



ASFS *future Times*

-OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR
THE ATLANTA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY-

Volume 1, Issue 4

June, 1998



ASFS FUTURE TIMES:

A.K.A. ASFSiated: The 'Zine that Leaves You Breathless

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The ASFS Future Times is the official publication of The Atlanta Science Fiction Society, a gathering of aficionados of the Science Fiction and Fantasy genres (in all media). ASFS meets the first Sunday of every month at 2:00 p.m. Meetings consist of a formal business meeting, followed by a program item (guest speakers, videos, group discussion, etc.), each lasting approximately one hour. ASFS produces a club newsletter, containing local items of interest, reviews, artwork and news of upcoming events. Other activities include dinners, film premieres, and attending area conventions. Dues are \$12.00 per year, to cover the cost of the newsletter, programs and activities. The ASFS Future Times is published monthly. Subscriptions are \$12 annual/\$1 per issue or trade.

Permission is granted to reprint all articles, lists, and flyers so long as the author and ASFS Future Times are credited. All art is copyrighted by the artist, unless otherwise specified. An exception is granted in the case of convention flyers.

To submit to the ASFS Future Times, please e-mail valhalla@dscga.com with article/art or send a 3.5" disk formatted for Windows (all text oriented files can be read).

For more information, send e-mail to asfs1@juno.com, or write to ASFS, P.O. Box 98308, Atlanta, GA 30359-2008.

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MEETING MINUTES

BY MISS JAYNE

May 1998

The meeting of the Atlanta Science Fiction Society was held on May, 3rd 1998 at 2:00pm at WordsWorth Booksellers. There were 7 fen in attendance.

Old business was the nomination and election of Regina Kirby to the post of Vice-Chair. Bill Bevil declined the position of "programming director" due to his work schedule, but offered to stay involved as much as possible. Anne Brunsgaard also declined the position, but volunteered her help as well.

In New business, Ian Letendre announced the deadline for the next newsletter as May 29th. He also requested that submissions be in electronic format if possible, and if not, only one full page long. Bylaws will be published either in the ASFS Future Times, or will be handed out at the June meeting. Voting will take place at a future date.

Members were invited to the first annual Bar-B-

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Q-Con. at Lewis and Jayne Murphy's house.

Promotions at a few local conventions were discussed. A few members would be attending LibertyCon and Vulkon and posting flyers for the club.

Michael Liebmann will be attending DSC/B'hamaCon, June 12-14, as the Filk Guest! (I think the Society needs a theme song, don't you? J.) -ed. yeah, I Wanna Be ASFSiated.

It was voted on and passed that when the club has an opportunity to run an ad in a convention program book for \$20.00 or less, the amount could be spent without majority approval.

Promotion for the Society at DragonCon was deliberated. Fan tables and breakfast parties were suggested. Bill Bevil offered to make a banner for the ASFS.

It was voted that \$20.00 per meeting be allocated for monthly programming.

Outings to the new movie releases and a possible July picnic at one of the state parks were considered. Aaron Dunne suggested "The Star Trek Experience" in Las Vegas and volunteered to bring information for anyone interested.

A move was made to close the meeting.

MY CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE

BY IAN LETENDRE

Let's see, where to begin?? Huh, yah, at the beginning, that works. Your friendly editor and club president here to say howdy to everyone. Lot of weird stuff going on around town lately.

Our club officially begins it's first meeting at our new location this month. Odd thing is, we are meeting at the Buckhead Library, and it is a block away from the Atlanta Fish Market. Gee, that doesn't sound too odd?? Wait until you see this building, their sign is literally a two story giant fish. Looks like something from a Tim Burton movie. Way cool!

Last month, most of attended BarbequeCon I. A decent time was had by all. Look for pictures in the next issue of the *ASFS Future Times*. Commendation should be given to Lewis Murphy for performing in less than favorable conditions. Miss Jayne was in the hospital and he entertained about 15 of us alone. Bravo Lewis!! Look for the flier for BBQConII in this issue.

It appears that the name of The ASFS Future Times will stay for this newsletter. No one as put forth any names, and I think the title is starting to stick. So does this mean I get the free B-5 merchandise??

A few activities coming up for the summer months. We will be having our next meeting at Regina Kirby's home.

Another barbecue for this event. Due to dates, it will be held July 4th weekend. I hope everyone can attend this event.

