



# P.S.F.S. News

The Newsletter of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society

August 1991

## Forrest J. Ackerman

### Announcements

The August Meeting program will be Forrest J. Ackerman. Cliff Bell and Karen Carter-Roth were married in July. Randi Millstein and Craig Thorpe are getting married in August.

There are three meetings remaining in the current membership determination period. If you wish to vote in the January elections, you will need to be an Active Member, which requires that you attend five meetings this year. The number of meetings you have attended to date is on your mailing label. As always, if you don't sign in, *you weren't present*.

Copies of the 1991 P.S.F.S. Membership Directory will be available at the August General Meeting for those of you who have not already gotten your copy.

Addendum to the 1991 P.S.F.S. Membership Directory - Please add the following address to the listing for Mark and Margaret E. Trebing: 3379 Rt. 46 East #18K, Parsippany NJ 07054

Robin's Bookstore has agreed to give all members of the Society a 15% discount on all regularly-priced merchandise through December of 1991. Bring in a copy of this newsletter, and show them this announcement, to receive your discount. Robin's Bookstores are located at 1837 Chestnut St., and at 108 South 13th St.

Bob's Bookstore has agreed to give all members of the Society a 15% discount on all regularly-priced merchandise through December of 1991. Bring in a copy of this newsletter, and show them this announcement, to receive your discount. Bob's Bookstore is located on 13th St. just South of Walnut.

### Board of Directors

President, Janis Fontecchio.....(215) 342-1672  
Vice-Pres., Oz Fontecchio.....(215) 342-1672  
Secretary, Carol Kabakjian.....(215) 623-1139  
Treasurer, Todd Dashoff.....(215) 676-4194  
2 Yr. Director, Anne Norton.....(609) 764-8294  
2 Yr. Director, Donna M. Smith.....(215) 335-1216  
1 Yr. Director, Peter V. Radatti.....(215) 828-4566

### Membership Status

New Members: none.

Nominees: Keith Johnson

New Active Members: Susan James, Robert Torpey

Members at July Meeting: 52

### P.S.F.S. Birthdays

If you don't see your name here and you would like to, please send your name and birth date (year not necessary) to: P.S.F.S. Birthday List, Philadelphia S.F. Society, P. O. Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

Aug 4 Hal Lynch  
Aug 8 Joann Lawler  
Aug 12 Carol Kabakjian  
Aug 13 Mark Levin  
Aug 14 Rosanne Wolkoff  
Aug 15 Janis Fontecchio  
Aug 20 Walt Rittenhouse  
Aug 26 Anne Norton

Aug 26 Kathy O. Sullivan  
Aug 27 Darrell Schweitzer  
Sep 7 Sara Paul  
Sep 9 Kirsten Houseknecht  
Sep 11 Margaret E. Trebing  
Sep 14 Bob Schwier  
Sep 15 Paul Lloyd  
Sep 28 Winona Whyte



# Minutes

## July General Meeting

Minutes of the general meeting, held on July 19, 1991, 8:00 p.m., in the South America room at International House, 37th & Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, PA.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

## Corrections to the Minutes

Janis moved, Pete second to approve newsletter and minutes as printed. Passed. Donna moved, Joni second, to reopen the corrections to the minutes. Passed. The meeting was reopened at 10:30 and Adjourned at 11:30. Henry L. moved, Todd second, to approved newsletter and minutes as corrected. Passed.

## Officers' Reports

President: Janis has information on possibly cheap air fare to Chicago. (Actually anywhere U.S. Air flies.) If two people fly, the first ticket is full price, the second is half price. See Janis for special coupons.

Vice-President: No report. Terry Greybill has entered the room. She is the head of tonight's programming.

Terry wanted all seven participants of tonight's program to be listed. She also wanted to thank Baen Books for the board game, to Todd Dashoff for photocopying, and Jeffrey Kasten for lending us the one and only copy of "Over the Long Haul" by Martha Soukup.

Secretary: If you do not sign in, it doesn't count toward your current status.

Treasurer: As of 7-19-91:

Vanguard.....	70,405.24
First Pennsylvania Checking.....	2,340.27
First Pennsylvania Savings.....	680.28
Meridian Checking.....	1,347.30
Total.....	74,773.09

Todd has the quarterly report from Vanguard if anyone is interested.

Two Year Director, Anne Norton: Not here.

Two Year Director, Donna Smith: No report.

One Year Director, Pete Radatti: No report.

