

CHAT 40

FEB. '81

FAREWELL ISSUE



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CHAT * FEBRUARY, 1981 * #40

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CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: MIKE ROGERS

EDITORIAL ...BY NICKI LYNCH

This will be the last issue of *CHAT* as the clubzine/newszine for the Chattanooga Science Fiction Association. Dick and I have thought about it a long time, and decided to stop with this issue. *CHAT* has been a part of our lives since I put out the first issue three years ago, on my own, for Chattanooga Science Fiction Association members. When I started, I didn't receive anything from the club in the way of repayment; later, Dick and I asked to be reimbursed by the club for *CHAT*s that went out to the club members and certain clubs with whom we traded clubzines. Currently the club pays for about half of the materials used, the postage for clubmembers and clubzines.

The major reason for our decision about *CHAT* is that we seem to be always too busy to do the kind of fanzine we would like and are capable of doing. We also feel that we have taken *CHAT* as far as a clubzine can be taken. Dick and I have been discussing doing a genzine for a while, and that will probably be the next publication we'll try. Already we have some articles and art lined up...all it really needs is a name!

So, we are retiring the name *CHAT*, to be possibly revived by us at a later date -- maybe as a different kind of newszine. The club (CSFA) is free to do any sort of newsletter it wants, but the name *CHAT* is my invention and no one has my permission to use it.

Thanks to all who have contributed time, articles, art, and good feelings. We will be contacting you again, either in person, by genzine, or whatever. All subscribers will be contacted about what they wish done with the rest of their subscription money.

CHATTACON 6. With over 600 paid registered members, Chattacon 6, Jan. 16-18 in Chattanooga, broke the previous Chattacon's record as the largest SF convention ever in Tennessee. GoH Jack Chalker had a busy weekend, appearing in five program items, including his GoH speech "Another Point of View", which took a more somber and possibly realistic view of

the U.S. Space Program than do enthusiasts such as the L-5 Society. MC Forrey Ackerman was also highly visible during the convention; his pun-filled banquet speech was certainly the lightest, most humorous event of the convention. Other highly attended panels included Barry Longyear's Writers Workshop, Gordon Dickson on the Child Cycle novels, "So You Want to Be an SF Writer" with Longyear,

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CHATTACON 6 (CONT.)

Sharon Webb, Dickson, Somtow Sucharitkul and others, and Ralph Roberts on Word Processing Computers.

The art show and auction sold over \$2000 worth of art, more than any previous Chattacon; much of it was due to the overall quality of the art show, which was perhaps the best of any Southern regional convention to date. In spite of the large attendance and art sales, Chattacon 6 reportedly sustained a small financial loss overall, due mainly to the effects of inflation on con suite and guests travel expenses. There were no hassles with either hotel or pranksters this year, the temperamental January weather was uncharacteristically gentle and, for an encore, people who didn't attend the masquerade were treated to the spectacle of a major downtown fire complete with 30 foot high flames a scant two blocks from the convention hotel (talk about multi-stream programming!).

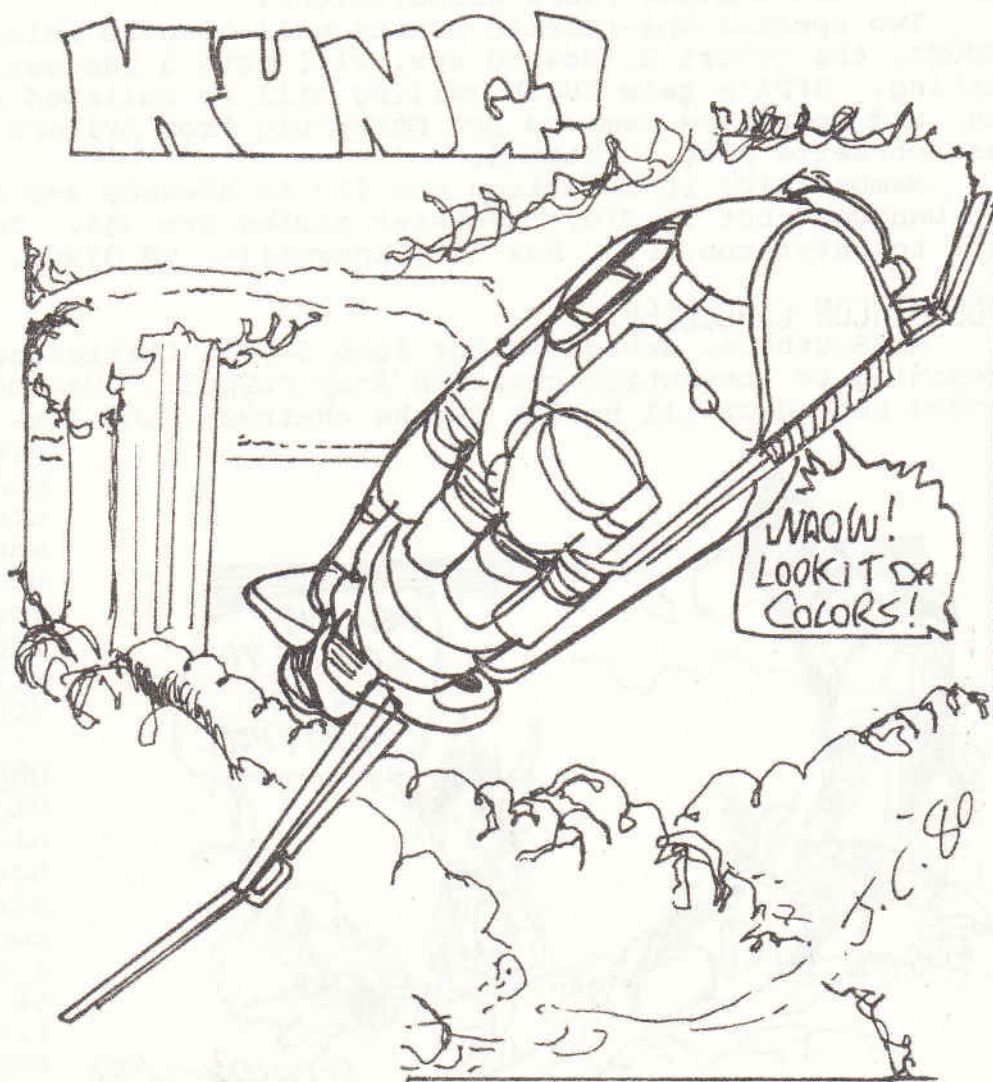
Overall, Chattacon 6 will probably be remembered as a success socially, if not financially or organizationally. (DL)

THE ALL-NEW SATYRICON

After losing scheduled Guest of Honor Anne McCaffrey, Satyricon in Knoxville has reorganized its committee and will feature new guests and special functions. Ms. McCaffrey was forced

to withdraw as GoH when she picked up an inner ear infection that prohibits her from travelling by air for the next few months.

The reorganization was carried out during a long and often heated meeting held at the November KSSF party in Knoxville. A source there reported that the Satyricon committee pretty much fell apart after it lost McCaffrey. Before the meeting, no one except possibly the committee members themselves knew what was going on with the convention, or indeed if it would still be held. Reportedly, Irvin Koch saved the convention by conducting shuttle diplomacy among various disputants. After differences were aired and worked out, the committee added a number of new members, all of whom were required to invest money in the convention; a regular schedule of committee meetings was then set up.



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SATYRICON (CONT.)

Con chairman Donna Neslund sent out a letter offering membership refund to anyone who joined while McCaffrey was GoH, and who no longer wanted to attend. The offer was good until January 31; as of Chattacon no one had requested a refund, and only about 10 memberships were ultimately returned.

Satyricon will still be held April 3-5 in Knoxville, at the Ramada Inn West at the West Hills exit of I-40/75. The new GoH is Gordon R. Dickson. Special Guest is Stanley Schmidt, editor of *Analog*. Surprise(d) Guest is Karl Edward Wagner. The Fan GoH is Guy H. Lillian III, Official Editor of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance (SFPA), one of science fiction fandom's oldest amateur press associations.

Two special apa-related events will also be held during the convention. REHUPA, the Robert E. Howard apa, will have a banquet to celebrate its 50th mailing. SFPA's gala 100th mailing will be collated and distributed at the con, and long-time members Don Markstein from Arizona and Bob Jennings from Massachusetts plan to attend.

Memberships in Satyricon are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door, and the banquet cost is \$10. Huckster tables are \$15. Inquiries should be sent to Satyricon, P.O. Box 323, Knoxville, TN 37901. (MR)

MIDSOUTHCON CANCELLED.

MidSouthCon, scheduled for June 5-7 in Chattanooga, has been cancelled, according to convention chairman Andy Purcell. Reasons cited were an extended period of ill health by the chairman, and lack of a suitable replacement for original

Guests of Honor Spider and Jeannie Robinson, who had to withdraw due to prior commitment. There is no word yet if another MidSouthCon will be held in 1982. (DL)

ONE LINERS.

