

# ASFOAWN

Atlanta  
Science Fiction  
Organizations  
and  
Whatever  
Newsletter

MAY 1984

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# MAY

## News

OPEN CITY is a new freebie tabloid paper in Metro Atlanta, devoted to the arts. The first issue is out this month at many bookstores and other such places as might attract a person who knows an art when he sees it. This first issue has a good interview with Mike Bishop by Ginger Kaderabek. Ginger is a long-time Atlanta fan and she has some short story credits from ISSAAC ASIMOV'S. Mike Bishop should be well known for his science fiction novels and two Nebula awards, even if you never met him. I still think he is a nice guy, even if he did refuse to give ASFOAWN an interview after he won the Nebula last year. I still think he is a nice guy, even if he got out of my interview with some thin excuse about having to write to feed his wife and kids. But I will never forgive Ginger for doing a far, far better interview than I can. So go ahead and read a copy of OPEN CITY, anyway. See if I care....

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WXIA-TV will have a drawing for a trip to Los Angeles to see the premiere of STAR TREK III on 1984 May 31. If you want to get in the drawing, send a postcard to:

STAR TREK III  
1611 West Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA 30309

The winner will be announced on the Noonday show on 1984 May 23.

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STAR TREK III opens on 1984 June 1 in Atlanta at the AMC Galleria B Theatre. ASTRA (see calendar) will have a table there and they are looking for volunteers to man it. In exchange for their help, AMC is giving ASTRA some free passes and a sneak preview at Phipps Plaza Theatre. All of this promotional stuff for Star Trek III gets a bit elaborate, so you better call or write them for exact details.

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The DeKalb Library System and Chapter One Books will host a meet their authors seminar. The guests are Robert B. Parker and Robert Steed. The place is the Maud M. Burrus Library Auditorium at 215 Sycamore Street, Decatur, GA 30030 phone (404-378-7569). The date is 1984 May 17 from 10:00 to 12:00 Hrs. Then from 13:30 to 15:00 Hrs you can walk to Chapter One Books at 133 Sycamore Street (phone 404-377-2373) and attend an autogrpah party for them.

Robert B. Parker is the author of the Spenser, Private Eye series. The series has eleven titles, a very loyal fan following and a movie coming out ("Early Autumn" with Tom Selleck).

Robert Steed is a local attorney and guest columnist in the Atlanta papers. His book "Lucid Intervals" is a collection of his columns. He attended Mercer University, which he contends was a refuge for students too poor to go to Emory and too proud to go to the University of Georgia.



# Happy May Day!

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# Con

CONVENTION: Atlanta Fantasy Fair  
CONTACT: Atlanta Fantasy Fair, Box 566, Marietta, GA 30061.  
Send self-addressed stamped envelope for information and progress report.

WHEN & WHERE: 1984 August 3-5 at the Omni Hotel and World Congress Center.

COST: \$19.00 until 1984 Jun 30 and \$25.00 at the door. Ask about club and family rates on memberships. Saturday-Sunday and Sunday-only rates are available at the door. The hotel has a flat rate of \$49.00 for a room with 1, 2, 3 or 4 persons. There must be at least roommate of age 18 over. The deposit needs to be the first night only, and the rates are available for Thursday and Sunday, too. Suites are \$60 and \$70 plus the cost of one or two side rooms. The hotel will have no mundanes in it.

WHAT: Larry Niven, Mike Jittlov (tentative), Robert Bloch, Kenneth Smith, Howard Weinstein and Forest J. Ackerman, Mike Grell, Joe Staton, Howard Chaykin, Berni Wrightson, Sharon Webb, Dick Giordano, Rick Obadiah, Bill Villsienkiewicz (Moon Knight), Timothy Truman (Brim Jack & Star Slayer) and other to be announced.

CONVENTION: DeepSouthCon 22

CONTACT: Chattanooga DeepSouthCon, Irvin Koch, 835 Chattanooga Bank Bldg, Chattanooga, TN 37402. Phone (404) 767-7360.

WHEN & WHERE: 1984 Jun 21-24 at the Reid House Hotel in Chattanooga, TN.

COST: \$10.00 until 1983 July 1, and \$15.00 until 1984 Jun 1, and \$20 at the door. If you have a badge from a prior DeepSouthCon then the door price is \$15. Hotel rooms are \$41.00 for a single, \$48.00 for a double.

