



# TAFF *est*

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC FAN FUND #3 JUNE 2023

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund has been to **Konflikt** – the 2023 Eurocon – which took place in the Uppsala University Hall in Sweden, during 8-11th of June. TAFF had a fan fund table in the Dealers' Hall with a much appreciated tombola. We also took part in the Fan Fund auction with three other fan funds. The total money raised during Konflikt were **16076.16 SEK**. It has been reported by the Swedish NOFFadmins that this amount is the highest that has been raised at a Swedish convention ever. A record!

The proceeds have been divided between EFF, NOFF, GUFF and TAFF, with 30% going to each of the other fan funds, and 10% going to TAFF. This was decided upon beforehand, to give extra support to the other fan funds, who currently need it even more.

<b>Total amount raised</b>	<b>16076.17 SEK</b>
European Fan Fund (EFF)	4820 SEK
Nordic Fan Fund (Swedish edition) (NOFF)	4820 SEK
Get Up-and-over /Going Under Fan Fund (GUFF)	4820 SEK
Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund (TAFF)	1607 SEK

## Other great news...

Dave Langford has recently reported that e-books and paperback sales from Ansible Editions has generated a total of £191.18 in proceeds for TAFF. (This is additional to the donations people have made on downloading the free ebook editions.) Many thanks to Dave for his TAFF Free Ebooks (including paper versions!), and to all of those whose books have made this possible. On that note, an extra huge thanks to Ted White and Rob Hansen who are generously allowing their works to benefit TAFF.

Sue Mason has been assisted by the rest of the Plokta Cabal to publish her trip report from 2000! You can get copies of *Into The Wide Purple Yonder: a Fan Artist in America* (16 pages, colour) for £5 as a PDF or £5 plus postage for the paper version. In the UK, PayPal £5 (£8 to post) to [eutaff@gmail.com](mailto:eutaff@gmail.com); in the USA, PayPal \$6 (\$15 to mail) to [taff@toad-hall.com](mailto:taff@toad-hall.com). Elsewhere, contact the EUTAFF address for advice.

*Meanwhile, TAFF delegate Sandra Bond is gearing up for her TAFF-trip to North America...*

They say that planning a holiday is half the fun.

Hah!

Whoever said that never planned a TAFF trip.

Since being announced as the delegate-elect in April, I have been privileged to receive invitations and offers of hospitality from all over North America. It very soon became clear that I wasn't going to be able to accept anything like all of them; well, perhaps if I spent a year over there, but I'm not sure who would object more violently to that, the TAFF administrators or the immigration officials.

I know, I know – we should all have this problem.

In considering my route, I've worked on the basis that TAFF is in part a reward and in part an ambassadorship; in other words, that I may feel at liberty to do a certain amount of sightseeing, but that I also have a duty to make myself available at the conventions I'll be attending, and at any other fannish events at which I may find myself. Don't feel bad for me – this will be a pleasure as much as a duty.

If you're reading this bulletin, I assume you're interested in TAFF and in its avowed purpose of forging ever stronger links between European and North American fandom. Fair enough; in that case, I'd like to meet you if you're going to be anywhere near me as I dot about the continent. To that end, here's a TAFFspotter's guide to where I am likely to be at any given time during the five weeks I plan to spend across the Atlantic.

(The usual caveats apply that this is subject to alteration at notice ranging from before I leave, to five minutes before I'm meant to be anywhere...)

I fly out of the UK on **4<sup>th</sup> July**. Originally I planned for 4<sup>th</sup>; then I recalled that 4<sup>th</sup> July holds a certain Significance in the US, and scheduled it for 5<sup>th</sup> instead; then Geri Sullivan assured me that almost nobody travels on 4<sup>th</sup> July in the States and I could do so without trepidation. And since 4<sup>th</sup> July had the cheaper fares, 4<sup>th</sup> July I booked. Now I see from the new *This Here* that Bob Jennings views the prospect of travelling on Independence Day with alarm and despondency. Who's right, he or Geri? I shall find out.

