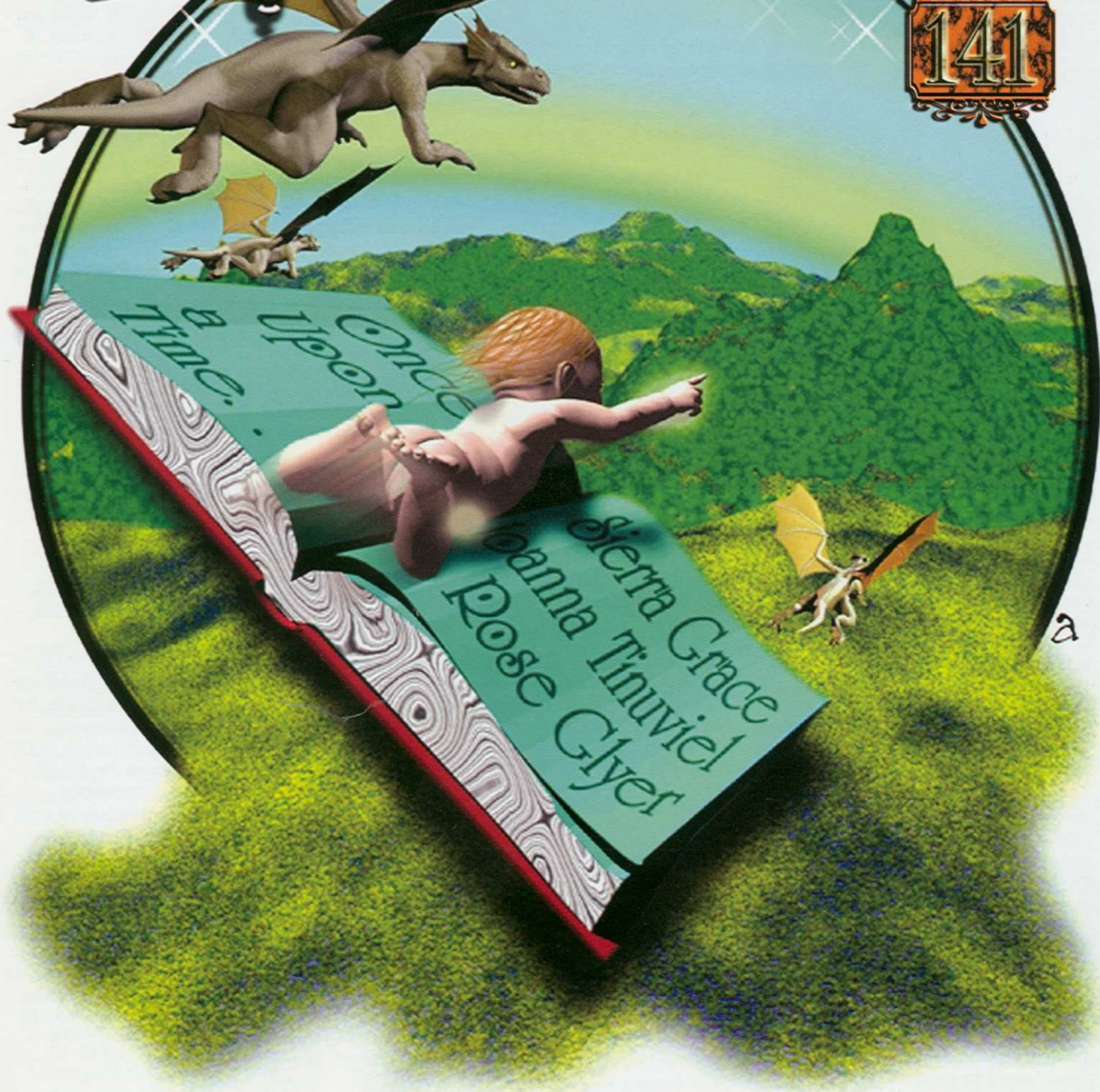


# TRUFF 770

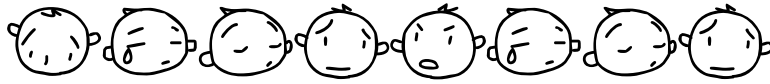
141



Once Upon a Time.

Sierra Grace  
Danna Tinuviel  
Rose Glycer

# FILE 3:30 a.m.



Sierra snoozes on Diana's shoulder.

## Editorial Notes by Mike Glycer

**Sierra Is Here!** Diana and I brought home our adoptive daughter Sierra Grace Glycer on February 7, two days after she was born. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 10 oz. and measured 20-1/2 inches in length. She has big blue eyes and light brown hair. We couldn't be happier!

**How did this miracle begin?** Last July, one of Diana's students discovered that she was pregnant and talked with us about adopting her baby. As some of our friends know, we've wanted children, had worked with doctors, and unsuccessfully pursued an international adoption. So when the birth mother decided to have her baby and give it up for adoption, she thought of us. We readily agreed to this surprising answer to our prayers. This is an open adoption and Sierra, Diana and I will continue to have contact with the birth-parents and their families and friends.

