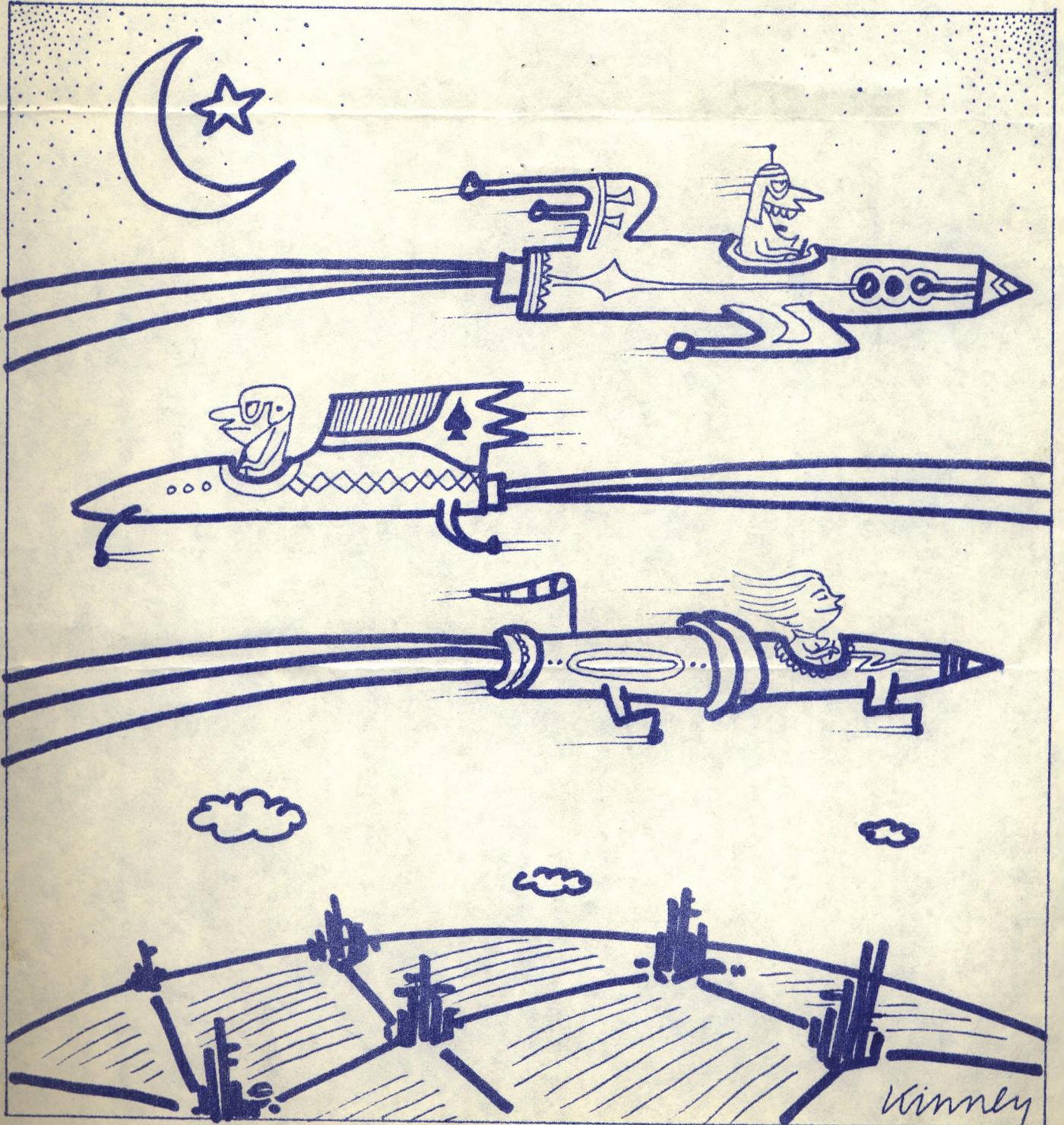
