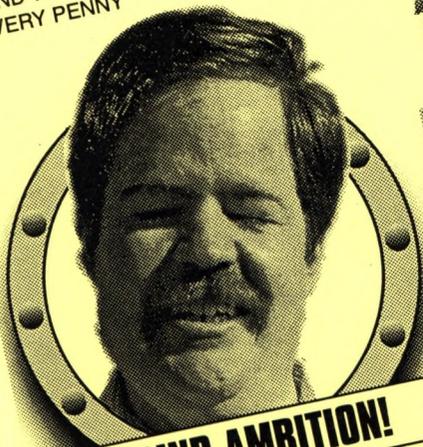




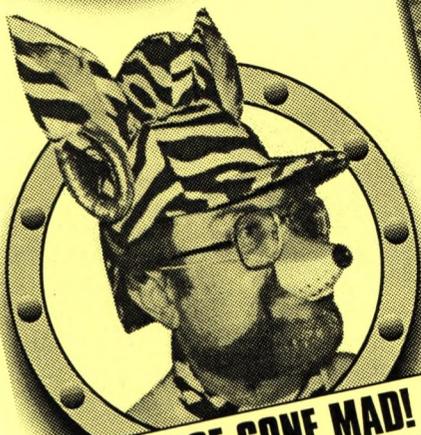
FREE!
AND WORTH
EVERY PENNY

SCI-FILE 770

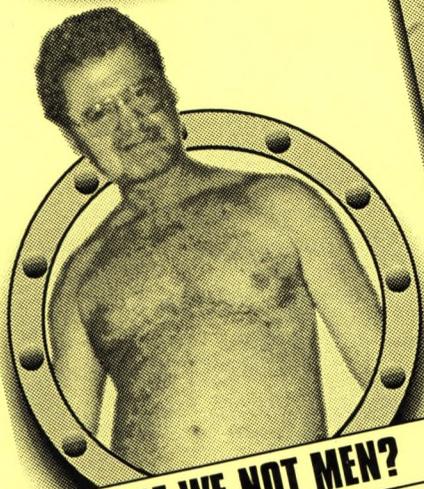
Everything you know will be disproved!



BLIND AMBITION!



SCIENCE GONE MAD!



ARE WE NOT MEN?

**AFTER THE DEATH OF FANDOM,
WILL YOU BE INVITED TO THE
FUNERAL?**

**DETAILS
INSIDE!**



**HILARIOUSLY
OUTRAGEOUS
AND...
X-RATED**

FILE 770

138

File 770:138 is edited by Mike Glyer at 705 Valley View Ave., Monrovia CA 91016.

File 770 is available for news, artwork, arranged trades, or by subscription. Subscriptions cost \$8 for 5 issues, \$15 for 10 issues, mailed first class in North America or surface mail rates overseas.

Air printed matter rate is \$2.50.

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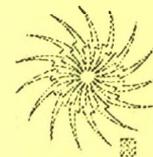
Keith Stokes: (photo) 10

Phyllis Eide: (photo) 22

File 770's "White Album"

Is it any wonder people suspect *File 770* of being a hoax when I'm sending out the April issue in May? But I don't want to waste Alan White's tremendous "April Fool" cover.

Another famous fannish White — Ted — contributed an excerpt from his Corflu report. Then, Alan White comes back with an article describing the way he produces the computerize fan art published in *File 770*. Each man also wrote a meaty letters of comment, making this truly the "White Album" issue of *File 770*.



Art Credits

Alan White: Cover, 2,3, 7, 8, 11, 15, 16, 19

Kurt Erichsen:

Joe Mayhew: 7, 15, 23

Brad Foster: 9

Ray Capella: 4

Bill Rotsler: 2, 24, 25, 26

Teddy Harvia: 4, 5, 12

Freff: 14 (from *Vanamonde 415*)

Julia Morgan-Scott: 6

Grant Canfield: 21, Back Cover

The People Speak: File 770, Not Frohvet, Is The Hoax! ***Editorial Notes by Mike Glyer***

E. B. Frohvet is his own man, whoever he is. And whoever he is, he's not Moshe Feder.

My zealous effort last issue to unmask the "Frohvet hoax" and "blame" him on Feder did not come across to everyone as the intended joke, though some got it: John Hertz called me immediately after reading his copy to say that the reference to Feder was hilarious, because he knew it was impossible. On the other hand, this thunderbolt from Feder came whizzing through e-mail after someone asked him about the story:

Moshe Feder: Greg Benford happened to call Tor for David Hartwell, and since DH is out sick, I answered the phone. We chatted a bit and he took the opportunity to tell me that in the current issue of *File 770* you claim to have discovered that I've been maintaining a hoax persona under the name Frohvet, and that apparently you base this conclusion on his sharing an old opinion of mine. That's awfully flimsy evidence, far beneath what I thought were your journalistic standards. In fact, this claim is complete nonsense... By Roscoe's mighty tail — first Martin Tudor libels me in his TAFF report, and now this!

While Feder was talking to Benford, he enlightened Greg about what I do for a living. (Talk about libel!) I wonder if Benford was horrified to learn that I work for the IRS — I realize it's not exactly the most libertarian entity in America... But we did let Jerry



Pournelle deduct his rifles as a research expense (so he always says.)

Frohvet's own letter soon followed, denying that he's a hoax at all. He's simply a pen name. Ted White also sent an e-mail, suggesting the proper comparison is to David McDaniel, the pro pen-name of LASFSian Ted Johnstone. Applying the one-fan one-fanac principal (which I just made up), I suppose if Frohvet is a *nom de plume* of a fan we other-

wise have never heard of, then they're both right, he's not really a "hoax." (Their letters lead off *The Fanivore*.)

By then, Feder's copy of *File 770* had reached him:

Moshe Feder: When I got home later, I found that the issue had arrived and was able to read the piece myself. In context, I think the reference to me does come across as a joke, though perhaps not a very funny one. (On the other hand, I'm slightly pleased to be thought still involved enough in fanac to have my name used this way.)

I honestly thought the piece was funny when I wrote it, though once I saw it in print it seemed to reek of neglected-newzinc-editor-with-big-ego — therefore, probably too much like the truth to be taken for a joke!

Other readers pointed out my error in identifying Joseph T. *Mayhew* as someone who met Frohvet at Chicon 2000. Yes, that was a mistake — after all, I was calling Frohvet a hoax, not a ghost. (Joseph T. *Major* met him at Chicon.)

So, in the grand tradition of *File 770*, I will spend the next several issues explaining (and probably getting the correction wrong) that E. B. Frohvet is not a hoax and also is not Moshe Feder. I hope you won't get so confused you'll have to check a photo ID before you shave yourself. Especially if you're a woman!

Corflu 2001

excerpts from a report by

Ted White

[[Ted kindly permitted File 770 to run the following excerpts of a full-length report that will appear in Sandra Bond's fanzine QUASIQUEOTE. Contact her via e-mail at sandra@ho-street.demon.co.uk]]

If the omens were to be believed, this year's Corflu was going to be a disaster. Ominous rumors were floating about: the hotel was terrifically overpriced, and had no amenities (no restaurant – not even a coffee shop). Publicity from Bob Webber, the con-chair, was conspicuously absent – no Progress Reports were ever published and the first on-line information was not posted to the fan-nish lists until late last fall, after some public grumbling had made itself heard. "Is anyone going?" was a common question.

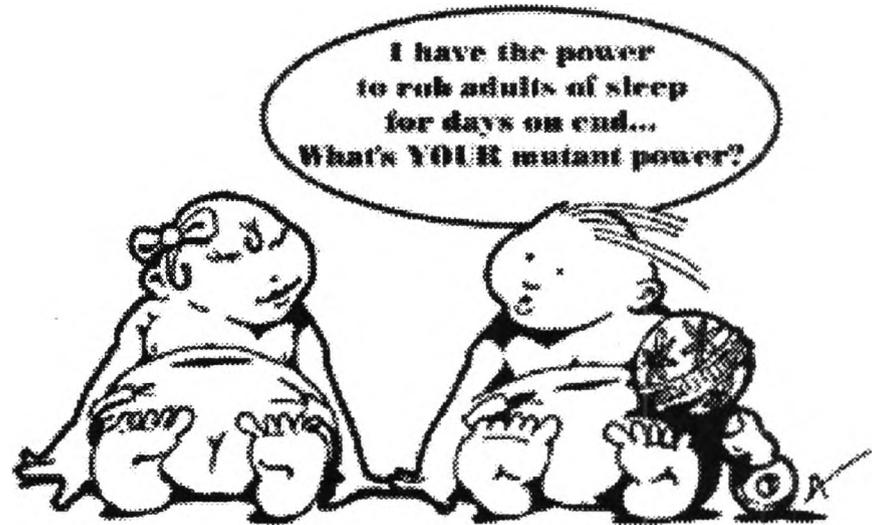
But Sheila Leightsey canvassed the area around the hotel and reported on the many restaurants within walking distance, aided and abetted by George Flynn, and she asked me for suggestions on consulte munchies. And it was Sheila who arranged for the Sunday banquet to be catered by a local restaurant at the hotel. As the convention grew closer it began to seem more solid, more real.

The MidTown Hotel turned out to be more of a motel – only two stories high, with ample parking underneath. I drove up to Boston with rich brown and ended up parking almost directly opposite the lobby entrance, an ideal spot. The hotel was, in fact, a close cousin to the "Tudor Nightmare Village" hotels of several past, and fondly remembered, Corflus – lacking only eating facilities. (It *did* have a "coffee shop" – but it served only breakfast and was open only until 11:00 AM.)

It was at some point Friday night that Nic Farey's name was pulled from the hat as Corflu's Guest of Honor. It's *uncanny* how these things work out.

I had gotten almost no sleep the night before driving up, but I've learned the secret of sleeping in con-hotels: ear-plugs. Thus equipped, I got a decent night's sleep – my first in a couple of days.

The food laid out in the lower consulte provided an adequate breakfast and I was ready to be on the first program item of the



day. I wish I could find my copy of the "program" sheet, but it seems to be misplaced. I found I was on the first item when Bob asked me to be. Since it had to do with the intersection of one's fannish and professional interests, I felt well suited to be on it. I shared the panel with Deb Geisler and Sharon Sbarksy, with Bob moderating and Deb and I did most of the talking, as it turned out.

I missed the next item (spouses of faneds or somesuch) while Frank and I went out to explore the other main direction in which we'd heard there were restaurants. It had stopped raining, but was cold and windy.

Back at the convention, it was soon time for the fanzine auction. Dan Steffan had given me a box of fanzines to take up to be auctioned for TAFF and they included some Real Gems, like QUANDRY #13 – the QUANNISH – and bidding was occasionally spirited.

Following this was to be the rehearsal – well, read-through – of Andy Hooper's new fannish play, "HOMICIDE: The Book of the Fuggheads," in which I had the part of "Ted White, a big-name science fiction fan."

Andy Hooper is the Unsung Hero of modern Corflus. He has more than once single-handedly produced entire programs for several Corflus and I believe his suggestions provided most if not all of this year's program. The play was clearly the highlight this year – as his plays have been in past years. It's been several years since the last new play Andy presented, and I think his take on *Homicide* (the TV show – recently cancelled), ranks among his best.

The party that night was genuinely unique. As Bob Devney described it in the one-shot, "Ian Sorenson filled me in on what happened after I left the party last night. The

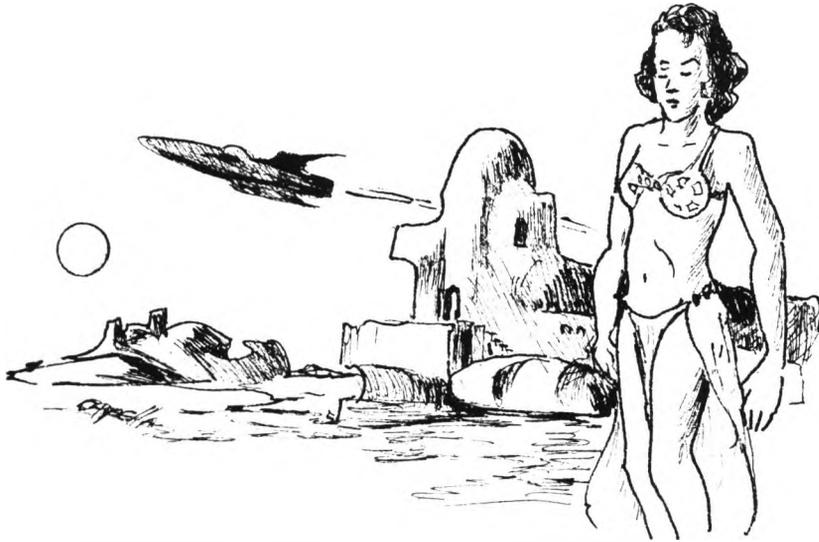
highlight? 'You missed our Practical Time Travel Workshop. At 2:00 AM we all joined hands and shifted forward an hour into the future.'" Yes, Daylight Savings Time went into effect during the Major Party of the convention, suddenly depriving us of an hour of Prime Party Time. This has never before occurred at a Corflu – and I can only hope it never will again. (It won't next year, because Corflu will be in February....)

Perhaps for that reason, people turning up for the Sunday banquet at noon looked a bit bleary-eyed and seemed subdued. The Sunday banquet is the best of the Corflu traditions – established at the very first Corflu in 1984 – and is included in the membership fee. This year we had the best of both worlds: an in-hotel banquet catered by a local restaurant – the Dixie Kitchen, a Cajun restaurant. All credit to Sheila: the food was excellent, and well-catered by the Dixie Kitchen staff.

Then it was time for the GoH presentation.

Nic Farey had been careening around the convention all weekend in a state which convinced some people that his stint as GoH would be a disaster. When queried, he'd roll his eyes and act convincingly like a bad accident waiting to happen. But "crazy like a fox" is a phrase coined to describe Nic. He began by saluting everyone there by first name, running down the list of 40-odd people (no puns needed here; by this point we were *all* a bit odd) and concluding, after a brief pause, with "and... Ian." (Much laughter.) He finished with "a brief thought," which he kept to himself.

As usual, we had an election of the fwa past-president (for 2000). The fix was in. This year people had been coming up to me throughout the convention with the same



name and I recognized the absolute rightness of that name. Indeed, I wondered in retrospect why he'd never been suggested before – after all, he, like me, had been to *every* Corflu to date. He was the oldest fanwriter in the room, once a Boston native, and he surely deserved the “honor.” I’m speaking of Art Widner, of course. Two others were nominated (before one of the plants in the audience could move the nominations be closed), but Art was the overwhelming choice of the Corflu attendees, as the vote clearly indicated.

Then, finally, the FAAN Awards. Once again the indefatigable Andy Hooper conducted the Awards (which also meant that he counted no votes for himself – which I think additionally skews the voting), and he made his announcement of the Awards from hastily scribbled vote tallies upon which he'd still been working that morning. Here are the results, as reported in the one-shot: there were 45 ballots.

Best New Fanzine Fan: Sheila Leightsey (who handed out copies of the second issue of *The Accidental Fanzine*, the first issue was distributed at last year's Corflu). **Best Letterhack:** Robert Lichtman. **Best Fan Artist:** Steve Stiles. **Best Fanwriter:** Victor Gonzalez (Nic Farey and I were tied for second place only a few points behind). **Best Fanzine:** *Idea*. The #1 Fan Face category awaits Andy's tabulation of the total votes in all categories, but he believed it would be either Victor Gonzalez or Robert Lichtman. Actual certificates were handed out this year (and for the two previous years as well) with art by Stu Shiffman. I brought Steve Stiles' back with me to give to him.

So what's left to be said about this Corflu? Although attendance was lower than that of all but the Panama City Corflu (and maybe El Paso's), there was a good mix of fans. I

was delighted to meet Murray Moore, for example, and it was good to see fans like Ron Salomon and Ed Meskys again after many years. Although some of my favorite west-coasters (like Lichtman) did not show up, Lenny Bailes, Randy Byers, Andy Hooper, Carrie Root, Catherine Crockett, Colin Hinz, Victor Gonzalez and Art Widner did. Jean Weber and Eric Lindsay were there on what amounted to the first leg of their GUFF trip (but Eric has been to enough Corflus already that I almost think of him as a Corflu regular). Dick & Leah Smith were back for their first Corflu in half a decade. And we had a smaller contingent of Brits this year, but it was great to see Allison Freebairn and Yvonne Rowse and...whatsisname?...Ian again. And Linda Bushyager surprised everyone with her announcement that she and Ron are moving soon to Las Vegas – although that did not really make up for the absence of the Katzes or the Formans. I was handed copies of eleven different fanzines, which I fully intend to read Any Day Now.

Next year: Annapolis. Y'all come.

++ Ted White

Views and Reviews in PDF

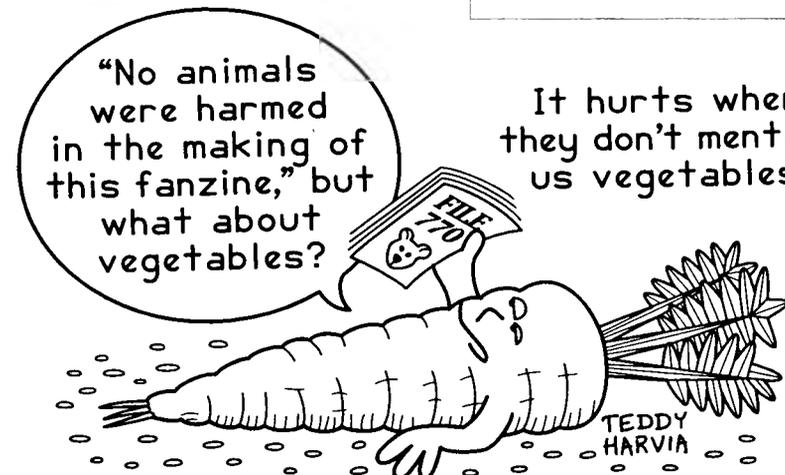
Ted White points out, “A few months ago I began doing fmz reviews specifically aimed at clubfans to pull them into fanzines.” Currently these reviews (600 words an installment) are appearing in *six* clubzines in the US and Canada, including LASFS' *De Profundis* and *The WSFA Journal*.

Bill Burns is posting them on his eFanzines site at:

<http://efanzines.com/Fanzines/>

Burns' site is also home to downloadable Adobe PDF versions of eight fanzines edited by Arnie Katz (*Corflatch*, *Jackpot!*), Marty Cantor (*No Award*), Ron Clarke (*The Mentor*), Erika Maria Lacey (*Sardine Tin Gods*), Joyce Worley Katz (*Smokin' Rockets*), Michael J. Lowrey (*Vojo de Vivo*), and Bill Bowers (*Xenolith*).

