

CHAT

MONTHLY NEWSZINE OF THE CHATTANOOGA SF ASSOCIATION
FREE TO MEMBERS OF CSFA; 25¢ TO FELLOW TRAVELERS

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"Tout ce qu'un homme est capable d'imaginer, d'autres hommes seront capable de la réaliser."
....M. Jules Verne

APRIL MEETING-WESTWORLD ADVENTURE The CSFA met on March 18 in the Lookout Mt. Room of the UTC Student Center. Hal Clement's Mission of Gravity was discussed, with Dick Lynch leading the discussion. The club decided that from now on, the book discussion will be lead by the person who nominated the book. After the book discussion, we were to have a guest speaker, but Dr. Spangler never arrived nor informed us of a change of plan. Undaunted, the members formed smaller groups and had lively discussions on various subjects. The book for the May meeting will be Mindbridge by Joe Haldeman. The June book (chosen at this meeting) will be The Moon is a Harsh Mistress by Robert A. Heinlein. Please note we are ordering books for future meetings at each regular meeting. The April meeting will be Saturday night, April 15, at 7:30 P.M., in the Lookout Mt. Room of the UTC Student Center. We will be discussion The Jar-goon Pard by Andre Norton; Tola Sneed will be discussion leader. We will also have a video tape presentation of Westworld, a film about an animated playground of the future, and a few door prizes. To get to UTC, Take I-24 to the 4th St. exit (last exit before Tennessee River bridge). Go on 4th St. for about 8/10 mile to Mabel St., and turn right onto Mabel. Go 2 blocks (bearing right) and turn left onto Vine St. (which is 1-way). Go 2½ blocks. The Student Center is on the left side; look for its sign. The meeting room is on the ground floor, near the information desk. For questions: Mike Rogers (266-0298). (NWL)

CSFA TREASURER'S REPORT....The balance from the last report was \$119.34. Dues receipts from the February meeting were \$ 20 plus a \$ 7 donation; from the March meeting dues receipts were \$ 13. Expenditures were \$ 2 for materials for the club flyer, \$ 5.66 for CHAT #6 and \$ 7 for a supporting membership to WorldCon. As of March 21, the balance is \$144.68. (Mike Rogers)

WORLDCON FAN FLIGHT ANNOUNCED.... In order to "save money with a group discount and to have fun with like-minded individuals," Louisville fan John Harris has organized a fan flight to WorldCon in Phoenix. Scheduled departure from Louisville is 8:24 AM on Thursday, Aug. 31 with arrival at Phoenix at 11 A.M. local time. The return flight departs Phoenix at 2:30 P.M. on Monday, Sept. 4 and arrives at Louisville at 9:55 P.M. The round trip fare is \$ 190, which is quite a bit below normal airline rates. As of now, about 25 spots are left open. To register for the flight, send a deposit of \$ 10 immediately to John Harris at 8109 Cortland Dr., Louisville, 40228. (Make checks payable to Louisville SF Fan flight.) Full payment is due by July 15. For registered (or prospective) IguanaCon members, this looks like a good way to get there at reasonable cost without being too tired to enjoy the convention. (DL)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.... To Shelby Bush for assisting in preparing last month's CHAT.

THE TRANSLATION of this month's quote is "Anything one man can imagine, other men can make real."

SUPPORT SF IN CHATTANOOGA---JOIN CHATTACON 4 TODAY!!

Send your \$5 membership to: ChattaCon, Box 21173, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37421.

FEM FAN FEDS FOUNDED.... The first meeting of the Southern Appalacian Fem Fan Federation was held Tuesday, March 21, at the Town and Country Restaurant. Attending were Nancy Tabor, A.J. Barker, Nicki Lynch, and Julia Wilhoit. The membes discussed a project to help blind SF fans by reading or transcribing SF books into Braille. Also discussed were the official club apparel, insignia, and club organ, Through the Worm Hole. Later at the home of Nicki Lynch, the official election was held. The high card was the King of spades, followed by the Queen of hearts, seven of diamonds, and six of clubs. Elected were Julia Wilhoit, President; AJ Barker, Vice-President; Nancy Tabor, elected secretary in absentia; and Nicki Lynch, treasurer. Sillyvester Barker was elected club historian by acclamation. Any interested Fem Fans may join, just contact any of the above about the when and where of the next meeting. (Julia Wilhoit)

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS.... CoastCon, March 31-April 2, at Pete Fountain's Buena Vista Hotel in Biloxi, Miss. Pro Guest: George Alec Effinger (GoH) and Joe Haldeman; Fan GoH Cliff Biggers. Membership \$ 15, from CoastCon 1978, 8401 Vanna Rd., Biloxi, Ms. 39532

