

WORLD WATCH ONE UNDERGROUND EDITION

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**NEWSLETTER FOR TEAM BANZAI
AND
THE BLUE BLAZE IRREGULARS**

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Introduction from the Editor



I know it's a cliché, but I'll say it anyway: it is interesting how some things change, while others stay the same. Due to security and technological advancements, I was able to stay home in the Portland Office of the World Watch One to do this issue. I did make the trip to Arizona for an extended weekend to

meet up with the newest Cavalier, to access files that are only available at the West Institute (too sensitive to yet trust over the internet), and to rub elbows with the friends there.

If there is a theme to this issue, it is to expand and develop what has already been set as a base in the Spring 2006 WW1 publication. I've worked on some changes in this "Underground" edition of the Team Banzai newsletter to distinguish its identity from previous works. Some of the content is a bit grittier and more controversial than in the past. Parental warning; there is a bit of mild language in the issue, so read it before you let the junior BBIs have it. I've taken a few more risks in everything, from the general appearance to some of the features. As for things staying the same, we only need look to the political ring to see we are still where we were a good year ago. An excellent example is the interview with W.D. Richter. Since there was little that was newsworthy going on in the Banzai Universe and much that was going on needs to be shrouded in secrecy, I offered the newsletter as an opportunity to have Rick shout out about some topics that are really bothering him. This is not your average mundane interview and, as a reader, I'm forewarning you that the opinions and some of the language is stronger than you have heard from the man in the past. It's all good and honestly a very worthwhile read. I am also very pleased to have chatted with the writer and one of the creative minds behind Team Banzai, Earl MacRauch.

I asked around the Blue Blaze Irregular community for anyone that does volunteer work and heard from a few fellow souls that are involved in companion animal rescues. It is not my suggestion that this general area is the only way of giving freely to the community, but, as it turns out, that's who responded to my request. There are some nice short essays in this issue from familiar friends that I'm very happy with, along side some items brought to my attention from those at the Banzai Institute.

The newsletter and those that have written for it are all members of The Stand Up And Be Counted Club. For their own reasons, they are taking risks and stuck their necks out to be heard and to make a difference or to entertain, at the very least. Few make a real difference sitting around, all they really get is numb butts and minds.

I'm in good company here at the Underground Edition of the World Watch One.

Always True Blue,

BBi Dragons

The Go-Phones are gone!

Readers of Moonstone Comic's three part mini series "The Return Of The Screw" might have noticed that something is missing.

I asked W.D. Richter about this.

BBi: "Why aren't they using the Banzai Institute's Go-Phone? Everyone is using what looks like standard phones, cells or pay phones. (jokingly) Don't tell me AT&T sued and won!"

Rick: "All the Go-Phones were sent to Taiwan last December (during the Xmas rush) to be made HiDef and Internet-Ready and were lost by FedEx. Mrs. Johnson has the shipper's receipt and BB's lawyers are still talking to FedEx's lawyers. Wouldn't have wanted to be Mrs. Johnson when she made the call (on a cell) to tell BB that the Go-Phones are gone."

BBi: "If the communication devices are not returned, might they be rebuilt from scratch, or is Team Banzai just going to make due with what's available?"

Rick: "That's not up to me. Ask Perfect Tommy."

So I did.

Fifteen minutes later I had my answer. The following is what I can convey after editing.

Perfect Tommy: "If one of the electronic wizards out there has a good idea they'd like us to look at, better yet a prototype, I'll buy them a beer and some new shoes to show it to us!"

Announcing Project Go-Phone.

Members of Team Banzai are asked to develop, modify, and otherwise come up with new Go-Phones for the group. The basics must include, in order of importance according to P. Tommy:

Style – "I know I can make it look good, but it's got to have a little something going for it. I might be a miracle worker, but if the thing is ugly to start with... I've got better things to do, really."

Budget – "The things can't cost us an arm and a leg you know."

Two way communication – "I'll need to be able to talk with the other Cavaliers, make hair appointments, and order takeout on the fly."

Security – "We don't want the bad guys to be listening in, got that?"

Downloads – "Music is my life. That and really smart clothes."

GPS – "I'm tired of getting lost, man."

"And yep, HiDef on the tiny screens, internet connections, and if you can work videos into the new GoPhones, I'm your buddy for life!"

Other considerations include, mini digital camera (stills and/or video), wireless up & downloading capability, internal memory storage for files, long life power source, conferencing, multi-channels, silent alert, and night-light.



Proposed Go-Phone adapted into a standard wrist watch.

**A Morning Chat with the New Cavalier
BBI Dragon and BBI Indigo**

It is a crisp fall morning as I sit down in the Atrium under an overcast sky at the West Institute located somewhere in Arizona USA. The old leather couch is comfortable as I sat stirring, sampling my Morning Thunder tea with honey.

It isn't long before the corner of my perception takes note of someone focused in my direction. I stand and greet Blue Blaze Irregular Indigo with a generous smile and handshake, which turns into a spontaneous friendly hug. She is an attractive young woman, nearly all in black, bandanna around her neck, cargo pants, penny loafers and pocket tee accented with a purple cardigan.

The following is edited from the recording I made and from memory during our talk.

After we settle down into the couch and as Indigo tests her own very black sweet tea, our discussion begins:

Dragon: "Thank you for meeting with me and congratulations on being accepted as the newest Hong Kong Cavalier!"

Indigo: "Thank you. It's an honor and a pleasure to join the Hong Kong Cavaliers; I look forward to meeting a greater number of the Blue Blaze Irregulars. If not for their loyalty and devotion, I might not have started walking this path myself."

Dragon: "The understanding, or maybe better put, the rumors are that the celebration of a new Cavalier lasts for several days and involves some unusual but nonetheless good-natured hazing. Can you tell the Blue Blaze Irregulars about the festivities?"

[Indigo nods after taking a sip of her tea]: "Well, that would spoil the surprise for anyone else joining the bunkhouse, wouldn't it?" [she smiles]. "But I am sure the others can come up with new pranks for anyone who joins us in future. Thus far, they have included a snipe hunt for exotic, handmade, Peruvian guitar strings and I had to find the one store in London that sells the wasabi flavor 'Sex Wax' that Perfect Tommy likes to shine his guitar with. My particular favorite, though, was the gallop with the Cavaliers. It was a thrill and a delight to ride with Rawhide. Knowing the truth, and seeing the man restored to full health are two different things, and that alone made any number of pranks worth it all."

[I notice that she's a bit animated when she speaks and seems to be mindful of keeping internal secrets private]

Dragon: "What do you MOST look forward to now that you are a member of the Cavaliers and what do you LEAST look forward to?"

Indigo: "Most? You want me to choose one?" [gesturing with her free hand] "The beauty of being a Hong Kong Cavalier is that I now find unlimited possibilities before me, to expand my mind, my philosophy, my horizons." [She pauses a moment, obviously taking the time to think about her answer; her mood changes] "What do I least look forward to? The inevitable hostilities from those who do not grasp the

simplicity and importance of Buckaroo's philosophy...and the inevitable continuance of hostilities from established enemies worldwide ...and beyond."

[I think about asking for an elaboration on 'beyond' and when I make eye contact she seems to sense of my question and darts her gaze briefly skyward before returning to her tea]

Dragon: "How and when was your initial introduction to Team Banzai?"

Indigo: "Just before the Jet Car adventure, actually. Rather like BBI Gumshoe [one of the other finalists], I ran across one of Buckaroo's comics in a store and was immediately captivated. A man who lived by his heart and soul, refusing to allow society's limitations to restrain him?" [Indigo puts down her tea and uses both hands now as she leans forward just a bit] "A man who surrounded himself with loyal and trustworthy friends? This was a man I knew even then I would follow to the ends of the earth. I found the Blue Blaze Irregulars not long thereafter, and joined up at the first opportunity. It wasn't easy, but it was worth the rigorous effort it took to make the ranks. It is not a choice to be undertaken lightly for anyone considering it -- but the rewards come to you from so many places."

[I look around before asking this next question, making sure we are not overheard and I take the volume in my voice down a notch]

Dragon: "As one of just a few female Cavaliers, how do you feel about Perfect Tommy's nearly constant level of sexism? In most walks of life, this would be considered sexual harassment and would not be, could not be tolerated. Any thoughts on this?"

Indigo: [Chuckle] "In most walks of life, men would have the advantage and they would know it. Amongst us? It is not the same thing. Buckaroo trusts us all to know when to draw the line, and how to draw it, should it need drawing. But honestly -- the advice your mama gave you when you were small and had to deal with a pest still holds. Don't let it get a rise out of you, and he'll eventually get bored and move onto something else. I also have the advantage of reminding him that if he pisses me off, he will just have to forage on his own for dinner."

Dragon: "The understanding is that your likeness is going to be made public in an upcoming Moonstone comic. Does that make you nervous or not, and why?"

Indigo: "Nervous?" [shakes head] "No, not really. There are still those misguided folk out there who believe that Buckaroo and those who work with him are fictitious. They pose me no threat. Those who would do me harm? They need to be known to me anyway. And honestly? The BBIs face danger every moment after they don the colors -- it would be disrespect to them to think myself more in harm's way than any BBI called into service at any given moment. Besides, how flattering is it to have an artistic representation of me shared with Buckaroo's friends and fans?"

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Dragon: "Would you elaborate on some of the aspects from your Team Banzai Profile please?" [Indigo smiles and nods.] "You are a cook. What are your favorite dishes to make and share--appetizer, entrée and dessert?"

Indigo: [Her eyes light up and she leans forward] "Oh, that's easy. Italian food tends to be my favorite to make and share, as it's easy and feeds an army on short notice. My lasagna is heavy enough to require two full grown men to carry the pan to the table, but if you leave *my* table hungry, it is your own damn fault!" [chuckle] "Appetizers are tricky: they must be enough to wake the palate and appetite, but not enough to dull the hunger so the meal goes uneaten and unappreciated. I find, again, Italian serves me well. A good brochette is simple to make, and not so heavy that the rest of the meal is beyond stomaching. Dessert, though? I have to go French. Crème Brûlée is light, sweet, and seven hells -- you get to use a miniature blowtorch making it!"

Dragon: [My turn to chuckle] "Fire and food, it all sounds good." [I move on to the next subject] "You make mention that you dance as well as choreograph. Are there any thoughts about working with the band and their stage presentation?"

Indigo: "Certainly. I have a few things in mind now that you may see next time we perform, at Artie's Artery, or wherever. Of course, giving Perfect Tommy a dance number is also a lovely sort of revenge, don't you think?"

Dragon: "Speaking of the band, you dabble in the playing of the didgeridoo and consider yourself a decent drummer, in memory of your brother. First, stepping in to play the drums is understandable but what about the didgeridoo? That seems like an odd addition to the Cavaliers current sound, as it were. How do you think you'll add this Australian Aboriginal texture to the band's compositions?"

Indigo: "Oh, no doubt it is. But Buckaroo's always been himself and surrounded himself with an eclectic mixture of people, ideas, and styles. I have no doubt whatsoever that we'll find a way to work the didge in for a little musical flavor. As for the drums -- yes, playing them makes me feel closer to my brother. I think he would be proud of me now, and not just for that."

Dragon: "If you are comfortable talking about it, what happened to your brother and how has that inspired you musically?"

[Indigo pauses, her expression becomes solemn] "I...it is difficult, a little, still. But I'll have to get used to public life now, yes? [looking up] "My brother Tony was at the top of his game. He had found love and the right people to help him get his music out to the world." [pause] "But somewhere along the way, someone felt him too much a threat. His murder remains unsolved, but there are some dedicated souls out there still searching for the truth. And should it be found, I will face his killer." [Another pause, as Indigo visibly collects herself, smoothing back her dark dreadlocks. She takes a deep breath, then continues, clouds vanishing from her expression.] "As for how it has inspired me musically? In life, he drove me up the wall with his constant musical adventuring. He could take any instrument to hand you gave him and play like a professional in sixty minutes -- no lie."

[She raises her right hand, palm forward] "But I did not share that gift. So in his memory, I am musically adventurous in other ways. I adore stylistic juxtapositions in cover versions of songs, for instance. And percussion always gets my blood up -- in the good way."

Dragon: [I've been sipping my tea all along but this time I intentional pause a few extra moments before moving on] "When and where did you become an equestrian?"

Indigo: [Laughter] "I know that must seem incongruous for a girl who grew up in New York City. But they have a program called 'Fresh Air Fund' that allows poor inner city children to get out to the country in the summertime. It was there I learned to ride horseback, Western style. I find English style awfully constraining."

Dragon: "Your fighting style is from the Allistasia Exstasis Academy for Ballerina Ninjas and you say you do not require a gun. That's admirable but what do you do to nullify opponents that are beyond your staff-twirling, fist and foot's reach?"

Indigo: [She looks confused for a moment] "I said I did not require a gun. That is not to say I am adverse to using one. In the main, though, anything that comes to hand can be made a weapon if you employ your ingenuity. Anything. Ballerina Ninja style requires that we can fight with flatware, glassware, silken ribbons, flowers, yo-yos, shuriken, sei, whips, Super-Soakers, and cosmetics, just to name a few. Not to mention that my cooking skills do extend beyond the simple pleasant comestibles."

Dragon: "Like maybe death by eye shadow, or... being spanked unconscious with a spatula, something like that?"

[Laughter from both of us]



Dragon: "Okay, let's talk about the Parapsychology studies and your Extra Sensory Perception. It's understandable that you can be sensitive to nuances of body language and vocal inflection. But for the skeptics, would you please elaborate a bit on reading personal auras, enhancing the native energy of those around you and these infrequent visionary dreams."

Indigo: "It's difficult to explain ESPer abilities, and honestly -- anyone who follows Buckaroo should not be surprised by or skeptical of encountering what might seem unbelievable to the layman. But of course, I'll be happy to give it a go."

[Indigo's eyes have brightened up more than usual and she intentionally scoots closer. The following is very animated]

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Indigo: "Auras: They're like a soft illumination or magnetic field surrounding the human body. I have not had the occasion of a personal encounter with a Lectroid, so I cannot say if my sense extends to them. But it's like a signal that I can pick up. People who are calm and balanced, like Buckaroo himself? They can move through a room with nary a ripple. Perfect Tommy, though? His aura is loud and bright, and I can feel him enter the room before he even speaks. Someone artistic like Reno? His aura resonates similarly to mine. It's like feeling something familiar. Something warm, like a blanket on a chilly night. They also shift in tone and strength with the emotions. Someone angry? They're hot and uncomfortable. Rawhide, for example, is a glow I can almost see. He is full of a joy to be alive that not many can match." [A short pause]

"Native energy: Again, the magnetism analogy holds here. You know how two opposite magnets draw each other closer, and similar ones repel one another? And how you can, with a significant amount of energy, shift the polarity of one to the other? People's personal energy is tied into their chi, which in turn is tied into their moods and their body's general health. This is why eating is so important. But chi blockage, especially in high stress situations, is commonplace. Buckaroo is extremely mindful and usually manages to make time to meditate, so his chi flow is customarily impeccable. But yours, for example? If I may, Dragon? You have been experiencing headaches? Fatigue? Trouble sleeping? And, if no mistake, you're a little surprised to see it, but first-hand experience is the best way to sway a skeptic, yes?" [Indigo holds her hands, palms out, about six inches from each of my shoulders, and draws her hands back toward herself. I feel something akin to a string being pulled out of me at each shoulder, and in its wake, the recession of said symptoms. Stunned for a moment I shake my head clear]

Dragon: "Wow, thank you... very much. I do feel better and that darn dull pain behind my eyes is gone. I often have a bit of trouble when I have to leave home for a project or class. It's not that I'm a skeptic per se of psychic phenomenon, I ask more for the readers, and there are those that make unsubstantiated claims in this realm of human experience." [Indigo nods smiling] [Teasingly] "I'm not going to cluck like a chicken whenever someone says the word 'chi' now am I?" [We both chuckle]

Indigo: "Dreams: I have no way of knowing when a prophetic dream will come on me. They have always run in my family, and always come and go as they please. My mother dreamed of me dancing on a stage with Buckaroo the night before I received the notification I'd been selected, for instance. I dreamed about Mrs. Johnson's husband when I was a small child, and only recently, upon joining the Cavaliers, realized that the man I'd seen in my dreams was him."

