

Vol. 2, No. 2, Issue 4

"The Tooth is Out There"

August - December 1998

# TAKING A GIANT SURVEY by Bob Tucker, TORCON I Fan Guest

Giant for that day, fifty years ago. In the winter of 1947-48 I began preparing a fan-wide survey, a survey designed to outdo and out-ask every other fannish survey taken up to that time. Those misguided fans in Toronto had chosen me to be their fan guest at a world convention known as Torcon 1, and told me that I was expected to make a speech. I wanted to repay their kindness by presenting something unexpected, something they would talk about.

Beginning in January 1948, I mailed out five hundred copies of a three-page questionnaire, three pages that asked about a hundred and fifty questions. It later became known as "The Little Kinsey Report" because two or three of those pointed questions inquired into fannish sex lives. That was heady stuff fifty years ago. I asked separate questions of single fans, married fans, divorced fans, and didn't overlook the Pros. I asked about the individual and the spouse, about girlfriends, about reading habits, about future ambitions. I stuck my nose into almost everything fannish.

I wish now that I still had a record of the replies, a record of how many replies were received. The best I can do now is make an estimate and I suspect that about two hundred and fifty people responded. Even with fans being slans, a survey cannot expect better than a fifty percent return because we aren't all that slannish.

The better to illustrate my findings Mari Beth Wheeler prepared a series of charts and graphs to demonstrate various results. The graphs and charts were drawn and painted in red and black inks and were mounted on large poster boards. Those poster boards were first displayed from the stage as my speech progressed, and were afterwards hung across the front of the stage at about eye-level. Amazed fans snapped pictures of them to take home.

Most of the questions were innocent enough: age, education, marital status, was spouse a fan, did you allow fans to visit your home, were fans brighter than average or were they morons, when will the first rocket go to the moon, would you go there if given a chance few of the questions dipped into the burning issue of the day, the so-called "Shaver Mystery." Readings the results of the survey and interpreting the answers caused me to run far over my allotted hour on stage but the con committee, being kindly souls, didn't give me the hook.

My poor memory fails to recall many of the details today. In general most of the respondents were single students who read a large number of magazines and books and wanted to marry a fan. Only Hugo knows why. In 1948 we counted among our number two physicians, one attorney, one professional horseshoer, and a female wrestler. That reply caused a bit of merriment at the convention. The rest of us had more humdrum jobs.

After the convention closed Ned McKeown gathered up the materials and reprinted everything in a fat fanzine called The Torcon Report. He included Wheeler's charts as illustrations, and once upon a time in the glory days of long ago I had a copy of that fanzine. If you find any copies for sale, buy two -- one for you and one for me.

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE Toronto in 2003 Bid Committee

# Hotels & Convention Space in Downtown Toronto by Alex Von Thorn

The Bid Committee has reviewed the available spaces in Toronto and below are some of the various establishments the Bid has begun negotiations with. We will have more information at Bucconeer.

### Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 235 Front Street West,

At the foot of the CN Tower, the Metro Toronto Convention Centre is one of North America's premier meeting facilities, with well over half a million square feet of function space. The upper level has more than enough space for dealers, art show and other exhibits, as well as seating for 3000 people, while the lower level has several rooms suitable for large panels, and a theatre space with seating for over a thousand. The convention centre is fully wired with the latest communication facilities.

### Royal York Hotel, 100 Front Street West,

Stats.: available rooms: 1000, distance from convention centre: 150 meters east. The site of the 1973 Worldcon once dominated the Toronto skyline as the largest hotel in the Commonwealth. With 60,000 square feet of function space and over a thousand rooms, this hotel will be the lead hotel for the 2003 Worldcon. The flagship hotel of the Canadian Pacific chain is newly renovated, but maintains the tradition of service and hospitality of the old railway hotels. The grand ballroom is a real ballroom in the old style, with sweeping arches, vast chandeliers, and enough room for a couple of basketball courts, or a really big opening reception.

#### **Crowne Plaza Hotel, 225 Front Street West,**

Stats.: available rooms: 400, distance from convention centre: 10 meters east. Directly attached to the convention centre, the Crown Plaza is a luxury hotel with posh rooms and spectacular views. It will be a great location for authors, publishers, and is totally accessible to the physically challenged. With some 20,000 square feet of function space, the Crowne Plaza has good rooms for convention management, media, author's readings, and so forth.

