

## Failure to Launch

Well, we **thought** we were going to get four issues of *Wing Words* out this year. Unfortunately, we failed to reckon with Marcon's move from Memorial Day to Easter. Normally, the nominating ballot comes out right around Memorial Day, you see, and we get a *Wing Words* out for the occasion. But Easter is a lot earlier than Memorial Day and the planned issue never materialized.

So here we are coming up on Worldcon with the Final Ballot *so* close to being finalized and finally putting together a third issue. We'll keep working on the schedule and see what we can do next year.

## The Final Countdown

That Final Ballot that we just mentioned will soon be available at:

<http://www.ovff.org/pegasus>

As always, you'll find the lyrics and a sample for each of the nominated songs, along with selected samples of the works of each of our nominees for Best Performer and Best Writer/Composer. If there's a song or a person that you're not yet familiar with – and filking is certainly both worldwide and regional enough that it's entirely likely that you **aren't** familiar with everyone and everything on the ballot – there's no better way to find out about it, him, or her.

And remember, if you're going to be at OVFF, you can wait until you've heard the Pegasus Nominees Concert on Friday night before casting your ballot. If you're not going to be at the con or just like early voting, you can cast your ballot on-line up until midnight, Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> or mail it to arrive by that date.

Vote early or late, but if you're a member of the filk community, remember to vote. It's your license to complain about the results...



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## And Now For Something Completely Different

We've had a chance to see the Final Ballot and **that's** given us the chance to do a little bit of statistical analysis which we thought was interesting, so we thought we'd pass it along.

In any given year, there are 30 nominated songs and people across the six categories. Two of those are floating categories and although a song will occasionally drift between floating categories in consecutive years on the ballot, that usually doesn't happen. So that leaves 20 nominated songs and people from the preceding year who might be nominated again in the following year.

Of course, four of them won (excluding the floating categories), so that takes us down to 16 possible repeat nominees.

Four of last year's nominees are ineligible to be renominated in their category due to the "2 on, 1 off" rule. That takes us down to 12 possible repeat nominees.

As it happens, the Final Ballot has **eight** repeat nominees from last year out of the 12 possible, although two drifted across categories. You thought we were kidding about that signaling effect, didn't you?

## The Final Ballot

Your reward for turning the page is seeing this list of what and who is on the Final Ballot.

### Best Filk Song

*Cheshire Kitten*, S.J. Tucker  
*My Story Is Not Done*, Seanan McGuire  
*One Small Boat*, Marilisa Valtazanou  
*Paper Worlds*, Talis Kimberley  
*Somebody Will*, Ada Palmer

### Best Classic Filk Song

*Chess*, Juanita Coulson  
*Gone Filkin'*, Tom Jeffers  
*Little Fuzzy Animals*, Frank Hayes  
*Spiral Dance*, Anne Prather  
*Tiberius Rising*, Rand Bellavia & Adam English

### Best Performer

Jeff & Maya Bohnhoff  
Play It With Moxie  
Sassafrass  
Betsy Tinney  
Wild Mercy

### Best Writer/Composer

Juanita Coulson  
Dr. Mary Crowell  
W. Randy Hoffman  
Ben Newman  
Eva Van Daele-Hunt

### Best Gaming Song

*Die Puppen*, Eva Van Daele-Hunt  
*Divine Irregularity*, Tom Smith  
*I Put My Low Stat*, Dr. Mary Crowell  
*Playing D&D*, S.J. Tucker  
*Secrets (The Rogue's Song)*, Scott Snyder

### Best Travel Song

*Droozlin' Through the Cosmos*, Ariel Cini  
*Fellowship Going South*, Leslie Fish  
*Green Mars*, Tom Jeffers  
*No Hurry*, Michelle Dockrey  
*Windward Passage*, Michael Longcor

## Ask Peggy

A. Filker in Wapakoneta, Ohio asks: "How are the concert performers for the Pegasus Nominees concert picked?"

The simple form of the answer is that they volunteer. The longer form of the answer is in Erica's article in the first issue of *Wing Words* that is still available on the Pegasus website.

So drop an e-mail to [drneely@earthlink.net](mailto:drneely@earthlink.net) if you're interested. If there's a nominated song that you perform well and its composer isn't likely to be at OVFF, let us know. If you're able and willing to learn songs that you don't already know for the concert, that's **also** very useful, so please be sure to mention it.

## The Eagle Has Landed

As we were going to press, we were saddened to learn that Neil Armstrong, the first man to set foot on the Moon, had passed away.

There are entirely too few living men who have walked on the Moon and now there is one less.

It would be good if we could get that number to start going up again.

And sooner would be better than later.

## The Party's Over

And that's it for this edition of *Wing Words*.

If you've got a comment on anything in this issue or a question about the Pegasus Awards, you can send us e-mail at:

[WingWords@ovff.org](mailto:WingWords@ovff.org)

If we know the answer, we'll let you know.

We'll try not to make something up if we don't know the answer.