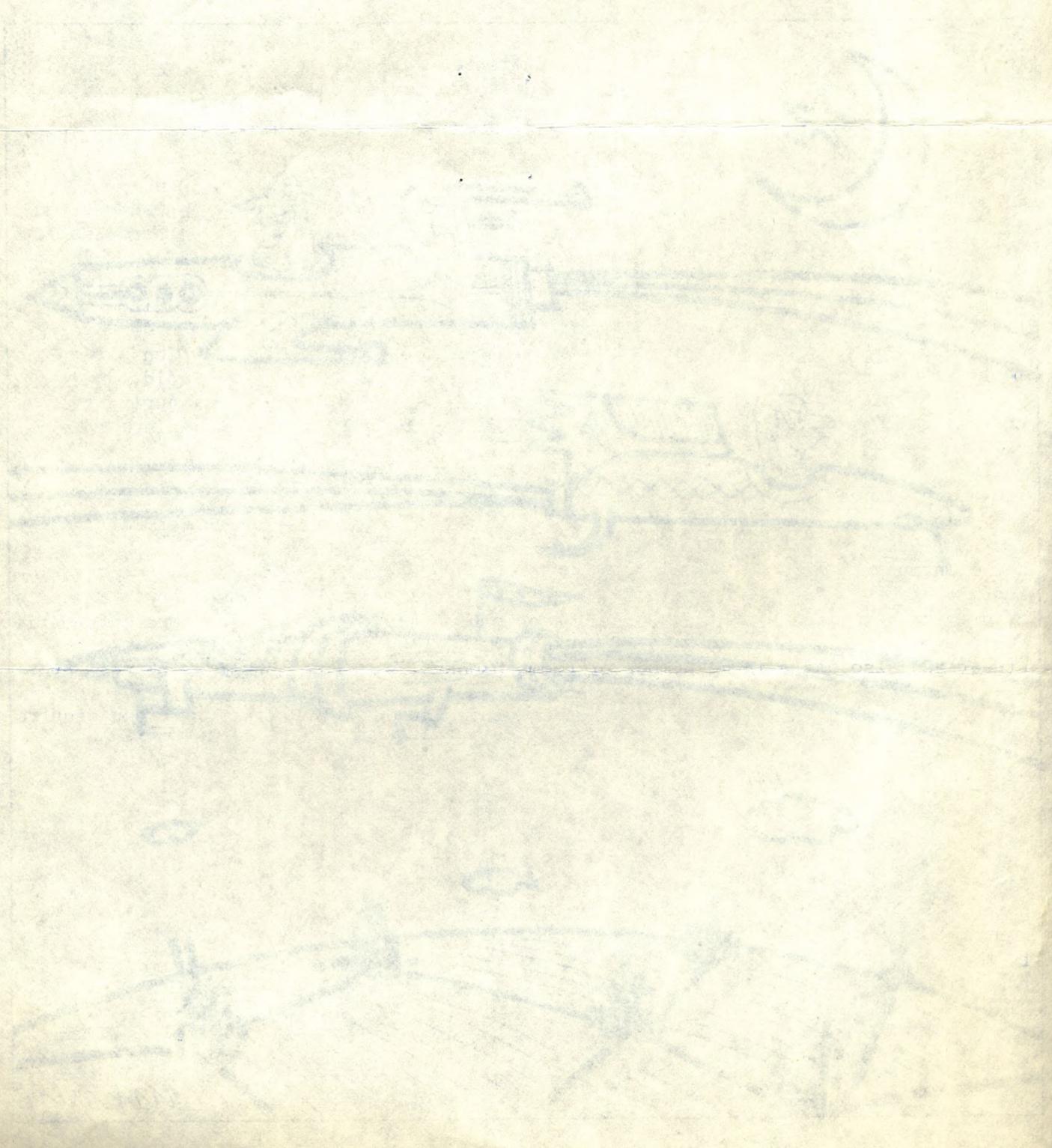