WHAT: Great Southern tradition. Joan Vinge is the Guest of Honor. Two Jacuzzis and one swimming pool. no beer in the Con suite, just at room parties. The Guest of Honor is Joan Vinge, toastmaster Karl Edward Wagner, Fan Guest of Honor is Jerry Page. Other guests are Sumtom Sucharitkul, Timothy R. Sullivan, Robert Jordon, Charlie Grant, John M. Ford, Sharon Webb, Ralph Roberts, Brad Linaweaver, John Maddox Roberts and others. Editors are Harriet P. McDougal (TOR), Jean Karl (Argo), Jan Frenkel (Bluejay), and Lou Aronica (Bentham). Artists guests are Bob Maurus and Doug Chaffee.

CONVENTION: SkyCon 4

CONTACT: Dennis Howard, c/o Super Giant Comics, 38 Wall Street, Asheville, NC 28801. Phone (704) 254-2103.

WHEN & WHERE: 1984 Jun 9-10 in Asheville, NC at The Inn on the Plaza.

COST: \$3.00, and \$1.00 for Sunday only. That is not a misprint.

WHAT: Guest of honor is Julius Schwartz, editor for DC comics. Other guests are Ralph Roberts, whose book THE BERSERKERS is scheduled for release as a motion picture this year, and Bruce Guice of Marvel Comics. Manly Wade Wellmann, Frances Garfield, Hal Clements, Dave (Alley Opp) Graue, Dick (Gasoline Alley) Moores, Ralph Roberts, Mike Banks, Al Ramirez, and others. Costume contest. Free beer. Looks to be a good and cheap multi-interest con.

CONVENTION: Catawba Valley Comics Con

CONTACT: Dennis Howard, c/o Super Giant Comics, 38 Wall Street, Asheville, NC 28801. Phone (704) 254-2103.

WHEN & WHERE: 1984 May 12 in Lenoir, NC at the Holiday Inn on highways 18 and 321.

COST: \$1.00

WHAT: This is a local comics con with Ralph Roberts, Bruce Guice, Al Ramirez, and others.

CONVENTION: The Atlanta Comics Festival

CONTACT: Herb McCaulla, Glenwood Distributors, 2997 North Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30033. Phone: (404) 296-2683.

WHEN & WHERE: Century Center Hotel on 1984 ?? ??

COST: ??

WHAT: This is a long-time Atlanta convention which has moved to the Century Center, which has much more space. Herb wants to add another day to the convention and increase the programming. the goal is to produce a good low-cost comics con on an annual basis. When I have some solid details, I will take out the double question marks.

CONVENTION: The Atlanta Comics Festival Mini-Con

CONTACT: Herb McCaulla, Glenwood Distributors, 2997 North Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30033. Phone: (404) 296-2683.

WHEN & WHERE: Northlake Hilton Hotel at LaVista and I-20 on 1984 May 20 from 10:00 to 18:00 hrs.

COST: \$2.00

WHAT: The guest of honor is Rick Leonardi, who just took over SPIDERMAN and CLOAK AND DAGGER at Marvel comics. This is a good way to kill a Sunday afternoon.

CONVENTION: IstaCon II

CONTACT: Richard Howell, 959 Waverly Court #A, Norcross, GA 30071 OR call Dr. No's bookstore and ask anyone.

WHEN & WHERE: Northlake Hilton Hotel on 1985 Mar 22-24

COST: Memberships are \$15.00 until 1985 Jan 1 and \$18.00 thereafter.

WHAT: Guest of Honor is Charles L. Grant, special guest is Kathy Ptacek, Artist guest is Vinnie DiFate, Master of Ceremonies is Jerry page, and the fan guest is Ken Moore. Other notables will include Ann McCraffrey's daughter, Gigi Johnson, Timothy Zahn, and Ralph Roberts.

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# Editorial

♦ THE BIG NEWS OF THE MONTH ♦

This month, you will be getting ASFOAWN, and not THE ATLANTA FANLETTER, as announced last month. I did not get the new headlines in time and I did not get the stuff straight at the post office. I also am now in between jobs (the money ran out on my last contract, again), and got caught in job hunting.

