

# Fan Activity



# Gazette

News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

VOL. 3, No. 7 - DECEMBER 2023

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**Publisher**

George Phillies

**Editor**

Mindy Hunt

**Layout**

Jason P Hunt

**Contributors  
(alphabetically)**

Jean-Paul Garnier  
Jason P Hunt  
Mindy Hunt  
Bob Jennings  
Lloyd Penney  
Heath Row  
Joe Siclari  
Edie Stern

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48 Hancock Hill Dr  
Worcester MA 10609

Contributions  
welcome.

## *From the Editor:*

Everybody survive the holidays? Spend time with families and friends? No major fights while shopping?

Funny story from our trip to see Mr. Boss's folks for Thanksgiving. The Teen went with us (ok, he's almost 22 but still a teen in my head) and while digesting our wonderful dinner from my mother-in-law, he made a passing comment that he was curious to experience Black Friday. I get this. Many moons ago I worked at a big box retailer and specifically requested to open Black Friday to witness what I had seen in the news. I told the Teen if he was serious, I'd sacrifice my sleep and go. He was excited 'til I told him to take a quick catnap so that we could get out there in time. He wasn't thrilled with cold and 4 am... Me? That's a normal workday morning.

Once we're through the giving season it will be time to make changes in our lives. That month of starting something (that seems to be how long it lasts). But some folks can go longer. Look at some fandoms. Oh, there are always going to be fans of the latest version of She-Ra, Batman, *Doctor Who*, Marvel, DC, or *Super Mario Bros*. There are also fans who don't like change. It's not the same as what they fell in love with. People walk away. They'll fondly remember the old days and give frustrated looks to the new fans who, in their mind, don't really understand that fandom. They say everybody has a jumping in point. Example: *Star Wars*. For some it started at the beginning with the original trilogy (a new what?). For others, the prequel trilogy (and Jar-Jar...). Then there is the sequel trilogy... But it can also be said that everybody has a jumping out point.

So, in the spirit of New Year's resolutions, what fandom have you abandoned, never to return? What fandom will you have fond memories but know it'll never be the same again?

I know this may be a little depressing for New Year's, but remember: a new year also means a new clean slate.

And a quick side note: Every month we publish the convention list and I'm constantly working on it so that SciFi4Me.com has the largest most up-to-date and current list of conventions. We also have a calendar embedded so you can plan ahead if traveling. We are now adding smaller events like book signings, readings, chats with creators and so forth. If you host something like this, shoot me an email so it can be put on the calendar for other people to see. If you know others who host or even creators who are participating, let them know, too. I would like to see our calendar used to help promote not just the big conventions but also the hard-working organizers and creators for the more intimate events. And as always, I am open to feedback good and bad.

And recipes. I like trying new things.

~ Mindy

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## R.I.P. David Drake 1945 - 2023

### Pubnites and Other Events Lloyd Penney (Toronto, ON, CAN)

#### THIRD MONDAY

December 18, 2023

The Red Cardinal Tavern,

555 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Unit 102, in Etobicoke. It is at the north-west corner of Burnhamthorpe and The West Mall, right beside the Tim Horton's. There's plenty of parking out back, free after 5pm, and you can drive in to the parking from either street, although the Burnhamthorpe entrance is easier. If you are taking transit, you can take the 50 Burnhamthorpe bus from Islington station and get off at The West Mall, or the 112B or 112C West Mall bus from Kipling station and get off on the north side of Burnhamthorpe. Start time is 6:30 and we have the back table area 4, 5 & 6.

#### TORONTO PAGAN PUB MOOT

Third Monday of each month

Madison Avenue Pub,

14 Madison Ave in the Spadina & Bloor St west area. There is parking behind the pub it is accessed off Spadina on the east side just north of the Spadina Station. There is access to the pub by a walkway. For more info call Karen or Evan at 416-635-5981 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TorontoPaganPubMoot>

#### OTHER EVENTS

If you know of a fannish event, that is not a convention, please let us know so we can put it here. For example, a book launch, a celebration of some kind.



### Space Cowboy Books Events Jean-Paul Garnier (Joshua Tree, CA)

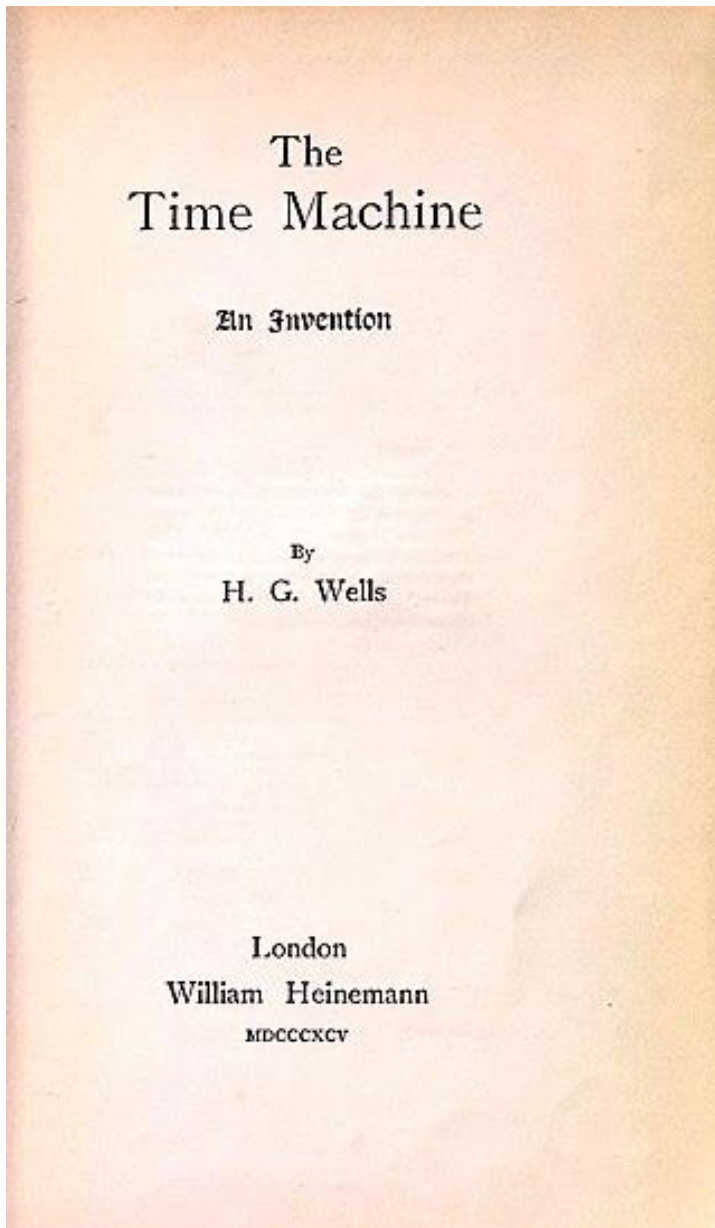
12/30/23 – Starlite Pulp Review #3 Release Party (in-store) - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/769939579007>

1/23/24 – Online Reading and Interview with Howard V. Hendrix - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/733527379137>



## A Timeless Classic

### Bob Jennings



With the January, 1895 issue, *The New Review Magazine* began publishing H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine* as a five part serial. Even while the final part of the serial was still on the newsstands, American publisher Henry Holt & Company and British publisher Heinemann's, the owners of *The New Review*, both issued the story in hard covers. It was a short book, a mere 84 pages, with a simple cover, but copies sold very well, immediately establishing Wells as a premiere author of fantastic fiction, and also establishing time travel as a unique sub-category of the science fiction genre.

Wells had been interested in the concept of a way to travel into the future and see what the effects of current western civilization might be on human society in distant eons. He published a short story on the subject titled "The Chronic Argonauts" in his college newspaper, and discussed a series of articles about what the future might be like with the editor of *Pall Mall Gazette*. He wrote up a series of very loosely connected essays drawing on his earlier story about future developments that appeared anonymously in *The National Observer* newspaper in early 1894. That series was never completed, and when W.E. Henley became editor of *The New Review* he asked Wells to work his ideas into a story that could appear as a serial.

Wells obliged, possibly drawing on some of the ideas introduced in "News From Nowhere" a popular 1890 novel by William Morris, who was a fellow socialist. Wells was a member of the Fabian Society, a socialistic political group determined to expose the wretched class and income disparities in late Victorian Society, and to change matters with public pressure and political action.

Drawing on his own socialist theories, Wells created a masterpiece of science fiction imagery that was both a stirring adventure and a stark condemnation of what might

happen if human society continued with the duality of a wealthy, idle upper class, and an impoverished lower class forced to work and live under brutal conditions. The future in *The Time Machine* was a frightening end of the world dystopia, followed by a section that envisioned Earth as a dying world with the sun a huge, blood red orb offering only dim heat, shining down on a ruined planet.

Wells was paid a handsome sum for the original serial story: 100 pounds (equivalent to 13,000 pounds today), with an additional advance, plus royalties, from the two hardback book editions. More than that, the money and fame the story generated gave Wells a chance to devote full time to his writing, and in the process to explore more science fiction themes in his fiction.

(cont. →)

Since its original publication *The Time Machine* has never been out of print. The story has been reprinted in magazines and comics, translated into dozens of different languages, has been adapted multiple times to radio and television, spawned several films, and generated a large number of sequels and stories that used the basic concepts as a jumping off place for additional adventures in the universe Wells had created.

The story remains evergreen, with the impact of the adventure and the deep social themes the story explored still relevant. *The Time Machine* was the first, but certainly not the last science fiction story Wells wrote. His success with fantastic fiction has been attributed to injecting a single fantastic idea into a commonplace, familiar setting, sometimes referred to as “Wells’ Law”. His writing skills and his imagination earned him the title of The Father of Science Fiction, and The Shakespeare of The Fantastic. His fame and the impact of “The Time Machine” continue to enhance his reputation to this very day.

*Bob Jennings has been involved in fandom since the late 1950s, and is one of the original founding members of comics fandom, founding the SFPA and publishing hundreds of fanzines. From 1979 to 2000, Bob ran a science fiction/comics/game store, which is now all mail order. He’s currently at work to develop a device that will zap robo-callers and internet spammers.*



## 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Saturn Award Nominees Announced Jason P Hunt

During a December 6th broadcast on ElectricNow, the nominees were announced for the 51st annual Saturn Awards, the official awards for the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Films. Since 1972, the group has awarded the Saturn in recognition of memorable achievements in film and television production. The winners will be announced during a live broadcast February 4, 2024.

