

Fan Activity



Gazette

News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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Publisher
George Phillies

Editor
Mindy Hunt

Layout
Jason P Hunt

**Contributors
(alphabetically)**

Mindy Hunt
Bob Jennings
Lloyd Penney
Heath Row

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48 Hancock Hill Dr
Worcester MA 10609

Contributions
welcome.

From the Editor:

It's been a crazy month. We've gained a dog, a cat, and a kid. So far things are going OK, but it's still early. We've had to do some rearrangements here at The Bunker with the kid moving in to give him space. So, the basement office is now his room and the storage area is our office.

We've learned these last few years life can take sudden turns that we weren't expecting. Suddenly the world was not allowed to participate in in-person events. Conventions pivoted to the virtual format while others went dark to wait it out. Now that we are on the other side, there have been several events that have made their way back and others that have faded into the sunset.

Now it's time to come back. What do you do? Do you reinvent yourself for a new beginning? Do you do exactly what you did before to keep those long-term fans happy? Or do you mix it up with some of the old while adding something new, to keep old-timers happy and draw in a new crowd?

Or do you keep it virtual because it's easier?

Here is your hypothetical: you're a convention runner. Nothing huge, say 500 to 1000 people. What would you do? Would you have more focus on a specific area to draw back in the crowds like celebrity and panels? Would you increase the size of your artist alley and authors? More vendors?

You tell me. And our readers. Bonus points if you format your answer as the elevator pitch. Let's see where this takes us.

~ *Mindy*

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LETTERS

Dear Mindy:

Yup, tax season, and ours is already filed. That's why I have time to get this loc done for *FanActivity Gazette*, Vol. 3, No. 10. It's been a crazy day, so time to relax a little, and still get some things done.

Music is always important, and most movies and TV shows have original music created. Sometimes, it's the difference between the same old same old, and something with real imagination.

Strange, I had very little influence to *The Shadow*, growing up in the province of Ontario, so it never really caught with me when I finally found it. I dare say I'd need to be an older American to truly enjoy it.

The local...I have joined Garth Spencer's *Across the Fandomension* Facebook page, but I just have to have a little time to get there, and see what's happening.

The Nebula ballot...I know I do not have the right to vote. Shortly, the Aurora Awards ballot for 2023 should be out, and with some luck, I may be on it, you never know. Also, this year's inductees for the Canadian Science Fiction Hall of Fame will soon be announced.

The convention list...I think most of the events listed are comiccons, or gaming cons, or other general interest, but I believe literary conventions are at an all-time low. They may have been the most money-intensive events of the lot, especially with bringing in guests.

Lots of little comments...sorry about that, it has been tiring today, and perhaps the imagination is in the shop for a retrofit. In the meantime, thank you for this issue, and I will try to do better with the next one.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.



New Movies in May

[H = horror, F = fantasy, SF = sci-fi, A = animated, D = documentary] *limited release **re-release

May 3

*Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*** (SF) ~ *Tarot* (H) ~ *I Saw the TV Glow** (H)
*Mars Express** (A) ~ *Dragonkeeper* (A)

May 9

Kalki 2898-AD (F)

May 10

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (SF)

May 17

IF (A) ~ *The Strangers: Chapter 1* (H)

May 24

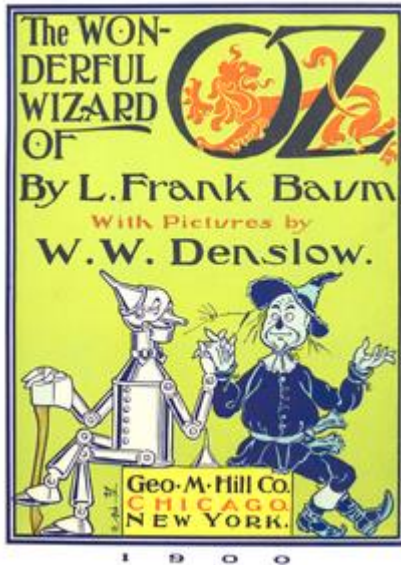
Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (SF) ~ *The Garfield Movie* (A)

May 31

Haikyuu!! The Movie: Decisive Battle at the Garbage Dump (A) ~ *Robot Dreams* (A) ~ *In a Violent Nature* (H)

A Brief Tour Through the Land of Oz

Bob Jennings



In May 1900, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* written by Frank Baum was published by the Chicago firm of George M. Hill, featuring illustrations by W.W. Denslow.

Chicago based author, L. Frank Baum, had been a reporter, retail store owner, traveling salesman, and founder of an important business magazine, but his first love was the theater. He wrote, produced, directed, and acted in many stage plays over the course of his life, with varying degrees of financial success. But, around the turn of the 19th century, with a wife and four children to support, touring stage productions were no longer an option.

After writing a significant volume on creating and maintaining successful department store window displays, he turned to writing children's books, with considerable success. *Mother Goose in Prose* published in 1897 was illustrated by Maxwell Parrish. In 1899 Baum partnered with illustrator W.W. Denslow to produce a book of nonsense poetry titled *Father Goose: His Book* which became the best-selling children's book of the year.

In 1900 Baum and Denslow produced *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. The Hill company had published Baum's previous children's books, but despite Baum's assurances that the new work was going to be a great success, Hill only agreed

to publish this new one if Baum would write a play based on the plot and have it performed by a Chicago theater company to provide publicity for the novel. Baum wrote a play, and the manager of the Chicago Grand Opera House agreed to run it. With that assurance, Hill authorized a ten thousand copy initial print run, a generous vote of confidence in an era when a typical book was published in a two to four thousand copy print run.

The promised play was not produced, but the public soon echoed Baum's enthusiasm for his new Oz book. That initial ten thousand copies sold thru by October 1900, leading to a second printing of fifteen thousand copies that also sold thru rapidly.

The book was immediately popular with adults as well as children. Delighted by the success of the book, Baum decided to rush a stage play based on the book into production. A long feature was planned with elaborate backdrops and special scenery. Baum wrote the original play, but then it was doctored by a man named Finnegan (first name unknown at this late date), with songs by Paul Tietjens. Topical jokes and puns were added by Glen MacDonough.