MonConII, March 31-April 2, at West Virginia University. Pro Guest: Harlan Ellison and Stan Lee. Info: MonCon II, Student Organizational Services, Mountainlair, WVU, Morgantown, W.V. 26506

MarCon 13, April 14-16, at Howard Johnson Motor Lodge North in Columbus, Ohio. Pro Guest: A.Bertran Chandler. Memberships \$ 8 from Ross Pavlac, 4654 Tamarack Blvd., C-2, Columbus, Ohio 43229

Kubla Khan Sexx, May 5-7 at Quality Inn Parkway in Nashville, Tenn. Pro Guests: Ted Sturgeon (GoH), andy offutt (mc), Frank R. Robinson, Kelly Freas, Wilson Tucker, Vincente Di Fate, Gordon Dickson, Jack Chalker and a cast of hundreds. Memberships \$ 7.50 advance, \$ 8.50 at the door from Ken Moore, 647 Devon Dr., Nashville, Tenn. 37220

DeepSouthCon 16, June 2-4, at the Riviera Hyatt House in Atlanta. Pro Guests: Clifford Simak (GoH), Gahan Wilson (GoH), Robert A. Heinlein, Kelly Freas (MC). Memberships \$ 7.50 advance, \$ 10 at the door, from Heritage Press, Inc., P.O. Box 721, Forest Park, Ga. 30050 (See flyer at end of this issue.)

Star Trek Atlanta, June 30-July 2, at the Atlanta Hilton Hotel. Confirmed Guests: William Shatner, James Doohan, Nichelle Nichols, George Takei. Memberships \$ 15 until May 1 and \$ 20 after, from Star Trek Atlanta, 88 New Dorp Plaza, Staten Island, N.Y. 10306

IguanaCon (1978 WorldCon) Aug. 30- Sept. 4, in Phoenix. Pro Guest of Honor is Harlan Ellison. Memberships \$ 25 from IguanaCon, P.O. Box 1072, Phoenix, Az. 85001

ChattaCon 4, Jan. 5-7, 1979, at Downtown Sheraton in Chattanooga, Tenn. Featured Speaker is Alan Dean Foster. Memberships \$ 5 until May 31 from ChattaCon, P.O. Box 21173, Chattanooga, Tn. 37421 (DL)

SFC HEADQUARTERS HIT BY FIRE.... The Southern Fandom Confederation headquarters, in the home of Meade Frierson III in Birmingham, Al., was damaged by a fire on February 20. Meade reports that damage was serious (his bedroom-office was gutted, along with an adjoining bath), but could have been worse. Lost were a typewriter, convention flyers, the new SFC bulletin #19 master, mimeo stencils, stamps, envelops, etc. He also reports that "preserved in less than ideal conditions were all family members (!!), the SFC card index (soggy), one housecat (badly spooked) and our sanity (rattled)." As a result, SFC business will be delayed until normalcy returns. (DL)

—Advertisement—

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS FANS!!! There will be a Dungeons and Dragons game on Saturday, April 1st, at 1 PM. For information, please call Rich Morehouse at (615)-886-4973.

CSFA MEMBERS INVOLVED IN ACADEMIC PROJECTS....UTC Associate Professor and CSFA member Dr. Craig Barrow will write one of the articles for a book on Stanislaw Lem for the "Writers of the 21st Century" series. This series has published volumes on Isaac Asimov and Arthur C. Clarke so far, with books on Heinlein, Le Guin, Lem and others in the works. Also, UTC Associate Professor and CSFA member Dr. Dimis Weisbaker will teach a course on the writing of science fiction this fall at UTC. One of her texts will be Notes to a Science Fiction Writer by Ben Bova, editor of Analog magazine. Persons interested in taking this course should contact Dr. Weisbaker at the UTC English Department. (Mike Rogers)

STAR WARS UPDATE....Locus, the SF newspaper, reports that the movie Star Wars is now the largest grossing domestic film of all time, surpassing the record set by Jaws, in November 1977. The movie sequel to Star Wars is now in the works; the script is being written by longtime SF writer Leigh Brackett. Production should start this fall; the expected release date is in early 1980. The Star Wars novellization, by George Lucas (and rumored to be co-authored by Alan Dean Foster) is also doing well. A second Star Wars novel, Splinter of the Mind's Eye by Alan Dean Foster (not the sequel to the movie), has just been released in both hardcover and paperback. (DL)