Big name fan Susan Wood died of an apparent heart attack last November at her home in Vancouver, BC. Dr. Wood, a member of the faculty of the University of British Columbia, won Hugo Awards for Fan Writer and Fanzine (the former shared with R. E.



Geis and the latter with Mike Glicksohn), and was co-Fan Guest of Honor at the 1975 WorldCon in Australia. In 1980, she was nominated for the Non-Fiction Book Hugo, for editing *The Language of the Night*, a collection of Ursula LeGuin's non-fiction. *** SF author Kris Neville died of a heart attack on December 23, in California. *** SF author Doris Pitkin Buck died at age 82 of a pulmonary embolism, on December 4 in a nursing home in Hyattsville, Maryland. *** CSFan Bob Barger has announced his engagement to Sandy Paris of Coker, AL. They plan to be married at DeepSouthCon in Birmingham this August. Congratulations to both Bob and Sandy. *** The Atlanta SF Club (ASFiC) elected officers for 1981 at their December meeting. Angela Howell is the new president, Cliff Biggers moves from President to Vice-President,

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ONE LINERS (CONT.)

Iris Brown is the Secretary-Treasurer, and Dann Littlejohn is the Program Chairman. Congrats to them all. *** CSFAns acquired some first issues of now famous Southern fanzines during Chattacon. Bob Barger found a copy of *Spiritus Mundi* #1, Guy Lillian's SFPazine, and Your Humble Correspondent purchased a copy of *Spiritus Mundi* #2. Jerry Alexander showed a copy of *Maybe* #1, Irvin Koch's long-running personalzine, that Jerry traded for. The new owners of *SM1* and *Maybe* #1 had the zines autographed by the authors. *** B'hamacon II, the 1981 DeepSouthCon, has replaced previously announced GoH Jack Vance with Bob Shaw. Vance learned that he was committed to attend a European convention the same weekend, and backed out. Shaw is as well known as a fan writer as a pro writer; he won the 1979 and 1980 Hugos for Best Fan Writer. *** Your Humble Correspondent is working for Kelly Services as a temporary worker while seeking full time employment. (No Kelly Girl jokes, please.) *** Janet Caruth has resigned from the Chattacon committee, for personal reasons. *** Atlanta fan Larry Mason's house was robbed recently. He lost a stereo, a TV set, a remote control for same, a scanner, a calculator, and \$200 worth of tools. Larry had no insurance to cover the loss, but will reportedly will buy some before replacing any of the items. *** Southern SF writer Sharon Webb has the lead novelette in the February issue of *Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine*, titled "The Dust of Creeds Outworn". *** Kentucky fan Rickey Sheppard and Sam Falin have dissolved their business, Vintage Books in Bowling Green. Sheppard now has full control of their operations. *** Pro Guest of Honor at Rivercon 6, July 24-26 in Louisville, will be Jack Williamson. *** Tenne-see's first operational nuclear power plant, Sequoyah Unit #1 near Soddy-Daisy, reached full power output for the first time January 11. The Tennessee Valley Authority hopes to get the operating license for Unit #2 sometime this April. *** CSFAn Janis Johnson has recovered from abdominal surgery, and has gone back to work. She teaches English and Latin at Central High School in Harrison, TN. *** The January Knoxville SF Club (KSSF) party attracted about 40 fans to Teddy Bear Grotto, the house Rusty Burke and Vern Clark rent in Knoxville. CSFAns in attendance were Burke, Clark, Charlie Williams, Janis Johnson, Bob Barger, and Dick and Nicki Lynch. The next KSSF meeting/party is scheduled for late March. (MR)



MORE DETAILS ON SHEPPARD CAR WRECK.

In a recent issue, CHAT reported that Rickey Sheppard of Bowling Green KY, had been injured in a serious car accident. Rickey described the accident and his injuries at Chattacon.

He was rammed head-on by a Mustang coming over a hill. The drunk driver received only scratches and bruises in the collision, while Rickey sustained pulled ligaments and a chipped bone in his ankle. The bone chip wasn't discovered until doctors put a cast on the ankle for the lig-

ament pulls.

Rickey says that the pulled ligaments are the more serious injury of the two and that the foot still stiffens occasionally. But the injuries could have been much worse; as Rickey puts it, "The seat belt was the only thing that saved my ass."

Sheppard thus becomes the third member of

Southern Car Wreck Fandom, joining Deb Hammer-Johnson and Your Humble Correspondent in the dubious distinction of being involved in a serious wreck during the previous year. (MR)

KEN MOORE BUYS PLANE, INVENTS FLYING VOLKSWAGEN.

BNF Ken Moore of Nashville has a way of attracting attention, and he did so most recently in two newsworthy items.

Ken purchased a 1946 Cessna for \$6000. He says he pays \$110 a month for hanger rent and that the plane is not equipped for instrument flight, meaning that it can only be used under visual flight rules. Ken plans to fly the plane to many of the cons he attends.

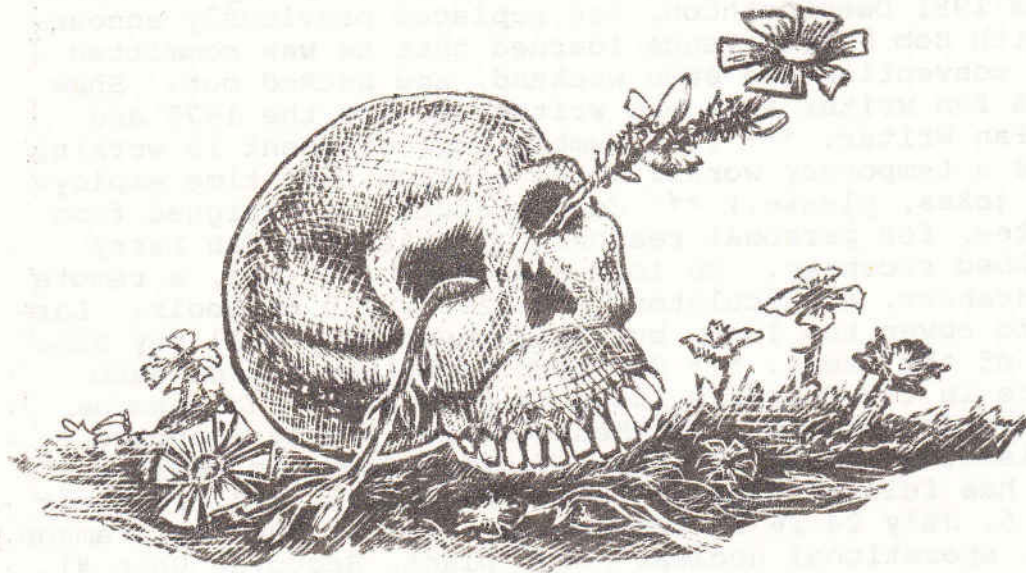
Moore also became the fourth (count 'em, four) member of Southern Car Wreck Fandom when the steering in his ancient Volkswagen broke. The car went out of control on the Franklin-Silbey Bridge over the Cumberland River in Nashville and veered over the divider into the oncoming lanes of Interstate 65. He did not strike any other vehicles, though, and received only minor injuries. The Volkswagen wasn't so fortunate; it was totalled.

Ken didn't show any signs of injury at Chattacon; he reportedly has purchased another Bug. (MR)

FEBRUARY CSFA MEETING FALLS ON HEARTS DAY.

The January CSFA meeting featured a video tape of the HBO special: "Men, Monsters, and Madmen". Afterwards, there was a surprise birthday party for Mike Rogers at his home. Those attending had a good time, playing Hearts while listening to New Wave music provided by the Knoxville CSFA members. The next CSFA meeting will be Saturday, February 14, at 7:30 PM in the Lookout Mtn. Room of the UTC Student Center. This will be the "do we organize or not" meeting. Come prepared with your favorite