The stage show opened in Chicago in June of 1902 to enthusiastic audiences, toured for the remainder of the year, and opened on Broadway at the Majestic Theater in January 1903. The public response was very positive, but the reviews were not so favorable. The play ran 293 evening performances on Broadway, and spawned two touring companies. After finishing its Broadway run, the show continued to tour nationally thru May of 1906, then was authorized for local player groups in 1911. The play was successfully revived several times over the next dozen years as regional and touring productions. Despite the enduring popularity of the play, almost none of the music from the production has survived.

Despite the phenomenal sales of the book and the success of the play, the George M. Hill Publishing company went bankrupt in late 1902 for reasons that are unknown. The company had been planning an expansion of their operations only a few months earlier after obtaining the rights to produce a new, updated version of the G. and C. Merriam Webster dictionary, and with plans to release more books by Baum.

The rights to *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, and the rest of Baum's catalog with Hill passed to Bobs-Merrill, an Indianapolis company, who reissued Baum's earlier works and published anything else he wanted to write. From 1904 onward the Oz books were published by Reilly-Britton (later Reilly & Lee).

Meanwhile Baum, overjoyed at the success of his Oz book and the success of the stage play went back to producing and writing more plays, many of which had only limited success.

Originally Baum had no intention of writing any kind of sequel to *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, but as soon as the first edition of his books hit store shelves he began receiving letters from children, thousands of letters, asking

when the next Oz book was going to appear. In response he wrote *The Marvelous Land of Oz*, published in 1904 which generated an even greater volume of mail.

That novel also got him his first wave of negative letters, mostly from young boys who couldn't understand why the hero Tip, or anyone, would want to change from a boy into a girl. Having magically restored Tip the young boy to Ozma, the young and rightful queen of Oz, Baum naturally followed with *Ozma of Oz* in 1907.

Baum tried to recapture the lightning of the *Wizard of Oz* stage play by turning *Marvelous Land* into a stage production titled *Woogle-Bug* (after one of the characters). This was a large scale production with a large cast and a large number of musical numbers. Despite the best efforts of everyone, the play was a resounding flop, but the

material was published as *Woogle-Bug Book* in 1905.

Denslow and Baum had a falling out after the publication of the non-Oz book *Dot and Tot in Merryland* in 1901. *Dot* was easily Baum's weakest book and a solid sales failure.

The situation with copyright issues may have been a factor in their disagreement. The first Oz title was co-copyrighted by Baum and Winslow, with Hill agreeing to pay each man an equal royalty on every book sold.

Winslow's clever illustrations were a significant contribution to the immediate success of the original Oz book. An important factor was that Baum and Denslow had insisted that Hill publish most of the interior illustrations with color, an expensive extravagance for most full length books of the period. Future Oz books were illustrated by John R. Neill. Baum met with John Neill on several occasions, but he lacked the empathy he had enjoyed with Denslow. He told family and friends that he thought Neill's art was technically competent, but it was not whimsical enough for a children's story.



Meanwhile Baum continued trying to exploit Oz in any way he could. He authored a Wizard of Oz illustrated feature that was syndicated and ran in major newspapers from 28 August 1904 thru February 1905. Titled "Queer Visitors From the Marvelous Land of Oz", it incorporated characters from the first Oz novels in new adventures. It was more of an illustrated story page than a modern style comic strip. The feature offered a full page format with text in the center surrounded by full color illustrations by Walt MacDougall.

At the same time W.W. Denslow decided to use his co-copyright of the original Wizard of Oz volume to create his own comic strip titled "Denslow's Scarecrow and Tin-Man". Nicely illustrated, this had very limited distribution and died a quick death.



QUEER VISITORS FROM THE MARVELOUS LAND OF OZ

Introducing the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman and their Comrades
The Fairy Tale by L. Frank Baum
The Pictures by Walt McDougall



THE NORTH AMERICAN COMIC (SEVENTH) SECTION
Philadelphia Sunday, November 20, 1904



1 "I'd like a turkey for Thanksgiving."

HOW THE WOGGLEBUG GOT A THANKSGIVING DINNER

ONE DAY, while the Wogglebug was walking through the streets of a big city, he came upon a little girl who was crying bitterly. She was dressed in worn and faded garments, and her feet were bare—although the air was frosty and the pavement of the street very cold. Now, the Wogglebug would surely have felt the cold himself had not his body be so warmly clothed, so he had pity for the poor child, and removing his hat as politely as it also were a great lady he asked:

"Tell me, little one, why you are dripping water from between your eyelids?"

"Because," she sobbed, "It—It—Thanksgiving is c—coming!"

"Can't it be stopped?" inquired the Wogglebug, sympathetically.

"I don't want it s—s—stopped," replied the child, "only I'd like a turkey for Thanksgiving, like the rich people have."

"Oh, a turkey, eh?" said the insect, thoughtfully. "Now, whatever could a little girl like you do with a turkey, I wonder."

"Ea—ea—eat it!" she sobbed.

"To be sure!" exclaimed the Wogglebug. "How strange I never thought of eating turkeys for Thanksgiving. But why haven't you a turkey to eat?"

"We're too p—p—poor to b—buy one!" she answered.

"Well, well, my dear," said the Bug, in a kindly tone, "I'll promise to bring you all the turkeys you can eat—and I never break my promise. So shut off the water from your eyes, and turn out a few smiles."

Then, after inquiring where the little girl lived, he left her and went back to his friends from the Land of Oz.

"I must have a few turkeys for a little girl to eat," said he. "Now, where would you advise me to get them?"

"This morning, as I rode in the Gump," announced the Tin Woodman, "I saw great



2 "I'll take the Gump and catch some turkeys."



3 "The Wogglebug lassoed the Thanksgiving birds."



4 "Only three of them are turkeys."



5 "But what is the strange bird?"

