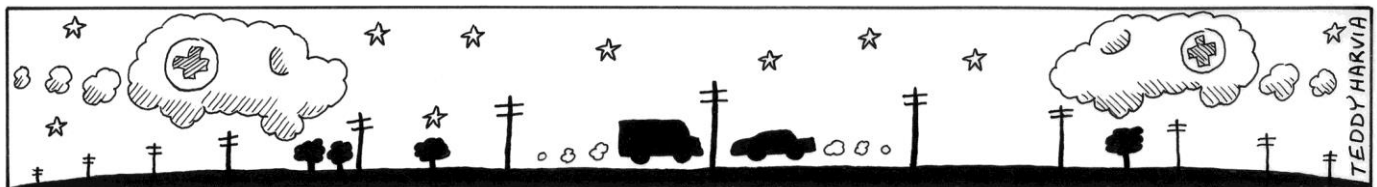
A: Part 4: At the end of the day, there will be an **autographing session with all TeenBookCon authors**. Books will be available for purchase throughout the day at TeenBookCon thanks to our partner, Blue Willow Bookshop. The full schedule is posted on the TeenBookCon website.

NOTE: There are **25+ authors at TeenBookCon**. You will be choosing from multiple panel sessions throughout the day.

Q: I'm not a teen, can I still come to TeenBookCon?

A: **Yes, TeenBookCon welcomes all fans of YA literature**. Please keep in mind that TeenBookCon is first and foremost an event for teens so we ask that in all panel sessions, teens should be given first priority in seating and be given the chance to ask questions of our authors first and also, as we mentioned earlier, if a panel session becomes full, any seated adult will be asked to give up their seat to make room for teens!

Please see our [full list of sponsors!](#)



FanExpo Dallas

Comics, Sci Fi, Horror, Anime, Gaming.

(Presumably April 2019)

(downtown Dallas, TX)

Comics, Celebrity Guests, Artist Alley, Panel discussions, Cosplay/Masquerade, Movies, Comics, Toys, Video Gaming, Games, TV, Horror, Original Art, Collectibles, Anime, Manga & More! Over 60,000 fans in over 600,000 square feet. Presented by Dallas Comic Con.

CyPhaCon

Southwest Louisiana premier Anime, Gaming and Scifi convention, brought to you by CYPHA LLC.

April 12-14, 2019

Lake Charles Civic Center

900 Lakeshore Dr.

Lake Charles, LA 70601

Lake Charles, Louisiana area

Anime Industry Panels, Anime Screenings, Artist Alley, Board Games, Charity Auction, Cosplay Events With Prizes, Dealer Room, General Cosplay All Over, Guest Panels, Live Action Role Playing, Role Playing Games, Video Gaming, Workshops.

Sponsored by the non-profit Future Possibilities Foundation.

ComicPalooza: Texas' Largest Comic and Pop Culture Event

Comics & gaming con

May 10-12, 2019

George R. Brown Convention Center

1001 Avenida de las Americas

Houston, TX 77010

Two host hotels:

Hilton Americas–Houston

1600 Lamar

Houston, Texas 77010

Hyatt Regency Houston

1200 Louisiana Street

Houston, TX 77002

(downtown Houston, TX)

ComicPalooza's mission is to provide the best and biggest annual multi-format pop culture convention in the southwest region of the United States, serving not only the fans of comics, science fiction, fantasy, video and table top gaming, anime, music and film, but also as a trade show and showcase for the studios, publishers, and manufacturers in those industries.

Largest comic con in Texas. Over 40,000 attendance. Live Art Event, Comicpalooza Film Festival, industry panel discussions, roller derby games, quidditch matches, live music, dancers, circus performers, and much more. Comicpalooza is also one of the largest art events in Houston, featuring scores of artists as well as numerous writers, celebrities, and performers, and much, much more!

SoonerCon 28

Oklahoma's Greatest Pop Culture Experience
Science Fiction, Fantasy, Gaming Con
June 7–9, 2019
Embassy Suites by Hilton Norman Hotel & Conference Center
2501 Conference Drive
Norman, OK, 73069
Oklahoma City, OK area

This incarnation of SoonerCon is deliberately designed to celebrate all aspects of fandom. We do not intend to have a solely "books" or "TV" or "art" emphasis. The emphasis is on FUN. Events include: Film Festival, Art Show, Gaming, Cosplay and Masquerade. Charity. Panel and Workshops. Video Rooms. We are very happy to announce the creation of the **Oklahoma Speculative Fiction Hall of Fame**. Beginning in 2013, SoonerCon will induct members into the Hall of Fame, and present them with the newly created "**Nucleon Award**". Members of the Hall of Fame will be Oklahomans (and those originally from Oklahoma) who have contributed significantly to the development of pop culture and speculative fiction in both Oklahoma and the world.