I would like to give another farewell to two of our club members, Avery Davis & Debbi Golden. Avery has accepted a position with Raytheon in Tucson, AZ. Okay everyone, at this rate with people moving, there won't be any club left.

The position for Programming Chair is wide open now. Anyone interested, speak up. The July programming will be the BBQ, and the August programming planned is SF Pictionary (B-5 prizes to be awarded). The SF Pictionary will be Pictionary with book titles.

Finally, to close out the summer, will be DragonCon in downtown Atlanta. We are discussing having a panel at the convention to act as a membership drive and to serve as our meeting site. We are also entertaining the idea of having a breakfast party instead of the usual evening room party. Anyone interested in helping to plan this event, please let me know.

Well, I am done rambling for this month. I hope everyone has a great month until next issue!!

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

To date, these are the publications received for the month of May. We will begin a library system for all 'zines received starting next month. In order to obtain any official copies of these publications, you must be paid member in full.

The Geis Letter #48

book reveiws, letters

published by Richard E. Geis

P O Box 11408, Portland, Or 97211-0408

Compuserve: 100313,3400 (ASCII)

sample/subscriptions - \$1.00 per issue

FOSFAX 191

published bi-monthly by FOSFA

The Falls of Ohio Science Fiction and Fantasy Association
c/o FOSFA

P O Box 37281, Louisville, Ky 40233-7281

subscriptions - \$12.00/6 issues, \$3.00/sample

(check or m.o. to Timothy Lane)

e-mail - jtmajor@iglou.com

clubzine

Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin

Volume 6, Number 12

published quarterly by the Southern Fandom Confederation

c/o Tom Feller

PO Box 68203

Nashville, TN 37206-8203

clubzine for the SFC

'LibertyCon' REPORT

BY REGINA KIRBY

The 12th LibertyCon was held May 22-24, 1998 at the Ramada Inn in Eastridge, TN. It's guests included Lois Mc Master Bujold as Literary Guest of Honor, Lubov as Artist GoH, Wilson "Bob" Tucker as Master of Ceremonies and Wendy Webb as Special Guest.

I arrived on Saturday morning at about 11:30am wearing my new ASFS t-shirt. Registration was in the hotel lobby and there was no line, so it went rather quickly. There were no 1 day badges so I did have to pay for the whole weekend membership (\$35). I put out the flyers on the freebie table and went to check out the ConSuite, which was located just off the lobby. The standard faire of Cokes, cookies, etc. was available and they were in the process of making the Tub of Chicken Salad. Beer was also available for those over 21 and interested.

The Art Show was small but respectable. Lubov had quite a few pieces on display. I found out that Lubov was a woman from St. Petersburg, Russia! I had seen her artwork before but had never meet her. Bob Tucker made the comment that when he was told that she was from Russia that he asked if she could speak English. Her response was 'Are you for real?'.

Instead of the traditional Dealers Room, Liberty-Con instead had what they called Dealers Alley. The dealers all were put on the same hallway and sold their various wares from their rooms. It was kind of like a mini-mall thing. At least one of the dealers served refreshments as well in the afternoon. There was a good variety, with several book dealers both new and used, jewelry, buttons, t-shirts, knickknacks, etc.

The 'non-banquet' was held at Tripp's Seafood at 5pm. Our former leader, Randy Cleary and I rode over together. The only thing was that you *were* suppose to purchase a banquet ticket from con registration. Neither Randy nor I had understood this from the publicity material. But the Concom was quick to come to the rescue and we paid them and were quickly seated. The food consisted of popcorn shrimp, fried fish and chicken fingers with the fixings and dessert. We were in a room all to ourselves which was nice when it came to the guest of honor speeches and the presentations. (Ask Wendy Webb about her 'clip-clop' joke.) The chairman, Uncle Timmy, presented the guests with this year's t-shirt and a very nice hand-made plaque.

The Art Auction was held at a little after 8:00pm. There were several very nice pieces including an original Lubov, which was the top selling item, bringing in \$500. The Charity Auction was held directly after and included several uncorrected galleys from GoH Lois McMaster Bujold.

The Masquerade upheld the fannish tradition of starting late, beginning at about 9:30pm. There were 7 or 8 entries, small but with a good variety. While the judging was going on, the audience was entertained by filker & ASFS member Michael Liebmann. Best of Show was awarded to Cheryl Mandus & Co. (again). It was announced that Cheryl will not be eligible to compete next year as she will be LibertyCon's Special Guest and will most likely be judging the contest. So costumers, here is your chance!