“Queer Visitors” was issued in book form in 1960 by Reilly & Lee as *The Third Book of Oz*. It used about half of the original feature pages rewritten and with new illustrations by Don Martin. A 1989 edition by Buckethead Enterprises presented all 27 original pages, but edited out the ethnic humor. In 2009 Sunday Press Books reissued all the 27 pages in color and unedited, along with W.W. Denslow’s competing strip “Denslow’s Scarecrow and Tin-man”, plus three other short run comic strips set in the Oz universe originally done by Denslow, MacDougall, and Neill.

Baum continued to be fascinated by stage plays. In 1908 he wrote and produced *The Fairylogue and Radio-Plays*, a production what tried to merge the first three Oz books into a long travelog style play. The production, underwritten by Baum himself, featured elaborate and very expensive sets. Baum appeared as a narrative actor in the drama. The play was well received during its initial tour, but was unable to bring in enough money to cover its touring costs and proved to be a financial disaster for Baum. It ended its tour in New York in mid-December after only two months.

The rights to *Fairylogue* were sold to the Selig Polyscope Film company, which made a two-hour long silent picture using many innovative techniques, along with the sets from the play. This was the first film that created an original music score specifically to be played with the showing of the movie. Unfortunately, this piece of cinematic history is a lost film, altho the script and some production notes do survive. The losses involved with *Fairylogue* were so enormous that Baum was forced to declare personal bankruptcy in late 1911. The financial problems and looming bankruptcy caused by the *Fairylogue* disaster caused Baum to sell off all the rights to his existing books, including the Oz titles, which were licensed to the M.A. Donague Company of New York. Donague primarily specialized in publishing reprints of juvenile boy’s and girl’s series books plus cheap editions of popular best sellers. They immediately issued the Oz books in cheap low-grade editions at popular dime-store prices, directly in competition to the new Reilly & Lee releases that appeared each year.

After this disaster Baum transferred everything he owned to his wife Maud except for his clothing, his typewriter, and his personal library. Maud had been handling most of the family finances for years, so his actual bankruptcy liability from that point onward was negligible.

Baum seemed unable to stay away from the stage. In addition to humorous comedies and love stories, he very loosely adapted *Ozma of Oz* into a 1913 play titled *The Tik-Tok Man of Oz*, using those story elements to create a new Oz book in 1914.

Also in 1914 he started his own movie company: The Oz Film Manufacturing Company, which aimed at turning the Oz books into feature films. Five features were made and released in quick order. *The Patchwork Girl of Oz* was accepted by Paramount for national distribution, but the box office was so bad that Paramount refused to handle anything else the studio turned out. A distribution deal was made with Alliance, who insisted on chopping some of the features down to two-reelers. They did not fare well with the movie going public either. The studio tried changing its name to Dramatic Feature Films and made some shorts but nothing helped. After turning out five features and five short films the company sold out to Metro Pictures in 1915. Only three chopped down versions of the original five features are known to have survived.

After his 1911 bankruptcy Baum was in need of money. Beginning in 1913 Baum wrote a brand new Oz book every year up until his death in 1919 from complications caused by a stroke, just nine days short of his 63rd birthday. A prolific author, Baum had written a total of 14 Oz novels during his lifetime, plus 41 other books, close to a hundred short stories, several hundred poems, plus an unknown number of plays, silent movies, and stage reviews. His final Oz book, *Glenda of Oz* was issued in 1920, a year after his death.

After Baum’s death in 1919, Reilly & Lee were determined to somehow continue the very popular series of best selling Oz books. Luckily they managed to discover Ruth Plumly Thompson, a Philadelphia author of several children’s fairytale books and a life-long fan of Baum’s stories. William Lee, vice president of Reilly & Lee personally asked Ms. Thompson to continue the series, and she turned out one new Oz book every year between 1921 and 1939, always issued in time for Christmas, for a total of 19 volumes.

The Thompson Oz books featured new and unusual characters added to the land of Oz. She stressed humor more strongly than Baum had, and she wrote more directly to children. Baum had been well aware that adults read his Oz books and had used social satire, subtle political references, and oblique commentary within the story plots to maintain an adult appeal. Children were the primary market for the Oz books, but adults were the ones who bought them.

In the late 30's Thompson and Reilly & Lee had a falling out, presumably about money, and she became a comic book editor for David McKay, while continuing to write for children. Her stories appeared in magazines as diverse as *Saturday Evening Post* and *Ladies Home Journal*. In the 1960s she became a regular writer for *Jack & Jill Magazine*. Later in life the International Wizard of Oz Club commissioned her to write new Oz books, and two new ones appeared in 1972 (*Yankee In Oz*) and 1976 (*The Enchanted Island of Oz*).

New authors took over the writing of the books. John Neill wrote three books, Jack Snow wrote three, Rachael Cosgrove wrote one, Eloise McGraw and Lauren Lynn McGraw turned out one. The International Wizard of Oz Club has authorized a few others, including three in this new century.

The Oz print franchise was alive and well in the 1930s, having weathered the Great Depression with little or no inconvenience. Baum's widow and sons had formed a trust to oversee the Oz universe, and continued to exploit the properties any way possible.