**What's In A Name?** Our daughter's full name is Sierra Grace Joanna Tinóviel Rose Glycer. We began talking about children's names years ago and had settled on Sierra Grace as a girl's name. We interpret Sierra, a Spanish word for mountain, together with her second name to mean "abundant grace."

Perhaps totally predictably, when we came

to the point of actually receiving a child we talked about dozens of other possible names, including one of Diana's favorites from the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, Tinóviel, an Elvish word for "nightingale." That might be daunting as a name to use everyday, but we agreed it would be a fine middle name, especially if preceded by "Joanna" for better rhythm (at least to our ears!)

The birth-mother had been very fond of a couple names of her own, so at her request we also added Rose.

**Mr. Blue Elephant in Outer Space:** The federal government lets employees use our sick leave for "family care," which allowed me to spend priceless time caring for Sierra for her first six weeks at home.



Here's looking at you, kid!

As newborns do, she started out sleeping many hours a day. Visiting grandmothers wondered when they would get to see Sierra's eyes open, but being with her all the time I already knew she had beautiful eyes as deeply blue and luminous as Arwen's (Liv Tyler) in *Lord of the Rings*.

She began as a delicate, perfectly-made miniature person. Six weeks later she seems such a big girl in comparison – how does gaining a pound-and-a-half make that much difference? Sierra is surprisingly strong – when she doesn't want to sit up to be burped, she can arch her back like a Russian weightlifter. If she had the coordination to do it, she could turn herself over – one morning she nearly did it unintentionally as I watched. Another time I was showing Sierra her blue elephant finger puppet. She gripped his trunk in one tiny fist.

A moment later, she reflexively tossed up her arms and Mr. Blue Elephant flew into space quicker than Chuck Yeager.

Sierra grows every day and I'm glad I haven't had to miss any of it. Though I'm starting back to work I'm able to schedule work at home a couple days a week. I'll still be seeing a lot of her.

Being Sierra's daddy has changed so many things. There's a shortage of sleep, of course -- Diana and I are questing for infancy's equivalent to the Holy Grail, to get our baby to sleep through the night. Our sleep-starved brains take longer to do routine things and time for nonessentials is hard to come by. (What kind of fakefan chooses to do laundry instead of writing *File 770*? Uh...)

One of the wonderful changes is how having a baby adds dimensions to relationships with people I've known for years. At a Westercon committee meeting a couple of weeks ago, there I was comparing baby pictures with Bobbi Armbruster (her grandchild), and talking with Kim Marks Brown (a new mom for the second time) about the advice in *Babywise* for adapting an infant to the family routine.

And will we see you at Westercon? It will be Sierra's fannish debut. Smiles to all of you!



**File 770:141** is edited by Mike Glycer at 705 Valley View Ave., Monrovia CA 91016. *File 770* is available for news, artwork, arranged trades, or by subscription. Subscriptions cost \$8 for 5 issues, \$15 for 10 issues, air mail rate is \$2.50.

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**Bill Rotsler:** 2, 9, 35, 39  
**Joe Mayhew:** 3, 6  
**Keith Stokes:** (photos) 4, 8  
**Sheryl Birkhead:** 7  
**Brad Foster:** 10, 36  
**Grant Canfield:** 13, 22, Bacover  
**David Dyer-Bennet** (photo): 18  
**Kurt Erschen:** 19  
**Marc Schirmeister:** 34  
**Teddy Harvia:** 26

# MIKE GLYER'S FILE 770

## News of Fandom

### *Banzai Movie Commits Seppuku*

Fandom's working actor, Tadao Tomomatsu, is in mourning: USA Network has chopped "Banzai Movie Friday" from its schedule. Banzai packaged a B-movie and stupid online games. For example, the TV audience was encouraged to log onto USA's website during a commercial break and guess which of the two firemen about to blast each other with firehoses would be left standing. The result was shown later in the program and those who entered could win a prize.

Tadao appeared recurrently as the seemingly innocuous Japanese tourist "Mr. Shake Hands Man", who would go to movie premiers and get famous people to shake his hand for as long as possible. The game was to guess how long celebrities would put up with him.

"So there you have it, the 'end of an era' ...or 'surprise' I've been on this show...and it's over now," says Tadao.

Or is it? "Here's the Plan...we start an e-mail campaign to bring the show back or at least get 'Mr. Shake Hands Man' his own show. *Just kidding!* Really I'm kidding...although where is Bjo Trimble when you need her?"

The "Mr. Shake Hands" character originated on Britain's version of Banzai and became more widely known in the UK. When the British edition of *FHM* magazine ran an article about Banzai, a picture of Tadao's character was the main illustration.

