

ALTERED BRANDS - A DUFF newsletter

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Have you ever just picked up a dictionary and thumbed through it for no particular reason? I did that a few years ago and under DUFF I found a couple of listings. One of them caught my eye: as a verb, an Australian term meaning to steal and/or alter the brand on cows or horses. This is probably of no interest to anybody else, but at least it gives me a somewhat memorable name for a newsletter.

The 1998 DUFF race is over. On May 2nd (in my time zone) Perry Middlemiss and I compiled the following numbers:

	North America	Australasia	Totals
Susan Clarke	15	14	29
Terry Frost	46	26	72
No Preference	17	2	19
Hold Over Funds	1	0	1
Write-in	1 (John Bangsund)	0	1
Totals	80	42	122

Therefore, Terry Frost wins the opportunity to represent Australian fandom at the 1998 Worldcon (Bucconeer) in Baltimore from August 5th through August 9th. It is customary for DUFF winners to see as much of the host country (or continent) as possible during his or her trip. I will try to keep you informed of the upcoming expedition. Suggestions are welcome; Terry can be contacted via mail at 5 Temple Street, West Brunswick, Victoria 3055, Australia and via e-mail at: hlector@netscape.net.au.

I understand that a lot of people in North America didn't feel knowledgeable enough about the two candidates in this race to vote. I am glad to see that seventeen people chose the No Preference option, which is precisely what it's there for. (Thank you for not not voting.)

Insofar as the next race will send a North American fan to AussieCon 3, I don't think I'll have too much difficulty finding qualified candidates. Four people have already expressed an interest in standing. Therefore, I expect the next race will have stricter deadlines and a longer voting period.

In the interests of making voting easier for non-USA fans, I am now able to accept checks (or cheques) written on foreign bank accounts. It is probably a lot easier for my bank to handle these cheques than it is for fans from another country to get a bank draft in US funds. I've heard horror stories of banks charging the equivalent of \$30 for a \$10 money order and I know my bank can do better than that. Canadian cheques shouldn't present a problem for a Seattle bank, since Canada is just up the street.

The following people voted in this DUFF race:

Arthur Aldredge	Tom Feller	Rich McAllister	Pat Sims
David M. Axler	jan howard finder	Luke McGuff	Roger Sims
Chris M. Barkley	George Flynn	Jeanne Mealy	Jon Singer
Martha Beck	Donald L. Franson	John Millard	Joy V. Smith
Judith C. Bemis	E.B. Frohvet	Catherine Mintz	Kevin Standlee
Bill Bodden	Janice Gelb	June M. Moffatt	John L. Stanley
Bonnie Bouman	Don Glover	Len Moffatt	Erwin S. Strauss
Bill Bowers	Mike Glycer	Spike Parsons	Diane Thome
David Bratman	Gay Haldeman	Bruce Pelz	Amy Thomson
David C. Bray	Jane Hawkins	Lloyd Penney	Suzanne V. Tompkins
Linda K. Bray	Andrew P. Hooper	Yvonne Penney	R-Laurraine Tutihasi
Michael A. Burstein	Jim Hudson	Andrew I. Porter	Anna Vargo
Linda Bushyager	Barbara L. Johnson-	Dave Rike	Tom Veal
Marty Cantor	Haddad	Carrie Root	Eric L. Watts
Cy Chauvin	Neil Kaden	Alan Rosenthal	W.A. Weller
Michael L. Citrak	Jerry Kaufman	Vicki Rosenzweig	George H. Wells
David Clark	Roy Lavender	Anita Rowland	Art Widner
Clifford Charles Colson	Hope Leibowitz	Kate Schaefer	Martin Morse Wooster
Linda Deneroff	Denny Lien	Lucy Schmeidler	Ben Yalow
Carolyn Doyle	Mark A. Linneman	Joyce Scrivner	Joel D. Zakem
Cathy Doyle	Mark Manning	Andi Shechter	

Two votes reached my post office box a few days after the deadline. Both voters wrote on their ballot that should the vote arrive too late I was to keep the donation anyway. Therefore, there are eighty-two names listed above, but only eighty votes were counted.

The Fund looks to be in pretty good shape. This is the state of the North American books as of May 9th:

Received from the previous administrators:	\$9,000.00	Thanks, Roger and Pat!
Auction proceeds from Corflu Wave:	527.00	Thanks, Spike!
Auction proceeds from Loscon:	230.88	Thanks, Ulrika!
Sales of Rotsler name badges:	147.00	Thanks, Bruce!
Misc. income from past administrators:	70.00	Thanks, Art and Marty!
Voting fees and donations:	786.34	Thank you everybody out there!
Interest income:	98.61	
Cost of stamps to mail out ballot:	-55.00	
Cost of transportation and lodging in Australia:	<u>-2,259.62</u>	
Balance of account:	\$8,545.21	

The next newsletter will set forth the deadlines for the 1999 North America to Australasia race. It will also contain news about the half-dozen or so boxes of auctionable materials in my possession. I have received a couple of offers to help put a Web Page auction on line and I hope to take that opportunity to move some stuff prior to the auction at Bucconeer.

Please feel free to contact me with suggestions of good places to hold auctions, where to distribute ballots or any other ideas you may have. Thank you to everybody who helped make this race possible.

Janice