

Ontario's Science Fiction and Fantasy Music Convention

FilKONtario 22

Progress Report

Please come and join us on April 20 - 22, 2012 at the Delta Hotel Toronto Airport West, Mississauga, Ontario. Visit our web site at www.filkontario.ca for lots more info! Please plan to join us, and remember to let your friends on LJ, Facebook, Twitter, etc., know that you're coming!

Guest of Honour: **Kathy Mar**

by Sally Headford

Before her house concert tour in 2009 I had never met Kathy as I have a tendency not to approach big name filkers. I was also dubious about a filker travelling the States and Canada and giving concerts.

Regardless, people were interested, so I agreed to have the concert at my home. The place was packed, Kathy was wonderful, and gave an equally wonderful, if short, concert. I soon realized why it was so short – She wasn't there to entertain us, but to be entertained by us at the very enjoyable open filk that followed it, encouraging and enjoying all the local filkers I also got the feeling that she was especially interested in meeting and hearing the performers that don't travel and would be too shy to be heard at a convention.

That visit introduced me to a lady (in the truest sense of the word) that I was honoured to meet. Yes, she is an amazing performer and songwriter. But more than that, she is a filk gardener who wishes to share and encourage filk. It is no wonder she is one of the Hall of Fame's earliest inductees.

So come to FKO to see our GoH. Come prepared to be welcomed and be inspired whether you are a listener, writer or performer.

If you have a song to share, know that, if possible, she will want you to do just that in either open filk or a one shot.





Filk Waif: **Paul Estin**

Paul Estin (a.k.a. “Happy Fun Paul”) is a longtime SF fan with a Ph.D. in cognitive psychology and an affinity for silly music, so becoming a filker was probably inevitable. Paul enjoys writing songs, singing, and playing guitar (and ukulele, and harmonica, and...); sometimes solo and sometimes in bands like “Dr. Snark” and “Don’t Fret the Small Stuff.”

He was president of the Boston-area filk organization MassFilk. Paul’s best-known songs range from the heartfelt tribute “Isaac, Arthur, Robert, and Ray” to the extremely silly “Happy Song Virus” and the Pegasus-nominated “Fluorine Atom.” His musical influences include “pretty much every cool Canadian band with a weird name.”

Born in Chicago while a grand celebration of fireworks erupted outside the hospital window (well, it WAS July 4th at the time), Paul now lives in Waltham, Mass., with his fiancée Kate, and he works as a high school teacher of psychology and history. Paul’s other interests include but are not limited to (in alphabetical order) ‘80s music, alternative categorization systems, Andrew Sullivan, astronomy, bicycling, cats, cognitive science, comics, complexity, dynamism, folk music, freedom, maps, market solutions, modern fairy tales, natural history, Neil Gaiman, non-fiction, reading, rock music, RPGs, science, surreality, Unitarian Universalism, and xenobiology.

Ingredients of Happy Fun Paul include an unknown glowing substance which fell to Earth, presumably from outer space. DO NOT TAUNT HAPPY FUN PAUL!!!



Photo: John Hall

Interfilk Guests: **Steve & Dorothea Biernesser**

Our Interfilk guests, Dorothea (“Deja”) and Steve (“Thorus”) Biernesser, are from Alexandria, Virginia. They’re Dorsai Irregulars (yes, both of them), retired US Air Force Officers (yes, both of them), currently working in the Pentagon (yes, both of them), active in live role-playing (yes, both of them), tree farmers (she’s not so sure about this one...)

But you don’t care about that; you want to know about their music. It all began with a guitar... She surprised him with it as a Christmas present in 1994. When he realized how much she’d spent, he decided he’d better learn how to play it – since at that point he had no clue. After much practice (by him) and prodding (by her) over the years, they discovered that folks liked to hear them sing. Enjoyment for all concerned ensued.

They’re lively and enthusiastic as both solo performers and as a duet, with a wide range of songs that evoke emotions across the whole spectrum from laughter to tears. And Deja will tell you why you should be careful about what schtick you invent to go with your songs.

Programming

The Filk Hall of Fame Awards Banquet

Only those attending the banquet are admitted to the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, where we announce this year's inductees. Places are limited and tickets are available in advance. Cost is \$40 in advance and slightly more at the door. The food is great and the company even better.

Contests

Main Song Contest

2012 Topic: End of Time

The song MUST have been written between FKO 21 and FKO 22. The song may NOT already appear on a recording. Please hand in a copy of your song at the registration desk!

Entries on tape or sung by a friend are quite welcome. If the songwriter is not present, please bring a note giving permission for the entry, or have the songwriter send an email to conchair@filkontario.ca.

Instafilk Penguin Song Contest

The song must be written at FKO22. It must contain all of the short list of words that will be available at registration.

More Programming

- Opening Ceremonies and Party
- Children's Programming: children's banquet opposite the Hall of Fame banquet, other programming items tba.
- Workshops, Concerts: Guests, Filk Hall of Fame, attendees, and one shots
- Theme filks, open filks
- Interfilk auction
- FKO auction

Workshops

As usual we will have workshops from each of our guests, Kathy Mar, Paul Estin, and Steve and Dorothea. We shall post more details closer to the con.

The Filk Bizarre

In the past, our consignment sales area has had music, books, instruments, jewelry, art and fantasy-related items. Oh, and did we mention music?

Please note that the Dealers' Room operates in Canadian funds. Other funds may also be accepted at the discretion of the individual dealers.

To request a dealers' package please contact: Peggi Warner-Lalonde at dealers@filkontario.ca or visit the dealers' area online to download the form. If you register (and pay) for your dealer's table before the 14 of February, you will receive our Sweetheart Deal – a business card-sized ad in the FKO Program Book!