### Best Science Fiction Film:

- *Avatar: The Way of Water*
- *The Creator*
- *M3GAN*
- *Prey*
- *Transformers: Rise of the Beasts*

### Best Fantasy Film:

- *Barbie*
- *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*
- *Haunted Mansion*
- *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*
- *The Little Mermaid*

### Best Horror Film:

- *Barbarian*
- *Evil Dead Rise*
- *Insidious: The Red Door*
- *Renfield*
- *Scream VI*
- *Smile*
- *Talk to Me*

### Best Superhero Film:

- *Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania*
- *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*
- *Blue Beetle*
- *The Flash*
- *Guardians of the Galaxy: Vol. 3*

**Best Action / Adventure Film:**

- *Bullet Train*
- *The Equalizer 3*
- *Fast X*
- *John Wick: Chapter 4*
- *Mission Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One*
- *The Woman King*

**Best Thriller Film:**

- *Don't Worry Darling*
- *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*
- *The Lesson*
- *The Menu*
- *Knock at the Cabin*
- *Oppenheimer*

**Best Actor in a Film:**

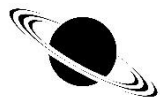
- Ralph Fiennes (*The Menu*)
- Harrison Ford (*Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*)
- Ben Kingsley (*Jules*)
- Cillian Murphy (*Oppenheimer*)
- Chris Pratt (*Guardians of the Galaxy - Vol. 3*)
- Keanu Reeves (*John Wick: Chapter 4*)
- Sam Worthington (*Avatar: The Way of Water*)

**Best Actress in a Film:**

- Viola Davis (*The Woman King*)
- Mia Goth (*Pearl*)
- Anya Taylor-Joy (*The Menu*)
- Amber Heard (*Prey*)
- Margot Robbie (*Barbie*)
- Zoe Saldana (*Avatar: The Way of Water*)

**Best Supporting Actor in a Film:**

- Nicolas Cage (*Renfield*)
- Robert Downey Jr. (*Oppenheimer*)
- Ryan Gosling (*Barbie*)
- Michael Keaton (*The Flash*)
- Stephen Lang (*Avatar: The Way of Water*)
- Mads Mikkelsen (*Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*)

**Best Supporting Actress in a Film:**

- Angela Bassett (*Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*)
- Emily Blunt (*Oppenheimer*)
- Jane Curtain (*Jules*)
- Melissa McCarthy (*The Little Mermaid*)
- Phoebe Waller-Bridge (*Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*)
- Sophie Wilde (*Talk to Me*)

**Best Younger Actor in a Film:**

- Halle Bailey (*The Little Mermaid*)
- Vivien Lyra Blair (*The Boogeyman*)
- Jack Champion (*Avatar: The Way of Water*)
- Xolo Mariduena (*Blue Beetle*)
- Violet McGraw (*M3GAN*)
- Noah Schnapp (*The Tutor*)

**Best Film Direction:**

- James Cameron (*Avatar: The Way of Water*)
- Greta Gerwig (*Barbie*)
- James Gunn (*Guardians of the Galaxy - Vol 3*)
- James Mangold (*Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*)
- Mark Mylod (*The Menu*)
- Christopher Nolan (*Oppenheimer*)
- Danny Philippou & Michael Philippour (*Talk to Me*)

**Best Film Writing:**

- *Avatar: The Way of Water* (James Cameron and Rick Jaffa & Amanda Silver)
- *Barbie* (Noah Baumbach & Greta Gerwig)
- *The Menu* (Seth Reiss & Will Tracy)
- *Mission Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One* (Erik Jendresen & Christopher McQuarrie)
- *Oppenheimer* (Christopher Nolan)
- *Pearl* (Ti West & Mia Goth)

**Best Film Producer Designer:**

- *Avatar: The Way of Water* (Dylan Cole, Ben Proctor)
- *Barbie* (Sarah Greenwood)
- *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3* (Beth Mickle)
- *John Wick: Chapter 4* (Kevin Kavanaugh)
- *Oppenheimer* (Ruth De Jong)
- *Renfield* (Alec Hammond)

**Best Film Editing:**

- *Avatar: The Way of Water* (Stephen Rivkin, David Brenner, John Refousa, James Cameron)
- *Fast X* (Dyland Highsmith, Kelly Matsumoto, Corbin Mehl, Laura Yanovich)
- *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny* (Andrew Buckland, Micahel McCusker, Dirk Westervelt)
- *John Wick: Chapter 4* (Nathan Orloff)
- *Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One* (Eddie Hamilton)
- *Oppenheimer* (Jennifer Lane)

**Best Music in a Film:**

- *Avatar: The Way of Water* (Simon Franglen)
- *Barbie* (Mark Ronson & Andrew Wyatt)
- *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny* (John Williams)
- *The Little Mermaid* (Alan Menken)
- *Renfield* (Marco Beltrami)
- *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* (Daniel Pemberton)

**Best Film Costume:**

- *Avatar: The Way of Water* (Bob Buck, Deborah Scott)
- *Barbie* (Jacqueline Durran)
- *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever* (Ruth E. Carter)
- *Guardians of the Galaxy - Vol. 3* (Judianna Makovsky)
- *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny* (Joanna Johnston)
- *Oppenheimer* (Ellen Mirojnick)

**Best Film Make-Up:**

- *The Covenant* (Donald Mowat)
- *Evil Dead Rise* (Luke Polti)
- *Guardians of the Galaxy - Vol. 3* (Alexei Dmitriew)
- *Oppenheimer* (Luisa Abel, Jason Hamer)
- *Prey* (Alec Gillis & Tom Woodruff Jr.)
- *Renfield* (Christien Tinsley)

**Best Film Visual / Special Effects:**

- *Avatar: The Way of Water* (Joe Letteri, Richard Baneham, Eric Saindon, Daniel Barrett)
- *The Creator* (Jay Cooper, Ian Comley, Andrew Roberts, Neil Corbould)
- *Guardians of the Galaxy - Vol. 3* (Stephane Ceretti, Alexis Wajsbrot, Guy Williams, Dan Sudick)
- *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny* (Andrew Whitehurst, Kathy Siegel, Robert Weaver, Alistair Williams)
- *Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One* (Alex Wuttke, Simone Coco, Jeff Sutherland, Neil Corbould)
- *Oppenheimer* (Andrew Jackson, Giacomo Mineo, Scott Fisher, Dave Drzewiecki)

**Best International Film:**

- *Madeleine Collins*
- *Missing*
- *The Origin of Evil*
- *Ransomed*
- *Speak No Evil*
- *Sisu*

**Best Independent Film:**

- *Aporia*
- *Brooklyn 45*
- *Fall*
- *Jules*
- *Pearl*
- *The Tutor*

**Best Animated Film:**

- *Elemental*
- *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish*
- *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse*
- *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*
- *Suzume*
- *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem*

(cont. →)



**READ MORE 'ZINES!**

Eldritch Science  
 FanActivity Gazette  
 Films Fantastic  
 Ionisphere  
 Mangaverse

N'APA  
 The National Fantasy Fan  
 N3F Review of Books  
 Origin  
 Tightbeam

National Fantasy Fan Federation - [nfff.org](http://nfff.org)

**Best Science Fiction Television Series:**

- *Andor*
- *Foundation*
- *The Mandalorian*
- *The Peripheral*
- *Silo*
- *Star Trek: Picard*
- *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*

**Best Fantasy Television Series:**

- *Anne Rice's Mayfair Witches*
- *Ghosts*
- *Good Omens*
- *House of the Dragon*
- *The Lord of the Rings: Rings of Power*
- *Schmigadoon!*
- *Wednesday*

**Best Horror Film Television Series:**

- *American Horror Story*
- *Anne Rice's Interview with the Vampire*
- *Chucky*
- *Fear the Walking Dead*
- *From*
- *What We Do in the Shadows*

**Best Superhero Television Series:**

- *Doom Patrol*
- *The Flash*
- *The Sandman*
- *Secret Invasion*
- *She-Hulk: Attorney-at-Law*
- *DC's Stargirl*
- *Superman & Lois*

**Best Action/Thriller Television Series:**

- *La Brea*
- *Manifest*
- *Outlander*
- *Quantum Leap*
- *Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan*
- *The Witcher*
- *Yellowjackets*

**Best Television Presentation:**

- *Black Mirror*
- *Guillermo del Toro's Cabinet of Curiosities*
- *Hocus Pocus 2*
- *Marvel's Werewolf by Night*
- *The Midnight Club*
- *Mrs. Davis*
- *The Munsters*

**Best Actor in a Television Series:**

- Tyler Hoechlin (*Superman & Lois*)
- Sam Heughan (*Outlander*)
- Diego Luna (*Andor*)
- Anson Mount (*Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*)
- Pedro Pascal (*The Last of Us*)
- Harold Perrineau (*From*)
- Patrick Stewart (*Star Trek: Picard*)

**Best Actress in a Television Series:**

- Caitriona Balfe (*Outlander*)
- Lauren Cohan (*The Walking Dead: Dead City*)
- Emma D'Arcy (*House of the Dragon*)
- Rebecca Ferguson (*Silo*)
- Tatiana Maslany (*She-Hulk: Attorney-at-Law*)
- Rose McIver (*Ghosts*)
- Elizabeth Tulloch (*Superman & Lois*)

**Best Supporting Actor in a Television Series:**

- Jonathan Frakes (*Star Trek: Picard*)
- Harvey Guillen (*What We Do in the Shadows*)
- Ernie Hudson (*Quantum Leap*)
- Ethan Peck (*Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*)
- Ed Speleers (*Star Trek: Picard*)
- Matt Smith (*House of the Dragon*)
- Todd Stashwick (*Star Trek: Picard*)

**Best Supporting Actress in a Television Series:**

- Jess Bush (*Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*)
- Celia Rose Gooding (*Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*)
- Genevieve O'Reilly (*Andor*)
- Jeri Ryan (*Star Trek: Picard*)
- Katee Sackhoff (*The Mandalorian*)
- Sophie Skelton (*Outlander*)
- Rebecca Wisocky (*Ghost*)



**Best Younger Performer in a Television Series:**

- Milly Alcock (*House of the Dragon*)
- Freya Alan (*The Witcher*)
- Zachary Arthur (*Chucky*)
- Brec Bassinger (*Stargirl*)
- Jenna Ortega (*Wednesday*)
- Bella Ramsey (*The Last of Us*)
- Igby Rigney (*The Midnight Club*)

**Best Guest Star in a Television Series:**

- Gael Garcia Bernal (*Marvel's Werewolf by Night*)
- Giancarlo Esposito (*The Mandalorian*)
- Nick Offerman (*The Last of Us*)
- Amanda Plummer (*Star Trek: Picard*)
- Andy Serkis (*Andor*)
- Paul Wesley (*Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*)
- Catherine Zeta-Jones (*Wednesday*)

