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EDM: NITES & FITES

First day - first ConFact. That's good. Nobody in Germany will believe
 it. The convention is too big. As the EuroCon in Barcelona this conven-
 tion stops the visitors at the entry. No more daily visitors than 100.
 OPS talks to the management about more rooms. We're hoping the best.

Martin Schneider, Germany:

So, that was the amazing message: no more daily visitors due to the
 amount of people - whow. I'm interested in the numbers.
 With the correct planning one could be early enough to join the queue.
 That leads to a lot of gaps to sit down and relax - I've never had
 such a relaxed con yet...
 A minor jokish thing: the popup window during watching an "ancient"
 b&w movie saying "Update is ready for install", fully colored.

Paul van Oven, The Netherlands:

Very nice convention I even attended a panel and met lots of old and
 new friends.

Silke Luehr-Jacobsen, Germany:

This morning, I have been in an interesting workshop called: "Effects
 of chemical and biological Agents". I say "Thank you" to Paul
 Hulkovich and Tricia Tyan! I learnd a lot of English vocabulary,
 chemistry, and biology.

Colin Hinz (Toronto, Canada):

I feel like I am doing this on the easy setting. At the 2008, 2009,
 2014, and 2015 Worldcons, I produced (either by myself or in
 collaboration) a series of one-shots using typewriters and Gestetner
 duplicators. This is replicating the text-entry experience, but
 without any of the trouble with corrupted ink, poorly-cut stencils,
 or wrinkles in the silkscreen. No characteristic smell of corflu,
 either, alas. And it's probably been about three decades since anyone
 has watched a laser printer in wonder, unlike the ancient ink-bearing
 technology which always draws a crowd.

Dave Romm:

Wow, I can smell the ditto fluid already. Aaah. Fanzine fandom is one of the time binding elements of science fiction fandom. One shots are a lesser and ephemeral art form, perhaps. Worldcons are a place to strut your faaaanish stuff. Wheeeee!

Take THAT, social media.

Timo Zenker, Germany:

Now it's the third day at worldcon. We tried to come into the military SF panel as latecomer, but it's overcrowded as all interesting things. Yesterday I was at the "Clipping" concert. It was amazing. The inter-spoke as quick as I can't think of to speak at the same speed. The people where all dancing in front of the stage and got an add. The Chinese and the Dublin Party yesterday evening run out on food and drinks because of the overrun by visitors. See you on Con elsewhere, Timo.

Ralf Belling, Germany:

Second Day of the Worldcon is in the Books, Day Three is rolling. Once again, I'm amazed, who kind Fans are treating each other. Everybody goes out of his/her Way to make room for others, no on is hopping the Queues. Yesterday I attended very funny Panels by GoH Walter Jon Williams. He told the story of his Grandfather emigrating to the USA to find a sort of Utopia - to end up in Northern Minnesota, where the Weather was not really an Improvement to Finland :). Later, there was an equally funny reading by Lawrence M. Schoen (who might or might not have kissed Charles Stross on the Mouth) and Scott Lynch. Scott read from a Story, that will appear later this year in Gardner Dozois' Book of Swords Anthology so the Attendees of this Panel know more then other readers :)

Today, another big hall was added to alliviate the Situation of too many interested Fans not getting to all the Panels they were interested in. The Organizers are not be complimented for there efforts.

Dieter Schmidt, Germany:

Third day of the convention, almost half has passed. Still fun and an interesting variety of programme items and events resp. exhibitions.

One sad remark though - even if there is a trade hall with a number of buying options, I probably will spend almost no money there this year. At my last Worldcon (London 2014) I spent quite some time in the trade hall, strolling around, skimming the book tables - and leaving more money there than would have been wise or than I had planned. But the offers were simply often irresistible.

In Helsinki, this is not the case. There are bookshops present of course. But unfortunately way less than in London. I also do concede that London being situated in Great Britain naturally as more local english book publishers, shops and sellers than Finnish and Swedish speaking Finland. And their transport distance and costs consequently were much less than any shipment forth to and back from Helsinki.

So it definitely is not the fault of the Helsinki convention organisers. Nonetheless - I would have preferred to discover a much broader selection and opportunity to exceed my return baggage weight limit. This will probably not happen this time.

All the more opportunity to visit programme items and idle talking to other fans. I am curious whether I manage to get access to the HUGO Award Ceremony this evening - without waiting for more than one hour in the entrance queue before ...