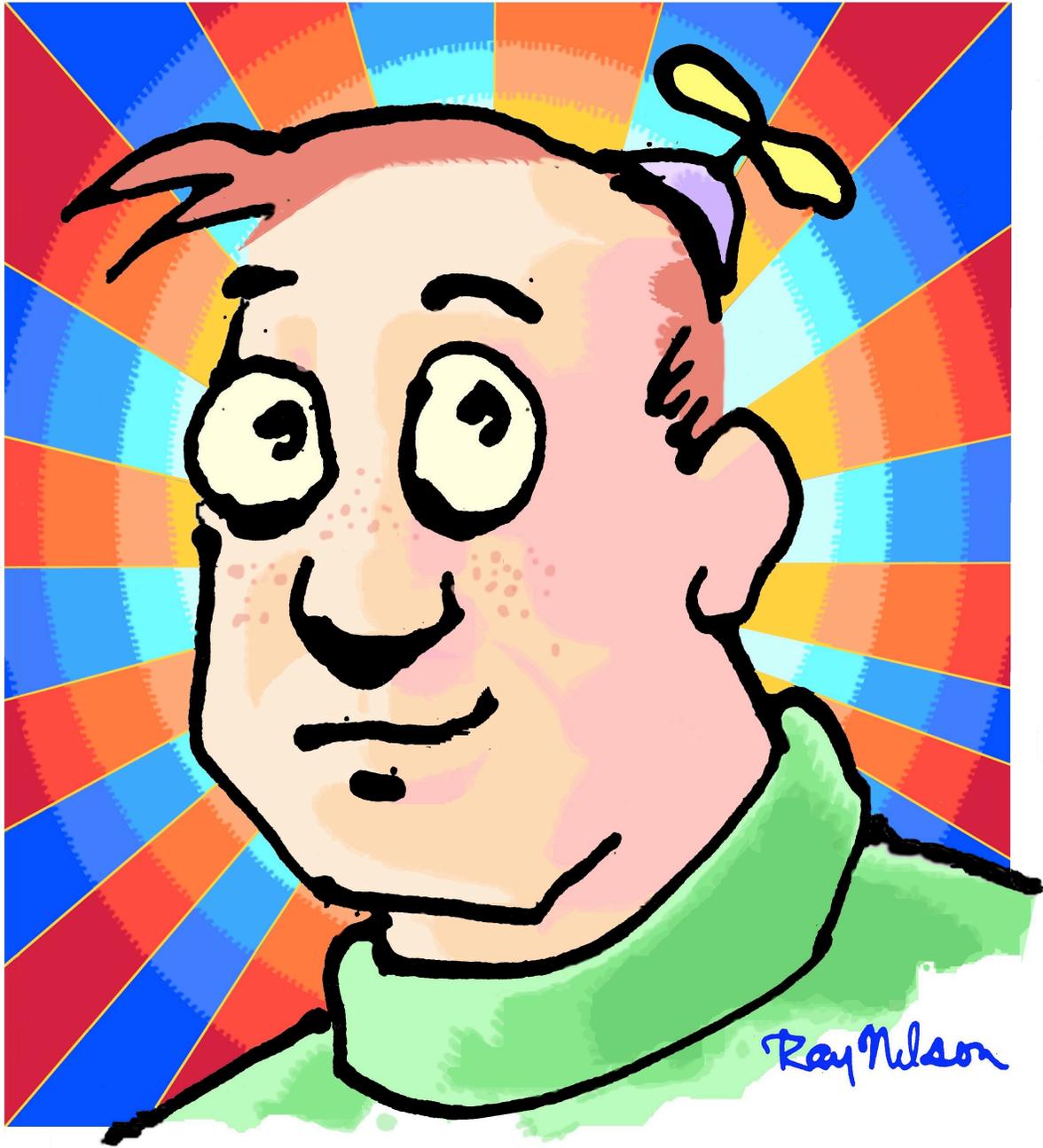


JOIN TOGETHER #3



Cor31u
RICHMOND May 2-4 2014

JOIN TOGETHER #3

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Corflu 31 team: Sandra Bond, Randy Byers, Nic Farey, Aileen Forman, Ken Forman, Andy Hooper, Nathan Madison, John Nielsen-Hall, Curt Phillips

