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**A JM-pire Publication** 

Official Newsletter of The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund by Jacq Monahan and Jim Mowatt (JMpire)

### **Administration Nation**



Wait a minute. How did I become the senior TAFF administrator? Wasn't I just minutes ago running mad in the UK, riding the rails and asking my hosts if they knew where they were or what that was, jaw agape? Time hasn't just flown during the interim; it's evaporated like steam from a teapot, morphing into

conventions and elections and time to...

### Welcome, Jim!

this writing, brand of new Delegate/Administrator (European) Jim Mowatt is recuperating from his American and Canadian visits and has the TSA radiation burns to prove it. The monogram on the Official TAFF Towel stays the same, that is, if there were an Official TAFF Towel). Jim's been a human pinball on his US trip. buffered nicely by hosts vying to outdo each other (airplane ride, poisonous snake, 50 ft. exotic dancer, sewage plant). His hat's been hung on many a North American hook and he himself has gotten hooked on American breakfasts. Here he is, posing with \$1,000,000 USD, which he tells me is



pocket change compared to what he will be raising during his administration.

# Thank You For The Welcome, Jacq

I'm in the process of climbing into the administrator chair and acclimatising to the vast powers of the position. I know I'm pushing the boundaries a little here but I wonder if I could ask for an extra cushion on this administrator's chair. That's the only demand I'm making at the moment, so back to you JM (US) from JM (UK).



# **Another TAFF Logo**

Flags on the new TAFF logo by Alan White reflect the current administrators' countries of origin and may change with the candidates. Canadian/Albanian or Mexican/Norwegian combinations (and a host of other pairings) can and will be accommodated.

# **About That Trip Report...**

I'm aiming to get the 2012 report out by the end of 2013. It's in roughly 8-10 huge chunks that need to be linked, expanded, illustrated, photoenhanced and revised. Should be a cinch (bites fist in panic and squirrels away to a dark room).

# **TAFF Angels**

These gentlepersons have supported TAFF with monetary, merchandise, and man-hour donations: Alan White, Andy Hooper, Arnie Katz, Bill Wright, Bobbie Justice (Farey), Brenda Dupont, Carrie Root, Chris Garcia, Chris Marble, Claire Brialey, Dave Langford, DeDee White, Don Miller, Jeanne Bowman, Joel Zakem, Joyce Katz, Linda Bushyager, Marc Cram, Mark Plummer, Mike Glyer, Murray Moore, Nic Farey, Pat Virzi,

Robert Roche, Woody Bernardi, The LosCon Auction Couple – you know who you are. Sincere thanks to you all.

### Look to the East

The upcoming TAFF election will send one very fortunate delegate to Loncon 3 in 2014.

Nominations are being accepted up until 31st December 2013. Nominees should submit \$20 USD and a platform of 101 words or fewer, and solicit five nominators (three North American and two European). Nominators and nominees should email jaxn8r@msn.com or jim.mowatt@gmail.com

# I Can See for Miles and Miles – Future Endeavors

Jim and I want to capture more ballot origination information. We'll be adding a line to the voting form which we hope all voters will complete. In essence — where d'ya get this from?. The collected stats will be shared with everyone.

We'd also like to start an Online TAFF Store to sell/auction items to benefit accounts on both sides of the pond, so that fundraising can take place all year-round. Of course, anyone can hunt us down and forcibly donate to TAFF for any reason whatsoever. Selling platelets each week is beginning to leave us a bit anemic. Many thanks.

### State of the TAFF (US)

Fundraising in the form of auctions and donations has nearly replenished trip expenses (\$2100 USD). The entire fund should be fully replaced (\$8495 USD), and perhaps even increased by the end of my tenure. In short, the TAFF (US) fund is strong and healthy enough to pump iron in a Speedo. Not bad for a 60-year-old (nearly 62 if you count the '52 Willis trip).

### **State of the TAFF (UK)**

The UK TAFF fund currently stands at £2994.82, despite my handing over vast sums to a mighty multitude of airline companies. I spent £2500 altogether so will be begging your help to try to replace this money. The first UK fan auction of my administratorship will be at Novacon on the 9th November at 17:00 in the downstairs bar. Please bring stuff and lots of money to buy gargantuan amounts of stuff. [back to you Jacq]

## Thank you, John

The first time I met John Coxon, I gained 100 pounds (sterling) and promptly lost 30 of them buying a round of drinks. Since then, I have observed and learned from John about auctions, tombolas, panels, TAFF elections, and



cyber-mastery over TAFF newsletter updates. All this from the youngest TAFF administrator in history, also a University of Leicester PhD candidate in 'The Role of Substorms in Solar Wind Magnetosphere-Ionosphere Coupling'. If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then I want to imitate John's impressive tenure as TAFF Administrator (European, '11-'13) We wish him well with his committee work on Loncon 3 and his continuing studies, and thank him for his distinguished TAFF service.

#### In Memoriam

# Elliott Shorter (TAFF 1970) 1939-2013

Attended Worldcon/Heicon, Heidelberg, Germany. Some nice messages on *File 770* where, for instance Astrid Byron said:

"When I was a little girl, back in the fairly early days of the SCA, he would always ask me to hold his favour before he would go into battle".

# **Acknowledgements and Credits**

The administrators would like to thank Mike Glyer (*File 770*) and Dave Langford (*Ansible*) for helping with news distribution, and for Dave's ongoing maintenance of www.taff.org.uk and Bill Burns for hosting TAFF newsletters and fanzines on ww.efanzines.com

Flag logo and Jacq photo: Alan White

Photos of John and Million Dollar Jim: Jacq Monahan

Photo of Gangster Jim: Carrie Mowatt

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