

Corflu 37

Progress Report #2 September 2019



The College Station Hilton Hotel and Convention Center is the host site of Corflu 37, which will be over the weekend of March 13-15, 2020. As promised in PR #1, the link to make your room reservations is now active and posted below. Room rates are \$109 for both single and double rooms for Corflu 37 members. This rate will also apply on an "as available" basis for three days prior to and after Corflu 37 for attendee travel purposes. Just be sure to note that you are a member of the convention to maintain this convention room rate for any additional days. On page six are directions for getting to the Hilton Hotel from the Houston airports (there are two), and from local Easterwood Field (which I like to call the College Station International Airport and Used Car Lot).

Link for reservations: [Corflu 37 Hotel Reservations](#)

If you prefer to call to make your reservation, use this info:

Group Name: Corflu 37
Group Code: CORF20
Check-in: 13-MAR-2020
Check-out: 15-MAR-2020
Hotel Name: [Hilton College Station & Conference Center](#)
Hotel Address: 801 University Drive East
- College Station, Texas
- 77840-2116
Phone Number: 9402319846



Membership Rates

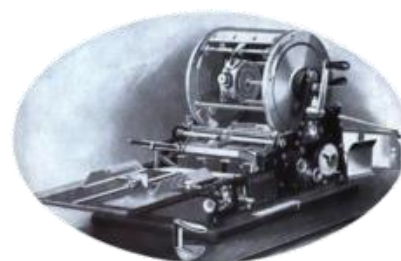
Membership Rates

Attending	USA	UK
1 Sept. - 31 Dec. 2019	\$75	£60
1 Jan - 29 Feb. 2020	\$100	£80
1 March 2020 to at door	\$125	£100

Supporting	USA	UK
Until 31 December 2019	\$25	£20
1 January 2020 to con date	\$50	£40

At the door attending one-day membership: \$50

Attending membership is inclusive of the Sunday brunch banquet



People are already reserving their rooms, so if we need to add more to the Corflu 37 room block that can be done as long I know ahead of time. Note that the convention attending rate will change on January 1, 2020. Act soon to avoid the increase.

So you want to pay to join Corflu 37? Silly person. Here's how:

Membership Payments

US checks should be made payable to **John A. Purcell** and sent to him at: John A. Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station, TX 77845, USA.

UK cheques should be made payable to **Rob Jackson** and sent to him at: Corflu 37, c/o Rob Jackson, Chinthay, Nightingale Lane, Hambrook, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 8UH, UK.

PayPal may be used for memberships from any country, but if your account is in a foreign currency other than British pounds, please enter the payment amount in US dollars and let PayPal make the conversion to your home currency.

[Use this link to open the PayPal website](#), and follow these instructions:

Log in and click on "Send or request money," then "Send money."

For payments in US dollars, enter the recipient as **askance73@gmail.com**

For payments in British pounds, enter the recipient as **jacksonshambrook@uwclub.net**

According to the type of membership you want, enter the appropriate amount from the options above. At this point please add a note which includes "Corflu 37". Choose "Sending to a friend," then complete the payment.



Corflu 50

There has been a lot of discussion going on in the Corflu 50 group listserv, about which deserving fan from *somewhere* should attend Corflu 37. My initial thought was to hold off on announcing the recipient of this honor until the next Progress Report, which will likely appear around Halloween this year. However, this consensus happened so fast that Rich Coad, the Corflu 50 fund collector on the North American side of things, has already been receiving donations from fans. I have already sent in my contribution, and I trust many others will do likewise. It is a worthy fan fund that has brought people like Paul and Cas Skelton, Pete Young, Steve and Elaine Stiles, Curt Phillips, Earl Kemp, Rob Hansen, and many others to Corflu over the years. The recipient of the Corflu 50 Fund for Corflu 37 is Northern Ireland fan, Tommy Ferguson. From what I hear, he was a smash hit at TitanCon, this year's EuroCon, which was held in Belfast the weekend after the Dublin Worldcon.