## Committee Reports

Book and Movie Discussions: *See "Upcoming Events" for current list of events.*

Special Events: *See "Upcoming Events" for current list of events.*

No Fund: Thanks to Carol Adams for the magazines. John Prenis also thanks Jeffrey Kasten for his donations.

Publicity: If anyone has any suggestions please let Pete know. If anyone has the address for the Courier Post please let Pete or Janis know.

Philcon '91: The Portuguese convention has folded. Because of this and the resulting conversations with Moebius's partner, we will not be paying one half of the plane fare, but one third to one quarter of it. Two or three comic dealers will share the rest of the cost in return for personal appearances by Moebius. The

direct flight reduces the cost from \$2000 to \$600. David Brin will be flying in from California.

## Proxies

Larry Gelfand to Todd Dashoff

## Old Business

None.

## New Business

Gary moved, John Syms second, that the Society authorize the Board of Directors to enter into a contract for Philcon 1993. Gary said if we don't sign a contract for future years, given the demand for space, we will not be able to hold Philcon at all. There are other groups waiting to sign contracts behind us, you now have to reserve space several years out, which we have been doing for several years. If we waited till 1992 we would find nothing open to us for 1993. Henry Lazarus asked if we should negotiate for years beyond 1993. Gary said 1993 was as far as they (the hotels) were willing to give him prices. We will hold tentatives past 1993 which will not obligate us in any way.

Seeing no further discussion Janis called for a vote. Vote (with proxies) 30 - 1 in favor of having the Board sign the contract for Philcon 1993.

## Adjournment

The meeting recessed at 8:23 reconvened at 9:00 and adjourned approximately 10:30.

## Upcoming Events

*(I've only listed the events that have not passed by the post mark date. -- CK)*

Movie Excursion: Terminator 2. Wednesday, August 7.

Annual Picnic: Saturday, August 24, 10am. The Core Creek County Park. Langhorne, PA.

Annual Banquet: Possible date will be October 26, 1991. Cost will be \$23.50 per person.

### Film Discussions:

September - "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy". Saturday, September 14, 2pm, at Oz & Janis Fontecchio, 652 Van Kirk St., Philadelphia, (215) 342-1672.

### Book Discussions:

August - The annual outdoor frisbee toss, kite flying & book discussion, "Last and First Men" by Olaf Stapleton. Saturday, August 10, 2pm, at the usual place.

September - "The Time Machine" by H. G. Wells. Date, place, and time T.B.A.

## 10th Annual Hugo Panel

Terry S.S. Greybill, moderator; Donna Smith, Laura Syms, Pete Radatti, & Henry Lazarus, panelists; Todd Dashoff & Gary Feldbaum, alternates; Joni Dashoff, scorekeeper.

# Minutes

## July Philcon Meeting

Minutes of the Philcon '91 meeting, held on Sunday July 21, 1991, 2:00 p.m., at John & Laura Syms' home.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. Present: Oz & Janis, Rich & Carol, Todd & Joni, Barb, Donna, Laura, Tim, Dave A., Michele, Beth, Vicki, Gary, Tony, Ira, Dave St. G., Hank, Mark & Margaret T.

Corrections to the June Philcon Meeting's minutes: none.

**Chairman:** We originally agreed to pay 1/2 of the air fare for Moebius, the other half to be paid by a Portuguese convention. That convention has folded. We have made a new deal with Moebius's partner and, along with two or three comics dealers, will be paying 1/3 to 1/4 of the price. The change in flight plans reduces the cost from \$2000 to \$600. David Brin will be flying in from California. Oz will get other guests after sorting out the details for our two main guests. (Note: André Norton will not be at Philcon.)

Oz asked if anyone objected to having the main mailing at next month's meeting which will be held on Sunday, August 11, at 1 p.m., at Todd and Joni Dashoff's. This will allow Oz to get confirmation from the other guests.

**Vice-Chair:** It will be much cheaper to fly Moebius into and out of New York since we don't have to pay from Portugal.

We have the offer of a special plane fare for fans with U.S. Air. U.S. Air needs a minimum of 10 people to ask for the special. (Note: they do not have to fly as a group.) Fans will have to call an 800 number to get the special.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Treasurer:** We have money. We have a fair amount of pre-reg. We have one bounced pre-reg. Anyone who needs an advance or reimbursement see Todd. Todd will take Den memberships (\$12 per membership). Todd requested a budget increase of \$2060 for insurance. This will include coverage for babysitting. (See Todd for details of policy.) The committee voted unanimously to increase the budget.