Dragon: "Interesting and informative, thank you for the elaborations."

Indigo: "You're welcome."

[Changing the topic but still from her profile. Indigo continues to be very animated]

Dragon: "What are your top three comic books and why?"

Indigo: "My top three comics? I tend to follow the same themes: Idealism, difference and diversity being accepted, and women proving themselves capable. To that end: Marvel's X-Men, Moonstone's Kolchak the Night Stalker, and DC's Birds of Prey."

Dragon: "You are an aficionado of the 80's. What are your thoughts now on big hair & the mullet, Bon Jovi, stirrup pants & neon slouch socks, television shows like Magnum P.I., Miami Vice, A-Team, and how about that candy Pop Rocks?"

Indigo: "I adore Pop Rocks. The unfortunate urban legend about them makes them difficult to find now, but I do so enjoy the tingle on the tongue. I find stirrup pants comfortable even now. Slouch socks as well, though the neon does make it difficult for one to be shadowy and unobtrusive. You would not *believe* how big my hair was before I decided on my current style. Mulletts are useful. You'd be surprised how often men who wear mulletts are underestimated. Bon Jovi's music has held up well beyond the 80's. Most impressive an accomplishment, for how many artists could not say the same. And the shows from the 80's -- they do not withstand the test of time so well, but the warm nostalgia remains undaunted."

Dragon: "Ooo-kay. Different strokes for different folks." [I say smiling] "Well, that pretty much covers the topics I wanted to talk with you about. Again, thank you for taking the time to sit down with me."

[Indigo smiles and glances casually at her watch.]

Indigo: "Are you going to the performance this morning?"

Dragon: "I was looking forward to it if the timing worked out. You?"

Indigo: "An African rhythms gourd band; KamukaRimba, wouldn't miss it!"

Dragon: "What does that translate to, roughly?"

Indigo: "KamukaRimba translated roughly means, "To Wake the Wooden Voice." They are an ensemble group that plays a blend of Traditional Shona Mbira and Marimba music from Zimbabwe with touches of an Afro-Cuban folkloric rhythm base."

Dragon: "I'm not sure I understand half of what you just said, but it wa spoken like a true Cavalier; this should be interesting."

[We both stood up, Indigo points at my Team Banzai wristband.]

Indigo: "Nice." [I remove it and hand the silicon band to her]

Dragon: "Here, it's yours." [Taking it and stretching it over her right hand]

Indigo: "Thanks, it's not your only one is it?"

Dragon: "Oh, no worries."

We head for the kitchen to rinse out our mugs before heading for the East Module and the Trophy room where the performance was to take place shortly.

**Making It Better, One at a Time
BBI the Ice Queen**

Whatever our particular goals and hopes, those of us involved with the Banzai Institute tend to have some shared desires. For instance, most of us want to improve the world around us and to fight the inhumane acts of humanity. In our local office, one of the ways we have chosen to add to these works is through animal rescue (particularly ferrets). We know that a number of BBIs have already found their way into this rewarding world. If you can spare it, there's room for you.

Many shelters are overflowing and under-funded. From our own experience with ferret shelters, we know that more ferrets come into shelters than are adopted out, and many adoptees are returned to the shelter later. We have seen some of the worst in people and some ferrets in heartbreaking conditions, have mourned when we couldn't pull someone through, have learned from experience how expensive rescue work is, and have had to give up nights away (and forget about weekends or weeks away) just to make sure everyone was cared for. All our "spare" money and time goes to the ferrets. We have stayed up all night with sick ferrets and skipped classes or work to get to last-minute vet appointments. We have patiently endured criticism from family and friends who think we're crazy for putting up with the work and inconvenience. And, like you may be doing now, we have wondered why in the world we do this.

One reason we do it is that we want to do good in this world, but some days it's easier to like animals than people. But we have other, non-curmudgeonly reasons too. Like most other people you will meet in animal rescue (such as BBIs Dragon & Abacus, BBI 42 and Moto Mama), we do this because, if you can't stop a wrong, sometimes you can repair the damage done. And while you're doing that, you may find your life has new little joys, and you are becoming a better person.

You can give a variety of things to the rescue effort; you don't have to turn your home into a rescue or shelter. The best thing to do is to contact a local shelter or check out their web site, because they will know what they need for their animals. The following list is an example of common needs, and there is something on there that fits anyone's life:

- Old towels and t-shirts in good repair
- Pet food, supplies, or toys
- Time to:
 - Play with animals
 - Trim nails, clean ears, give baths
 - Empty litterbins or clean bedding
 - Create shelter publications
 - Advertise for the shelter
- Money (which can go for food, vets, and other expenses)
- Foster families (if the shelter is crowded or has critters that aren't ready for adoption)
- Adoptive families (if you have the room in your home for someone new)

One experience taught us that no rescue effort is wasted.

On August 16, 2005, we took in a ferret found wandering in someone's yard. It was a hot week (especially in light of how easily ferrets succumb

to temperatures over 80 degrees Fahrenheit) and he came to us in horrible condition. My husband and I both knew instinctively that he was a brave warrior and that his name should be Beowulf. We had an emotional four and a half days with him, doing all we could to save him, and then I held him tenderly as he passed away. The elements had done too much damage. The next day, we made the following list. Here is why our brief days with Beowulf mattered:

1. He did not die in the hot sun with a parched mouth. He was in a place that was cool and he always had water.
2. He did not die feeling fleas crawling on him and biting him. We spent hours bathing him and combing the fleas away.
3. He did not die covered in his own waste. When his back legs gave out, we picked him up and cleaned the excrement off of him.
4. He did not die without choice. He had food and water available, as well as our assistance all day and night, and, it was clear to us, made a choice to stop letting us feed him that last night.
5. He did not die unloved and unknown. He died in the arms of people who were telling him how good he was and who love him.
6. He did not die tired. He was able to let down his guard and get some good sleep.
7. He did not die at the mercy of some other animal, treating him like dinner, a threat, or a toy.
8. His death was noticed, and he will be remembered.
9. His days with us made him part of our family, so he was greeted in Heaven by the others from our family who have passed on.
10. We got to know another lovely little ferret.
11. We were reminded of our own compassion.
12. We got to see the compassion in each other.
13. We got to do a little to help fix this terrible wrong perpetrated by another member of our species.

If you are a pet owner, or a potential pet owner, you play a vital role in the rescue process, though you probably haven't thought about it. Just like having kids, choosing to become a pet owner is agreeing to take on a caretaker role, not just getting a new toy. If you do not take good care of those pets, you have created another animal in need of rescue. Here are three things you can do to make sure you don't put another animal into the rescue system.

1. Figure out what your pet needs. It's best to do this before you bring a pet home, but better to do it after than never to do it. From personal experience, I can tell you that for many pets, following the simple instructions of the pet store employees is not enough. Fortunately, there are books and web sites written by folks who know better. It's probably best not to take the first or easiest set of directions you find. Look for a few and figure that what you really need is somewhere in the middle, with a tendency to fall toward the more difficult requirements. You also have a vet (or you should) who can advise you. If you're looking at books, I suggest looking for something that is more than a few pages

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long and was published in the last few years. In this information age, ignorance is no excuse for discomfort or suffering caused to your pet.

2. Give your pet what they need. I know the complexity of that will vary depending on your pet, but it's a straight-forward notion. If you've had them a while and are mad in love but don't know if you can give them what they need, give it a try. If you don't care enough about your pet to give them what they need to be happy, you may need to reevaluate why you want to have a pet.

3. If you can't give them what they need, pass them up or pass them on to someone who can. Ideally, you researched their needs *beforehand* so they don't get unhappy during those first few months as you can't find time to read that book what with the rush at work and all. In that case, you have a chance prior to purchase to realize that this may not be a good idea and to pass them up. But if you've already got someone at home and you think you may need to pass them on to someone who can give them what they need, you can try a shelter, try offering them in a paper or an online ads site, try offering them by word of mouth. While you aren't responsible for your pet once they're in a new home, you aren't done until then. You need to make sure you are actually sending them to a better place, to someone who knows what to do and is willing to do so. It's extra work, but it can be your last good deed for your pet.

If you have the time in your life, consider helping out your community and some lucky animals by taking part in animal rescue. It can be unexpectedly rewarding.

**** PRESS RELEASE ****

MANTLO: A LIFE IN COMICS Enters Production

Bill Mantlo is a name known to most any contemporary fan of comics. His career as a writer for Marvel spanned over 15 years, during which time he authored more than 500 stories. Known for lengthy runs on **INCREDIBLE HULK** and **Spectacular Spider-Man**, Bill also produced equally impressive runs on **MICRONAUTS** and 79 issues of **ROM: SPACEKNIGHT**. It is more than somewhat ironic that Bill, who devoted much of his life scripting tales of persons with super-human powers would be involved in an accident and suffer permanent cognitive damage. Thankfully, Bill's legacy remains; many of his works continue to find new readers through the trade paperback market and through back-issue comic sales.

MANTLO: A LIFE IN COMICS will provide an in-depth look at Bill's career, from his early collaborations with artist George Perez on the **SONS OF THE TIGER** series in **DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU**; to mainstream series like **MARVEL TEAM-UP**, **CHAMPIONS**, **IRON MAN**, **HUMAN FLY**, **HULK**, **SPIDER-MAN**, and **CLOAK AND DAGGER**; and to unique works like **PARADOX** and **SWORDS OF THE SWASHBUCKLERS**.

Featuring commentary and interviews from many of Bill's collaborators and contemporaries (such as Keith Giffen, Ed Hannigan, Tony Isabella,

Al Milgrom, George Perez, Roger Stern, Herb Trimpe, and Marv Wolfman) **MANTLO: A LIFE IN COMICS** will also feature a rare gem—a previously unpublished prose story, **SOMETHING LIKE COURAGE**, written by Bill in 1990.

MANTLO: A LIFE IN COMICS is planned as a 64-page, 8.5" x 11" release with color and black & white throughout. It is being produced and edited by David Yurkovich (**LESS THAN HEROES**) in cooperation with Bill's family. All proceeds will go to Bill's guardian, who can then direct any, or all, funds to specific needs that will benefit Bill. Artists and editors who've worked with Bill are encouraged to contact the editor at david@sleepinggiantcomics.com. Release date and other specifics will be forthcoming.

(Editor's note: Bill Mantlo was the writer of the Buckaroo Banzai original comic book adaptation for the docudrama *The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai Across the 8th Dimension*. This is a follow up from the 20th Anniversary WW1.)

ADVERTISEMENT

For Sale: 1986 Mercedes-Benz 190-Series

Some front end damage, sold as-is, 4 door, auto transmission, interior gray, 4 cylinder gas economic engine, 119714 miles



This car starts and drives straight. Front end damage is above the bumper as shown in pictures. Air bag has been deployed and the battery has been removed. This car was in good shape before the accident with normal wear for a vehicle of this age.

New breaks installed after accident and it stops great now!

U-pick up only. Asking \$285.00 Contact BBI Greasyhands in the East coast Institute's garage.

"If we do discover a complete theory, it should in time be understandable in broad principle by everyone, not just a few scientists. Then we shall all, philosophers, scientists, and just ordinary people, be able to take part in the discussion of the question of why it is that we and the universe exist. If we find the answer to that, it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason -- for then we would know the mind of God."

- Stephen Hawking A Brief History of Time 1988, renowned British cosmologist, physicist and future snowboarder.

Hanoi Xan orS hiwan Kan ?

The Shadow Kows !

By Steve "Rainbow Kitty" Mattsson
stmattsson@aol.com

Shiwan Khan was the arch enemy of The Shadow in the series of pulp novels written by Walter B. Gibson (Maxwell Grant). Khan was the only antagonist to survive several encounters with the implacable Shadow.¹ Khan was an impressive and evil foe, who claimed to have internalized the power of the mind from Tibet and the brawn of Mongolia.

Philip José Farmer has speculated in *Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life* that there is enough similarity between Hanoi Shan (Xan) and Sax Rohmer's Fu Manchu that some of their exploits were based on the deeds of the same person. But Dr. Fu Manchu is a pure-blooded Chinese aristocrat. Hanoi Xan is a barbarous Mongol warrior steeped with chaos and cruelty.

Shiwan Khan and Hanoi Xan both claimed to be direct decedents of Genghis Khan. (This is most likely true as modern DNA testing shows that there are probably over 16,000,000 descendants of Genghis Khan alive today.) There is also the matter of the odd gap in the recorded activities of Hanoi Xan during the same time Shiwan Khan was occupied with The Shadow.

- Are Xan (Shan) and Khan merely two similar characters with a common ancestry, or is there something more sinister at work? Note the provided example of text from "The Golden Master", a Shadow novel from September 15th, 1939, which featured the debut of Shiwan Khan. Look for the error regarding Shiwan Khan's name in the second paragraph, first sentence. Is "Kiwan Shan" simply a transposition error by an overworked typesetter, or is this a message from almost 70 years ago written by noted codemaster Walter B. Gibson as a clue to the true identity of Shiwan Khan? Did Gibson risk his life to give us insight into the methods of Hanoi Xan (Shan) at least as they were practiced in 1939? Perhaps it would be prudent for us to adopt the "typographical error" theory for the time being.

¹ Shiwan Khan appeared in *The Shadow Magazine* #182 "The Golden Master", #189 "Shiwan Khan Returns", #196 "The Invincible Shiwan Khan, and #200 "Masters of Death". He also appeared in various comic book versions of The Shadow and in the 1994 movie *The Shadow*, starring Alec Baldwin and John Lone.

That ended the questioning, though The Shadow would have liked to ask Twindell more. It was evident, though the law did not suspect it, that Twindell was in some way connected with the mysterious master mind, Shiwan Khan. Neither Weston nor Cardona had heard of Shiwan Khan, nor of Hoang Khu, for that matter, though the police had found a few dead Mongols along with the deceased Loo Look.

Somewhere, somehow, Kiwan Shan, the unfathomable, might even now be plotting new crime. But The Shadow, recognizing the mighty power of a foe who could keep his very existence veiled, considered the task of finding Shiwan Khan as something that could be best accomplished alone.

The Shadow's guess that Shiwan Khan's new machinations were under way was definitely correct. At the very time when Commissioner Weston and his party were leaving Twindell's, Mitchell Dorrton, a prominent shipping man, was talking with two visitors in his office: Paul Brent and Guy Chadbury.



Excerpts From: Hanoi Xan's Little Book Of Wisdom

Courtesy of The Banzai Institute Archives

"We cannot all do great things. But we can do small things with great evil."

"The more I study the world, the more I am convinced of the inability of brute force alone to create anything durable. You must also be devious."

"If my people are evil only because they fear punishment, and hope for reward, then we are a sorry lot indeed."

"To not take revenge on an enemy is a sign of weakness that other enemies will exploit."

"Most disagreements can be settled by a single bullet."

"Never let a whisper go unnoticed."

"You can get a lot more done with vicious words and a gun than with vicious words alone."

"To guess is foolish. To guess wrong is deadly."

"It's not important how many people I've killed, what's important, is how I get along with the people who are still alive."

"Forget injuries, never forget betrayal."

"A gem cannot be polished without friction, nor a man perfected without trials."

"Great souls have wills; feeble ones have only wishes."