Some History:

The Corflu 50 came into existence at Corflu Quire (the 24th in the series) in Austin, Texas, and has been running ever since. It acts much like the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund and Down Under Fan Fund in that it relies on donations from fans, plus proceeds from an auction held at each Corflu. To donate, send a donation of \$25 (minimum) or more to Rich Coad via PayPal at richcoad@gmail.com, or a check in US dollars to him at 3243 Berkeley Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 96501. PayPal is preferred.

This is where things start to get a little hairy.
Bring a hedge trimmer.

FAAn Awards

Over in Nic Farey's fanzine *This Here...* there has been running a lively and informative debate on what to do with the FAAn Awards. What follows here is mostly what I wrote for Nic to include in that zine's 20th issue, but I revised it to reflect more recent thoughts on what to do with the FAAn awards for the upcoming Corflu convention.

Generally, my thoughts run similar to Nic's. First off, my goal is to increase the number of voters for the FAAns; when that happens, the ensuing higher numbers give the results more validity. More on this in a bit.

I like the categories Nic spells out, and do like that catch-all "Best Other" for APAzines, etc., which should help separate the wheat from the chaff, so to speak. In the lettercolumn of the 19th issue of ...*This Here*, Jerry Kaufman's single vote idea simplifies things a bit, and might even spread the wealth around more, especially if the FAAns go with a "write down four or five titles/names" single point tally system for each category. Since there will no longer be another issue of *The Incomplete Register* to help voters, A fill-in-the-blank ballot becomes necessary. How well fans remember who and what to vote for falls on them, and we know how well our aging memories work these days.

I'm not sure about the subcategory concept, but am always receptive to other voices and ideas. We have a bit of time to figure this out, and i will be using my thoughts here in PR#2 later this month. I also prefer to keep the "Special Publication" category; there are enough good one-off projects each year to maintain it. Being the FAAns, I don't think we need to have a No Award option: if a voter can only think of two or three titles or names, so be it. Leave the remaining places blank. Hopefully by Thanksgiving this year, when PR #3 appears, most of the kinks will be worked out.

Nic and I agree that the two-tier nominate/finalist voting system of the Hugo's does not really work for the FAAns. Nic's question "what do we do with the votes (Steve Stiles) may receive?" is a bugger, for sure. The concept that underlines the FAAns is that "Everyone is a nominee." Perhaps if we use something like a one point per vote system, and people can name up to four or five fanzines, writers, artists, etc., per category, this might help resolve the problem.

For example, in best fan artist category a selection from the ballots might run like this:

Fan A: Steve Stiles, Brad Foster, Grant Canfield, Noah Ward

Fan B: Teddy Harvia, Stiles, Foster, Ward, Mo Starkey

Fan C: Stiles, Ken Fletcher, Foster, Ward, Harry Bell

Fan D: Harvia, Canfield, Stiles

Fan E: Bell, Foster, Stiles, Bill Fischer

The vote tallies here would be Stiles 5, Foster 4, Noah Ward 3, Harvia 2, Canfield 2, Bell 2, Fletcher 1, Starkey 1, Fischer 1. The 21 votes cast here get spread out a bit over these seven (not counting our friend Noah Ward) fan artists, and if we toss out those 5 cast for Stiles, since he says he don't want the ball, the five fen who voted in this scenario each still have impacted the final outcome. This is definitely not perfect, but it decreases the need for voters to rank their choices 1-2-3-4-5 and assigning points based on rankings. What needs to be done if this is the way votes are counted, the methodology to determine voting should be clearly stated up front. So if Steve Stiles says "don't vote for me," then PR's and the FAAn ballot should plainly state that any votes for him will not be counted; better yet, the actual wording should state that "votes for a candidate who withdraws his/her name from consideration shall not be counted." That's a workable idea, at least.

So the upshot is that a single vote=single point system does sound good, with four or five open slots. At least Nic and I agree on that. The question is, how about everybody else? Here is your chance to weigh in on the discussion. I am listening.

Generally speaking, I think most of us agree that the FAAn "rules" are a year-by-year determined system. Each year's Corflu chairperson(s) can pick and choose what works or doesn't work and modify at will. Oh, and to repeat something previously mentioned in *This Here...#19*, I do find this passage of Nic's relevant:

"I did originally conceive of a method by which this could be justified: any person not wishing to be considered should formally notify the administrator with a statement to that effect which would be published both in the Corflu PR and on the ballot form instructions. This notification would need to be received by the administrator in ample time for this to be properly disseminated."