Upcoming Regional Conventions

June

June 5-7. Mobicon 98; Ramada Inn on the Bay, Mobile, AL. GoH- Douglas Niles, Margaret Weis and more. (Gaming) Memberships: \$20 til May 1. Info Box 161632, Mobile, AL; mobicon@aol.com; web: www2.acan.net/~mobicon/

June 5-7. TachyCon 9; Adams Mark Hotel, Orlando, FL. GoH- Richard Biggs, Richard Hatch, Rowena Morrell and more. Memberships: \$25 ATD, \$5 Supporting. Info Box 3382 Winter Park, FL 32790-3382; tachycon@ao.net; web: www.ao.net/~tachycon/event.htm

June 12-14. DeepSouthCon 36/B'hamacon 4; Ramada Inn, Birmingham, AL. GoH- Michael Bishop, David & Lori Deitrick, Buck & Juanita Coulson, Wilson 'Bob' Tucker and many more. Memberships: \$25 til 5/15, \$35 ATD. Info: Box 94151, Birmingham, AL 35220-4151; jl-wall@usit.net; web: www.bham.net/bisfic/dsc/index.htm

June 12-14. Jumpgate Jax; Radisson Riverwalk Hotel, Jacksonville, FL. GoH- Jack McDevitt, Peggy Ranson, Tom Smith. Memberships: \$25. Info: Box 1662, Yulee, FL 32041-1662; jumpg8jax@aol.com; web: members.aol.com/jumpg8jax/index.html

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June 26-28. Outworld 2. CANCELLED. Info:
outworld.dan@juno.com

July

July 3-5. Heroes Convention; Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. GoH- Mike Alfred, Joe Simon, Matt Wagner (Comics) Info: Box 9181, Charlotte, NC 28299; 704/375-7463; mother-box@heroesonline.com; web: www.heroesonline.com

July 10-12. Conjuraction 2; Days Inn, Columbia, MO. GoH-Lawrence Watt-Evans, Nene Thomas, Bear Reed, Keith Berdak. Memberships \$25 ATD. Info: Box 874, Columbia, MO 65205-0874; conjure@gte.net

July 17-19. CastleCon 11; Holiday Inn Holidome & Convention Center, Frederick, MD. GoH- YOU! Memberships: \$30 ATD. Info: EveCon HQ, 1607 Thomas Rd., Friendly, MD 20744; bruce@fantek.com; web: tiac.net/users/fantek/ccon/

July 24-26. ConGames 98; Camberly Plaza Hotel. (Gaming) Info: web: home.att.net/~kasumi.tendo

July 24-26. Temporal Disturbance; Jefferson Civic Center/Sheraton Hotel, Birmingham, AL. GoH- Lee Shackelford, Marcus Lusk, David Duncan and more. Memberships: \$25 til 6/10, \$30 ATD, \$15/day. Info: Box 59059, Birmingham, AL 35259-9059; tempdist@geocities.com; web: www.geocities.com/area51/chamber/4780

July 31-August 2- RiverCon 23; Executive West Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky. GoH-Harry Turtle-dove, Hal Clement, Kevin Ward, Julie Johnson-Tate & Chris Tate, plus many more! Memberships: \$25 until July 15, \$35 ATD. Info: PO Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009; River-ConSF@aol.com; web: members.aol.com/raroehm/member.html

July 31-August 2 - Florida Con-Quest ; Ft. Myers, FL. Gaming convention; available info: angelfire.com/fl/FloridaConQuest/index9.html

DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS

by Lewis Murphy
Conclusion

The ladder hit the ground with a hollow thud, causing Coobie to stumble backward. He regained his balance in time to see a figure moving down the ladder. Coobie could have run. He could have called for help. He could have heroically met the strange creature moving down to him. He could have, but he didn't. He stood still, completely mesmerized by what he saw.

The figure reached the end of the ladder and stepped onto the dry, hard ground. Its head was large, perfectly round, and located at the top of the body. Two arms (or at least they seemed to be arms) extended to each side. It walked slowly, on two legs, in an upright position. The skin was puffy and metallic. The head was smooth and shiny. It walked up and stopped in front of him. It was much taller than Coobie.