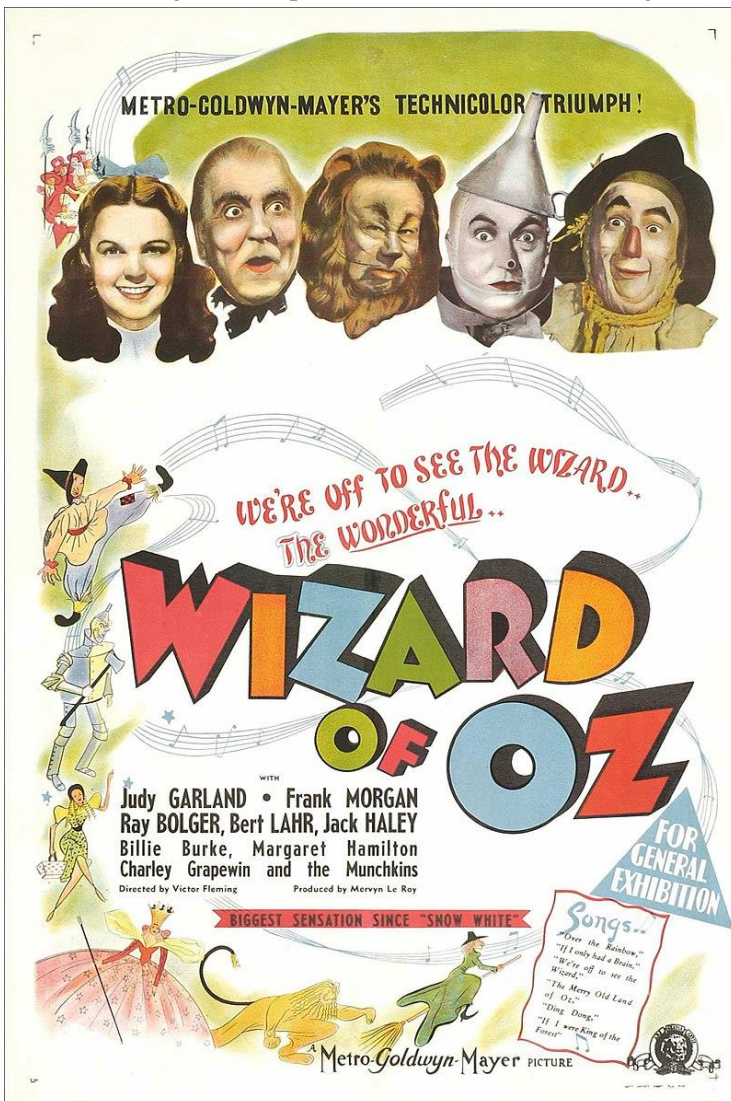
MGM, amazed by the success of Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, bought an option on the first book in the series. The studio was torn between sticking to the basic plot with lots of magic, or eliminating almost all the magic and supernatural material and making it a realistic musical.

Originally, they wanted Shirley Temple, the most popular young actress in the world, to play the lead. The studio offered 20th Century Fox a standard contract plus a \$50,000 bonus if they would loan Ms. Temple to MGM for one single movie that would involve a six-week long shoot. 20th Century flatly refused. Another choice was Deanna Durbin, who had an operatically trained voice and was the second hottest young female star in Hollywood, but Universal absolutely refused to loan her out to anybody. Judy Garland was already under contract to MGM, and altho considered too old for the part, she had an excellent singing voice and plenty of movie acting experience. With the right costume and the right cinematography, the studio figured she would make an excellent Dorothy.

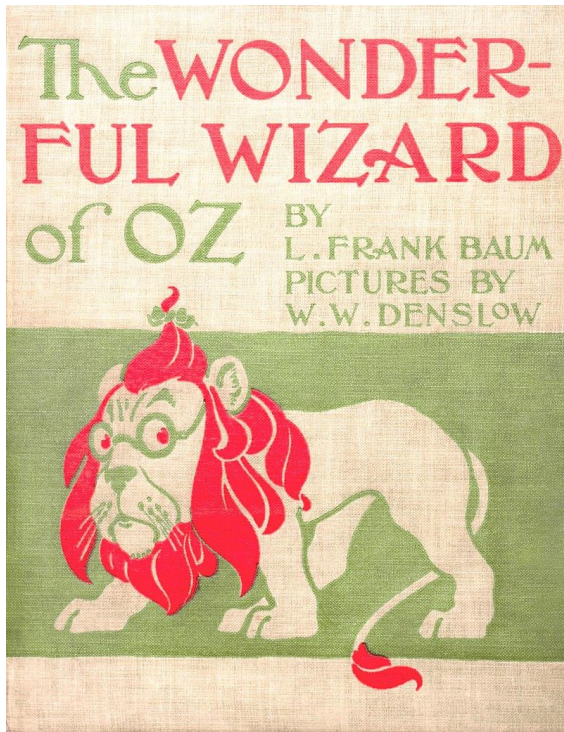
They were right. Despite many fits and starts, eleven different screen writers, multiple changes in focus, and three separate directors, the live action version of *The Wizard of Oz* was shot in full strip Technicolor and released nationally in late August 1939. The movie was an immediate hit. Critics and audiences alike were wowed by the production. Many of the songs from the film were released as single records and were hit parade best sellers. The movie was nominated for six Academy Awards, and won four.

The film was MGM's most expensive movie up to that point in time. It cost 2.8 million dollars to make, but barely returned 3 million in its initial box office run. The movie turned a profit with its rerelease in 1949 and went on to gross 29.7 million in total box office figures. In 1956 the movie was rented to CBS for \$225,000 (1.94 million in 2024 dollars) for a

Thanksgiving special where it achieved an audience share of 53%. It was shown again on TV in December 1959 where it got an even higher rating, a 58% audience share. Since then *The Wizard of Oz* has become an annual television holiday event.



The movie has been selected by the Library of Congress as one of the 25 most significant films ever made, and has been rated as the most viewed movie of all time. It has been shown in IMAX digitally remastered form, and been released on every form of home video, where it continues to enchant new legions of viewers.



In 1956 the copyright on *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* expired. Over the next twenty years the rest of the original series copyrights also fell into public domain. The books are widely available in many reprint versions, as well as being posted for free reading on Project Gutenberg, the Internet Archives, and many other free internet forums. The stories have been adapted to cartoons, comic books, radio dramas, graphic novels, television, and puppet shows, while new stories set in the Oz universe are constantly being created.

The story of a fantastic fairyland filled with wondrous creatures, fabulous characters, strange magic and exciting adventures told in straight forward fashion, with no moralizing or pretensions, has remained popular to this very day. The Oz universe profoundly affected not only the fabric of children's literature, but the way all fantasy and fantastic literature was framed afterwards. The extraordinary genius and superlative imagination of L Frank Baum continues to enchant readers and gains new followers every year, and will undoubtedly continue to do so for many generations to come.