**Best Classic Film Home Media Release:**

- *Attack of the 50 Foot Woman* (Warner Archives)
- *Invaders from Mars* 4K (Ignite)
- *It Came From Outer Space* 4K (Universal)
- *It, The Terror from Beyond Space* 4K (Kino Lorber)
- *The Manchurian Candidate* 4K (Kino Lorber)
- *The Night of the Hunter* 4K (Kino Lorber)
- *Secret of the Incas* (Kino Lorber)



**Best Television Home Media Release:**

- *Better Call Saul* (The Complete Collection) (AMC)
- *Creepshow* (Season 3) (RLJ Entertainment)
- *Doctor Who: The Abominable Snowman* (BBC)
- *Interview with the Vampire* (Season 1) (AMC)
- *Loki* (Season 1) – 4K Steelbook (Disney Home Video)
- *Night Gallery* (Season Three) (Kino Lorber)
- *Quantum Leap* (Season 1) (Universal)

**Best Film Home Media Collection Release:**

- Arsene Lupin Collection (Kino Lorber)
- Irwin Allen: Master of Disaster Collection (Shout Factory)
- Mr. Wong Collection (Kino Lorber)
- Shawscope: Volume Two (Arow)
- *Superman* 1978-1987 4K Collection (Warner)
- Universal Classic Monsters - Icons of Horror Vol.2 4K (Universal)
- Warner Bros. 100th Anniversary 25 Film Collection: Vol. 4 (Thrillers, Sci-fi, Horror) (Warner)

**Best 4K Home Media Release Release:**

- *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen* 4K (Criterion)
- *The Exorcist* 50th Anniversary Edition 4K (Warner)
- *Cujo* 4K (Kino Lorber)
- *John Wick, Chapter 4* - 4K (Lionsgate)
- *Needful Things* 4K (Kino Lorber)
- *To Live and Die in L.A.* 4K (Kino Lorber)
- *Star Trek: The Motion Picture – The Director's Edition* 4K (Paramount)



**New Movies in January**

[H = horror, F = fantasy, SF = sci-fi, A = animated]

**1/1**

*The Mummy Murders* (H)

**1/5**

*Night Swim* (H)

**1/12**

*Kalki 2898-AD* (F)

*T.I.M.*(SF)

**1/19**

*I.S.S.* (SF)

*Founders Day* (H)

*Sunrise* (H)

**1/21**

*Cowboy Bebop* (A)

**1/26**

*The Concierge* (F/A)

*The Seeding* (H)



## Hear No Evil, See No Evil

### N3F Tape and Video Bureaus Report

#### Heath Row

Did anyone listen to or watch the recommendations offered last month? If so, email Heath at [kalel@well.com](mailto:kalel@well.com) or message him on Facebook with your thoughts, comments, and other discussion—and we’ll publish the best commentary in this bureaus report! Let us know what you think about each month’s recommendations. We even welcome recommendations and requests.

For the month of December 2023, we recommend the following:

#### First Fridays: Shorts

This month’s short film recommendation is the 1978 *Star Wars* spoof *Hardware Wars* narrated by Paul Frees. Runtime: 13 minutes.

<https://tinyurl.com/HardwareWars>

#### Second Saturdays: Feature Films

December’s movie selection is the 1941 *All That Money Can Buy* (also titled *The Devil and Daniel Webster*), in which a New Hampshire farmer tries to get out of a deal with Satan. Runtime: One hour and 46 minutes.

<https://tinyurl.com/3wn6tzrk>

#### Third Thursdays: Old-Time Radio

We also suggest two episodes of *X Minus One* this month.

“A Pail of Air” (March 28, 1956) - Based on the short story by Fritz Leiber in the December 1951 issue of *Galaxy Science Fiction*—seek it out and read it afterward to compare!

“The Cave of Night” (Feb. 1, 1956) - Based on the short story by James E. Gunn in the February 1955 issue of *Galaxy Science Fiction*—seek it out and read it afterward to compare!

Both are available in sequence at <https://tinyurl.com/3auk73h5>. Total runtime: 56 minutes.

If a URL doesn’t seem to work, email or message Heath, and he’ll seek a replacement. The Web is a fickle place.



M P R Q W K Q C Z E O Z X Y I B V Y G Y X J F C X Z A P L O  
M P C O L Q Q V Z O O V M D O R I G H T W C O M E T F T M F  
N R L U E X J M X T W K Q O H P Z Z B C W E O I V J C F M X  
K O Z Y P R I Z B U I U C Y W P N B F L O D Y Q V P A O U J  
B R U C E I Q Y D A S H E R G A C X W Y C W S F W G V X S S  
Q I G C X M D U P H C H F S H K F F K D H U B V V P Z U J J  
D M N Q B F H K E D V E Q L Q Q S W R E T U F E J Z Y U W T  
I A V R J M X B G E H F K B L A C K I E S K D H G Q B O Y J  
D E G R U F F O M E N E N L A F P K L N D Y Q K O K V D X H  
O L Z E I D H X O A O I Q I J F R C H W Y K F V C C Q V I V  
N L T Z D U O M H L R R E T B P A M Y L Q L U I J V F M Q M  
D K C Z L J T L L Z F V G Z S H N J X S V O L E O N M Y N K  
E Z P D Y V S I P B J O I E W E C S E J N S D F O Q F E F U  
R F X F X I B S W H B Y F N I W E Y J Z A U E D J R E J J L  
W M X V I B M Z R D Q V S B B Z R T O E X F L V I X E N F B

RUDOLPH SLICK  
DASHER DORIGHT  
DANCER FRED  
PRANCER ACE  
VIXEN BLACKIE  
COMET QUEENIE  
CUPID CLYDE  
DONDER  
BLITZEN  
BRUCE  
MARVIN  
LEON  
CLETUS  
GEORGE  
BILL



## Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays Heath Row

*This list of fandom-related birthdays was first published by Bruce Pelz in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Andrew Porter published and updated the list for Science Fiction Chronicle. Updates are welcome!*

*Unless stated otherwise, all birthdays are in the 20th century.*

### January

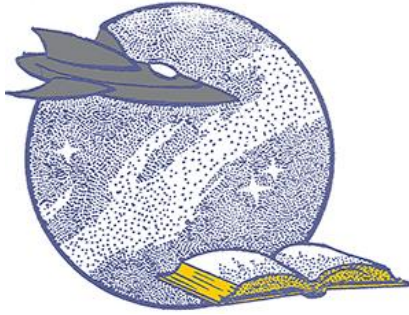
Chesley Bonestell, 1/1/1888; Seabury Quinn, 1/1/1889; Ella Parker, 1/1/18; Robert Nathan, 1/2/1894; Isaac Asimov, 1/2/20; Bill Broxon, 1/2/27; Charles Beaumont, 1/2/29; Patrick Nielsen Hayden, 1/2/59; J.R.R. Tolkien, 1/3/1892; Doris Pitkin Buck, 1/3/1898; Mark Owings, 1/3/45; A.R. Morlan, 1/3/58; Arthur Hayes, 1/4/23; Ruth Kyle, 1/4/30; Ramsey Campbell, 1/4/46; Tom Digby, 1/5/40; Madeline Morrison, 1/5/55; S. Fowler Wright, 1/6/1874; Eric Frank Russell, 1/6/05; Algernon D'Amassa, 1/6/71; Barbi Johnson, 1/7/23; Christine Haycock-Moskowitz, 1/7/24; Graham Stone, 1/7/26; Gene DiModica, 1/7/48; Dennis Wheatley, 1/8/1897; Greg Ketter, 1/9; Algis Budrys, 1/9/31; Elizabeth Anne Hull, 1/10/37; George Alec Effinger, 1/10/47.

Jerome Bixby, 1/11/23; Joyce Jumper, 1/12/37; Thomas Endrey, 1/12/40; Geoffrey Hoyle, 1/12/41; Seth Breidbart, Bill Higgins, Paula Lieberman, 1/12/54; Clark Ashton Smith, 1/13/1893; Ron Goulart, 1/13/33; Ken Bulmer, 1/14/21; Joseph L. Green, 1/14/31; Arthur Byron Cover, 1/14/50; Robert Silverberg, 1/15/35; Ron Bounds, 1/15/45; Nat Schachner, 1/16/1895; Festus Pragnell, 1/16/05; Neville Shute, 1/17/1899; Dean Dickensheet, 1/17; Anna Sinclair, 1/17; Alva Rogers, 1/17/23; Nomi S. Burstein, 1/17/71; Peter Edick, 1/17/49; A.A. Milne, 1/18/1882; Robert Anton Wilson, 1/18/32; Eddie Jones, 1/18/35; Edgar Allan Poe, 1/19/1809; Adrienne Martine Barnes, 1/19/42; Abraham Merritt, 1/20/1884; Louis Charbonneau, 1/20/24; George Jumper, 1/20/40.

Charles Eric Maine, 1/21/21; Judith Merrill, 1/21/23; Arthur Jean Cox, 1/21/29; Robert E. Howard, 1/22/06; Katherine MacLean, 1/22/25; Walter M. Miller, Jr., 1/23/23; Craig Miller, 1/23/54; C.L. Moore, 1/24/11; David Gerrold, 1/24/44; Mike Ward, 1/24/45; Joel D. Zakem, 1/24/53; Russ Hodgkins, 1/26/10; Philip José Farmer, 1/26/18; Judy-Lynn Benjamin del Rey, 1/26/43; Dwight Decker, 1/26/52; Parke Godwin, 1/28/29; Lloyd Alexander, 1/30/24; Edith Ogutsch, 1/30/29; George Barr, 1/30/37; Gregory and Jim Benford, 1/30/41; George Morgan, 1/30/43; Art Lortie, 1/30/50; Heidi Saha, 1/30/59; Gloria Albasi, 1/30/61; Gene DeWeese, 1/31/34.

*To update this list, please contact Heath Row via e-mail at [kalel@well.com](mailto:kalel@well.com) with the subject "Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays" or something similar.*





## FANAC Fan History Project      Newsletter 22

### December 8, 2023

Happy almost-Saturnalia. In our last newsletter of 2023, we'll give you the news plus a perspective on APAs, an update on the archive, and a preview of the changes coming on FANAC.org.

**Behold, the timebinding:** We've now exceeded 22,000 fanzines on the archive, with almost 400,000 pages of material. Over 3,000 of those fanzines were published in the 1930's-1940's.