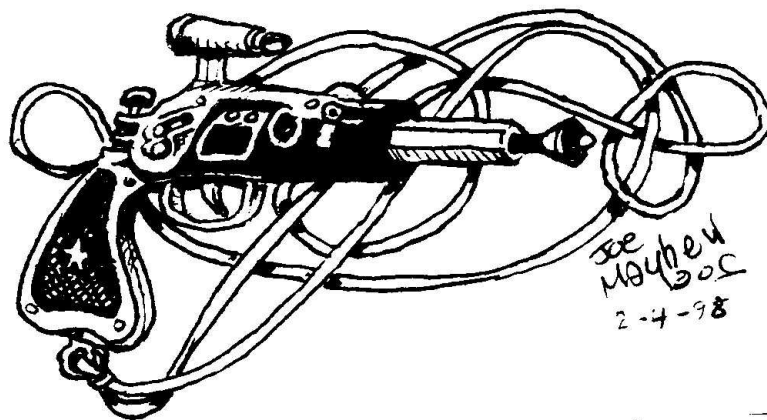
This year, British writers who regularly attend Gallifrey One, a Dr. Who Con held in LA, suddenly connected "Mr. Shake Hands Man" with their old pal Tadao: "There have been times I pulled the Foreign Person act and shook some hands with faces

from England going bewildered and saying things like '....It's You...You're Him...' or 'Fantastic'...or '...Gaw...you're Mr. Shake Hands Man'... with the occasional "You're not Mr. Shake Hands Man. Hey, there's some git here who say's he's Shake Hands Man..." Con suite in unison: *'HE IS!!!!'* I was surprised that even the BBC Online Video Crew knew who I was just as I started to Shake Hands with them. So apparently Mr. Shake Hands Man is a popular icon in the UK. I may be more famous than.....the Beatles??? Kidding."

### *Levine Machine*

David Levine has made more news in the first month of 2002 than some of us will do the rest of the year: "Once again I've been the recipient of a huge steamin' load of good fortune."

He's sold two more stories. "Written on the Wind" has been bought by Sherwood Smith for her anthology *Beyond the Last Star*. It's about an insignificant member of an insignificant species in a great galactic Consortium, who must translate a three-billion-



year-old message to prevent an interstellar war. "The Tale of the Golden Eagle" was accepted by *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*. David calls it an SF/fantasy fairy tale in the style of Cordwainer Smith. "It's the story of a bird, who becomes first a starship and then a beautiful robot woman, and the trader who wins her in a game of chance and falls in love with her. It's the first story I ever wrote that made me cry."

Meantime, his James White Award-winning story "Nucleon" appeared in the December 2001 issue of *Interzone*, which has come and gone on the stands in the UK, though it may still be available at some shops in the UK and may not have arrived yet at the few places in the US that carry it. David enthused about receiving his contributor's copies and finding his name on the cover, "Though it was a bit of a shock to see my story translated into British (the Nucleon is now equipped with "tyres" and a "carburettor"). Note: individual copies of *Interzone* can be ordered directly from the publisher; see

<http://www.sfsite.com/interzone/back01.htm> for details.

David's fanwriting has also leaped the Atlantic -- Peter Motte, a fan in Belgium, will translate David's essay "Survivors" from the last issue of *Bento* into Dutch for his fanzine *De Tijdlijn*.

And don't forget -- David does all this while holding a day job. Two months after taking a severance package from Intel, David found a new job at Network Associates, working on the user interface for the next releases of their McAfee VirusScan and NetShield anti-virus products. "It's a lot of responsibility, but it's exactly the direction I've been hoping to move my career for some time. I've been there for a little over three weeks and I'm enjoying it a lot."

### *Kramer Trial Delayed*

Ed Kramer's jury trial on charges of molesting two teenaged boys, originally scheduled to begin late in January at the Gwinnett Superior Court in Georgia, was postponed indefinitely as the county's court system struggled to recover from a January 14 ruling that invalidated its entire jury pool. The development was reported in a recent issue of *Creative Loafing Atlanta*, in Scott Henry's article "The Wizard of Dragon\*Con Stands Trial", the most extensive coverage of Kramer's prosecution to appear in print.

In reporter Henry's

view, “[While] he was boldly building up his fantastic empire, Kramer was shadowed by persistent rumors. The veteran dealmaker and accomplished celebrity-schmoozer often was seen in the company of a revolving troupe of young boys. Toward the end, he was seemingly oblivious to or simply untroubled by a lingering suspicion that his behavior was inappropriate and quite possibly criminal.”

Kramer’s friends and antagonists, as well as many guests and staff of Dragon\*Con, were interviewed by Henry for the article. Quoted are: Roland Castle, Joe Christ, Nancy Collins, Mike Dillson, Dave Dorman, Harlan Ellison, Pat Henry, Ken Johnston, Milt Levy, Gregory Nicoll, Jeff Pittarelli, David Robinson, and Steve Wieck.