When it reached him, it made strange sounds. Sounds so loud, Coobie covered his ears. Finally, the sound stopped. Coobie decided it was time to make sounds of his own. He tried greeting the creature, using the *Intergalactic Language* from *Star Explorer*. The creature turned toward the spacecraft and made another loud sound.

A second, identical creature began coming down the ladder, carrying a large clear object at the end of one arm. 'That must be where his hand is,' Coobie conjectured. The second creature reached the ground, walked up, and stood next to the first. Coobie again tried to communicate, using the *Intergalactic Language* again.

Now both aliens, (Coobie knew they had to be aliens, any good *Star Explorer* would know *that*), began making the painfully loud sounds. Coobie covered his ears and closed his eyes. Suddenly the sound stopped. When Coobie opened his eyes, he was inside a small clear container. It was dome shaped, with what looked like a handle on top. Then the second alien slid a solid plate under Coobie, which locked onto the dome. Coobie shouted and pounded on the dome to no avail.

The second alien lifted Coobie, dome and all, by the handle and began carrying him to the spacecraft. The first alien followed. The three of them went up the ladder, Coobie pounding and shouting all the way. They entered the craft, which was lit with twinkling controls on all the walls. Coobie stopped making noise and began to look around. It was not like anything he had ever seen.

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Coobie was placed in an enclosed compartment. The alien left the compartment, closing the door behind him. He pressed the wall nearby, and the plate under Coobie was released from the dome. Coobie lifted the dome off. The wall of the compartment was clear and Coobie could see the aliens.

Coobie watched in shock as the aliens took off their heads and revealed the ugly blobs underneath. They began making sounds to each other, not so loud this time. Coobie tried to memorize what they said, so he could report it to others later. He strained to remember the strange gibberish...

"Better tell Command that we found a sample."

"They'll be happy."

"Yeah, it seems to be sentient."

"Sentient, but stupid."

"Well, that's the xenobiologist's problem, not ours."

The aliens moved to sit in two seats. They said something Coobie couldn't hear, and one of them flipped a switch. Coobie felt the spacecraft shudder as it began to lift off.

Coobie realized he was leaving home. Leaving Zot. Leaving everyone. He thought of Mother and Father. He remembered what they had always told him, about talking to strangers. And a tear formed in his eye. The center one.

Movie Review: The Truman Show

★ ★ ★ 1/2

by Anita Benecke

The Truman Show: an adventure of one man's life in a fifty's cultured, 1990's technologied, artificially created city. The premise is that a corporation adopts Truman Burbank and, from his birth onward, broadcasts every aspect of his life, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. From his mother to his wife and even best friend, all are actors of a free flowing, never ending, contrived script of Truman's life. Truman, unaware of his televised, falsified life, is a lovable, charming ratings winner,



pawn of the Truman Show's director. Jim Carrey, who plays Truman, gives the character a real, if not naive quality, with wonderfully blended brief moments of Carey's notorious over-the-top style. Ed Harris portrays the Truman Show's director with an eerie omnipotence that makes one truly wonder as to how far he will go to keep his subject within the confines of his domed theme-park of a city. All the supporting actors give believable performances in an 'actors portraying actors portraying real life people' sort of way.

While this movie has it's comedic moments, it is a truly avant-garde, dark satire of the public's obsession and ever growing appetite with television and other people's lives. This is inferred when the movie shows all the show memorabilia collected by the fans, from Truman pillows to even cross-stitch kits. To summarize the moral of this movie in a Truman Show fashion, I would like to quote something someone I know once said, "What will I do with my Thursday nights now that Seinfeld is off the air?" Try reading or other mind expanding experiences.

I highly recommend seeing this movie. It is destined to be a classic among other dark satires such as one my favorites "Dr. Strangelove." Now I will end this critique, taking the movie's message to heart, and read or do anything other than watch that mind numbing entertainment of the uncreative.

COOL WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Here is another cool feature we are adding to the newsletter. Every month we will deature one to two websites that we find that are just too cool not to share with fellow fans SF fans. If you have a site that you know of that you want to share with other club members, please e-mail them on in and the editorial staff will check them out. Not all sites need to relate to SF directly, but must relate to fandom in some form (no porn sites please).