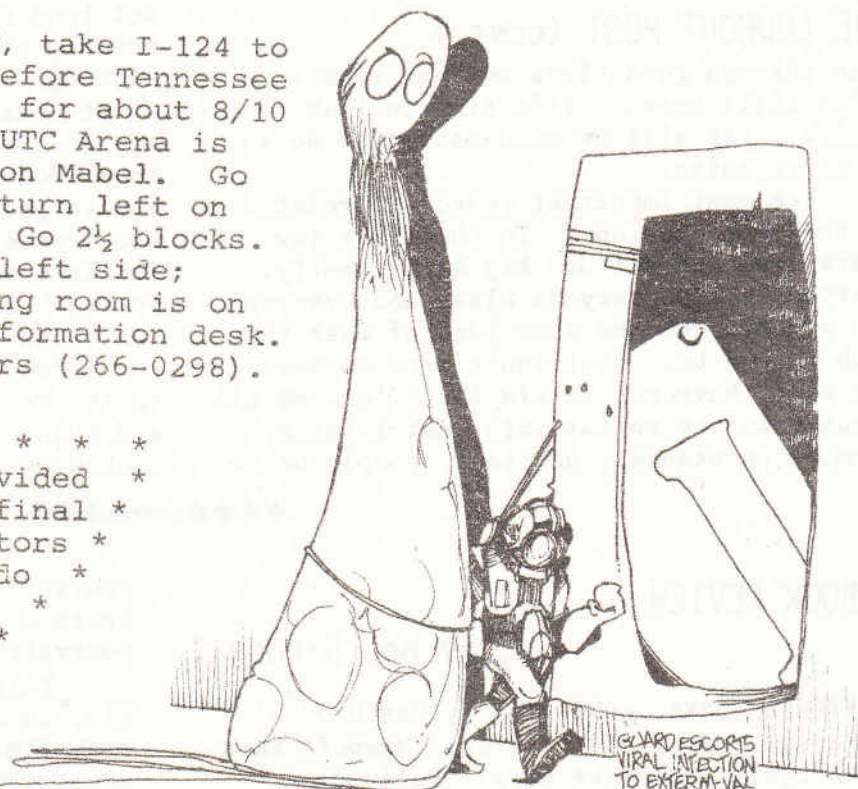
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FEBRUARY CSFA MEETING (CONT.)

constitution!! To get to UTC, take I-124 to the 4th St. exit (last exit before Tennessee River Bridge). Go on 4th St. for about 8/10 mile to Mabel St. (where new UTC Arena is being built), and turn right on Mabel. Go 2 blocks (bearing right) and turn left on Vine St. (which is one-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, call Mike Rogers (266-0298). (NWL)

* * * * *
 * THIS MONTH'S COVER was provided *
 * by Charlie Williams, as a final *
 * farewell to CHAT. The editors *
 * wish to point out that we do *
 * not have children, and *
 * usually keep our lawn *
 * in a well-harvested *
 * state. The flying *
 * saucer, however, is *
 * accurately portrayed. *
 * * * * *



THE LOOKOUT POST

...COMMENTARY BY MIKE ROGERS

In the past few months, I've heard some club members say that they dread to come to the February meeting, now only a few days away. That's understandable. It will be boring at best. But it is also the most important meeting CSFA has ever held, because we have a big decision to make. This decision will shape the club for many months, perhaps years, to come.

Do we continue with our current unorganized set-up, or do we write a constitution and elect officers? Lack of an organization has served us well in the past. We haven't had political squabbles, and we've been small enough to make decisions town-meeting style. Not until now has anyone seriously proposed this step.

But times change. Relationships change. And I'm convinced that now is the time to act. We need to organize.

Our anarchy has always has some disadvantages, but no one has thought them serious enough to worry about. It's hard to deal with the mundane world when we don't have some kind of official leader. I've had to explain our set-up to people outside the club, and no one ever understands it.

No one is truly responsible for keeping track of all the arrangements the club makes. I hate to think how many times our programming has been messed up because someone forgot about a commitment they made, or to think about how many times we've had mass confusion because we decided to change a meeting date.

Not having an organization has stifled our growth. You'll recall that a year or two ago, we were acquiring a noticeable stack of cash and were wondering what to do with it. Someone proposed buying a mimeograph machine for the club. We never did it, because no one was sure who would have custody of the machine or how club members could arrange to use it or what would happen to it if the club dissolved. Without an organization, CSFA cannot make any permanent commitments or buy capital assets of any sort without asking for trouble. And we can't make any kind of long-range plans, because no one knows if we'll still be together five years from now. We can do nothing but drift in the fog, existing from month to month but doing little to improve our group.

We used to think that impermanency was good, that it kept the club from going stale. While the club was struggling to establish itself, that was a good attitude to take, But we've been around a while now, and we've

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THE LOOKOUT POST (CONT.)

gone through good times and bad times. We're still here. It's time to look to the future. It will be much easier to do so if we organize.

The most important reason is related to the preceding one. In the first few years, we were all one big happy family. Everyone liked everyone else, and everyone had pretty much the same idea of what the club should be. That isn't true anymore. All of us have our little lists, and we all break down the roster into best friends, warm acquaintances, neutrals, people we're

not fond of, and people we detest. This is normal, and should not stop CSFA from functioning. We also have serious disagreements about what the club is and should be, despite the friendliness of the last couple of meetings. You know what the positions are, and you've probably already made up your minds about which side you support. We need to decide one way or the other. Soon. We've got to know which way we want to go.

That's the best reason for organizing.

I've had my say. I hope you'll come to the February meeting and have yours. And then, let's clear the air before it chokes us all.

BOOK REVIEW

...BY BOB BARGER

KIRK'S WORKS, published by Ned Brooks' Heresy Press, 713 Paul St., Newport News, VA 23605. \$10 per copy. Full color wraparound cover; 122 glossy stock pages.

Many people know who Tim Kirk is, but today few people remember him as a truly inspired and prolific fan artist -- which he was in the early '70s, before the pressures of making a living in the Real World forced him out of fandom for the most part, simply for lack of time. For me, who got into fandom, at least insofar as reading fanzines goes, back in the late '60s and early '70s, Tim Kirk's art represents the Good Old Days.

This book is brilliantly designed, flawlessly (insofar as I can determine) researched by George Beahm -- and, of

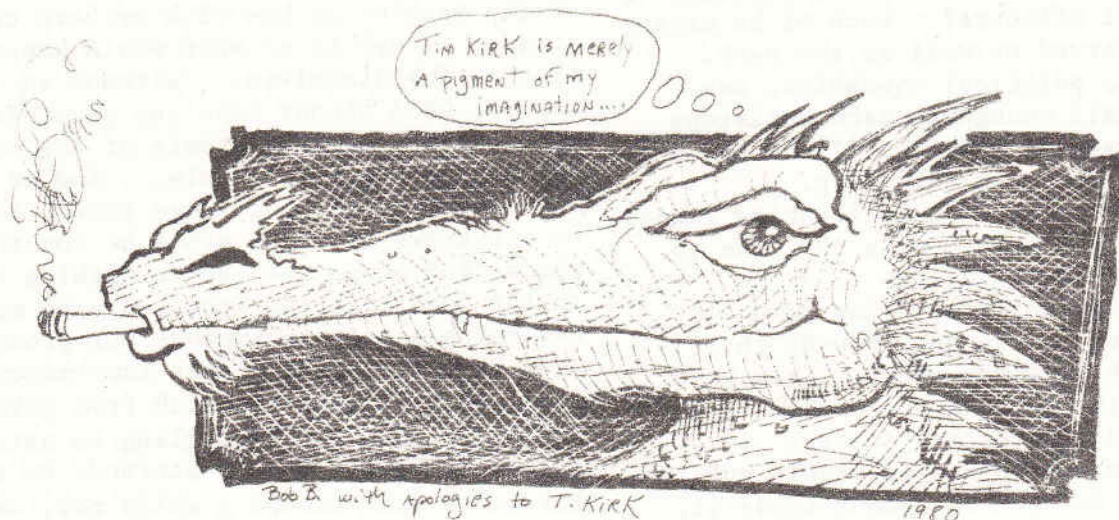
course, lovingly illustrated by Tim Kirk (with a color frontis by George Barr, a portrait of Tim).

This book contains appreciations of Tim, an essay by Tim, and an interview with Tim. The index of his work is also annotated by the artist in much the same way as was the previous book in this series, *The Vaughn Bode Index*.

This is an art book. It is also a tribute to one of the most creative cartoonists fandom has ever spawned -- and don't be fooled; Tim Kirk might be a Big Pro today, but fandom was very much a part of his artistic life a few years ago.

This book contains some of the very best of Tim's work. It has to be seen to be fully appreciated. It's a scream.

And, with a price of \$10, it's also a steal. Limited to 1500 copies, you better order fast before Ned realizes he's losing money on every copy he sells and ups the price.





APRIL 3-5, 1981

SATYRICON

KNOXVILLE, TN.

WITH...