### Holiday Inn on King, 370 King Street West,

Stats.: available rooms: 200, distance from convention centre: 200 meters north. A very comfortable hotel in the heart of the entertainment district, adjacent to the Princess of Wales Theatre on King Street. With approximately 30,000 square feet of function space, this hotel will be a good location for specialty programming; this was the site of Pandemonium '98, Toronto's annual gaming convention.

### Skydome Hotel, 1 Blue Jay Way,

Stats.: room rate: available rooms: 300, distance from convention centre: 30 meters west. Attached to the convention centre and the CN Tower, the Skydome Hotel is built right into Toronto's leading sports facility. The Skydome Hotel is a comfortable, modern hotel, very conveniently located. Many of the rooms overlook the playing field, making it a great place to watch Toronto Blue Jays games.

### Radisson Plaza Hotel, 249 Queen's Quay West,



Stats.: distance from convention centre: 300 meters south, located next to Pier 4 in Toronto's Harbour front district, with an adjacent marina. Harbour front is the setting for cultural activities throughout the summer, and is close to the ferry docks going to the Toronto Islands; water taxis are just a few minutes from the island airport.

The Incisors Report is edited for the Toronto in 2003 Bid Committee by Peter & Athena Jarvis. Incisors title banner designed by Warren Huska. Artwork in this issue by Donald Connors, Athena Jarvis, and Paul McCusker. Interested in submitting? Contact the bid

or PETER-JARVIS@MSN.COM

Need to reach us? Don't forget our addresses... Toronto in '03 P.O. Box 3, Station A, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5W 1A2 Email: INFO@TORCON3.ON.CA Website: HTTP://WWW.TORCON3.ON.CA

Thanks to *Clearly Canadian*! The Bid Committee would like to thank *Clearly Canadian* for once again supplying the Toronto in 2003 bid parties, this year at Bucconeer, with beverages.

## Welcome to Canada! By Alex Von Thorn

Located between the American northeast and mid-west, Toronto is one of the easiest cities in North America to get to. But there is a national border to cross, with a few formalities to keep track of. With a few minutes planning, crossing the border will take less time than stopping at a gas station.

The Bid Committee recognizes that many fans and dealers may have concerns about coming to Canada. In anticipation of the Worldcon making it to Toronto in 2003, the Committee has begun the process of researching a customs broker. Remember, Toronto is the main hub for flights to and from the United States so customs officials are well versed in people coming to Toronto for all sorts of Conventions.

### **Visitors to Canada**

You will need to prove your citizenship. Bring a driver's license, birth certificate, age of majority card, or passport. Don't bring guns or drugs. Firearms are generally restricted in Canada, and the same drugs are illegal in Canada as in the US. You can bring one carton of cigarettes, one case (24 bottles) of beer, and one bottle of wine or liquor (40 oz.) duty free, per person. For more than that, you'll have to pay duty. If you're bringing a pet, be sure you have a rabies certificate from your veterinarian. Certain agricultural

products, especially fresh ones, may be restricted. That's pretty much all you have to keep in mind. Average time spent dealing with border formalities for most people should be less than two minutes. Be polite and truthful to border guards. They will ask a few questions, just to see whether a traveler seems unusually nervous or shifty. In our experience, the eyes of customs officials tend to glaze over with disinterest when one says, "We're going to a science fiction convention!" and one gets waved through. When you are in Canada, keep your receipts. Canadians pay a lot of taxes, but American and other foreign visitors don't have to. Forms will be provided so that you can get a refund for all sales taxes you pay for purchases in Canada.



TV Show Cross-overs Daimon Burns

### **Dealers in Canada**

The Toronto in 2003 committee is in the process of selecting a customs broker to assist dealers come to our convention. When you get to the airport or border crossing, tell the customs officer you are a dealer at the convention and that you are using our broker. They will direct you to the broker. You will give the broker a list of your inventory, they will sign your paperwork, and you will be allowed to bring your goods into Canada. It's that simple. Under Canadian law, books and original artwork carry no duty when entering Canada. Under the North American Free Trade Agreement, by the year 2003, almost all goods originating in the US or Mexico can be brought into Canada with no duty. If you have any specific questions, you can contact our broker in advance of the convention and they can provide information. Basically, most dealers will not have to pay any duties or taxes. You will have minimal paperwork to deal with, and assistance will be available from the broker if there are questions or problems.