We hope to have more photos, and articles. This is a hint to anyone who wants to contribute something -- artwork, interviews, articles, letters of comment, photos, etc. We are not a professional publication and probably will not be able to pay anything for sometime. But, we are a way to communicate with people who have the same interest and that should be something that you would like to do. Please put anything in written form (phone calls and verbal communication just do not work) and mail it to me at:

Joe Celko  
Box 10558  
Atlanta, GA 30310

I also bought a camera that can do the halftones directly, so I am sure that more club meetings will get photo spreads.

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## Joe Celko

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# Films

## Jerry Page

GREYSTOKE, THE LEGEND OF TARZAN, LORD OF THE APES would be a successful movie if only in comparison with the abomination Bo Derek starred in -- if 'starred' is the word -- some months back. But Hugh Hudson's directing of this movie is so good, and the acting so uniformly good, that it stands up in comparison with any Tarzan movie ever made -- even with Weissmuller's best, "Tarzan and His Mate" and that grand Gordon Scott action-fest "Tarzan's Greatest Adventure". But there is a drawback; you can not approach this movie in the same way you approached any previous Tarzan movie and expect to come away from it with full enjoyment -- or understanding -- of what has been done.

The early part of the movie -- it breaks down neatly in two stages -- follows Burroughs' storyline with a surprising faithfulness. Tarzan's parents are the only survivors of a shipwreck on the coast of Africa. There, Tarzan is born. His mother dies and his father is killed by apes. One of the apes, having lost her own child, adopts the human baby. Tarzan is raised as a member of the tribe.

The action is, as I said, faithful to ERB's own story. Some cuts and compressions are necessary, but they have been done with considerable intelligence. It is as the movie reaches its second phase that things become controversial.

What is done here is to simply toss the melodrama of Burroughs and re-write the story rather baldly. The story is no longer either melodrama or adventure, but straightforward drama. And the decision, I think is a good one, because in deciding to re-write the story line from the point when Tarzan first meets civilized human beings, the writers and directors of this film have very carefully kept the element that made Burroughs' novel work in the first place: the character of Tarzan himself.

So Jane does get herself marooned on the same coast as Tarzan's parents, but waits quietly in England. Hudson opts to go directly to the story of D'Arnot, who is saved by Tarzan when the expedition he is with is wiped out by natives. A D'Arnot fetches Tarzan back to England and leaves him with his grandfather -- superbly played by the late Sir Ralph Richardson -- and there he meets Jane. The rest of the movie concerns itself with the efforts of the young Lord Greystoke to accommodate himself to a civilization that is, without malice and necessarily, in some ways more savage than the life that he has known. In fairness, this part of the movie can be said to drag, but I found myself so caught up in Christopher Lambert's portrayal of Tarzan what while I can admit that fact intellectually, there is no emotional acceptance of it. I was enthralled.

This is a character study and in no way debases Burroughs' writing or story or philosophy in the way the Bo Derek movie did. But it does bring out things about Tarzan that, while completely logical, were never considered by ERB. ERB, after all, was not too concerned that his character was raised by apes; that point was merely an avenue to get him to what he was really writing about, an adventure story built upon the idea of the 'Noble Savage.' But this movie recognizes, and with intelligence and considerable depth of expression, utilizes the fact that if Tarzan were raised by apes then he must have acquired those cultural traits typical of apes. This is often quite poignant, as when Tarzan, confronted with a wounded friend -- ape or human -- touches the friend's blood to his lips to assure himself that the other is genuinely hurt. There are also some magnificent scenes in the house where Tarzan goes to live with his grandfather. At night, left alone, he examines paintings as an ape might examine them to determine whether or not the likenesses are real.

Sir Ralph Richardson, in what I believe to be his last role, gives one of those performances that have made him perhaps the most beloved and -- ironically -- the least celebrated of his group of actors (which includes such luminaries as Gielgud, Olivier, Guinness and Michael Redgrave). The script provides his character with a solid basis, too. There is a grand love of family and life in this man -- the love of life is evident even in the old man's manner of dying.

Ian Holm as D'Arnot, is also superb and Andie MacDowell's Jane is a promising first portrayal. I hate to keep harping on how bad the Bo Derek "Tarzan, the Ape Man" was, but Derek should be dragged to this movie to see how an actress can portray Jane as both intelligent and sexy.