Corflu.org webmaster: Bill “Magister” Burns

Lifetime Achievement Award panel: Claire Brialey, Nic Farey, Andy Hooper, Earl Kemp, Dan Steffan, Damien Warman, Ted White

For the Doubletree: Jason Whitt, Robin Stannard

Hotelplanner.com: Aedan Whitaker

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PROGRAM

Our program room is the Shenandoah Parlor D on the 2nd floor.

FRIDAY

600pm **Opening ceremonies, GoH drawing**

645pm BREAK

830pm **Southern Fandom Classic**

Curt Phillips, Warren Buff

Curt Phillips writes: As far as we know at press time, Curt & Warren are the only people attending Corflu who are actually *in* Southern Fandom. Unfortunately they have realized this means that they can make up any incredible whopper they like about Southern Fandom and no one is likely to be here who can challenge them on it. Well, except for Sandra Bond, who knows everything about fandom, of course - but aside from Sandra, (whose silence Curt will try to buy with a box of old 45 rpm records), the Curt & Warren Radio Hour will attempt to delight and amaze you with stories of the Olde Fannish Southland - as we imagine it could possibly have been, maybe...

Just remember, this was Nic Farey's idea, so it's Nic Farey's fault. As usual...

1000pm **Who's Your Daddy?**

Ken Forman writes: Who's your daddy? No, seriously, who's your fannish parent, the one who ignited that spark, the one without whom you wouldn't be reading this?

Way back at the end of the 20th Century in a distant place called Seattle, Washington at the Tudor Nightmare hotel, I was selected as Corflu Guest of Honor. Since I was out of the room at the time, I've always suspected some nefarious foul play by one or more intrepid fans hosting that gathering. Regardless of the circumstances that led to my name being drawn that long-ago morning - cosmic circumstances, fannish folly, or that I'm a Cancer with a Bad Moon Rising - I was honored and pleased to be selected for this honor by a group of my peers.

At times between then and now, some folks have complemented Aileen and me on our GoH Tango; a few minutes that remain pleasantly burned into my memory. Few fans though, seem to recall the gist of my talk, that fandom - *our* fandom - can best be considered as a family. I'm not the first fan to notice this analogy, nor am I the first to use that metaphor. As fandom continues its march to the future, family

becomes more important. It might be a proud thing to be a fan, but it doesn't have to be lonely.

We now gather for the 31st time to celebrate our world con, and I'd like to establish a Fannish Family Tree to trace how that spark was carried from one fan to another. So I ask again, "Who's your daddy?"

For instance, in my case, I met Terry Carr back in the early 80s at a local convention. Although I'd dearly love to claim him as my personal Prometheus, I can't. I was nothing to him and he hardly paid me much attention. Instead, I must give the title of my personal fannish mentor to Arnie Katz. It was Arnie that showed me the big, wide world of fandom. He handed the spark to me. I in turn passed it off to former Vegas fan Tom Springer in Room 1812 filled with such fannish luminaries as Jack Speer, Poul Anderson, and a host of others. Unfortunately Tom is currently *gafia*, but I know he'll be back. Then perhaps he'll be able to pass that spark to others.

I imagine Hugo Gernsback will occupy the ultimate position on this lineage, followed closely by much of First Fandom. But where next? At this year's gathering, I'll be working to compile a partial list. It is my hope that this will be an ongoing project, that others will see this as a worthy endeavor, that the time and effort will yield tasty fruit.

So think about it. Who's your daddy?