"I may not have created the two greatest influences on mankind, religion or politics, but I can exert my influence over them both."

Hanoi Xan Timeline

1260
Hanoi Xan roams the steppes of Mongolia during the time of Kublai Khan.¹

1271
!

1837
Hanoi Xan is active as Henry Shannon, a hugely successful munitions baron and patron of the arts, in Victorian England.²

1901
!

1903
Hanoi Xan dies in Treste.³

!

1906
Hanoi Shan is responsible for a sudden epidemic of inexplicable deaths in London and Paris.⁴

!

1913
Fu Manchu is active in Sax Rohmer's novels through 1959.⁵

1939
Shiwan Khan is active in Walter B. Gibson's novels through 1940.⁶

1943
Hanoi Xan vs. Masado Banzai in Burma.⁷

!

1954 (or 1955)
Hanoi Xan murders Dr. Masado Banzai and Dr. Sandra Banzai—Buckaroo Banzai's parents with a crude incendiary device.⁸

!

1957
Hanoi Xan is born.³

!

Hanoi Xan is responsible for poisoning Peggy Banzai, Buckaroo Banzai's wife, sometime before 1981.⁸

!

1984
Hanoi Xan is active during the events of *Across the Eighth Dimension!*⁸

!

Hanoi Xan strangles Penny Priddy with her own hair sometime between the events depicted in *Across the Eighth Dimension!* and *Return of the Screw.*⁹

!

2006
Hanoi Xan and Henry Shannon are active during the events of *Return of the Screw.*¹⁰

- 1 Per W.D. Richter. (Note: Kublai Khan, the grandson of Genghis Khan, ruled the Mongol Empire from 1260 to 1271)
- 2 Per W.D. Richter. (Note: Queen Victoria ruled the British Empire from 1837 to 1901)
- 3 Per Earl Mac Rauch at <http://www.worldwatchonline.com/bbaprilnewsletter.pdf>
- 4 Per H. Ashton-Wolfen *Warped in the Making*. (See also "Were Buckaroo Banzai and Hanoi Xan Based on Real People?" from the *WORLD WATCH ONE Twentieth Anniversary Edition* at <http://worldwatchonline.com/frame1.htm>)
- 5 Some of Sax Rohmer's Fu Manchu's stories were inspired by the real Hanoi Shan per Philip José Farmer in *Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life*.
- 6 See the article "Shiwan Khan or Hanoi Xan? The Shadow Knows!"
- 7 Per the Buckaroo Banzai FAQs at <http://www.figmentfly.com/bb/q19.html>
- 8 Per Earl Mac Rauch in the film and/or the novel version of *Across the Eighth Dimension!*
- 9 Per Reno of Memphis during his DVD commentary of *Across the Eighth Dimension!*
- 10 Per Earl Mac Rauch in the comic book mini-series version of *Return*



SHIWAN KHAN—Oriental master mind, who would conquer the world.

"When choosing between two evils, I always like to try the one I've never tried before."

Mae West - Actress and Plus-sized Sex Symbol, 1892-1980

"The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it."

Albert Einstein, Physicist and first to coin the phrase "I'm having a bad hair day", 1879 - 1955

**Heck Of A Job, W.
An interview with W.D. Richter
By BBI Dragon**

BBI: In a past discussion about politics, you said that normally you were not interested in politics. What is it in our country's recent past that has you turned around on the subject and made you willing to speak up?

WD: Things like nuclear terrorism.

BBI: Are you concerned that the conflict our country has pushed themselves into might result in the use of nuclear weapons against us?

WD: Certainly. Take your best shot, no? The whole David and Goliath thing. America's spread its culture across the globe, and America is all about winning. That's our message: Be Number One...Be All That You Can Be...JUST DO IT.

Incidentally, I like the way you make an implied distinction, perhaps inadvertently, between "our country, America" and "...our country...themselves...". EXACTLY. "THEM" not us. The current administration, not America. Remember, our loyalty is to the Constitution, not the president, just as any Cavalier's or Blue Blaze Irregular's loyalty is to the Banzai Institute not to Buckaroo.

BBI: A nuclear attack here at home or overseas?

WD: Against us? Here.

BBI: What information are your concerns based on?

WD: Common sense. People hate us. No great imaginative leap anticipating their acquiring weapons-grade nuclear material from North Korea or Iraq or Pakistan...and figuring out how to hit an American city with a bomb in a car trunk. Or in a few trunks in a few cities. No nation state actually attacked us then, so who do we frantically strike back at? Picture Bush dealing with THAT development. Invade Venezuela! Does he even have a clue that these people are NOT afraid of him? I am, but they're not.

BBI: I too have heard these concerns, stories of small nukes or "dirty bombs" poised and ready to be detonated.

WD: You know, I don't get worked up about these rumors because it doesn't matter if they're true or not today or tomorrow. One day it won't be just a rumor anymore. That's what I fear. Look at Timothy McVeigh. Look at how that small plane accidentally found its way right into an apartment building in the UPPER EAST SIDE. Where the money is. Bush says he's made it safer. What if he actually thinks he has?

BBI: And then there is North Korea...

WD: What IS their problem, anyway? Everybody everywhere should just calm down. Was it Rodney King who asked, "Why can't we all just be nice to each other"?

"For the first time in my life I can see the unraveling of this country's moral force and with it its very soul and infrastructure and government. There may well be no coming back in our lifetime. Evil can be defeated, but hatred is a mightier enemy."

I'm still not interested in what most people mean when they evoke the word "politics" because they undoubtedly are referring to something like Webster's number four definition: "...methods, tactics, etc; sometimes specifically crafty or unprincipled methods." It's time, however, for ALL of us to get excited about the word's primary meaning: "the science and art of political government" and "the taking of sides" in that process." Certainly all clear-thinking, informed Americans of any or no political party must by now realize that the present administration is a soulless collection of third-rate executives. What is shocking, what I did not see coming, was how their foolish, arrogant misunderstanding of the world could undo so much so fast and threaten global stability, GLOBAL stability, in only six ugly, tragic years. Check this out:

The End of Iraq: How American Incompetence Created a War Without End by Peter W. Galbraith (Hardcover - Jul 11, 2006)

The premise is that when the United States removed Saddam Hussein from power we destroyed the institutions that held the country and, for that matter, the region intact and stable. Now we have a mess that cannot be fixed, not at least in the way we intended.

Not only did we remove the glue (deranged as it was) holding Iraq together, but we destroyed the "country's" infrastructure in the process. This MUST be obvious to anyone who cares to look. Six hours of electricity per day in Baghdad? No work for militia-age young men? Few hospitals? Few schools? "Why can't these towelheads get their shit together?" Rummy wants to know.

BBI: I've heard concerns myself about threats to democracy with the erosion of our constitutional rights and the abuses for the sake of "safety" our current government/administration is imposing on 'We The People.' Is this part of what you mean or is there something else?

WD: This is certainly part of what I mean, but the larger issues are America's newly exhausted armed forces in a dangerous world facing off against legions of freshly minted and invigorated enemies. Look, Cheney and Rumsfeld are nuts, and W's a dope. Iraq is not a country. It's a collection of three groups of people who hate each other more than they hate us (but we're working on that): the Kurds, the Sunni, and the Shia. Fact: Saddam was holding it all together. Remove him and, boom, civil war. CIVIL WAR. Can't put Humpty Dumpty back together again, sorry. So, now what? Ask George. "Hey, George, can I buy you a beer?"

BBi: If we are past the "point of no return," what is there to do; any ideas? (From voting out the current mind set to boarding up our borders...?)

WD: The more I read and hear, the more I'm convinced that Peter Galbraith is dead right: withdraw to Kurdistan with a small force and set up permanent bases there. Get OUT of the rest of the place and let the Shia and Sunni work it out...or not. Just because some morons made the most catastrophic military blunder in U.S. history, doesn't mean it can be remedied by smart people. Bush was ranting on yesterday at some political rally that the Democrats have no plan for winning in Iraq. Like he does? It's not their JOB to win in Iraq, W. It's YOURS. He may be mad. Really. I absolutely KNOW he's putting on weight (check out the tight suit jackets across the Presidential Tummy). And his fingers are getting puffy. The Russian and Chinese and North Korean intelligence services know this. The guy is losing it again. Mr. Substance Abuser. The U.S. military knows it, too. This is all just the most grotesque nightmare...one doesn't know where to begin worrying about what he's done to global stability. Does he think Earth is just another sports franchise or oil patch he can fail at? But, relax: Jimmy Baker'll save his sorry butt again. If the democrats win the House, Bush will say, "The people have spoken. I will NOT run for reelection."

BBi: What do you say to those that call it "unpatriotic" to question, even criticize, our current president and his administration?

WD: What I've always said: U.S. citizens pledge to uphold The Constitution, not the president.

BBi: Have you heard about the English film, "Death of a President?" It sounds interesting and it's playing here in town at only one theater. Causing quite a bit of controversy, and an AOL poll was showing about a 50/50 voting that it was unpatriotic to go see this film.

WD: Unpatriotic. What does that even MEAN?! First you have to understand what "patriotic" means. "Patriotism": "love and loyal or zealous support of one's country" (Webster). Then "unpatriotic" means "lack of love and loyal or zealous support of one's country." How does seeing a movie, just SEEING it, demonstrate a lack of patriotism? Well, you know, a lot of folks out there are frightened and/or stupid. And I love and zealously support them and want to help them ease their pain. So I think they should put paper bags over their heads and never go out to eliminate ANY possibility that something not nice might just pop up in their field of view and render them enemies of freedom and that then somebody might turn them in

for a thousand bucks and they get shipped off to Syria and have their toe nails set on fire.

"I can look you in the eye and tell you I feel I've tried to solve the problem diplomatically to the max, and would have committed troops both in Afghanistan and Iraq knowing what I know today." --George W. Bush, Irvine, Calif., April 24, 2006

"You know, one of the hardest parts of my job is to connect Iraq to the war on terror." --George W. Bush, interview with CBS News' Katie Couric, Sept. 6, 2006

"I like to tell people when the final history is written on Iraq, it will look like just a comma because there is -- my point is, there's a strong will for democracy." --George W. Bush, interview with CNN's Wolf Blitzer, Sept. 24, 2006

"You know, when I campaigned here in 2000, I said, I want to be a war President. No President wants to be a war President, but I am one." --George W. Bush, Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 26, 2006

"Anybody who is in a position to serve this country ought to understand the consequences of words." --George W. Bush, interview with Rush Limbaugh, Nov. 1, 2006

"It's bad in Iraq. Does that help?" --George W. Bush, after being asked by a reporter whether he's in denial about Iraq, Washington, D.C., Dec. 7, 2006

"And there is distrust in Washington. I am surprised, frankly, at the amount of distrust that exists in this town. And I'm sorry it's the case, and I'll work hard to try to elevate it." --George W. Bush, interview on National Public Radio, Jan. 29, 2007

Changing the topic, more to the lighter side of things... trying to anyway...

BBi: Is anything tickling Rick's fancy these days?

WD: Yeah: The absurd way the word "well" has infected so much high-end journalism. As in, "The best thing he could say about the performance was that it was, well, loud." Or as in, "Nuclear proliferation has become something of a, well, explosive topic." Look for this construction for a few days and collect, well, examples. I'm not sure what it portends, but I think it's, well, not good.

BBi: Is there anything else?

WD: The incorrect use of "between" and "among". Ditto "its" and "it's". I worry about this seemingly trivial stuff because what it really signals is how unobservant so many people are. That's why the Bushies have been able to slip so much shit by so many. Nobody notices.

BBi: How about things that bringing you a ray of pleasure?

WD: Fall in New England. Riding my mower. Our goats and chickens. Our dog (Benozzo Gozzoli, an Italian wolf-killing Maremma--coyote killer here). Fires in the evening. Garlic. Homemade chicken and turkey stock. Great cheeses. Imported pancetta. Wine. Ancient music. The list goes on.

BANZAI INSTITUTE FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AND STRATEGIC INFORMATION

BBI: Do you watch any of the top shows, what's considered "modern culture" these days?

WD: Nope. Nothing trumps Mr. Wizard reruns. You learn so much.

BBI: Are there any new season TV shows that you are enjoying?

WD: I'm sorry, but, try as we might, we just can't get into anything "dramatic" or "comedic" or reality-based. As if they are. I think Bill Maher is marvelous and watch *The News Hour* on PBS a lot. Otherwise it's DVDs like *Ali G*, *Poirot*, *Holmes*, *Miss Marple*, *Inspector Morse*, *Foyle's War*, *Pride & Prejudice*, *Jeeves & Wooster*, *The Commitments*, *Withnail & I*, *Strangelove*, *The Loved One*, *Brideshead*, *Alan Bennett's Westminster Abbey*, *South Park*, old movies in general, etc., etc. What this proves? Nothing.

BBI: Any TV shows you think are total hogwash?

WD: Not having seen them, don't know. Hey, one has only so many minutes to be alive. Can think of a few other ways to better use my allotted time. As Lizardo said, "The clock, she is a'tickin".

BBI: So TV is pretty much out. What books might receive a great review from you?

WD: I buy many books and never have time to read them completely. Currently on the shelf: *Fiasco*, *The Greatest Story Ever Sold*, *Hubris*, *The One Percent Doctrine*, *Imperial Life in the Emerald City* (Paul Bremer bought a house in the town next door to us, fifty yards from a Jiffy Mart/gas station and next door to a VFW Clubhouse. He's RIGHT ON THE ROAD. The guy just can't do risk assessment to save his ass), *Cobra II*, *The Case For Impeachment*, *The Road*, *Losing America*, *Uncommon Carriers*, *New Rules*, *Death In Summer*, *No Voice From The Hall*, *The Best of H.P. Lovecraft*, *Fall Quarter*, *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*...I buy these things to have them nearby and dip into them randomly...I liked Max Frisch's *Man In The Holocene*. Alan Bennett's *Untold Stories* is a pleasure, as well. But *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times* and *Gardens Illustrated* and *The World of Interiors* are all publications worthy of spending time on. As is *Saveur*, eating well being extremely important to us in rural Vermont.

BBI: I recall that you said you don't see many films; is this still the case?

WD: Yes. Though there have been dozens of foreign and independent movies through the theaters that we catch up with on DVD or satellite.

BBI: If you have seen anything, was it awful or good?

WD: Kind of in the middle. *Little Miss Sunshine* disappointed. Lost me when they tossed the film's sense of reality out the window with Alan Arkin's body. A plot move that had NO effect on the rest of the movie. The stink of zany Hollywood seeps into the independent realm. Loved *High Fidelity* and *Sideways*.

BBI: Any thoughts on the (Christmas) holiday season?

WD: Yeah: I dread it. Religion drives me berserk. Kill, kill, kill because God loves you and hates that other asshole.

BBI: What's your take on the whole "call it holidays not Christmas" so as not to offend?

WD: Stupid. People waste SO much time fretting about things of no consequence. Better they devote those energies to clipping and cleaning their toenails. I think horrors lurk in many people's socks because they're too distracted by the evils of stem cell research and gay marriage to take care of business, don't you?

BBI: I believe that we, as a species, allow ourselves to be distracted by such things that really amount to little or nothing, rather than focus on what might really count. Here we are in an unpopular war, with the Republicans and current administration faltering in the polls. They create news, media events, controversy as distractions, making mountains out of mole hills because they don't want to really deal with issues like Washington corruption, dissatisfaction with political figures, the gap between the rich and the poor, FEMA, health care... distractions include some of the topics you've touched on as well as issues like; The Bird Flu, our southern border, Home Land Security, even North Korea and other wars. Look at the pretty lights; don't look at the darkness.

WD: Believe me, we do. That's why we live in Vermont. On a clear night the sky is crammed with other worlds.