### Art Exhibitors in Canada

As stated above, original artwork may be brought into Canada duty-free. This will have to be documented, so art exhibitors will have to keep a list of the pieces they are bringing in, so artists will probably have to deal with the broker. The committee feels that the art show is a central part of the convention, so we intend to cover the cost of art exhibitor's brokerage fees out of the overall convention budget.

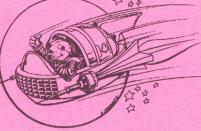
### **Other Exhibitors**

All sorts of interesting people come to Worldcons to put things on display, whether it be priceless fannish memorabilia, props from popular SF films, science and technology displays, or whatever. Since these people won't actually be selling anything, they won't have to pay any duty. They'll just give a list of their property to the broker and be waved on their way. The broker will handle the paperwork, and the convention will handle the brokerage fee.

## **Bid T-SHIRTS & FRIDGE MAGNETS**

The last *Incisors* told about the 1998 bid T-Shirt based on a Terminator design by local artist Paul McCusker. Also new this year is a bid fridge magnet based on Paul's Beaver in Space Ship design (see page 4 for interesting article about last year's Beaver in Space bid T Shirt). The fridge magnets cost \$2.

Both T-Shirt designs will be available at Bucconeer, but are going fast!



## 684 Pre-Supporters & List Keeps Growing...

Issue 3 of the *Incisor's Report* listed 527 pre-supporters. With the numerous local and US conventions that the bid has had a presence at, we have added over 150 more individuals. We are still maintaining an average of more than 1 person pre-supporting the bid every day. This now raises the question, with Bucconeer upon us, just how close the bid will come to hitting the 1,000 pre-supporter mark. The bid hit the 400<sup>th</sup> pre-supporter at LoneStarCon last year. Here's the latest geographical breakdown of pre-supporters. More than one fifth are Canadians from the Toronto area.

Location	<u>#</u>	Location	<u>#</u>	Location	<u>#</u>	Location	<u>#</u>
Alabama	-1	Indiana	5	New Jersey	13	Texas	13
Alberta	7	lowa	6	New Mexico	3	The Netherlands	2
APO AE	2	Japan	1	New York	43	United Kingdom	17
Arizona	1	Kentucky	4	North Carolina	3	Unknown	2
Australia	2	Louisiana	1	Ohio	37	Utah	3
British Columbia	6	Manitoba	8	Oklahoma	4	Virginia	12
California	33	Maryland	20	Ontario	230	Washington	14
Colorado	9	Massachusetts	33	Oregon	1	Wisconsin	12
Connecticut	2	Michigan	32	Pennsylvania	11	Total:	684
District of Columbia	1	Minnesota	16	Qatar	2		
Florida	6	Missouri	5	Quebec	20	Canada	273
Georgia	- 1	Nebraska	1	Rhode Island	-2	Toronto Area	150
Germany	1	Nevada	1	Saudi Arabia	1	USA	383
Hawaii	1	New Brunswick	2	South Carolina	1	Other	26
Illinois	24	New Hampshire	3	Tennessee	3	Unknown	2