## Department Reports

**Art Show:** Art Show mailing has gone out. Panels will be limited to three per person (exceptions to be approved by Joni or Yoel).

Joni has an offer to go in with other conventions to buy new art show hanging supplies so the conventions can get a "large quantity" discount. The new posts will be metal pipes. They are sturdier and last longer than the wood posts. We will be able to keep the pegboard longer than with the current system. Joni spoke of buying enough for one section of the Art Show. We will have an initial cost output, but since the new posts will last longer we will not have the cost recurring as often. There is a possibility of other conventions (possibly world cons) renting our equipment. Laura asked if we will have only one

fourth of the art show done with the new posts for who knows how long or will we be able to get more later so we can finish the rest of the switch from wood to metal? The posts are pretty much standard in size and we should be able to purchase more posts later at a reasonable cost. Tony said his company handles things like this which may be usable for our art show and that he may be able to get the posts at wholesale (no guarantees though).

**Art Show Reception:** Joni would like control over the Reception food budget of \$2100. Joni said the Reception is only open to artists, editors, agents, gallery representatives, and Philcon committee members. Todd moved, Carol K. second, to reopen the subject of the Art Show Reception invitation list and budget. Passed. Todd thought that too many people got into the Reception last year. He said that if the Reception is open to everyone it will have to be publicized in the program. If we don't publicize there will be many people who will be upset that we didn't let them know. It was also pointed out that Registration will not want to handle any kind of check list if we only want to invite certain PSfens. Todd thought that there are too many people in our Society who don't do anything for Philcon except attend it. He agreed that only people who work on the conference should be invited. Joni reminded the committee that the Reception was to be used as a time for artists to get together with gallery reps, editors, and agents. Letting committee members in is a perk for those who have to run the con and have to attend the meetings every month. Barb, speaking as an artist, reiterated what Joni said. During the Reception artists get to speak with agents without being interrupted by overenthusiastic Joe Phan. Laura pointed out that the people who are not doing anything for the con should not get special treatment.

The committee voted unanimously in favor of having P.S.F.S. members invited to the Reception only if they work for the conference. You can work for the conference in any capacity (gopher, staff, committee).

**Babysitting:** Not here.

**Con Suite:** Con Suite will close at 3 a.m. to get the fen used to an earlier closing.

**Dealers Room:** We have 46+ dealers who have applied. We will need everything we needed last year (trash setups, water, tables).

**Den:** She will still have box lunches for Art Show setup. Please contact Chris if you need her to provide lunch on Friday.

**Exhibitions:** Not here.

**Flyer:** None.

**Game Room:** Not here.

**Green Room:** "We're all green." Green Room will accept goodies that are donated by anyone. Carol asked if Barb would be willing to pass out the badges and ribbons for committee again this year.

**Hotel Liaison:** Donna said if you have any setup requirements you will have to give them to her in writing even if it's the same as last year. Todd asked which department Treasury would be sharing with.

All departments involved with Programming will have to coordinate their needs with Hotel Liaison.

**Logistics/Quartermaster:** Give Hank a written list of the items you will need to store in Logistics. If Hank doesn't have a written list of the items you want stored in Logistics he and his staff will NOT be responsible for them.

The only people who should be allowed to store their coats in Logistics are Committee or the people authorized by a committee level person. Philcon takes no responsibility for coats or luggage left in Logistics. It was pointed out to Hank that Logistics is supposed to assemble as well as transport all equipment needed at the hotel.

We need someone to fill the post of A.V. Coordinator.

Is the cloak room upstairs one that the hotel will charge for? Yes. If you hang your coat in Logistics you will have to tag it.

We will probably need a budget increase for truck rental. Hank will check and let us know (probably) next month.

**Masquerade:** Three co-heads. We will have a new half-time program (historical costumes). We will be more strict with hall costumes. We will have a new arrangement for the photo session.

**Movies/Video:** Tony verified the combination of the budget for both departments. Tony said nothing should be taken from Logistics unless signed out by someone authorized by Tony. If you have any requests for Video, please get in touch with Tony as soon as possible. Tony said his departments will probably shut down between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. Hank asked if Tony will want a large T.V. Tony said he hasn't decided. Laura asked if Tony will want to separate the two departments. Tony said he probably keep it all in one room. Carol asked if there would be a possibility for having a masquerade video overflow. Tony said there are a number of people who aren't into such things as the masquerade and would rather see a movie. Rich said that if Movies/Video used just one room there would be an empty room to use as the masquerade overflow. Tony will talk to Beth to see if an overflow would be feasible.