**News! Chicon 8** has awarded FANAC a very generous grant of \$3,500! Another \$2,000 was directed towards Geri Sullivan's Video Archeology project. Our thanks to Helen Montgomery and the Chicon 8 committee for their support of FANAC and the Fan History Project!




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### FANAC at SMOFcon

For the first time, FANAC had a scanning station at SMOFcon, run by Mark Olson and Laurie Mann. Since SMOFcon is the convention for convention organizers, our (unsurprising) focus was on scanning convention publications. Mark and Laurie scanned close to 3,000 pages of pubs which will be posted over the next couple of weeks. In addition to printed contributions, FANAC was given access to digital material archived by Norwescon and Readercon, materials scanned by Don Glover and by Linda Deneroff. Leslie Turek brought a wealth of Boskone pubs, David Ennis a nearly complete set of Eriecon PBs and Gary Blog a trove of Arisian materials. Thanks for these and thanks to the others that brought in materials. More on our convention pubs project later in the newsletter.

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### Back to the Future: Joe on APAs

What was it like to be a fan in the 40s or 50s, and get a big fat FAPA mailing? One of our recent software updates has given us the ability to recompile old APA mailings. As we scan fanzines and identify which APAs they were originally from, Mark Olson's software is allowing us to "reconstruct" mailings. That is, on FANAC.org, you can browse the zines in a mailing together, as if you had received the mailing. As we add more scans to the archive, the mailings will become more complete. [https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA\\_Mailings/](https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA_Mailings/)

We've just really started this and can only do it if we can identify which mailing a fanzine issue was distributed in. So far, we have made good progress with early FAPA mailings, some OMPA zines, SAPS and, as Rich discusses below, SFPA. If you can help us identify fanzine titles that are already online with a specific APA mailing, please write to [fanac@fanac.org](mailto:fanac@fanac.org).

We are also putting some similar mailings, which are not technically APAs online. Fannish publications like *Ipsa*, *Futurian War Digest*, *The Cult* and early *Worldcon fan collections* will also be available.

*Futurian War Digest (FWD)*, affectionately known as *Fido*, was an early fanzine published by J. Michael Rosenblum during World War II, thus the eminently appropriate title. Rosenblum really helped keep UK fandom alive by including short zines from other fans when he mailed *Fido*. Not technically an APA (no OO or mailing comments, for example), *Fido* unusually grouped a variety of zines that probably would never have been printed without it, let alone circulated. These zines were often on poor quality paper, sometimes on office forms and second sheets sent over by American fans. Rob Hansen and I have been scanning some of these zines and we will be including them in the bundles with *FWD*. Rob says, “During WWII it [FWD] was pretty much the glue that held British fandom together.”

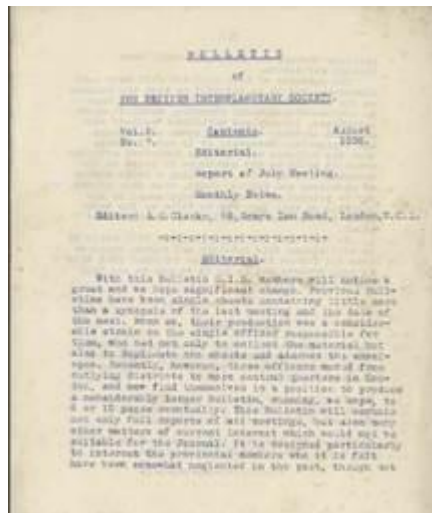
Although there were other fanzines printed during the war in Europe, it does give some feeling for the difficulty of fanac in wartime and the dedication of fans.

### Want More Frequent Updates?

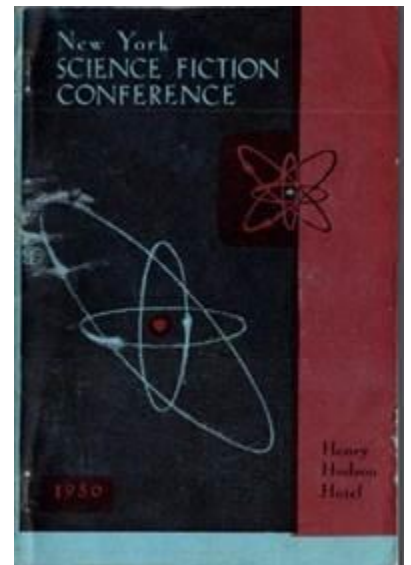
If you want more frequent, and detailed updates, send a note to [FANAC-Updates+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:FANAC-Updates+subscribe@groups.io) . We’ll send twice a week updates with “What’s New” on the site.

### Outstanding Additions since the last newsletter

We’ve added more than 1,000 publications since the last newsletter in July, and about 3,000 fanzines in 2023. Here are some highlights.



**Bulletin of the British Interplanetary Society (1930s):** Amongst the archive’s earliest fanzines, we now have 10 issues of the *Bulletin of the British Interplanetary Society* dating from 1934-1939. While these are not science fiction fanzines, they mention scientifiction, and with Arthur C. Clarke and Ted Carnell as editors, they are certainly related publications. The *Bulletin* can easily be seen with (although hopefully more accurate than) such fanzines as *Space Magazine*. Many thanks to David Ritter for the scans, which were taken from issues from the collection of Alistair Durie.



**Hydracon Program Book (1950):** The 1950 New York Science Fiction Conference aka Hydracon, was run by a committee which

included some of the best-known names in science fiction. Among them were Judith Merrill, Fred Pohl, Martin Greenberg, David Kyle, and Fletcher Pratt. The book art, layout and production were by Harry Harrison. Lester Del Rey was in part responsible for editorial. We’re accustomed to seeing now well-known professional names in early fanzines, but it’s rarer to see these pros represented in the convention running world. For more on Hydracon, see <https://fancyclopedia.org/Hydracon>.



**Apparatchik (1990s):** Edited first by Andy Hooper, later co-edited with Victor Gonzalez, and finally adding in Carl Juarez, *Apparatchik* was nominated for a Best Fanzine Hugo and twice won the FAAn award for Best Fanzine. Since the last newsletter, we’ve added 50 issues of *Apparatchik*. From **Plokta 8**, bylined Victor Pokta, “*The fanzine was noted for its hard-hitting reports of current events, professionally covered by the silver-tongued pen of Victor Gonzalez, and leavened with light-hearted tales of fandom past and present from multiple Egoboo Award winner Andy Hooper.*”

**Joe on: Bill Rotsler**

Everyone knows Bill Rotsler, don’t you? Possibly the most prolific fan cartoonist ever. Interesting science fiction writer in his later years. Wrote everything from adult novels to YA fiction. His ISFDB.org bibliography only covers a fraction of his writing. And of course, he was a photographer and adult filmmaker. His best-known fanzines are collections of his art and probably the twenty or so issues of his genzine, *Masque*, most of which we have online at <https://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Masque/>. However, he

was a fairly prolific fan WRITER as well a fan artist. His personalzine *Kteic*, started as a letter substitute which I came to very late in its production. They are often fascinating. In them, Bill rambles about anything that is on his mind, seemingly randomly but usually fascinatingly. It might be an art exhibit or a production he is doing or a recent model or... We have 33 available for you to discover at [https://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Kteic\\_Magazine/](https://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Kteic_Magazine/). I’d love to see the other hundred or so.

As always, we do our best to find the editor or organization, and get permission before archiving publications. If you have scans or other digital copies of your fanzines, we’d be glad to get them.

**Con is short for convention**

Convention: a gathering of fans and pros from near or distant points. They’re usually held in a hotel, frequently for more than a single day and often discussing science fiction, where they have programs. The attendees join the con as members, not ticket buyers. Modern SF conventions continue to be run by volunteers and are the result of almost 90 years of convention evolution.

FANAC’s mission, of course, includes preserving convention history. Today, we have over 4,000 convention publications, totaling almost 75,000 pages of material. The earliest is the program book of the 1936 convention held in Philadelphia, and the most recent is the Member Guidebook of the 2023 Worldcon in Chengdu.

Context is everything, and our Fancyclopedia site provides it. On the 1936 convention: According to Sam Moskowitz, "It was suggested by John B. Michel that the club [the NYB-ISA] plan a social outing of some sort; this was agreed to, great controversy ensued as to the destination. Philadelphia was decided upon, chiefly because Wollheim had hit upon the novel idea of meeting with out-of-town fans and thereby calling the affair a science fiction convention."





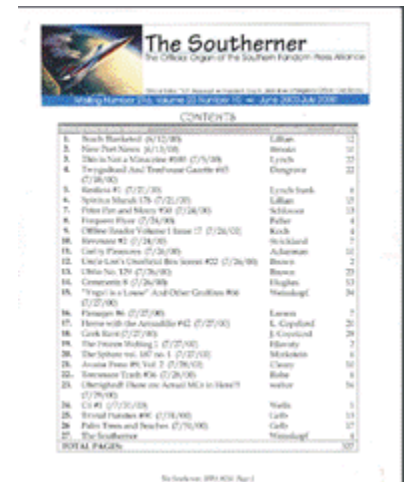
The photo above at the right (which you can see better in Fancyclopedia at [https://fancyclopedia.org/First\\_Convention](https://fancyclopedia.org/First_Convention)) is a photo of that first 1936 convention. Most of the attendees are in the photo. From left: Oswald Train, Donald A. Wollheim, Milton A. Rothman, Frederik Pohl, John B. Michel, William S. Sykora (holding the NYB-ISA flag), David A. Kyle, and Robert Madle. They're standing in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Not pictured: Herbert E. Goudket, who took the photograph, and John V. Baltadonis, who had not arrived at the time the picture was taken.

Our interest in conventions shouldn't be a surprise. The FanHistory Project is convention born – it's an outgrowth of the MagiCon, the 1992 Worldcon. The members of the FANAC board have worked on hundreds of conventions, including chairing four Worldcons. Documenting our convention history is essential in showing the growth and change of science fiction fandom.

Check [Fancyclopedia.org](https://fancyclopedia.org) and see if your convention is documented. If not, you know the drill. (That means send us the information!).

## Rich Lynch on: The SFPA Project

Digital preservation of old amateur press association (APA) mailings is an important part of FANAC's online archiving of printed fan materials. Past APA mailings often contained information that chronicled how fandom related and reacted to what was going on in the world, and this provides important context as well as snapshots of what fandom was like back when those APA mailings were collated. As was described in *FANAC Newsletter 20* (Dec. 2022), I have scanned several years of Southern Fandom Press Alliance (SFPA) mailings, all of them dating back to the late 1990s and early 2000s, as a kind of pilot project to determine the feasibility of large-scale digital preservation of APA mailings. It's still a work in progress, but so far, the quality of the scans has been encouraging enough that I will be doing more of them, including the very first mailings which date back to the 1960s. Watch this space for updates!