Ellison said, in part, “I’ve seen Ed around young people in unguarded moments and there was nothing about his body language that suggested anything inappropriate.”

On the other hand, moviemaker Joe Christ and Dragon\*Con’s head of security Mike Dillson described separate examples of suspicious contact they’d witnessed Kramer having with boys since 1995. Dillson remembered calling Kramer in his hotel room to come down right away to handle a problem in the dealers’ hall. “He came from the shower dripping wet and so was the little boy he had with him.”

The article also reports, “Only after Kramer had been charged did anyone discover that he’d also been arrested in 1997 for allegedly molesting another member of his underage posse. That boy had recanted his story before the case went to trial and charges were dropped.”

### Taral Draws For Tor

Unlike most SF books, Rudy Rucker’s new novel *Spaceland* will be illustrated -- by frequent *File 770* cover artist, Taral Wayne. *Spaceland* is scheduled for hardcover publication by Tor Books in June. Eighteen drawings illustrate the action and concepts throughout the novel, closely based on the author’s own sketches, bringing them the finish and clarity the artist is known for.

Taral’s recent projects include a story for *Mayhem Country*, and an illustrated version of Paul Kidd’s *Hot Buttered Mice* for Mu Press.

Fans of Taral’s work can find an encyclopedic guide to all his universes on his CD, titled *Off-Colour*. The collection of nearly 400 images covers a range of themes -- erotic, furry, fantasy, SF, and tech. The black-and-white pencil drawings were produced mainly in 1999 and 2000. The disk is professionally replicated, with an attractive silk-screen design; and comes with vinyl cover, color printed matter and a b/w booklet. The artist’s audio comments accompany about one-third of the images in *Off-Colour*.



DUFF administrators Naomi Fisher and Pat Malloy at ditto 14. Photo by Keith Stokes.

The CD can be run on any Mac or PC configured computer, and a viewer, Adobe Acrobat, is included on the disk. Cost, with shipping and handling, \$22 US. Address -- 245 Dunn Ave. Apt. 2111, Toronto Ontario, M6K 1S6, Canada. *Off-Colour* is also available from Digital Impudendum.

### GUFF

Eric Lindsay’s and Jean Weber have published their GUFF report. “Jean did all the good bits,” Eric insists. There are about 50 pages of text, a color cover, plus black and white photos, “some recognizably of fans,” he adds. Copies are available within Australia for A\$15, or outside Australia for A\$20 or US\$10. Check details at: <http://www.ericlindsay.com/guff/donate.htm>

### TAFF

Sue Mason, the UK TAFF Administrator, has announced the 2002 Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund race has two candidates. Tobes Valois has been nominated by Anders Holmström, Dave Hicks, James Bacon (Europe), Ted White and Jae Leslie Adams (North America). Chris O’Shea has been nominated by Sandra Bond, Maureen Kincaid Speller, Ian Sorensen (Europe), Ben Yalow and Mike Glyer (North America). Sue promises the ballots will be out as soon as possible.

On our side of the pond, fannish reporters should immediately begin work on their probing interview questions. Nothing is worse than a TAFF press conference full of North American zine editors uninterested in anything beyond their narrow specialty: “Is there any good Japanimation in England?” “Where is the filk room at an Eastercon?” And, “How big is the masquerade at Plokta.con?”

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund is in the good hands of North American administrator VJ Bowen and (Velma J. Bowen P.O. Box 156 Village Station New York NY 10014-0156; E-mail: [vjbowen@aol.com](mailto:vjbowen@aol.com)) and European administrator Sue Mason, (3 York Street, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 9QH UK; E-mail: [sue@plokta.com](mailto:sue@plokta.com))

### Will You Run for DUFF?

Wanted: Australian or New Zealand fans for the 2002 Down Under Fan Fund (DUFF) race. The winning candidate will come for the Worldcon in San Jose. To run, you need to secure three Australasian nominators and two North American nominators, and send the following to Cathy Cupitt, the Australian administrator, by midnight April 2: (1) your 5 nominations in writing (email is fine), (2) a 100-word (max) platform telling why you want to be a DUFF delegate, and (3) a \$25 bond pledging (barring acts of God) to attend the Worldcon.

For more information, contact Australian Administrator Cathy Cupitt, P.O. Box 915, Nedlands, WA 6909 Australia, E-mail: [ccupitt.geo@yahoo.com](mailto:ccupitt.geo@yahoo.com) or [cupitt@ses.curtin.edu.au](mailto:cupitt@ses.curtin.edu.au); Australian phone # (08) 9471 1268; or North American Administrators Naomi Fisher and Patrick Molloy, P.O. Box 9135, Huntsville AL 35812, E-mail: [DUFF2001@mindspring.com](mailto:DUFF2001@mindspring.com) or [mephan@mindspring.com](mailto:mephan@mindspring.com); US phone # (256) 830-4471.