Or eFanzines.com can link you to other sites containing *An-sible* (Langford), *Bento* (Levine and Yule), *Covert Communications From Zeta Corvi* (Andrew Murdoch), *Dynatron* (Roy Tackett), *eFNAC* (John Foyster), *Fanthology '87* (Richard Brandt), *Gegenschein* (Eric Lindsay), *Gloss* (Lillian Edwards and Victor Gonzalez), *Groggy 2000* (Eric Mayer), *It Goes on the Shelf* (Ned Brooks), *Light in the Bushel* (Richard Brandt), *Mimosa* (Nicki and Richard Lynch), *Plokta* (Alison Scott, Steve Davies, Mike Scott), *Squib* (Victor Gonzalez), and *This Here* (Nic Farey).



2001 Hugo Award Nominees

The Millennium Philcon© announced there were 495 total nominating ballots. 178 of those ballots were submitted electronically. There were an additional 29 paper ballots, and 15 electronic ballots that were received, that were marked ineligible for various reasons.

Best Novel

(381 nominating ballots, 205 nominees):

- A Storm of Swords* by George R.R. Martin, (Voyager, Bantam Spectra)
Calculating God by Robert J. Sawyer (Tor)
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling (Bloomsbury, Scholastic/Levine)
Midnight Robber by Nalo Hopkinson (Warner Aspect)
The Sky Road by Ken MacLeod (Orbit 1999/Tor 2000)

Best Novella

(229 nominating ballots, 50 nominees; six nominees due to a tie):

- "A Roll of the Dice" by Catherine Asaro (*Analog* Jul/Aug 2000)
 "Oracle" by Greg Egan (*Asimov's* Jul 2000)
 "Radiant Green Star" by Lucius Shepard (*Asimov's* Aug 2000)
 "Seventy-Two Letters" by Ted Chiang (*Vanishing Acts: A Science Fiction Anthology*, Tor Jul 2000)
 "The Retrieval Artist" by Kristine Kathryn Rusch (*Analog* Jun 2000)
 "The Ultimate Earth" by Jack Williamson (*Analog* Dec 2000)

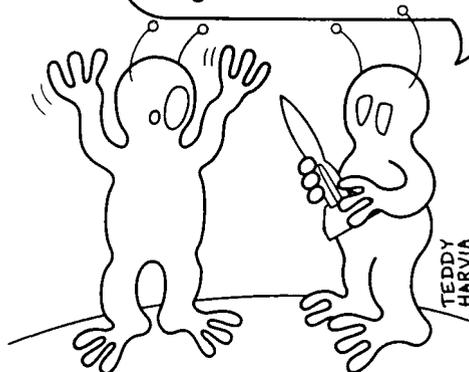
Best Novellette

(237 nominating ballots, 131 nominees):

- "Agape Among the Robots" by Allen Steele (*Analog* May 2000)
 "Generation Gap" by Stanley Schmidt (*Artemis* Spring 2000)
 "Millennium Babies" by Kristine Kathryn Rusch (*Asimov's* Jan 2000)
 "On the Orion Line" by Stephen Baxter (*Asimov's* Oct/Nov 2000)
 "Redchapel" by Mike Resnick (*Asimov's* Dec 2000)

The Hugos are literary awards. The media should feel thankful we condescend to give them even one rocket.

What are you trying to do? Win the award for Best Dogmatic Presentation?



Best Short Story

(295 nominating ballots, 248 nominees):

- "Different Kinds of Darkness" by David Langford (*F&SF* Jan 2000)
 "Kaddish for the Last Survivor" by Michael A. Burstein (*Analog* Nov 2000)
 "Moon Dogs" by Michael Swanwick (*Moon Dogs*, NESFA Press Feb 2000; *Asimov's* Mar 2000)
 "The Elephants on Neptune" by Mike Resnick (*Asimov's* May 2000)
 "The Gravity Mine" by Stephen Baxter (*Asimov's* Apr 2000)

Best Related Book

(213 ballots, 86 nominees):

- Concordance to Cordwainer Smith: Third Edition* by Anthony R. Lewis (NESFA Press)
Greetings from Earth: The Art of Bob Eggleton by Bob Eggleton, Nigel Suckling (Paper Tiger)
Putting It Together: Turning Sow's Ear Drafts Into Silk Purse Stories by Mike Resnick (Wildside Press)
Robert A. Heinlein: A Reader's Companion by James Gifford (Nitrosyncretic Press)
Terry Pratchett: Guilty of Literature ed. by Andrew M. Butler, Edward James and Farah Mendlesohn (The Science Fiction Foundation)

Best Dramatic Presentation

(279 nominating ballots, 151 nominees):

- Chicken Run*
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
Frank Herbert's Dune
Frequency
X-men

Best Professional Editor

(288 nominating ballots, 77 nominees):

- Ellen Datlow
 Gardner Dozois
 David G. Hartwell
 Stanley Schmidt
 Gordon Van Gelder

Best Professional Artist

(246 nominating ballots, 145 nominees):

- Jim Burns
 Bob Eggleton
 Frank Kelly Freas
 Donato Giancola
 Michael Whelan

Best Fan Writer

(201 nominating ballots, 134 nominees):

- Bob Devney
 Mike Glycer
 Dave Langford
 Evelyn C. Leeper
 Steven H Silver

Best Semiprozine

(241 nominating ballots, 56 nominees):

- Interzone* edited by David Pringle
Locus edited by Charles N. Brown
New York Review of Science Fiction edited by Kathryn Cramer, David G. Hartwell, and Kevin Maroney
Science Fiction Chronicle edited by Andrew I. Porter
Speculations edited by Denise Lee and Susan Fry, published by Kent Brewster

Best Fanzine

(194 nominating ballots, 90 nominees):

- Challenger* edited by Guy Lillian III
File 770 edited by Mike Glycer

Mimosa ed. by Nicki and Richard Lynch
Plokta edited by Alison Scott, Steve Davies and Mike Scott
STET edited by Dick Smith and Leah Zeldes Smith

Best Fan Artist

(127 nominating ballots, 81 nominees):

Sheryl Birkhead
 Brad Foster
 Teddy Harvia
 Sue Mason
 Faral Wayne

John W. Campbell Award

(201 nominating ballots, 100 nominees):

James L. Cambias (1st year of eligibility)
 Thomas Harlan (2nd year of eligibility)
 Douglas Smith (2nd year of eligibility)
 Kristine Smith (2nd year of eligibility)
 Jo Walton (1st year of eligibility)

1950 Retro Hugo Award Nominees

There were 130 total nominating ballots. 48 ballots were submitted electronically. One additional paper ballot was received that was marked invalid.

Best Novel

(111 nominating ballots, 31 nominees):

The Dying Earth by Jack Vance (Hillman)
Farmer in the Sky by Robert A. Heinlein



(Scribner's)

First Lensman by Edward E Smith, Ph.D.

(Fantasy Press)

Pebble in the Sky by Isaac Asimov

(Doubleday)

The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe by

C.S. Lewis (Geoffrey Bles)

Best Novella

(73 nominating ballots, 18 nominees):

"And Now You Don't" by Isaac Asimov

(*Astounding SF* Nov 1949 –Jan 1950)
 "The Dreaming Jewels" by Theodore Sturgeon (*Fantastic Adventures* Feb 1950)
 "The Last Enemy" by H Beam Piper (*Astounding SF* Aug 1950)
 "The Man Who Sold the Moon" by Robert Heinlein (Shasta Publishers)
 "To the Stars" by L. Ron Hubbard (*Astounding SF* Feb-Mar 1950)

Best Novelette

(73 nominating ballots, 32 nominees):

"Dear Devil" by Eric Frank Russell (*Other Worlds* May 1950)
 "Okie" by James Blish (*Astounding Science Fiction* Apr 1950)
 "Scanners Live in Vain" by Cordwainer Smith (*Fantasy Book* #6)
 "The Helping Hand" by Poul Anderson (*Astounding SF* May 1950)
 "The Little Black Bag" by C.M. Kornbluth (*AstoundingSF* Jul 1950)

Best Short Story

(100 nominating ballots, 64 nominees):

"A Subway Named Mobius" by A.J. Deutsch (*Astounding Science Fiction* Dec 1950)
 "Born of Man and Woman" by Richard Matheson (*F&SF* Summer 1950)
 "Coming Attraction" by Fritz Leiber (*Galaxy* Nov 50)
 "The Gnurr's Come from the Voodvork Out" by Reginald Bretnor (*F&SF* Winter-Spring 1950)
 "To Serve Man" by Damon Knight (*Galaxy* Nov 1950)

2001 Hugo Award Nominee Voting Summary

Category	Ballots	Votes	Nominees	Range
Novel	381	1189	205	56-28
Novella	229	615	50	45-33
Novelette	237	734	131	32-21
Short Story	295	864	248	31-21
Related Book	213	478	86	35-25
Dramatic Pres.	279	876	151	105-46
Professional Ed.	288	786	77	129-61
Professional Art.	246	669	145	127-30
Semiprozine	241	537	56	88-46
Fanzine	194	481	90	54-30
Fan Writer	201	498	134	41-23
Fan Artist	127	316	81	42-16
Campbell Award	201	449	100	29-19

Counting software developed by Jeff Copeland.

1950 Retro Hugo Nominee Voting Summary

Category	Ballots	Votes	Nominees	Range
Novel	111	324	30	54-28
Novella	73	141	19	44-9
Novelette	73	299	32	67-18
Short Story	100	327	64	54-22
Related Book*	9	14	10	2-1
Dramatic Pres.	88	252	30	72-18
Professional Editor	64	193	21	55-11
Professional Artist	49	151	31	29-11
Fan Writer	38	133	29	27-7
Semiprozine*	4	8	8	1-1
Fanzine	36	98	26	19-7
Fan Artist	30	82	20	19-4

*Category not on final ballot
 130 total nominating ballots

Best Related Book

(9 nominating ballots, 10 nominees):

Category has been dropped due to insufficient response

Best Dramatic Presentation

(88 nominating ballots, 30 nominees):

- Cinderella
- Destination Moon
- Harvey
- Rabbit of Seville
- Rocketship X-M

Best Professional Editor

(64 nominating ballots, 21 nominees):

- Anthony Boucher
- John W. Campbell, Jr.
- Groff Conklin
- H.L. Gold
- J. Francis McComas

Best Professional Artist

(49 nominating ballots, 31 nominees):

- Hannes Bok
- Chesley Bonestell
- Edd Cartier
- Virgil Finlay
- Frank Kelly Freas

Best Fan Writer

(38 nominating ballots, 29 nominees):

- Lee Hoffman
- Bob Silverberg
- Robert "Bob" Wilson Tucker
- James White
- Walt Willis

Best Semiprozine

(4 nominating ballots, 8 nominees):

Category was dropped due to insufficient response



Best Fanzine

(36 nominating ballots, 26 nominees):

- Quandry
- Skyhook
- Spacewarp
- Slant
- Science Fiction Newsletter
- The Fancient

Best Fan Artist

(30 nominating ballots, 20 nominees):

- Jack Gaughan
- Lee Hoffman
- Ray Nelson
- Bill Rotsler
- James White

Notes from the Hugo Administrators: Ed Emshwiller received enough nominations to be on the ballot in the Best Professional Artist category. However, the Hugo Committee has determined that his first professional work was in 1951 and therefore he's ineligible to appear on the ballot.

Harlan Ellison received enough nominations to be on the ballot in the Best Fan Writer category. However, the Hugo Committee has determined that he did not have any fan writing published in 1950.

Both Bjo Trimble and Dave Kyle received enough nominations to be on the ballot in the Best Fan Artist category. However, the Hugo Committee has not found any work by either in 1950.

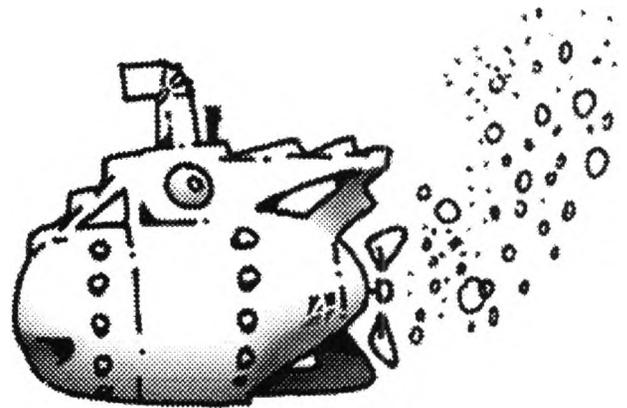
After discussion with Stanley Schmidt of Analog, it was decided that conducting nominations for the Campbell Award would be inappropriate.

The software used for counting the nominations was developed by Jeff Copeland.

Inside the File 770 Voting Booth:

Electronic Hugo voting was handicapped when the Millennium Philcon site went down a several of days before the March 31 deadline. Votes cast online from March 28-31 might have been lost, so Hugo administrators Rick Katze and Saul Jaffe opened their mirror server and extended the deadline four days to allow people to re-enter votes.

Just the other day I found the special PR from Millennium Philcon containing the Hugo nominating ballots. The one with a special mailing label containing my "unique identifying number." Having been unable to



find it before the deadline, I had resorted to using the number on the mailing label of an earlier MilPhil PR which I had located. It turns out those numbers are not the same. Now I wonder if my electronic vote was counted by Rick and Saul?

ConJose Announces Web Site Hugo

ConJosé, the 2002 Worldcon, will present a special Hugo Award for Best Web Site. It will be open to any web site primarily related to the fields of science fiction, fantasy, or fandom and will be given for material displayed on the World Wide Web during the calendar year 2001. The Award is being added under a WSFS rule that permits a committee to include an experimental Hugo category. There will be a single category, eligibility will *not* be subdivided ("professional," "fan," "semipro" etc.)

Answering the question of how to judge web sites with changing contents - which, hopefully, is most of them! -- Kevin Standlee explained, "Just as artists often produce a continuous flow of artwork, web sites quite often change over time. Just as in the Best Artist category, our basic assumption is that Hugo voters will be making their decisions based on what they saw appear during the previous calendar year. (And just like the Best Artist category, we won't quiz the voters on the specifics they're using.) Luckily, many web site sites provide archives or 'issues' so that visitors can examine past content."

ConJose Hugo Postscript: John Lorentz has agreed to administer the 2002 Hugo Awards for ConJose. He previously co-administered the 1998 Hugo Awards at Bucconneer with his wife, Ruth Sachter. Ruth, however, expects to be a little busy in 2002 as Vice Chair of ConJose.)



News of Fandom

Wedding Countdown Begins

Guy Lillian III and Rose-Marie Donovan will be married in Cocoa, Florida, on June 30th. Guy boasts, "An Atlas-Agena is scheduled to be launched that very evening from nearby Cape Canaveral. As Joe Major says, a good wedding should have fireworks."

Fandom Inc. Goes Bust

Bid farewell to the company fans love to hate. Debra Streicker-Fine, CEO of Fandom Inc., announced on April 2 that the company is shutting down its online operations. Creation Entertainment, acquired by Fandom just four months ago, has already been sold back to founders Gary Berman and Adam Malin. They paid a lower price to get their company back than Fandom Inc. paid for it in the first place.

Though I don't rule out the possibility that they simply pulled it out of the dumpster behind Fandom's officers. No question that Fandom.com's lawyers are still in it, after Carol Burrell successfully fought their efforts to take away her Fandom.tv domain name. Carol, left with \$1,500 of unpaid legal bills, hopes fans will help her out. [[Sources: *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Ansible 165*]]

Bad Vibrations

Seattle was hit by a 6.8 magnitude earthquake on February 28, but the depth of the fault involved resulted in fewer seriously damaged area than might otherwise have been the case. Bill and Joy Warren's home in Tacoma was essentially untouched by the quake.

Jordin Kare, from California's Bay Area, was there at the time doing some consulting with Boeing. According to Mary Kay Kare,

"He said it was pretty interesting, moderately strong and long lasting but not especially scary."

Bill Warren, who also is working at Boeing, can be excused if he felt a little differently. Although his home in Tacoma emerged essentially unscathed, his workplace in Renton did not. He told readers of *Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol*:

"My building was trashed... During the quake, our seismically-designed building -- which I had just moved into a week earlier -- proceeded to do what any good seismically-designed building should do: it rocked back and forth and flexed and didn't fall down! That's the good news. Not-so-good: the building proceeded to beat itself to death on the concrete supports for the [flight] simulators. Part of that beating included breaking the fire sprinkler system into a whole bunch of independently owned and operated fire sprinkler systems, each of which immediately went into competition with each other to see which one could turn the largest collection of posters, books, information handouts, files, etc. to papier-mâché first. Since a lot of these things were on the third floor (I was on the first) the upstairs got very heavy very fast. As a result, when we all filed out of the building in an orderly fashion (shh! I'm telling this!) we found out they wouldn't let us back in the rest of the day, so they said 'go home.' They say the 25-01 may be open to Boeing folk in maybe 3 months. We got it better than the Company HQ building near Boeing Field: our sprinkler system soaked our building and contents. At Corp HQ it was the sewer system."

GUFF

Eric Lindsay dropped a line while he and Jean Weber were packing for their latest

overseas adventures. "We leave on the GUFF trip in less than a week, so we are typically totally disorganized. Our path takes us to the US East Coast for once, with a visit to Corflu in Boston, before flying to London and then the Eastercon. We do have plans to see lots of UK fans, so I hope we don't get too lost in making our way around the UK seeking them out. Jean has assisted this materially, by making me get rid of my old map, which apparently pre-dates the Norman conquest."

They did get one thing started before leaving, a new GUFF web site:

<http://psiphi.server101.com/guff/index.htm>

Eric adds, "In a triumph of optimism over realism, Jean even arranged a 'donations' page there, so that, for the very first time (we think) in a fan fund, fans can donate to the fund over the internet in any of several different ways."

For the record, here are the GUFF voting statistics:

	Aus	UK	Other	Total
Lindsay/Weber	17	22	10	49
Warman/Woods	19	12	3	34

CUFF

"I got a laugh out of your coverage on the Canadian Unity Fan Fund," wrote fund administrator Garth Spencer. "Actually Murray Moore didn't unilaterally declare himself winner. I had been delegated the balloting this year, and Murray was the only one to run as nominee -- getting more than enough nominations, in both eastern and western Canada. I declared he was the delegate this year. In January 2001. Evidently I put everyone on my email release list except you. Strange."

Check out www.v-con.org for information on this year's VCon, doubling as this year's Convention, where Murray should appear.

DUFF

DUFF got a financial boost from the Wild Cards Consortium, which donated a complete, 15-book set of the *Wild Cards* (US edition) to auction at Boskone. According to Janice Gelb, they were signed by most of the writers of the series -- including the late Roger Zelazny.

Marc Ortlieb reported in *Australian SF Bullsheet #166* that DUFF delegates Naomi Fisher and Pat Molloy visited Melbourne in April, "managing to get to the Nova Mob, Friday Night Gathering and The MSFC, as well as a visit to Healesville Wildlife Sanctuary, where they weren't bitten by a wombat."

NAFF

Lucy Zinkiewicz of New South Wales and Sean-Paul Smith of Victoria are the first winners of the National Australian Fan Fund (NAFF). They were scheduled to attend Swancon in Perth at Easter.