KADRASS



WADSWORTH



KARASS 18 is edited and published by Linda Bushyager, with assistance from Ron Bushyager and Suzle Tompkins. Stencils by Brian McCarthy. 1614 Evans Ave., Prospect Park, Pa. 19076. Copies of 11, 16, and 17 are still available. Subscriptions are 3/\$1.00. Copies of Granfalloon 18 and 19 are available for \$1.00 each. Also available for articles, artwork, news, letters, 1 for 1 trades. Please make checks payable to Linda E. Bushyager. Out-of-U.S. (including Canada) please use international postal money orders. KARASS 18 - Oct. 1975.

MIDAMERICON

The 3rd Progress Report for MidAmeriCon (Sept. 2-6, 1976) has come out. Cost to join is \$15 attending and \$5 supporting until Dec. 31, then \$20 and \$6 until April 30. The price increases to \$50 and \$6 at the door eventually. Conversion to attending membership from supporting is the difference at the time of conversion. If you haven't already joined, you'd be well advised to do so now. (MidAmeriCon, p.o. box 221, Kansas City, Mo. 64141.)

The PR announces some strict regulations which will be used to control crashers and eliminate forging of memberships. Clubs which have bought blocks of memberships for future sale must supply the Worldcon with the name of the person who will be using the membership by June 1. Sales of multiple memberships to individuals will be limited to 2, and the name of the 2nd person must be supplied by June 1, 1976. Since identification will be required to get membership badges, anyone registering under a nickname must supply the con with their real name by June 1. Any memberships which have not been assigned to real individuals by June 1 will be declared null and void. Badges will be of a type which cannot be copied and must be worn at all times during the convention. Anyone losing their badge will be required to pay a \$50 replacement charge.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS - are being handled by the Worldcon committee, not the hotel. You must fill out a reservation card and send a deposit to secure a room. Questions regarding the hotel should be directed to MidAmeriCon committee or to Pat Wantland (816-942-9002). Because of the Republican National Convention, another convention has been pushed into the Worldcon, and reservations cannot be confirmed in the Muehlbach for earlier than Sept. 2. or later than the 7th, but persons arriving early or staying later can stay in the Philips or other nearby hotels. For more information, see the Progress Report. The hotel has plenty of rooms and the Philips is across the street and also has a large number of rooms blocked, so there should be no real problem getting a room, but if you have any special requests, you should send in your room reservation early. Persons will be blocked into the Muehlbach first. If you wish to be placed in an overflow hotel (which will have cheaper rooms) note this on your reservation form.

About 2500 people have now registered for the convention. Plans for the con include a theatrical production in the nearby Music Hall, a Hugo Awards Ceremony in the Music Hall (separate from the banquet), a well run masquerade put on under Joni Stopa's direction, and a luncheon banquet with speeches by the GoHs. Heinlein probably will speak only at the luncheon and will not allow his speech to be recorded, so if you want to see him, you'll probably have to buy a banquet ticket. The entire con will be hooked up by video tape and transmitted to rooms in the Muehlbach, which should alleviate much of the crowding problem.

Persons who haven't received PR3 should write to the Box No. above. \$1.00 charge will be made for remailing reports if you haven't sent in a CoA. Send CoAs, questions, suggestions, hotel reservation forms, registration fees to the box no. above.

1977 WORLDCON

The 1977 Worldcon bid was won by Orlando. Chairman Don Lundry has announced that it will be called the Suncon. Membership rates are currently \$3 supporting and \$5 attending until Oct. 31. From Nov. 1 to March 30, 1976, the rates will be \$7.50 attending and \$5 supporting. All checks should be made payable to "Worldcon 35" and sent to Box 3427, Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034. The committee will be responsible only for payment sent to the P.O.B. and will not be responsible for money given to individual members of the committee at regional conventions. Anyone who sent \$3.50 for supporting membership due to misinformation will receive a 50¢ refund. Anyone who voted for the site selection already has a supporting membership and can convert it to a full attending membership for \$2. The rate to convert from supporting to attending is the difference between that paid and the current attending rate.

The Guest of Honor will be Jack Williamson; no Fan GoH has been announced. For more information, join the convention.

COMMERCIAL SF CON

Well gang, it has finally happened. a totally commercial SF con has arrived on the scene. SFEXPO76 is being run by professional convention people, including nonfans, Jim Harvin, a former fan, with the assistance of Charles Ellis who seems to be a paid spokesman for the group. (Ellis was chairman of last years Balticon and is chairman of this years Balticon as well).

According to literature sent out in a mass mailing, SFEXPO plans the following: panels, readings, discussions, quizzes, author's parties, autograph booths, 24 hours of films for five days, lotteries, costume ball, dance, Star Trek display room, SF memorabilia room, art show, award banquet, special charter flights, a new SF musical, exhibitions, etc.

The Expo is scheduled June 25-29 1976 at the New York Hilton. The group is charging a \$1 pre-supporting membership fee to receive information about the con. (Write SF Services, 2 Church St., Montclair, N.J. 07042.) I wrote this address for more information since I had heard that the con was paying pros to appear and was trying to make a profit. I got 2 letters back from Ellis with little information. He refused to tell me who the committee members were, whether profit-making was a motive, what awards were to be given, etc. Other sources have found out that this con is intended to make a profit and will be a one-shot affair.

Ken Keller has supplied me with some informative literature and letters put out by this group - I'll let the literature speak for itself.