**GUEST
OF
HONOR**

**GORDON
DICKSON**

**STAN
SCHMIDT**

**Special
Guest**

**MASTER OF
CEREMONIES**

ANDREW J. OFFUTT

EDITOR OF ANALOG MAGAZINE

**SURPRISED
GUEST**

KARL EDWARD WAGNER

...AND OTHER
NOTED AUTHORS,
ARTISTS, AND
PROFESSIONALS

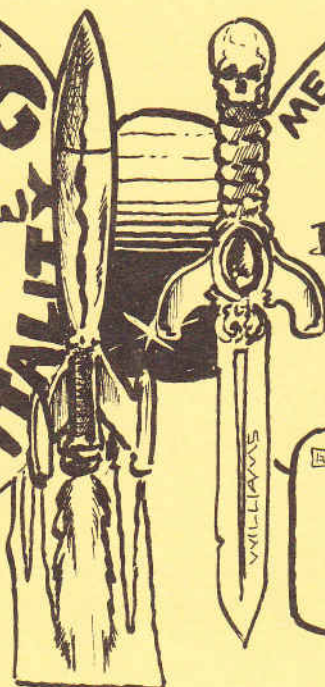
FAN GUEST-OF-HONOR GUY H. LILLIAN III

At
the

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MASQUERADE BANQUET
HUCKSTER VIDEO
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Parties!
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

\$10 ADVANCE

\$12 AT THE DOOR

BANQUET TICKET \$10

ACCOMMODATIONS

SINGLE RM (1 DBL BED) 32⁷⁰

DOUBLE RM (2 DBL BEDS) 43⁶⁰

PRICES INCLUDE TAX

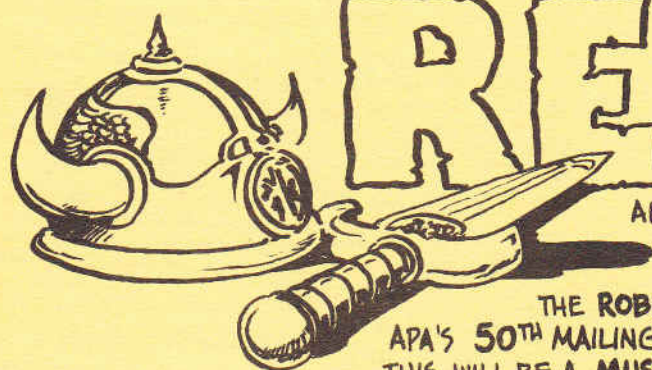
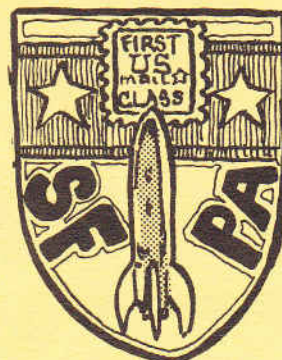
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37901

**MAKE CHECKS
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SPECIAL EVENTS

SFPA★100

SATYRICON'S FAN GUEST OF HONOR, **GUY H. LILLIAN III**, OFFICIAL EDITOR OF THE **SOUTHERN FANDOM PRESS ALLIANCE**, WILL PRESIDE OVER THE CELEBRATION OF THAT ORGANIZATION'S MILESTONE 100TH MAILING, WHICH WILL BE **COLLATED & DISTRIBUTED** AT THE CONVENTION! YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE EXCITEMENT AND HOOPLA OF THIS VERY SPECIAL OCCASION!



REHUPA50

ANOTHER MILESTONE IN AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION HISTORY WILL BE CELEBRATED AS SATYRICON'S SPECIAL GUEST **KARL EDWARD WAGNER** JOINS MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF THE **ROBERT E. HOWARD UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION** IN MARKING THAT APA'S 50TH MAILING, WITH FANTASY ILLUSTRATOR **JOHN MAYER** AS TOASTMASTER. THIS WILL BE A MUST FOR ALL LOVERS OF HEROIC FANTASY! BE THERE!



ARTSHOW & AUCTION

MANY OF THE FINEST SF & FANTASY ARTISTS, WILL BE DISPLAYING WORK AT SATYRICON, AND THE SATURDAY NIGHT AUCTION PROMISES GOOD BUYS FOR THE ART LOVER. ARTISTS SHOULD SEND SASE BY FEB. 15TH TO CHARLIE WILLIAMS, 4314 HAYES AVENUE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37912 FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION.

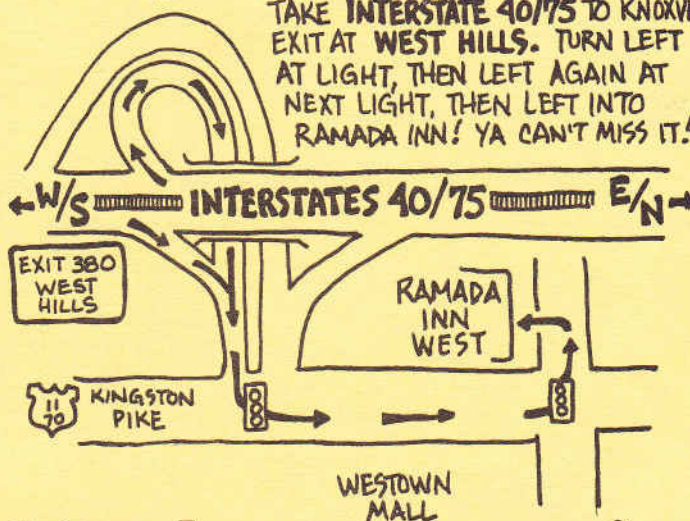
HUCKSTER\$

SATYRICON'S HUCKSTER ROOM WILL OFFER A WIDE SELECTION OF SF & FANTASY BOOKS, MAGAZINES, AND RELATED MERCHANDISE. HUCKSTER TABLES ARE \$15⁰⁰ EACH (DOES NOT INCLUDE MEMBERSHIP). A SASE TO JOHN NEAL, 2119 WOODBINE AVE., KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917, WILL BRING ADDITIONAL INFO.

- Ⓢ FOR THE COMFORT & SAFETY OF ALL, SATYRICON WILL REQUIRE PEACE-BONDING OF ALL WEAPONS OF ANY TYPE, AT ALL TIMES.
- Ⓢ PERSONS UNDER 16 YEARS OLD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT GUARDIAN.

HERE'S HOW TO GET THERE:

TAKE INTERSTATE 40/75 TO KNOXVILLE. EXIT AT WEST HILLS. TURN LEFT AT LIGHT, THEN LEFT AGAIN AT NEXT LIGHT, THEN LEFT INTO RAMADA INN! YA CAN'T MISS IT!



SEE YA AT SATYRICON APRIL 3-5!

VINGE TAKES ON PSIONICS

...REVIEW BY GEORGE "LAN" LASKOWSKI

Since the beginning of her writing career in science fiction in 1973, Joan Vinge has touched on, or directly handled, most of the major themes in SF: robots, prosthetics, space travel, galactic empires rising and falling, aliens (their races and cultures), future earths, fantasy, death and immortality, and psionics. The last, psionics, she has touched on in a number of stories: the telepathic compulsion in "Voices in the Dust", the telepathic communication of the alien race in "To Bell the Cat", the telepathic link through physical contact (the finger of one person in the navel of another) in "The Crystal Ship", are prime examples. Vinge has also used a semi-telepathic link with a computer, most notably in "The Peddler's Apprentice" (written in collaboration with Vernor Vinge), and *The Snow Queen*. With her new novella, "Psiren", Joan Vinge uses her full talents of creativity, description, sensitivity, and characterization, as well as her abilities in detailing plausible alien worlds and cultures, in handling psionics as a major theme.

Cat is a telepath because of his parents, one a human, the other a Hydran. Rather, he was a telepath. Since he had killed a man a year earlier, his mind shut down. He has lived in "solitary confinement", as it were, a torturous life, unable to perceive people as he had in the past. As a member of the Center for Psionic Research, he was supposed to help those people who were telepathic to cope with their abilities; now he could not even help himself.

As a diversion from his problems, Jule, an empath and teleporter, and Cat travel to Oldcity, the original colony site on the planet Ardattee, around which the city of Quarro grew up when it became the center of the Terran Federation. There in the ghettos, in a dive called Haven, they encounter Dreamweaver, an alien, and Hydran like Cat's alien half. Dreamweaver touched and opened Cat's closed mind; she also opened the minds of the other patrons of Haven, allowing each person to experience their own dreams. The experience was too much for Jule, who teleports out; but for Cat -- to become

alive again, to have his ability back -- he stays until Dreamweaver's performance is over. His mind once again shuts down, but he vows to return, to find Dreamweaver, to have her help him regain his lost powers.

As always with a Vinge story, the plot becomes more involved than what this simple summary indicates. There are a myriad of character conflicts; underworld intrigue and espionage complicate matters further.

The characters of Cat, Jule, Dreamweaver, and the chief of police are well drawn. The conflicts set up among them, the complicating plots which draw Cat deeper and deeper into the criminal underworld of which Dreamweaver has unwittingly become a part, show Vinge to be the master craftsman she has been in the past. She makes more than believable the powers of psi, blending them well with the characters who have them. And somewhere, among all the convolutions in the story, everything manages to work out. The story will be a real treat when it is published in full.

"Psiren" will be out in the summer of 1981. Joan Vinge was Guest of Honor at CONCLAVE V (for Vinge), where she read excerpts of the story as part of the programming. The con committee, as it had for the past two CONCLAVES, published a special edition of "Psiren", with artwork augmenting the narrative, by

by Joan Hanke-Woods augmenting the narrative. Numbered copies of this limited edition are \$2.00, plus \$.50 postage, from Dan Story, PO Box 8022, Ann Arbor, MI 48107. (Also available are numbered copies of "The Enchanted Village" by A.E. van Vogt, with artwork by Joan Hanke-Woods, for \$1.50, plus \$.50 postage.)