NAFF, announced in February, is designed to assist fans to attend the Australian National SF Convention. Fans residing in all states and territories outside the one where the Natcon will be held are eligible to be nominated for NAFF. Preference is given to fans who have (a) not attended a Natcon and/or (b) have not attended a convention in the state/territory of the current Natcon. NAFF provides the cost of airfare (or traveling expenses) and convention membership.

The first NAFF winners were selected by a committee consisting of Grant Watson (Western Australia) and Sue Ann Barber (Victoria). Future NAFF races may involve voting by the fan community.

The nominees had to provide a 200-word description of what they could bring to interstate fans and a brief description of their fannish history. The winner is expected to produce a trip report and engage in fundraising to support NAFF.

Next year's NAFF will send a fan to Convergence in Victoria – then, fans from Victoria will be ineligible to enter. [[Source: *Australian SF Bullshead* #162,165]]

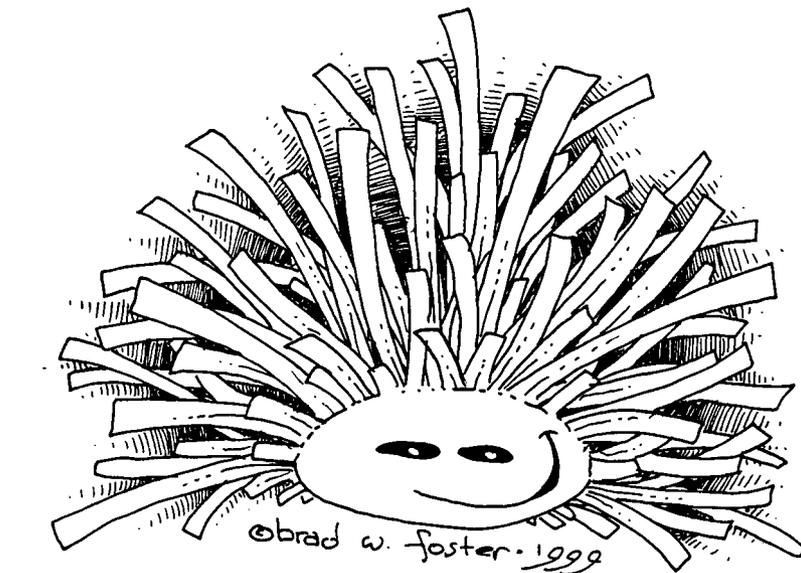
TAFF

Victor Gonzalez won the TAFF race, edging Tom Springer in a comparatively close race. But you'll have to trust me on this, I lost the little piece of paper that fell out of my copy of *Ansible*. Oh, wait, I found it: Victor Gonzalez, 56; Tom Springer, 40; No Preference, 5; Hold Over Funds, 3.

The winner traveled to the British Eastercon.

Ancient TAFF Stuff

Martin Tudor (European TAFF administrator 1996-98) has recently been made aware of what he terms "an appalling oversight" that occurred during his Administration. In 1997 Paul 'Skel' Skelton contacted TAFF to offer the donation of the book and magazine collection of his recently deceased friend and sometime co-editor Brian Robinson. The sale of this collection raised £1,000 which went a long way towards paying off the TAFF debts generated after Abigail Frost had stolen the TAFF fund; but somehow Martin failed to record his thanks in the TAFF newsletter. So, belatedly, Martin would like to record his thanks to Skel and Cas Skelton for sorting out Brian's stuff, Tony Berry for transporting it, Andy Ri-



chards for agreeing to buy it without even viewing it and, of course, Brian Robinson for kindly donating his collection to a good fannish cause. (Andy Richards' Cold Tonnage Books can be contacted on 01276 475388 or check <http://www.coldtonnage.demon.co.uk>).

Mockery of a Sham

Famous Monsters' Ray Ferry survived another day in court and avoided a conviction for criminal contempt. On February 28 a Superior Court judge in Los Angeles said Ferry's business dealings "bear the hallmarks of a contrived sham" designed to help him avoid payment of a \$500,000 judgment, but declined to hold him in criminal contempt.

Judge Stephen Petersen found Ray Ferry not guilty of willfully disobeying a court order to refrain from selling back issues of *Famous Monsters of Filmland*. Ferry also was ruled not guilty of willfully refusing to return certain items to Forry Ackerman.

Last year a jury awarded Ackerman \$724,500 in damages, which Petersen later reduced to \$475,499, plus \$30,000 in attorney fees. Ackerman has not yet collected a penny of the judgment.

"This just goes on and on," Ackerman told the *Los Angeles Times*. "I never dreamed everything could be so complicated, so many ways for the wrongdoer to avoid paying what the jury awarded me."

According to court records, Ferry assigned his magazine's trademark to Esktores Systems, a corporation formed by the law firm that represented him during his civil trial against Ackerman, which then

licensed the trademark for \$100 a month to another company called Gothix, whose president is Gene Reynolds -- Ferry's trusted friend, companion and "cosmic brother," according to court documents and testimony. Reynolds is listed in *Famous Monsters* as the general manager, just below Ferry's name on the masthead.

Ferry's lawyers testified that they took the magazine's trademark as collateral for Ferry's unpaid legal bills.

Fans Want Acktion Figure

It's not all bad news. Fans of Forry Ackerman have started a petition to get noted horror toy manufacturer SideShow to create an action figure of Ackerman. Ackerman, the creator of *Vampirella* and former editor of the original *Famous Monsters of Filmland*, is recognized as the world's foremost authority on horror and science-fiction films. Fans can sign the petition online at: <http://www.PetitionOnline.com/Forry4e/>

Ackerman would like to see it happen. "I think I've got a good chance," he said. "Better than 50/50."

As of December 8, the petition had gained 298 signatures. And a few horror luminaries have even made the scene. Noted comic artist and writer Dan Brereton (*Nocturnals*) has signed the petition, as has Chaos! Comics and EternalToys head Brian Pulido.

Hilifter

Ben Overkamp, son of St. Louis fan Jenny Overkamp, earned a spot on the U.S. Junior World Weightlifting team over the April 21-22 weekend at the national championships



Retro Hugo nominee and triple-banquet-honoree — Wilson "Bob" Tucker. Photo by Keith Stokes.

in Shreveport, LA. He is the first St. Louis lifter to qualify for the team in more than 25 years.

The eight-man, seven-woman squad will compete in the Junior World Weightlifting Championships in Greece in mid-June. The competition is Olympic-style, which includes the snatch and clean and jerk disciplines.

Ben made the Jr. World Squad in weightlifting last year and attended the Olympic training center last summer. Ben is presently ranked number one in his age and weight class.

Dragons Talk Back to IRS

As *File 770* reported last issue, when the IRS decided to make rules about the way tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations use web sites, it asked for public comment. Because it's a small world, who else could be the principal author of the IRS' announcement than Judy Kindell, President of the Washington Science Fiction Association? Equally interesting, another WSFA lawyer, John Pomeranz of the Alliance for Justice, was assigned to look over the announcement for items requiring comment by the Alliance.

Pomeranz saw the story and responded, "Thanks for the mention of my employer, the Alliance for Justice, in your story on the fannish involvement in the IRS Request for Comments on Internet Activities by Non-profits. (As a result, *File 770* is now a part of our official press clipping files.)"

The Alliance's comments to the IRS included some unusual exhibits: web sites for two fictitious organizations, the 501(c)(3) Dragon-Lovers Alliance for Research and Education (www.dragonlovers.org) and the 501(c)(4) Dragon-Lovers Action Fund (www.dragonaction.org). The sites contain lots of fantasy references. They are probably

still online.

Judy Kindell says her announcement drew about 4,000 comments, an unusually large number.

The Alliance for Justice is a national association of environmental, civil rights, mental health, women's, and consumer advocacy organizations. And the IRS is, well, you know...

AntiFan Films

Mark Loney has arranged to preserve the two AntiFan movies made to promote the Aussiecon ('75) and Sydney in '83 Worldcon bids. ScreenSound Australia will assimilate the AntiFan films

into their collection, make digital tape master in betacam format for their own purposes, and provide the donors with video tape copies at cost. Loney had been taking reservations for copies in betacam or VHS PAL format, with an April deadline. Whether further copies can still be ordered is not known: he can be contacted at: Loney@alphalink.com.au PO Box 181, Campbell ACT 2612, Australia. *[[Source: Australian SF Bullsheet]]*

Triple-Barreled Tucker Tributes

Last issue reported that Bob Tucker trimmed the list of conventions he travels to, so the ditto 14 and FanHistoriCon 11 were beating the odds by staging both cons in Tucker's home town —Bloomington, IL — next fall over the weekend of October 12-14.

Now it's been announced that before October's double-barreled conventions, Tucker will be celebrated at an even bigger tribute event in Bloomington.

Keith Stokes explains: "I liked your comments about the Mountain going to Bloomington. But Bloomington will host twin peaks this year. On August 4, 2001, science fiction readers from around the United States will be gathering in Bloomington, Illinois to honor Wilson and Fern Tucker.

"Tucker Tribute, a semiformal banquet at the Ramada Inn, 1219 Holiday Drive, will celebrate Wilson's literary contributions in the science fiction and mystery fields and his contributions to Science Fiction Fandom. Fern is being celebrated for the love and support that allowed him to accomplish the same.

"Wilson Tucker, known to most science fiction fans as Bob, has been a science fiction reader and fan for over 70 years. One of the best known and most popular science

fiction fans, Bob is responsible for many of the traditions honored by thousands of science fiction fans and writers around the world.

"Along the way he published 60 science fiction, mystery and adventure short stories and novels.

"Tucker received the 1970 Hugo Award (presented by the World Science Fiction Society) for Best Fan Writer. His novel, *Year of the Quiet Sun*, won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award, a nomination for a Nebula Award, and a Hugo nomination. In 1985, First Fandom, an organization of science fiction fans that have been active since the 1930s, presented him with their Hall of Fame Award.

"At a ceremony on the Queen Mary in 1996, Tucker was the second person honored by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America as Author Emeritus.

"The Tucker Tribute is sponsored by the Dawn Patrol, an international organization of science fiction, aviation and aeronautics enthusiasts. Attendance is open to the public, but will be limited to 175 people. Banquet tickets will not be available at the door.

"The cost of the event is \$25. There will be a hospitality suite on Friday and Saturday, but activities are currently planned for Saturday only. Checks made payable to Barbara Walley should be sent to Tucker Tribute, c/o Barbara Walley, 10202 White Ave., Kansas City, MO 64134. The deadline for registration is June 30, 2001.

"Rooms are available at the Ramada Inn (800) 385-0000 for \$59/night. Tell them that you are with the Dawn Patrol's Tucker Tribute."

For additional details, see the web site: <http://www.kcsciencefiction.org/tt.htm>

Access Denied

Sincerely, Harlan Ellison

Harlan Ellison has declared war on people who post his work on the Net without his permission. His targets are part of an online subculture who feel that "information should be free" and create sites to distribute copyrighted fiction over the Net. People wanting to read stories by Ellison story or other sf authors (it's happening to many, including Larry Niven and Roger Zelazny) simply download the entire text instead of buying the story or borrowing it from a library.

Ellison warned some other folks who were bothering him a few years ago, in a letter to *File 770:112*: "As those who remember will attest, I am more than capable of traveling great distances to knock the block off evildoers... Is there anyone out there who knows me at all, who doubts that I would think no more about getting on a

plane and going to Glasgow to do such a deed if I felt so moved, than I would about squashing between thumb and forefinger a roach that had gotten into my cornflakes? I sweep the crap out of my Augean stables personally. I don't hire mercenaries." Or if he ever did, Harlan explained, even "the contumacious Norman Spinrad" would not be sufficiently explosive for the purpose.

SFWA's attorney, Christine Valada, apparently is. She's been hired to handle Ellison's litigation. But Stephen Robertson didn't know that, or surely he would've been more careful. Last April, Robertson, a 40-year-old motel manager in Red Bluff, Calif., was caught uploading several of Ellison's short stories to a newsgroup where hundreds of free – and unauthorized – digitized books and stories are posted for the taking. Ellison promptly nailed him with a lawsuit, which Robertson ended up settling for some \$3,600.

Ellison also targeted AOL and RemarQ, a Usenet subscription service, for providing access to the pirated work. And Ellison founded Kick Internet Piracy, a fund he hopes will help defray the \$40,000 he's spent on legal fees so far. Mark Frauenfelder reported in *The Industry Standard*, "Ellison... does have some supporters. One fan conducts online stings to identify infringers. The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America has allocated \$5,000 to stop Net-based copyright infringement."

Kick Internet Piracy has received \$1,300 in contributions from Ben Bova, Frank M. Robinson, and at least one local sf club. Robin Bailey told *Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol* that the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society pledged a donation of \$400. In addition, they held a raffle of autographed books and KC Wizards' soccer paraphernalia, netting \$254. Bailey planned to personally deliver the donations to Valada at the Nebula weekend in LA.

Anyone who wishes may also send checks directly to Ms Valada. Those checks should be made out to – Law Office of Christine M. Valada and mailed to: Kick Internet Piracy, P.O. Box 55935, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413.

Heinlein Gets the Chair

All of fandom has read by now that the Aerospace Engineering Department at the United States Naval Academy is taking applications for the Robert A. Heinlein Chair in Aerospace Engineering. Heinlein, one of the most popular science fiction writers in the world and the first to be designated a "Grand Master," was also a graduate of the Naval Academy in

1929 and a serving officer until he was medically retired for tuberculosis in about 1936.

What fandom doesn't know is *who* endowed the chair, although free-lance journalist Francis Hamit twice posed the question to the Academy's press relations officer. Hamit wonders if the Donor is Virginia Heinlein: "In recent years, not only has Heinlein continued to be one of the most popular authors in the world, but there have been movie deals for works like *Starship Troopers* and *The Puppet Masters* which have brought in quite a bit of money."

The Academy states that the person hired to fill the inaugural Heinlein Chair "will provide vision and direction for the USNA's astronomical engineering curriculum, its small satellite program, and its satellite ground station.... Applicants must have a strong background in designing, building, testing, launching, and operating spacecraft, along with demonstrated research ability, a strong commitment to undergraduate teaching, and excellent communications skills. An earned doctorate is desirable, but applicants with strong industrial/laboratory experience will be considered."

Medical Updates

Larry Niven fell while attending Norwescon and had to have an operation on his knee.

Jerry Pournelle spent a day helping make the technical accommodations Niven needs to keep writing. Jerry explained on his web page: "Due to his injury he can't climb the stairs at all and he's mostly in a wheelchair



for a while. I found a typing table that will work, and Eric and I spent the day connecting him up to his internal network...and I learned more about wireless (and some forms of wired) networking than I really wanted to. But it is done now."

Robert Lichtman slipped in mud and suffered a triple fracture of his right ankle on February 25. *[Source: Ansible 165]*

In early March, Kymm Kimpel's wife Joei Kimpel suffered a stroke. She still has most of the movement in her right side, but has trouble talking at times. *[Source: Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol]*

On April 11, Marty Cantor was hospitalized overnight after complaining of chest pains. X-rays revealed that his real problem was an intestinal blockage. He was treated and released in the morning. Contact Mr. Cantor for a graphic description of what medical science proved he was full of.

Lafferty Contact Point

People interested in information about R. A. Lafferty should check the Internet at:

www.mulle-kyberetik.de/Ral

It's based in Germany, and gives addresses where Ray can get mail:

R. A. Lafferty, c/o Franciscan Villa Health Care Center J-54, 17110 E. 51st Street, South Broken Arrow OK 74012.

Lafferty has had a couple of strokes and is unable to respond properly, but is doing better than some fans had feared. The Devotional page has a couple of postings from the husband of the nurse who cares for Ray. *[Source: Robert Whitaker Sirignano]*

The Road to Everywhere

Bruce and Elayne Pelz went on a 65-day cruise up the coast of Africa and around the Mediterranean, to places most of us have only heard about in Hope and Crosby pictures. Luckily, we didn't have to wait for them to return to read about the trip – Bruce has taken advantage of the proliferation of Internet cafes around the world to e-mail news from their ports-of-call. All that's been missing is the traditional, "having a great time, wish you were here." Hmm...

March 12 - Cape Town, South Africa

March 15 - Luderitz, Namibia

March 27 - Dakar, Senegal

April 4 - Valletta, Malta

April 9 - Kusidasi, Turkey

April 11 - Port Said, Egypt

April 17 - Barcelona, Spain

April 19 - Casablanca, Morocco

Good eating and good shopping are usually worth a headline in Bruce's e-mails, like this description of an early stop in South Africa:

"We've been spending most of our port time shopping. And eating. (As if there weren't enough to eat on the ship...) One of the more interesting local foods is called Bunny Chow (or just 'Bunnys'). They take a half a loaf of bread, hollow out the center, and pour in some kind of curry dish -- I had a chicken Bunny in Durban. There are also sort of mini-Bunnys which appear to be bread pockets (large) with the curry dish inserted. Quite tasty."

Though contrary to what you might think, Bruce admits, "We're not the most adventurous of eaters." Pondering whether there was anything worth eating locally at the stop in Turkey, Bruce wrote, "I suppose there's always Turkish Delight -- the real stuff, not the Bonomo's junk. ... We took a break in the Grand Bazaar and had drinks -- Diet Coke, of course -- and a plate of Baklava. That the stuff we get in the states dares to use the same name is really a crime!"

Spring weather can be fierce, even in balmy southern Italy. Storms plagued the stop in Naples and interfered with "the Pompeii trip, which would have been great except it rained pitchforks and hammer-handles all day, together with a wind strong enough to turn the umbrellas inside out, and a temperature far too low for comfort, even in a jacket."

Bruce ended one of his latest posts, "Elayne says I should assure everyone -- and maybe disappoint a few -- that we haven't been turned off of cruising yet (after 6 of our 9 weeks), but we *have* decided that we need one of the larger ships -- with a self-service laundry and several jacuzzis -- for anything longer than a 7-day cruise."

They're on the way to Barbados, using the days at sea to rest their legs from shopping in the bazaars of Turkey and Egypt.

Five Sheets To The Wind

J. Michael Straczynski told us what happened to the first four Babylon vessels, but I don't think anyone ever revealed the fate of the four zines that preceded *FactSheet Five*. Or why the number never changes although the editor does. And it's happening again. "FactSheet is alive and well and will soon be kicking under the scrutiny of Dwayne-Michael D. Alborn," says an e-mail from



Mr. Alborn. "Please email me all the info and mail your most recent edition and future editions for review and possible write up in FactSheet Five written publication..." Uh, probably not.

The Buying Lantern Is Lit

Copies of *Lan's Lantern*, published by the late George "Lan" Laskowski, who passed away about a year and a half ago, are still available for purchase from Kathleen Laskowski. She's also selling much of Lan's sf book collection.

Special Author issues of *Lan's Lantern* available for postage and production costs (\$4 each): Poul Anderson, Clifford D. Simak, Bob Tucker, Hal Clement, Theodore Sturgeon, A. E. Van Vogt, Fritz Lieber, Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov, Jack Williamson, and Robert A. Heinlein. She also has copies of "general" issues #31, #39, #40, #41, #42, #43, #45, and others.