BBI: Thank you so very much for the insightful and informative interview.

WD: Really, it's fun.



A postcard found in a raided World Crime League hide-out. The following is handwritten on the back and signed by the current President.

"Greetings from The White House. So happy to be in this Proud Coalition of the Willing. Together we rule!
George W Bush"

No More "Pizza" for Pluto

By Dan Berger

"To mistrust science and deny the validity of the scientific method is to resign your job as a human. You'd better go look for work as a plant or a wild animal."

--P.J. O'Rourke, Parliament of Whores

"My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas."

--Author Unknown, Mnemonic used to memorize the nine planets in order, back when there were still nine officially recognized planets.

Science is a very serious business. Just look at Einstein's hair if you don't believe me. A mop like that doesn't just happen. It's all about unified field theory, baby.

Fine. Bad example. But let's face it, systematically quantifying the physical properties of the universe and the forces that govern them ain't exactly the same as close literary analysis of *Tiger Beat* back issues. It's a big universe out there, requiring people of hair-frazzling intellect to sort it all out. None know that better than the brave men and women of the IAU, or International Astronomical Union.

Unless you spent the summer of 2006 in a coma or playing bocce ball in Antarctica, you probably heard about the IAU's XXVIth General Assembly in Prague, Czech Republic. That's where scads of world-class astronomers got together last August to trade secret handshakes, throw back a few pints of Tmavý Leák, and listen to old Black Sabbath LPs backwards. It's also where they adopted Resolutions five and six detailing the current definition of a planet.

For those of you doing the bocce ball thing, IAU Resolution 5: Definition of a Planet in the Solar System got down to the business of mandating that "...planets and other bodies, except satellites, in our Solar System be defined into three distinct categories..." Planets are now defined as celestial bodies that orbit the Sun, have sufficient mass to overcome rigid body forces so that they assume a nearly round shape, and have cleared the neighborhood around their orbits. "Dwarf Planets" conform to similar criteria with the exceptions that they have not cleared the neighborhood around their orbits and are not planetary satellites. All other objects, such as comets, asteroids, lost socks, and other small bodies orbiting the Sun, except satellites, are referred to as "Small Solar System Bodies." Satellites, as it turns out, are S.O.L. and righteously pissed about it.

Resolution 6: Anybody who Calls Pluto a Planet is a Big Fat Liar (revised as simply "Pluto") put all doubts to rest, stating that, "Pluto is a 'dwarf planet' by the above definition and is recognized as the prototype of a new category of Trans-Neptunian Objects."

Sadly, Resolution 7: On the Use of George W. Bush's Ears as Massive Orbital Platforms, never made it to a vote. But the damage was already done. Even as many astronomers celebrated the serving of Pluto's walking papers, others were left scratching their heads. Such was the scene at the Banzai Institute on August 25, as illustrated by the following comments made at a judge's panel

presiding over the Institute's annual Northern Iota Aquarids Meteor Viewing Party and Homebrewers' Competition:

Reno: What the hell is "dwarf planet" supposed to mean, anyway?

Tommy: Oh man, here it comes. Pass me some of that English Strong Ale, would ya?

Reno: It just doesn't make a lick of sense. Why bend over backwards saying something isn't a planet then call it a dwarf planet? Damn fool use of a compound noun if you ask me.

Buckaroo: Could be worse. They could have re-named the Kuiper Belt "Munchkinland."

Reno: I need another beer.

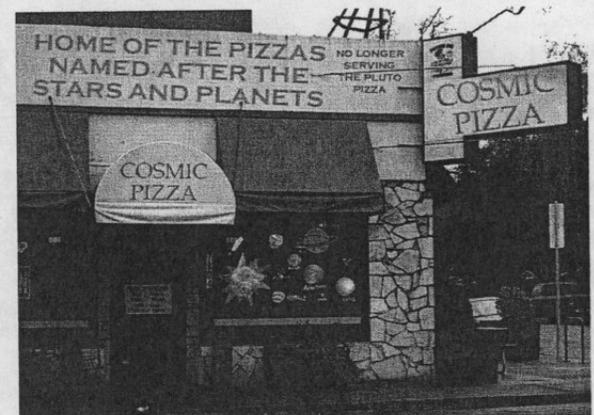
A more humongo "ooops" to the new definition is the stipulation in resolution five that planets "...have cleared the neighborhood around their orbits." Jupiter alone possesses some 50,000 asteroids within the neighborhood of its orbital path. Earth, Mars and Neptune all maintain zoning for similar post-accretion trailer parks.

Still, the reasons for tossing Pluto out of the planet club are clear. After all, a planet is a planet. You can't go having different kinds of planets floating around, with labels like "terrestrial planets" and "gas giants" and "planets with ring systems." That's just crazy talk.

In addition, the number of spherical thingies doing the gravity-tango in our solar system might well number in the gazillions. Since planets are traditionally named after various gods, astronomers quickly realized that a less exclusionary definition would eventually find some poor sap getting stuck with the planet Verminus (Roman god of worms in cattle) or Cloacina (Roman goddess who presides over the sewers of the city of Rome) or Flying Spaghetti Monster (Supreme Pastafarian god of the Cosmos).

Fortunately, science came to the rescue. And if the IAU's resolutions seem a bit arbitrary in their designs just remember, science by nature is a work in progress. Even scientists can have a bad hair day.

For a more authoritative and infinitely less silly article about the journey to defining planethood, go to:
boston.com/news/globe/ideas/articles/2006/09/03/planet_politics/



THE SEKRET ORIGINS OF DR. LIZARDO

By Steve "Rainbow Kitty" Mattsson
stmattsson@aol.com

According to Earl Mac Rauch, Dr. Lizaro looks like "...an old hunting hound with low-hanging jowls and a keen nose for human nature." He was a scientist and the "...chief medical officer at Buchenwald, and before that he was Mussolini's private physician." Sounds much like the Dr. Lizaro that ended up on the screen as played by John Lithgow in the Buckaroo Banzai movie, but it's not. This Dr. Lizaro had even fouler deeds attributed to him than the Lord John Worfin possessed character of the 1984 film. This Dr. Lizaro is a character from Earl Mac Rauch's first novel, *Dirty Pictures from the Prom*, published in 1969.

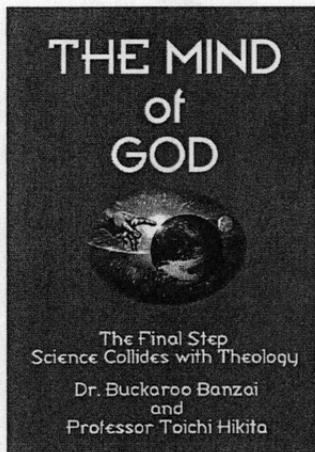
A glib and not completely inaccurate way to describe the novel for this newsletter's target audience would be, "If Buckaroo Banzai had died when he was seven, what would his brother be like?"

Mac Rauch has described his first novel as, "...something in the *Catcher in the Rye* vein—the kind of thing every teenage writer does at first. Unfortunately for me it ended up being published."

The novel features a complex coming of age story told on three tracks—a young man's (Barnaby Saltzer) search for self, excerpts from Barnaby's dead brother's unfinished novel, and discussions between the fictional author of the book (Barnaby) and his editor. This last device leads to sections of the novel being revised even as you read them. The entire chapter that introduces this Dr. Lizaro is crossed out and reduced to the single following paragraph:

"Barnaby went to Mexico, got arrested for smuggling heroin, fell in with a band of neo-Nazis, was injected with a rare type of syphilis, was sent to Phoenix to steal a shipment of poisonous gas, and set out from Laredo behind the wheel of a World War I ambulance."

This book is similar to Thomas Pynchon's *The Crying of Lot 49* and Mac Rauch's own *Buckaroo Banzai* novel. Lots and lots of stuff happens in a short span. Thank goodness "time is nature's way of making sure everything doesn't happen at once", or all of these books would be infinitely shorter and infinitely more complex. You dig?



Book Release Pending

Dr. Buckaroo Banzai in collaboration with his life long friend and mentor Professor Toichi Hikita are about to release to the public their book titled "The Mind of God – The Final Step Science Collides with Theology."

In this breakthrough intellectual, spiritual and emotional text Dr. Banzai puts forth the unique, elegant final theory that once and for all connects the dots between a unified physical law of the universe and metaphysics. The prevailing hypothesis string theory has failed to solve the path between relativity, quantum mechanics and troublesome mathematical problems. The Mind of God accomplishes what countless other's have been unsuccessful in doing.

From the Preface; "I am still reeling from the implications, the simplicity of thought that the authors have gifted the human race with. We have The Answer. Now I can retire and take up my other passions, witting children's book, watercolor painting and snowboarding." Stephen Hawking

Soon available from Banzai Press, \$25 Hard cover, 388 pages

"The obstacle is the path." --Zen Proverb

The Threat is Real

In *Return Of The Screw* told by Moonstone Book's, there was an unusual type of weapon with amazing power. The story, adapted for the graphic novel was based on real events from the chronicles of Team Banzai. While at the West Institute your Editor visited one of the many underground labs and was offered a peek at the potato powered device. Because of security issues I am not able to enlighten the readers any more about the weapon, it is enough to say that according to the accounts as well as a little demonstration, the raygun packs a mean punch! I was allowed to take a few photos and present one here.



Irregular Travels

By Steve "Rainbow Kitty" Mattsson
stmattsson@aol.com

Last Spring, reports of World Crime League activity in Tangier took my family and me from our vacation on the Costa del Sol in southern Spain. We caught a high speed ferry across the Straights of Gibraltar to the dark continent of Africa. Posing as Swedish tourists we scoured the Casbah searching for Hanoi Xan's Bravos and a trustworthy carpet merchant. Our searches for both proved fruitless.

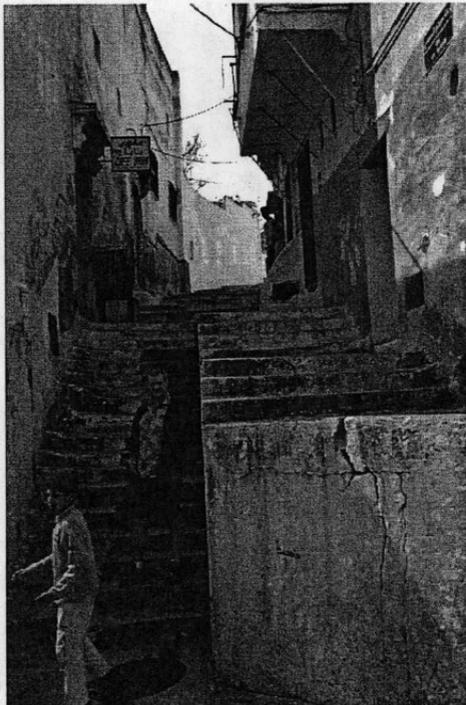
Mid-Summer found us exploring the mighty Mendenhall Glacier in the Juneau Icefield via helicopter and dog sled. The sound of avalanches echoing across the valley was awe-inspiring. The children enjoyed interacting with the dogs (some of whom are Iditerod veterans), but our mission from the Institute to gather data for Vice President Gore's film, *An Inconvenient Truth* took precedent over all other considerations.

From Juneau it was north above the Arctic Circle to Barrow where we were able to observe a polar bear in the wild. We also located the nesting grounds of the western sandpiper in the tundra surrounding the village. My wife accompanied me during a dip in the Arctic Ocean to test my new Team Banzai wristband in extreme conditions (The water temperature was minus 1 degree Celsius.) The test was a resounding success!

During late Summer we traveled to the Yucatan peninsula to study the Mayan ruins of Tulum. The Hong Kong Cavaliers plan a special anniversary re-release of their influential CD, *Your Place or Mayan?* and needed material for updated liner notes.

Then it was off to Isla Mujeres for a joint mission by Team Banzai and Team Zissou. (The exact relationship between the two organizations remains shrouded in secrecy.) Representatives from both teams conducted underwater tests at Manchones Reef of what was rumored to be a secret anti-Nautiloid system.

Next year, barring any unanticipated assignments from the Institute, my family plans a nice long vacation in Boring, Oregon.



An undercover BBI Rainbow Kitty blends into the shadows of the steps leading to the Café Baba in the Casbah, Tangier, Morocco. 03-24-06 (Shirt by Tori Richard, Hoody by Carhartt, Shorts by Savane, Shoes by Nike, Underwear by Jockey)

BBI Rainbow Kitty astride the Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau Icefield, Juneau, Alaska. 06-27-06
(Tour by Temsco, Helicopter by American Eurocopter, Parka by Columbia Sportswear Co., Banzai Institute T-shirt by Starland, Pants by Levis, Boots by Danner, Long Underwear by Duofold, Cheap Sunglasses inspired by ZZ Top)



BBI Rainbow Kitty, BBI Cactus Flower and their children, dog sledding on the glacier. 06-27-06

"There are only two emotions in a plane: boredom and terror."
~Orson Welles, 1915 – 1985, Radio & Film Actor and the guy from the old wine commercials.

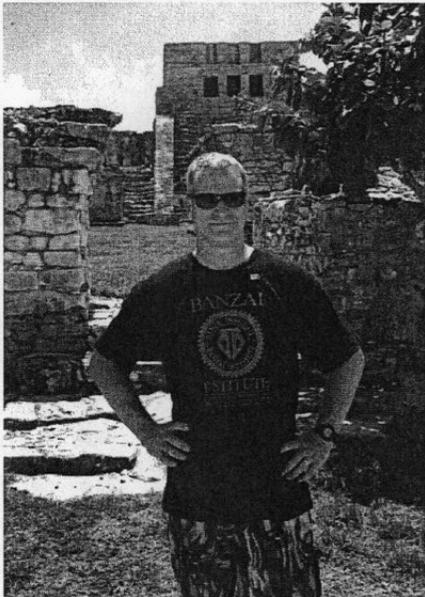
"I have found out that there ain't no surer way to find out whether you like people or hate them than to travel with them." ~Mark Twain, American humorist, satirist, writer, and lecturer, 1835 – 1910



BBI Cactus Flower and BBI Rainbow Kitty take a bracing dip in the Arctic Ocean, Barrow, Alaska. 07-02-06
(Cactus Flower's Swimsuit by Jantzen)



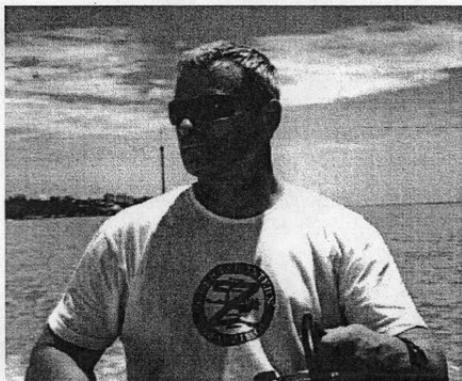
BBI Rainbow Kitty SCUBA diving at a depth of 30 feet, Manchones Reef. 09-01-06
(SCUBA package by Delfindiving)



BBI Rainbow Kitty explores the Mayan ruins of Tulum, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico. 08-24-06
(Swimsuit by Nike, Sandals by Nevados)

Dog Sled photo by Johnny the Musher, Arctic Ocean Swim photo by Chase, all other photos by BBI Cactus Flower

- <http://www.toririchard.com/>
- <http://carhartt.com/>
- <http://www.savane.com/>
- <http://www.nike.com/>
- <http://www.jockey.com/>
- <http://www.temskoair.com/>
- <http://www.eurocopterususa.com/>
- <http://www.columbia.com/>
- <http://starland.com/>
- <http://levis.com/>
- <http://www.danner.com/>
- <http://zztop.com/>
- <http://jantzen.com/>
- <http://www.cafepress.com/>
- <http://www.geocities.com/bbidragon/worldwatchone/wristband.html>
- <http://www.delfindiving.com/>



BBI Rainbow Kitty on the boat ride to Manchones Reef off of Isla Mujeres, Quintana Roo, Mexico. 09-01-06 (Team Zissou T-shirt by Café Press, Team Banzai Wristband by Project Wristband)

While we are on the topic, how about Time Travel?