WHY YOUR GRANDCHILDREN WILL GROW UP UNDER COMMUNISM

...COMMENTARY BY ANDY ANDRUSCHAK

A funny thing happened 27 November, 1980. As usual, the US press and TV ignored yet another Russian launch to the Salyut Six Space Station. The Official Word is that There Is No Need To Hurry.

The funny thing was that this time the Russian spacecraft had three cosmonauts, not the usual two. This was the first time in a decade that this configuration had been used.

Most people have forgotten, if it ever interested them, that on 30 June, 1971, 3 Cosmonauts were killed when their capsule depressurized on re-entry. The USSR went back to 2-man capsules, with the cosmonauts wearing spacesuits. This has hampered their space operations since.

Well, the new Soyuz capsule ends a lot of problems. It can safely fly three men. It has a better on-board computer for matching up to the space station.

Granted the fact that the Russians want a military presence in space, and have decided that Salyut stations are the best method, the new development is bad news for those who want to keep man's oldest outdoor sport out of space.

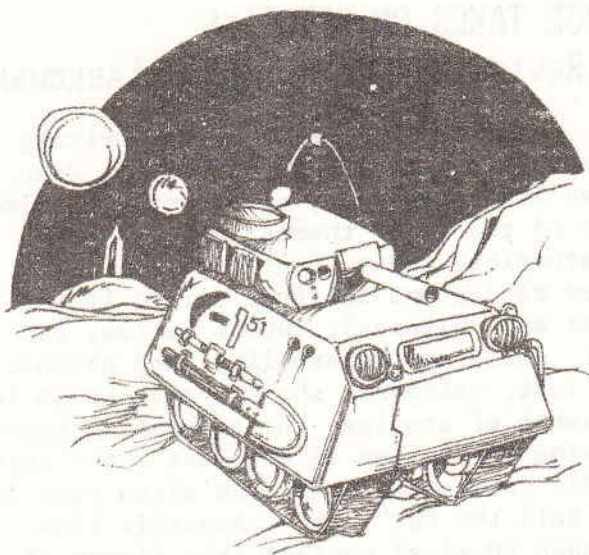
So now it looks as if the Russians will try an even longer stay in space, with more "science" activity. Among these will be pin-pointing all the ICBM sites in the USA for targeting by the new generation of USSR ICBMs coming on-line in 1982.

Among other science activities.

At the moment, the USA has no plans whatever for a permanent manned space station. L-5 colonies are not even considered. A return to the moon is a waste of time with all the moon rocks brought back from the Apollo missions mostly still sealed awaiting money for proper analysis. So now what?

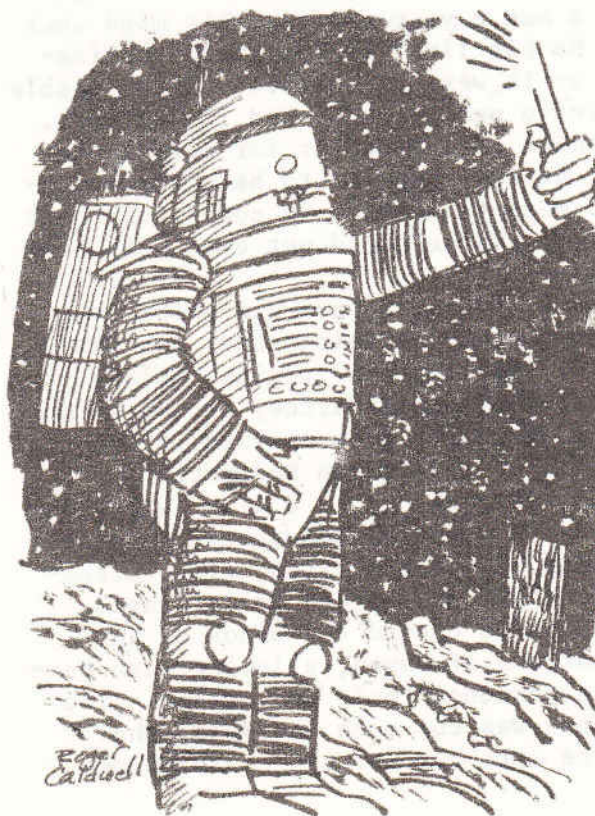
Well, we might get the USA Space Shuttle off the ground. The so-called target date is 14 March, 1981 ((recently postponed to May - Ed.)). Don't bet on it.

And the USSR space shuttle? Well... that remains to be seen. They are keeping it under close wraps, like their moon program in the 1960s. That way, if it fails they can deny that any such program existed.



Throw in the anti-satellite system that the Russians have developed, add their Particle Beam research, and the answer is...war. Or at least, the very good chance of some sort of conflict above the atmosphere. At the moment, the Russians would win any such conflict.

((Ed. note: Harry J.N. "Andy" Andruschak is a Los Angeles area fan, currently employed by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. For those who don't know him, we add that he is not always this cheerful.))



continued on page 14

Barney Neufeld LoC (cont.)

present a picture. True, they can engage other senses than sight, but, except for hearing, only in a very limited way.

Books are, or can/should be, a far more active medium. They are limited only by the author's power to evoke associations by the words he uses--and the way he uses them. To truly read a book demands an act (or several acts) of imagination not possible to elicit from a moving picture screen. Words are static objects, true. But the words are only starting points. The real story in a book, and the real setting as well, is as much in the imaginative abilities of the reader as it is by those of the author.

But, now it's on to CHAT 38. I'm very sorry to hear of Ms. McCaffrey's problem. She is truly warm and marvelous lady, and it is a shame this will keep her from the conventions and other activities we all so enjoy seeing he involved in.

Swinging the other way, it is gratifying to hear of Mr. Van Vogt's victory. An author's work is his property, and should be respected as such.

I do agree with Mike Rogers. Fanzines are still alive and kicking. And they are becoming more important as expenses go spiraling upward. Another reason fanzines continue to thrive is fans like me. There is a place in fanzinedom for those who only read and LoC. A fanzine without response is only waste paper. But, a fanzine that has a lively LoCcol is a party--and attracts good writers in other areas.

((Actually, it is what is thought of as a party that is confused. In looking over the latest RUNE (#61 and another fine effort by the out-going editors-Kennedy & Pelton), I notice that all the meetings take place in people's HOMES. I also know from my correspondence with you and others that Minn-stf ~~parties~~ meetings are gatherings in homes with BYO part of it. In looking over CHAT, the CSFA meetings are held in a university center, rather than a home and the parties the club sponsors are in a local apartment complex club house and the club furnishes pizza and drinks. As far as gathering at a person's home, that is a part of every monthly meeting-known as the after-the-meeting-meeting(I call it the after-the-eating-meeting, as it is after we go out and eat). The one after the January meeting was a surprise birth-

day party for Mike Rogers. The parties such as that are not being debated; the parties that the club caters (and COST) are the ones being debated. So CSFA does party every month...it just isn't part of the main program or announced in CHAT.

((Hm. I rarely find it hard to write anything, once I have the idea in my mind.

I generally don't do a lot of rewriting and I generally don't need to do a great deal of research. I also find doing book reviews easy, if I greatly liked or disliked the book. The books that I feel so-so about or I'm SUPPOSED to like I do find hard at times. I think writing in apas (drafting on stencil) and the heavy amount of writing I did in high school and college helped me to organize and direct my writing. As I said, with a topic I can sit down and get writing done; without a topic, I'm stuck.

((As you've probably heard, Satyricon will be going on with Gordon Dickson as GoH and Stan Schmidt as Special Guest. Andrew J. Offutt will be the M.C. and for special events apas SFPA and REHUPA will be celebrating their 100th and 50th mailings, respectively. Guy H. Lillian III (OE of SFPA) will be Fan GoH and is expected to collate the largest ever mailing of the apa at the con. Should be great!!

((I agree totally about fanzines; we plan to make our genzine a real party!!!))

A CHAT IN THE
HAND IS WORTH
TWO IN THE BUSH!



 Harry Andruschak
 P.O. Box 606
 La Canada-Flintridge, CA 91011

You can
 announce
 that
 Denys

Neil Harris
 6834 Roosevelt Blvd.
 Philadelphia, PA 19116

Thank you for
 sending us CHAT.
 You may be in-
 terested in

Howard of Seattle has agreed to take over SOUTH OF THE MOON (an annual zine which lists the various apas and info about them) in 1981, and good luck to him.

Now that the Saturn encounter is over, JPL is looking ahead to the next fiscal year. We are hoping to get the start of the Venus Orbiting Imaging Radar (VOIR) for launch in 1986. Carter promised it to us, but you know the value of a lame-duck's promises...especially a man who has fucked over NASA as thoroughly as Carter did in his four years.