Contact: Kathleen Laskowski, 2466 Valleyview Drive, Troy, MI 48098-5317.

Niekas

Ed Meskys had *Niekas* 46 available at Boskone. The issue includes articles and columns by Ray Nelson, John Boardman, Ben Indick, Diana Paxson, Pat Matthews, Anne Braude, and others. The usual, or \$4.95, or 4/\$19. Contact: Ed Meskys, RR #2 HBox 63, 322 Whittier Hwy, Center Harbor NH 03226-9708

Vancouver's Unofficial SF Club

Garth Spencer, *BCSFazine's* new editor, reports an interesting legal fact that keeps the Vancouver club from registering its name: "BCSFA is only informally organized; it doesn't exist in law, because we can't register a non-profit society with the province with the name 'British Columbia' in the title. (We would have to advertise it to 70% of the fans in the province, and prove that we have done so, and how do you prove that?)"

A difficult thing to prove, but impossible? Won't one of the traditional solutions work? Nail an issue of *BCSFazine* to the door of the city cathedral? Drape a club banner over an elephant and lead it down Burnaby St. while someone bangs a bass drum? Print up bumper stickers that say, "Honk if you're a British Columbia SF fan?"

Opening The Time Capsule

In 1990, Mike Rembert asked the members of Harry SF, a northeastern Ohio club, to write down their predictions for life in the new millennium. With Howard Hartzog's help, these were assembled into a one-shot zine called the *Time Capsule*. Rather than burying the *Capsule*, copies were distributed to all the members. The turn of the millennium was the date set for "opening" the Time Capsule.

According to Doug and Mary Piero Carey, "Old science fiction fans aren't bad at crystal gazing." Some of Harry's predictions for 2001 included:

- A new space station in orbit.
- Years of Hubble Telescope successes erase the stigma of early failure.
- Window-size satellite dishes challenge cable TV.
- Chrysler under foreign management.
- Increases in home schooling.
- SF con attendance has dropped dramatically.
- Popular music is so nihilistic that no adult can bear to hear it.
- Computer-controlled stage management (lights, mikes, etc) for theaters.
- VCRs that can skip recording commercials.

- Voice recognition for computer security and computing in general.
- New metallic threads used in fiber arts.
- Workfare replacing welfare.
- More recycling.
- Electric vehicles on the roads.
- Disappearance of the middle class as the gulf between rich and poor widens.
- Computer jobs eliminate lower class jobs.
- Little guys swallowed up by big corporations.
- Computer shopping for food, clothing, toiletries and toys.
- Electronic greeting cards.
- Israel becomes more militant.
- Pacific Rim market domination collapses.

Ending on a coy note, they say, "Of course, like any Cassandra, we don't mention the wrong predictions here!"

Fans Find Wealth on the Internet – Their Own

If the Internet isn't making you rich, it may at least help you break even. All those TV news stories about the state holding unclaimed money for you are a "sweeps week" cliché, but LASFSian Matthew Tepper took the advice and inched closer to his next shopping spree at Tiffany's. He looked up his name on the California state controller's web site and learned an insurance company had a \$55 check waiting for him. After Joe Zeff heard Tepper announce the find at a club meeting, he visited the controller's site, too, and found \$160 being held for him. The check is on the way.

The biggest such recovery has been made from the state of Colorado by the Denver Area Science Fiction Association. *DASFAX* reports the club's building fund was found by the State Treasurer's department in much the same way that America was discovered. "What? It was lost?" commented Thea Hutcheson, who has been quietly taking care of it for years. When the DASFA gets its \$1,200 back, technically they won't be any richer than they were before, but they feel like they are.

Clean Up Your Act!

The newly elected head of a well-known science fiction club ended his inaugural address with this complaint: "Lastly and most sorry I am to mention it. BATHE, WASH YOUR CLOTHES! This is your responsibility. You are adults. It is embarrassing and annoying to mention this. Does the club have to do something to enforce cleanliness?"

This one is complained about by more than just me." Indeed, the problem is more common in fandom than you might think. I'll leave it up to you to decide if it was written by the president of *your* club.

Hint: It wasn't written by the President of the Melbourne SF Association. That issue was handled by Terry Frost in the August 2000 issue of its clubzine, *Ethel the Aardvark*. Terry wrote, "I don't care if you come straight from working in a colliery to the meetings. I don't care if you tripped over in the abattoir just before the end of the shift. I don't care if your flatmate dumped the contents of a cat-litter tray into the pockets of your parka... three months ago. Buy some roll-on Norsca and rub it over your flabby torso before you lumber into the building. It's not a sign of masculinity to be able to make camels retch. It's not an effete bourgeois thing to run water over yourself in months that have the letter J in them.... If this little heartfelt plea doesn't work, I recommend that the committee pass a special by-law to increase the smelly-bloke membership rate to around the same price as a top of the range DVD player. Membership cards for these special members should be printed on car deodorizers."

KaCSFFS 30th Anniversary

The Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a banquet on March 24. Three honorees were recognized for service to the club, one from each decade: Susan Satterfield, Becky Rickert, and Sally Osgood. The banquet was followed with a dance.

For more details check <http://www.kcsciencefiction.org/30th.htm>

World Wide Party 8

It may be the middle of winter where you are, but midsummer night is on the way. Dale Speirs reminds every fan that the 8th Annual World Wide Party is coming again on June 21. At 2100 local time, "Raise a glass and toast your friends in the Pernet around the world. Have a party if you will, do a one-shot zine, prepare and post a batch of mail art, or whatever else you may think of."

Benoit Girard of Quebec first suggested the idea, and with a boost from Franz Miklis of Austria it has been orbiting fandom ever since. Speirs explains, "The idea behind a 2100 toast is to get a wave circling the planet celebrating zineish friends and connecting everyone in the Pernet briefly by a common activity."

Now On Sail

Hurry online and buy dozens of copies of Eve Ackerman's novel, *Pirate's Price*, written under her pen name of Darlene Marshall. The humorous romance, set in 19th century Florida, is available in e-book format from Daylight Dreams, www.daylightdreams.com. There's an excerpt from the novel on the website.

"If someone asked me to describe my book in one sentence," says the Florida fan, applying a Proustian definition of *sentence*, "I'd say it's about a pirate ship crewed mainly by men who've been at sea with other men *far* too long, and their captain is a woman pretending to be a man who has a bit of a swish to his walk and then one day they capture her estranged husband, who she's been robbing blind, and things get interesting." Eve insists, "It's a romance. Trust me on this."

She started *Pirate's Price* in 1993, set it aside for six years, "Then finally planted my butt in the chair and finished it. And sold it, which is even better."

Expect another one soon. The working title is *Captain Sinister*, also a pirate saga.

How Few Remainder

Mike Walsh's Old Earth Books has obtained reprint rights to the works of Edgar Pangborn. Old Earth will bring out editions of *West of the Sun*, *A Mirror for Observers*, *Wilderness of Spring*, *The Trial of Callista Blake*, *Davy*, *The Judgment of Eve*, *The Company of Glory* and a one- or two-volume omnibus of shorter fiction.

Walsh wrote online, "Each book will be reset and published in hardcover with the usual good stuff: acid free paper and sewn signatures." He's planning to release the first few at Millennium Philcon.

Two other Pangborn works are not part of the agreement: his first novel, *A-100: A Mystery Novel*, and the announced but never published *Atlantean Nights Entertainment*, although Walsh says this may change in the future.

Focal Point Book

Mike Weasner has a chapter in a book scheduled for May titled *Astronomy With Small Telescopes*, from Springer Verlag. The book has chapters devoted to several types of small telescopes. Mike wrote the chapter on the Meade ETX. The book is edited by Stephen F. Tonkin. Weasner is not the only LASFSian who contributed to the book – Jay Freeman of the Bay Area also wrote a chapter. Other contributors are Kevin Daley, Dwight Elvey, Robert Hatch, Dave Mitsky, and Tim Tonkin.

The book has been announced on Amazon.com. Orders through Mike's ETX site (<http://www.weasner.com/etx>) will be credited to Mike.

Short Waves

Marty Cantor will be delighted to know that *The Leaky Establishment* by **David Langford** was the first release from Big Engine, Britain's new subscription book publisher.

Juliette Woods and Damien Warman, runners-up in this year's GUFF race, seem to have located a consolation prize – they're moving to Texas. Woods told *Australian SF Bullshead* #163, "I now have a firm idea of where we're going once I've finished my thesis. From July we'll be in Austin, Texas. I have a postdoctoral appointment at the Texas Institute for Computational and Applied Mathematics at the University of Texas. Damien will be able to complete his PhD and do a bit of TA work there. We'll be there for at least a year, depending on whether I get an Australian fellowship or not. We will try and arrange to drop by and visit people in Europe and the UK en route."

Julie Zetterberg married **Greg Sardo** on January 20 in a ceremony held at the Museum of Flight in Seattle. Many members of the costuming community participated. The bridesmaids were Frances Simmons and Kathy Sanders, and the Matron of Honor was Susan Taubenek. Spinning another tradition, the "Groomswomen" were Betty Bigelow and Dr. Lynn Kingsley.

The wedding cake looked like a stack of three hat boxes, with a special topper made by Betty Bigelow. *[Source: Michael Citrak, Westwind 1/2001]*

Karen Pender Gunn has changed her first name to KRin. She is organizing a Relay for Life team to walk the Whitehorse venue in November to raise money for the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria, Australia. The cost is \$10 per person and the idea is that the team takes it in turn to walk, with the whole thing running for 48 hours. If you are interested, contact her at:

fiawol@ozramp.net.au

KRin is back working, at the Anti-Cancer Council Library. *[Source: Australian SF Bullshead #166]*

Moffatt House At 75 by John Hertz

[Reprinted from Vanamonde 415 by permission.]

Len Moffatt having happily celebrated his 75th birthday, that June would go on to hers was a consummation devoutly to be wished, which last Friday (April 20) came to pass. These two diamonds of the first water,



hospitable local fans, able fanwriters, fine companions, Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund winners *who published their trip report*, Uplift hosts of mystery fandom, Friends of the Great and Near Great (as Bill Rotsler put on a name badge for Larry Niven), could either of them have for the occasion been surrounded by fans of any number and celebrity. Each instead had a small family gathering.

For June's the definition was commodious. The three children of her body were present, two of which, being married, brought their own families. But she has also taken an interest in younger fans as almost to adopt them, and some of these filially attended. I myself owe more to June than I can easily recount. Deft and encouraging, crisp, discerning, and cheerful, the Mary Poppins of APA-L, she has figured in adventures from strange steak dinners at the Pacific Dining Car, and hammering hazelnuts, to editing the Rick Snearly memorial fanzine, *Button-Tack*. Let us all rejoice in such friends, and revel in a fandom where they flourish.

As a present I found at the last moment a 75th anniversary edition of K. Grahame, *The Wind in the Willows* (1913), in hard covers with illustrations by E. H. Shepard, who conferred with Grahame but alas finished too late for him to see the whole. Making this arrive in time (indeed, as it happened, on the very day) was a feat. It proved to contain drawings no edition in June's library had, and with my urgent instructions followed it came, as promised, with a card HIPY PAPY BTHUTHDTH THUTHDA BTHUTHDY. In the vicissitudes of fate and fashion I was able to wear to Saturday din-

ner a necktie of about the age of our friendship, say 30 years, with no other remark than Ed Green asking, "Is that tartan?" I hope not, I said; I'm not entitled to any that I know of.

Changes of Address

Allan D. Burrows,
E-mail: ac046@torfree.net
Linda Bushyager,
E-mail: missscraps@aol.com
Connor Freff Cochram,
E-mail: connorfc@mindspring.com
Donald & Jill Eastlake, 155 Beaver St.,
Milford, MA 01757
Teddy Harvia, 12341 Band Box Place,
Dallas, TX 75244-7001
Elspeth Kovar, E-mail: ekovar@radix.net
Richard Labonte, Marlborough Farm, 166
Stoughton SideRoad, RR2 Calabogie,
ON K0J 1H0, Canada
Cheryl Morgan,
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Bruce Pelz, E-mail: bep@socal.rr.com
Elayne Pelz: E-mail: elayne@socal.rr.com
Gene Stewart, E-mail: stews9@home.com
Paul Treadway, 22 York Street, Cambridge,
CB1 2PY, U.K.
Roger Wells, 8152 SW Hall Blvd. #405,
Beaverton, OR 97008;
E-mail: rwells@whitties.org

As soon as **Roger Wells** saw his COA in the last issue, he wrote, "Yes, my mailing address has changed yet again. I was laid off from my position at New Edge Networks in Vancouver, just after really getting moved to Vancouver; about 30% of the workforce was let go. Within a few weeks I had four offers... I've accepted a position managing the productization department at the Beaverton, OR office of Wind River Systems, headquartered in Alameda, CA."

Richard Labonte says, "I've given up gay bookselling after 20 years and plan to spend the next couple of years living on a farm I've owned communally with several other college friends for 25 years now. Next time I read *File 770* I'll be rocking on the front porch."

Linda Bushyager says her new e-mail handle, Missscraps, "Comes from the casino game of craps. I played a lot of it for awhile. Actually right now my game of choice is video poker - if you know the correct strategy and on some machines you can have a slight advantage over the casino." Linda and Ron will soon move closer to the action: they are building a house in Las Vegas. "We expect house to be completed and to move around August or September, though we don't know exactly when. Our current house will be put up for sale in March."

FILE 770

Obituaries

Pat Ellington

Appreciation by Robert Lichtman

Pat Ellington, widow of the late Dick Ellington and a long-time fan, passed away on Thursday, April 12, 2001, at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, California. A long-time smoker, she'd been diagnosed with cancer about a year ago, but it was her chronic obstructive pulmonary disease that was the immediate cause of her death. Pat's main fan activity was in the '50s, when she had articles in a couple issues of "Joan W. Carr's" *Femizine*. She assisted Dick in the production of *The Bosses' Songbook* and had an illustration in it, and in the '60s and early '70s was a member of FAPA jointly with Dick. She's survived by their daughter Marie, her sister Mary and her brother Fred.

Dr. Donald Anthony Reed

March 18, 2001

Appreciation by Alan White

"I discovered at a young age I could never become a God, so I decided to become a judge." — Donald Reed

How can one put into words the passing of Dr. Donald A. Reed, a sad and spoiled anti-fan who, since 1960 has provided (one way or another) a much needed service to the genre fans of Hollywood? It's hard to provide epilogue for this elfish man-child, but knowing him 25 years, I am as qualified as anyone.

I was smitten by the Count Dracula Society in 1963. Don and Manny Weltman created this odd assemblage of genre movie and literature fans, pseudo-intellectuals, would-be authors and script-writers. The bi-monthly meetings were a haven for fans in the '60s and actual celebs like Ray Bradbury, Robert Bloch, A.E. van Vogt, Christopher Lee and others attended regularly. Don was on to something, having an annual banquet presenting awards to everyone from Wolfman Jack to Rock Hudson, Bob Clamptt, Robert Wise or Gene Roddenberry! I

asked how he got all these people to show up and he replied "People will go anywhere to get an award!" He found by giving fannish losers an award as well, he could garner their complete allegiance, and thus always have someone to lick the stamps, fold the flyers and stuff the envelopes; I was one of them.

He lived in his grandparent's house in South Los Angeles forever yet was never aware of the changing surroundings. I called him during the Watts Riots, having seen a TV helicopter shot of the liquor store on his corner burning to the ground. He couldn't understand why "People are carrying television sets down the middle of the street!"

While he told people he was a history instructor, he was actually the librarian at Woodbury College and a clerk in a law office specializing in draft law. On at least three separate occasions he took the Bar exam, but never passed. While never actually receiving a degree, he adopted his lifelong moniker "Dr." and enjoyed collecting honorary degrees and had stacks of bogus shingles on every possible subject. He also had a number of those mail order ministries and offered to marry fans.

It was the beginning of the end when he fell in with these guys purporting to be Monarchs and Royal emissaries. He began the "Royal Order of Count Dracula" and insisted on "Knighting" everyone with this big Dracula Sword causing Robert Bloch and others to drop out in disgust.

He was such a character, yes, I was mesmerized by his ability of persuasion and the potential for meeting just about anybody while in his company. Many club members were called-on for a number of odd jobs. For example, I wrote the first half of his book, *The Films of Robert Redford*, and others wrote the rest. He was also paid for teaching one-night adult classes at USC, but convinced someone else to actually teach the class for free. I attended his class on "Special Effects," only to find I was actually the instructor! Don had strange powers of recovery as well. At a USC screening of *King Kong*, the projector broke before a single frame hit the screen. While a rep was offering to give everybody their money back, Don ran to the front of the theatre and gave an hour-long dissertation on why "*King Kong* is a great

movie!" A woman came up later and said his talk was "The most wonderful evening I've ever spent!"

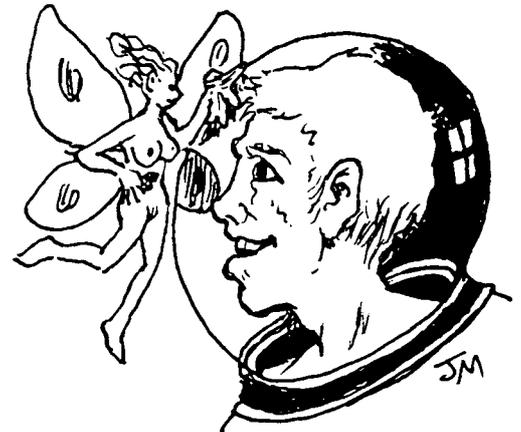
So Don didn't have to languish in the hospital after his car accident, I spent a week in his home dishing out drugs and emptying his bed pans.

He relished appearing on *The Tonight Show* and other interview programs both on TV and radio.

At some point, Don knew the Society was decaying (if not why) and devised a new, more glamorous organization that would only include people in the movie industry. He called it "The Academy of Horror Films, Science Fiction Films and Fantasy Films." I opted for a shorter name, but he wouldn't have it. Finally, I offered to donate money to put the club on the map, put on our first awards show and buy the first award if we could shorten the name to "The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films." Imagine my surprise finding out the first award goes to Don Reed "Because I thought of it!" When Don discovered industry people didn't share the same allegiance factor as fans, he opened the ranks to anybody with money for a membership.

There were many at the time who thought Don an idiot and wanted to wrest the reins of power from him, but in the end, none of the usurpers had the energy or the wild self-aggrandizing attitude to actually do it.

Meeting Arnold Shapiro (multi-Emmy winner for productions such as *Scared Straight*) was a thrill and his ability to produce our television award shows was assured. It was Arnold that commissioned and produced the actual Saturn Award much to the surprise of Don who wanted the trophy to be known as the "Dr. Donald A. Reed Award." Under Shapiro's guidance, the show boasted absolutely everyone from



Charlton Heston, George Burns to Mark Hammill.