AUTHOR'S BASIC INFORMATION SHEET:

"Exposition Attendance: non-working attendance (no formal participation) - free registration for author & family; working participation: free registration, free double room for author & family for all 5 days.

"Rates: Panels & forums - \$25/hour (2 months advance notice of topic)
Autograph booths - \$10/hr (maximum 2 hrs/day)
Charter Flight Hosts - Free 1st class ticket
Readings - \$100/hr; no recording will be allowed
Written material - (short stories, serialized novel, articles for advance flyers): Stories - 5¢/word, 1 year first pub. rights (copyright and all other rights belong to the author); Articles - 5¢/word, all rights belong to S.F.S. (articles are to be assigned by the editors of S.F.S.)*

*S.F.S. is Science Fiction Services

Novel - \$1500, 1-year first pub. rights (copyright and all other rights belong to author). Payment on acceptance. When submitting material, please follow trade customs.

Author's Lounge: Authors, their families, and close personal friends only. NO friends of the author will be allowed in without the author. Free Buffet. Free Bar.

"Author's Services to EXPO: Right to use your name in our advertising and promotion. Attend the Exposition, complete. Attend (min) 1 panel. "

EXERPTS FROM THE ACCOMPANYING LETTER TO AN AUTHOR:

"Science Fiction Services invites you to attend our Science Fiction Exposition; 1976. We are going to give a convention so big, so packed with events, so damn exciting that we had to call it an exposition. As fans, we know what the fans want to do: have one hell of a good time. And as professionals, we believe we know what you authors want; not to waste too much of your valuable writing time from which you make your living. We will give the fans more for their attending fee than they have ever received before in entertainment, panels, special exhibitions, free books and posters, giant parties, and lots more..and the Expo will pay the authors for the use of their time and talents.

"SFS will be working hand-in-hand with the SF publishing houses on exhibitions, tie-ins, and displays. Expo will be a gathering place for publishers, distributors, agents and fans. (We expect 7-10,000 attendees.)...

"We will need judges for the Costume call (Panel Fee); an editorial board for the story contest (Special); lecturers for the writing workshops (Special); hosts for the Charter flights (Free Air ticket); authors for panels, readings, and autograph booths (Special)..."

EXERPT FROM CHARLES ELLIS LETTER TO KEN KELLER:

"This will be a large one-shot affair with, in addition to the usual SF Con setup, Display Booths from major SF publishers and other Youth Market Oriented companies. The not inconsiderable bread from these, plus a worldcon sized attendance will enable us to put on the biggest bash for SF fans in history....

"...The reason we can do all of this is that we are professionals. The main man behind SFS, Jim Harvin, has been a fan for 30 years, and also in design and promotion for some of the largest corporations in America. He has also worked on conventions for professional groups with million + budgets. There are others in SFS who have worked on similar levels.

"Once proven by having run Expo, we will get into producing SF instruction films, possibly a prozine..this is where we are headed. We're setting up a business that will be of particular interest to fen and help spread the "gospel"of literary SF to the general public.

"And, because we're professional, we're going to see to it that the Expo attendee will get more for his money than he's ever gotten before. We can't sell the fan something he doesn't need, right?"

"...We have every intention of making Expo the convention to attend next year or you'll kill yourself for missing it. Now, a wrinkle which has occurred to us is that you are worried about over attendance for MidAmeriCon. Well, if this East Coast bash doesn't help take pressure off you, nothing will. ... So if you're seriously

"looking for ways to cut your own attendance, you can give Expo a great writeup in the upcoming PR (we'll have much more detail to throw at you by then and we'll also pay regular ad rates for space), you can write certain faneds and get them to push it, and whatever the hell else you can think of because you know your resources better than we do.

"At this point, Ken, we're lining up attractions and getting the ball rolling..."

CONSEQUENCES

Why do I and many other fans worry about the entrance of a professional con into our midst? It seems to hold many good points, such as providing fans with bigger and better conventions, taking pressure off the Worldcon, etc. Well, the problem is that the repercussions may bring harm to the fandom that we know.

For one thing, if pros are paid to appear at one con, will they demand payment to attend other cons? Some pros are demanding payment already, soon this trend may decrease the number of pros willing to appear on panels and such. Cons would either have to pay pros to appear, or have no pros (pros who are trufans are likely to continue to come to to cons though). If an SF convention is run for profit successfully, will more cons be run to make a profit? Will membership fees go up and services down? Also, if a commercial con is a success, won't IRS become more interested in fandom and cons? Will commercial interests move more and more into regionals and the Worldcon? Will commercial hucksters move in and push up prices of books and mags? Maybe EXPO will pull people away from the Worldcon, but might it not bring in more potential fans who'll want to go to other cons? If mass media/mass appeal professional cons begin to increase, wouldn't the number of potential and then real fans increase and pour into regionals and any fannish cons left? And most importantly, won't commercial/professional SF cons dim or destroy the lovely family-like atmosphere of fandom and change the tone of conventions from a family gathering into an extravaganza?

