



# The Drink Tank

ISSUE 24



## Chompin' At The Bit: BayCon Preview

BayCon starts on Friday...well, Thursday for me, as that's when I take the day off to prepare. I'm so ready, and having chatted with Frank Wu and gone to the BayCon Pre-meeting yesterday, I'm fairly certain we're all ready to roll. Here's a look at all of the folks who are going to be there.



### **Fan Guests of Honour: Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley**

I know Kevin a little bit from having done panels with him over the years, most notably the two of us, Vernor Vinge and Richard Foss doing a panel on technology at ConJose. He's a Spintronics/Nanotech guy at IBM Almaden. I don't know Andy much, but I do know that he's the tallest of the Guests this year. They are both costumers and their Ambiguously Gay Duo costumes rule. From what I understand, the two of them are getting married the day before the Con.

### **Artist Guest of Honour Frank Wu and Writer Guest of Honour Jay Lake**

These guys, shown accepting their awards at NorEasCon last year (Frank the Best Fan Artist Hugo and Jay the Campbell), are both the best things that could have happened to BayCon. Neither of these guys were on the first guest list (Writer was originally Robert J. Sawyer, Artist wasn't determined) but they ended up with me. I've known Frank for years and he's probably my favourite person in fandom and a great artist. The two of us did a great little radio interview this weekend for KFJC where Frank basically interviewed me for an hour and a half about BayCon and other things.

Jay Lake is a friend of Frank's who I've met a few times now. Really nice guy in the mold of a big dude who wears loud shirts and has crazy hair (sound familiar?) He's also one hell of a great writer. He and Frank did a book together called Greetings From Lake Wu, where Frank did all the illustrations for Jay's stories. There's a picture of me as an evil clown for one of the stories. A lot of folks think that Jay posed for the picture. This is one of the truly great Hugo photos.





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## Special Guest: Chase Masterson

Chase is returning for a second year at BayCon. She's a doll and a half. She is best known for her work on Deep Space Nine, and since I've never really watched DS9, I had no idea who she was at first. Then someone told me that she played a role in *The Specials*, a film that I saw that really affected the way I do my fake comics articles. It was also a Paget Brewster movie. She also happened to be in *Comic Book: The Movie*, which was the movie that I wrote those fake comic articles for. You can see that we are intimately tied together. She was also interviewed by my pal, Derek McCaw, editor of FanboyPlanet.com (and provider of the photo), and he had wonderful things to say about her. She tends to hit the con circuit and do a bit of singing. She's not bad, and her version of *Fever* is better than many others that I've heard over the years. She'll be singing during the Masquerade break and I think after Meet The Guests. I'm excited that I get to moderate the panel where all the Guests of Honour chat. That should be a fun one.



## The Others

The true meaning of BayCon is fun. Natasha Levitan and Jason Schachat, my dear friends, are coming down for the show, as are a great many of my pals from Seattle and Portland. BayCon draws a heady crowd which I've only seen rivaled at PhilCon. Very similar feels to those two cons.

## A Very Short Story

"But Mom, it's not fair!" Melina said, splashing her cereal a bit on the table.

"One more outburst and no more Disneyland!" Mother said.

"I should get to go to..."

"I said no more!"

The dining room went silent and Mother and Daughter went back to their breakfast in a silence the likes of which only existed in the down moments of 1930s films. The hiss and clink and spoon and bowl annoyed them both, scratching the itch that both wanted left alone.

"I'm not a baby, Mom!" Melina exploded.

"That's it," Mother said, her anger now level. "No Disneyland."

Melina screamed and yelled about Mother's choice, but she knew she'd have to cut her own switch. After a few minutes of Mother's cold stare, she went to the closet and brought down the helmet. Crying, she handed Mother the controller and all the memories of Mickey and roller coasters scattered away like balloons released at the base of Sleeping Beauty's Castle.