Like I have said, this is worth serious thought. Putting such a statement in the FAAn Award section of the last two or three Corflu PR's and the final FAAn Ballot to drive this point home would help, as would reminding everybody that, since we are all potential candidates for FAAns, if you don't want to be considered for an award, remind that year's Corflu chair/FAAn Administrator of your intentions. That would at least match the ad hoc nature of these awards.

There you have my thoughts about the FAAn Awards for outstanding work in fan publishing to be handed out at Corflu 37.

These major categories will remain: Best Fanzine, Best Genzine, Best Perzine, Best Fan Writer, Best Fan Artist, Best Special Publication, Best Letterhack, and #1 Fan Face (a compilation award based on number of mentions in all the categories). I believe there should be a Best On-Line Activity category that would combine a number of Michael Dobson's categories from his 2019 ballot, and maybe create a "Best Other Format" category as a catch-all for apazines, clubzines, newszines, and special interest zines.

I got the distinct impression from the 2019 ballot that it was too much, even though I understand that Michael Dobson wanted to spread the wealth around. But my personal feeling was that all of those subcategories made the FAAns feel like we were giving ribbons to everybody for simply participating in fanzines, rather than recognizing significant contributions in each category. After all, these are the Fanzine Activity Achievement Awards. My belief is that they should thus reflect what they are called.

There. That should piss some of you off. Now contribute to the discussion so I can tell my wife how many of these fershulugginer awards to make! We're only six months from Corflu 37 happening, so let me know what you think.

Corflu 37 Members:

1	Ted White	A
2	Sandra Bond (UK)	A
3	Geri Sullivan	A
4	Mark Olson	A
5	Joe Siclari	A
6	Edie Stern	A
7	Rich Coad	A
8	Elaine Stiles	A
9	Steve Stiles	A
10	Jay Kinney	A
11	Frank Lunney	A
12	Dan Steffan	A
13	Lynn Steffan	A
14	Curt Phillips	A
15	Murray Moore (CAN)	A
16	Mary Ellen Moore CAN)	A
17	Michael Dobson	A
18	Rob Jackson (UK)	A
19	Mowgli Assor	A
20	Nigel Rowe	A
21	Pat Virzi	A
22	John Purcell	A
23	Valerie Purcell	A
24	Ken Forman	A
25	Robert Lichtman	S
26	Keith Freeman (UK)	A
27	Nic Farey	S
28	Jennifer ALee Farey	S
29	Gary Mattingly	A
30	Claire Brialey (UK)	S
31	Mark Plummer (UK)	S
32	Jerry Kaufman	A
33	Mark Richards	A
34	Alan Rosenthal	A
35	Jeanne Bowman	A
36	Mary Burns	A
37	Bill Burns	A

Tentative Progress Report Schedule

#3 – November 2019

Topics: updates, more maps of the area, restaurant listing, call for auction items, Corflu 50, FAAn Award ballots

#4 – February 2020

Topics: updates, and more hoohaw leading up to Corflu 37

The Program So Far

As anybody who has ever attended a Corflu in the past knows, there actually is programming, sort of. Exactly *what* each panel will be about is up to the members. Therefore, send ideas for panel discussion and debate to either Pablo or myself (contact information on the last page), then we will see what looks like fun and/or important topics. For now, here is the general plan of attack (all times tentative):

Friday, March 13, 2020

auction display 3:00 - 6:00 PM
opening ceremony 5:00 - 6:00 PM (in the bar, where else?)
dinner time! 6:00 – 8:00 PM
programming 8:00 – 9:00 or 10:00 PM

Saturday, March 14, 2020

panel discussions 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
auction 3:00 – 5:00 PM
Andrew Hooper play: 5:00 - 6:00 PM
dinner time!