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.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

FILMS FANTASTIC *Is Back!*

The revue of reviews has returned! Check it out today at tnfff.org!

The 'zine presenting a revue of film and television reviews – *Films Fantastic* – is back!

Jason Hunt takes on editing duties, and we're compiling reviews of current and not-so-current movies and long-form television productions that catch our collective eye. So be on the lookout and catch the latest over at tnfff.org!



L. RON HUBBARD'S Writers & Illustrators of the Future

First-quarter winners announced for Volume 41! Plus, the latest news and updates from Writers & Illustrators of the Future.

First-quarter Writers of the Future:

First Place – Sandra Skalski from New Jersey

Second Place – Jefferson Snow from Utah

Third Place – Armand Diab from Illinois

First-quarter Illustrators of the Future:

Haileigh Enriquez from California

Cherrie Fors from California

Daniel Montifar from Texas

To view the complete list of Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Silver Honorable Mentions, and Honorable Mentions, go to the winners' blog on our web site. Congratulations to all!

SAVE THE DATE: The 40th Annual Achievement Awards celebrating the winners of the Writers & Illustrators of the Future is on April 25, 2024. The official event starts streaming live at 7:00 PM PT at www.writersofthefuture.com. Tune in at 6:00 PM for some pre-show extras and entertainment!



Fan(zine) Activity Achievement Awards (FAAns)

Since being revived in 1995 after a fifteen-year gap, the FAAns have been administered by various people as part of Corflu, the event dedicated to science fiction fanzine fans. The name is derived from "CORrection FLUId" which was used a lot back in the day of typing and mimeograph copies. It's a travelling convention, held mostly in the US, sometimes in the UK.

The FAAns are given for work originally published in the previous calendar year, and voting is open to anyone with an interest in fanzines. No convention or group membership is required. The FAAns have been associated with (and presented at) Corflu for reasons of both convenience and logic, as it's the annual fanzine fans convention, but it must be stressed again that Corflu membership is not a requirement for voting.

- Best Genzine – *SF Commentary* (Bruce Gillespie)
- Best Perzine – *This Here...* (Nic Farey)
- Best Fan Writer – Mark Plummer
- Best Fan Artist – Ulrika O'Brien
- Best Cover Art – *Idea #13* (cover by Sue Mason)
- Best Special Publication – *Beyond Fandom* (edited/compiled by Rob Hansen)
- Harry Warner, Jr Memorial Award for Best Letterhack – Jerry Kaufman

At the Corflu 41 awards ceremony on 3 March 2024 in Las Vegas, Nevada, The **Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to Joe Siclari and Edie Stern.



Pubnites and Other Events

Lloyd Penney (Toronto, ON, CAN)

THIRD MONDAY

April 15, 2024

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

Gatherings Resto Bar, 49 St. Clair Ave W.

For more info call Karen or Evan at 416-635-5981 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TorontoPaganPubMoot>

OTHER EVENTS

This year, Lloyd and I will be attending the NASFiC (North American Science Fiction Interim Convention) in Buffalo, and the WFC (World Fantasy Convention) in Niagara Falls, NY. The purpose for our attendance will be to promote *Amazing Stories* Magazine and to raise funds for the magazine. In an effort to accomplish this, we would like copies of past *Amazing Stories* magazines to sell. (Other old pulp magazines would be great, too!)

We would like to ask all of you who may have copies or a collection of the older magazines if you would donate **DUPLICATES** that you may have. We ask that you do not break up any collections just to send old issues, so please keep your collections intact. If you are attending these conventions, please stop by for a chat. If you wish to submit a story, we can let you know how to do that.

THURSDAY NIGHT OF NONSENSE

Is the first Thursday of the month at the Fox and Fiddle at 27 Wellesley from 6PM -10ish.

We're a casual collection of sci-fi fans and friends who eat and have friendly discussion on any topic of interest. We encourage consideration of diverse opinions and intelligent debate that includes topics which are sometimes controversial. Our social media centre is currently a Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057256547793>) where people will find announcements of any special activities such as a book swap or a birthday celebration.

All newcomers welcome to just show up. For more info call Yvonne at 647-226-4249 before 10PM or email us at: Penneys@bell.net

See you there!!!

Yvonne ;-)



Got something to share with us? Send an e-mail to mindyhunt@scifi4me.com

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bike to School Day	2 Brothers and Sisters Day	3 Lumpy Rug Day	4 Free Comic Book Day (observed)
5 Cartoonist Day	6 No Diet Day	7 National Tourism Day	8 No Socks Day	9 Lost Sock Memorial Day	10 Clean Up Your Room Day	11 Eat What You Want Day
12 Mother's Day	13 Frog Jumping Day	14 Dance Like a Chicken Day	15 National Chocolate Chip Day	16 Sea Monkey Day	17 Pack Rat Day	18 No Dirty Dishes Day
19 Boy's Club Day	20 Be A Millionaire Day	21 National Memo Day	22 World Goth Day	23 Lucky Penney Day	24 International Tuara Day	25 Tap Dance Day
26 National Paper Airplane Day	27 Memorial Day	28 National Hamburger Day	29 World Otter Day	30 Water A Flower Day	31 International Space Day	

WAR DIARY

We are very pleased to announce that War Diary Magazine has again received a Charles Roberts Award nomination as Best Wargaming Magazine. What an honor!

We've worked hard to produce the best magazine possible, with credit due to our wonderful cadre of writers who share our vision of producing a true wargaming magazine rather than a history magazine that includes a wargame.

The Best Wargaming Magazine category is full of outstanding magazines, but we would be grateful should you decide to cast your vote for War Diary. But even if you do not, we encourage you to cast a ballot for the awards as they are worthy of support.

You may access your ballot by using the link at the end of this message.



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.