Some favorite scenes: the battle between young Tarzan and the ape Kerchak, which builds suspense even when you know who will win. A dinner party at the Greystoke estate where Tarzan, momentarily baffled by the concept of eating soup, solves it so naturally that his grandfather adopts the same solution and with relish. The love scene between Tarzan and Jane. D'Arnot's efforts to get an arrow out of himself.

As I said, if you go looking for an adventure movie you will be disappointed. Or if you go looking for a cynical movie, for that matter. This movie is surprisingly upbeat, even in its acceptance of the fact that there are things about civilization Tarzan can never accept. The strength of this movie does not really lie in its choices, but in the fact that no choice the director makes is made without considerable thought -- and intelligent thought at that. Hugh Hudson, I think, could be the director who could successfully tackle such problems as filming "The Demolished Man", "The Stars My Destination", or "Childhood's End". The man thinks.

--Jerry Page--

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ICEMAN is a film that has been compared to "Greystoke", but the comparisons do not hold up for very long. The movie begins promisingly enough with a well-scripted segment about finding a Neanderthal man frozen in ice, and the way in which he is revived. This part is thought out.

But even here there are harbingers of things to come. The director's insistence on showing detail at his audience suggested to me that he knew from the start he was in trouble. So much information -- particularly in the form of scene-setting images -- is tossed out that I became suspicious of the whole thing. Sure enough, soon as they woke up our poor primitive, the movie began to unravel. The details still came, furiously and fast, but the key ones were never convincing after the revival.

Example: for some reason this far-north research station keeps animals. The bear environment is close enough to what a Neanderthal should be used to, that they put him there. He is a hunter, but he is there for three days before he notices that just beyond the trees -- maybe thirty feet from his cave -- there are walls and a staircase leading up to a door, and that above it all is a glass roof.

The movie stands in contrast to "Greystoke" most tellingly in the number of just plain bad choices made. Much for example has been made of John Lone's acting style in portraying the Neanderthal. Lone is trained as a Chinese stage actor, and his style is familiar to anyone who has ever seen an oriental movie. And not only those gawd-awful martial arts films, but most especially Japanese Samurai films. I grant you it's an interesting approach for a Neanderthal, but hardly a convincing one. Timothy Hutton's anthropologist is not very convincing either.

The ending is one of those cute gimmicky things probably thought of after reading a folklore article in some magazine like PARABOLA. They should have read something deeper, such as Mircea Eliade, as well. The idea is just plain bad anthropology. The director is Fred Schipisi, but I am sure the poor man would rather not have his name associated with this one any longer than necessary.

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# Calendar

GROUP: Ne'at Hold of Atlanta  
CONTACT: Rich Howell, Lord Holder, 959 Waverly Court #A, Norcross, GA 30071  
WHEN & WHERE: 1984 May 26 at Hrs The meetings are switching back and forth between Tucker Federal and the Howell apartment. The meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of the month.  
WHAT: Promote Anne MacCaffrey's work and work on IstaCon.

GROUP: Atlanta SF Club (ASFiC)  
CONTACT: Richard Howell, 959 Waverly Court #A, Norcross, GA 30071 OR call Dr. No's bookstore and ask anyone.  
WHEN & WHERE: 1984 May 19 at the Anchor Federal Saving on Ponce de Leon and Moreland Avenue. The second Saturday of the month will be the new meeting date, starting in June.  
WHAT: This is the big Atlanta SF club. The program is a discussion of what ten books you would take into a fall-out shelter just before World War III.  
COST: The annual dues are \$10.00 per year and include a newsletter.

GROUP: The Atlanta Star Trek Rediscovery Association  
CONTACT: Tim Farley, Box 38069, Atlanta, GA 30334 phone (404) 874-5402  
WHEN & WHERE: Thrills is a nightclub in Buckhead on Peachtree Road. From 20:00 until 24:00 hrs on 1984 May 29, ASTRA will be providing some special Star Trek programming with radio station 96 Rock. Come in costume, and you have a chance to win a trip to Cape Canaveral.  
COST: Thrills has a cover charge, but the first 96 people in costume get a free Star Trek III drinking glass.  
WHAT: Star Trek Discussion group.

GROUP: Atlanta Star Trek Society  
CONTACT: Owen Ogletree Jr, 345 Brannon Rd, McDonough, GA 30253 phone: (404) 957-3522.  
WHEN & WHERE: 1984 May 19 at the West Paces Ferry library branch at 14:00 hrs.  
WHAT: This is a Star Trek Discussion group. They run DixieTrek and publish LINGUACODE annually. this month's meeting will feature a slide show, a technical discussion of the space shuttle and a two-part Dr Who ("The Black Orchid").