Con Suite

Shirley Meier and friends will be running the con suite, with help from some friendly volunteers. They are planning some amazing food, and will provide you with tasty treats, drinks, and pleasant smiles.

FKO Auction

We are planning to auction a few select items in order to keep FilKONtario viable.

Stitch 'n Bitch

Last year's was such a success that we're going to repeat it at FKO 22!

Bring your knitting, crochet, needlework – whatever – and join us for a session of congenial stitching and chatting.

This year, for something a little different, why not bring any extra craft materials that you may wish to "recycle". Maybe you're decluttering; or maybe you're just not going to get around to using it, and swap with others, or to donate to those who may be making items for various charities.

Hotel

Delta Hotel Toronto Airport West
5444 Dixie Road
Mississauga, ON L4W 2L2
905-624-1144 or 1-800-737-3211

<http://www.deltatorontoairportwest.com/fil0418>

Room rates: **CDN\$119/night** (plus taxes) for one to four people. The above web address is the online link a to register at the Hotel, it is also posted on the FKO Hotel page. For hotel issues contact hotel@filkontario.ca

The hotel block closes March 23, 2012 and the room rate is not guaranteed after that date.

Please make sure you identify yourself as being with FilKONtario to qualify for the convention rate.

Wear your badge to the hotel restaurant to get 10% off all meals.

Check-in is 3 pm, check-out is 1 pm. The room block includes double/double and queen rooms.

This year we have again negotiated FREE PARKING for our attendees.

Check our reg desk at con for the FKO restaurant guide.

For hotel guests, there is a complimentary airport shuttle, available 24 hours a day, to and from Pearson International Airport. Contact the hotel or check our web site for more info.

Memberships

Pre-reg: CDN or US \$57, postmarked, on or before, April 6, 2012 or by April 14 by PayPal. Higher at the door.

Youth rate: 13 - 17 yrs, pre-reg: CDN or US \$38, postmarked, on or before, April 6, 2012 or by April 14 by PayPal. Higher at the door.

Child rate: 6 - 12 yrs, pre-reg: CDN or US \$28.50, postmarked, on or before, April 6, 2012 or by April 14 by PayPal. Higher at the door. Under 6: free.

Supporting memberships: \$5, which includes mailings, program book and our sincerest thanks.

We now accept PayPal. Please contact Dave Hayman at reg@filkontario.ca.

Want to know if your friends are coming? We will be posting a list on our web site. You can check your registration at:

<http://www.filkontario.ca/html/news.htm>

Just click on the "Here's the PDF" under "Who's Coming?". (First name and initial of surname only.)

NOTE: Reg opens at con on the Friday no later than 4:00.

Volunteers

We couldn't do it without you! The convention committee works hard to bring you this convention, but we can always use a little help. Can you "babysit" the con suite for an hour or two? Help with setup or tear-down?

Contact our penguin wrangler, Howard, at: volunteers@filkontario.ca.

ConCom

FILKONtario 22 is brought to you by :

Co-chairs: Judith Hayman and Peggi Warner-Lalonde.

Concom: Jane Garthson, Dave Hayman, Sally Headford, Sue Jeffers, Tom Jeffers, Ken Lalonde, Howard Scrimgeour.

On sabbatical: Heather Borean.

Staff: Patricia Altergott, Claire Beaumier, Carolyn Brown, Shirley Meier, Gabi Toth.

Prix Aurora Awards 2012

In 2011, Dandelion Wine (Dave Clement and Tom Jeffers) won the very first Fan Filk Aurora Award! Let's keep that award alive and continue to annually recognize our best. We hope all Canadian filkers will participate in nominating and voting for the Fan Filk award, and of course other Aurora awards where they know some of the eligible works.

To make sure eligible Canadian filk-related works get considered, be sure to enter your own 2011 creations and fan activities worthy of a nomination. If the pro database applies to you, go to <http://canadiansf.com/node/161>. There's a link on the left to the Fan Wiki for fan works. N.B. You can do a "body of 2011 work" entry as well as listing individual songs, concerts, CDs, etc. You can enter info about other people too, as long as you are sure it happened in 2011 and can give enough information.

As of this writing, the Fan Wiki database had not been opened and the songs and poems category was missing from the Pro database. This should be fixed in late January.

To nominate and vote, Canadians can go to <http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/Membership/>. Nominations for the 2012 awards will be open from January 1, 2012 to March 31, 2012. Membership is now required.

info@filkontario.ca

www.filkontario.ca

FilKONtario Registration Form

Please use one form per person, and please make sure we receive your payment by postmarked, on or before, April 6, 2012 or by April 14 if using PayPal. Cheques or money orders in either CDN or US dollars are accepted. Special arrangements can be made ONLY for overseas members. To use PayPal, please contact: Dave at reg@filkontario.ca

Just fill in this form and mail it with your cheque or money order to:

FilKONtario
 c/o 98-145 Rice Ave
 Hamilton, ON, L9C 6R3
 Canada

* Required Field

Name *	
Badge Name	
Address *	
City *	
Province / State *	
Postal / Zip *	
Phone *	
Email *	
Membership: Adult \$57, Youth 13 -17 \$38, Child 6 -12 \$28.50, Child under 6 free.	\$
Banquet: \$40	\$
Supporting Membership (program book mailed to you): \$5.00	\$
Total Amount Enclosed	\$

I would like to volunteer for the following:

- Set up and tear down
 Consuite
 Runners
 Registration
 Mic Ninja