Shapiro presented Don with an offer that by restructuring the Academy like the Oscar Academy, keeping books and actually having elections, he would ensure the success and longevity of our organization. This was what I'd been waiting for -- the legitimizing of the Academy! Don's reply was "I'd rather be a big fish in a little pond" and "Poof!" it was essentially over.

In 1989 I bowed out from sheer frustration and he never spoke to me again. While everybody has a Don Reed story, in the end, he will only be remembered for his quotes on the covers of bad videos.

In Passing

Rosemary Hickey passed away on April 26. She was in her 80s, and had been living in a nursing home in Houston for some time. During the 1950s-1970s, she was an active member of the University of Chicago Science Fiction Club and a committee member for ChiCon III. Earl Kemp wrote online, "In her own right, she was quite a hostess for sf affairs, a sportswoman, and a formidable foe with a target rifle."

Pierre Versins, writer, faneditor, critic, and author of the *Encyclopedie Des Voyages Extraordinaires, De L'Utopie Et De La Science Fiction* (Worldcon special committee award, 1973), died peacefully in his sleep in April at a hospital in Avignon, France, his home town. He'd returned there after living long years in Switzerland, where he founded the SF museum La Maison d'Ailleurs. In 2000, he was GoH of the French SF Convention in neighbouring L'isle-sur-la-Sorgue. He was 78. *[[Source: Joyce Scrivner]]*

Fantasies of The LASFS *Answer Man*

Not long ago the Lasfs.org website's "Answer Man" received a letter written in pencil by a shaky 10-year-old hand:

"Dear Science Fantasy Society: I would like to know how can a person have a fantasy. Write down about that for me and write down some steps about how I can have a fantasy. Then, I would like to know is magic science fiction. Here's an example of what I mean. I mean like if somebody could zap something and it would turn into something or if somebody could do a magic spell. If magic spells are real, please send me some. Love, Chris."

LASFS member **Bret Achorn**, who worked on *The Iron Giant* with Warner Bros. and now works for Disney, therefore knows a bit more about the art of illusion than the average fan, volunteered to answer Chris's letter. His thoughtful reply is worth repeating in these pages:

"Dear Chris: I'm writing to answer your letter to the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. They thought that I might be able to answer your questions. As for what we do down here, we're pretty much like anywhere else, except we enjoy science fiction and fantasy stories, usually in the form of books, movies or TV. We hang out together, and talk about lots of things, and go places together, just like any group of friends.

"As to how a person can have a fantasy, it's mostly a matter of taking the way the world is, and imagining changing it any way you'd like. One way to do that is to ask 'What if?' 'What if people could fly?' is a favorite of mine. There'd be no more cars,

everyone would have doors on their roofs, and cities would look very different.

"As for whether magic is science fiction, a very wise man named Arthur C. Clarke once said, 'Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.' That means, to people long ago who never had light bulbs or cars or computers, those things would be mysterious and magical.

"Of course, if by 'science fiction' you mean 'make believe,' then that's a much harder question. Because, you see, we're all like those people long ago. When we don't know much, everything, even a light bulb, is magic. Later, when we understand it, we say, 'That's not magic, that's electricity.' And then, much later, if we're lucky, we realize that the world isn't a simple place, and that there's a lot we don't understand. If you've ever stood outside when it was snowing on a quiet day and listened to the sound of the snow and the way nothing sounds like it usually does, or watched lightning storms on a hot, dry summer day, you might know what I mean.

"I'm sorry to say that I don't have any magic spells to send you. At least as far as I've seen, magic is something each person has to find on their own. I can remember writing a letter very much like the one you just did, and I know that isn't the answer you wanted. All I can say is that if you keep your eyes open and look at the little things that most people never notice, you'll find that there's a very magical world out there. Sincerely, Brett Achorn."

2000 NEBULA AWARDS

These are the winners of the 2000 Nebula Awards, given out at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA on April 28:

Novel: Greg Bear, *Darwin's Radio* (Ballantine Del Rey)

Novella: Linda Nagata, "Goddesses"(Sci Fiction/Scifi.com)

Novellette: Walter Jon Williams, "Daddy's World"(*Not of Woman Born*, Roc)

Short Story: Terry Bisson, "macs"(*F&SF*, Oct/Nov 1999)

Script: David Howard & Robert Gordon, *Galaxy Quest* (Dream Works SKG)

Also honored at the ceremony were: SFWA Grand Master: Philip José Farmer; SFWA Author Emeritus: Robert Sheckley;

Bradbury Award: *2000X* – Harlan Ellison, host/story editor; Yuri Rasovsky, producer/director; Warren Dewey, sound engineer.

These are the results of the 2001 SFWA Officers Election: President:

Norman Spinrad; Vice President: Sharon Lee; Secretary: Madeleine Robins; Treasurer: Chuck Rothman; Canadian Regional Director: Chris Attack.

Just Desserts

SCIFI, Inc., the folks who brought you L.A. con III, tried to kiss up to the pros attending Nebula Weekend in Los Angeles by sponsoring a Dessert Party.

Craig Miller said I-told-you-so when the

inevitable confusion occurred: "I'd mentioned previously that I felt the signage in the party room should say more than just Sponsored by SCIFI, Inc. for fear of confusion with the Sci-Fi Channel in the minds of the party's attendees. What I hadn't counted on is that the folks who maintain the SFWA website and SFWA's e-mail announcement list would get into the act. They both announced that the Dessert Party will be sponsored by Scifi.com."

Miller and Christine Valada, who coordinated the Nebulas, both caught the mistake and prompted changes to the website and a corrected e-mail message to be sent out.



HI-TECH

A creative shot in the arm from Alan White

fan art

It happened in such a short period of time. The individual occupations of “Graphics Designer, Layout, Paste-Up and Typesetting Artist” was going the way of the Pinsetter. Throughout the 70s I had designed movie advertising material on typesetting machines, developing reams of film that would be cut into galleys, waxed and pasted onto layout boards. Stills were photographed with huge cameras, trimmed, waxed and put in place with T-Squares, X-Acto knives, skill and patience. Fixing a minor typo was costly and time consuming.

In 1984 Apple released it's personal computer and a Brave New World began. Like a scene from *Return of the Fly*, the Layout, Paste-Up, Designer and Typesetter all melded into one huge, multi-tasking person. Looking back, the thought of running an entire graphics and printing department on 4 megs of Ram seems unthinkable.

Layout programs like Quark X-Press made it possible to quickly and easily do what had taken hours to do in the past. Fixing a mistake became instantaneous and cost nothing. Compared with today, the computers, printers and scanners were grossly expensive.

No more wrestling with stencils and corflu. At last a state-of-the-art fanzine can be created to rival the big boys. Today, computers are relatively

inexpensive and scanners are sold at supermarkets for less than \$100. Now it's the programs that are grossly expensive.

Adobe's Photoshop allows manipulation of art and photos to create the unreal or enhance what already exists. Combined with other art programs like Corel's 3D software Bryce, new worlds can be created by anyone with the time to spare and the spirit of adventure.

With a boost from the internet, you can now, not only create your fanzines with all the bells and whistles of the largest design companies, but either print them out or circulate them anywhere in the world via the internet absolutely free.

One such zine I am thankful to be in cahoots with is Joyce Katz' *Smokin' Rockets* where I've been given the freedom to do anything I want AND in color. Since Mike received a letter wondering how I created some of the covers for *File 770*, I thought I would give a behind-the-scenes look at creating the cover for *Smokin' Rockets* #3.

There are many 3D rendering programs on the market, but for only \$150, Bryce is perfect for novice or pro alike and available for both Mac and PC. Both Bryce and Photoshop are huge memory hogs, so come prepared.

GETTING STARTED

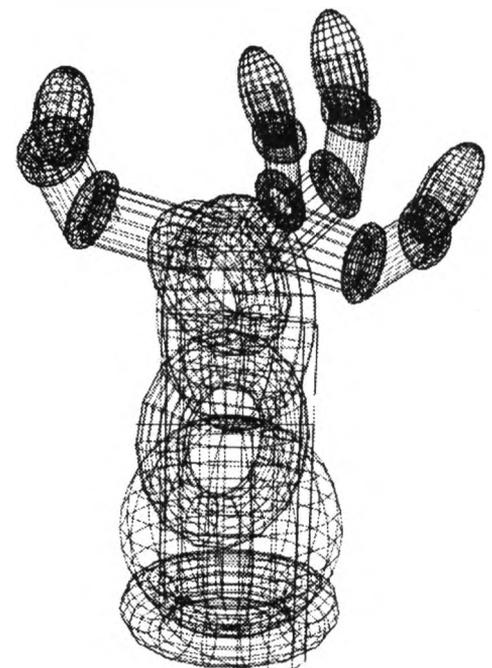
Bryce allows you to assemble any number of wire-frame shapes to create anything from scenic landscapes to

horrifying robots. After, sketching a rough of what you want the final to look like, crank up your program.

Since Bryce gives you a variety of shapes to use, I prefer working from what I determine will be the biggest geometric shape outward. Sometimes melding shapes together, sometime, just sticking them on!

What you are working with can become a tangle of wires and shapes, so I usually make additional articles on separate pages and paste them into the major piece to be attached later. Something like building a real robot.

When working in a three dimensional world, care is taken the image is correct from every angle. Up, down, back and forth; the pieces can be moved around the



A big (left) hand for the little robot

screen freely. A completed art piece can be viewed from any angle!

By accessing one of the many "material" pallets, you can create the metal coverings for your robot and rocket, plus terrain material for your landscape.

Bryce 4 now allows you to animate your new figures and the environment you create for them!

TO REVIEW...

You have created your wire frame picture, covered each figure with its respective material, chosen the proper "camera angle", rendered your scene and finally, saved your project. Printing out a proof copy is a wise move too. Now it is imported into Photoshop to make some color adjustments and apply the rocket smoke. The **Smokin' Rockets** masthead that was made in Tpestyler 3.5.8 is also imported into Photoshop and the entire concoction of art is squished together, ready to be printed out or e-mailed to anyone in the world. ■

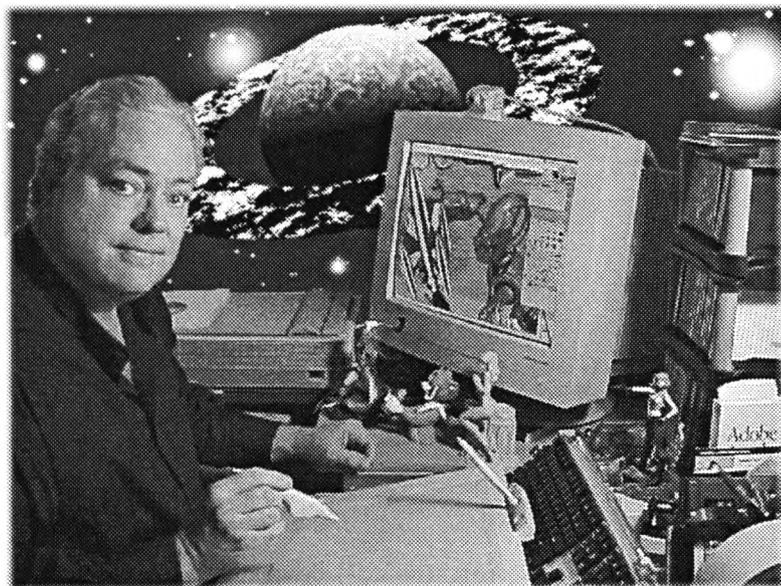
This article is meant solely to acquaint more fans with just a tad of the technology available to them. Yes, it's presented as an overview of a process I use and enjoy and has been quite simplified. No, I'm not thumping the tub for Adobe or Corel.



Here is a shot of the working page showing the shapes palette at the top and 3-dimensional movement controls along the left side. Notice the flurry of wires and in the background, the mountain range. Apply a material surface to each object, render your picture and voila!

SQUEEK!

Anyone who has tried drawing with a mouse knows its limitations. . .



The Wacom Art Tablet allows you to draw/erase or trace directly into your computer much as you would with pen on paper. The thickness and quality of your line is reflected by the pressure you apply to the tablet. Once your art is in the computer, it is available for any changes, clean-ups, effects and applying color. Different pens function as either a drawing instrument or an airbrush, giving the artist a wide variety of styles and effects. If you are already familiar with drawing and computers, the transition is easy. The tablet and pens give you the ability to draw naturally as you would with pen or brush.

All my covers and filler art are created on a Mac G4/500 using Photoshop 5.5, Bryce 4, Tpestyler 3.5.8, Wacom Tablet (12x12) and Stadtler technical pens, either singly or in any combination. For black and white printout, artwork is sent to a HP Laserjet 5000 for printing at 1200 dpi.

To see this cover in color and other computer art, go to: www.fansite1.com > Wow!

You can download **Smokin' Rockets** at: www.iPDFinc.com

Residuals

by Tadao Tomomatsu

[[Tadao Tomomatsu will be Fan Guest of Honor at DemiCon in Des Moines, IA over the May 4-6 weekend.]]

Residuals
by Tadao Tomomatsu

Greetings to one and all.

My Name is Tadao Tomomatsu: Actor, Comedian and Jack of Most Trades.

A Japanese-American from Texas. Experiment # JA-355947-TX

An experiment that went Horribly, Horribly Wrong....

I've never actually written up what's happened in my life, my misadventures are often told in person with a myriad of voices to match the personalities. And I write the way I speak, or in the Classic "Radio Script/V.O. (Voice Over) Format." So I will apologize for my spelling and grammar, for those of you used to such things.

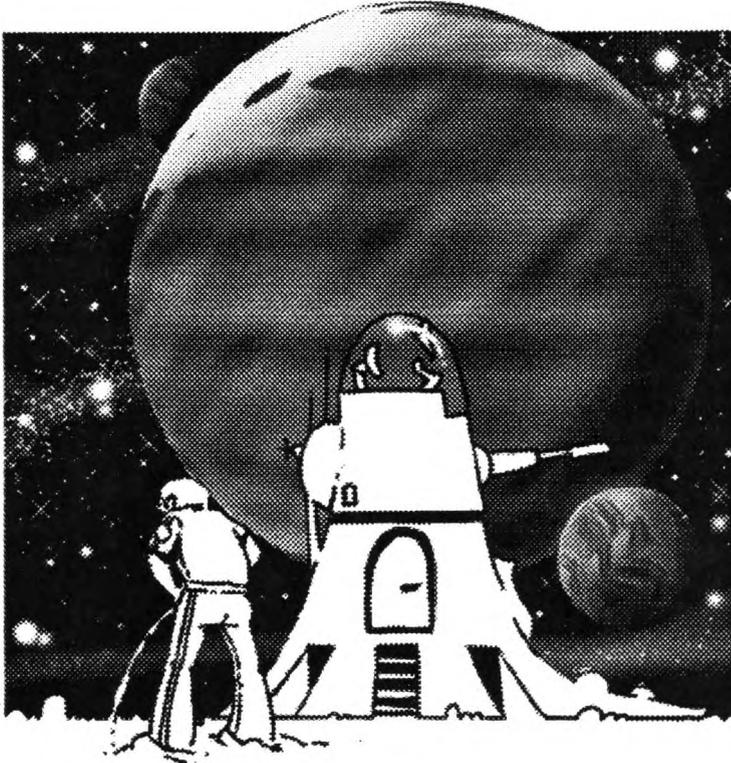
I should explain who I am first a bit and the silliness may ensue soon afterwards.

I'm the very odd one in the family. A long line of Priests and a long Line of Samurai before that. Dad broke away with being a Scientist. Mom used to be a Translator/Director at NHK: The Japanese Version of Public TV. And I'm generally considered the Isei/Nisei of the Family. Mom and Dad were the first to live in the U. S. There for Nisei. Isei because I'm the first one born in the US. And oddly, as a Texan. Yes, I had a Texas Accent. Took me about four years to get rid of it. But don'cha'll worry nun. Takes a whole hoot to get me back to ride'n hard and scoot'a boot. Yup.

Ok. So an Actor. I have to admit I can't explain it myself. Oddly, I looked on it as a challenge of sorts. It was something that no one else in the family was doing. And as the only Asian in a Midwestern, somewhat redneck area I had to be creative. Not to mention being a....

Ok ok...that's neither here nor there.

I do have to mention that I am a "Working Actor." Oddly enough that means that I'm not working most of the time anyway. Such is the life in Hollywood. I do



have a BA degree in Communications Broadcasting: TV, Radio and Film, with a minor in Theater Arts: Acting. What does this mean? My back-up job is just as difficult to get and find as my "career" is.

So. Relating stories about Hollywood. I'll be the first to admit, I'm rather biased. And I am telling stories out of sequence. I'm not starting with the very first "Acting" job I had or how I got started. That may be later, when I remember.

The old phrase goes, "Actors are the greatest liars." I admit that I am a comedian/storyteller and an actor. Most all of the stories are true. The names are changed or unmentioned to protect the innocent. I will be the first to admit these are fun stories, and if most of what I mention ever gets out the other phrase is "You'll never do lunch in this town again" comes to mind. So just look upon these as "Stories." At least I can keep my residuals.

Where to begin. The last thing mentioned in *File 770* was a bunch of "promos" for "Crocodile Hunter" on *Animal Planet*. If you caught me, I was flubbing words out to a Green, Fuzzy, Alligator puppet. People thought it was great. However the odd news.

I caught it. And it's an outrage.

It was two days of work in Oxnard, CA. I live around Burbank. Needless to say, a rather long drive. Although it was just as the SAG/AFTRA commercial strike was getting underway, doing this promo was fine with SAG and AFTRA because the company signed the interim agreement. Much to the great financial relief of the actor. Yay.

I waited for a script on Monday, with the shooting scheduled on Tuesday. I got nothing, so I called in and checked: apparently they were still writing the script. Talking about "while the ink was still

wet" isn't even the half of it.

Don't get me wrong. The Co/Director and crew were all professionals.

Instead of getting a copy of a script at around 6 p.m. I get it at 9 p.m. And it's three pages -- only a paragraph or so each. Now it's a mad rush and a few hours of sleep to get this down.

And being Japanese, and usually this is so, I go early to the location.

There were also three ladies with speaking parts. Now the first thing they were asked as a group was, "Are you afraid of snakes, can you handle snakes?" Of course, the answer is yes. You see, in Hollywood if you are asked can you fence, can you ride a horse, etc. you say yes. If someone asks if you are a god you say YES. Well, all three ladies said yes.

Then the pythons came out.

First thing was the tall skinny blond who was trying to figure out what was so terrible about pythons. Well if they don't like you no problem. If they really like you and they give you a hug....kiss your lower ribs goodbye..

Oh, no problem. I don't have any.

Blink...blink...

And it suddenly dawned on us guys. We've heard the legends but we never

thought we'd actually meet one. Legend has it that some women have their lower ribs removed so they can fit into tighter dresses. It's a Hollywood thing.

When they brought out the four foot albino python, most of us were outside the classroom watching the "replay" monitor, without no sound. After the shooting was over, the blond came straight out, started on a cigarette and filled us in on what was said.