Oddly enough, a Halley Comet Missions may be forming. Why?? Wounded pride, that's why. ESA turned down the offer from NASA to supply a Delta rocket and the DSN for the proposed ESA GIOTTO mission to the comet. The French wanted to launch the mission on an ARIANE rocket, and got their way.

So a group in NASA, muttering Sour Grapes, is trying to get a fly-by mission approved. Note that this is not a rendezvous as JPL has wanted in the past... just a hello-goodbye peek at the comet.

The USSR is also going to Halleys, as is Japan.

((OK, it's announced.
 ((Thanks for the update.))



knowing that the founding of a genzine by PSFS ((Philadelphia Science Fiction Society-ed.)) was in part inspired by your zine. It is interesting, readable, and a little bit weird -- what more could you ask?

The ongoing discussion in your letter col has been especially interesting, on a couple of topics. As a member of the Philadelphia in 1986 committee, I would like, of course, to discourage any Atlanta bid. Than again, people keep telling me I'm crazy for wanting to be part of a bid. We, too, encountered problems in finding a room big enough to hold the Hugo awards and the masquerade. There is a room in each of out two primary hotels which will seat 3,000. It appears that the maximum number of people in the room at one time will possibly exceed that. The probable solution involves the use of close-circuit television. In the fourth-largest city in the U.S., we couldn't find a larger room in the downtown area.

If you decide not to bid for 1986, why don't you get a contingent together and help the Philly bid? It's still a long way off, but we are planning to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first SF convention (Philcon 1936, natch).

It is interesting to note the comments about a "power struggle" and factionalizing within your club. This has been a problem which has plagued the PSFS for at least the last 8 years (since I've been in). The people who do the work are inevitably accused of trying to grab power. What most people don't realize is that there is really almost no power to be obtained by running the typical regional SF club. And the positions of responsibility are generally available for those who are interested and dedicated enough to use them. Unfortunately, there are those who aren't willing to take that approach, and instead seek titles for their own sakes. This leads to the downfall of the club, as the workers get disgusted with the drones. This series of events has occurred countless times in PSFS and other clubs.

((Wow, CHAT inspiring a genzine!!
 That is great!! Strange that we are now

continued on page 16

Neil Harris LoC (cont.)

stopping CHAT (in this incarnation) to do a genzine of our own.

((You'd better see if our neighbors to the south (Atlanta) is deciding whether or not they are bidding for 1986! As far as I know, Chattanooga is not involved in a Worldcon bid, except in interest.

((That is very true about clubs in general, lacking any real power and it's what I've been saying all along. Neither Dick or I hold any positions in the club, other than doing the clubzine—a post that I started without club funds and without club direction. As for myself, I choose to not be a part of any club's power structure. The only exception I've made in in my professional club, the local Weaving Guild. It is odd how people think clubs somehow have "power" and seek to alienate to the point of destruction of friendships and unity to "obtain" it. It's a funny soap opera at times, and a sad one. What I find most interesting is the lack of comment by LOCAL members in this forum. If there are discussions, I certainly don't hear them!

Thanks for the letter and much luck with the new genzine. I hope to LoC it.))



Laurel Beckley
 70 Goshen St.
 Elmont, NY 11003

Thanks for sending me all the copies of CHAT; I enjoyed reading them. Liked the illos and "2063 A.D.". Also liked "The Dragon in East Tennessee History". Enjoyed reading the book reviews. I also read *Fade-Out* by Patrick Tilley and thought it was good. I found it in the library, also.

((Well, thank YOU, Laurel, for all the illos. We look forward to your contributions to our genzine and hope to include the illos you send in our first issue.))

Robert Runte
 10957-88 Ave
 Edmonton, Alberta CANADA
 T6G 0Y9

(1) There is no such word as "irregardless" (p.14), but I enjoyed the

"Chuck Upmann" pun ~~irregardless~~ anyway.

(2) Changing to a bimonthly schedule makes a LOT of sense. Many clubs seem to feel that their newsletter has to be monthly to be effective, but if you press them for reasons they usually have to admit that no club news is sufficiently pressing that it is worth the work of maintaining a monthly schedule. The Edmonton Club's newsletter has always been bimonthly (though sometimes it seems more like a quarterly) and yet it has never suffered on that account. Furthermore, a bimonthly schedule makes feedback easier. We had to change *The Monthly Monthly* to *The Bimonthly Monthly* not because we were worn out, but because our loccers couldn't keep up and our contributors couldn't produce material fast enough.

(3) Mike Roger's column reflects a universal debate in club fandom. The BC club's going through exactly the same thing the last month or so and it is a perennial issue in ESFCAS. Nicki's response in the LoCol seems to indicate that your group has already found a suitable compromise between the sercon and party factions, but that not all of the club's membership has quite realized that there much be a compromise.

In the Edmonton club we are fortunate enough to have a meeting room large enough for the socializers to socialize in one half and those interested in programming to watch *Dr. Who* or whatever in the other half. There was a time when we placed more emphasis on programming, but we discovered that there just aren't enough programming items of interest to everyone to make it worth the effort, so now programming mostly consists of informal arrangements of small subgroups within the club to provide video tapes or films or visitors or whatever for their own get togethers within the context of the larger club meeting. There's usually something going on in one corner of the meeting or another, but it seldom interferes with anybody else.

The one thing, though, that we avoid at all costs is a formal business meeting format — with the exception of the annual elections, there is never reading of minutes or reports or the like. That only leads to endless "point of order, Mr. Chairman" and terminal

continued on page 17

Robert Runte LoC (cont.)

boredom. The club nearly died of it once. So never again.

((Thanks for the post card, Robert!

I think most clubs (SF or not) go through periods of activity and inactivity and when inactive, the group changes. This month the club will decide about the future and maybe they will see your point about what they have being what they are looking for.))



George "Lan" Laskowski, Jr.
47 Valley Way
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013

(on CHAT
38-Nov) I
enjoyed
Mike Rogers'

ROC*KON report. I hope both of you enjoyed your roles as Fan GoHs, at the convention.

As I recall, Mike Rogers and I have met three times, and I only once have we really sat down to talk. Hopefully, I'll be able to get to Rivercon this year and do that again. I am glad for David Pettus' interview of Mike; it gave me more information about him which makes me want to talk with Mike all the more. Thanks for printing it.

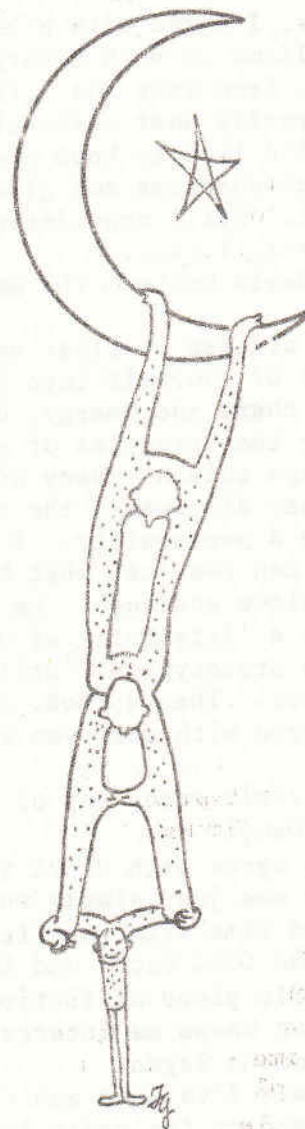
The subject of SF club meetings is interesting. Once the business of a con is over, the club usually flounders for a while, recuperating; sometimes it plans for the next con, other times it just relaxes and parties. Waldo & Magic, Inc., the one I'm currently in, is both partying and planning for the next CONCLAVE (GoH is Varley, Fan GoH -the Stope's). CSFA is more organized in that it does have programming for its monthly meetings. W&M, Inc. has weekly meetings, so programming is non-existent. But we do have fun; we manage to keep things together without a rigid program. This does not work for all

groups. As with anything, programming will work if the group responds to it. Our pre-con meetings are "programmed" with work on convention items. Then we head for the bar. Again there are usually meetings. Monthly meetings are special for all involved in CSFA, so programming is the best route. Good luck with it!

((We had a good time as Fan GoH at ROC*KON, a fine small con. Getting back to all the "controversy" was a pain.

((The CSFA does not run ChattaCon, the ChattaCon Committee does. Ideally, the Committee is different from the club so the club doesn't have to run a con.

((Thanks the for best wishes...we will surely need them!))



Chris Estey Loved CHAT 39.
600 S. Kent St. G.45 Seemed more strong
Kennewick, WA 99336 this time. Good
 stuff. ...

I like your news section. It seems not many people comment on it, that's a shame. I find it much more readable and powerful (YES) than anyone else's, excepting Flynn's newszine for comics. Both of your pubs reflect a spontaneous, energetic, and concise newscolumn of general interest. I think your two's are the only ones I read. Yeah.

Graphically, CHAT 39 was very good.