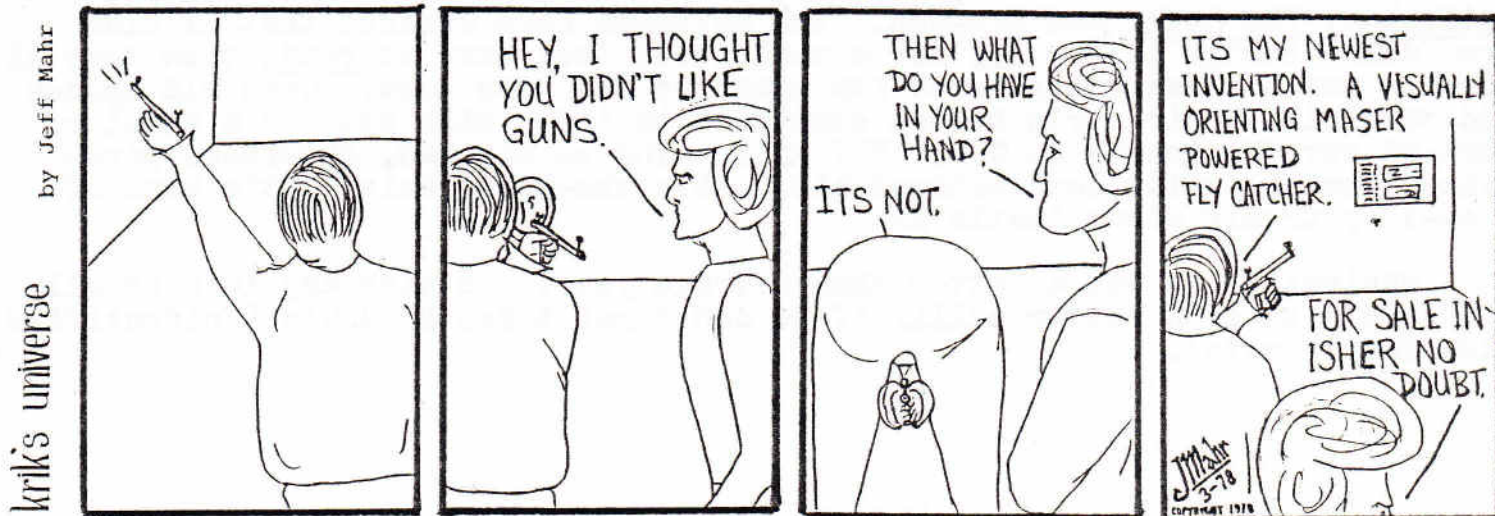
REVIEW....by Ken Scott

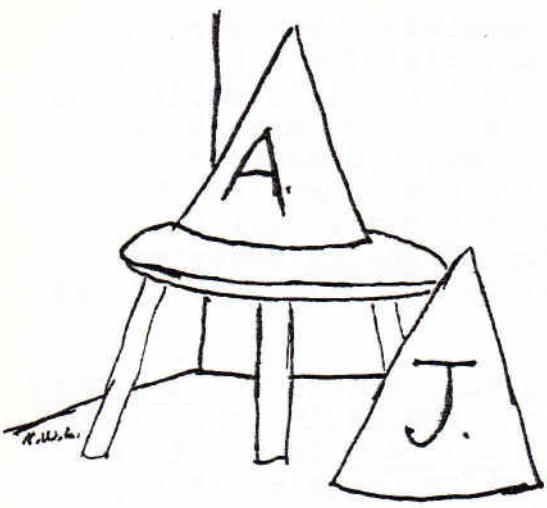
BOLO by Keith Laumer, Berkeley Medallion, \$1.50

Bolo is a collection of stories concerning Laumer's dinochrome brigade, the ultimate war machines. The introduction traces the history of the General Motors Bolo from its inception as a semi-automated tank to a fully sentient war wagon.

Each of the six stories in the book deal with a Bolo at a particular stage in their development, although all but one deals with a unit years after it has been taken off active duty. "Field Test" concerns the first sentient Bolo and is told from the different points of view of those involved in its first combat activity, including the Bolo.ONE. Being totally programmed for war, the sentient Bolos develop their own psychology, and their actions and motives prove sometimes quite interesting, based, no doubt, on Laumer's own perceptions of things.

Also of interest to fans of Laumer's other works is the story "Courier", which features that irrepressible diplomat James Retief. (By this story and mention of CDT in others, Laumer has definitely linked the universes of Retief and the Bolos.) However, this seems to be a different Retief than seen previously, which makes me suspect that this is truly a Bolo story more than one of Retief. The story is dated 1961, so perhaps this was a rough draft version of Retief? At any rate, Bolo is full of action and good story telling, and the general scarcity of Laumer material makes it well worth the money for that reason alone.