Also: since each APA mailing is comprised of fanzines from many different contributors, an “opt in” procedure is in place to ensure that individual apazines are not archived at the FANAC.org website unless consent of the publishers of those apazines has been obtained in writing. Because of this, it may be that complete mailings cannot be preserved. I can say, however, that nearly everyone I have contacted for permission has agreed. This bodes well for the overall success of the project.

## Do You Have These Titles?

In our **1 Issue - Maybe More to Come** directory, we currently have 255 “orphan” fanzines. For a long time, we held on to these scans, unwilling to dedicate an index page to a singleton. Rather than keep them to ourselves, we created this “1 Issue – Maybe More to Come” page. From time to time, if you look at the web site updates, you’ve seen zines rescued from the obscurity of this list and given their own page as we find and scan additional issues.

Do you have any more issues of any of these titles? Here are the A’s alone, below, ranging from 1950 to 1998. Help us shorten the list by getting these titles into their own page. If you have additional issues you can scan, please send them to us! If you KNOW that these were one-shots, let us know that, and we’ll put them elsewhere.

Issue	Editor	Country	Whole	Volume	Number	Month	Day	Year	Pages
4SJ's Sci-Fi Kaleidoscope	Forry Ackerman	US	20			December	25	1996	2
Abanico 2	Bill Bowers	US	2			November		1961	16
Ad-O-Zine 5	Butts	US	5			September		1950	14
Afterburner II	Binker Hughes	US	11			July		1998	2
American Defenestrator 1	Mike Glyer	US	1			January	24	1974	8
Amoeba 2	Norman Hartman	US	2	1	2	January		1951	6
Another Fan's Poison 1	Curt Philips	US	1			January		1986	30
Anghalac 1	Fred Patten	US	1			November		1964	10
Angmar 1	Bruce Pelz	US	1			August		1980	6
The Annex 1	A. Langley Searles	US	1			Fall		1987	12
As Flies 1	Marc Ortlieb	AU	1			January		1978	14
Aw 1	Dean Grennell	US	1					1974	8

To see the rest of the zines on this list: [https://www.fanac.org/fanzines/1\\_Issue-Maybe\\_More\\_to\\_Come/](https://www.fanac.org/fanzines/1_Issue-Maybe_More_to_Come/) .

**YouTube channel:**

If you like to enjoy your history through audio and video, the FANAC YouTube channel is there for it.

As is customary, we’ve added our Zoom sessions to the channel. Since the last newsletter, we have had “Boston in 60s”, with Tony Lewis, Leslie Turek and Mike Ward, and “Evolution of Art(ists)”, with Grant Canfield, Tim Kirk, Jim Shull, and Dan Steffan. One of the advantages of our zoom-ed world is that we are able to bring together superbly qualified panelists to address the topic of the day, and these two panels are evidence of that. Judge for yourself, and listen to the recordings. Also, congratulations to Jim Shull, who was just named this year’s Rotsler Award winner.



Thanks to the good offices of Geri Sullivan and Jeanne Gomoll, we’ve also added a hysterically funny 1988 audio recording of Jeanne’s Minicon 23 reading of her fanzine article, “Barbie’s Inferno” . It’s illustrated with images, and is a perfect fanhistorical counterpoint to this year’s movie. If you’re more of a classical movie buff, take a look at “Frankenstein [a not so gory version]”, a 1963 Delta Group production provided by Bill Burns.

**FANAC by the Numbers**

**Fanzines:** 22,305 issues (covering 2,403 titles) with more than 396,070 pages. This is up from the 21,208 fanzine issues and 380,923 pages reported in our July update.

**Conpubs:** 4,308 publications, with 72,961 pages, representing 970 conventions. This is up from the 4,035 publications,

with 70,295, representing 911 conventions reported in our July update.

**Fancylopedia:** 29,520 pages which include 6,439 for people, 4,693 for fans (a subset of people), 8,593 for fanzines, another 1,540 for clubs and apas, and 6,367 for conventions. This is up from the 29,301 pages, 6,404 people pages, 4,666 fan pages, 8,540 fanzines pages, 1,529 for clubs and apas, and 6,277 convention pages reported in our July update.

**YouTube:** 170,838 views, 1,363 subscribers and 153 recordings. This is up from 162,147 views, 1,286 subscribers and 147 recordings in our July update.

## Coming Attractions

**Improved Readability Plus** - Changes to fanzine index pages and the "classic" list, with a touch more information and easier visibility on smaller devices

**More PDFing and OCRing** – Making the zines we have online more accessible

**More History Zooms** – The early 2024 zoom schedule is set now:

1. January 20, 2024 - 2PM EST, 11AM PST and 7PM London GMT - An Interview with Joe Green, fan, science fiction writer, NASA spokesman and educator
2. February 17, 2024 - 7PM EST, 11 AM Feb 18 Melbourne AEDT - Wrong Turns on the Wallaby Track Part 2, with Leigh Edmonds and Perry Middlemiss
3. March 16, 2024 - 3PM EDT, 2PM CDT, 7PM London (GMT) - The Women Fen Don't See - Claire Brialey, Kate Heffner, and Leah Zeldes Smith

**More Fanzines, Fancylopedia articles, YouTube uploads and maybe photos** – As you would expect...

Please pass this update on to any fan or online list where you think it might be of interest. Those interested in subscribing can sign up on the FANAC.org home page.

Fanhistorically yours. Edie Stern, and Joe Siclari

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### Selected links:

**FANAC.org:** <https://www.fanac.org>

**Fancylopedia 3:** <https://fancylopedia.org>

**Fanac YouTube channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/FanacFanhistor>

**Fanzines:** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic\\_Fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic_Fanzines.html)

**References:** <https://fanac.org/fanzines/References/>

**APA Mailings** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA\\_Mailings/](https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA_Mailings/)

**Alphabetical Listing:** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/alphabetical\\_listing\\_of\\_fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/alphabetical_listing_of_fanzines.html)

**Chronological Listing:** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/chronological\\_listing\\_of\\_fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/chronological_listing_of_fanzines.html)

**Country Listing:** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/country\\_listing\\_of\\_fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/country_listing_of_fanzines.html)



**Editor Listing:** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/by\\_editor.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/by_editor.html)

**Newszine Project:** <https://fanac.org/fanzines/newszines.html>

**Core List: to Scan:** [https://fanac.org/fanzines/desired\\_fanzine\\_list\\_to\\_scan.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/desired_fanzine_list_to_scan.html)

**Contributors since the last newsletter:** We've received new material and helpful corrections from many fans including: Gloria Albasi, Tom Becker, Gary Blog, Sandra Bond, Leybl Botwinik, Thomas Bull, Bill Burns, Sam Butler, Grant Canfield, Darrah Chavey, Greg Conley, Linda Deneroff, Vincent Docherty, Ahrvid Engholm, David Ennis, Don Glover, Mike Glycer, Jeanne Gomoll, Rob Hansen, John Hertz, Bill Higgins, Irwin Hirsh, Andy Hooper, Mindy Hunt, Bob Jennings, Steve Johnson, Chris Krolczyk, Tim Kirk, Dave Langford, Evelyn Leeper, Mark Leeper, Tony Lewis, Guy Lillian III, Rich Lynch, Joseph Major, Laurie Mann, Linda Ross-Mansfield, Sam McDonald, Gary McGath, Ben McKenzie, Perry Middlemiss, Mark Nelson, Mark Olson, George Phillis, Andrew Porter, Thomas Recktenwald, Mark Richards, David Ritter, Heath Row, Alison Scott, Flash Sheridan, Jim Shull, Steven Silver, Leah Zeldes Smith, Ian Sorensen, Dale Speirs, Garth Spencer, Dan Steffan, Alan Stewart, Geri Sullivan, Alan Thiesen, Leslie Turek, Jan Vaněk Jr, Gianna Walker, Mike Ward, Taral Wayne, Ted White, and Owen Whiteoak.

*The FANAC Fanhistory Project is a project of The Florida Association for Nucleation and Conventions (FANAC) Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization recognized by the IRS. FANAC.org is archived by the US Library of Congress for long-time preservation and future availability.*




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## JANUARY CONVENTIONS

**Mindy Hunt**

Each month we will provide a list of conventions from around the world. This list is constantly being updated throughout the month. You can find our full events list as well as a calendar at [SciFi4Me.com](http://SciFi4Me.com).

If you know of a local event, big or little, send us and email at [events@scifi4me.com](mailto:events@scifi4me.com) so we can add it and make it the most comprehensive conventions list on the internet.

### Dec 28 – Jan 1

Furvester – Stuttgart, Germany Dec 28-Jan 1  
 Cosplay Matsuir – Pasay City, Philippines Dec 28-30  
 OKiCon – Oklahoma City, OK Dec 29-31  
 Comic Market – Tokyo, Japan Dec 30-31

**Jan 4 – 7**

Anime Los Angeles – Long Beach, CA Jan 4-7  
 Anthro Northwest – Seattle, WA Jan 4-7  
 Ichibancon – Concord, NC Jan 4-7  
 Animate! Raleigh – Raleigh, NC Jan 5-7  
 Anime-ZAP! – East Peoria, IL Jan 5-7  
 Fan Expo New Orleans – New Orleans, LA Jan 5-7  
 GAFilk – Atlanta, GA Jan 5-7  
 Japan Meeting of Furies – Toyohashi, Japan Jan 5-7  
 OrcaCon – Bellevue, WA Jan 5-7  
 Painted Desert Fur Con – Phoenix, AZ Jan 5-7  
 SacAnime – Sacramento, CA Jan 5-7  
 SCG Con Cincinnati – Cincinnati, OH Jan 5-7  
 Taiyou Con – Mesa, AZ Jan 5-7  
 Rocket City Horror Con – Huntsville, AL Jan 6-7  
 Brick Fest Live – Columbus, OH Jan 6-7  
 Brick Fest Live – Nashville, TN Jan 6-7  
 BrickUniverse Port St Lucie – Port St Lucie, FL Jan 6-7  
 Columbia Anime & Video Game Expo – Columbia, SC Jan 6-7  
 Quad Con Rochester – Rochester, MN Jan 6-7  
 St Pete Comic Con – St Petersburg, FL Jan 6-7  
 Annandale Comic Book & Nonsports Card Show – Annandale, VA Jan 6  
 North Dallas Toy Show – Dallas, TX Jan 6  
 Clandestine Comics – Hunt Valley, MD Jan 7  
 Deland Comics & Collectibles Show! – Deland, FL Jan 7  
 Ft-LauderdaleCon – Fort Lauderdale, FL Jan 7  
 Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Jan 7