Professor Nessarose Thropp of the Physics Department at Shiz University claims to have built a prototype time machine.

"In initial testing I have had modest success projecting myself several minutes into the future."

The machine looks like a booth of plexiglass with complicated controls and monitors mounted atop a powerful electromagnetic engine.

"I've managed to project myself up to five minutes into the future," Professor Thropp states, but admits, "There are still a few bugs to work out. The time machine takes a full five minutes to accomplish the projection into the future."

"A good traveler has no fixed plans and is not intent on arriving."

"A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."

- Lao-Tzu, Sixth century B.C. Philosopher, Father of Taoism and also very good with chop-sticks

Return of the Screw Review Roundtable

With Blue Blaze Irregular Pet Stain, Blue Blaze Irregular John Bad Bawi, and Doppiebock – Rogue Death Dwarf

Blue Blaze Irregular Pet Stain is an apprentice "Rugsucker". He's the one who keeps the carpets clean when his bosses help save the world. He got the highest score at the Banzai Institute's "Removing Karakomiss Induced Vomit Stains from Synthetic Fibers" workshop. He also survived a solo mission to sanitize the carpet in Pinky Carruthers' rumpus room.

Blue Blaze Irregular John Bad Bawi is an Adder (Black Lectroid is not correct, and he'll be the first to tell you that Lectroids are another species) originally from Planet Ten but considers himself equally a resident of Earth. Because of his close contact with (some would say corruption by) humans, particularly American social values and ethics (materialism, self indulgence, pride), he has greatly strayed from his roots. John speaks with a heavy Jamaican accent that becomes more understandable with time and there has been editing in this document in order to make him more easily understood.

According to Banzai Institute records, **Doppiebock** is a former World Crime League Death Dwarf whose remote control unit was disabled, reconfigured or perhaps even removed by an alien species. Thereafter, he went rogue. He's known for his short temper and outbursts. His IQ is very low but inconsistent with this is his unusual aptitude for several seemingly unrelated areas of knowledge, including but not limited to weapons, auto theft and horticulture. Reports from several Strike Team members who have actually spent time with Doppiebock (Mission: The Witness) say that he's at least neutral towards Team Banzai and might even be helpful with the proper motivation and persuasions. The Death Dwarf might have also undergone some anger management and was seen on one occasion to be practicing some form of meditation.

The Review Roundtable was recorded at the Middlesex County Comics & Card Convention held in the banquet room at the Econo Lodge in beautiful downtown Dayton. It was later transcribed and trimmed for length by the editors of the World Watch One Underground Edition.

BBI Pet Stain: Awesome! Moonstone's *Buckaroo Banzai: Return of the Screw* comic book mini-series is the most killer version of a Buckaroo adventure in over twenty years!

The story is based on a television pilot written by Earl Mac Rauch. Adaptation/new material is credited to Joe Gentile. I don't know what that means, but a television script is a description of moving pictures along with dialog and a comic book script is the same only with static pictures, so Joe's job must have been to remove the movement from the story. I think he did an awesome job!

Stephen Thompson pencilled the comic. His first few pages were perfect, then he got a gazillion times better! It was like watching him learn to draw from issue to issue! Keith Williams was the inker, which is totally old school, because Keith was promoted by Moonstone as "the original inker on Marvel's Buckaroo Banzai mini-series from 1984". Actually, Armando Gil was the inker on Marvel's mini-series and Keith was the background inker. There really weren't very many backgrounds in that original Marvel version, but the ones that were there were awesomely inked!

The colors were by Ken Wolak. He had a tough job, because he had to take over when the original colorist quit halfway through the first issue. Ken did super colorful work and he was able to catch up quickly enough that the third issue was only three months late! Erik Enervold was the letterer. It's been said that good lettering is like a good soundtrack to a movie, they shouldn't be noticed or the focus is taken from the important stuff. I disagree, because I noticed Erik's lettering. When Dr. Lizardo spoke, Erik used a bigger, sloppier style and it really caught my eye!

I thought it was a super awesome job by all involved! What did you think, John?

John Bad Bawi: Overall, I be just thrilled mon, about dah Moonstone mini-series of Buckaroo Banzai and his posse. I confess not to know too much about dah business of what you humans call dah graphic novel except from ah collectin' and resellin' side of things. Dis one I am gatherin' up as many as I can find 'cause it is goin' to be worth much corn. On Planet Ten my home planet dis is goin' to be very bashy right as soon as I can piggyback my Thermopod back there mon! What I do not sell there I stash in a dry safe place for later. As for dah details, okay, I know you want to know what I think. So hear goes it mon.

Bling! As I said already, on dah whole it is ah bad-like-yaz read. There be ah few inconsistencies mon, like dah faces of dah Cavaliers and even Buckaroo changing their face sometimes from page to page, like some sort of human camouflage like my people can do, but who cares, the comic is something new!

BBI Pet Stain: I had the same problem! It was weird the way the artist drew the real Red River Daddy, Lady Gillette, and Happy Wiener, but then used the actors' likenesses from the docudrama for Buckaroo, Perfect Tommy, and Reno. Whatever!

John: And another thing! I be reading over at dah Moonstone internet site on dah boards mon, and what I do not understand isah all this chatty-chatty about things related to and outside dah comic. I speak of dah new logo that is being made for dah new threads mon. Why they make such a biggest deal about makin' it new while they usin' dah old one all over dah comic? I just do not get it! And that might be my only up front and inah your

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face kiss-teet, irregularities like that mon. I only hope and pray to dah Flyin' Fish that dah reports ofah 'nother series are a-true and that Moonstone can get regular with dah way dah guys are drawn and on some ofah dah other things that come up.

BBI Pet Stain: I got an incomplete grade at the Institute's "Trademark Protection" seminar, but I kinda remember something about George Romero and his color re-make of *Night of the Living Dead*. I heard he got gyped out of the merchandising rights to the original movie and by re-doing it he had exclusive rights to sell T-shirts and junk based on his new version. My guess is that the original "Winged Bs" logo has fallen into the public domain, because it hasn't been protected. Now Moonstone's trying to come up with a design that they can keep the exclusive rights to. I love both versions of the "Bs" and of *Night of the Living Dead*! Those zombies were sweet!

Editor's note: Earl MacRauch essentially made the original version of the Winged B's public domain with the following passage from the World Watch One:

(Issue 3, April 1986, paragraph 2 of page 2)

Many of you have expressed interest in forming your own local chapters of Team Banzai. Do it! Several groups across the country are already involved in group activities ranging from community service to just plain partying. You can even create your own Banzai memorabilia (such as patches, stationary, rubber stamps, etc.) using the graphics in these pages, as long as you do not charge money for your creations. Just remember, whatever activity you undertake in the name of Buckaroo, "don't embarrass us."

Dopplebock: You talk too much! Dopplebock's turn! He not read well, but with help he was able to understand the Moonstone's picture magazine about the Blue Blazers. Excitement to see Lizardo back in play, not met the man but hear lots from former Boss-man, they have past. Do-gooders kill those in their way just like Dopplebock do, once, before doctor's help. Still sometimes have feelings... sometimes still smash things, hurt others, can't help it.

Back to picture magazine. Want to get close enough to new jet truck to steal it and take for ride in the air, look like big fun, and big weapons on board by look of things too. Big guns good, make Dopplebock happy! Nothing like a good ride that was once someone else's to make Dopplebock happy. Root beer always first on list though. Evil Lectroids make big machine with tubers *Solanum tuberosum*, little guns with big punch too. Dopplebock like new guns as much as visit to Plaid Pantry. Drawings of Xan and other's not right, seems like mistakes made, but what expect from humans. Still, he gets the idea of who is who. Good enough for Dopplebock.

Seem like story jump around like the huge rats in Down-under state with handy bag on belly. What they named? Oh well, Dopplebock say later if remembers. But jump around the story does. From here to here making Dopplebock confused and ANGRY, but he okay, he breathe and count to, to, three, over and over, and breathe. Make him calm... for now.

Lady Gillette nice looking women, Dopplebock want to meet her. Can someone make introduction? Dopplebock like her hair cut, good look!

BBI Pet Stain: Man, I wonder if the hosers who complain that the comic jumped around too much ever read the original novel! It jumped from Pecos and Death Dwarves at sea to Perfect Tommy in Congress and then back to the stuff we saw in the movie. Stories about Team Banzai have always imply there's a bigger picture — that other events continue to unfold even when Buckaroo is busy saving the world. I thought the fragments of Reno's adventure in Moscow were like that.

John: Nuh true! I have read dah book many times mon, it does jump around. But inah dah novel at least you be readin' and get to ah point of understanding. You be lead from point A, to B eventually finding yourself to point C, no? That one piece of dah bigger picture as you say Blazer Pet Stain, Mister Reno and dah Jet Car, we got dah point A an jumped right to dah point D without enough in-between. It all good and fine to write about the bigger world mon, but sometimes stuff get lost, it did this time mon, big time lost!

BBI Pet Stain: I dunno. In the book we jump from point A — Pecos on the Calypso off the coast of Sabah taking aboard Death Dwarves to point Z— escaping the Death Dwarves with the aid of a school of porpoises. We also never got the scoop on the "Penny Paradox"...

Dopplebock: [Finishing a second cold root beer] Stupid porpoises ruined everything! Dopplebock not read big book, too many words. He like pictures!

John: I not surprised one bit that dah Dwarf not read books mon.

BBI Pet Stain: What about all those cool covers, then? That Matt Haley one from the first issue was dah bomb! It's the second coolest Buckaroo image ever! The first was the French movie poster where Buckaroo had that big ol' honkin' gun! I liked the Dave Dorman cover from the second issue next best. Then I liked the Michael Stribling version from #3. The covers that didn't feature Buckaroo didn't really ring my bell. My least favorite cover was the one with the "Pickle-Guy" from #2, but I thought it was really cool that Moonstone gave some fan the chance to see his art printed in a real, professional comic!

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Dopplebock: BIG GUNS GOOD!

John: Actually, you have that ah bit messed up. Dave Ulanski drew the "Pickle-Guy" cover mon. He's the art director and one of dah head Mr. T's at Moonstone.

BBI Pet Stain: Really? His work is awesome!

Dopplebock: Root beer, big guns, Lady Gillette awe-SOME!

John: Awe-some, must mean you think they are very very good, cool. Dah covers were very cool, they were ah-sey-one, that's dah way we say very good, cool.

Dopplebock: Covers good, yes, good picture, not a lot of words, like very much.

BBI Pet Stain: The most bitchin' part of the whole story was the all-out action sequence with Perfect Tommy hanging from the rope in the sky! It reminded me of that righteous scene in *Return of the King* where Legolas killed the Oliphant and then slid down its trunk. Totally awesome! Hey, wouldn't Orlando Bloom be killer choice to play Perfect Tommy in a new movie?!

Dopplebock: Not know no Orland-O Bloom, not know if he play Perfect Tommy, why can't Perfect Tommy be in the movie?

John: [looking at the Dwarf, shaking his head, his dreadlocks fly wildly] Not surprised. [Turning to address Pet Stain] Mr. Bloom is ah bit too much of a pretty-boy-toy type.... Oh but yes, that is just what one would need to play Perfect Tommy inah movie, good one mon! [they high-five]

Dopplebock: KANG-EROO!

BBI Pet Stain: [looks puzzled] Kangaroo?? Oh right— huge rat with bag on belly!

Dopplebock: [finishes a huge gulp of carbonized soda and belches very loudly] Dopplebock like two new Cavaliers, Red River and The Lady. Either of you know them? Dopplebock like to fight River Dan, he look like he last maybe ten seconds against Dopplebock. Lady Gee, she nice; Perfect Tommy think so too. What you two think?

BBI Pet Stain: I'm hot for Appaloosa, 'cause I'm a sucker for red hair and freckles! I also dug the Weldon Rumproasts, Jr. and Sr. — remember when they were called Caspar and Scooter Lindley? They were awesome!

John: It is good to see new faces inah dah group. Refreshing as ah dew on ah hot day, mon.

Dopplebock: Cold root beer anytime for refreshment!

John: We are talking about the new members of the Hong Kong Cavaliers, not your soda pop, you lagga-headed bobo!

Dopplebock: Dopplebock not understand words, but him no like! [Dopplebock angrily flails his arms and knocks his root beer to the floor.]

BBI Pet Stain: Look out, you fools!

Dopplebock: Noooo!

John: By dah Flying Fish! Dah little one is sucking his root beer out of the carpet! That is as good as ah Poppy Show mon!

Dopplebock: [On his hands and knees] >Slur-r-r-r-p<

BBI Pet Stain: [Begins blotting up the root beer.] Step off short dude! I'm the Rugsucker!

Dopplebock: Back off, Dopplebock get ANGRY....

John: We be only trying to help, MON!

BBI Pet Stain: Don't let the stain set! No—Don't... [Gets his fingers too close to the Dwarf's mouth.] YEE-OUCH!

[As the participants begin to engage in a bit of lighthearted fisticuffs the Review Roundtable is adjourned]

Nightmares to Happy Endings From the Canyon Country Contingent of the Banzai Team

I just returned to New Mexico from Aurora, CO having attended the Annual Doberman Pinscher Club of America (DPCA) National Specialty Show. I saw a lot of beautiful graceful creatures going through their paces in conformation, obedience and agility. Something to behold.

My role there was to represent the organization that helps fund vet bills for those Doberman owners and rescue groups that cannot afford necessary medical treatment for the Dobs in their care. And...equally important, to promote the Doberman Rescue program nationally. In the end we had a very successful run. We raised over \$13,000 for individual Dobs in need, and the Rescue arm of the DPCA raised about \$20,000. That's really good for this annual event.

For those who aren't aware of it, one of the original missions of the BB Team was to "protect the underdog." And that means "underdog" literally. ("Is somebody crying... out there in the darkness? Somebody crying?") Helping the less fortunate and abused or abandoned canines has always been considered a reflection of society's level of civilization.

I got into Dobermans and then rescue some 35+ years ago. Over those years I have owned some 14 Dobermans, two registered pups and all the others Dobs rescued from various unsavory situations. There is nothing like having a rescued 8 year old Doberman give his heart to you for having taken him out of some horrible life-long nightmare.



Consider Zaius (we named him for Dr. Zaius, from Planet of the Apes because his fawn-colored fur was as orange as that of the orangutan...Dr. Zaius). This poor creature had been turned in to a shelter at age 8 after his owner had decided that he was just too much bother. For the last two years he had kept Zaius in a crate 24/7 in the garage, only letting him out for 10 minutes in the morning and 10 minutes in the evening. When we rescued Zaius from the shelter he had no hair, no muscle mass, and was full of sores. It took two months to nurse him back to health. (Zaius is now 13 and going strong.) Or Sagan, (yes, named after Dr. Carl Sagan) our three legged boy. His owner was kicking him attempting to make him aggressive (not something that Dobermans are born with) so he ended up breaking Sagan's back leg. When the leg healed wrong (he refused to let a vet fix the leg) he took Sagan (age 18 months) to the shelter to be "put to sleep." We rescued him, had the leg amputated and Sagan is now my wife's "heart dog." He is now 9 years old and absolutely as sweet as they come. There are lots of horror stories out there -- we just try to turn them in to happy endings.