### Colin Hinz Wins CUFF

Colin Hinz of Toronto is the 2002 Canadian Unity Fan Fund (CUFF) winner. He will travel to Conversion 19 (host of this year’s Convention), being held in Calgary over the August 9-11 weekend.

Hinz won “by acclamation” -- meaning he was selected by CUFF administrator Murray Moore and may have been the only qualified candidate -- there rarely are multiple candidates in a CUFF race.

Colin’s platform explained why he wanted to become the CUFF delegate: “Running back to...Calgary? Sure, Saskatoon would be true to the song and faithful to my roots as well, but Calgary was where I was corrupted back in 1985. And in fact it was at an earlier Con-Version, the second of now nineteen of ‘em, where I lost my convention virginity. I went through a long semi-gafiated period in the 1990s, and thus I lost track of many wonderful Western Canadian fan friends. I’m hoping to go back and rekindle these friendships -- and with luck make many new ones -- should I be chosen to be this year’s CUFF delegate.”

**What is CUFF?** Murray Moore explains, “In a country in which business travel and

personal travel increasingly is north and south, CUFF encourages the linking of fans on the opposite sides of the Manitoba-Ontario border. The CUFF delegate attends the Convention as an ambassador of one part of Canadian fandom to another."

CUFF pays the travel expense and the hotel room expense of a fan attending the Convention.

**What is Convention?** Moore calls Convention, "the annual physical expression of the Canadian SF professional and fan community's appreciation of the best of Canadian professional and amateur activity in the previous year."

Convention is an added feature for its host convention, helping to recognize contributors to the Canadian sf scene through such events as the presentation of the Aurora Awards. The Auroras go to English-language and French-language winners in various professional and fan categories.

**CUFF Delegate's Duties:** During the 2002 Conversion/Convention the CUFF delegate is encouraged to volunteer to work the con, to attend the Convention business meeting, to represent CUFF, and to take notes of what is heard, seen and said.

After the con, the CUFF winner takes over administration of the fund. The CUFF administrator's duties include (1) Writing, publishing, and selling a CUFF trip report. Publishing a trip report is important because SciFi Inc. of Southern California, on receipt of a fan fund trip report, donates \$500 to CUFF. (2) Opening a bank account into which all of the CUFF money received by the CUFF administrator is placed. (3) Organizing the selection of a successor who will be the 2003 CUFF delegate and administrator. (4) Passing the CUFF money to the 2003 CUFF delegate.

**Delegate Qualifications:** A CUFF delegate must be a Canadian citizen or a perma-

nent resident who agrees to attend the 2002 Convention and to fulfill the obligations of the CUFF administrator.

### ***Mansfield's ConTRACT Expires***

After a 13-year run, John Mansfield has stopped producing *ConTRACT*, his bi-monthly newsletter for Canadian convention-runners, dealers and artists: "The early years were great and I enjoyed it. However, lately it has not been fun."

In the January issue Mansfield said there are now only four remaining Canadian conventions, and after attending all four last year he considers them to be moving in "directions I am not sure that I admire." The shrinking number of conventions has also dried up his available news, and so has the tendency of Canadian concommittees to become "more secretive, more reclusive, possibly due to their isolation."

One of Canada's highest-profile fans for many years, Mansfield chaired the 1994 Worldcon in Winnipeg and is still active in running the area's conventions: "I'm part of a Media con and a Horror con, with more possibilities to come. I have the chance to promote some 20 movies a year. I am responsible for promoting various game companies via tournaments from Thunder Bay to Alberta. I'm still running the second largest Game store in Canada, that continues to grow in sales ever since our start in 1982. I know that I am only held back by my imagination and the time I wish to commit to my world."

Mansfield's closing comment to his readers was, "For thirteen years I tried to pass on some of that experiences and knowledge to others. I hope I have been to use to some of you."

Some have already publicly thanked Mansfield for his efforts. Paul "Ogre" Bushell, President of the Calgary Science Fiction and Fantasy Society and chair of this

year's Convention, praised *ConTRACT*: "I learned lots from it and gained some good insight and ideas." Paul Valcour, editor of the Ottawa clubzine *OSFS Statement*, will miss Mansfield's candor, and concluded, "Canadian SF fandom will be the poorer without *ConTRACT* and John Mansfield's voice."

### ***The Voice of Doom***

Friendly, bubbly Lloyd Penney – the voice of doom? Yep, he got the job. Lloyd spotted an ad in a Toronto entertainment paper soliciting auditions for a spoken word CD. His audition was a success, so he'll be helping record a six horror stories written by Canadian writers including Edo van Belkom, Tanya Huff, Nancy Kilpatrick and David Nickle. The stories have been converted into radio-style plays by a production company called Fears for Ears, which may also be the title of the CD. Lloyd expects the CD to be available in February.