GROUP: Psi Phi  
CONTACT: Psi Phi (use no other name on letters), Box 21205 Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322 phone (404) 633-9251  
WHEN & WHERE: Meets in the Emory University Student Center, but I do not know if they are still active.  
WHAT: Emory University SF & F Club, but they allow visitors.

GROUP: Barony of South Down (Atlanta) of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.  
CONTACT: Wilho N. Suominen Jr, 1617 Bussell Place, Norcross, GA 30093 phone (404) 449-1469.  
WHEN & WHERE: Regular monthly meetings are every Wednesday at 19:30 Hrs on the third floor (usually room 316, but check with the guard at the desk) of the Georgia Community Center on Hill Street. use the Hill Street exit off of I-20 and drive south.  
WHAT: On alternate weeks, there are business meetings plus a class. The other weeks are "Art & Sciences". they also have "events" which tend to be at campsites.  
COST: Their local newsletter is \$5.00 per year from Wilho N. Suominen Jr at the above address, or Nancy Fabian 795 Lancelot Dr, Norcross, GA 30071 phone (404) 443-2300.

GROUP: L5 Society  
CONTACT: Bill Gardner, 624 Camelot Dr, College Park, GA 30337 home (404) 766-6821 or work (404) 761-2414 OR Darell Preble, 343 Canterbury Dr, Jonesboro, GA 30236 home: (404) 477-9143 and work (404) 658-2683.  
WHEN & WHERE: ??  
WHAT: A serious space exploration group which wishes to establish a permanent space colony.

GROUP: Terminus Tardis  
CONTACT: Sue Brundige, 1682 Donaldson Court, Atlanta GA 30319 phone (404) 458-9482  
WHEN & WHERE: 1984 May ?? at the Tucker Federal Savings on Buford Highway, just inside I-285.  
WHAT: This is the Atlanta Chapter of the Companions of Dr Who. They show Dr Who shows, and promote the program in the USA.

GROUP: Complete Model Supply  
CONTACT: Complete Model Supply, Westside Shopping Center, 806 Sandtown Road, Marietta, GA 30060.  
WHEN & WHERE: Every Friday night from 20:00 to 23:00 hrs.  
WHAT: A gaming group which publishes some shop rules.  
COST: Free

GROUP: WorldCon Atlanta  
CONTACT: WorldCon Atlanta, Inc,  
WHAT: This is the bid for an Atlanta WorldCon in 1986. Voting will take place in Los Angeles this year.  
COST: Pre-supporting memberships are \$5.00, which gets you a bizzine subscription to "South on Peachtree". Tee Shirts and other things can also be had.

GROUP: Atlanta Survival Games  
CONTACT: Atlanta Survival Games, 2710 Rosemont Dr, Lawrenceville, GA 30245 Dave Ellis (404) 923-0054.  
WHEN & WHERE: Empty field on Old Peachtree Road every Saturday.  
WHAT: This is an adult version of Cowboys and Indians  
COST: Air gun rental \$16.00. This includes a holster, twenty rounds of ammo (two tubes). Extra CO2 cartridges can be had for \$2.50.

GROUP: University of Georgia Science Fiction & Fantasy Association  
CONTACT: Kim Holec, 123 Easy Street #A, Athens, GA 30606 phone: (404) 549-4874 OR Margaret Dowdle-Head phone (404) 542-1731 (Monday thru Friday)  
WHEN & WHERE: Wednesday nights when USA is in session from 19:30 hrs on in room 143 of the Tate Student Center.  
WHAT: Very relaxed discussion group, members play D&D and other games, talk about comics, movies, watch videos (strong Dr Who interest). The group is open to students, staff and faculty of the University of Georgia, but visitors are welcome.  
COST: None.

GROUP: The Atlanta Radio Theatre (ART) series  
CONTACT: The Atlanta Radio Theatre (ART), 2179 Fairway Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30319 phone:(404) 981-4503.  
WHEN & WHERE: WGST (920 AM on your radio dial) at 19:10 Hrs on friday nights.  
WHAT: They do radio dramas. Their schedule, which is subject to change, will be posted as I get it.  
COST: Free; C&S Bank is the sponsor.