In dog fighting areas, Dobermans are considered to be ideal "bait dogs" for pit bulls. When we rescued Jake in Arkansas he had both of his back legs broken (so he couldn't run away), his teeth filed down to the gum level so he couldn't fight back, and even his nails had been cut back to the quick so he couldn't scratch. Common practice is to tie the Dobe between two trees and let the pits attack with little risk of the Dobe causing any major damage to the pit. Sigh..... After a long recovery period Jake turned out to be a wonderful family pet. He went to an elderly couple with several grandchildren who adored Jake -- and he them.

Dog rescue has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. It can be emotionally draining, can consume your life, and can change your view toward humanity. But there is nothing that can compare to having one of these creatures come snuggling up to you after having been rescued and nursed back to health. Then the task is to find "quality" forever homes for the dogs. You can't take them all yourself. That means screening applicants, checking references, doing home visits, and trying to match the dog with the family. Of course, we're always faced with fundraising to pay for the vet bills, food, transportation, supplies, etc. Like I said, it can consume your life.

I work the four corners area of New Mexico, coordinating with the Dobe rescue folks in Utah, Colorado, Arizona, Oklahoma and Texas. In addition, I am President of the nationwide organization to help with Dobe vet bills, Special Needs Dobermans (SND) (www.doberman911.org). There are lots of us out there struggling to make life a little better for our canine charges.

Yes, I think Buckaroo would be happy with our successes ("don't be mean..."). I guess the evil forces will always be with us -- but that just means we have a lot of work ahead of us. A lot of public education relating to the necessity of spaying and neutering, adopting from shelters rather than buying from backyard breeders, and recognizing the lifelong commitment that one has to a pet. And of course a lot of Dobs to be rescued and placed in new loving homes.

Signing off for now -- I gotta a lot of Dobs waiting for help.
BBI 42

Project Wristband

500 silicone red, yellow, and black wristbands were created as a bonus item for the Spring of 2006 WW1 Underground newsletter. With this, Project Wristband was implemented. The idea is that the wristbands will be a nice icebreaker for those wearing them to mention one of your favorite movies, the activities online and at the Banzai Institute, Buckaroo and the Hong Kong Cavaliers, and new developments in the world of Team Banzai. WHILE THEY LAST: The offer is that if someone you meet turns out to be either a fan of Buckaroo Banzai and the HCK or even a Blue Blaze Irregular, feel free to offer them your wristband. It will be replaced quickly.

Testimonial 1

Well, how to put this....I just got back from Dragon*Con, one of the largest SF conventions on the East Coast, and strangely enough, home many years ago to one of the first major BBI parties at Worldcon (but I digress), where I encountered someone who did not know about Project Wristband. His name? Javier Grillo-Marxuach. In case you don't recognize it, you might have heard of his resume. Javier Grillo-Marxuach is a writer and Supervising Producer on ABC's hit television series *Lost*, and writer and creator of *Viper Comics'* hot new title *The Middleman*.

After graduating with a B.A. in Creative Writing and Cultural Studies from Carnegie Mellon University and earning an M.F.A. in Screenwriting from USC's School of Cinema-Television, Grillo-Marxuach began his career as a Primetime Series executive at NBC. He has subsequently written and produced for series such as *Boomtown*, *The Pretender*, *Charmed*, *The Chronicle*, *seaQuest* and *Jake 2.0*. In addition, Grillo-Marxuach has written for *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, *The Dead Zone*, and *Dark Skies*; sold pilots to NBC, The WB, and The Sci-Fi Channel; directed a short film; and created several works for the stage. Javier Grillo-Marxuach was born and raised in Puerto Rico. His name is pronounced "HA-VEE-AIR GREE-JOH MARX-WATCH."

Here's the even better part: he's just getting started working with *Medium* on NBC. He was thrilled when I gave him my wristband; turns out he's a fan from the beginning...and he's in the biz too! I saw him at the banquet a few days later, wristband on. BBI Skates

Testimonial 2

I arrived at this year's Dragon*Con ('06), held Labor Day weekend, with the hopes of finding fellow BBI's. Sadly, it was not to be! I wore numerous wristbands on each wrist, hoping to attract attention, but alas, no luck there. I wore my Team Banzai t-shirt one day, and the few people who did take note, even if it were just to say "Buckaroo Banzai" or "No matter where you go..." were happy to have a free wristband to adorn their person. I saw only ONE person wearing a BB t-shirt. The only other notable occurrence was when I was sitting in an audience, waiting for my daughter, Liana, to appear in the anime costume contest as Inuyasha. There was a young guy and his sister sitting behind me, and he tapped me on the shoulder to ask about the "Ancient Secrets & New Mysteries," thinking that perhaps something new was in the works for BB, which had him hoping! He was disappointed when I explained the origins of this, but seemed to cheer up a bit when I mentioned the Moonstone comics. I gave him a wristband, and he asked me for one for his sister, then one more for a friend of his sister. I was happy to oblige! I honestly feel that had we had a table, all wristbands would have disappeared, along with any other handouts, as it was a success at last year's ('05) Con. Maybe next year...
BBI Moto Mama



Testimonial 3

I had a very brief encounter as a result of the wrist band. I was getting ready to cross a store parking lot, waiting for traffic to clear, when a man leaned over my shoulder from behind me and said very quietly "why is there a watermelon there?" He then grinned and took off. There are supporters of BB everywhere it seems. BBI Nightwatch



West Institute Logo

The Titan II design (left) of it's day is next to the new logo (right), presented here side by side.

Since the West Institute is located in an old Titan II silo complex, Buckaroo Banzai was pleased that the new West Institute emblem was reminiscent of the old but brought forward into modern times using current symbols of The Banzai Institute. In this new design, the glove represents what BB sometimes wears while driving the Jet Car. The multiple lightning bolts were replaced with just one, a fresh version coming into contact with the Earth to represent the Strike Team aspect of Team Banzai. The olive branch is still there to represent peace keeping, and the

Caduceus (winged staff with coiled snakes) symbolizes medicine and health (physical and mental). The satellite represents Strategic Information, and the slogan "Expect The Unexpected" encompasses Team Banzai in the fewest and most precise words. The West Banzai Institute thanks both BBIs Dragon & ArcLight for collaborating on the new design.

Irregular Restaurant Review By BBI Abacus & Dragon

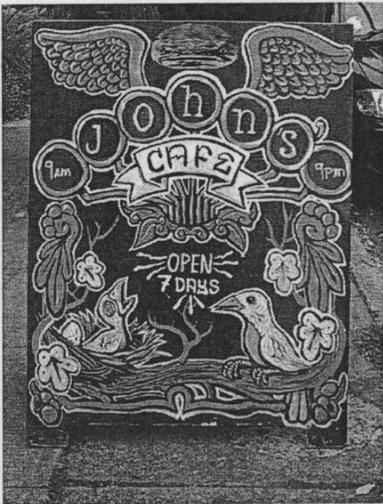
John's Restaurant

Address: 12th and SE Mill, a few blocks south of Hawthorne Street, Portland Oregon USA

Phone: 503.741.6699

Open 7 days a week, 9am to 9am.

Deserts and light entrees, unique beverages (*price range \$3.50 to \$8.95*)

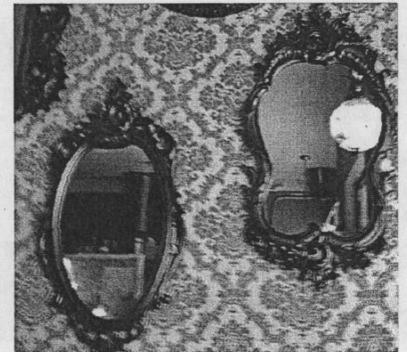


Dining at John's is an experience in neighborhood ambiance and local flair: Chef John Jr's ethereal, creative cooking is served in a uniquely decorated room where everything is in gold. The upholstery is all bright glittery gold in the eight booths with the walls painted dark gold on the lower half and the heavily patterned wallpaper is shades of gold as well. Mirrors with elaborate gold frames in the same style and drop chandeliers give the small room the feel of a dining room from several decades ago. The lights dim irregularly, whether a symptom of ancient wiring, an over powered toaster, or the staff taking a hit of juice. Out on the sidewalk are two tables with chairs and they are for waiting your turn in the dining room. Service, however, does not extend outdoors and you should expect to wait unless you are lucky or at the door when they open. Behind the murmur of people eating is a musical style playing over speakers high in the corners that is best described as humming and chanting to a heavy bass beat. The majority of the patrons walked from the surrounding neighborhood and there is limited street parking. Our waitress is in her late twenties, dressed for work in a diner but with a youthful finesse and she is friendly and helpful. We can't help but take note of the tattoo on her left arm, a flying fish blowing flames.

The menu is an eclectic blending of Americana, gluttony and sweets. Specializing in deserts and signature beverages, John's features an unusual and tasty assortment of entrees. Appetizers to-die-for are fried peanut butter, jelly and banana finger sandwiches, Twinkie sushi and kebabs with fruit and sliced

Twinkies. Breakfasts include, as one might begin to suspect, Twinkie pankakes (spelling from the menu) and French Twinkies, egg battered and fried with syrup and confectioners' sugar. For those looking for a lunch break, John's offers the very popular Twinkie burrito, Chicken-raspberry Twinkie salad and Pigs in a Twinkie. On the beverage menu are signature semi-liquids like the Twinkie Love Potion Number 75 (a smoothie made with vanilla ice cream and strawberries) and the Twinkie Grasshopper. Not everything on the unusual menu has the cream filled sponge cake in its ingredients. Fried Coke, made from cola syrup and a secret spongy dough recipe, is served in a cup as sticky balls drizzled with more cola syrup.

The reviewers have been to this curious restaurant on a number of occasions, and can show the extra weight gain as proof. There is almost always a gathering of eager patrons waiting outside, in all kinds of weather, idling chatting and frequently glancing through the large window to glare and drool.



Suspicious Billboards

A series of billboards from coast to coast have come to the attention of Team Banzai. They appear to be employment opportunities but Buckaroo wa suspicious of this company. We are confident that these are, in actuality, recruitments for the World Crime League and should be taken very seriously if you see one in your local area. In an undercover operation, the phone number was called and a voice message left. Within fifteen minutes the call was returned and our operative was asked a series of questions before being allowed to proceed further in the "interview process." An hour later the operative was interviewed in person at a barely furnished office space that was later traced back to suspected business fronts of



the WCL. These billboards have been spotted in dozens of cities in the USA and we are asking everyone to report them to the Banzai Institute. Photos are welcome with the reports. Know sightings include: Outer Chicago IL, at West Park Ave. & Dawes St -- North of Charlotte NC near the West Memorial Hwy & Dutchman Rd -- North of the Lambert-St. Louis International Airport at Charbonier Rd & N. Lindbergh Blvd -- Portland OR, near NW Fremont St & 33rd Ave -- North of Pharr TX where Hwy 107 intersects Expressway 281 South -- Roosevelt Way and NE 80th St in Seattle WA -- sign spotted from Interstate 495 near the Backlick Rd exit Springfield VA and one at State Ave & Main St north of the San LuisValley Airport Alamosa, CO. There are numerous others but space precluded listing them all here.

Earl MacRauch Entertains a few Questions with the Editor

Editor: My sister in-law is a literary agent (nonfiction) and I asked her about the situation with the two books you wrote for S&S. She asked about the "Reversion clause" in your contract with Simon and Schuster and wondered how it read and what the time frame was before the books reverted back to the author. Do you know?

Mac: The Simon & Schuster thing...I am not happy with what I wrote and wouldn't want any of it published, so the reversion clause is not really a factor. I'm working on a fairly lengthy story for Moonstone Comics, which looks pretty good and might develop into a novel, graphic or otherwise. We shall see.

Editor: What is life like post-Institute for most folks? It sounds like Reno, for instance, no longer lives there. Do most folks move on or do they stay around and just start cutting back on physically strenuous activities and missions? Does the Institute have a retirement plan?

Mac: No, the Institute has no retirement plan. It's very much unincorporated and unstructured. If you're looking for cradle-to-grave security, the Banzai Institute is not for you, although in practical terms you will most likely be well taken care of by your Banzai Institute peers. Institute alumni will never eat dog food, except at class reunions when Mrs. Johnson puts it in her meatloaf for old times' sake. The Institute simply does not believe in wasting its money on red tape and a high administrative overhead. On the other hand, unlike many universities, the Institute does allow its Fellows full ownership of their intellectual property. If you invent something in the Institute lab, you own it, not the Institute...although of course donations are cheerfully encouraged.

Most people don't live at the Institute year round, Reno included. The accommodations are spartan, for reasons of economy I have mentioned above. Your average college dorm room is much more luxurious than the bunkhouse.

Editor: What do you suggest a writer do to get noticed and make a living on his passion?

Mac: As for becoming a writer, I'm not sure I have any original advice. Nothing stops anyone from writing, if it's something you really want to do. As for getting "noticed," it's probably easier now than ever, with blogs and other forms of self-publishing. Maybe the question you're really asking is whether anyone will like what you write. And the answer is, I have no idea.

Editor: What are the latest scientific, medical and strategic informational developments at the Banzai Institute?

Mac: With regard to new research at the Banzai Institute, Perfect Tommy has recently set a new Guinness Book record for the most patent applications registered in a single 24-hour period. Among Tommy's splendid new discoveries are various new colors and sexual positions, an aphrodisiacal pheromone sprinkled like seasoning powder on any type of food, a bloodless "psychic-surgery"

liposuction kit, three new atomic sub-levels with copyrighted names, a bulletproof soap bubble powerful enough to lift a 300-pound man, a DNA-Rewriter, and something mysteriously called a "polymorphonuclear (sic) pneuma-ship".

There are hundreds more, but it would probably take me a week to list them all.

Editor: From your own perspective, what steps might be needed for there to be another BB film?

Mac: With regard to a future Buckaroo Banzai movie, I would say that it is not even worth speculating about, since the moviemaking business is utterly unpredictable. About the closest thing to a sure thing would be if one of a half dozen or so Hollywood superstars told a studio he wanted to do Buckaroo Banzai as his next film. Otherwise, let's move on to the next question...

Editor: If you believe what you are doing is important and makes you happy, would you give up the safety and security of something that makes you miserable but pays well?

Mac: As to whether people should follow their hearts or toil in drudgery for a paycheck, there is no simple answer. Every case is different, although in general Buckaroo would urge people not to leave a heavy environmental footprint on the planet. As Americans, we are particularly guilty of hogging natural resources to support our generally extravagant lifestyles.

In other words, try in general to be happy with less, get by with less. If you choose to "suffer for your art," that's perfectly acceptable, but only if you're single and not responsible for anyone else. If you elect to have a family or find yourself paying child support, your plans will probably have to change.

There. I hate giving sensible advice.

Editor: This might be a tough question, but it's one that's been a personal concern of mine in relation to a facet of Team Banzai: the moral and perceptual implications of the Strike Team, vigilantism, or needed militia. With the concern over terrorism, internal and external, a group of trained and well armed citizens taking "the law into their own hands," so to speak, as Team Banzai might be viewed, could be a concern to many average citizens, even law enforcement and government. Any thoughts on that?

Mac: You're right to be concerned about vigilantism, since the world's chief vigilante lives in the White House, but remember that Buckaroo and his posse transcend politics and historical time. The fact that Bush has devalued the cowboy brand to the point of no return does not mean that Buckaroo should pack it in and go out of business. To the contrary, he needs to work harder to restore the moral legitimacy the country has lost. Luckily, his picture still hangs next to John F. Kennedy and Muhammad Ali in homes around the world.

Editor: You bring into this an interesting element relating to Buckaroo Banzai and George W. They both come from the cowboy background and yet practice it in very differing ways. Has the cowboy's way of life expired its value in the complex ethnic, political, and technological society, both local and global, that we live in today? Does its simplistic approach to right and wrong, to trust and ethics, translate to our modern age, is it even dangerous and foolhardy?