**Jan 12 – 14***VIRTUAL*

CONsole Room – Bloomington, MN Jan 12-14

*ON-SITE*

Further Confusion – San Jose, CA Jan 11-15  
 Ichibancon – Concord, NC Jan 11-14  
 Arisia – Boston, MA Jan 12-15  
 Dice + Diversions – Atlanta, GA Jan 12-15  
 SCARAB Gaming Convention – Columbia, SC Jan 12-15  
 Chattacon – Chattanooga, TN Jan 12-14  
 CONsole Room – Bloomington, MN Jan 12-15  
 Echuta! – Hildago, TX Jan 12-14  
 FanExpo Portland – Portland, OR Jan 12-14  
 Geekway Mini – St Louis, MO Jan 12-14  
 MarsCon – Norfolk, VA Jan 12-14  
 MidWinter Frolic – Altura, MN Jan 12-14  
 SaltCon Bryce – Bryce Canyon City, UT Jan 12-14  
 ANIME Impulse – Pomona, CA Jan 13-14  
 Brick Fest Live – Austin, TX Jan 13-14

Brick Fest Live – Tinley Park, IL Jan 13-14  
Congress of Gamers Winter – Rockville, MD Jan 13-14  
Middle Georgia Comic Convention – Macon, GA Jan 13-14  
Northwest Arkansas Comic Con – Rogers, AR Jan 13-14  
Oddities & Curiosities Expo – San Diego, CA Jan 13-14  
Quad Con Burlington – Burlington, IA Jan 13-14  
Tri City Comic Con – Livingston, TX Jan 13-14  
ABC Winterfest – Southaven, MS Jan 13  
BrickUniverse Chesapeake – Chesapeake, VA Jan 13  
Charlie's Comic Con – Ft Myers, FL Jan 13  
MondoCon – Budapest, Hungary Jan 13  
Sarasota Anime-Fest – Sarasota, FL Jan 13  
WildCon – Wildwood, NJ Jan 13  
Capital Trade Shows – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Jan 13  
Fresno Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Fresno, CA Jan 14  
NorthernKyCon – Hebron, KY Jan 14

### Jan 18 – 21

Niagara Boardgame Weekend – Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada Jan 18-21  
Anthro New England – Boston, MA Jan 18-21  
MAGFest – National Harbor, MD Jan 18-21  
Albuquerque Comic Con – Albuquerque, NM Jan 19-21  
ConFusion – Novi, MI Jan 19-21  
COSine – Colorado Springs, CO Jan 19-21  
Ohayocon – Columbus, OH Jan 19-21  
Animazing-Con! – Savannah, GA Jan 20-21  
ATG Expo – Waco, TX Jan 20-21  
Brick Fest Live – Dallas, TX Jan 20-21  
Brick Fest Live – Collinsville, IL Jan 20-21  
BrickUniverse Chattanooga – Chattanooga, TN Jan 20-21  
Brickvention – Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Jan 20-21  
Central Florida Comic Con – Lakeland, FL Jan 20-21  
G-Anime Winter – Gatineau, Quebec, Canada Jan 20-21  
MegaCon Live Dublin – Dublin, United Kingdom Jan 20-21  
New Mexico Brick Convention – Albuquerque, NM Jan 20-21  
Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Los Angeles, CA Jan 20-21  
Quad Con Brookfield – Brookfield, IL Jan 20-21  
RetroMania Collectibles Show – New Braunfels, TX Jan 20-21  
TriCon – Kitchener, Ontario, Canada Jan 20-21  
Augusta Anime-Fest – Augusta, GA Jan 20  
Cabin Fever – Toms River, NJ Jan 20  
Eckman's Card, Comic & Toy Show – San Antonio, TX Jan 20  
Manteca Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Manteca, CA Jan 20  
Panama City Comics MINI Con – Panama City, FL Jan 20  
Spartanburg Comic Con – Spartanburg, SC Jan 20  
Vacaville Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Vacaville, CA Jan 21

**Jan 25 – 29**

*VIRTUAL*

Conflikt –Seattle, WA Jan 27

*ON-SITE*

- Angouleme Comic Strip Festival – Angouleme, France Jan 25-28
- CanCon – Canberra, Australia Capital Territory, Australia Jan 26-28
- Days of the Dead – Atlanta, GA Jan 26-28
- Game-itoba – Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada Jan 26-28
- Issho Con – Detroit, MI Jan 26-28
- Days of the Dead – Atlanta, GA Jan 26-28
- Original Art Expo – Orlando, FL Jan 26-28
- Vampire Fan Weekend – Allen TX Jan 26-28
- Xenites Reunion Weekend – Burbank, CA Jan 26-28
- Edwardian Ball – San Francisco, CA Jan 26-27
- Anime Washington – Tacoma, WA Jan 27-28
- Brick Fest Live – Madison, WI Jan 27-28
- Brick Fest Live – Tulsa, OK Jan 27-28
- Garden State Winter Fest – Augusta, NJ Jan 27-28
- Orange County Brick Convention – Costa Mesa, CA Jan 27-28
- Quad Con Columbia – Columbia, MO Jan 27-28
- Cosplay SnowFest – Rochester, NY Jan 27
- FrankfortCon – Frankfort, KY Jan 27
- Gasparilla Pirate Fest – Tampa, FL Jan 27
- RetroMania Collectibles Show – Boulder, CO Jan 27
- SSA+S Toracon – Sarasota, FL Jan 27
- Annandale Comic Book & Nonsports Card Show – Annandale, VA Jan 28
- Chico Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Chico, CA Jan 28
- Comicverse – New Berlin, WI Jan 28
- Lantern Rite – Grapevine, TX Jan 28
- London Film Fair – London, United Kingdom Jan 28
- Ontario Collectors Con – Mississauga, Ontario, Canada Jan 28
- Pasadena Comic Convention and Toy Show – Pasadena, CA Jan 28
- St Helens Sci-Fi Comic & Toy Fair – St Helens, United Kingdom Jan 28
- SWFL Anime-Fest – Fort Myers, FL Jan 28



# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 National Hangover Day	2 World Introvert Day	3 Fruitcake Toss Day	4 National Spaghetti Day	5 National Bird Day	6 Cuddle Up Day
7 Old Rock Day	8 Bubble Bath Day	9 Play God Day	10 National Take The Stairs Day	11 Learn Your Name In Morse Code Day	12 National Hot Tea Day	13 BEWARE! BEWARE! Friday the 13th!!!
14 Dress Up Your Pet Day	15 National Bagel Day	16 Appreciate A Dragon Day	17 Ditch New Year's Resolutions Day	18 Winnie The Pooh Day	19 National Tin Can Day	20 National Buttercrunch Day
21 National Hugging Day	22 National Blonde Brownie Day	23 Measure Your Feet Day	24 Beer Can Appreciation Day	25 Opposite Day	26 Spouces Day	27 Punch The Clock Day
28 National Kazoo Day	29 National Corn Chip Day	30 National Inane Answering Message Day	31 Backward Day			

## Upcoming: Happy National Dragon Day!

Mindy Hunt

One of the most popular creatures to show up in fantasy is the dragon. So, in honor of National Dragon Day coming up on January 16, let's take a look at why this mythical creature is so popular and how it became a dominate character in mythology.

The general definition is a legendary creature, usually scaled, fire spewing critter with serpentine, reptilian, or avian traits, hatching from eggs. Depending on which area of the world you are in will better determine how they look. For instance, a European dragon tend to be depicted as a reptilian creature with animal level intelligence, four legs and wings (and in some cases, multiple heads). Most Asian dragons are serpentine (snake like) with four legs and no wings. They also are commonly described as living in rivers, or having an underground lair, possibly even hoarding treasure. Other than that, any special distinctions depend on the culture.

But if dragons don't exist, then how do people know what they look like? What inspired them to create these descriptions?

If you didn't know what a dinosaur was and found a collection of massive bones that did not resemble any creature you had ever seen, why not assume they are the dragons in your culture's mythology? Initial descriptions of the critters tend to be a mixture of various crocodiles, snakes, and salamanders. But like the idea that humans have inherited and evolved the characteristics of monkeys, the same is believed of dragons in regards to snakes, large cats, and birds of prey. From there, they adapt the cultural and literary expectations of the individual cultures and religions.

Let us look at the two major different cultures and break it down from there.

### Eastern Culture

In many Asian cultures, dragons are considered as representatives of the primal forces of nature, religion and the universe. They are connected with wisdom, often said to be wiser than humans which also includes the ability to speak. In some of the traditions, it is said that dragons taught humans how to speak. They are also associated with longevity, very long lives, if they do die of a natural cause versus killed. It is also common for them to possess supernatural powers, magic.

The variances of dragons' powers change with the different Eastern cultures. For instance, dragons are the highest-ranking animal in the Chinese animal hierarchy, strongly tied in with the emperor, representing power and majesty. They are also believed to be generous Chinese folklore. Hindu dragons are more of a cobra, a naga, and controlling water and rain, thus also fertility. Women in south India worship the nagas, giving offerings, believing to help with expanding and protecting their family, bringing prosperity. In Buddhism, nagas are more similarly related to the Chinese dragons, still in the form of a cobra, but may also have several heads. They can also use their magic to take the form of humans and have even been protectors of Buddha.

In the Japanese culture, they dragons are also water deities, large wingless serpentine creatures with clawed feet, associated with rainfall and bodies of water. Vietnamese culture believes the dragons also bring rain but similar to the Chinese culture, they represent the emperor, the prosperity, and the power of the nation. Also, similarly, it represents the symbol of yang, the universe, life, existence, and growth. The dragons are descended from a dragon and fairy. Filipino dragons are snake-like mermaids that can take human form, only evil toward humans if they are mistreated.

### Western Culture

Most Western dragons are depicted similarly to Eastern dragons except they usually have wings. Before the spread of Christianity through the Western world, they were also viewed similarly to the East. However, that changed, taking a more sinister version created to represent Satan. In medieval times, most people knew of dragons from the Bible, from the Book of Job, chapter 41, Leviathan:

"I will not fail to speak of Leviathan's limbs, its strength and its graceful form. Who can strip off its outer coat? Who can penetrate its double coat of armor? Who dares open the doors of its mouth, ringed about with fearsome teeth? Its back has rows of shields tightly sealed together; each is so close to the next that no air can pass between. They are joined fast to one another; they cling together and cannot be parted. Its snorting throws out flashes of light; its eyes are like the rays of dawn. Flames stream from its mouth; sparks of fire shoot out. Smoke pours from its nostrils as from a boiling pot over burning reeds. Its breath sets coals ablaze, and flames dart from its mouth" (NIV).