Agin, Gary \* Anderson, Claire \* Anderson, Dave \* Anderson, John \* Andruschak, Harry Cameron \* Armstrong, James \* Armstrong, Nancy \* Ashton, Lisa A. \* Bahm, Margene \* Bailey, Cokie \* Bailey, Don \* Baye, BJ \* Beal, Robin \* Beesley, Marie-Louise \* Bemis, Judy \* Blake, Dennis \* Blennon, Stephen W. \* Bobbitt, Paul \* Bourns, Maureen \* Brownbill, Andrew \* Dachowitz, Emily \* Donlevy, Lyall \* Doran, Shelley \* Drake, Raven \* Emerson, David \* Esztelecky, Peter \* Eveleigh, Robert \* Farmer, Dale \* Feir, Bryan \* Feld, Becky \* Ferree, Rich \* Friends of the Merril Collection, \* Garey, Terry \* Glass, Shannon \* Grace, Joyce \* Grace, Peter \* Greenberg, Alan \* Gross, Liz \* Hartwell, David \* Hayman, David \* Heaton, Caroline J. \* Hebel, Bill \* Henderson, Arthur \* Henderson, Rebecca \* Hillis, Bob \* Hise, Jan \* Hise, Tom \* Hitchcock, Chip \* Houston, Debra \* Humphrey, Steve \* Hurst, David \* Jensen, Barbara \* Kay, Guy Gavriel \* Keifer, Margaret \* Kindel, Bob \* Knabbe, Kenneth \* Kobee, Sally \* Kremer, Harry \* Lacey, Charles \* Lacey, Mollie \* Landis, Jim \* Lee, Catherine \* Linneman, Mark \* Lipman, Penny \* Litten, Daniel \* Loper, Karen \* Lukezic, John \* Luuk, Stella \* Macfee, Bruce \* MacMillan, Robert \* Mallardi, Bill \* Mannell, Sharon \* Manship, David J. \* Martin, Cheryl \* Martin, Russell \* Mathews, Bob \* Meier, Shirley \* Metcalfe, Elizabeth \* Miller, Elizabeth \* Miller, Michael \* Miller, Samuel \* Mitchell, Daniel \* Morem, David C. \* Mryc, Erast \* Murray, James J \* Murray, Paula \* Mutch, Matthew \* Nielsen Hayden, Patrick \* Olson, Loretta \* Ouimet, Doug \* Owings, Jul \* Ozols, Velta \* Papadatos, Tasia \* Patison, Jim \* Peterson, Polly \* Petherick, John \* Pockrandt, Mitchell S. \* Portelli, Vince \* Porter, Karin \* Price, Caycee \* Pyter, Tom \* Rest, Neil \* Robinson, Jeanne \* Robinson, Spider \* Rose, John \* Runkle, Laura \* Ryan, Charles \* Schalles, Jeff \* Schmeidler, Lucy Cohen \* Scrivner, Joyce \* Searle, Cameron \* Shectman, Nick \* Siclari, Joe \* Simmons, David \* Skaff Loren, Madona \* Smith, Friend of Larry \* Smith, Larry \* Smith, Laura \* Smith

### ROSCOE & THE 1997 Beaver in Space Bid T-Shirt...

The following eMail was received by Larry Hancock, 1998 Co-chair, from Allan Burrows:

I meant to ask at Toronto Trek XII, but I didn't think of it when I was at the party. Is Torcon3's space beaver symbol meant to be an invocation of Roscoe? In case you don't know what I'm talking about, here's the relevant quote from *A Wealth Of Fable* by **Harry Warner Jr**, (Pp.171) – "The 1950s had only one real equivalent of the earlier mock religions like FooFoo and Ghu. This was Art Rapp's Roscoe. It's typical of the good humour of the decade that nobody summoned up a rival deity as an excuse for semi-serious feuding. Rapp had actually begun issuing revelations about Roscoe in the late 1940s. The beaver known for simplicity's sake as Roscoe was born on Labor Day, and the real reason fans get together over that weekend for worldcons is for the celebration of his birthday. Sincere fans can see Roscoe flying across the sky in a fiery spaceship on July 4<sup>th</sup>.\* Useful miracles aren't to be expected from Roscoe for the time being, because only after 200th Fandom has come and gone will Roscoe save all fans." (Canadian fans, no doubt especially blessed, can see him three whole days earlier. adb) I've heard, (or more likely read), somewhere that, when your mimeo stylus rolls towards the edge of the desk but doesn't fall over, it's a fan tradition to thank Roscoe. And of course, all good trufans toast him at Worldcon. So, is this who Mrs. Jarvis's beaver is meant to be, or is it just a coincidence? (Frankly, I'm betting on the latter.)

Funny Mr. Burrows should bring this up... While Athena was doing up the original artwork, a temporal vortex appeared in her studio and the artwork was sucked back into time. By her husband's actuarial calculations, it was sometime during the '40's that it emerged. Because of the quasi-reciprocal nature of temporal relastatics, you could make a case that Roscoe was actually created by Athena. Of course Athena was royally PO'd because she had to do the drawing all over again plus clean up the mess in the studio the vortex made...