May

E. Mayne Hull, 5/1/05; Joel Rosenberg, 5/1/54; E.E. “Doc” Smith, 5/2/1890; Bob Null, 5/2/38; John Collier, 5/3/01; Daryl Mallett, 5/3/69; Ernie Wheatley, 5/4; Pat Frank, 5/5/07; Lee Killough, 5/5/42; Dave Locke, 5/5/44; Ingrid Neilson, 5/5/58; Dave Pollard, 5/6/24; Walt Liebscher, 5/7/18; Gene Wolfe, 5/7/31; Mike McQuown, 5/7/40; Frank Olynyk, 5/7/42; Romain Gary, 5/8/14; Roy Tackett, 5/8/25; Jane Roberts, 5/8/29; Neyir Cenk Gökçe, 5/8/71; Richard McKenna, 5/9/13; Kris Neville, 5/9/25; Richard Cowper, 5/9/26; Olaf Stapledon, 5/10/1886; Alex Bratmon, 5/10/36.

Michael Walsh, 5/11/59; Alice N. Lewis, 5/11/79; Philip Wylie, 5/12/02; Robert “Buck” Coulson, 5/12/28; Roger Zelazny, 5/13/37; A.J. Austin, 5/13/51; George Scithers, 5/14/29; Ron Bennett, 5/14/33; Lois Newman, 14 5/14/34; George Lucas, 5/14/44; L. Frank Baum, 5/15/1856; Maria Ozanne, 5/15; Fred Saberhagen, 5/18/30; R -Laurraine Tutihasi, 5/18/48; Claude Degler, 5/19/20; Gardner F. Fox, 5/20/11; Mike Glicksohn, 5/20/46; Adam-Troy Castro, 5/20/60.

Manly Wade Wellman, 5/21/03; Arthur Conan Doyle, 5/22/1859; Wallace West, Ed Earl Repp, 5/22/01; Fred Hollander, 5/22/46; Marc Glasser, 5/22/52; Bill Wagner, 5/22/55; Mark R. Sharpe, 5/22/57; James Blish, 5/23/21; Phil Castora, 5/23/34; Isadore Haiblum, 5/23/35; Bobbi Armbruster, 5/24/49; Deedee Lavender, 5/25/15; Charles Hornig, 5/25/16; Phyllis Gotlieb, 5/25/26; Robert W. Chambers, 5/26/1865; Mordecai Roshwald, 5/26/21; Howard De Vore, 5/26/25; Mike Horvat, 5/26/63; John Barth, 5/27/30; Harlan Ellison, 5/27/34; Jackie Causgrove, 5/27/40; Sheila D’Ammassa, 5/28/48; Kees Van Toorn, Betsy Mitchell, 5/28/54; Richard Knaak, 5/28/61; T.H. White, 5/29/06; Neil R. Jones, 5/29/09; Bob Peterson, 5/30/21; Hal Clement (Harry Stubbs), 5/30/22; C. Ross Chamberlain, 5/30/37; Nancy Lebovitz, 5/30/53; George R. Stewart, 5/31/1895; Brian Burley, 5/31/42; Tom Collins, 5/31/46; Ian Slater, 5/31/52.



As Heath is working on new exciting ventures, the Gazette is looking for a volunteer to help compile and maintain the birthday list each month. If you’re interested, please let us know!



MAY CONVENTIONS & EVENTS

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.

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

May 3 – 6

VIRTUAL

Toronto Comic Arts Festival – Toronto, Ontario, Canada May 3-24

ON-SITE

Shock Stock – London, Ontario, Canada May 1-5
 Furry Weekend Holland – Sleen, Netherlands May 3-6
 LoBsterCon – Eastbourne, United Kingdom May 3-6
 Alchemie de Jeux – Toulouse, France May 3-5
 Anime Onsen – Colorado Springs, CO May 3-5
 Comic Con Costa Rica – San Jose, Costa Rica May 3-5
 Comic Con Stockholm Summer – Stockholm, Sweden May 3-5
 Crypticon Seattle – Seattle, WA May 3-5
 DemiCon – Des Moines, IA May 3-5
 Fan Expo Philadelphia – Philadelphia, PA May 3-5
 Garden State Fur for the Weekend – New Brunswick, NJ May 3-5
 HELIOSphere – Piscataway, NJ May 3-5
 Northern FanCon – Prince George, British Columbia, Canada May 3-5
 Osaka Comic Con – Osaka, Japan May 3-5
 Vampire Fan Weekend – Nashville, TN May 3-5
 Wagoncon – The Dalles, OR May 3-5
 AtomaCon – North Charleston, SC May 4-5
 Brick Fest Live Biloxi – Biloxi, MS May 4-5
 Comic Con Liverpool – Liverpool, United Kingdom May 4-5
 Congress of Gamers Spring – Rockville, MD May 4-5
 East Texas Comic Con – Longview, TX May 4-5
 Fargo Brick Convention – Fargo, ND May 4-5
 Game Jam South – Huntsville, AL May 4-5
 Pixies Street Con – New York City, NY May 4-5
 Power of the Force Con – Cologne, Germany May 4-5
 RocketTown Comic Con – Lompoc, CA May 4-5
 Saskatoon Entertainment Expo – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada May 4-5
 Savage Geek Fest – Savage, MD May 4-5
 Barrie Comicon – Barrie, Ontario, Canada May 4
 CCS Comic Con & Free Comic Book Day – Stone Mountain, GA May 4
 Concord Micro-Con – Concord, NC May 4
 Danville Comic-Con – Danville, KY May 4
 Etown Anime-Fest – Evansville, IN May 4