A & J'S CORNER

by A. J. Barker and J. M. Wilhoit

One fine spring day George Lucas and Stephen Spielberg chanced to meet at the airport in Dallas. "Hey, Steve old buddy," said Lucas jokingly, "let's set America on its ear and make a gigantic fortune."

"Sounds fine to me, George," replied Spielberg, "but just remember, I have to keep up my image as Boy Movie Genius."

"OK, here's my idea....."

* * *

Well, if you don't like that one, there's the story of how Lucas wrote Star Wars and Spielberg wrote Close Encounters all by themselves. But no matter how it really happened, 1977 presented us with two fine SF movies. Let us tell you, though, about some of the others...

One visit from Otto the Orkin Man would have wiped out 99% of the SF stars of the year. Human actors were eaten by giant ants (Empire of the Ants), spiders (Kingdom of the Spiders) and killer cockroaches (Damnation Alley). TV was infested as well. Savage Bees was a thriller in which African killer bees come north on an Equadorian banana boat and touch down in the Superdome during Mardi Gras. South America also supplied the creepy crawlies in Tarantula, whose star Claude Akins was TV's answer to Shatner in Kingdom of the Spiders.



"Movin' on" from insects, before it begins to bug us too much, AJ saw The Car, the story of a demon possessed auto that chases James Brolin up a cliff and the audience out of the theatre. Or to escape The Car, we could have gone to a mysterious tropical island...that is, if we wanted to be turned into humanimals. We don't believe in cruelty to defenseless humans so we didn't waste our time on The Island of Dr. Moreau.

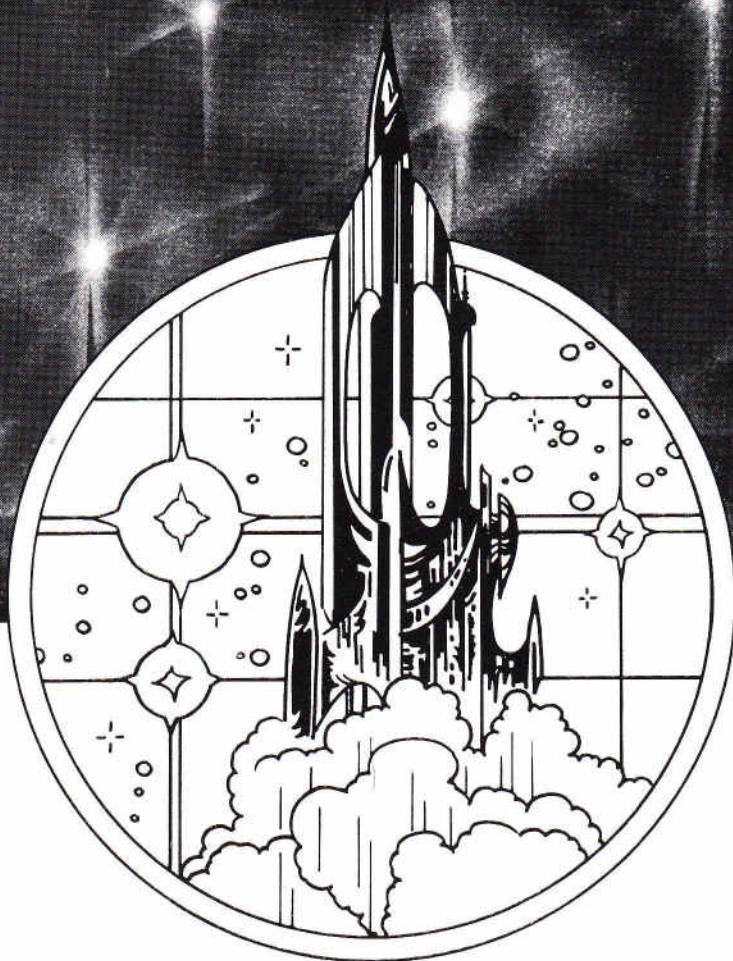
Back to television, we had several movie-length Man from Atlantis episodes which got progressively worse until they floated to shore belly-up. We can look forward, however, to those three accident-prone lab workers, Spiderman, The Hulk, and Exo-Man. The networks have decided that if kids are 'dumb' enough to pay 35¢ for a comic book they have to read, then they'll love to watch these superheroes run amuck on the boob tube. Good old Spidey and the Hulk, comic strip heroes come back to life, will soon be a regular part of our TV viewing on CBS. NBC will bring us Exo-Man, superhero paralyzed from the waist down without his Robbie-the-Robot suit. It's kind of a do-it-yourself Steve Austin kit.