SATURDAY

900am

Fanthology 2013

Murray Moore writes: *Fanthology 2013*: do you care, if you are not in the table of contents? Time capsule of the best of the best, or one fan's scrapbook?

1030am

Auction

Administered by **Curt Phillips**

Noon

BREAK

200pm

FAAn Award Futures

Andy Hooper writes: Since 1995, the Fan Activity Achievement Awards have been associated with Corflu. As we face the 20th year of this tradition, are the awards what we want them to be? Have the new categories helped or hurt our level of interest in them? What would you like to see next year's FAAn Administrator do with the awards? Anyone with an opinion should come and be heard in this open conversation.

330pm

Two Girls for Every Boy

Sandra Bond (M), Andy Hooper, Curt Phillips, Pat Virzi

Sandra Bond writes: There has been much heated discussion in many parts of fandom in recent years about privilege, sexism, equality and social justice. Is this debate relevant to Corflu and its attendees? Did the fandom that produced Lee Hoffman, Susan Wood and Jerry Jacks deal with this issue adequately many years ago?

Or do we need to examine the issue, and ourselves, further? Can “they” learn from “us”? Can “we” learn from “them”? Who are “we” and “they” anyway?

500pm

Why I Didn't Bid for Corflu

Nic Farey (M), Rich Coad, Ken Forman, John Nielsen-Hall, Curt Phillips

Nic Farey writes: It could be said that finding a bid for the 2014 Corflu was fraught, due to various proposals and drop-outs, and an undertow of feeling that there should be an easterly location. Instead of the “traditional” here-in-our-town approach, we ended up with a distributed team. What worked, what didn't? Is this a viable model for future bids? Only Uncle Johnny knows for sure.

630pm

BREAK

830pm

Just A Minac

Sandra Bond (Chair), Rich Coad, Nic Farey, Rob Jackson, John Nielsen-Hall

Sandra Bond writes: The willing panellists are given silly things to do by Sandra Bond. Who will prove themselves most able at talking on various fannish subjects without hesitation, repetition or deviation?

915pm

Treehouse of Fandom XIV

Andy Hooper writes: In the tradition of *The Twilight Zone* and *The Simpsons'* “Treehouse of Terror,” this year's dramatic presentation, “Treehouse of Fandom XIV,” consists of three short stories of fannish suspense. “Sock Puppets in Love” is a tale of dystopian romance. “The Curious Case of Benjamin Blogg,” blurs the lines between fandom's past and present. And “The Walking Fen: Nite of the Living Oldpharts”, based on works by Robert Kirkman and Terry Carr. Expect plenty of laughs, a few thrills, and just a little bit of Barkenhorst.

SUNDAY

1130am

BANQUET

Guest of Honor speech

Lifetime Achievement Award presentation

FAAn Awards presentation

Business Meeting:

Election of Past President, fwa

Bids for Corflu 32 (2015)

Official closing

BANQUET MENU

Tomato, Cranberry and Orange Juices (Preset on the Buffet)

Sliced Fresh Fruit

Tossed Garden Greens, Served with Two Dressings

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs

Breakfast Potatoes

Sausage and Bacon

Cinnamon Raisin French Toast, Served with Warm Syrup

Cheese Grits or Steel Cut Oatmeal

Breast of Chicken Piccata, Served with Lemon Caper Sauce

Coquille Saint Jacque Florentine*

Vegetable Du Jour

Bakery Basket of Assorted Fresh Breakfast Pastries, Muffins, Bagels and Croissants

Butter, Preserves, and Cream Cheese

Freshly Brewed Colombian Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Hot Teas and Iced Tea

Omelets cooked to order

Virginia ham carving station

*For the less than expert foodies, that's scallops in mushroom and cream sauce, to you...

