

# Virtual Tucker Hotel



## Issue Twenty-One

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/the-virtual-fan-lounge>

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Boring webpage at <http://www.burdonvale.co.uk>  
Slightly less boring livejournal at <http://ceemage.livejournal.com>

VTH is primarily an electronic fanzine, available on <http://www.efanzines.com>. Paper copies of this fanzine do exist, however, and have been available for the fannish usual.

Thanks to: Bill Mills (“FanLounge”), without whom The Virtual Fan Lounge wouldn't exist.

Member fwa. Startling Press Production number 293. Today is 31st October, 2008.

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## Looking Forward

Over the past few months, the regular scheduled events at The Virtual Fan Lounge have suffered from lower and lower attendances, to the point where the last few sessions have been pretty much non-events. We always recognised that TVFL would take time to take off and reach critical mass. But, in practice, the trend seems to be the other way – it seems to be dying off due to lack of interest.

What has worked well are the irregular, “flash” events, where someone just decides to hold a chat session, puts out an invite on the various fannish mailing lists, and waits to see who turns up. These kind of “Mickey Rooney” events (as in, “Let's do the show right here!”) seem to be more popular than the scheduled events. And they are, let's face it, a great deal less effort to arrange and run.

Linked to this, the other thing that has also seemed to work over the eight months of TVFL's life has been the sessions linked to conventions. The origins of TVFL lie in the Virtual Consuite run in conjunction with Corflu Silver back in February. And our biggest audience since then was our link-up with the Worldcon in Denver. Which probably would have attracted even more people if we had publicised it more and got some of the technical details sorted in advance.

So, the intention going forward is to change the focus of The Virtual Fan Lounge. We won't have regular scheduled events any more, but instead will have occasional ad-hoc “flash” events. We will also focus more on occasional link-ups with conventions. We will look at linking up with Corflu Zed in Seattle in some shape or form, and have already started early discussions with Lloyd Penney about getting us in to the Fanzine Lounge at the Montreal Worldcon next summer.

Even with this new focus, The Virtual Fan Lounge continues to act as a lynchpin – one might even say a “Focal Point”? – for an extensive legacy of other electronic fanac, all of which still remains active:

## Video Library

Over the last few months, The Virtual Fan Lounge has built up a library of recorded material available for viewing. The clips are listed under the main viewscreen – just click to select. A full list of clips available in TVFL's Video Library follows later in this issue.

If you have problems with the streaming video, most of the videos are also available at our alternative/back-up site, The Fan Video Network, which is available at the web address <http://TFVN.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-1.html>

## Fannish Slide Show

Dean Sweatman has added some more scans to his Fannish Slide Show on ustream, which now has over 500 scans, still being displayed at: <http://www.ustream.tv/Burbank396/pictures>

## The Wasted Hour

The Wasted Hour will still continue, as “the fastest hour in fandom” (as it usually only lasts about half an hour). Arnie Katz's fannish video show will still be produced on its own fannish schedule and future episodes will continue to be posted on the web at:

<http://TFVN.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-1.html>

If you would like to be notified by e-mail whenever a new episode is available, please contact Arnie Katz at [crossfire4@cox.net](mailto:crossfire4@cox.net)

## The Voices of Fandom

Visit The Voices of Fandom (TVoF) for audio (including the most recent release of TVoF podcast), video, photos and links of fannish

interest, at <http://TVoF.info>

## Las Vegrants Online

Visit the website of Las Vegrants Online for info regarding the Las Vegas invitational fan social group hosted by Joyce and Arnie Katz, at <http://LasVegrants.com>

## eFanzines.com

Finally, I can't believe that anyone reading this will be unaware of this already, but Bill Burns' exceptional repository of fanzines, old and new,

at <http://eFanzines.com>, is a fannish treasure. Bill and Mary Burns are the Fan Guests of Honour at next year's British Eastercon, a richly-deserved and over-due recognition.

## Art Credits

Front page: The Virtual Fan Lounge eerily predicted in the 1960s – front cover of Quip issue two, featuring Lennie Bailes and Arnie Katz. Original artist unknown; scan provided by Dean Sweatman, to whom thanks.

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## Schedule for the future

### Corflu Zed

The next scheduled events in The Virtual Fan Lounge are likely to be around the weekend of Corflu Zed, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2009. Further details will be released nearer the time.

Meanwhile, for details of “flash” events, Watch the Skies... (or, slightly more practically, your favourite fannish mailing lists.)

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## TVFL Video Library

- Corflu Silver Panel – 33 minute excerpt
- The Wasted Hour 1 (\*)
- Video Voyage 1 – by Bill Mills (\*)
- Mars Landing
- Space Shuttle Discovery
- The Wasted Hour 2 (\*)
- Bill Mills Chatting with Peter Sullivan (\*)
- The Wasted Hour 3 (\*)
- Shelvy Speaks – hosted by Peter Sullivan (audio with slideshow) (\*)
- The Wasted Hour 4 (\*)
- The Wasted Hour 5 (\*)
- Westercon 61 Opening Ceremonies (\*)
- Bruce Dane 2003
- The Wasted Hour 6 (\*)
- Chris Garcia and Kat Templeton at the Denver Worldcon (audio only)
- The Wasted Hour 7 (\*)

(\*) also available at <http://TFVN.renebooks.com/video/fanvid-1.html>