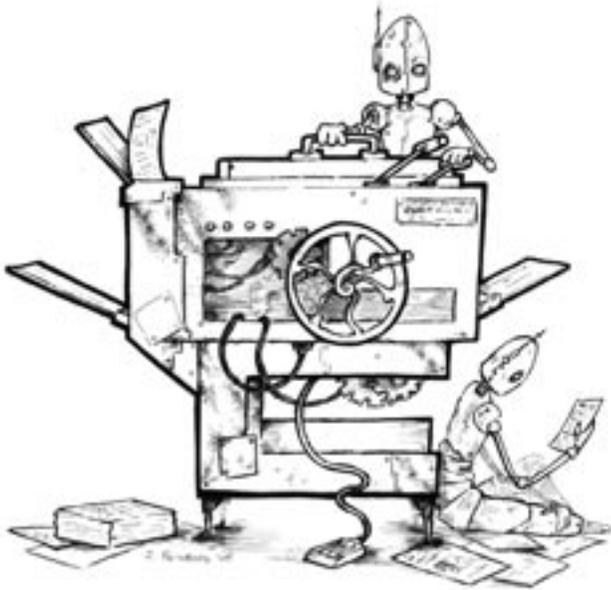


THE DRINK TANK ISSUE 47

THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM



My Crazy Pubbing Life and That Other Life too...

The Year of the Hyperactive Typing Fingers continues unabated! My first FA-Pazine will go out with the next mailing and will feature the excellent cover that you see above by J. Cathryn Feinberg. It's Steam-Punky goodness! I'm also working on the next issue of Claims Department and a pre-prep for my National Novel Writing Month entry.

If you're reading this on eFanzines.com, close it and go read Science Fiction/San Francisco right now! It's the BArea news zine that I'm editing and I think that the first issue where I was officially part of the editorial team turned out great. Jack Avery, the King of Layout and Design, did an amazing job setting it together and putting up a calendar that folks at Silicon were talking about.

Speaking of Silicon, I had a good time and enjoyed getting to talk with folks like Kevin Andrew Murphy, Frank Wu, Jim Terman, Gerry Nordley, some girl whose name I don't know but was quite entertaining, and Jean Martin, one of the co-editors of SF/SF. I finally managed to get to one of

Kevin Roche's Spintronics lectures, which I enjoyed. I actually understood much of it and saw that the applications for spintronics will probably make my job much more interesting come 2020 or so. A form of RAM that is non-volatile will rule! The only other full panel I made it to was the one with the Horror Hosts Bob Wilkins and John Stanley. I watched a bunch of Creature Features back in my younger days and seeing the two of them was wonderful. Mr. Lobo, who is currently a Horror Host out of Sacramento, moderated and did a great job. I'm thinking of finding folks to do a Live Action version of these. Get a room, decorate it like a dungeon, show a short or two, do a couple of strange skits and maybe an interview in-between and then show an old horror film. That would be a blast, but I imagine that would be far more work than anyone would want to put out.

My panels went OK. The size of Silicon means you'll never have too many people in the audience, but my first panel was an Alt History panel with Buzz Nelson and Wanda Haight (whose new last name I can't remember). There were two others, but as usually happens, me and Buzz got the most time. I wondered what would have happened if the IRA had succeeded in killing Mags Thatcher in the 1980s when they bombed that hotel. That could have been a huge turning point in late 20th century politics and it's doubtful that the US would have been able to avoid getting involved. Second panel was all about designing a SpaceShip and we had a great deal of fun with that one. Gerry Nordley, and Raven were on the panel with me and we got some great points out there. I'd love to see that kind of panel at Contact or Potlatch.

I didn't stay for any of the events, but I still enjoyed myself a ton. I only wish I had gotten to see Kevin + Andy's Stargate.

The Campaign Report Week 1

The start of my run for the office of San Jose's Mayor has been an exciting time. So far no one takes it seriously, which is exactly what I'm looking for. Arguably, my first campaign speech was at Silicon while having lunch with Mike Higashi and Frank The Tank Wu. I said "You know, I'm running for Mayor." and the table in front turned around, seeming shocked. I explained that I wanted to bring the tower back and laughs were had by all. That was the first of many!

So far, I've had one contributor (a Silicon attendee who said that they'd start working on a bumper sticker for me) and I've got a T-Shirt that's just about ready for Cafe Press. Soon, you too can wear the shirt that says that you'd support rebuilding a giant light tower over a busy intersection in an Earthquake zone!

As far as the other candidates, well, they're not a fun bunch. The name that everyone is batting around is Dave Cortese. He's gonna win, unless the city buys my platform, which I'm sure they will! He's been a city council member for a while and he's a charismatic guy. The name Cindy Chavez has also been batted around. From what I understand, she was an opponent of The Cactus Club, where I spent much of my time, so I hope that I can draw votes away from her by telling people that they NEED a light tower! That's right, N-E-E-D.