Mac: First of all, Bush does not come from a cowboy background. He's as phony a cowboy as he is a President. As for a cowboy ethos, I seem to recall that a real cowboy doesn't go looking for trouble or draw his gun first.

Editor: Fair enough, brief and to the point. Thank you very much for the insightful concise interview.



**A Trailer
Submitted by BBI Dragon
Obtained from an unnamed source**

SHOOTING SCRIPT

Forth Draft

Short vignettes for TV or theater sneak preview spot for a new Buckaroo Banzai feature.

Fade in:

Exterior. Charity Run, Finish Line

Gathering area behind the finish line: The camera pans a group of runners in black, red, and yellow windbreakers congratulating each other and the other runners. On the backs of the group's windbreakers are individual letters in red & yellow.

The camera moves to the letters one at a time, T-E-A-M B-A-N-Z-A-I

Fade to:

Exterior. Public Park, Daytime

Views of individuals, couples, families playing... a gang of teens looking for trouble. Following the teens as they confront an older man & woman, hold them up at knife point demanding valuables. A couple walking nearby with their two dogs spot the situation and, as they make a call on their cell phone (Gophone), they shout at the youths:

WOMEN

We're calling the police; get away from that couple right now!

MAN

(Commands the two dogs to bark as they approach. The group of teens turn and run.)

Camera zooms in closer to the small lapel pins on the couple's jackets, black, white and red reading Team Banzai.

Fade to:

Exterior. Busy Freeway, Car Accident

A car crash on the freeway. Vehicles on both sides of the freeway come to a stop. People get out, calling on cell phones; no one knows what to do to help. From the other direction of traffic a car stops and a woman in her 60's jumps out with a duffle bag. She dodges through cars, jumps over the divider, and makes her way to the victim.

SENIOR WOMEN

(Vehicle door opens.)

Hold still; help is on its way.

Her latex gloved hand presses a large gauze pad against the bleeding forehead of the driver.

CAR CRASH VICTIM

That was fast, you're the paramedic?

SENIOR WOMEN

I'm emergency first aid trained; the paramedics are on their way. Just hold still; don't try to move. Hold this tight; I'm going to go check the others.

Camera catches a Team Banzai wristband under the latex glove on the elderly woman's wrist.

Fade to:

Exterior. Auto Wrecking Yard, Night, Dim Lighting

Commandos in black with Team Banzai letters and logo, large weapons moving with skill and silent hand signals. From above, jumping down, tall creatures attack them. There is weapons fire and hand to hand combat. The fight is quickly finished, alien bodies, Red Lectroids, lay in the ground.

Camera catches several faces; they are the same as were in the charity run at the beginning of this trailer.

Fade to:

White letters on a black background:

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

Distinguished Anthropologist, an intellectual and a scientist, 1901-1978

Morph lettering to:

Team Banzai - Committed citizens doing the right thing, at the right time, making a difference.

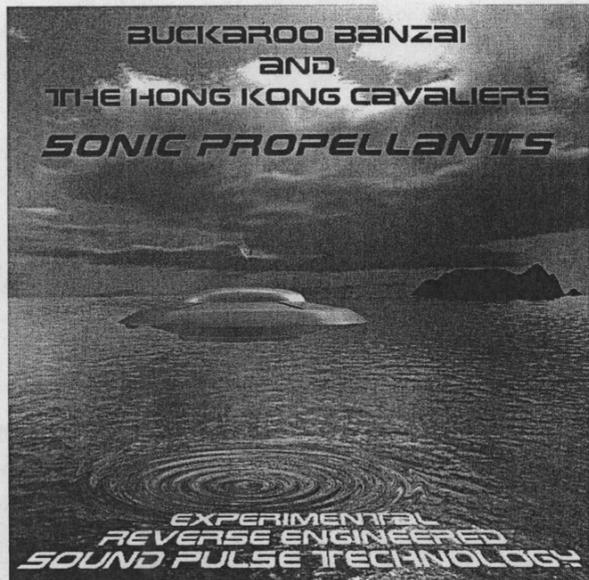
Fade to black.

End.

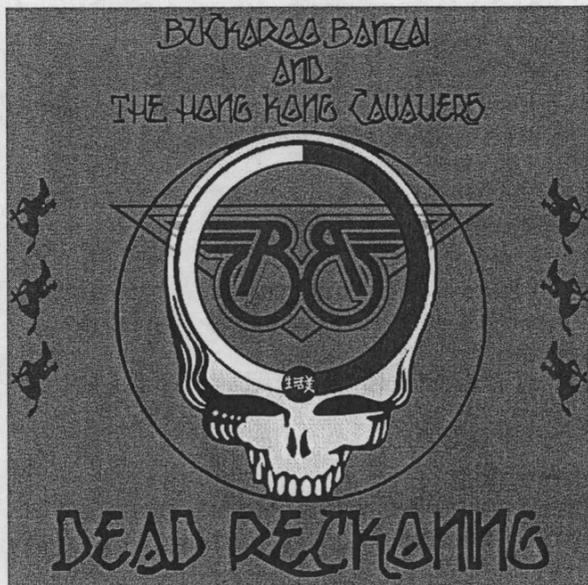
NOTES: Needs some dramatic music throughout the trailer. A transitioning to the Team Banzai March at the Margaret Mead quote through to the end.

Concert & Album News

The last release of original material by the band is the March 2006 album 'Sonic Propellants,' a hard-rocking experimental recording using revolutionary sound pulse technology that is also being utilized to help power The Bus and improve gas economy.



Sonic Propellants continues to be a huge success for the band, having gone platinum in its first 4 weeks of release. The sonic-pulse equipment used on the Institute's vehicle and in this ground-breaking set of songs has influenced scores of other artists and car manufacturers are clamoring to see the patents.



The latest BB/Hong Kong Cavaliers' release is the Grateful Dead tribute album, 'Dead Reckoning', available everywhere Christmas '06. Features on this CD are such Dead favorites as; "Terrapin Station," "Blow Away" and "Fire on the Mountain." (As you know, the Dead and the Cavaliers have been great pals for a very long time and their influences and friendships are legendary.)

Concert Etiquette in Review

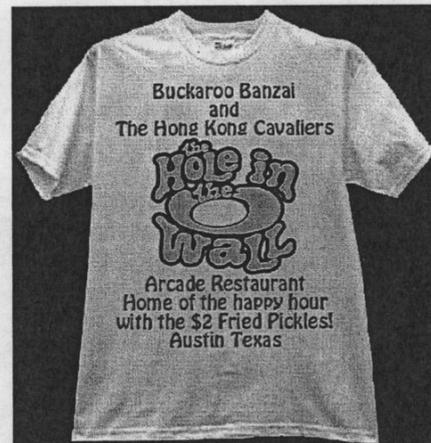
Perhaps the whole concept of concert etiquette is like the phrase "military intelligence," an oxymoron; the two words just don't belong in the same sentence together. Nonetheless, it has become, and will continue to be, an issue at BB & The HCK shows.

We understand that the majority of those attending our performances are there to have a good time and act in a responsible and civil manner; however, it only takes a few knuckleheads to spoil the experience for a lot of other people. So, because of several incidents at our concerts, the band wishes to reiterate the protocol for all who come to see B. Banzai and The Hong Kong Cavaliers.

Less Talk, More Rock

If the spirit moves you, go ahead and yell, but if you really feel like sharing, take your conversations outside or save it for after the show. Singing along is way cool as long as it's done at a reasonable volume and we appreciate it when the fans know the lyrics, but be understanding of others around you; they came to hear *us* sing, not you. Don't shriek when a band member is talking up on stage or as a song is starting. Perfect Tommy likes to be heard, not yelled at.

No brandishing of firearms except for the band and designated Security Personnel. Annoy the Security Personnel at your own risk.



Fried dill pickles are a popular snack in the southern United States, where bars commonly serve them as an appetizer or side dish with a dipping sauce.

Stop The Abuse

Don't abuse legal and illegal intoxicants. If alcohol is served at a venue, please drink responsibly. Be smart - be cool. Join our designated driver program and receive all the rootbeer you can drink free.

Blow 'Em Up

Inflatables, such as beach balls, are great fun to have bounced around before the show and during intermission, but the audience is there to watch the show, not the ball, and people don't like to be blind-sided during the performance. All inflatables are not created equal, and some are inappropriate for all-age shows if you know what we mean. Wink, wink; nudge, nudge; say no more.

Fireworks are not permitted. Enough said.

Keep It Clean

Removing articles of clothing and throwing them towards the stage is strongly discouraged at all-age concerts. Otherwise, feel free. While there was one infamous performance where Perfect Tommy tried to impose a rule that all women under 25 MUST go topless, after a good ass kicking by Lady Gillette, he considers the issue closed; future suggestions of this nature will not be tolerated.

Slap the guy that yells "Free Bird!"

Don't shout out requests to the band. We usually do our own stuff and if we feel like covering someone else song, we will have rehearsed it before showing up for a gig. Just so you know, we spend a considerable amount of time and effort on our song list. We don't do Ricky Martin, Wang Chung or Duran Duran, so please stop asking.

Custom Performance Tee Shirts

Perfect Tommy has a slick laser t-shirt-printer operation set up on The Bus. The driver can produce up to 300 shirts specific to any particular surprise gig in less than an hour (i.e., while the band is on stage). Out come the fans, smack into Perfect Tommy's T-Shirt Stand! Two examples of the special "small press" t-shirts that fans of the band have bought are shown on these pages.



The Cowboy Buddha margarita is made of Herradura Silver Tequila, Cointreau (orange liqueur) and hand-squeezed lime juice. Buckaroo reminds everyone to drink responsibly

Make Music, Not War Tour coming soon.



"We are sick with fascination for the useful tools of names and numbers, of symbols, signs, conceptions and ideas. Meditation is therefore the art of suspending verbal and symbolic thinking for a time, somewhat as a courteous audience will stop talking when a concert is about to begin."

Alan Watts - American Writer, Thinker and Interpreter of Zen Buddhism, 1915-1973

Club 88 — A Growing Excited Franchise

Once there was only one, then a second; now there are three Club 88 establishments! Two are on the west coast; one in Portland, Oregon, and the other in Phoenix, Arizona. The third is now open in Atlantic City, New Jersey. All three clubs share certain similarities, but remain unique, with each bar specializing in local microbrewed beers. Likewise, the basic menus are very similar, burgers, sandwiches and salads with variations influenced by regional specialties.



The Portland Oregon Club 88

New Jersey features "casino nights" as well as open-mic nights and weekly wicker rolling chair racing.

Phoenix spotlights mesquite burning grill, an open courtyard seating area, steak nights and wide screen sporting event viewing.

In **Portland**, the menu rotates specialties: Mondays & Tuesdays are Japanese nights, Wednesdays & Thursdays are Tex-Mex and on Fridays and Saturdays they feature steaks, ribs and special salads. Sundays the menu is Chief's Choice, something always delicious and appetizing. There are also half a dozen billiard tables available for a friendly game of pool.

Both west coast clubs have a shooting range in the basement for the public to hone their handgun skills.

All three Club 88 locations entertain patrons with live performances Thursdays through Sundays and there is no cover charge for card carrying members of Team Banzai. Likewise, they are all smoking and drug free, and participate in the designated driver rootbeer program.

"I didn't squawk about the steak, dear. I merely said I didn't see that old horse that used to be tethered outside here." (Said to a waitress in a restaurant.) W.C. Fields - Actor, Comedian and Connoisseur of gin, 1880 - 1946

T I M E L I N E

W.D. RICHTER

YEAR

EARL MAC RAUCH

Born in Connecticut	1945	
	1946	
	1947	
	1948	
	1949	Born in Texas
	•	
Dartmouth	1968	
	1969	<i>Dirty Pictures from the Prom</i>
	1970	
	1971	<i>Arkansas Adios, Dartmouth</i>
<i>Slither</i>	1972	
	1973	
<i>Slither TV</i>	1974	
<i>Peeper</i>	1975	
<i>Nickelodeon</i>	1976	
	1977	<i>New York, New York, Novel</i>
<i>Invasion of the Body Snatchers</i>	1978	
<i>Dracula</i>	1979	
<i>Brubaker</i>	1980	
<i>All Night Long</i>	1981	
<i>Hard Feelings</i>	1982	<i>A Stranger is Watching</i>
	1983	
<i>Buckaroo Banzai</i>	1984	<i>Buckaroo Banzai, Novel</i>
<i>Heroes in Trouble TV rumors</i>	1985	<i>Heroes in Trouble TV rumors</i>
<i>Big Trouble in Little China</i>	1986	
	1987	
	1988	
	1989	<i>Wired</i>
	1990	
<i>Late for Dinner</i>	1991	
	1992	
<i>Needful Things</i>	1993	
	1994	
<i>Home for the Holidays</i>	1995	
	1996	
	1997	
	1998	
BB TV.1 rumors	1999	BB TV.1 rumors
	2000	
	2001	BB Novel re-released
BB DVD released	2002	BB DVD released
BB TV.2 rumors	2003	BB TV.2 & Novels rumors
	2004	
<i>Stealth</i>	2005	
BB comic book mini-series	2006	BB comic book mini-series

W.D. Richter and Earl MacRauch
Timeline Supplement
By Steve "Rainbow Kitty" Mattsson
stmattsson@aol.com

W.D. Richter was Dartmouth College Class of '68 and Earl Mac Rauch was Dartmouth College Class of '71.

W.D. Richter wrote the screenplays for the films *Slither*, *Peeper*, *Nickelodeon*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, *Dracula*, *Brubaker* (nominated for an Academy Award), *All Night Long*, *Hard Feelings*, *Big Trouble in Little China*, *Needful Things*, *Home for the Holidays*, and *Stealth*. He directed the films *The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the Eight Dimension!* and *Late for Dinner*. He was an associate producer on *Slither* and he was a producer for *The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the Eight Dimension!* and *Late for Dinner*. He was the creator of a TV version of *Slither*.

Earl Mac Rauch wrote the novels *Dirty Pictures from the Prom*, *Arkansas Adios*, *New York, New York*, and *Buckaroo Banzai*. He wrote the screenplays for the films *New York New, York*, *A Stranger is Watching*, *The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the Eighth Dimension!* and *Wired*.

Richter and Mac Rauch worked on developing a TV series called *Heroes in Trouble* for ABC-TV in 1985. They also developed a show called *Buckaroo Banzai: Ancient Secrets and New Mysteries* for the Fox Network in 1999 for which Mac Rauch wrote a pilot episode entitled "Supersize Those Fries". They also worked on developing a different Buckaroo Banzai TV series with interest from the SciFi Channel in 2002 which was described as Country Western-Rock & Roll-SciFi-Variety Show/Backstage Documentary that would originate from the TV studios of the Banzai Institute. Also in 2002, Mac Rauch was rumored to be working on a series of Buckaroo Banzai novels for Pocket Books, the first of which was to be titled "The Devil's Own Hole".

In 2006, Richter consulted with the creators of *Buckaroo Banzai: Return of the Screw*, a comic book mini-series from Moonstone Books based on a draft of Mac Rauch's TV script.