On screen we saw the python on both shoulders. She was rather stiff. She was scared, and as soon as the python was on her shoulders the python's head was moving and eventually was entirely on one shoulder when this conversation finished.

Director: Okay..get ready.

Blond: Wait, can we do something.

Director: What

Blond: Film me being scared..

Director: And then?

Blond: Film me being scared..

Director: And then?

Blond (Shaky) Film me being scarrredd...

Director: Okay. Then let's do that and we'll add to that. Roll 'em.



As the film was rolling, the snake fell off her left shoulder and she jumped. Those of us watching went, "Ouch, that must hurt the python. Wait, she looks scared..." (Lightbulb over our heads.)

Now there was a brunette there also. Not to put too fine a point...she was five foot.. and exceedingly skinny. Yes she was scared. However, her python wanted to see what size bra she was wearing. And "his" head started to nudge inside of her shirt. All we see for a few seconds is her treating it like a guy. Looking down and slapping its head, saying, "Hey, get out of there!" Just like it was a guy...hmm go figure.

Now Beth, the third lady, she's from Michigan. Beth is a self-proclaimed farm girl. African American...who is doing the "Hispanic" Rosie Perez Voice. She also speaks eight languages. She's outgunned me by at least five. And she surprised me. She speaks practically perfect Japanese.

She starts off fine. "You..know, you're a grumpy little snake." However, by the fifth take, the python is now head level and staring at her. Every take her voice was getting shakier and shakier, and *still* with the Accent.

Ahhh, the things you do in Hollywood.



As I mentioned in an earlier *File 770*, we had the "Lubriderm" Crocodile as well as the pythons.

A huge Ford pickup with a truck cover holds the Croc and the pythons. All I

remember is it was parking near the food tables. And the handler is reading a paper in the truck. There is this tremendous...uh.. well for lack of a better term "Burp." A Crocodile Burp...and the truck shakes ever so slightly..

Without missing a beat the Handler drops the paper..and does the fist thumping chest bit, says, "Excuse me."

And goes back to reading the paper.

++ Tadao Tomomatsu

Long, Hot Summer

The *Lord of the Rings* movie premiere isn't until December, but Forrest DeLanger already got his name in the paper by being first in line for tickets at the Rancho Santa Fe, CA theaters. The 46-year-old bachelor with no life declared, "Only one person can be first in line, and it should be me."

Alan White clipped this article for *File 770*, and added a note warning, "This is a hoax." I guess, after Alan read what I had to say about Frohvet last issue, he wasn't sure I could tell the difference.

Brush Up Your Tolkien

While the world lines up to see the movie version of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, Britain's Tolkien Society is keeping its eye on the place where it all started – Tolkien's books. Decades after publication, copies of early editions in the circulating collections of public libraries require conservation to stay in service.

Tolkien Society Trustee Trevor Reynolds said, "I saw a newspaper article about the British Library's Adopt-A-Book scheme which explained how much of our literary heritage was at risk, so I contacted them to see whether any books by Tolkien were in need of conservation. They told us that three books needed work and that this would cost them £1300."

The Society has paid to conserve all three books: a rare UK first edition of *The Hobbit*, an early Puffin paperback edition of *The Hobbit*, and a USA first edition paperback of Tolkien's elegiac fairy tale *Smith of Wootton Major*. A spontaneous collection among members during the Society's annual mini-conference Oxonmoot last September raised about one-third of the money. The rest came from the Society's publications budget.

The British Library invited the Tolkien Society to send four members to visit the Library's conservation department and "meet" the adopted books. The places were allocated by a draw among members who had contributed to original collection.

Conservation, not restoration, is the objective. "All our books are intended for reading," says the department's Mike Western. A large part of the work involves books and manuscripts from the 20th century – modern wood-based paper degrades faster than the rag paper used in older, more expensive publishing. Cheap acid paper turns yellow in a few years. Reversing or stabilizing the effect of the acid is the main treatment needed by modern books and prints. "We have a 300 year backlog," a doleful conservator told Reynolds.

And the conservators appeal to book lovers – don't use sticky tape to fix loose pages! Treatment can remove the plastic strip and adhesive, but the staining is permanent.

The Tolkien Society's idea has inspired Adopt-A-Book to appeal to other literary groups for funds to conserve "their" author's early editions.

Adopt-A-Book's website, www.bl.uk/adoptabook, has been named as "most loved" in the UK by one publication. The Tolkien Society also draws visitors to its website at www.tolkienociety.org

UK Census Undercounts Jedi Faithful

The British government nearly had a Jedi *jihād* on their hands. According to online news sources, *Star Wars* fans were taken in by an e-mail hoax suggesting that the forthcoming U.K. Census would recognize "Jedi" as a religion if enough people wrote it on the form. The Office of National Statistics denies that they will count the write-ins. Their representative told reporters, "There won't be any coding for Jedi. So it won't be called a religion even if 10,000 people do it." If the official had nothing further to say, I'm sure that was only because he felt the grip of an invisible hand closing on his throat. *[[Source: Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol]]*

Coming This Summer Area (19)51 SF Film Festival

Forrest J Ackerman will host the Area (19) 51 SF Film Festival, part of Kansas City's "Halfway to Hollywood" cinema celebration in June. Area (19)51 is sponsored by the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, Inc. and Photoplay Inc., in association with the Fine Arts Theatre Group.

Seven classic SF films from 1950-1951 will be shown: *Destination Moon*, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *The Thing From Another World*, *When Worlds Collide*, *The*

Man From Planet X, *Lost Continent*, *Flight to Mars*. Five rare 35 mm episodes of the early TV series *Space Patrol* will also be screened.

The Area (19)51 festival boasts high-quality 35 mm prints from the collection of a noted Kansas City area theater owner. In the case of *The Thing From Another World*, the print is a pristine original vault find from Australia with deleted scenes not available since the film's original release in 1951. During the festival, there will also be the theatrical premiere of a new documentary on the making of *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. Original props, posters, and stills from these films, not seen for half a century, will be on display at the Englewood.

These films launched the beginning of the modern science fiction film era and contain wonderfully entertaining insights into the Atomic Age. They represent the hopeful, innocent qualities of the era but also draw attention to the fears of atomic warfare, racial unrest, communism and possible life on other worlds.

Visit the festival website (still under construction) for more information and schedules:

www.halfway2hollywood.com

Spock Groks Observatory

Leonard Nimoy is doing his part to ensure that Griffith Observatory lives long and prospers. The actor and his wife, Susan, have donated \$1 million to refurbish the 66-year-old Los Angeles landmark. "I think it's of cosmic consequence," said Griffith Observatory Director Edwin C. Krupp. "There's something really appealing about Leonard Nimoy's professional career and being able to bring it into this space."

The donation is the first contribution by an individual to the renovation effort, which has acquired about two-thirds of the \$63 million it needs from corporations, foundations and public money. The face lift is scheduled to begin next year and be completed by late 2004.

"By observing the sky and pondering our place in the universe, people gain a new perspective on their daily lives," Nimoy said in a statement. "Griffith Observatory gives its visitors that opportunity. It is a Los Angeles icon, one which we need to ensure will be here for generations to come."

About 2 million people visit the observatory a year to view the universe through its 12-inch Zeiss refractor telescope and planetarium. Millions more have seen its bronze Art Deco dome in films, including the switchblade scene in James Dean's *Rebel Without a Cause*. [[Source: AP]]

LEONARD
NIMOY
as
SPOCK



Dragonriders Will Take To Air

Having mentioned in last issue's obituaries how Bill Donaho helped Anne McCaffrey's novelette tie for the 1968 Hugo, it's noteworthy that WB has ordered *Pern* as a series for the fall, an hour-long SF drama based on her *Dragonriders of Pern* stories. Ronald D. Moore, a veteran *Star Trek* and *Roswell* writer, will produce the show, according to *Variety*. [[Source: *ASFACTS*, 2/2001]]

Clipping Service

"During the 'People vs. James T. Kirk' trial panel, panelist David Levine remarked, 'While it is true that Kirk decimated several planets, the way those people dressed shows they were begging for someone to come along and do just that.'" - *Craig Chrissinger*, "Random Chicago Worldcon Notes," *Asfacts* 9/2000

"Of course, the other big pain is that now I'll actually have to *pay* for printing *This Here, nichevo, SingSing* and the rest instead of sneaking into work at 6 a.m. and slapping out the copies on that nice machine that sorted and stapled 'em for me. Pah! (Hey,

maybe that's why they 'discharged' me...)" - *Nic Farey*, *this here* #8

"I can read Shakespeare and the Bible, and I can shoot dice. That's what I call a liberal education." Tallulah Bankhead, quoted in *this here* #8

"I am the only member of the Melbourne SF Club who has ever been officially censured by the club for trying to set the Club President on fire. I take a certain pride in this. It's a marvelously gonzo non-recurring phenomenon. I wasn't really going to set ex-President Sasquatch on fire with the lighter fluid and a Zippo. I figure that anyone who threatens to blow a loud whistle in a small room while I have a splitting headache deserves a sudden jolt of mindless, involuntarily farting terror. What I want to see is the kind of club where threatening to set the President on fire is taken in the spirit in which it is intended. If I threatened to set the new President on fire, he'd just look me in the eye and say, 'If you do that, Sean-Paul becomes President,' which of course would stop me dead in my tracks." - *Terry Frost*, *Ethel the Aardvark*, 8/2000

Conventional Reportage

Thanks For All The Fish

How much does a party for 300 of your friends in Hawaii cost? James and Kathryn Daugherty turned in the final accounting for Conolulu, and the convention's net loss (made up for by a donation from the Daughertys to the parent corporation, SFSFC) was \$31,906. The 2000 Westercon took in \$18,046 and spent \$49,852. "Not that this was surprising," wrote Kevin Standlee, "We've known all along that Conolulu would be almost certainly a money-losing event, and the Daughertys did the bid assuming that they would have to donate a substantial amount of money to make it work." A tip of the hat from Westercon members to James and Kathryn for their generosity.

Drawing Card

What does Ferdinand Feghoot look like? ConJose is looking for artists to answer this question. The 2002 Worldcon is running a contest for the best visual representation of Ferdinand Feghoot, the Imaginary Guest of Honor.

Ferdinand Feghoot, created by the late Reginald Bretnor, was the hero of a series of shaggy-dog stories, each one ending with a pun strong enough to cause internal hemorrhaging in the unwary reader. For example, who can forget his famous culinary creation, the ground-glass-and-meat dish known as silicon carne?

The press release explains, "Due to all of his roaming through time and space -- having adventures here, saving galaxies there -- ConJose has no photograph, or drawing, or anything, of Feghoot. But a representation of the Imaginary Guest of Honor must appear in the convention publications and web site somewhere. All knowledge is contained in fandom... including, presumably, what Feghoot looks like. Hence this competition."

The rules are: (1) The artwork must prominently feature Ferdinand Feghoot. (2) The artwork must be capable of being displayed at the convention and reproduced in some manner in our publications. (3) The deadline for entries is April 2, 2002. (This may change.)

Prizes and declarations of fame and

honor for the winner will be announced later. Address inquiries to Feghoot Contest, ConJose, P.O. Box 61363, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-4128, or send e-mail to godfather@conjose.org.

ConJose Mailing Lists

ConJose, the 2002 Worldcon, has started two publicity listserves. The first will distribute official information about the convention. The second will foster discussion of ConJose-related subjects, including travel and tourism in the BArea. Both lists are open to anyone and can be joined by visiting the ConJose web site and signing up: <http://www.conjose.org/Contact/maillists.html>.

A Lack of Conviction

If you bet that Omaha fans would inaugurate their new convention before a Bugs Bunny cartoon would be nominated for the Hugo -- you lost.

Conviction, planned for the March 31 weekend, was cancelled for the second consecutive year. According to Selina Rosen, fans trying to make hotel reservations were told none were available. The hotel reserved all its function space and rooms for other users, though the committee claims it had a contract. Organizer Ginnie Fee will try again. In the meantime, she is offering refunds. *[[Source: Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol]]*

On the Con Patrol

Czarkon will change its name to The Con Patrol in 2002. Organizers are moving the con to Kansas City, focusing on the members of the online Dawn Patrol and adding programming to make it a much different con than it used to be. Guests will include Web Hero GoH Keith Stokes, Dusk Petrol GoH's Carol and Dennis (The Unknown Pfan) Doms, Dawn Patrol and Technology GoH Ross Hathaway and Special Guests who are still making up their minds.

For pictures of the last Czarkon: <http://www.sff.net/people/sfreader/czarkon.htm>

Join Capclave Now!

How do committees get fans to join their conventions sooner? They've been trying to solve this problem for a long time, not only to pay the pre-convention expenses, but more importantly, to based their budgets on accurate membership estimates.

Capclave is giving fans an incentive to join immediately. They will be holding a drawing from the first 50 people to register for the convention and reserve a room in the con hotel room. Grand prize: your room free for a night! Second prize: Membership reimbursement and a Capclave T-shirt. Eight additional prizes will be given out, meaning that 20% of the first 50 people will win something.

Charlotte Granted Exemption

Lance Oszko announced that on February 10 the IRS granted IRC 501(c)(3) status to the nonprofit corporation running the Charlotte in 2004 bid. Surprisingly, their application was approved within six weeks.

BucConeer Running Out of Treasure?

Comptroller Bob McIntosh reported to BucConeer's corporate meeting on December 16 that there is a grand total of \$28,800 left in all accounts. ChiCon expenses were expected to use most of remaining convention profits, with much of the rest going to finance Student SF Writing contests through ConJose.

The committee will be looking for donations to continue the contests, and may have



Kosh goes Hawaiian, at Conolulu 2000. Photo by Phyllis Eide. Additional photos on File 770 web page.

found the first "contribution" in-house. Michael Nelson's said there had been so few submissions for the BucConeer Memory Book that they should simply put the photos on the web page and give its budget to the Student Contests.

Power Play

Natural gas, electricity, gasoline – the cost of every kind of energy has gone sky-high this year. Corporate price manipulation is suspected, and it seems convention hotel executives hated to see the bandwagon leaving without them. Doubletree employees told fans reserving rooms for the Portland Westercon there would be a \$3/night "energy surcharge" added to the bill.

When Westercon's Patty Wells heard this, she contacted their sales manager and got the charge eliminated. She wrote online, "It's the gambit where they try it out and then deal with the groups that really object. What it looks like they're finding is that any professional group (where the room costs are being reimbursed) is fine with eating it, the rest of us aren't. But you can't blame them for trying."

Aussie Worldcon Bidding Across Time and Space

Before Aussiecon Three ended, several fans were already promoting another Worldcon down under in 2007. Since then, Smofs inside and outside Australia have discussed alternative venues and so many different years fans are confused whether we're talking about the next Aussiecon or Ferdinand Feghoot!

"There are rumours that Australia may move to 2009," reports Bridget Wilkinson in *Fans Across the World #108*. Oh, that's the old rumor, Bridget, part of last year's great smoffy scheme to keep non-North Americans from bidding for three consecutive years (2005-2008).

Stephen Boucher left the jasmine-filled rooms of the Hawaii Westercon with a brief to shift the Aussie bid to 2009, but it may have been too early to assume there was any kind of monolithic bid able to make such a decision. Australia's rival local fandoms all want their say – and some are having it in the pages of Marc Ortlieb's *Australian SF Bullshead*.

Rose Mitchell wrote in #163: "Most of the Aussie fannish community has heard of a group of people, some of whom live in Melbourne, who are working on a proposal to bid for a Worldcon to be held somewhere in Australia in either 2007 or 2009.... So far, there is a declared bid for Japan (no city yet) in 2007. It is strongly supported by Ameri-

cans and Canadians and a delegation from this bid attended Chicon last September where they created a great deal of interest and excitement. However, some people believe the bid may founder before 2004. A shame if it does because a Worldcon in Japan, though comparatively expensive, nonetheless would be extremely exciting and interesting.... So this group of people have decided to defer further planning of a bid to hold a Worldcon in Australia until after Philcon (in August 2001)."

Mitchell adds, "It was never ever the intention of the above group of people to hold this possible convention in Melbourne. This is a misconception that keeps being perpetuated. There is also a bid for a Worldcon to be held in Australia in 2008 originating out of Sydney. As I understand this bid, the intent is to stage the Worldcon in Sydney.... Melbourne has staged all of the Aussiecons because at the time of bidding, that city had (a) an appropriate venue to accommodate the numbers and (b) an active fandom and (c) was not as expensive as Sydney! Just had to throw in some intercity rivalry.

"All Australian cities now have (or will have within two years) purpose-built convention centres and connecting international flights daily. Perth has recently broken ground for its convention centre, and it has one of the most active fandoms in Australia today."

Sydney's Garry P Dalrymple replied in #164. He researched the prospects of future Australian Worldcon bids during Aussiecon Three. "There was generous support for a future Australian Worldcon; none of the 200 people I approached rejected the idea as implausible. Non-Australian respondents were supportive of a time frame of 'more than five, less than ten,' while Australian respondents were more pessimistic, supporting a time frame of greater than nine years. I think it is very significant that for 'Next Australian Worldcon,' Melbourne for a fourth time was very much a minority choice, rating not much higher than Perth which was an unknown city to most respondents.

"If the 'Melbourne Worldcon Bid' people are serious about being seen as a 'Not necessarily Melbourne' bid, I have seen no evidence of it, and it seems they are denying themselves a significant advantage by not making this point clear."

On the other hand, said Dalrymple, "I have no objection to the next Australian Worldcon being in Melbourne in 2007 or 2008, provided the Smofs behind Melbourne do not drop the ball again, but instead announce a commitment to developing the opportunities for all Aust & NZ fandom."

South Gate Again in 2010?

By Andrew Porter

Another worldcon for LA, downtown instead of at the airport or in Anaheim? The old battle cry of "South Gate Again in 2010!" is growing more viable. The 1958 worldcon was held at the Alexandria Hotel in downtown LA, which was ceded to the City of South Gate by LA for the weekend, because Rick

Sneary's successful bid for that suburb didn't have any hotels large enough to hold a worldcon.

The passing years have not been kind to parts of downtown LA, or to the Alexandria Hotel. In the intervening decades, the Alexandria fell into disrepair, becoming a flophouse for down-and-out LA denizens. Now, with renovation sweeping the area, as described in "Swank Plans in Skid Row Los Angeles" in the 1/25 New York Times, the Alexandria's revival as a commercial hotel is growing more likely. As the Times noted, "The Alexandria Hotel, a flophouse on Spring and Fifth, may be the next candidate for developers, with its grand ballroom with a Tiffany stained-glass ceiling."