The church created legends of righteous and godly saints battling and defeating Satan in the forms of dragons. It was believed they could breathe fire because they had their mouth was of hell. Artwork would depict the need to pass through the monster's mouth to enter Hell, with flames and smoke.

The first mention of dragons in ancient Greece was Homer's *Iliad* with Agamemnon described having a blue dragon motif on his sword belt and a three-headed dragon on his breast plate. These dragons were also described with having tusks like large swine's, grow to great lengths, and long lifespans.

In Eastern Europe, dragons usually had multiple heads, which could possibly grow back if they were cut off. Because they were so vile, according to Slavic myth, even Mother Earth would not allow them back into her 'womb' and have to remain above ground for all of eternity. The blood of a dragon is poisonous, acid-like, which could burn through armor and skin. Only in German legend is dragon's blood useful for humans, with the power to have skin or armor bathed in it invincible.

What about modern dragons; do they exist?

In our current culture, dragons are in our literature, games, and large and small screens as folklore. These forms of modern day mythology will be passed down from generation to generation. The stories are usually in fantasy setting versus the mechanical world we currently live in, even though there are a few stories that blend machines with magical creatures, like *Reign of Fire*, *The Dragonriders of Pern* series, Harry Potter, and even Godzilla. People are enamored by dragons, the beauty of their imagery, the magic they can perform, and even as scary as they may look, the pureness their hearts can possess. They can be muses, a formidable opponent. or simply a part of the landscape.

Now I could go through a list of notable dragons, but instead I'm going to list some of my favorites.

### **Saphira**

I want to start with the *Inheritance Cycle* by Christopher Paolini. In short, these books follow Eragon, who discovers one of the last remaining dragon eggs in Alagaesia, which hatch for him (they hatch for only their true rider). Together, he and Saphira fight the evil Galbatorix and free the people of his land. Of course, more happens, without giving away too much, but Saphira is a beautiful, blue dragon with the pureness (and fun) of a child's heart that matures through the books. The bond with Eragon continually grows throughout the story. Unfortunately, there is more I would love to say to support my love of dragons here even more, but I do not want to spoil it for any future readers.

### **The Harry Potter World**

Next, how can one not think of the wizarding world of Harry Potter? J.K. Rowling peppers the books with dragons. Hagrid tries to raise a dragon. Ron's brother, Charlie Weasley works with dragons in Romania. Cornelius Fudge suggested using dragons to guard the school after removing the Dementors. There is a dragon in the wizard bank, Gringotts. Harry has a challenge against a dragon in the Tri Wizard Tournament.

In fact, Harry, Ron, and Hermione rode a dragon. However, dragons are not just used when they are alive. Their blood, claws, eggs, and heart strings, to name a few, are listed throughout the books as material need or used in the wizarding world.

### **Drogon**

Who can ignore our cultured current obsession with the Daenerys Stormborn of the House of Targaryen, First of her Name, the Unburnt, Queen of the Andals and the First men, Khaleesi of the Great Grass Sea, Breaker of Chains, and Mother of Dragons' three little pets. The Queen of England has her corgis, Dany has her dragons. In George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series, the Khaleesi is the last of her house, who controlled dragons years before her birth and were killed off. She has three eggs hatch for her and are loyal to her, especially her black dragon, Drogon, name after her Khal Drogo. The moment that she takes flight with Drogon is breathtaking and makes a nervous readers a little jealous.

## Hiram McDaniels

Even though I work for the hooded figures in Nightvale, I will cautiously say, I did vote for Hiram McDaniels. I do understand that most likely by the end of the day, an envelope will show up under my door and I will join my fellow interns in the dog park. But until then, just know I am the third longest living intern behind current Mayor Dana, the Intern and Kareem. All Hail the Glow Cloud. (Hiram is a five headed dragon featured on the podcast *Welcome to Nightvale*, terrified the town, and then unsuccessfully ran for mayor. Too many arguments between the heads.)

## Albi, The Racist Dragon

A group I thoroughly enjoy, the New Zealand duo Flight of the Conchords has a song from their *Folk the World Tour Live* album released in 2002 called *Albi*. Albi is a racist green dragon who lives in a marmalade forest between the make-believe trees, in a cottage cheese cottage (of course). The song is the story of his exile and redemption and the little Albanian boy. In only the way the Jemaine Clement and Bret McKenzie can tell the story.

## Smaug

Speaking of Bret McKenzie, while most people were enjoying his portrayal as an Elf in *The Hobbit* films, they may have missed that other character, Smaug, the primary antagonist of J.R.R. Tolkien's book. The last of the dragons of Middle Earth, he seized the mountain containing the dwarf treasures, scorching the area around the Lonely Mountain into a wasteland. This "most specially greedy, strong, and wicket worm" provides a great piece of entertainment, which makes it hard to remember him as the bad guy.

## Deathwing

This is where the gamer comes out. For years, my life was shaped by this particular dragon who was originally thought dead, but not. In *World of Warcraft*, Deathwing the Destroyer was one of the five Dragon Aspects, driven mad, turning against the other Aspects, hid himself within the Alliance, and turned his greatest enemy into a slave of the Horde. After setbacks and defeat from the other Aspects, he disappeared only to return in *Cataclysm*, the third expansion to *World of Warcraft*. As an achievement freak in game, being killed by Deathwing gained you the Stood in the Fire achievement. At any time he could spawn in either Kalimdor or the Eastern Kingdoms, killing anything in his path. If you were lucky enough to have your toon there and die, congratulations to you! Many nights I followed the rumors from various gaming blogs that his route is not as random as Blizzard claims it to be. However, it is one I never did achieve sadly. Maybe one day.

And finally.....

## Falcor

FAAAAAAAAAAALLLLCOOOOOOOR! Who can forget Atreyu's traveling companion, Falcor the luckdragon from *The Neverending Story*? He's like a flying dog who helps Atreyu discover a sense of bravery and becomes his very best friend. As a child, I wanted Falcor to show up and fly me off. Always optimistic, friends, helpful and wise. As he always says, "never give up and good luck will find you."

All right, it's your turn. Leave us a comment and let us know some of *your* favorite dragons.





# LETTERS

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[re: *Silvercon Lives Again! (Sort of..) last ish...*]

Thanks for the writeup on Son of Silvercon.

The minor correction: Jon del Arroz was not actually a guest. We invited him originally, but he informed me a couple of months before the convention that he would be in El Salvador and unable to attend.

Trivial stuff that doesn't rate a correction...I actually started working on the convention the previous year, setting up the parent company (Friends of Fission-chan), buying permission to use our mascot from her Filipino creator, and other greasy organizational stuff. A lot of the success of the con rests with our guests - Maggie Hogarth invited me to her Discord and put me in touch with our Staff Artist, Caitlin Walsh, who did yeoman work on the flyers, program book, and helped flog the convention on X. Maggie's Discord also yielded several members of the convention, and several people showed up thanks to Sarah, most notably Holly Bambolo, who brought her entire family and is my Unofficial Understudy and Definitely Not Vice-Chairman, since she aspires to start Spawn of Son of Silvercon in Idaho Real Soon Now, an aspiration I enthusiastically support.

So there you are. Thanks again for the writeup, and hope to see you in Las Vegas next year!

Kevin Trainor



Dear Mindy:

Many thanks for Vol. 3, No. 6 of the *FanActivity Gazette*. Definitely a biggest issue than most, and it does look good. Only blot on the front cover is you've got to spell my first name right...other than that, let's get on with it!

[oops. *That's on me. Sorry about that, Lloyd ~ jph*]

Thanksgiving was a while ago for me, but...what are we thankful for? A roof over our heads, food in the fridge and cupboard, some money in the bank, the choice to do as we will (within reason), and that we can do the kind of fanac we enjoy without it being priced out of reach...yet. As for Christmas, we are social butterflies this season, as opposed to the usual stay-at-home routine, so we are pleased. We recently gave away our big artificial Christmas tree with a lot of decorations, and now we have a little table-top tree, and that does us just fine.

My letter of comment. My work continues on *Amazing Stories*, and I am just about caught up on submissions, but I am giving our slush readers a vacation so we can start fresh in 2024. Finding things to do and go to in Toronto is a little difficult...learning about them is hit-or-miss, and those we do find are often pricy. So, this coming weekend is a movie prop show, and we will see what we can pick up for cheap.

I found out through the local news that the new Wonka movie premiered at a local mall in Toronto, and the lead actor, Timothée Chalamet, was in attendance, always a good sign if the lead actor is there, meeting with the fans.

The birthday list... Yvonne's birthday is on December 19, so I am taking her out to... breakfast. Finding a decent reservation is nearly impossible, so there are many good local breakfast/lunch restaurants, so we will go to her favourite, and chow down.

Time to go, it's getting late, and I have a day or work tomorrow. Actually, it's the office Christmas party, but there should still be lots of work to get done. See you nextish!

Yours, Lloyd Penney

*[Lloyd, we can't wait to see what you have cooking over at Amazing!]*




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**Got something to share with us? Send an e-mail to [mindyhunt@scifi4me.com](mailto:mindyhunt@scifi4me.com)**

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## 2023 Game Award Winners Announced

### Jason P Hunt

The 10th annual Game Awards were held at the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles on December 7th, streamed live across more than 30 streaming platforms as the winners were announced. *Baldur's Gate 3* was the big winner of the night, followed by *Alan Wake 2*. Each of those games had gone into the evening with eight nominations, while seven noms had been thrown at *Spider-Man 2*, which walked away with nothing in the win column.

Winners are marked in red.