Basically '77 was a better than average year, and with any luck at all, '78 should be even better still, if we don't get taken by UFO's (Unidentified Flea-ing Objects).

THE 1978 DEEPSOUTH SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

JUNE 2,3,4 1978

Atlanta, Georgia



CLIFFORD SIMAK

WRITER GUEST OF HONOR

GAHAN WILSON

ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR

Richard Garrison and Ginger Kaderabek of Heritage Press, Inc. are sponsoring the 1978 Atlanta Science Fiction Convention (DeepSouth Con XVI), Atlanta, Georgia, June 2, 3, 4, 1978.

Featured at the convention . . .

- **CLIFFORD SIMAK**, Writer Guest of Honor, Hugo and Nebula winning author who was recently named a Grand Master of science fiction.
- **GAHAN WILSON**, Artist Guest of Honor, artist and writer well known for his macabre cartoons in *Playboy* and *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*.
- **ROBERT A. HEINLEIN** will be present to conduct a blood drive, meet with those fans who have donated blood and otherwise enjoy himself. This will be an excellent opportunity for the southern science fiction fan to contribute to a worthy cause and meet with the master of the science fiction word.
- **FRANK KELLY FREAS** will be Master of Ceremonies. Kelly Freas' ten Hugos are small tribute to this illustrator's talent and geniality.
- **AN OUTSTANDING** science fiction and fantasy art display featuring major pieces by Kelly Freas, Dean of Science Fiction Artists and author of *The Art of Science Fiction*; **MICHAEL WHELAN**, an illustrator, known for his *Little Fuzzy* and *Fuzzy Sapiens* covers, who has run away with virtually every award at major science fiction art shows; **JEFF JONES**, popular artist and illustrator

admired for his sensitivity in illustration; RON MILLER of the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution and astronomical artist without peer; ROY G. KRENKEL, Burroughs Illustrator and Hugo Award winner; and other prominent illustrators.

- **THE FANZINE FORUM**, a display organized by Cliff and Susan Biggers (editors of *Future Retrospective*). Cliff and Susan Biggers will host this display of fanzines and will demonstrate the whys and hows of fan publishing.
- **SCIENCE FICTION MOVIES**. *Forbidden Planet*, *Robinson Crusoe on Mars*, *Shape of Things to Come*, *Day the Earth Stood Still*, *Panic in the Year Zero* and others.
- **COMPUTER GAMES**. This popular convention pastime will be available to the attendees at no charge. Steve and Binker Hughes are coordinating this activity.
- **HUCKSTERS' ROOM**. Publishers and dealers of rare books, magazines, comics, original artwork, paperbacks and other collectables will be on hand for fans to expand their library or collections.
- **BESIDES FEATURED** events, we will have panel discussions, displays, skits, demonstrations and parties. Areas of interest, such as writing, illustrating, publishing, collecting, and so on will be highlighted. Please help us by indicating your interests.

The site for the 1978 Atlanta Science Fiction Convention is the RIVIERA HYATT HOUSE, 1630 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309, located at the easy-on/easy-off intersection of I-75/I-85 and Peachtree Street N.W. near downtown Atlanta. The Riviera Hyatt House, part of the quality Hyatt House Hotel chain, features 314 rooms; a beautiful center courtyard; and a central location one block from Zesto's, the Cross Roads Restaurant (seafood restaurant), IHOP, Franco's Deli, Morrison's Cafeteria, the train station and so on. Best of all are the rates — \$18 for a single and \$24 for a double — an inexpensive rate for a room a cut above the average. Mastercharge, American Express, Visa, Carte Blanche and Diners' Club credit cards are honored. The convention center is entirely ours for the convention.

Memberships for all three days are:

- \$ 5.00 until January 1st
- \$ 7.50 January 1st until June 1st
- \$10.00 at the door

Banquet tickets are available for \$9.00 a person. This buffet banquet will be your opportunity to hear the Guest of Honor speeches, see the awards presented and get one square meal during the convention weekend.

Huckster's Tables are available at \$20.00 each. Please contact us for further dealer's information.

Please make all checks or money orders (no cash, please) payable to HERITAGE PRESS, INC.

Send to: Heritage Press, Inc.
Richard Garrison or Ginger Kaderabek
P. O. Box 721
Forest Park, Georgia 30050
(404) 366-3860

UPDATE!
JEFF JONES
and
BERNI WRIGHTSON
will be attending with displays.

THE 1978 DEEPSOUTH SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
JUNE 2,3,4 1978 Atlanta, Georgia