**Operations:** "Hi!" Laura said there will NOT be a goodies table in Ops this year. There will not be a coffee setup in Ops either. If any department needs office supplies speak to Laura as soon as possible. Carol asked if Ops will need another log book. Laura said she probably would.

**Post Office:** Not here.

**Program Book:** Dave S. said it became obvious that he would not have much guidance so he is going under the assumption that this year's book will be about the same size as last year's book. He doesn't have any estimate of prices or deadlines. He said that he doesn't have a list of the people he will have to talk to. He knows that Darrell is doing editorial and has some of the material, Lew Wolkoff is doing advertising, and Oz will write the Chair's Message. Carol said she would coordinate the guest list. Joni said to talk to her

for the Art Show rules. Rich has some art from Moebius for the Program Book and Joni can get more from other artists. Dave asked if the Program Book should have a section for policy changes. Oz said he didn't think so. Dave wanted to know his budget. Todd told Dave to call him. Dave asked how many copies of the Program Book he should get price quotes for. Oz said 2000. Carol pointed out that if we have an attendance like last year we will need more than 2000. At least one of the departments send out program books to people after the con. We should have 2500 copies of each handout. Should we have a restaurant guide? Undecided. If we have a guide someone other than Dave will have to do it.

**Programming Ops:** We need to replace the easels or get them back from the hotel. Oz asked for an appropriation of \$120 for new easels. Approved.

**Programming:** Not here. There will be several departments who will need a copy of the program before the conference.

**P.S.F.S. Sales Table:** Dave A. asked if anyone had anything they wanted him to sell at the P.S.F.S. Table. Gary said the conference can't sell private items because of our tax exempt status.

**Publicity:** Not here.

**Registration:** We have 130+ members at this time. We will have new colors for our ribbons this year. Carol or Rich will hand out committee badges and ribbons at the Friday morning meeting at Philcon. After the meeting you will have to go to Green Room to get your badge and ribbon, Artists have to see Joni or Yoel, Dealers have to see Ira, Gopher ribbons will be at the personnel table, and department heads needing staff ribbons will have to see Laura in Ops.

**Party:** Tim said we will have one. Hank asked if Tim will need to store anything in Logistics. Tim said yes.

**Signs:** Michele said to give her your sign requests as early as possible.

**Volunteers:** Not here.

### Old Business

None.

### New Business

**Budget Increases:** Joni would like to have Pizza or other food for those who will be helping to transport and put away the art show equipment on Sunday evening. She would like to have a budget for it. Dave moved, Todd second, to increase Art Show budget \$40. Passed.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, August 11, 1:00 p.m. at Todd & Joni Dashoff's, 830 Barlow St., Philadelphia. (215) 676-4194.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

# Board Meeting Minutes

## July Board Meeting

The Board Meeting scheduled for Sunday, July 21, at the Syms's. Meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. Present: Oz & Janis Fontecchio, Carol & Rich Kabakjian, Todd Dashoff, Donna Smith

## Officers' Reports

President's Report: No report.

Vice-President's Report: No report.

Secretary's Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

2 year Director-Anne: Not here.

2 year Director-Donna: "Hi!" No report.

1 year Director-Pete: Not here.

## Old Business

None.

## New Business:

We received a proposed bylaws amendment. Todd said that 15 times the current dues rate will not be enough, 20 times might. 15 times the couples rate definitely doesn't do it, because the couples rate is roughly 50% higher than the individual rate. If we keep the provision of the surviving spouses without refunding any of the original fee we will be making money. Rich said there's no guarantee that the couple will stay a couple during their lifetimes. The couples rate entitles the couple to one newsletter, if they split up they will then need two. Todd said the amendment also assumes that the interest rates stay the same and P.S.F.S. will never have to raise their dues. It was pointed out that if the couple splits up we could charge them the difference. Janis said the dues you pay are tax deductible and she didn't think we needed. Carol pointed out that the dues themselves don't belong in the bylaws, only the class of membership. A bylaws amendment like this one only covers a members dues. It doesn't do anything for their membership status. You would still have attend the meetings to maintain your status.

The Board members present voted unanimously to not accept the amendment as written and directed the secretary to send it back to the writers for a re-write.

Add to Section 5 and renumber:

"5b) Proposed that a category of dues be created to be called life-time membership. This membership will be 15 times the current annual dues rate. Paying such dues will fulfill the dues requirement for the member paying for that member's lifetime. The couples' rate will be 15 times the current annual couples' dues rate. Said membership to last for the surviving members' lifetime."