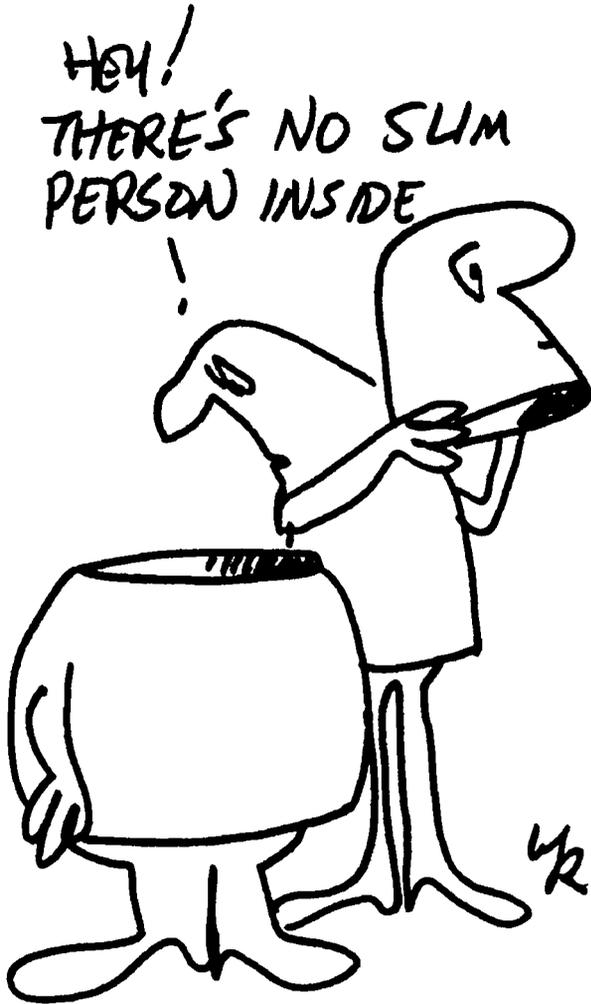
Although Rick Sneary is dead, maybe his dream has some life in it.

Bubonicon

Bubonicon 33 will be held August 24-26, 2001 at the Howard Johnson East, 15 Hotel Circle NE (I-40 and Eubank) in Albuquerque, NM. GoH: Sarah Zettel. TM: S. M. Stirling. Guest Artist: Lee Seed. Auctioneer: Robert Vardeman. Rooms: \$58 sgl-quad. Telephone: (800) 877-4852. Memberships: \$22 til 5/28, \$25 til 8/13, \$28 at the door. Dailies sold at the door. Make payments to "NMSF Conference." Contact: NMSF Conference, PO Box 37257, Albuquerque, NM 87176, E-mail: cwraig@nmia.com. Website: bubicon.home.att.net



The Fanivore



E. B. Frohvet

My first reaction to *File 770:137* (other than admiring both front and back covers) was that my slight influence in fanzine fandom must be growing, if even the illustrious *File 770* is doing covers in Frohvet Pink. Thereupon I opened the zine and discovered your editorial. To say that I was flabbergasted is an understatement.

There's a scene in an unpublished story I wrote in which the students of a magic academy (the piece is several years old and pre-dates "Harry Potter") are offered a problem. It is in fact a sneaky trick problem. But one of the students argues intensely her solution. The target of the exercise says apologetically, "The enthusiasm with which you make

your case almost, but not quite, makes up for the fact that you are wrong." Life imitates art.

Let's take that a piece at a time:

"When Frohvet first appeared, the grapevine promised he was a hoax being carried on by several fans."

Although it's true I was, and am, using a pen name, I disavowed being a "hoax" from the outset. And if anyone concluded that I was "several" fans, that was their conclusion, for which I accept no responsibility.

"...the deliciously paranoid evidence that Frohvet, a ubiquitous letterhack, never tried to get a copy of *File 770*, or sent his fanzine *Twink* in trade."

The adjective "paranoid" is yours. However, had you asked, you might well have found that

I did not solicit trade with *Fosfax*, *Plokta*, *Nova Express*, or many other fanzines, all of which turned up unsolicited in my mailbox; only then did I send my own zine in trade.

"Authors of fannish hoaxes send their material where the intended audience – faanish fans – will see it. They simply don't have the time to raise a smokescreen by writing to sercon fanzines."

Ah, we're back to "hoax" and now "smokescreen." In fact, as would be apparent to anyone who has read my zine, my own interest has always been sercon, as evidence by, e.g., a regular book review section. I fear that, having been blindsided by this whole "hoax" preconception, you are trying to read into my involvement a whole cryptic subtext which simply is not there.

"Tom Feller reported in SFPA, 'E.B.

explained to us that 15-20 years ago he was very active in convention fandom under his real name... He used to write articles of *Lan's Lantern* under his real name as well."

All true.

That brings us to my note in response to *File 770:136*, in which I expressed the view that it would be gracious for someone like yourself, who has had many fannish honors, to step aside for awhile and let someone else have a chance. From this you conclude that I must be Moshe Feder. Uhh, no. I would be pleased if I were anything remotely like a fan of Mr. Feder's BNF status, it just ain't so. Among other problems, I believe Mr. Feder resides in the New York area. Ellicott City, Maryland, is where I actually live. Anyone is welcome to visit (a trifle of advance notice would be preferred.) I am not into fannish politics, indeed that was why I "burned out" of fandom, as described to Tom Feller. I wince at "late middle-aged," depending on how one defines the term, but it's true enough.

In short, I keep telling people over and over, that if they heard my "real" name, 90% would go, "Who?" Not a BNF, not a hoax, just someone who wants to do a modest fanzine.

As for my expressed views on the Fan Hugos, they reflect accurately my own opinion as well as that of many others – Guy Lillian and Tom Sadler and Nic Farey among many have taken similar positions. (Nor did I at any point suggest you withdraw "permanently." If you really want to know, my position is that anyone who wins three Fan Hugos in any one category should thereafter not be eligible in that category for two years. The present exclusionary nature of the Fan Hugos discourages fanac and initiative; and relying on individual restraint has patently failed.)

Whoa. Deep breath. Have we covered that?

[I can't disagree that it's a pleasure to recognize good fanzines with an award, though the Hugos are not like the Winston Cup in auto racing -- winning is not the ultimate reward for participating. Being nominated for a Hugo is like the cherry on the sundae if it happens -- good, but not the main event. Then, of course, all that "excludes" a fanzine from a Hugo nomination is a lack of votes. This year, 30-54

votes was enough to qualify a Best Fanzine nominee -- if there is a "problem" couldn't it be "solved" by relatively small numbers of people nominating other good fanzines? Greater participation is the real key to diversifying the winners. People often comment about the repeat winners without considering that between 1990 and 2000 five different fanzines won the Hugo. An even higher rate of change is possible if more people make a commitment to nominate. Whether the Hugo electorate is knowledgeable about fanzines, they can only vote for what is on the final ballot. It isn't enough to merely agree with Andrew Hooper's highly insightful comment (from 1988), "The people [that] nominate the Hugos are a small group, and the people that are on the mailing lists for good fanzines are a small group, but they're not the same small group." We are dealing with such small numbers that individual fans who take the trouble to nominate can make a big difference.]]

Always entertaining to see Worldcon from another point of view, although it appears your path and mine did not coincide. Concerning Dr. Bob Passavoy's, "Do you have what it takes to be a fan?" -- If his examples are what it takes, then maybe not.

Glasgow Worldcon bid: I recall saying at the time that the 1998 Worldcon in early August in Baltimore was advantageous due, among other reasons, that it fell during school holidays. This observation was generally ignored. Worldcon is held on Labor Day weekend, because it's always held on Labor Day weekend. "I like Buicks because they are my favorite car." Oh, well...

[[In the past, Worldcons were typically held on Labor Day weekend because it was a dead time for hotels, so "bottom-feeders" like sf conventions could get cheaper rates. There's more competition for the weekend now, but the Worldcon stays around Labor Day for the same reasons many other annual conventions stick with a fixed holiday or date, because predictability it helps maintain its core of regular attendees. Running the con anywhere between mid-August and Labor Day seems to work fine -- and as you said, an earlier date avoids a conflict for parents with kids in school. A date as early in August as the U.K. bidders want to hold it should work fine for them, but using the same date in North America would put it in conflict with some smaller cons -- which brings us back to another advantage of keeping the Worldcon on a predictable weekend: fans aren't forced to choose between two cons they want to attend.]]

Lloyd Penney repeats the common fiction

that Lois McMaster Bujold "reworked a Star Trek novel" to the form of her first novel, *Shards of Honor*. In fact, as Lois has said many times in many places, among them a loc in my *Twink #4*, that an unwritten Trek novel was one minor source ("that old day-dream") which influenced *Shards*, and from which she took chiefly the name of the central character "Cordelia," her hair color, "... and the setting/idea (hardly new) of two enemies forced to survive together... All the first media influences were jettisoned by that time. I no longer wanted to write imitation anybody; I wanted to write original Bujold." The loc was in response to an article I had done in *Twink #3*, psychoanalyzing Sergeant Bothari.

P.S. Finally figured out what Grant Canfield's wonderful back cover reminded me of: Sort of a cross between the *Bu-javid*, the citadel of the *ajji* in Shejidan in Cherryh's *Foreigner*, with Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria. Looks as if it would be a great place to live, as long as one's legs were fit for lots of stair-climbing.

Ted White

Did you have second thoughts about Alan White's cover? Or have to make a substitution? I ask because my copy is stapled twice, with a shred of pink paper under the first staple -- indicating that a cover was torn off and a new one restapled.

[[The copy shop did an awful job on Alan White's cover, so I had them run another version, and replaced them myself.]]

Or maybe it was a rewrite of the inside-cover piece -- your "Editorial Notes"? Had you said something far more scathing about E. B. Frohvet? Or guessed a different identity for him?

I've met the man. I also had tangential dealings with him under his real name, back in the '80s. Under his real name (look it up if you have a copy of the fanzine) he had an article in *BSFAN*, back when the Baltimore clubzine was being edited by the Stileses. It was an once interesting and wrongheaded, revealing what I think of as "typical" neo-fannish paranoia about what he perceived to be The Powers That Be in fandom. (My memory of the piece has totally faded; I'm left only with my none-too-perfect recollection of how the piece struck me then -- more than 15 years ago.)

This article inspired me. I wrote (on my manual Underwood) a long (several pages) letter of comment on it. I was proud of that letter, I thought it one of my best. I mailed it off to the Stileses with anticipatory pleasure. I looked forward to seeing it published. Steve had

been after me for a LoC on *BSFAN* for quite a while, and I was pleased that I'd finally written him a good one. I sat back and waited for it to appear in print.

It never did. Steve informed me that he'd accidentally *thrown it out* with the old newspapers and trash. "You'll have to send me another copy," he said. I told him I had no other copies. "You didn't copy it?" he asked, sounding dumbstruck by my revelation. "No carbons? No xeroxes?"

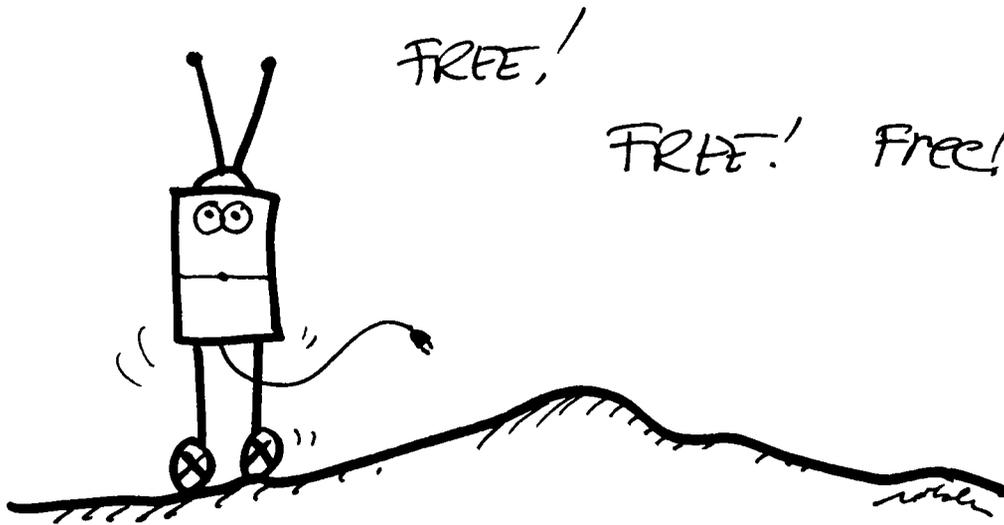
"Steve," I said, "it was just a Letter of Comment. I don't make copies of my Letters of Comment." He was crestfallen. "Oh," he said.

So I never had a LoC published in *BSFAN* and was not motivated to write any more. I don't react well when people toss my letters out with the trash, sublime in the confidence that I can provide another copy. And perhaps it was Just As Well that letter was never published. Ghod knows what David -- oops! Make that "E.B." -- would have thought of it then. He might never have reincarnated as "Frohvet."

[[I naturally rose to the bait -- your hint about his real first name, and his admission that he was on the 1983 Worldcon committee. All I discovered is that nearly everyone on the Constellation committee except the chairman was named David.]]

He was at the 1998 Baltimore Worldcon. He seems like a decent enough chap. He has no presence in fandom under his real name, however, and I now think of him as another one of those fans -- like "Ted Johnstone" -- who has a separate name in fandom. No big whoop. No real "hoax" either -- I think you are vaguely recalling the attempt by Hooper and Gonzalez to hoax fandom into thinking they'd created "Frohvet"...a kinda reverse hoax of sorts. I don't think anyone took them seriously, even then.





Alan White

For all the noise fans make over science fiction and the future, they are probably, as a group, the least qualified to live in it.

As Samet Nuhiu pointed out last issue, the SF community is probably the last to take advantage of new technology in zine publishing and certainly the last to recognize it. While they claim it's the words that are important, in the end, it only refers to a technological constipation and a circling the wagons mentality. I'm hard pressed thinking of another awards group that doesn't reward technical achievement and advancement of the beliefs they claim to hold so dear. This is why so many talented fans become fringe fans, leave fandom altogether or move on to Comics Fandom where technology and innovation is applauded. I am at heartened to read there will be a special Hugo for the Best Website of 2001.

If anyone doubts TruFandom is dying, you have only to read *File 770* obits that strike closer to home with every issue. Fandom was a gift to the Baby Boomers that has gone to seed. Of course, our founding fathers didn't have TV and the Internet to contend with and thus, Trufandom will only survive by changing its definition, which means the SMOFs are going to get knocked down a peg and learn to love the word "Sci-Fi" or soon they won't have anything to be the master of, secret or otherwise. Unless you can show me groups of teenage Trufen out there, busily cranking their mimeos, I'm lost to see how we're repopulating our ranks. Marie Rengstorff rejoices in being "isolated

nerds" but today, people are only isolated by choice and as for being nerds, well, that's debatable.

Gracious, what got into Dennis Lien lambasting me for not mentioning the *Garden of Allah* hardback and then rambling on about those "squarish things" called books? Frankly, while I remember them being more rectangular, I'd have been impressed if he mentioned Sheila Graham's *Garden of Allah* which was about the property we were talking about, but I guess he doesn't read as much as he'd like us to believe. Interestingly, as I write this, I see Amazon.com has a new edition of the Hichens novel for \$48.00; meanwhile, there are two-first editions on E-Bay that just sold for \$2 each. Go figure.

Greg Benford

Good issue! I always like worldcon reports; yours and Elspeth Kovar's brought it all back quite well. Like you two, to me Worldcons especially bring out my old fan joys, sawunda and all. I seldom see any flaws, and program glitches etc. matter little compared with seeing some of my favorite people, and fresh friends.

I approve of the retro Hugos, but geez, it is hard to assess through the haze of memory, without doing major research work at the UC Riverside Eaton collection to see if I truly recall who was good back there 50 years ago... For example, in the mid-1950s one of the major fmz was, in my opinion, Cliff Gould's *Oblique*. Nobody recalls it now, but it was a legendary hot, focal point fmz...for maybe 8 years, then gone. I met

Gould at BayCon 1968 and he did not hit it off with anyone there, seemed disappointed that hardly anybody remembered his zine. Maybe it's no big loss (he had become a lawyer) but it rings in my resonant memory.

Brad Foster

Got in *File 770:137* this week. Nifty-cool robot cover. I can see why Alan had several editors trying to get it. Hey, if he ever gets into making 3-D models, I'd love one of that guy for my toy bot collection!

Oh, and killer back cover, too, [[by Grant Canfield]] for a totally great wrap of art. I've always been a sucker for great fantasy architecture work, and that's a village-sized house I'd love to live in.

Enjoyed the Chicon report, always fun to read these, and fill in the gaps of what happened that I didn't get to see myself. On our own trip between hotels for the Hugo ceremony, Cindy lost a one-of-a-kind brooch that we had traded an artist for at a street festival. I spent the quarter hour before having to go down to the ceremony running around seeing if anyone had found it. We didn't hold much hope that it would be retrieved, but put a notice in the daily zine asking if anyone had found it, then discovered a lady had found it that very night and taken it over to lost and found. Talk about the honesty of fans! We let her have her choice of a piece of artwork, even though she didn't expect any reward. (Have had other similar things happen at previous Worldcons that keep my faith in general humanity from going completely sour.)

Was also fun to find out the day after the Masquerade that my shiny bald pate had been broadcast on the closed-circuit system into the hotel during the break before the awards were announced. I wonder if 20 minutes of the back of my head has now used up my 15 minutes of TV fame?

James M. Taylor

I'm afraid the only fannish news I have to report is undoubtedly old by this time, but I will go ahead anyway just to waste your time. The Formans are moving from Las Vegas. Just where isn't clear, but some where in the San Bernardino/Riverside area, since Ken's new job is in Colton. Now you lucky bastards will get to go to all their parties.

Will Las Vegas fandom survive being gutted? Probably more important (at least to me), will Snaffu live on? Will I (finally) have to get active in fandom? Maybe if only to get away from all the other problems that

seem to have converged recently. But isn't relief from the more oppressive parts of reality an important part of fandom, even today?

[[Yes. And, apparently, once fandom becomes too oppressive, people turn to TV wrestling for relief. Where rasslin' fans go for relief when that passion becomes too intense I haven't figured out, though I read that Army recruiting was exceptionally fruitful outside the XFL games at the LA Coliseum...]]

Joseph T. Major

Turnip Files Bankruptcy: That is an established way of dodging a judgment. For example, T. Cullen Davis, the Dallas oil millionaire, skipped paying a wrongful death settlement to his ex-wife by declaring bankruptcy. (He had been acquitted of killing her daughter and her lover and shooting her, but the wrongful-death suit came out differently – shades of O.J.) Perhaps Ferry can further emulate Texas gym magnate Richard Minns, who is under a \$60 million judgment for the attempted murder of his former mistress Janni Petrofsky, and ship all his assets abroad.

[[Maybe Ferry is one of those disappointed friends of Roger Clinton's who waited in vain for their names to show up on the list of Presidential pardons.]]

Gordon Dickson: While I usually dislike posthumous literary deals, not to mention overriding the author's own judgment, I really would like to see the publication of Gordy's unpublished historical novel in the Childe Cycle, *The Pikeman*. He had – I had heard – actually written the book about Sir John Hawkwood but had held it back for various reasons. If it were anything like *Dorsai* it would be pretty good.