Mike Rogers is a very interesting and lucid writer. I have absolutely no opinion on the Atlanta in 1986 bid, considering the farthest south I've been is Lake Tahoe, so I know virtually nothing what you're talking about. Still, I love this feud, even though it is getting a little fantastic.

As it stands, I agree with Mike.

Charlie Williams is both a very enjoyable person, from what the interview showed, and a really neat cartoonist/illustrator. I'd like to know him; he gives off a nice charisma and glow. Same with you, Nicki. Still considering moving to the South, yes, I is...

Still love David Heath. The man has imagination.

Nicki, your writing is clear and readable, but inject more of yourself into it. You have a natural charm and energy, don't let it quiver under the struggles of editing. I liked your Hugo column. Very nice.

Bob Barger has discovered the secret of writing with a personality. I can "touch" him, I can see just what he means through his reviews and such. He and David Pettus both use a 'lifestyle' of writing, as opposed to a prototypical 'critic' rhetorical stance. Thanks, Bob, and I also usually agree with what you say, if it matters.

Too bad I haven't read any of the books you reviewed. Damn!

Oh, but I do agree with Nicki that *The Lathe of Heaven* was just simply wonderful, and I had a good time with Charlie watching *The Girl, the Gold Watch and Everything* (a charming little piece of fiction and viewing). *Cosmos* keeps me interested. Good show, I commend Sagan.

The commercials I've seen and the promotions I've heard on the radio for *Popeye* make it seem convincing as the strip I enjoyed as a kid, and the absolutely fan-

tastic cartoons of the twenties and thirties (by the same studio as *Betty Boop*), I got into just last year. Might be good.

...

Well, I didn't understand *Thurn*--but I sure liked the graphics.

I agree totally with Ralph about MR. and MS. in his column EXCUSE ME..ER..ER. I agree if we NEED Mr., most definitely we need MS., but I'd rather do away with any definition of sex whatsoever. I'm a strong believer in Money's studies, anyways, so it cannot be determined just what is a 'she' or a 'he'. O well, read NM #3 ((Chris' zine NOT MELLOW-ed.)).

If I ever meet Chuck Upmann in person, I'll do terrible things to his dog with a fork.

I agree with you, Dick, about 'subjectiveness' in editing, if it's a magazine reflecting a viewpoint and whatnot. I'm an ethical person, and am strongly against censorship, but I'm also libertarian, and if you're doing the thing, do it YOUR way.

Agree with Dalvan totally about critics. Me, I consider myself a 'reviewer' another breed of animals, as said before. Arf. Arf. ...

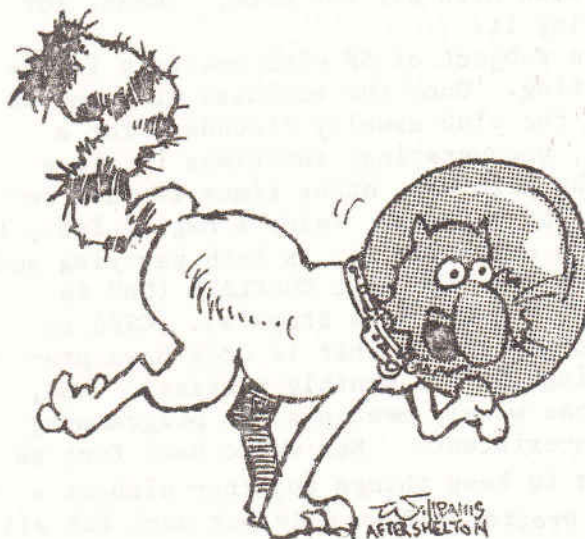
Keep up the splendid work.

((Thanks for the letter, Chris.

((There is no "feud" about the proposed Atlanta in 1986 bid, just a lot of discussion. In fact there, may, or may not be, one. Time will tell.

((Thank you for your comments; maybe I'll get a bit more of myself into my writing in our genzine. Maybe I should send you some of my apazines for comparison.

((Looking forward to your next zine!))



George "Lan" Laskowski, Jr.
47 Valley Wy.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013

Let me
add my con-
gratulations
to Joan Vinge

on the 4th hardcover printing of *The Snow Queen*. I've read it twice already, and it was better the second time through. It's a definite nominee for the Hugo Award. At present it is my own personal choice for the winner of the Novel category.

Atlanta in '86 sounds like a reasonable bid. As I recall from discussions with Southern fans at B'HAMACON a few years ago, the Peach Tree Convention Center (I think that's the place) has more than adequate space and facilities for a WorldCon. I could support it, if the bid is a real one.

I met Charlie Williams for the first time at NORTHAMERICON and had a nice long talk with him then, but somehow have managed to missed talking with the fellow at the other cons we've been at together. Thank you for printing the interview and giving all of us more additional insight into this talented artist. His personal illos did augment the writing, too.

Nicki's summary of the possibilities for the 1981 Hugo nominees for the Dramatic presentation was good, and best of all, compleat. I hadn't considered the possibility of Sagan's *Cosmos* as a nomination, but I have to agree. The Dramatic Presentation is not limited to fiction, and it does deserve recognition from fandom. And *The Return of the King* slipped right by me--when was that on?

Oh, goodie, goodie--a new series by Charlie Williams. This is going to be fun!

Chuck Upmann's "The Perilous Plight of Cadet Pacot" was too short, and too much background piquing the imagination, for it to be wasted on a mere pun. Please, consider the possibility of actually writing a whole story where Cadet Pacot actually must consider seriously the plight you postulated, Chuck; it could be an awfully good story.

((I wish my summary had been compleat! After we went to press I discovered I had left out two major TV productions in the SF field--*Brave New World* and *The Martian Chronicles*. I can see not remembering the former as it was not shown on TV here, but I quite enjoyed the latter and can't figure out why I forgot it. I also cut *AL-*

tered States from the article because I had no information if and when it was released. The next week it was released. I also don't know if *Superman II* is eligible, since it IS out in Europe, but not here, yet. But thanks anyway!! *The Return of the King* was on in late spring, but you didn't miss anything.

((We've sorry that we can't complete Charlie's serial, but we'll try to have it in our genzine.))



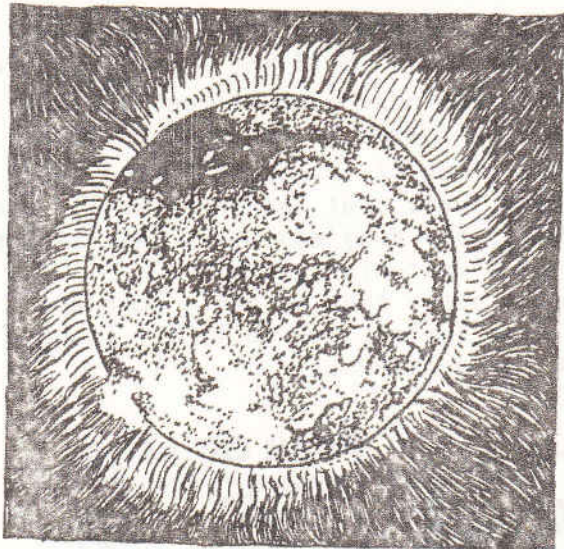
Bruno Baccelli
C.P. 298
54033 Carrera
Italia

I admit: it's a
cosmic difficulty to
write you a LoC in En-
glish, but likewise
thanks for the three

CHATs. The #production is fine. (#38) had an excellent visual cat by Jeanne Gomoll... I appreciate the variety... not withstanding the small pagecount. Still, for me (it's) mysterious (that) American fanzines... have these long LoCols; (in Italia) this is practically a mirage...

((As we can testify, building a successful LoCol takes many issues. Only in the last year or two has ours been large. In fact, one of the things we'll miss from CHAT will be the interesting letters that result, like yours.

((Thanks for the letter, by the way.
Your knowledge of English is a whole lot better than our knowledge of Italian!))



David Martin
6320 Fairest Dr.
Harrison, TN 37341

I suppose that
it's about time I
voiced my opinion
on the programming

vs. partying issue which CSFA seems to have wrapped itself up in. I am a member of said club so I believe I do have the right to do so.

First of all, I'd like to ask what's wrong with being known as a Party Club? It's very good PR. Well, let me tell you this: it's damned expensive. I ought to know; I'm assistant treasurer of the club and I had to make a financial statement at the December meeting in lieu of the official treasurer, Janis Johnson. Because of all the functions CSFA has been sponsoring, the treasury is severely depleted. I am proposing that we put a stop to our spending until the bank statement shows an increase in our account of at least 50%. We are close to broke, people.

I personally don't see anything wrong with having a regular program such as a book discussion or a movie, etc. at the meetings. From my standpoint, a major part of fandom is built around the sharing of ideas which takes place at some such activity.

An optimum solution to the whole dispute would be a balanced program. We could have two or three parties a year for the section of the club which prefers these activities to the intellectually stimulating ones of civilized communication.