Bootleg Album Notes

Reaching Beyond is the title of a bootleg album by Buckaroo Banzai and the Hong Kong Cavaliers that fills a gap in their recording careers in the mid '90's. The album was comprised of studio demos and conversation recorded during September and very early October of 1994. With only one exception, 3-2-1 Blast Off, the songs would never be re-recorded and officially released on any of the group's albums, however several have on occasion been performed live. The unofficial story says that the recordings were stolen by a breach in security, hacked through a backdoor via an internet connection. Billy Travers' name came up as a major suspect but nothing was ever proven. The sessions were abruptly ended when the band heard of a tragedy involving the cult known as the Order of the Solar Temple. They flew first to Quebec, Canada and from there to Switzerland only to arrive too late to avert the mass murder/suicides in two villages. The whole episode would be later retold by Reno and titled "The Sun Betrays the Father." B. Banzai and the rest of the band didn't return to the recording studio again for almost 3 years, their next official release being *Your Place Or Mayan?*

Reaching Beyond was inspired by the success of the Hubble telescope and was a blending of astral themes, spirituality and thought provoking lyrics to the style of song writing the band had evolved into at that point in their work. Included here is the brief song list and some of the lyrics from the would be title song *Reaching Beyond* along with a rough sketch of an album cover idea only recently discovered and released from the Institute's archives.

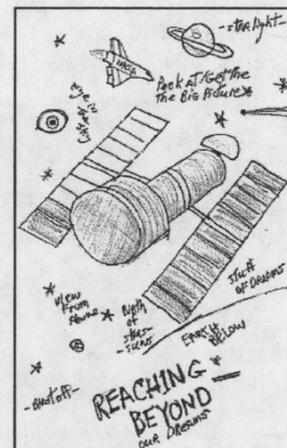
Songs from *Reaching Beyond*:
3-2-1 Blast Off
Hanging Over Us
Reaching Beyond (title tune)
The Big Picture
Above The Distortion
Dreams, Stars, and Electrons
The Birth of Sons

The chorus to *Reaching Beyond*

*Stretching out to touch Heaven
Beyond our grasp, our comfort Zone
Bringing visions beyond our Garden
Beyond ourselves, reaching the
Unknown
Reaching Beyond our Dreams
Our Dreams
Reaching with Light Beams*

Hubble website: <http://hubble.nasa.gov/index.php>
Full briefing on the Order of the Solar Temple:
<http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu/nrms/solartemp.html>

"Talking about music is like dancing about architecture."
Steve Martin, 1945, Comedian, Actor, Juggler, Banjo player and wild and crazy guy.



**The Pentagon Has Gone Buggy
(DARPA BUGGED MOTHS)**
By Richard "Mickey Maus" Gregg

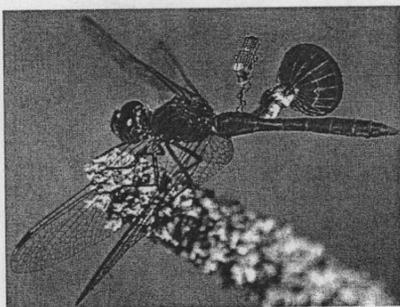
In an odd sense, with the slight success of the radio-controlled wasps, DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) has decided to place remote control devices and sensors in the pupa stage of some insects, such as dragon flies and moths. It is a unique plan to use them as little spies as well as bomb detectors. They suggest implanting specific micro-systems — Mems — which, when the insect is fully developed, could allow it to be remotely controlled or sense certain chemicals, including those in explosives.

DARPA was founded in 1958. Its function is to keep US military technology ahead of its rivals. Their website says the agency employs around 240 personnel and has a \$3.2 billion budget. Some supporters believe that it's working, while others wonder about their unusable "Blue-Sky" projects.

In their first attempt, DARPA tried something similar with a group of wasps. The scheme was to manipulate the wasps to detect the smell of explosives, which had minor success initially, but failed when the bugs flew off to feed and mate. Their new idea is to install the devices inside the chrysalis and allow Mother Nature to assist. The invasive surgery could create an assembly-line of hybrid insect-Mems interfaces.

"Through each metamorphic stage, the insect body goes through a renewal process that can heal wounds and reposition internal organs around foreign objects," the proposal reads.

To win the bid, the cyborg-insect would have to be within five meters of a specific target located 100 meters away. It must also be able to transmit data from relevant sensors, yielding information about the local environment. These sensors can include gas sensors, microphones, video, and more.



Fact or fiction, we are not sure on this end. Some leading scientists believe it could be done, while others consider it in the realms of science fiction. Either way, what is next on their mind: strapping cats with bombs and dropping them from airplanes? Or training dolphins to remove Scuba gear from underwater terrorists? (Both are rumored cases.) On the plus side, Perfect Tommy swears he has a gold fish that can burp the alphabet.

"We experience ourselves, our thoughts and feelings as something separate from the rest. A kind of optical delusion of consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us."
Albert Einstein, 1879 – 1955, Physicist and Great Thinker

Home for the Holidays with Hanoi Xan
By Steve "Rainbow Kitty" Mattsson
stmattsson@aol.com

Before *Stealth*, W.D. Richter's most recent screen credit is as the writer for the 1995 dysfunctional family comedy *Home for the Holidays*. This is the second movie directed by Jodie Foster and features an all-star cast including Holly Hunter, Robert Downey Jr., Anne Bancroft and Claire Danes. The film is a weird mix of the natural humor that occurs when extended families are forced together along with contrived slapstick.

Anybody who has shared a holiday meal with their extended family should find something to enjoy in this movie, but it has nothing of specific interest to Buckaroo Banzai fans — except that the videotape version of the movie that I screened has a titanicly obscure, but very revealing, Hanoi Xan connection.

The commercial videotape of *Home for the Holidays* features a trailer for the 1995 movie *Carrington* starring Emma Thompson and Jonathan Pryce. *Carrington* is the story of painter Dora Carrington and her impractical love for author Lytton Strachey, set in WWI era England. Lytton Strachey was mentioned in a 1999 Buckaroo Banzai TV series update by W. D. Richter: "...the Institute is seriously considering making available to scholars on a limited basis, a NEVER PUBLISHED THREE-VOLUME HISTORY OF HENRY SHANNON by the famed British biographer Lytton Strachey, c. 1930. Believed to have been originally planned for inclusion in Strachey's highly acclaimed Lives of Eminent Victorians, the manuscript apparently had its genesis years before, when Strachey still accepted Shannon at face value as the hugely successful munitions baron and patron of the arts he pretended to be ... and not, as Strachey later realized, the 600-year-old master criminal Hanoi Xan, whose origins could be traced to the steppes of Mongolia and the time of Kublai Khan."

(SPOILER!)

Shortly after we see an ancient Xan bathing in a (rejuvenating?) pool of blood in the Moonstone comic book *Buckaroo Banzai: Return of the Screw #1*, we meet "Henry Shannon". Shannon is a hip, young Asian dude claiming to be Hanoi Xan's personal secretary. He also shares Xan's hairline and mustache. Hanoi—Henry and Xan, pronounced "Shan"—Shannon. It's all so obvious if you watched the *Home for the Holidays* video tape, isn't it?

"We are cups, constantly and quietly being filled. The trick is, knowing how to tip ourselves over and let the beautiful stuff out."
— Ray Bradbury, 1920-Present, Author and Futurist

"Normally, we do not so much look at things as overlook them."
— Alan Watts, 1915-1973, Philosopher, writer, interpreter of Zen Buddhism and member of the One-Hand-Clapping Choir

BBI BOLT– Banzai OnLine Training

No experience in writing or role playing is necessary to participate and enjoy these events. What is needed is a desire to use your imagination in cooperation with others and the ability and willingness to get online and to respond "in-character" once every day or two. The mechanics of the actual game are taken care of in the background by the Game Host. Help is offered to you in creating your character and understand what little you need to know to enjoy being part of the online training as a strike team member.

Summary of the last Mission: The Hunt for the Chupacabra

Objective: Investigate the sightings of a pack of "Chupacabra" (Spanish for Goat Sucker) in the general vicinity of Candelaria in Presidio County Texas.

Excerpts from the Mission:

Crash in the Road

Micky sees the van and says, "Darn blowout...hang onto something and Jet." Gray Fox looks confused for a moment...

Micky turns the wheel very quickly and slams on the brakes in an attempt to block both sides of the road by using the truck and trailer. He says, "If this works, let's do the good cop bad cop thing with the youngsters." Holding on, Gray Fox shouts, "Just don't roll us!"

Crossing The Boarder into Mexico

Once across Gray Fox jokes in an exaggerated Mexican accent, "Say mister, want to buy a genuine Rolex watch for cheap?"

"How cheap amigo?" Micky replies in his own exaggerated accent.

A bit later...

Exploring the Mexican Side of Things

Just as Micky is walking up, the dog (Jet) tips his head and turns to the north. A few moments pass before the humans hear a vehicle approaching. "Company, let's get in the truck," Micky suggests, "and see who's out here." As they climb into the truck, a black Humvee with tinted windows rolls toward them... With weapons down and aimed at the truck, one yells out, "Consiga aquí rápido!" Gray Fox translates, "They want us over there now. They aren't asking either."

A bit later in this encounter:

The bullets are whizzing just past Gray Fox and striking the ground very near him. Gray Fox has emptied the clip in his pistol and when he reaches the open passenger door of the truck... Meanwhile, Micky reloads the cartridge in the taser as he sprints towards the hummer and jumps in. He puts the vehicle into gear and steps on the gas.... More weapons fire...



The Next BBI BOLT Mission: Curse of the Aztecs

Summary: Mexican archeologists made the most significant Aztec find in decades, unearthing a 15th century altar and a huge stone slab at a ruined temple in the heart of Mexico City. The altar has a frieze of the rain god Tlaloc and an agricultural deity and speculation was that it might be part of an entrance to an underground chamber. Once the monolith was unearthed it was opened by a work crew, who fell ill from the foul vapors that were ejected from the tomb. Two were dead within an hour and several more were hospitalized. News spread quickly when the crew refused to continue moving the stone, saying it was a curse besetting them from the Gods.

The Mission is to find out what caused the deaths and illnesses and to help the archeological team investigate the ancient ruins.

If you would like to be part of this team contact the host at: BluBlazDragon@aol.com

X-Racers Single Pilot Jet Planes

NASA's Centennial Challenges program, aimed at encouraging the development of technologies for future space exploration, takes place in New Mexico each October. The three day weekend features amateur rocket launches, jet flyovers, exhibits and competitions including The Lunar Lander Challenge and the Space Elevator Games. The 2007 event will premier The Rocket Racing League, rocket-powered airplane races. "It's going to be the fastest spectator sport out there," claims one of the team's sponsors and developers, "Think; Nascar with jet engine and wings!"



Team Banzai is working on their own entry not only for the challenge but also for the possible strategic applications of a small, fast, jet-propelled, flying machine.

"We equipped the Jet Car with jets some time ago," says Hong Kong Cavalier Red River Dan, "and we've got a surveillance plane watching over the West Institute. When we got wind of this

whole X-Racer challenge we all got together, had a couple of brainstorming sessions on the topic and decided to see what we could come up with." Another member of Team Banzai, who wished to remain anonymous said, "The applications are just being developed. I can see Strike Team supply drops being but one possibility. Sometimes out in the field, a deep dish pizza and some cold brews are as much appreciated as a good weapon and trusted comrades."

Read more about these events at:

http://exploration.nasa.gov/centennialchallenge/cc_index.html

"After about 30 minutes I puked all over my airplane. I said to my self, 'Man, you made a big mistake.'"

— Charles 'Chuck' Yeager, regards his first flight, 1923 – Present, Decorated test pilot, first to fly faster than sound and a man with The Right Stuff.

Acknowledgments, Notes and Leftovers from the Refrigerator



I want to thank Rick and Mac for their willingness to participate in this project, for their continued support, for putting up with my inquiries and their good natured replies. When I asked for help editing this issue I got an overwhelming response

and I greatly appreciate the Assistant Editors for their time and efforts in polishing up this issue of the WW1 Underground Edition. I am giving an extra "shout out" to BBI the Ice Queen for her editing above and beyond and an apology for not being able to format a lower case "the" in the cover of this newsletter because of the font choice. BBI Big Shoulders will be working on the Chicago Edition of the newsletter next. I offer him best wishes on his project and ask that you all be as supportive and helpful as you have been with the Underground Edition.

Photo above: North Shore of O'ahu Hawaii, Banzai Pipeline. Irregular Travels with BBI Dragon in the next WWW Underground Edition.

Contributions to the next issue welcome - Essays, articles, adventures, artwork... contact the editor, BBI Dragon at: BluBlazDragon@aol.com

The World Watch One Underground Edition continues online at: www.geocities.com/bbidragon/worldwatchone/index.html

"Music can change the world because it can change people."
Bono, Lead singer of U2 and Humanitarian

BBI Indigo "By the Numbers" inspired from BBI ArcLight's website.
Number of:

- Year with Team Banzai - 16.
- Laserdiscs/DVDs owned - 1250
- Compact Discs owned - 135, most converted now to legal mp3s.
- Comic Books - Easily 100,000
- Books owned - Easily 5,000 at last count
- Been read our rights - Never
- Shot at [not related to Team Banzai activity] - Not in my awareness.
- Places lived [more than a vacation] - NY, LA, VA, GA
- Knives carried - Outside the kitchen, I tend to carry at least two throwing knives and four shuriken.
- Ghosts saw - Five.
- Copies owned of "TABB" - Book: 3. Comics: All series to date. Movie: 3 and I perpetually have one copy roaming the world like a gnome on constant loan.
- Ratio of white socks to black socks - No socks at all.
- Pairs of shoes in good condition - One pair dress, one pair riding boots, one pair style boots, one pair sneakers. Though I expect this to change abruptly now.

BBI Rainbow Kitty has done a recent interview about his previous life in the comic book industry. It can be found at Jazma Online <http://www.jazmaonline.com/interviews/interviews2.asp?intID=390>

Against the Day, the new novel by Thomas Pynchon, the creator of Yoyodyne and Eddie Enrico & his Hong Kong Hotshots, is now available. Order it through Amazon, but be sure to use ArcLight's link <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/worldwatchonline>

Bonus Item Notes:

In the eleventh hour as BBI Abacus and I were doing the final pass at editing this newsletter, we came to a realization, this was a very large issue. This fact meant higher than expected printing and mailing costs for the project. The bonus item we'd planned to have made, lapel pins with the new and improved Jet Car Team Banzai logo (below and watermark on the cover) was going to double the basic cost to each newsletter. So, we decided that we'd have the pins made and put them in the next issue, one that would be smaller and less costly for printing and shipping. In the mean time, we've pulled up the bonus item folders from the past and quickly, and I might add, fairly inexpensively, added the *Buckaroo Buck* to each issue for the fan's amusement.

PRICELESS PROMOTION FROM "BUCKAROO BANZAI"

The following is a quote from the 20th Century Fox Marketing Kit sent out to theaters for the docudrama *The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai Across the 8th Dimension*.

To get top value from "THE ADVENTURES OF BUCKAROO BANZAI - Across the 8th Dimension," print and distribute BUCKAROO BUCKS. What is a BUCKAROO BUCK? It's a discount coupon - illustrated on the next page - which moviegoers present for valuable savings when they visit tie-in merchants in your area. A clothing store might offer discounts on tagged items - "military fashions," for example, similar to BUCKAROO and the members of TEAM BANZAI. Fast-food franchises could redeem BUCKAROO BUCKS for reduced prices on everything from BUCKAROO Burgers to fried chicken. ("Use a BUCKAROO BUCK to get a buck off on every bucket.") The same approach applies to virtually any retailer with the good sense to cash in on a strong movie promotion. For added value, involve a local radio station and its advertisers - all of whom should welcome BUCKAROO BUCKS as a great way to ring up new customers. Meanwhile, remind your audience that the BUCKAROO BUCKS start at your theatre - where moviegoers should go to obtain them.

Ironically, there wasn't a "strong movie promotion" and no one saw a single BUCKAROO BUCK until this issue of the World Watch One Underground Edition. Your editor does wonder about the future though... Buckaroo Burgers with sekrit sauce, a side of Freedom Fries and a frosty cowboy draft style sarsaparilla to wash them down with!

The Editor is very much looking forward to *OF HUNAN BONDAGE*.