CONSUIITE SCHEDULE

by AILEEN FORMAN

Food, glorious food! Yes, we have it, in Suite 802. The usual munchies (candy, chips, etc.) will be available as well as sodas, water and bheer but we hope you'll pause for a while to enjoy the camaraderie as well. Suite 802 is a great place to sit and chat, get together with old friends and meet new ones. To facilitate the latter, we've provided distractions such as games and slot cars to make conversations run smoother. Although you shouldn't plan on full meals, we will have substantial appetizers presented around teatime and late night as well as coffee, tea, iced tea, lemonade and, of course, fresh, hot cookies. Consuites will open Friday at noon, close briefly for the opening ceremonies, after which there will be pizzas, and the room will remain open until the consuite hostess throws you out.

We'll reopen Saturday morning around 8 a.m., which should give people time to get coffee before the first Saturday program item starts. Hot appetizers will be available Saturday evening. Closing Saturday night around midnight will allow the hostess to sleep a few hours before reopening Sunday morning around 9 a.m. We'll be closed for the banquet and then be open again until we all fall down. So swing by and grab something to eat and drink and relax a bit while chatting with friends. After all, that's what Corflu is all about!

The Inaugural Corflu Slot Car Race Tournament will occur Saturday evening about 10pm (after the play). Sign-up sheets will be posted until before the Saturday dinner break, and the tournament drawing made shortly thereafter. Who will be the Corflu 31 champion?

(Note: Bheer sponsored in part by the UK Corflu 32 bid team, and also by Warren Buff, to whom thanks!)

RESTAURANTS

by NATHAN MADISON

(Reprinted from *Join Together* #2)

I have tried to compile a short list of great restaurants (all of which I've eaten at, and have personal, favorite dishes from) near the Corflu venue, both chain establishments that will be familiar to everyone, but also local restaurants that you can only find in Richmond – these I have denoted with asterisks (*). This list is in no way comprehensive, and as Midlothian Turnpike is one of the largest, continuous shopping districts in the area, I can guarantee that on the way to any of these locations, you will pass by many others that are worth checking out, as well. If I may play favorites, the locals I would recommend the most, particularly **Capital Ale House**.

Hong Kong King Buffet – 1 minute east of the DoubleTree – Great Chinese buffet where you can really sit down and get your fill from a great selection.

Jiang's Chinese Restaurant – 3 minutes west of the DoubleTree – For more of a sit-down atmosphere, this is one of the best Chinese food restaurants in the area.

Ruby Tuesday's – 3 minutes west of the DoubleTree (same shopping complex as Jiang's) – A chain that probably everyone is familiar with, but still serves great food, and is very close to the hotel.

***Candela's Pizzeria & Ristorante Italiano** – 3 minutes north of the DoubleTree – Richmond original (and personally my favorite Italian restaurant in the area for well over a decade. The Stromboli is 16" long, and lasts me for a week, seriously.

***Virginia BBQ** – 4 minutes west of the DoubleTree – Virginia, and specializing in BBQ (not surprisingly), serving dishes with influences from Virginia, the Carolinas, and Kentucky.

***Pescaodos** – 5 minutes west of the DoubleTree – Restaurant with two locations in the area (the other in downtown Richmond, near Hollywood Cemetery) that focuses on local seafood, with a fantastic mix of local as well as international influences.

Olive Garden – 6 minutes east of the DoubleTree – Well-known Italian chain restaurant that, while still not a Richmond original, has great food, nonetheless.

***Capital Ale House** – 7 minutes west of the DoubleTree – Virginia-original, with locations only in Richmond, Midlothian, and Fredericksburg. Excellent food (particularly the burgers), great wine, beer and liquor selections, and a welcoming atmosphere. Honestly, probably my highest recommendation if you want a Richmond-original.

***Crab Louie's** – 7 minutes west of the DoubleTree – Another local restaurant, specializing in seafood, and housed in a several-centuries old structure; excellent food and locally-inspired dishes. An area institution that has been around far longer than I can remember.