#### Game of the Year

- *Alan Wake 2* (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)
- *Resident Evil 4* (Capcom)
- *Super Mario Bros. Wonder* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)
- *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

#### Best Game Direction

- *Alan Wake 2* (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)
- *Super Mario Bros. Wonder* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)
- *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

### Best Adaptation

- *Castlevania: Nocturne* (Powerhouse Animation/Netflix)
- *Gran Turismo* (PlayStation Productions/Sony Pictures)
- *The Last of Us* (PlayStation Productions/HBO)
- *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (Illumination/Nintendo/Universal Pictures)
- *Twisted Metal* (PlayStation Productions/Peacock)

### Best Narrative

- *Alan Wake 2* (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Cyberpunk 2077: Phantom Liberty* (CD Projekt Red)
- *Final Fantasy XVI* (Square Enix)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)

### Best Art Direction

- *Alan Wake 2* (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Hi-Fi Rush* (Tango Gameworks/Bethesda Softworks)
- *Lies of P* (Round8 Studio/Neowiz Games)
- *Super Mario Bros. Wonder* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)
- *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

### Best Score and Music

- *Alan Wake 2*, Composer Petri Alanko (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Baldur's Gate 3*, Composer Borislav Slavov (Larian Studios)
- *Final Fantasy XVI*, Composer Masayoshi Soken (Square Enix)
- *Hi-Fi Rush*, Audio Director Shuichi Kobori (Tango Gameworks/Bethesda Softworks)
- *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom*, Composed by Nintendo Sound Team (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)



### Best Audio Design

- *Alan Wake 2* (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Dead Space* (Motive Studio/EA)
- *Hi-Fi Rush* (Tango Gameworks/Bethesda Softworks)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)
- *Resident Evil 4* (Capcom)

### Best Performance

- Ben Starr, *Final Fantasy XVI*
- Cameron Monaghan, *STAR WARS Jedi: Survivor*
- Idris Elba, *Cyberpunk 2077: Phantom Liberty*
- Melanie Liburd, *Alan Wake 2*
- Neil Newbon, *Baldur's Gate 3*
- Yuri Lowenthal, *Marvel's Spider-Man 2*

### Innovation in Accessibility

- *Diablo IV* (Blizzard Entertainment)
- *Forza Motorsport* (Turn 10 Studios/Xbox Game Studios)
- *Hi-Fi Rush* (Tango Gameworks/Bethesda Softworks)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)
- *Mortal Kombat 1* (NetherRealm Studios/WB Games)
- *Street Fighter 6* (Capcom)

### Games for Impact

- *A Space for the Unbound* (Mojiken Studio/Toge Productions/Chorus)
- *Chants of Sennaar* (Rundisc/Focus Entertainment)
- *Goodbye Volcano High* (KO\_OP)
- *Tchia* (Awaceb/Kepler Interactive)
- *Terra Nil* (Free Lives/Devolver Digital/Netflix)
- *Venba* (Visai Games)

### Best Ongoing Game

- *Apex Legends* (Respawn Entertainment/EA)
- *Cyberpunk 2077* (CD Projekt Red)
- *Final Fantasy XIV* (Square Enix)
- *Fortnite* (Epic Games)
- *Genshin Impact* (HoYoverse)

**Best Community Support**

- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Cyberpunk 2077* (CD Projekt Red)
- *Destiny 2* (Bungie)
- *Final Fantasy XIV* (Square Enix)
- *No Man's Sky* (Hello Games)

**Best Independent Game**

- *Cocoon* (Geometric Interactive/Annapurna Interactive)
- *Dave the Diver* (MINTROCKET)
- *Dredge* (Black Salt Games/Team 17)
- *Sea of Stars* (Sabotage Studio)
- *Viewfinder* (Sad Owl Studios/Thunderful Publishing)

**Best Debut Indie Game**

- *Cocoon* (Geometric Interactive/Annapurna Interactive)
- *Dredge* (Black Salt Games/Team 17)
- *Pizza Tower* (Tour de Pizza)
- *Venba* (Visai Games)
- *Viewfinder* (Sad Owl Studios/Thunderful Publishing)

**Best Mobile Game**

- *Final Fantasy VII: Ever Crisis* (Applibot/Square Enix)
- *Honkai: Star Rail* (HoYoverse)
- *Hello Kitty Island Adventure* (Sunblink Entertainment)
- *Monster Hunter Now* (Niantic/Capcom)
- *Terra Nil* (Free Lives/Devolver/Netflix)

**Best VR/AR Game**

- *Gran Turismo Sport* (Polyphony Digital/SIE)
- *Humanity* (tha LTD/Enhance Games)
- *Horizon Call of the Mountain* (Guerrilla Games/Firesprite/SIE)
- *Resident Evil Village VR Mode* (Capcom)
- *Synapse* (nDreams)

**Best Action Game**

- *Armored Core VI: Fires of Rubicon* (FromSoftware/Bandai Namco)
- *Dead Island 2* (Dambuster Studios/Deep Silver)
- *Ghostrunner 2* (One More Level/505 Games)
- *Hi-Fi Rush* (Tango Gameworks/Bethesda Softworks)
- *Remnant 2* (Gunfire Games/Gearbox Publishing)

**Best Action/Adventure Game**

- *Alan Wake 2* (Remedy Entertainment/Epic Games Publishing)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)
- *Resident Evil 4* (Capcom)
- *Star Wars Jedi: Survivor* (Respawn Entertainment/EA)
- *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

**Best RPG**

- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Final Fantasy XVI* (Square Enix)
- *Lies of P* (Round8 Studio/Neowiz Games)
- *Sea of Stars* (Sabotage Studio)
- *Starfield* (Bethesda Game Studios/Bethesda Softworks)

**Best Fighting Game**

- *God of Rock* (Modus Studios Brazil/Modus Games)
- *Mortal Kombat 1* (NetherRealm Studios/WB Games)
- *Nickelodeon All-Star Brawl 2* (Ludosity/Fair Play Labs/GameMill Entertainment)
- *Pocket Bravery* (Statera Studio/PQube)
- *Street Fighter 6* (Capcom)

**Best Family Game**

- *Disney Illusion Island* (Dlala Studios/Disney)
- *Party Animals* (Recreate Games)
- *Pikmin 4* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)
- *Sonic Superstars* (Arzest/Sonic Team/Sega)
- *Super Mario Bros. Wonder* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

### Best Sim/Strategy Game

- *Advance Wars 1+2: Re-Boot Camp* (WayForward/Nintendo)
- *Cities: Skylines II* (Colossal Order/Paradox Interactive)
- *Company of Heroes 3* (Relic Entertainment/Sega)
- *Fire Emblem Engage* (Intelligent Systems/Nintendo)
- *Pikmin 4* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

### Best Sports/Racing

- *EA Sports FC 24* (EA Vancouver/EA Romania/EA Sports)
- *F1 23* (Codemasters/EA Sports)
- *Forza Motorsport (Turn 10 Studios/Xbox Game Studios)*
- *Hot Wheels Unleashed 2: Turbocharged* (Milestone)
- *The Crew Motorfest* (Ubisoft Ivory Tower/Ubisoft)

### Best Multiplayer Presented by Discord

- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Diablo IV* (Blizzard Entertainment)
- *Party Animals* (Recreate Games)
- *Street Fighter 6* (Capcom)
- *Super Mario Bros. Wonder* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)

### Most Anticipated Game

- *Final Fantasy VII Rebirth* (Square Enix)
- *Hades II* (Supergiant Games)
- *Like A Dragon: Infinite Wealth* (Ryu Ga Gotoku Studio/Sega)
- *Star Wars Outlaws* (Massive Entertainment/Ubisoft)
- *Tekken 8* (Bandai Namco/Arika)

### Players' Voice

- *Baldur's Gate 3* (Larian Studios)
- *Cyberpunk 2077: Phantom Liberty* (CD Projekt Red)
- *Genshin Impact* (HoYoverse)
- *Marvel's Spider-Man 2* (Insomniac Games/SIE)
- *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom* (Nintendo EPD/Nintendo)



### Content Creator of the Year

- **IronMouse**
- PeopleMakeGames
- Quackity
- Spreen
- SypherPK

### Best Esports Game

- *Counter-Strike 2* (Valve)
- *Dota 2* (Valve)
- *League of Legends* (Riot Games)
- *PUBG Mobile* (LightSpeed Studios/Tencent Games)
- *Valorant* (Riot Games)

### Best Esports Athlete

- **Lee “Faker” Sang-hyeok** (*League of Legends*)
- Mathieu “ZywOo” Herbaut (*CS:GO*)
- Max “Demon1” Mazanov (*Valorant*)
- Paco “HyDra” Rusiewicz (*Call of Duty*)
- Park “Ruler” Jae-hyuk (*League of Legends*)
- Phillip “ImperialHal” Dosen (*Apex Legends*)

### Best Esports Team

- Evil Geniuses (*Valorant*)
- Fnatic (*Valorant*)
- Gaimin Gladiators (*Dota 2*)
- **JD Gaming** (*League of Legends*)
- Team Vitality (*Counter-Strike*)

### Best Esports Coach

- **Christine “potter” Chi** (Evil Geniuses – *Valorant*)
- Danny “zonic” Sorensen (Team Falcons – *Counter-Strike*)
- Jordan “Gunba” Graham (Florida Mayhem – *Overwatch*)
- Remy “XTQZZZ” Quoniam (Team Vitality – *Counter-Strike*)
- Yoon “Homme” Sung-young (JD Gaming – *League of Legends*)

### Best Esports Event

- **2023 League of Legends World Championship**
- Blast.tv Paris Major 2023
- EVO 2023
- The International *Dota 2* Championships 2023
- *Valorant* Champions 2023



M P R Q W K Q C Z E O Z X Y I B V Y G Y X J F C X Z A P L O  
M P C O L Q Q V Z O O V M D O R I G H T W C O M E T F T M F  
N R L U E X J M X T W K Q O H P Z Z B C W E O I V J C F M X  
K O Z Y P R I Z B U I U C Y W P N B F L O D Y Q V P A O U J  
B R U C E I Q Y D A S H E R G A C X W Y C W S F W G V X S S  
Q I G C X M D U P H C H F S H K F F K D H U B V V P Z U J J  
D M N Q B F H K E D V E Q L Q Q S W R E T U F E J Z Y U W T  
I A V R J M X B G E H F K B L A C K I E S K D H G Q B O Y J  
D E G R U F F O M E N E N L A F P K L N D Y Q K O K V D X H  
O L Z E I D H X O A O I Q I J F R C H W Y K F V C C Q V I V  
N L T Z D U O M H L R R E T B P A M Y L Q L U I J V F M Q M  
D K C Z L J T L L Z F V G Z S H N J X S V O L E O N M Y N K  
E Z P D Y V S I P B J O I E W E C S E J N S D F O Q F E F U  
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W M X V I B M Z R D Q V S B B Z R T O E X F L V I X E N F B

RUDOLPH SLICK  
DASHER DORIGHT  
DANCER FRED  
PRANCER ACE  
VIXEN BLACKIE  
COMET QUEENIE  
CUPID CLYDE  
DONDER  
BLITZEN  
BRUCE  
MARVIN  
LEON  
CLETUS  
GEORGE  
BILL

We welcome your feedback!

If you have comments, suggestions, or articles to share please send an e-mail to [mindyhunt@scifi4me.com](mailto:mindyhunt@scifi4me.com) or [jphunt@scifi4me.com](mailto:jphunt@scifi4me.com) and let us know how we're doing!

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond.