Speaking of the tower, as it will be the only thing I'd do if I were to get into office, I've got to think about what it will look like. Having a full competition would be a nightmare, and while the original has a certain

Bring It Back



Garcia 2006

late-Victorian charm, I think it needs to be a more fanciful design. In the meantime, I need to figure out a campaign slogan. Among those that have been proposed are "Let San Jose be a Beacon unto Others!", "San Jose: The Light of the World!" and "If we build it, they will come". I'm not sold on any of those yet, but I'm sure someone will come up with a great idea. Mail the official campaign address, garcia@computerhistory.org with your ideas.

So that is the first official campaign report. How many fake campaigns

go through the trouble of weekly reports? I'm still looking for a web person to make the official site, and I'm going to hold my first rally in three weeks at the corner of Market and Santa Clara. If you're free on the 23rd, come on down and be a part of the farce that will consume me!





Art and the Mask
Over the last several years, artists have been discovering the Mexican Masked Wrestler. There's no secret that the art community despises American wrestling, in fact they often use it in piece where they want to ridicule the working class as a symbol of their simple-mindedness. No so with the Mexican Masked wrestler. Many artists have started using

them in works over the last few years. This also came up slightly during a panel I was on at Silicon. We were talking about foreign films and I brought up El Santo. Santo was the top wrestler in Mexico, certainly the biggest draw ever in the country. Even into his 60s he would pull a big crowd. I mentioned that he wasn't just the Mexican Hulk Hogan, but he was the Mexican James Bond and Arnold Schwarzenegger. He made dozens of films, was the star of a best-selling series of comics. TV was around at that point, but wrestling wasn't a regular part of it in Mexico until the 1970s. In fact, the only real wrestling that was seen in Mexico was the wrestling that Texas and California beamed out that was picked up by the folks down there.

As more folks started to come to the US, Santo took hold, especially in areas like El Paso, Los Angeles, Fresno and through out Texas. A great deal of the folk art that started coming out of these communities featured Santo, and the recent release of a number of his old films has introduced him to more artists who are using his images in their work. Santo is certainly #1, but Mil Mascaras (shown above wrestling a heart), Blue Demon, Santo's main enemy, and El Solitario have all shown up in gallery shows I've seen lately. It's weird, but I like it.

The current crop of Mexican wrestlers are becoming better known in the States, including Shocker who has a McDonalds commercial, and Rey Mysterio Jr.



And Now There Are Two Good Shows...

Television has been good and bad over the years. A few years ago, if you asked me I'd have said that the hour long drama was dead with the decline of ER and the continued absence of LA Law. Last year, they made a comeback, with Lost and Desperate Housewives and a couple of great shows on, of all networks, UPN. One of those UPN shows is now the second best show on TV. Veronica Mars may be the last line of the teen show. Smartly written, it's the story of a High School Senior who first season unraveled the murder of her best friend and this season is involved in solving some giant mystery that we only half understand as of the second episode. Brilliantly written, even Joss Whedon says it's great, but sadly, it's second best to an ABC medical show.

Grey's Anatomy, which I've talked about before, is the best show on TV. The other two ABC dramas may get more press, but Grey's is amazing.

The star of Grey's Anatomy is Me-



redith Grey, a surgical intern at Seattle General Hospital and the daughter of a brilliant surgeon who also happens to be dealing with Alzheimer's. The rest of the cast includes Sandra Oh (Sideways), Katherine Heigl (Side Effects), Patric Dempsey (So many 1980s films), and Isaiah Washington. Washington is one of the great American actors. I think of him as Denzel's superior in many ways, especially when it comes to subtle emotional turns. He plays a doctor who had an affair with one of the interns (Oh's Christina) and he has just found that



that she was pregnant when he broke it off with her.

The writing is so good. It's funny, like scrubs, but intense like ER, and it's better than either of them ever were due to walking that line.

That's it for this issue of The Drink Tank. I'm going to have a special issue out soon about the song 88 Lines About 44 Women. If you're sensitive to sexual or drug content, you may want to skip it, since it's gonna be all over that one. M Lloyd (who has decided to keep her name after the wedding) and Jay Crasdan will be there, along with Manny Sanford and the Once Was Lost SaBean MoreL. It'll be weird and entertaining, but it will also feature everything from lesbianism to S+M to Cuddling in a park and everything in-between. It's either going to work like a charm or fail like a WB Sitcom.

The Drink Tank issue 47 was written and edited by Christopher J. Garcia. If you've got comments, send them to garcia@computerhistory.org or to 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View, CA 94043. I'm going to be working on SF/SF most of the rest of this week, but there'll be more fun and frolic around eFanzines.com. Thanks to Bill Burns and to Gen for not killing me when I washed her jeans that had her paycheck in the pocket!