This success more than compensates for Lloyd's disappointment in another bid for show business fame. He explains, "I checked with Michael Lennick, the local screenwriter who is producing the screenplay to Rob Sawyer's *Illegal Alien*. The character of Dr. Lloyd Penney was written out in the first draft. He may return in the final draft.... I have already volunteered to play Dr. Penney in the movie. I know the role well."

### ***Vegas Odds***

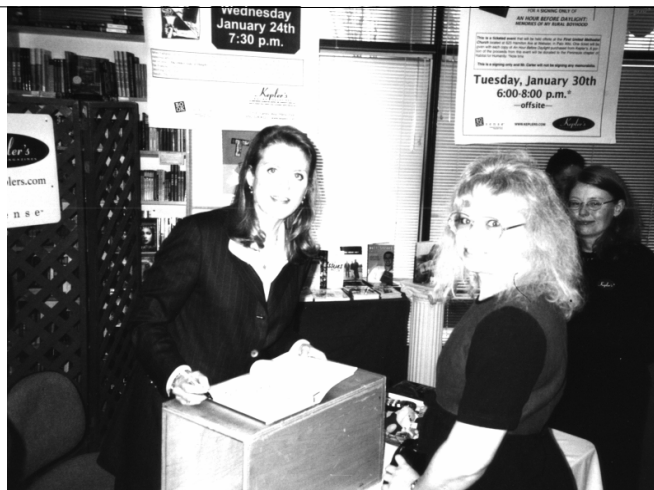
In January, fan artist Alan White stopped by a market near home in Las Vegas and his eyes riveted on a car in the parking lot with an Ontario, Canada license plate that read "4 TARAL." He wondered, "Is this some weird coincidence or could Taral be visiting the residential side of Vegas? I'd hate to have

### ***Bay Area Celebrity Brush***

"Lapsed Royalty Meets Lapsed Weight Watcher" was Adrienne Foster's own caption for this picture of her taken with "Fergie" at Kepler's Bookstore in Menlo Park, California.

Adrienne wrote in her year-end-holiday letter: "2001 had a momentous start for me. Sarah, the Duchess of York, did a local book signing and I took time off of work to attend despite short notice. For an international personality, she was amazingly accommodating to the people who came to see her. The only restriction was that she'd only sign her books – no memorabilia.

"I've done so much reading on the British royalty during the past 20 years I was tongue-tied when my turn came to have my book signed. When she opened up the copy of *My Story* I had brought, one of her portrait photos faced the title page. I said something about it vbeing a good picture of her and she said, 'Andrew took that,' and continued to speak glowingly of him. She's a much better ambassador than any of her British critics give her credit."



Adrienne Foster poses the Duchess of York before "Fergie" signs an autograph for her in Menlo Park, CA.

him in town and not get together."

But no, Alan's e-mail query found Taral still at home in Ontario. "Rack one up for the X-Files."

Taral commented, "I do live in Ontario, and have no idea who would have a plate like that. I do a search for the name 'Taral' on the net occasionally, and come up mainly with references to myself. The exceptions seem to be a couple married in Kansas in the 1880's (no idea who they were or how they came by the name), and a black singer named Taral Hicks who does slick but unremarkable Mo-Town."

Taral says he started using his name around 1970. "I was looking for something euphonious and unlike any name I'd heard before. It had to be from an 'extraterrestrial' language I had been working on, and 'Taral' was what I came up with."

## TR

Teresa Renner Smith, a Foreign Service Officer, has been in Oman for the past year. She's now on the promotions list! Her previous posting was to Russia – she'd been sent to Siberia, literally. This news comes from Jul Owing's minutes of the October 2001 Bucconeer committee meeting.

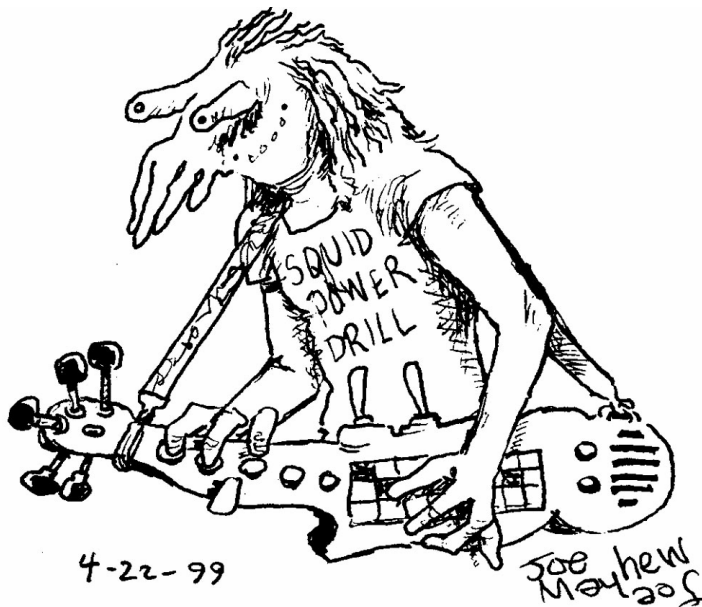
The minutes also included an update about TR's husband, who suffered a stroke last spring while he was visiting his brother in California. He's in the U.S. Marines, explained the minutes, "exercising more than the Drs. allowed him, but picking up 60 pounds of muscle and doing much better than hoped."