Greater Austin Comic Con

Where weird, wacky, and geeky is kewl!
(Presumably June 2019)
Greater Austin, TX area

"Celebration that brings all things pop culture together from comics, cosplay, manga/anime, movies, video games, and a super hero theme car show. Showcasing the exceptional works of talented writers, artists, illustrators, game developers, and creators of all types of pop cultures. Greater Austin Comic Con packs in two fun filled days of entertainment that the whole family can enjoy from exciting panels, action packed exhibit floor with artists, retailers, meet & greets, celebrity signings, cosplay contest, kids entertainment, and much much more!"

Overheard in the Hallways of Academia Dept. #3:

"Once more into the breeches we go!"

***NASFiC 2019 in conjunction with Westercon 72 [the *North American Science Fiction Convention] AND 1632 Minicon**

July 4-7, 2019

Davis Conference Center

1651 North 700 West

Layton, Utah 84041

Hilton Garden Inn Hotel

762 West Heritage Park Blvd

Layton, Utah 84041

Salt Lake City, UT area

Literary GOH: Jim Butcher

Literary GOH: David Weber

Artist GOH: Vincent Villafranca

Cosplay GOH: Kitty Krell

Fan GOH Trio: Kevin Standlee, Lisa Hayes & Kuma Bear

Special Guest: Eric Flint

Gaming GOH: The GM Tim

Four days of programming on hundreds of topics from books to media, from art to costuming, from movies to television to anime, from science fiction to science fact, as well as an art show, masquerades, the Hugo Awards ceremony, dealer's rooms, and much more!

ONLY IN ENGLAND -



I can definitely guarantee that the next issue will not be out during the upcoming Holiday Season. With luck, this will happen before the New Year kicks in so that the 46th issue will be dated December 2018, instead of something like mid-February some year into the future. Well, Steve Miller did warn us that time keeps on slipping, slipping, slipping, into the future.

My plans for that issue are to focus on the Steampunk genre: literature, artwork, costuming, music, and conventions/events. It should be a fun issue to put together

I have asked Lloyd Penney to write about his and wife Yvonne's craft endeavours at assorted Steampunk events in Toronto and environs, and hopefully he will be sending along some photographs as well. If he doesn't I shall shamelessly pilfer them off his Facebook page.

So saying, here goes the call for any articles, reviews, interviews with Steampunk authors, costuming tips, and so forth, for the next issue of *Askance*. Since the 46th issue is probably going to appear in March next year – at least I hope so; the danged thing seems to have adopted a “whenever it's done” publishing schedule – the deadline for submissions will be the end of February or first week of March 2019. After all, there is this little thing called the TAFF 2019 race to administrate, and the voting deadline for that is April 22, 2019. That's smack at the end of Easter Weekend next year, so I hope to have the time to pub my ish and still tally the votes to see who is going to be the North American Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund Delegate to the Dublin, Ireland World Science Fiction Convention next summer. With four people in the race (which is how it is looking just before the nomination cut-off date of Thanksgiving Holiday in America), this race should be a lot of fun.