Win Chris Barkley's Money: Judge Roy Bean's is "nearby" the Executive West for some rather large values of "nearby"; about three miles in a straight line and somewhat longer if you actually drive in a surface car instead of using your equilibrium or ingravty parachute.

The Fanivore: Harry Warner, Jr.: Since the zones have been abolished, South Gate Again in 2010 is now perfectly acceptable. They can even have Sneary as Fan Ghost of Honor.

Laurraine Tutihasi: Given that the Mythopoeic Society has roped in Dorothy Sayers, for her marginal association with the Inklings, and is well-known, but has ignored E.R. Eddison, who was actually invited to come, and is not well-known, I can see many good reasons not to be in the Mythopoeic Society.

[[That's a bizarre comment. Though J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis and Charles Williams are the three Inklings at the center of the Society's "bull's-eye," its publications cover all kinds of fantasy writers, not only Inklings. Sayers' background -- as a contemporary of the Inklings who had some contact with them, a Christian, and a popular writer in her own right --, simply helps make her simpatico to some fans of Lewis, Tolkien and Williams. Everybody realizes she never attended any of the meetings -- though she was sighted at the Dead Inklings panel during the 1998 Mythcon.... I got to play Warren Lewis, and when someone in the audience asked us, "What was the most unexpected thing you saw when you got to heaven?" my answer was: "Charles Williams."]]

David Bratman replies: that LOTR was always published as a three-volume novel, but I have two single-volume editions and a seven-volume edition.

Eric Lindsay

I did like your take on the fan behind the fan behind the fan behind E B Frohvet.

I also like the idea of ditto 14 moving to Tucker. Sounds a great idea, and I hope lots of fans attend.

We also have done a bunch of flyers for our relaxa.con around 14-17 June 2002 in Airlie Beach, the week after Australian Natcon in Melbourne, and two weeks after the expected date of the New Zealand NatCon. We have spent a feverish week distributing them, although not nearly as widely as we hoped, but at least some are getting out there now. That also has its own web page (and even a PDF of our flyer) at:

<http://psiphi.server101.com/relaxa.con/index.htm>

Teddy Harvia

I love Alan White's impish computer-rendered robot cover art. I can almost see it moving. Very moving.

ArmadilloCon has again invited me to a guest. If it a ploy to get me to draw them cartoons, it worked. I accepted and am creating art for their flyer featuring a monster attacking Austin.

Much of Hugo voting is based on cult of personality. You must be a real person who is bigger than life to win. If E.B. Frohvet continues to hide in the netherland of anonymity, that's where his nomination, however well-deserved, will remain, too.

The cartoons of Bill Rotsler and Joe

Mayhew continue to delight me. If only I could tell them in person again.

Julia Morgan-Scott's scratchboard art is amazing. How does one think in reversed black and white. I hope she has come back out of the woods after her robbery to create more.

Dennis Caswell

In the latest issue of *File 770*, you had an obituary for Lyon Sprague de Camp. In this, you mentioned that you did not believe that de Camp had won the Hugo Award. I would like to state that de Camp did in fact win the Hugo Award in 1997, for his nonfiction book *Time and Chance*. The fact that it was a non-fiction work would have escaped the notice of a number of your readers.

I would like to mention that I had met L. Sprague de Camp (and Catherine Crook de Camp) a number of times. He was that rarity among SF writers – a real gentleman. They will both be missed.

Connor Freff Cochran

Thanks very much for the coverage in *File 770*. I really appreciate it, and hope some of your readers come check out the site.

I also hope to give you lots more news in the future. The "Creative Options" essays are only one of a long list of things I've been working on over the years. There should eventually be some film and music business action to announce, too, if things continue to move at their current pace and direction.

BTW, I did make it into the Clown College back in 1974. One more experience for the eclectic resume, along with being a comic book writer/artist and a BBC-TV science reporter and a few other things. It has been quite the journey since back at LACon (and yes, I'm still not getting much sleep).

Dave Langford

I like getting *File 770* and hope you still enjoy *Ansible* despite its recent overlays of gloom. Hazel and I both loved the current back cover by, gosh wow, Grant Canfield.

In your letter columns, I couldn't work out whether Samet Nuhui's aside about *Ansible* meant that it couldn't be found on the web, that the web site offers only a paper issue, or that the site design fails to "satisfy some standards." If the first was meant, the spelling "Anisble" in that letter may offer a clue to the problem. On the second point, I retort that every single issue since *Ansible's* launch in 1979 is archived on the web. On

point number three, I will join you in pleading lack of time to construct colossal graphics, RealAudio accompaniment and Flash animations -- though actually I think the text is somewhat more important.

Sheryl Birkhead

As nifty as the front cover is, I was taken by the back cover -- then an, "Ah, yes" -- when I saw it was by Grant Canfield. I can hope fandom will be treated to more of his work, so many fans today have never seen his superb creations.

I've written "Philadelphia Pubs" several times asking for a Greg Bear bibliography. No response. Does any *File 770* reader happen to have or know of one? The one site I found is linked to Amazon.com and is only novels. And that was a long time ago.

File 770 just keeps getting better. Just hope the fan news stays on the positive side!

Henry Welch

The reports on Chicon were interesting and I have two items I'd like to clarify.

First, I've always considered Kelly Freas's leather jacket as more *Battlestar Galactica* than *Buck Rogers*. It reminds me very much of the jackets the fighter jocks wore in that TV show.

Second, my recollection of registration from Chicon V (I worked the first night) was that the precon material didn't arrive until that Wednesday. It was also in an unexpected electronic form and so all we had to go by were a number of three-ring binders. I thought we processed people quite well all things considered, since any worker could handle and member. The real annoyance was that some of the badges (program participants, dealers, staff, etc.) were moved to another place or places with no apparent rhyme or reason. It took me two days to find my staff badge and I'm sure it was more than frustrating to attendees who waited in line only to be told that their badge couldn't be found. Since there was no simple way to cross reference if another worker had handed one out or not it really ground things to a halt. I'm glad to see that some progress is being made in this area and I hope future worldcons learn by the example.

Joy V. Smith

Lovely cover. What's the medium? *[[See Alan White's article in this issue for the answer.]]* I really liked the back cover too. (Exploring old houses and villages is fun.) And I enjoyed the other artwork and car-

toons, including Robot Ballet: Rite of Springs.

Thanks for the Chicon 2000 Worldcon report. Isn't it wonderful to not stand in line when you register! That's a great start to a con. Only dry munchies in the con suite. Not even any dip? (However, I don't think I ever met a dry munchie I didn't like.) The fan history video sounds great. I hope it gets passed around to other cons. Eggleton's live painting demo was another wonderful opportunity for fans. The pie toss, on the other hand, is too hostile for my taste. Great parties and programs. Thank you too for the Masquerade winners list. They rarely get the appreciation they deserve. *[[Kudos to John Hertz, for providing the list.]]*

Chris Barkley's column, "Win Chris Barkley's Money!" was interesting. I'd never heard of that SF trivia game at cons. Congratulations on your win, Chris, btw! And I admire you for plugging away at reading the Hugo contenders before you and Naomi voted. (I read a few online. I much prefer doing my reading away from the computer.)

John Pomeranz

Well you invoked my name three times in a single issue, so I guess I'd better drop you a line...

First, a correction: At the Chicon opening ceremonies Kathi and I were engaged in animated non-verbal communication not with DC fan Bob MacIntosh but with Aussie fan John Maizels. Unfortunately, his accent was so appalling that I'm not sure what we said either -- my best attempt at translation is: "Meet us in the Vegemite jar after the carpet escapes and we'll knit herrings." (I gotta get a new phrase book...)

I strongly recommend holding a surprise wedding. We had a camera ready as we announced the event to our assembled guests at our New Years Eve party. The photo of the looks on their faces is one that we will treasure forever.

Lloyd Penney

I can sympathize with E.B. Frohvet on spreading the wealth a little when it comes to Hugos, but then, the awards go to the year's best, without consideration of who was last year's best. Both arguments have merit, but until spreading the wealth becomes the overwhelming choice, we'll have Hugos for the best of the year, and that's a better indication of SF's quality.

An update to Alan White's cartoon on page 3...fandom *is* like a box of chocolates!

Sometimes, there's fruits, and sometimes nuts, but every so often, there's a cream... (Beats the same old line about why California is like granola, hm.)

I would be happy to send fannish news to Andrew Porter, but I haven't seen *SFC* in some time. Canadian distribution was non-existent for some time; that may have changed. I will double-check with Bakka Books if they have been able to obtain it. I'd be interested to see what *SFC* looks like since AP sold it to Warren Lapine.

I checked out the Irwin Hirsh website, and besides DUFF, GUFF and FFANZ, there is now the National Australian Fan Fund, or NAFF (you Britfen, settle down), which operates somewhat the same way CUFF does...a fan a part of Australia where the National Convention isn't gets to go to where it is. Can a single country's fandom support four or more fan funds? Stay tuned

I'm not sure I've ever met Cliff Samuels, and I've never been to a Calgary convention, but a Worldcon in Calgary might be an excellent idea. (Like I said last time, does Calgary fandom know about this?) Should Dragon*Con take some fans away from Worldcon on the Labor Day weekend, smaller cities like Calgary should be able to host a smaller Worldcon, with no problems. It would be interesting to see what John Mansfield has to say about this...I'm sure no Western Canadian Worldcon bid would go ahead without his blessing.

I should also say this now: many thanks for all the Canadian-based articles and bits. Always appreciated, as we don't have a newszine of our own right now, not since MLR shut down.

Greetings to Samet Nuhui...who relays a name I haven't seen in quite some time, Krsto Mazuranic, the Mad Croat himself. Mad bidders never desist! I hope Krsto is in good health. Could you try to find him (last living in Samobor), and pass on our good wishes? I think Samet (and many others) will find that for every fan who is progressive and forwards-looking, there is another who is nostalgic, and wishes for things as they are, or as they were.

Update on my letter...Con*cept may be considered dead, only one year past an enjoyable con we attended. I hope Montreal fandom will consider starting again where they first did, with a one-day convention, and building up again to a strong and fun convention. Concinnity is rising again, with another relaxicon with none other than Dave Kyle as GoH, in Ottawa in October.

Gene Stewart can be assured that those pesky Canadians are indeed still alive. We're just biding our time, smiling and quietly watching the fannish melee south of the bor-

der. Every so often, we glance at one another and nod our heads knowingly. Worked for us in Chicago, so who knows what else we'll do? Well, I have some ideas, but I'm not saying anything...but, we will have some programming in English.

To Joseph Major: Arnie Katz captured one main fannish neurosis exactly with his "five fuggheads" jape in *Jackpot!* Who's the fugghead? Is it you? Is it *me*? AUUUGGGHH! If I recall, I simply responded by saying that this fugghead will happily take more issues. Maybe Arnie thinks I didn't get (or see through) the joke? No matter, the fugghead-don't-wannabees are still making a fuss, and I'm sure Arnie is smiling.

Gene Stewart

Alan White's cover makes a nice alternative rendering of *The Iron Giant*.

On the subject of Frohvet's disappointing substantiality, if you're still craving an unseen fan, may I humbly offer my own irreality, if not unreality, as fandom's great invisible professor of gibberish and blather extraordinaire, magus calibre deluxe? Ask yourself: Has anyone ever really seen Gene Stewart? And what's all this OLD 815 nonsense?

Sorry to hear 4E Ackerman is being further screwed by the criminal Ray Ferry, and I hope his shenanigans land Ferry in jail for a good long time, perhaps sharing a cell with Ed Kramer, who can perhaps teach him a thing or two about BOHICA justice.

So boycotting Fandom, Inc. is yet another way to shore up the ghetto wall?

Hooray for ATom and alas for ATom and KenCH: R.I.P. Ken Cheslin was good enough to send me quite a load of ATom art just before he died, and I can only hope he got my thank-you letter in time.

Glad to know *Hour 25* stuck to its guns and made the move to freedom, so we can all continue to enjoy it.

The medical updates had me cringing and nodding in sympathy. Heal quickly, everyone, and may heaps of bad karma crush the souls of the scurvy mundanes who hurt any of you.

Chicon 2000 strikes me, as veteran of only one con, WillyCon III, with all of 25 memberships, as overwhelming. Great report, Mike. And by the way, from what I can see in the pictures, you and I look alike. Might be fun to meet at a con one day and confound everyone with a Separated At Birth? act. Well, a handshake'll do, though.

WillyCon III was held 26 - 27 March in the modern, light, and airy brick and glass student center on the campus of Wayne State

College in Wayne, Nebraska, a farm community a couple hours north of Omaha. Writer GoH was Canadian sf writer Julie Czerneda and Artist GoH was Frank Wu. I attended as one of the pro writer guests and made a splash at the story readings when I went last and chose a 500 word short-short zinger. Relief!

I also sat on a panel discussing electronic publication along with fellow Omaha Neutragonist Terry Hickman and Artist GoH Frank Wu. Attendance at the panel was greater than expected and the weekend, which ended there for me, was a success. And Julie Czerneda proved to be a gracious, generous GoH who made herself available almost constantly, taught an insightful writing workshop, and attended many panels, often bringing along her entourage of admirers.

The WillyCon website is:
<http://www.wsc.edu/student/activities/clubs/sfclub/willycon/willy03/willycon3.htm>

Chris Barkley's money? Where's my cut? Loved the frantic pace and present-tense narrative. You wear me out, Chris. And way to go on that trivia: impressive.

Elsbeth's Chicon only deepens the impression Mike's report left on me; I'll work my way slowly up to worldcons, I think.

Allan Burrows - Unlike Ted White, I never have strokes for the fun of it, thanks. Also have no clue what you're on about, but if it helps, I'm sorry, okay? Please dear ghods forgive a poor confused old loccer his trespasses, and lead him not into Trufen... ad nauseum.

John Mansfield

So even though you confirmed by email that I truly was the chair of '94 *[[ConAdian]]*, you still put it in the photo caption as 93. :- (How soon the Americans forget. So now am I not only the only person whose real name was not used in *Alternate Worldcons* but also, the one that the Americans changed the date of...

[[It must be the exchange rate - your Worldcon came 30% sooner...]]

BTW, the small detail left out of the Penneys' trip report is the fact that the fund paid for both Lloyd's & Yvonne's flights to Montreal. Mind you, I see they are complaining that there is not enough money in DUFF to bring the *two* winners up from Oz this year.

Fandom, got to love it...

Robert Kennedy

At the Chicon 2000 *Fosfax* dinner I sat

across from a person who identified himself as E. B. Frohvet. Apparently it was the same person that Joseph T Major had met at another con and wondered if the next time it would be the same person. Frohvet freely indicated that it is not his real name. I think that Joseph T. Mayhew's description is accurate. So we are still left in the dark as to his real identity. There were two other people at our table and maybe they will have something to add. Guy H. Lillian III did publish the photo of Frohvet in *Challenger* #13 (Fall 2000) even if it was only "the top half of his face" with the lower half covered by a copy of *Twink* #18. Perhaps it will be enough for someone to identify Frohvet.

It is also my opinion that persons in the Fan categories who have won more than one Hugo should give someone else a chance. Frankly, I am tired of seeing the names of Gardner Dozois and Dave Langford. Maybe *Locus* too.

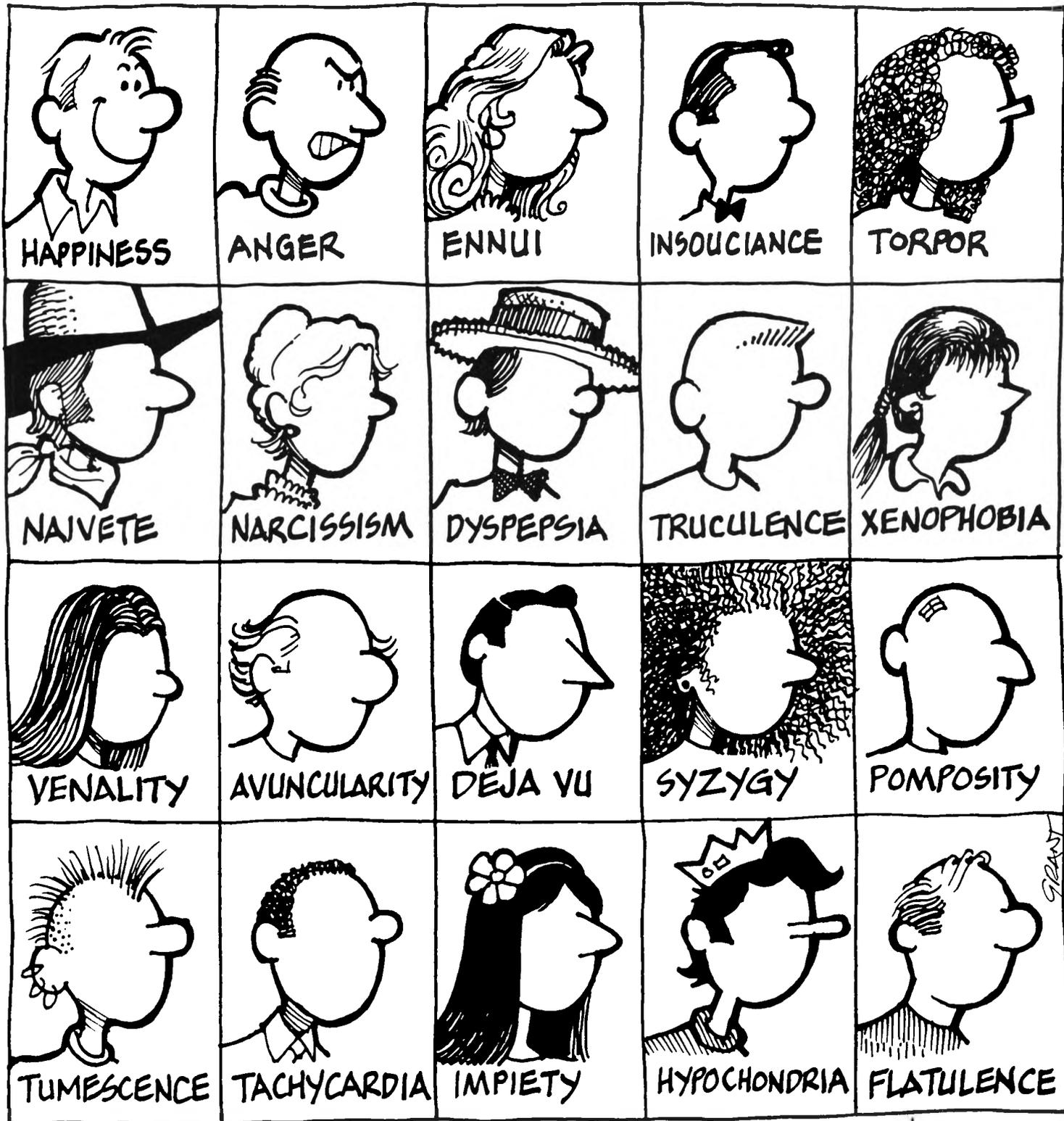
I forgot to mention that I really like the back cover by Grant Canfield.

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