## Medical Updates

LA fan and *File 770* contributor **Bill Warren** entered Kaiser Sunset hospital in late February with endocarditis and is expected to remain for several weeks. His wife, Beverly, told friends, "Kaiser Sunset is one of the best cardiac care facilities in the world and he is very lucky to be there. He is in a good hospital and is getting good care."

Moscow, Idaho fan **Jon Gustafson** is receiving physical, speech and occupational therapy to assist his recovery from two small strokes suffered around the beginning of the year. Jon is a well-known pioneer in the field of appraising science fiction and fantasy art.

SF legend **Forry Ackerman** is in the hospital recovering from sudden illness. Fortunately, Forry is expected to make a full recovery and should be home soon. Cards



and letters wishing him well should be sent to his home at 2495 Glendower, Hollywood, CA 90027. [[Source: Joan Knappenberger in *Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol*]]

**Pat Sayre McCoy** was taken from last November's Windycon to Alexian Brothers hospital for an emergency appendectomy. She was released a few days later and resumed full-time work on December 14. Steven Silver said McCoy, who had been Windycon's guest liaison, has accepted the position of Programming Chair for the 2002 Windycon, "after promising that she would not have her appendix removed that weekend as well."

McCoy still has time to change her mind – **Steven Silver** himself, a past Windycon program chair, underwent a discectomy in January to correct an herniated disk. But no, it wasn't the result of having too many neopros jumping on his back for panel assignments. Steven suffered the injury while helping move his family into a new home.

Silver wrote soon after the operation, "The surgery went very well and I'm now at home recovering, although sitting for more than about 15 minutes is rather difficult. I've spent most of my time in bed, which has let me catch up on my reading, but it is still rather boring." He expected to miss about a week of work.

## Endeavour Award Judges Announced

Judges for the 2002 Endeavour Award will be Howard V. Hendrix, Harry Turtledove, and Elisabeth Vonarburg. The Endeavour Award honors a distinguished science fiction or fantasy book, either a novel or a single-author collection, by a Pacific Northwest writer that was first published in the year

preceding the award. The fourth Award will presented this November 22 at OryCon, Oregon's annual science fiction and fantasy convention.

Both professional writers and readers of science fiction and fantasy help judge the award. All entries are read seven times and scored by readers randomly selected from a panel of preliminary readers. The five highest scoring books then go to three judges, who are all professional writers. The judges decide on the winner. Twenty-eight books were entered for the 2001 award, which is sponsored by Oregon Science Fiction Conventions, Inc. (OSFCI).

## Worldcon Program Brain Trust

Laurie Mann has posted her collection of past Worldcon program schedules to a web page:

<http://www.dpsinfo.com/pbt/worldcons/index.html>

Mann explains, "This is a small step towards a goal a few of us have been kicking around for a few years: developing a database of past Worldcon programs and, perhaps, an online database of ideas for other conventions to examine and borrow."

The collection includes the program schedules of Noreascon III, MilPhil, Intersection, L.A.con III, BucConeer, MagiCon and Chicon 2000. All the pages are completely searchable.

## Future Worldcon Membership Rate Changes

**ConJosé**, the 2002 World Science Fiction Convention, increased its membership rates effective January 1, 2002. The revised basic membership rate is \$(US)180.

For full details of the existing and new rates, including supporting and child memberships, and discounts for pre-supporters and voters, see the ConJosé, web site at:

<http://www.conjose.org/Member/membership.html>.

The new US Dollar rates are guaranteed until July 31, 2002. ConJosé reserves the right to adjust rates in other currencies as a result of major changes in international exchange rates.

**Noreascon 4**, 2004 Worldcon, increased rates for attending memberships and children's admissions beginning March 1, 2002. *New rates* will be \$120 for a new attending member, \$85 for a child's admission, and \$85 for conversion from supporting to attending. New supporting rates remain \$35.

## Worldcon Sows Profits, Reaps SF Writers

At the committee's November 2001 quarterly meeting, Bucconeer's comptroller reported they have over \$25,000 in their account, enough to fund the Student (SF) Writing Contest. contest through ConJose, but probably not enough to pay for all the expenses for TorCon 3. In 2000 they spent around \$8,000 on the event.

The following article shows how their original idea inspired LA's Loscon committee to do something similar.

### Student Science Fiction Contest by Lynn Boston Baden

In 1998, Bucconeer started a Student Science Fiction Contest. Students entered science fiction or fantasy short stories, science essays, or science fiction or fantasy artwork. Each year the Baltimore Worldcon committee has joined with the Worldcon of that year (and the 1999 NASFiC) to continue this contest.