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## Comic Book: The Movie

Though I worked on the Website and saw an early screener of it, I hadn't sat down and watched it until this weekend. It's good, almost great at moments. The best parts are the moments when folks whose works you know, guys like Harryhausen, Stan Lee, Jim Cummings, Hugh Hefner and the like, come into play with the actors. It was shot entirely at ComicCon 2002 and it was directed by Mark Hamill (some indy films called Star Wars). The whole thing is populated by voice actors like Billy West (Ren & Stimpy), Jess Harnell (Animaniacs), Tom Kenney and Lori Allen (SpongeBob SquarePants), and Daran Norris (The Fairly OddParents). At times, it careens away from the point, but at others it's a lot of fun. There were some improved interactions with fans at ComicCon that were really funny, especially when Mark Hamill's character is walking through the halls chatting up costumes. The story of Commander Couage is funny, and the whole thing is entertaining, but I'm a bigger fan of little things than the overall. Then again, Gina Gatto and Donna D'Errico in the suit as Liberty Lass is well worth the price for the 2 DVD set.



GQ unleashed a list of the 25 Best Bad Movies of all-time. Some we're gimmers, like Black + White (pictured), The Posidon Adventure, Red Dawn, and my all-time fave, Roadhouse. Others were left off, like Sugar & Spice, West World, Jaws: The Revenge, and any of the 1950s/60s B-movies. Still, it's a great list. I've made a similar list years back, with Roadhouse at the top as well, with Red Dawn at #2, and Ishtar at #3. Some other ones that popped up on my list and not GQ's include Xanadu, The Adventures of Ford Fairlane, Deathrace 2000 and C.H.U.D.



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COMMENTS FROM THE COMPUTERIZED PEANUT GALLERY  
SENT TO GARCIA@COMPUTERHISTORY.ORG  
BY MY GENTLE READERS

**The Drink Tank fave and recent Glyph award winner Eric Mayer (Congrats!)**

Hi,

□ Well, I have sworn off paper, but your intent to journey down the repro river to its source is certainly intriguing.

□ I have only printed one page on a mimeo. I once found a mimeo but the drum was messed up, so I printed a single (spotty) page just to say I'd done so. As for ditto, that's how I did most of my publishing. I actually bought a hand cranked, gravity fed machine at Sears. Must've been the last one.

**When I was in elementary school, I used to have to run copies for the class, and that must have been a ditto machine. It might have been mimeo though. Which one would teachers get mad at students for sniffing?**

And, of course, I did some hecto work. I started off buying hecto kits from Sears also, but they soon vanished. When I started there was actually still a boxed kit in their catalog. When I couldn't get the kits any longer, and the gelatine had been remelted and reused until it was unusable purple glop I found a hectograph recipe in a dusty old edition of Britannica at the library.

Basically it is gelatine and glycerine. (When I lost that recipe I managed to find another on the internet - though I never used it. I think it must still be out there though I managed to lose that also).

**rich brown was nice enough to send along a great detailed step-by-step of the process that will make it happen (Which I can hopefully run in a future issue). It seems quite easy, in a 'My Ghod this is going to be the hardest thing I've ever done' sorta way.**

□ There were no hecto inks to be had. Even the Sears kit came with what looked like small ditto masters. I found that ditto masters worked.

□ Usually. Some are water soluble. The ones that aren't won't work.

□ There were problems, however. For one thing, most of the ditto masters I found were stale and sometimes barely functional. They'd likely been sitting on a shelf in the back of the store for twenty years! Plus, I couldn't find colors. Eric Lindsay and Ned Brooks kindly supplied some yellows etc, which, then, were still to be found in Australia. Mae Strelkov sent me some ink but I couldn't manage to make any good use of those, sad to say. But if you are devolving, starting with a mimeo, you won't descend into the primordial hecto ooze for awhile.

□ I actually regressed even further. I printed one page of my zine with a carved potato.

**Now, that sounds like a challenge! An entire zine using nothing but a carved potato. Oh, more projects!**

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Eric

Blog:<http://www.journalscape.com/ericmayer>

**The Drink Tank Issue 24 was written and directed by Christopher J. Garcia. Realising that he probably won't get another one of these out until late next week, Chris sends his warmest wishes to all. Any comments can be sent to [garcia@computerhistory.org](mailto:garcia@computerhistory.org) or 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA 94043. If you're down with LJ, the name's johnnyeponymous. Claims Department 3, the smarter younger sibling of The Drink Tank, is currently in the mail to 25 very lucky (that's questionable) fans in four countries. Dad's OK, though the treatments' gettin' to 'im.**