I will arrive in **Boston**, where the aforementioned Geri Sullivan will swoop down upon me and collect me, and host me in Massachusetts until **8<sup>th</sup> July**, at which point she will stuff me and my bags into the famous Cardis and drive me down to New York state.

The plan was to stay with Bill and Mary Burns there, but thanks to Mary breaking her hip in an accident (get well soon!) Joe Siclari and Edie Stern have stepped in at short notice to host me at FanHiHall. They are throwing a party in my hono(u)r, to boot; so even if I don't get into NYC itself, I should still get to meet such fans as still remain in the area. (Has Moshe Feder finally moved out yet?)

Around **10<sup>th</sup> July** I fly off to Chicago, where Nigel Rowe will look after me. Sadly his plan to take me out to the ball game can't be made to fit the calendar, but I was never really a sports fan, and those grapes look pretty damn sour anyway.

From there I forge onward to Minneapolis-St Paul, round about **13<sup>th</sup> July**. Mine host there – a fan who I've never had contact with before, but heck, that's what TAFF is about – will be Larry Sanderson. During this

period I shall be attending **Diversicon** in Plymouth, MN, as something of an amuse-bouche to get me in the mood for conventioning, given what's to come...

Next, I temporarily shake US dust from my feet, and transfer to Winnipeg. Just how I do so is a little vague; I may catch a ride, or fly if no suitable lift is available. (If you're able to offer one, now would be a good time to let me know.) I'm hoping to reach Winnipeg in time for the icebreaker dinner on **19<sup>th</sup> July**, if not before.

Here be Pemmi-Con...

By now I reckon I shall be ready for some alone time to recharge the old mental batteries, so my plan is to obtain a hire car and drive it west out of Winnipeg on **23<sup>rd</sup> July**, intending to travel to Calgary via the celebrated Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller, AB, which multiple people (some of them not Farah Mendlesohn) have urged me not to miss. I then abandon this car and return to plane travel, back across the border and down to Las Vegas for **27<sup>th</sup> July**, where Nic and Jen Farey's Friday night beano is allegedly unmissable.

Thence I retrace my steps up toward Seattle, arriving circa **30<sup>th</sup> July**. There, the saintly Carrie Root and Andy Hooper have thoughtfully gone on holiday to avoid meeting me, but are paying fan tax in lieu by letting me stay in their house when they're not there. A toast to them! I understand various other things are planned for me by Seattle fandom, which I am taking as benevolent rather than a threat...

By now I am doubtless footsore, but on I must and shall press; next stop (circa **3<sup>rd</sup> August**) is the Promised Land – otherwise the Bay Area of California – where I have a plethora of offers and shall be run off my feet too much to notice if they're hurting.

I tear myself away from there on **6<sup>th</sup> August** and make one final stop on my way back east, Washington DC, where I grab a precious couple of days with my nominator Ted White and my publisher Michael Dobson.

I fly home red-eyed on **8<sup>th</sup> August**, arriving on **9<sup>th</sup> August**, and sleep for the next couple of weeks...



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TAFF thanks...

... the Konflikt committee and Artist Guest of Honour Johan Egerkrans who donated his prints to the auction, which were popular and sold exceedingly well during the auction.

... Science-Fiction Bokhandeln Stockholm for donating beautiful items for the auction.

... Bellis, Johan Anglemark, Matylda Naczyńska, Marcin Kłak, Mikołaj Kowalewski, Mats Linder, Mårten Svantesson, Tomas Cronholm, Roxana Postolache, Barbara, Nina Törnudd, Cristina Macía, Jani Ylönen, for helping to arrange auction, donations, tombola. And a double thanks to Matylda for her help with the fan fund auction catalogue. You did us a solid!

... Fantasticon, the annual Danish convention, for your generous donations to TAFF.

... Dave Langford – for being our web manager, e-book manager, and being a great help generally.

... Claire Briailey – for managing the administrators, the European side of the funds itself and donations. Nobody does it better.

... Geri Sullivan for her continuing work to support TAFF.

... and last but not least, to FANAC for its \$300 donation for the publication of TAFF trip reports from Sue Mason, Kevin Smith and Anna Raftery.