Ain't It Cool News - www.ain't-it-cool-news.com:

This site is run buy a self-touting film geek (his words, not mine). Harry Knowles knows his stuff, and his resources are pretty much on target. An awsome site to find great film and scoops on many fan favorite flicks coming soon. DragonCon is touting Harry as a guest this year, so check out his site and see him at DragonCon.

The Force.Net - www.theforce.net:

Not quite sure where fans get the time to devote 24/7 to the hobby, but these guys update their site daily with all sorts of Star Wars info. Excellent site for the new SW Prequel spoilers. They keep track of everything related to SW: books, comics, games, toys, etc. As your bookmark will say, The Force.net is with you...

Louisville's Annual Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention

RIVERCON

July 31 - August 2, 1998

Executive West Hotel ☆ Louisville, Kentucky

Guest of Honor

Harry Turtledove

Artist Guest

Kevin Ward

Toastmaster

Hal Clement

Fan Guests of Honor

**Julee Johnson-Tate
and Chris Tate**

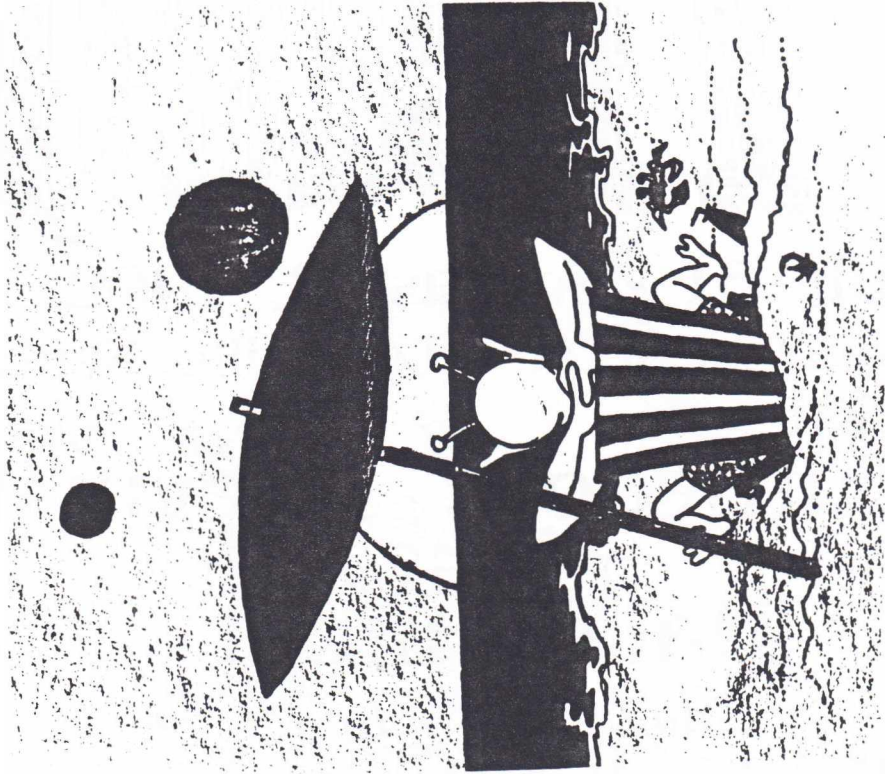
XXIII

with Dr. Bill Breuer ☆ Steven Burgauer ☆ Ron Collins ☆ Glen Cook
Buck & Juanita Coulson ☆ Laura Frankos ☆ Stephen Leigh ☆ Thomas K. Martin
R. Neube ☆ Jack Nimersheim ☆ Mike Resnick ☆ Paula Robinson ☆ Ron Sarti
Lisa Silverthorne ☆ Diann Thornley ☆ Michael Williams

RiverCon XXIII membership is just \$25 until July 15, 1998 (\$35 afterwards and at the door). (Children five and under are admitted free.) Hotel rates are still a very low \$60 per night for single through quad occupancy; reservation cards will be sent to all advance members, or call the Executive West at 1-800-626-2708. Join us for a weekend filled with SF programming, huckster room, art show & auction, masquerade, gaming, videos, parties, fun, and a whole lot more. Plan now to attend one of the region's most enjoyable conventions!

P.O. Box 58009 ☆ Louisville, Kentucky 40268-0009

E-mail: RiverConSF@aol.com ☆ <http://members.aol.com/raroehm/rivercon.html>



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