What's
next

Poetry corner

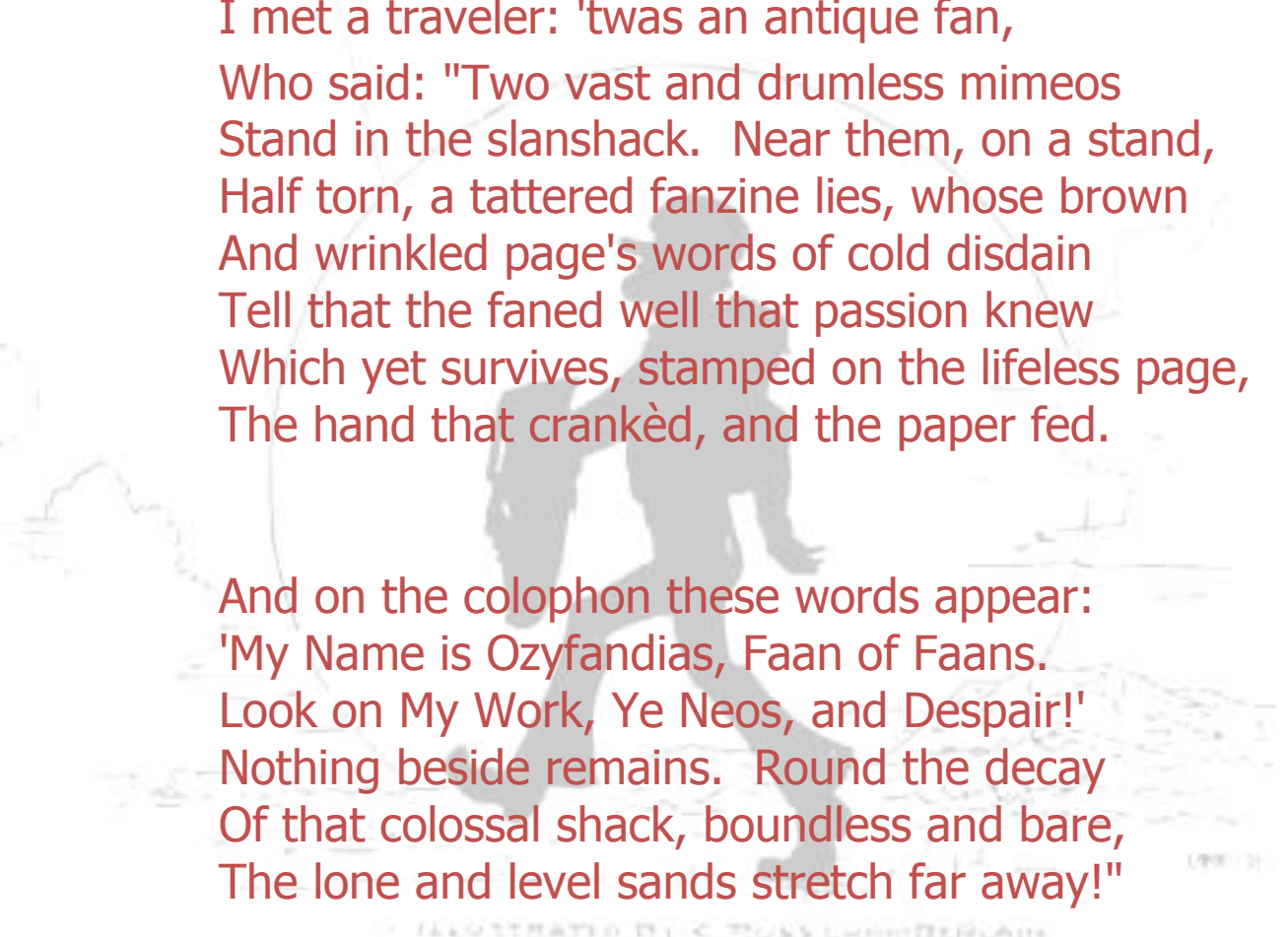
A few weeks ago Sam Long sent me a PDF of his filk song and poetry compilation **PARODIES LOST & PARODIES REGAINED**, and it is truly a wonderful selection of what fannish minds are capable of when inspired by the lunacy that passes for normal behavior in science fiction fandom. I am naturally extremely grateful that Sam did this, and with his blessing – if that's an appropriate word to use for these things – the back cover of this fanzine is devoted to one of Sam's poetry parodies. Based on Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem “Ozymandias” (1818), this is not meant to be sung, but to be dramatically recited at a fannish gathering, most likely late in the evening – preferably 2 AM or later – after a Dead Dog Party at a world convention. For what it's worth, here it is, with what I hope is a proper illustrative background nicked from the Internet via a past issue of *Beam*, drawn by Ross Chamberlain. It felt appropriate to me.

See you folks in the New Year. Don't forget to send in Steampunk articles, etc., and letters of comment.

John Purcell

OZYFANDIAS

After Shelley, originally ca 1975
(no tune; to be recited)



I met a traveler: 'twas an antique fan,
Who said: "Two vast and drumless mimeos
Stand in the slanshack. Near them, on a stand,
Half torn, a tattered fanzine lies, whose brown
And wrinkled page's words of cold disdain
Tell that the faned well that passion knew
Which yet survives, stamped on the lifeless page,
The hand that crankèd, and the paper fed.

And on the colophon these words appear:
'My Name is Ozyfandias, Faan of Faans.
Look on My Work, Ye Neos, and Despair!'
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal shack, boundless and bare,
The lone and level sands stretch far away!"

Poem by Sam Long

Artwork by Ross Chamberlain