Loscon 28 in 2001 had a theme of "Education: Building the Future One Mind at a Time." In keeping with that theme, the chair, Chaz Boston Baden, decided he'd like to try a contest as well. I agreed to take on

the job. I then contacted the administrator of the Worldcon contests to get information about how they run their contest and also got permission to use the same name.

For Loscon, I decided to narrow the scope of the contest. Loscon solicited only science fiction and fantasy short stories and limited participation to seventh and eighth graders in Los Angeles county. I was pleased with the number of entries submitted. Judges read and rated each story, using a list of criteria such as grammar and spelling, characterization, plot development, use of science fiction/fantasy elements, and so forth.

Five finalists were invited to Loscon for the day of the ceremony. The first, second and third prize winners were given weekend memberships to Loscon for themselves and a family member. All got certificates. The first, second and third prize winners got a cash prize and the first and second prize winners got their stories read and recorded by Tadao Tomomatsu, a professional actor with previous narrative roles. They of course got to keep a cassette of their recorded story.

The contest was named a success by all involved. Next year's Loscon chair, Tadao Tomomatsu, has invited me to run the contest again.

Following the rate increase, Noreascon Four began offering installment plan memberships. Information about the plan is on their web site (<http://www.noreascon.org>).

N4's Progress Report #1 was mailed in January, and #2 is due out in July.

### Chicon Again in 2010?

Dina Krause recently e-mailed a number of fans for their reaction to a proposed Worldcon bid for Chicago in 2010. She also announced plans for a meeting on the topic at her place in March. The public responses to her message included expressions of concern by a couple of fans that it was premature to bid before Chicon 2000 took care of all its financial matters.

### Three Dots and Three Lines

Congratulations to **Glenn Glazer** and **Allison Hershey**, two LASFS members who became engaged on February 3. Allison is a second-generation fan, whose father was a procedural director of LASFS in the 1940s. The couple plan to marry after Glenn completes his Ph.D. in about two years.

**Kelly Lockhart** announced

online that he received the best Christmas present ever: "My girlfriend of 5-plus years, Star Roberts, is now my fiancé. I asked her to marry me on Christmas morning, and she has accepted." The couple have not yet picked a wedding date.

Ottawa fan **Tasia Papadatos** wed **Peter Hargraves** on September 29, 2001 at a ceremony well-attended by the local sf community. The groom's mother flew in from Australia. *[[Source: OSFS Statement Nov/Dec 2001]]*

The **Melbourne Science Fiction Club** will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 10, 2002. They are contacting all the past and present members they can find, and hope to have an especially large turnout for the occasion.

Kansas City in 2006 worldcon bidder

**Margene Bahm** told the local club meeting in January "we are now better than 50% the favorite." *[[Source: Ephemera #1, newsletter of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society]]*

While in Baltimore for Darkover, **Ed and Sandy Meskys** saw a theater presentation of the *Harry Potter* movie in one of the few theaters equipped for Descriptive Video Service using headphones. Sandy wrote, "The movie miraculously lived up to the book, and the voiceover description made it fully understandable for Ed."

**Mike Weasner's** nonfiction book, *Using the Meade ETC Telescope*, has been published by Springer-Verlag as a trade paperback. It is part of the Patrick Moore Astronomy series.

The winners of the **Tucker Awards** were announced at ConPetro 13:

**Martha Beck**, Lifetime Achievement

**Susan Satterfield**, Escalator Award

**Tim Frayser**, 1-900-Award

**Mike Glycer**, Guardian of Fannish Tradition

According to Ross and Nancy Hathaway, "The Tuckers are given to people who do things to promote SF fandom. There is no pre-requisite for receiving a Tucker. We are always accepting nominations for The Tucker Awards. Send nominations by e-mail, by snail mail or give them to us in person!"

Their e-mail address is:

takki2takki@earthlink.net

**N3F Short Story Contest:** The venerable N3F Short Story Contest is open to newcomers to the field. The contest gives cash awards, \$50 for first place, \$30 for second and \$20 for third.

There's an entry fee of \$2 per story – the same fee is charged to everyone. The deadline to enter is December 1, 2002. Mail manuscripts to: Elizabeth Caldwell, 27975 Belgrave Road, Cleveland, OH 44124-4636.

### Clipping Service

**Michael Walsh:** [From SMOFs] "I am continually amazed at the inability of people who have apparently mastered the art of writing a check, using e-mail, using the 'net, etc. etc. to be unable to grasp certain easy-to-understand fundamentals of how the Hugos are selected. The kvetching after the Harry Potter win was particularly annoying."

**Arthur D. Hlavaty:** [Derogatory Reference 98]: "[At Millennium Philcon:] The Novel Hugo offered final evidence that the gargoyles have taken over the cathedral."