But what we are really after is a way to pull the whole membership together. Let's face it, with our current system, we have no real sense of togetherness. We're

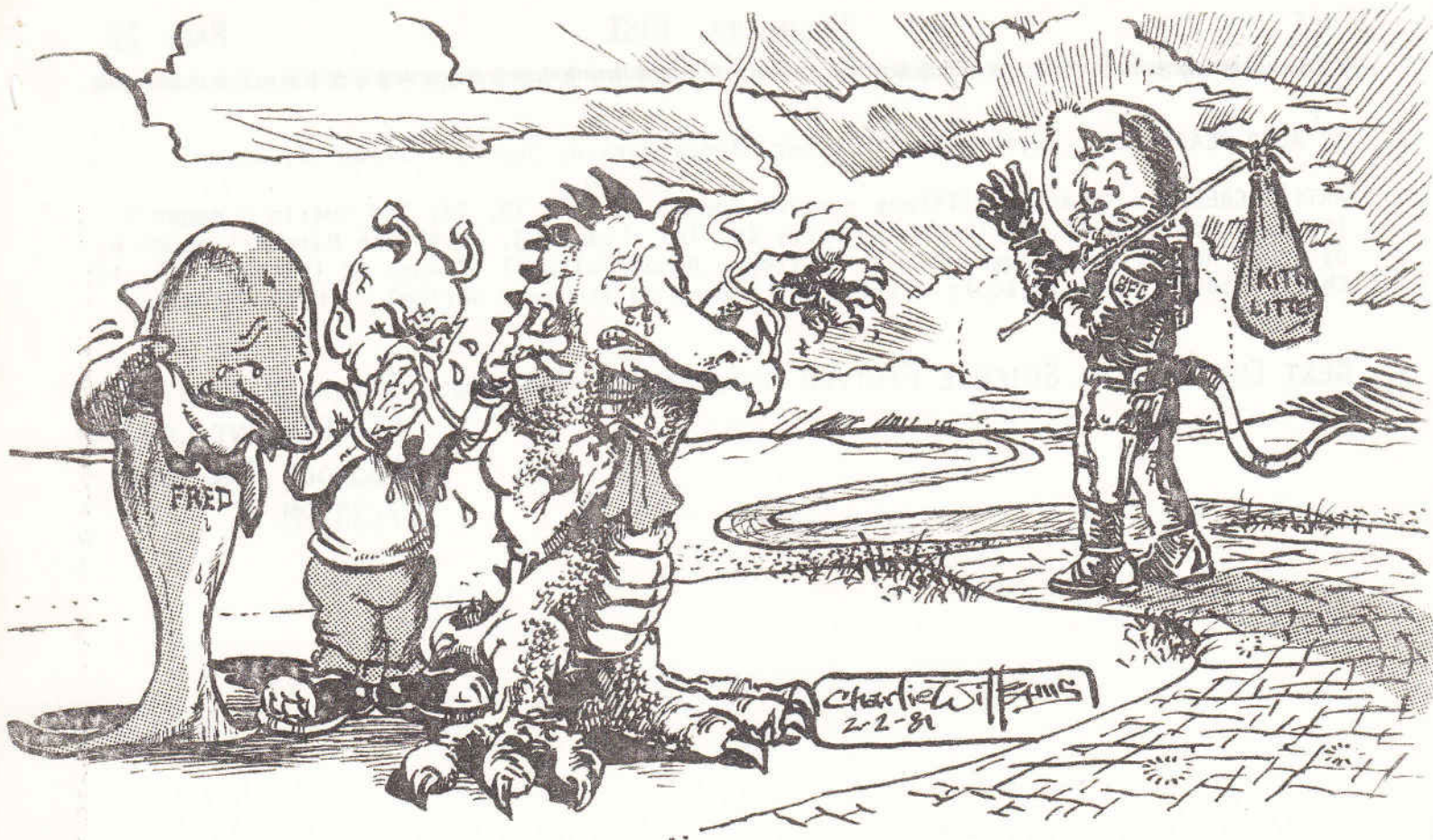
like a bunch of strangers who meet once a month for some clandestine purpose. I don't believe there's anyone in the club who can claim to know all of the membership. I've been a member for almost three years now and I KNOW I can't make that claim. What we should do real soon now, is have a fellowship meeting when everyone gets together to talk over their interests in fandom and what led them to join CSFA. I think we could learn a lot of interesting things about ourselves if we tried that.

((Well said, Dave. But it's about what has been said over and over. The question is HOW to get said goal done. The treasury may have been low when you were working on it several months ago, but is doing better now. Parties ARE expensive, especially when a room has to be rented and food and drink served. The club did have a balanced program, but it fell apart this summer for some unknown reason. If a constitution is the answer, we're looking at the wrong question.

((If you don't know everyone in the club (I assume you mean those who attend the meetings, rather than those who just pay dues) then introduce yourself to a new person each time! I do so and I think I almost know everyone by name. But then I make a point of it.

((I hope you plan to stand up and say something at the next meeting, Dave. It is nice to see people get involved in a constructive manner!))





ALL THINGS MUST PASS. NOTHING LASTS FOREVER, NO MATTER HOW HARD WE WISH IT. MORTALITY IS A FACT OF OUR LIVES, IN FANDOM AS ELSEWHERE. FOR AT LEAST THREE OF US HERE IN KNOXVILLE, THE PASSING OF **CHAT** IS AN EVENT OF DEEP PERSONAL SIGNIFICANCE. **CHAT** WAS THE VEHICLE THAT PROPELLED US INTO FANDOM, THIS CRAZY SUBCULTURE WE'VE COME TO EMBRACE AS A DAILY PART OF OUR LIVES. **CHAT** AND THE LYNCHI WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN INTRODUCING US TO FANDOM IN GENERAL, SOUTHERN FANDOM IN PARTICULAR, AND, PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY, RIGHT HERE IN KNOXVILLE. IT WAS THE FIRST FANZINE VERNON RECEIVED UNSOLICITED, AND THE NUDGE HE NEEDED TO BEGIN WRITING REVIEWS & LOGS. FOR RUSTY, THE EGOCOD OF HAVING HIS ARTWORK INTRODUCED TO ITS FIRST WIDE AUDIENCE SPURRED THE REAWAKENING OF A LONG-DORMANT SIDE OF HIS PERSONALITY. WHEN KEN SCOTT SHOWED THOSE FIRST COUPLE OF *CAROONS TO DICK & NICKI, THEIR RESPONSE SET A STRUGGLING YOUNG CARTOONIST ON A PATH THAT CONTINUES TO INFORM HIS DAILY WORK. FOR ALL OF US, THE LYNCHI, AND THE OTHER FINE FOLKS WE MET IN **CHAT**, LED US INTO CONVENTION-GOING AND THE SPURIOUS OCCUPATION OF APAHACKING. THEY SHOWED US FANDOM WAS **FUN**.

CHAT WAS FUN. IT MADE US CHUCKLE, SOMETIMES LAUGH OUT LOUD. IT PROVOKED GROANS, OCCASIONALLY MADE US MAD. IT MADE US THINK. EACH ISSUE WAS READ & DISCUSSED & ENJOYED AS SOON AS IT HIT THE MAILBOX. EACH PROVOKED RESPONSE, EVEN IF THAT RESPONSE DIDN'T ALWAYS MAKE IT INTO PRINT OR A CARTOON. IT HAS BEEN **IMPORTANT**, IN MANY WAYS, AND WILL ALWAYS HOLD AN HONORED PLACE IN OUR HEARTS.

WE RESPECT THE LYNCHES' DESIRE TO MOVE ON TO NEW ENDEAVORS, THOUGH IT MEANS LEAVING BEHIND SOMETHING WE, AND THEY, LOVE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO FOLLOWING THEIR ADVENTURES, KNOWING THEIR ZINES WILL BE EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS **CHAT** HAS BEEN FOR FORTY ISSUES. WE WILL MARK THIS DATE ON THE CALENDAR, AND RAISE A TOAST TO A VERY DEAR FRIEND.

VIVE LE CHAT!

Vernon Clark

Rusty Burke

*Charlie Williams

WE ALSO HEARD FROM: Wilson (Bob) Tucker, Teddy Harvia, Guy H. Lillian III...

ARTIST CREDITS: Charlie Williams - cover, pages 13, 18, 19, 21; Ted Guerin - pages 2 (top and bottom), 16, 17 (bottom); Jerry Collins - pages 3, 4, 5; Bob Barger - pages 6, 8; David Heath, jr. - pages 7, 11, 12 (top); Roger Caldwell - pages 12 (bottom), 14, 15; Chris Estey - page 17 (top); Julia Scott - page 20 (top and bottom). Thanks to all.

NEXT CHATTANOOGA SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION MEETING: SATURDAY, FEB. 14
UTC STUDENT CENTER
LOOKOUT MTN. ROOM
7:30 PM.

CHAT

DICK & NICKI LYNCH

4207 DAVIS LANE

CHATTANOOGA, TN 37416

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