Sunday, March 15, 2020

Banquet (luncheon) ~ 11:00 AM-12:30 PM
guest of honor speech 12:30 PM 1:00 PM
Presentation of Awards ~ 1:00 - 1:30 PM
2021 site selection ~ 1:30 PM
Adjournment 2:00 PM

SUGGESTED PROGRAM ITEMS SO FAR:

HISTORY OF TEXAS FANDOM & FANZINES
CEPHEID VARIABLE ALUMNI REUNION/AGGIECON STORIES
FANZINES AND BHEERS
TOMMY FERGUSON'S "FANDOM IN NORTHERN IRELAND"
JOHN PURCELL VS. AUDIENCE
(A GUITAR, SOME SONGS, SOME BEER, SOME VOICE)
TOURS OF CUSHING LIBRARY SF & FANZINE COLLECTION
(FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 10 AM AND 2 PM)

****FEEL FREE TO CONTRIBUTE OTHER IDEAS****

The Dead Dog party will be a backyard barbecue at the Purcell's house on Sunday afternoon starting at roughly 5 PM, and mostly will end somewhere around midnight. We hope. The Corflu Hospitality Suite will be open on Sunday until the Dead Dog party starts; it is recommended that folks going to the Purcell's house bring what they can from the Hospitality Suite to fuel the Dead Dog. Man, that sounds rather macabre, doesn't it?

Traveling to Corflu 37



HOW TO GET HERE

From the Airports

If you are flying into the local College Station airport (Easterwood Field) and renting a car, as you leave this thriving nexus of international commuters and visiting scholars, take the EAST exit onto UNIVERSITY DRIVE, and just keep going straight for 5 miles to the Hilton Hotel. It will be on your left; turn left on TARROW STREET to enter the parking lot of the Hilton Hotel. Parking is complimentary for Corflu members and their guests. The Hilton does provide a complimentary Courtesy Bus, which is recommended because, well, it's free. A taxi will cost you approximately \$12 in US moolah.

From George H. W. Bush International Airport (Houston)

Your best bet is to take the Ground Shuttle directly to the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center in College Station, TX. Boarding the Ground Shuttle is just outside baggage claim. You can make reservations on their website:

<https://groundshuttle.com/>

If enough people are arriving on the same flight or at approximately the same time, let me (JP) know and I will arrange for a chartered Ground Shuttle to bring the group to Corflu 37.

If renting a car at Bush International, follow the signs out of the airport to go north on Interstate 45. Look for the exit for West Highway 105 (in Conroe), and follow that to North Texas Highway 6 (in Navasota). From there it is 18 miles to the University Drive exit in College Station. Take a left to go West for a few minutes (1.5 miles) to the Hilton Hotel, which will be on your right.

If you are flying into William P. Hobby Airport in Houston and renting a car, follow the signs out of the airport lot to head north on Interstate 45; take Highway 610 Westbound to go North on Highway 290, which will run into Texas Highway 6 North. Once again, just follow Highway 6 North to University Drive in College Station, go left (West),



The Corflu 37 Committee (So Far):

- John Purcell:
Co-Chair, FAAn Awards, program,
& publications
- Pablo Miguel Alberto Vazquez:
Co-Chair, Web site, & Program
- Valerie Purcell & Pat Virzi:
Hospitality
- Bill Burns: Webmaster
- David Thayer & Brad Foster:
Publications & t-shirts
- Rob Jackson:
British Agent & Online Corflu stuff
- FAAn Award design: Valerie Purcell
- Other committee members to be
announced, and a yet-to-be-
determined cast of thousands! Maybe
even you!

Special thanks to Brad Foster for the
Corflu 37 logo

Contact Information:

John Purcell (co-chair)

3744 Marielene Circle
College Station, TX 77845

askance73@gmail.com

Pablo Miguel Alberto Vazquez (co-chair)
Austin, TX

Chepablo@gmail.com

Note:

Pablo will be returning to Austin in
October, 2019. He has been in England
completing his Masters Degree this
summer. Wish him success!

Membership information is on page 2
of this sterling publication. Neat, huh?

Corflu website: www.corflu.org

art credits

Brad Foster, logo on page 1

Teddy Harvia, cartoons on pages 2 and 6

Picture of Hilton Hotel and Convention Center, from their website

Picture of a mimeograph and Map of Texas, nicked off the Internet

Ed Cox Doodle Space below.