***Joe's Inn** – 7 minutes northeast of the DoubleTree – Fantastic restaurant, particularly-known for breakfasts, but great for every other meal of the day as well.

***Café Catura** – 8 minutes west of the DoubleTree – Great place, principally for breakfasts and brunches (which is all I've ever had there), but they also have lunch and dinner menus, as well. Recommendation Huevos Ranchero.

Non-Standard Distribution

by NIC FAREY

So there was this Vegas expat, a deranged couple in Arkansas, a solid citizen of Seattle and a grumpy old bastard from some tiny hamlet in the UK. They walk into a bar, the server looks at them and says: “What is this, a joke?”

That’s not even the way it happened, of course, but it started with a bit of consternation in some quarters that there wasn’t a known bid for the 2014 Corflu, despite the usual machinations in smoke-filled (ahem) rooms, and a kind of general feeling that the event should shift east a bit.

The usual model for many conventions of all shapes and sizes has been to have some kind of core hometown team, although this has been somewhat less the case in UK conventions, with the determinedly provincial (and still enduring) BSFG Novacon as *the* notable exception, but it can be reasoned that with the ease and speed of modern communication, this doesn’t need to be the case at all, although you are always going to need a local pair of eyes and a pair of boots on the ground. It certainly *ought* to be the case that a skilled and experienced team could work with any given location and manage to get it done. It would probably be churlish to point out instances where wholly local groups have, despite willingness and even best intentions, managed to royally fuck it up, but this being a Corflu, those tales have already become part of our lore.

Why not, I considered, simply assemble a team of the *best* people for the job, define their responsibilities and have at it?

The Formans hit high on my list, since they’d already mooted a bid for what appeared to be an abandoned fishing shed in a remote part of Arkansas before thinking better of it, since no-one would have been able to find the place except for Ken guiding them in on individual trail hikes, possibly assisted by semaphore, Aldiss lamps and furtively circulated grubby cards containing Nine Lines Each, which, while it would have pleased the adventurous, would have rather cut into his usual Corflu socializing, leaving an increasingly weary Aileen to produce baked goods at a rate hopefully emollient enough to the few and proud who had gained the actual location. This doesn’t detract from Ken’s dedicated bonhomie and Aileen’s consummate consuite skills.

Considering a money man, now there you need a safe pair of hands, especially since I am not allowed to touch that stuff personally, at risk of Abi Frost-style disaster. Since Uncle Johnny does this kind of money ~~laundering~~ management for what he risibly terms “a living”, that makes him a predictably obvious choice for Treasurer, especially given his additional skills at badgering, and the hunting down of other forest creatures for all I know.

Then you need a decent administrative-type person Stateside, since that's where the majority of the funds, lists of names and such will be coming from and once again, self not allowed near piles of loot due to consequences etc. Randy "Randmus" Byers was a sane and simple choice, perhaps not least because we're in the same time zone, but far enough apart for me not to be able to nip round and cadge \$50 for "expenses" every other week. Lovely bloke that he is, he agreed to take the job despite having been involved with last year's bash, as well as the excellent Corflu Zed of relatively recent memory. This despite the supposed truism I once heard that when you run a Corflu it takes ten years to recover before you can run another one (eleven in my case, apparently).

What all the team have in common is not only previous Corflu form, but also, in my view, a commitment to the concept of Corflu as a fine fannish institution, albeit perhaps now one catering to a shrinking audience of devotees.

This may beg the additional question of whether it's desirable to simply recruit our idea of the most capable people from the reducing talent pool, or whether the "hometown" model can still have legs. Also, we get the perennial concern of where the new "talent" might be coming from, but I'd venture to suggest that if and when they arrive, they might be more in favor of the distributed model than the hometown one.

This is, of course, a somewhat lengthy preamble to Saturday afternoon's program item "Why I Didn't Bid for Corflu", as well as a personal expression of thanks to those named above.