It was signed by Gene Olmsted, Sara Paul, and Lewis H. Wolkoff and dated July 19, 1991.

Next Meeting: *See Meeting Announcements*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

## Special Board Meeting

The special Board Meeting held on Wednesday, July 31, at the Fontecchio's. Meeting was called to order at 8:09 p.m. Members present: Oz & Janis Fontecchio, Carol & Rich Kabakjian, Todd Dashoff, Donna Smith, Pete Radatti, Anne Norton, Hank Smith, Gary Feldbaum

## Special Business: Philcon 1992 & 1993 Contracts:

Function Space Rental - We had 816 room nights last year.

Room nights:	> 824	> 742	> 659	> 577	> 494
1992	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$14,000
1993	\$6,360	\$8,480	\$10,600	\$12,720	\$14,900

If < 493 room nights, all charges will be reassessed.

Sandwich Bar - We guarantee \$450 for three hours of function. If they sell more than \$450 worth of food we get credit for the full amount.

Food Functions - for every \$5000 we get \$2000 off the hotel cost.

Special Cancellations - Blizzards (we get credit for rooms that have been reserved even though no one shows up), Fire in the hotel (if the hotel burns down they reserve the right to cancel)

Room Rates:	Single	Double	Triple	Quad
1992	\$98	\$105	\$112	\$120
1993	\$102	\$109	\$116	\$124

Keys for Secure Function Rooms - Two keys are provided for each securable room, ie. Exhibit Center, Ops, etc.

AV Equipment - We are permitted to bring our own equipment. The hotel wants a tentative list of the dealers attending the conference.

We do have an option to cancel out of the contract for 1993, but we will have to pay 35% of our room guarantee. The Board does not expect to have to cancel.

Oz - "I've looked at this situation pretty carefully over the last couple of days since Phrolicon and I haven't persuaded my reason that this is really a wise or advisable thing for the Society to be doing, but when the time comes for me to cast my ballot I'm going to vote in favor of the hotel contract, because when I started doing this a ways back I said that I'd told the Society that I would represent the interest of the Society and what they wanted and I've always tried to do that over the years. People have said that I don't vote for my own interests I try and do what I think is in the Society's interest. In this particular case I think the Society has directed me and the Board as a whole to approve this contract whatever our personal feelings about it are. I certainly hope that it works out for us in 1992, but part of being representative of other folks is that you think the collective wisdom of the group as a whole is greater or smarter than any one person. If you can figure out what the group as a whole wants and you're a representative then you should do what the group wants, because that's why they elected you."

The Board voted unanimously to sign the contract after the minor grammatical and technical problems were corrected.

Pete moved, Janis second, to adjourn. Passed at 9:29 p.m.



## Meeting Notices

Unless otherwise specified, General Meetings of the Society will be held on the second Friday of each month in the South America room at International House, 37th & Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, PA. Business meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Program starts at 9:00 p.m.

August General Meeting will be held Friday, August 9, 1991. The speaker will be Forrest J. Ackerman.

September General Meeting will be held Friday, September 13, 1991. The speakers will be Pamela Sargent and George Zebrowski.

Board of Directors: next meeting will be held on Monday, August 12, 8:00 p.m. at Todd & Joni Dashoff's, 830 Barlow St., Philadelphia, (215) 676-4194.

Philcon Committee: next meeting will be held on Sunday, August 11, 1:00 p.m. at Todd & Joni Dashoff's, 830 Barlow St., Philadelphia, (215) 676-4194. This will also be the main mailing.

## About the Society

The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society is a non-profit organization that meets monthly to discuss and promote science fiction and fantasy in literature, the arts and popular culture. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month, at the International House, 37th & Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia. Meetings consist of business proceedings, from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., followed by a guest speaker involved in some area of science fiction or fantasy, such as writers, editors, artists, publishers, etc...

In addition, P.S.F.S. sponsors an annual science fiction conference, Philcon, and has many special interest subgroups, such as the Book Discussion Group, which meets monthly to discuss a work of science fiction or fantasy, and the Special Events Group, which attends science fiction and fantasy movies and other events.

Membership in the Society is open to everyone. Becoming a member is easy: attend 1 meeting (we'll say, "Hello"). At your second meeting, you can nominate yourself for membership (or ask someone else to nominate you). At the next meeting you attend following your nomination, you're eligible to be voted in as a General Member. Our current dues are \$3.00/meeting, or \$15.00 for a full year's membership, and attendance at 5 meetings each year maintains the status of Active Member.



The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society  
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TRADE