Final Boss Con – Rio Grande, OH May 4
 German Film & Comic Con Spring – Dortmund, Germany May 4
 Japan Fest – Matlock, United Kingdom May 4
 Kogaracon – Beckley, WV May 4
 Leeds Brick Festival – Leeds, United Kingdom May 4
 Lehigh Valley Toy-Comic & Card Show – Allentown, PA May 4
 Midwest Comic Book Con South Bend – South Bend, IN May 4
 North Dallas Toy Show – Plano, TX May 4
 Palm Springs Entertainment Convention – Palm Springs, CA May 4
 Roanoke Valley Comicon – Roanoke, VA May 4
 Rock & Roll Steampunk Fair – Washington, NJ May 4
 Caledon Comicon – Caledon, Ontario, Canada May 5
 Madison Comic Con – Madison, WI May 5
 Midwest Comic Book Con Rockford – Rockford, IL May 5
 Capital Trade Shows – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada May 5
 Oakville Collectors Con – Oakville, Ontario, Canada May 5
 Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ May 5
 Milton Keynes Brick Festival – Milton Keynes, United Kingdom May 6

May 9 – 12

VIRTUAL

Toronto Comic Arts Festival – Toronto, Ontario, Canada May 3-24

ON-SITE

Acon – Mariehamn, Aland Islands May 9-12
 Furry Weekend – Atlanta, GA May 9-12
 Fantasy Basel – Basel, Switzerland May 9-11
 Anime Town Utah – Sandy, UT May 10-12
 Basingstoke Comic Con – Basingstoke, United Kingdom May 10-12
 FedCon – Dusseldorf, Germany May 10-12
 Otafest – Calgary, Alberta, Canada May 10-12
 SFeraKon – Zagreb, Croatia May 10-12
 FrankenCon – Alcoa, TN May 10-11
 Brick Fest Live Hartford – Hartford, CT May 11-12
 BrickUniverse – Chattanooga, TN May 11-12
 Comic Con Brussels – Brussels, Belgium May 11-12
 Exeter Anime & Gaming Con – Exeter, United Kingdom May 11-12
 HanaCon – Hanover, Germany May 11-12
 Horror Con – Magna, Sheffield, United Kingdom May 11-12
 IberAnime – Lisbon, Portugal May 11-12
 Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Tulsa, OK May 11-12
 Oz Comic Con Perth – Perth, Western Australia, Australia May 11-12
 Portsmouth Comic Con – Portsmouth, United Kingdom May 11-12
 Sunshine City Scare – St Petersburg, FL May 11-12
 Toronto Comic Arts Festival – Toronto, Ontario, Canada May 11-12
 WasabiCon NOLA – New Orleans, LA May 11-12
 Evansville Anime-Fest – Evansville, IN May 11
 FoleyCon – Foley, AL May 11
 Geek Out Napa Valley – Napa, CA May 11
 Gloucester Comic Con – Gloucester, United Kingdom May 11
 God, Comics, and Gaming Convention – Minneapolis, MN May 11

Kids Con New England – Concord, NH May 11
 Lodi Comic Con Spring – Lodi, CA May 11
 Maidstone Brick Festival – Maidstone, United Kingdom May 11
 Muncie Comic Con – Muncie, IN May 11
 Orangeville Comicon – Orangeville, Ontario, Canada May 11
 Siesta Con – Sarasota, FL May 11
 White Plains ComicFest – White Plains, NY May 11
 London Comic Mart – London, United Kingdom May 12
 Gloucester Brick Festival – Gloucester, United Kingdom May 12
 Vancouver Comic Con – Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada May 12

May 15 – 19

VIRTUAL

Toronto Comic Arts Festival – Toronto, Ontario, Canada May 3-24
 Glasgow International Fantasy Con – Glasgow, United Kingdom May 15-17

ON-SITE

ZodiaCon – Horni Bradlo, Czech May 15-19
 Geekway to the West – St Louis, MO May 16-19
 Anime Central – Rosemont, IL May 17-19
 CanGames – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada May 17-19
 ChupacabraCon – San Marcos, TX May 17-19
 Continuum – Melbourne, Victoria, Australia May 17-19
 Furpile – Lodz, Poland May 17-19
 Huzzah! – Portland, ME May 17-19
 KeyCon – Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada May 17-19
 Lake Como Comic Art Festival – Cernobbio, Italy May 17-19
 Marcon – Columbus, OH May 17-19
 Metrothram – East Ridge, TN May 17-19
 Motor City Comic Con – Novi, MI May 17-19
 Otakufest – Miami, FL May 17-19
 Quantum-Con – Plymouth MN May 17-19
 SageFen Maker Fest – Pasco, WA May 17-19
 Sequestria Fest – Ocean City, MD May 17-19
 Spooky Empire – Orlando, FL May 17-19
 Starcon – Bellaria, Italy May 17-19
 Texas Frightmare Weekend – Dallas, TX May 17-19
 The Road So Far...The Road Ahead – Secaucus, NJ May 17-19
 Anime Impulse Seattle – Seattle, WA May 18-19
 Brick Fest Live El Paso – El Paso, TX May 18-19
 Brick Fest Live Peoria – Peoria, IL May 18-19
 Comic Con Revolution – Ontario, CA May 18-19
 Cradle-Con – Garden City, NY May 18-19
 GoTE 4TheKids – Clearwater, FL May 18-19
 Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Minneapolis, MN May 18-19
 Renton City Retro – Renton, WA May 18-19
 Retromania Aurora – Aurora, CO May 18-19
 Rhode Island Brick Convention – Warwick, RI May 18-19
 Surrey Steampunk Convivials – New Malden, United Kingdom May 18-19
 Tidewater Comicon – Virginia Beach, VA May 18-19

Bowling Greencon – Bowling Green, KY May 18
 Cambridge Brick Festival – Cambridge, United Kingdom May 18
 Cobourg Comicon – Cobourg, Ontario, Canada May 18
 ECBACC – Philadelphia, PA May 18
 Eckman's Card, Comic & Toy Show – San Antonio, TX May 18
 MNCBA SpringCon – Woodbury, MN May 18
 Newcastle Comic Con – Newcastle, United Kingdom May 18
 WNC Comic Con – Fletcher, NC May 18
 Comicverse – New Berlin, WI May 19
 Crawley Brick Festival – Crawley, United Kingdom May 19
 Fall River Toy & Comic-Palooza – Fall River, MA May 19
 Norfolk Anime-Fest – Norfolk, VA May 19
 Port Perry Comicon – Port Perry, Ontario, Canada May 19
 Raleigh Comic Book Show– Raleigh, NC May 19