And while we're on the thanking bit, pops and mad love also to Andy Hooper (FAAn awards, program), Sandra Bond (program), Curt Phillips (program, operational help) and Nathan Madison (eyes & boots).

Having said that, I could still follow the grand Vegas tradition and say it was all me.

Letter of Comment

Hello Corflu Concom!

Join Together 2 wasn't just a PR, it was a Fanzine! Goshwow and thanks! Son Aaron asked if that was me on the front cover and I was afraid to ask him which character he was referring to. Thanks for the mention of me offering space and I have got, I think as of now, a firm

commitment for at least one person for all 4 nights, for which, yeah! I guess I am in an exclamatory mood, eh?

I hope my membership money has been received and the check scrutinized, especially the lower front left and right corners with the small print.

It is with mixed emotions I note the bid for an English Corflu next year, which I will not be able to attend. I leave it to you to decide which is the correct reason for my planned absence: 1] not enough money, or, 2] I am too valuable for reasons of national security to be allowed to depart the US of A. But I wish all the best in that regard. It would have been especially nice to meet in person Alan [Dorey] Winston and compare stylus wounds, whatever that means.

I will definitely be up for a Friday group outing. I anticipate enjoying the whole weekend, and I am especially anxious to see Andy's latest theatrical masterpiece, as I have always applauded his efforts.

Oh, scallops! Love 'em. Haven't played with slot cars since I was a teenager and would this be a skiffycon first? I never heard of it being done but then I have only recently gone back into congoing, so two Boskones and two Lunacons does not a Travelling Jiant make. Fresh baked cookies - wicked good! Bheer always enjoyed, and I also expect to have a nip of whiskey, if not whisky, at some point. Right Nic?

As for outside food, wherever anyone is driving and has room for me I'm a go. Ethnic, spicy, me omnivore. I noticed that in the Richmond tourist info I looked at, the only two food establishments I noted with interest were The Proper Pie Co. for meat pies and the Sugar Shack Donuts for dessert, the former of which was mentioned in brief in the PR. No big loss if not gone to, as for the last 2 years I have been unable to go to any Peruvian restaurant near Lunacon, which seems to have dozens of them all around that town.

A Huge thank you to Dan for filling in so many blanks for me about the late and much lamented Terry Hughes. I think of him when I receive mailed fanzines and I think of him at odd times at cons when reminiscing at and about past fangatherings. I always so much enjoyed his company and gappy smile. I must have LoCed MOTA many a time and must be at least in a few WAHFs. Good times, those. I so look forward then to the MOTA Reader. 35 years, that Is Too Many. OK and so onward. Must red X today's calendar.

Tegedizi,

Ron Salomon

Corflu 31 Members

Tom Becker

Sandra Bond

Jeanne Bowman

Claire Brialey

Wm Breiding

Warren Buff

Bill Burns

Mary Burns

Randy Byers

Jack Calvert (S)

Jim Caughran

Pat Charnock (S)

Rich Coad

Michael Dobson

Nic Farey

Aileen Forman

Ken Forman

Keith Freeman

Wendy Freeman

Andy Hooper

Sumner Hunnewell

Rob Jackson

Jerry Kaufman (S)

Roy Kettle (S)

Robert Lichtman (S)

Hope Leibowitz

Frank Lunney

Nathan Madison

Gary Mattingly

Mike Meara

Pat Meara

Mary Ellen Moore

Murray Moore

Jim Mowatt (S)

Bruce Newrock

Flo Newrock

Audrey Nielsen-Hall

John Nielsen-Hall

Curt Phillips

Mark Plummer

Carrie Root

Alan Rosenthal

Nigel Rowe

Ron Salomon

Spike

Dan Steffan

Lynn Steffan

Milt Stevens

Elaine Stiles

Steve Stiles

Geri Sullivan

Audrey Trend

Gregg Trend

R Lorraine Tutihasi (S)

Pat Virzi

Ted White

Art Widner