May 23 – 28

VIRTUAL

Toronto Comic Arts Festival – Toronto, Ontario, Canada May 23-24
 Paizo Con – ONLINE May 24-27

ON-SITE

BBG.Spring – Dallas, TX May 23-27
 ConFuzzled – Birmingham, United Kingdom May 24-28
 Balticon – Baltimore, MD May 24-27
 FanimeCon – San Jose, CA May 24-27
 Kubla-Con – Burlingame, CA May 24-27
 MisCon – Missoula, MT *May 24-27
 MomoCon – Atlanta, GA May 24-27
 Animazement – Raleigh, NC May 24-26
 Anime Fest – Brno, Czecha May 24-26
 Anime North – Toronto, Ontario, Canada May 24-26
 AniMinneapolis – Minneapolis, MN May 24-26
 AnthOhio – Columbus, OH May 24-26
 Carolina Fear Fest – Raleigh, NC May 24-26
 Cherry Capital Comic Con – Traverse City, MI May 24-26
 Comic Con Baltics – Vinius, Lithuania May 24-26
 Comicpalooza – Houston, TX May 24-26
 Enfilade! – Olympia, WA May 24-26
 Furlandia – Portland, OR May 24-26
 GalaxyCon Oklahoma City – Oklahoma City, OK May 24-26
 MCM London Comic Con – London, United Kingdom *May 24-26
 MidWest Conquest – Overland Park, KS May 24-26
 Mizucon – Miami, FL May 24-26
 Naka-Con– Overland Park, KS May 24-26
 Phoenix Fan Fusion – Phoenix, AZ May 24-26
 PrairieCon– Brandon, Manitoba, Canada May 24-26
 Sabaku Con– Albuquerque, NM May 24-26
 The Camp PTC– Peachtree City, GA May 24-26
 Thy Geekdom Con – Oaks, PA May 24-26
 Hanabi Con – Palmer, AK May 25-27

Brick Fest Live Rio Rancho – Rio Rancho, NM May 25-26
 Brick Fest Live South Bend – South Bend, IN May 25-26
 BrickUniverse – Nashville, TN *May 25-26
 Collect-a-Con Orlando – Orlando, FL May 25-26
 Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Milwaukee, WI May 25-26
 Southernerds Festival – Biloxi, MS May 25-26
 Chibi Chibi Con – Olympia, WA May 25
 Clarksville Anime-Fest – Clarksville, TN May 25
 Midwest Comic Book Con Peru – Peru, IL May 25
 Mini-Mini Con(s)– San Antonio, TX May 25
 Stratford Comicon – Stratford, Ontario, Canada May 25
 Ajax Comicon – Ajax, Ontario, Canada May 26
 Capital Comic Book Convention – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada May 26
 Collector Con Penrith – Penrith, New South Wales, Australia May 26
 London Brick Festival – London, United Kingdom May 26
 Midwest Comic Book Con Springfield – Springfield, IL May 26
 Otaku Link – Derby, United Kingdom May 26
 Rochestercon– Rochester, NY May 26

May 30 – Jun 2

Colossalcon – Sandusky, OH May 29-Jun 2
 Narrativity – Plymouth, MN May 30-Jun 2
 StokerCon – San Diego, CA May 30-Jun 2
 DieCon – Collinsville, IL May 31-Jun 1
 DreamHack Dallas – Dallas, TX May 31-Jun 2
 FunCon One – Buxton, United Kingdom May 31-Jun 2
 Monsterpalooza – Pasadena, CA May 31-Jun 2
 OffKai Expo – Burlingame, CA May 31-Jun 2
 River City Steampunk Expo – Louisville, KY May 31-Jun 2
 Spring Offensive – Burlington, NC May 31-Jun 2
 StratosFur – Houston, TX May 31-Jun 2
 Trek Long Island – Hauppauge, NY May 31-Jun 2
 UK Games Expo – Birmingham, United Kingdom May 31-Jun 2
 Vampire Fan Weekend – Charlotte, NC May 31-Jun 2
 3 Rivers Comicon – Pittsburg, PA Jun 1-2
 Anime Riverside – Riverside, CA Jun 1-2
 Bak-Anime – Bakersfield, CA Jun 1-2
 Brickfest Live Columbia – Columbia, SC Jun 1-2
 Brickfest Live Indianapolis – Indianapolis, IN Jun 1-2
 Chibi-Con – Winterthur, Switzerland Jun 1-2
 Durham Brick Convention – Durham, NC Jun 1-2
 KimoKawaii – Conroe, TX Jun 1-2
 Leeds Anime & Gaming Con – Leeds, United Kingdom Jun 1-2
 Nashville Comicon – Nashville, TN Jun 1-2
 Oz Comic Con Adelaide – Adelaide, Southern Australia, Australia Jun 1-2
 West Texas Comic Con – Lubbock, TX Jun 1-2
 WonderFest – Louisville, KY Jun 1-2
 Animangapop Cardiff – Cardiff, United Kingdom Jun 1
 AugustaCon – Augusta, GA Jun 1
 CORGS-Con – Columbus, OH Jun 1

Illinois Game Con – Bloomington, IL Jun 1
North Dallas Toy Show – Plano, TX Jun 1
Nottingham Brick Festival – Nottingham, United Kingdom Jun 1
Pikeville Comic & Toy Convention – Pikeville, KY Jun 1
Quad City Con Oshkosh – Oshkosh, WI Jun 1
Trenton Comicon – Trenton, Ontario, Canada Jun 1
Watford Comic Con – Watford, United Kingdom Jun 1
Capital Trade Show – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Jun 2
Cleveland Comic Book & Nostalgia Show – Cleveland, OH Jun 2
Japan Fest Mansfield – Mansfield, United Kingdom Jun 2
Oshawa Comicon – Oshawa, Ontario, Canada Jun 2
Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Jun 2



We welcome your feedback!

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

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond.