In "Dilemma #9" (Jackie Franke, Box 51-A, RR2, Beecher, Ill. 60401.) Jackie discusses this con in an article entitled "A new age dawning?...Or an old one setting?" She asks "Do we really want to have our conventions treated like Sol Hurok Extravaganzas?" Yet as she explores the ramifications of the Expo, she points out that some of the benefits of the commercial SF con may make it worthwhile. For example, if such cons attract the fringe-fen, then the trufans would be left to have their own Worldcon and regionals.

This is a question which will be discussed in fandom for some time. As for my views, most of you know that I feel commercialism has little place in fandom and hope this Expo falls flat on its face. The commercial convention may succeed without fandom's support, but probably wouldn't affect fandom greatly. But if fandom supports this and similar cons, they are bound to change fandom - and I can't believe the change would be for the better. (LeB)



I just received the latest flyer for the Expo which states that Isaac Asimov will be toastmaster. Events will include a one-shot, short story contest for fans (the winners will be paid for and published), 109 hours of films. A number of pros will be attending, and according to the flyer, 40-50 are expected. Committee chairman is James J. Harvin. Program Director is Charlis Ellis. Publicity director is Warren Robinson. Other committee members are Pete Mueller, Nicholas Pollotta, and Joel Weissman. Memberships are \$12.50 until Dec. 1, then \$18.50 until June 15, \$25 at door.



Supporting memberships are \$7.50 till Dec. 1, \$10, thereafter. Daily memberships are \$7. I am presenting this information because it is news, not because I support this convention. I still believe fandom does not need professional conventions and that having them and paying pros to attend, etc., will only destroy fannish conventions. If you agree with me, you won't support this or similar cons, if not, you can send your \$1 for information or whatever to S.F. Services.

CANADA POSTAL STRIKE

Some post offices in Canada are already on strike and by the time you read this, all of Canada's system may be on strike. In the event of a widespread strike, some enterprising Toronto fans have gotten together so that mail can be sent to a nearby US fan. Send mail for the following fans to Karen Klinck, 142 Snughaven Court, Tonawanda New York, 14150 (716-833-4156). Canadian fans: Jim Allen, Henry Augisinski, Jennifer Bankier, A. Philippe Boyer, Celeste Erendrea, Mike Glicksohn, Pat Hayden, Jill Klotz, Taral Wayne McDonald, Steven Mullberger, Phil Paine, Janet Small, Victoria Wayne, Bob Wilson, and Bob Webber.

MIMEO MAN

At long last, copies of the complete Mimeo Man script (written by Moshe Feder, Debbie Notkin, and Eli Cohen, as performed by the Null A players at PgHLANGE and Disclave) are available for \$1.35 by mail from Moshe Feder, 142-34 Booth Memorial Ave., Flushing, NY 11355. The numbered, limited edition contains lots of goodies, including truly excellent illustrations by Stu Shiffman and a cover and map by Ross Chamberlain, lyrics of songs which were not used in the production, and an appendix of terms which serves both to supply information on how the play was written and information for the Neo.

I recommend this highly, and I hope some fan group will decide to carry on the tradition of the Null A Players and put on either this fannish musical or something new.

NEWS NOTES

Alan Foster & *Jo Ann Oxley* were married in July. *Mike Glycer* received his master's degree in Popular Culture and returned to Calif. *LeRoy Kettle* & *Christine Atkinson* will be married in October. *Darrell Schweitzer* has opened up his writing workshop to the public. Presently there are about 8 members who attend the meetings. For information contact him at 113 Deepdale Rd., Strafford, Pa. 19087. Persons should be interested in writing and interested in getting feedback. *Gale Burnick* & *George R. R. Martin* are getting married.

Dormore Inc. has received the license to manufacture Star Trek shirts, jackets, swimwear, etc. *Sydney Cove* in '88 is a new Worldcon bid, with 60 pre-supporting memberships already. To support bid send \$2 to Eric Lindsay, 6 Hillcrest Ave., Faulconbridge, NSW 2776, Australia.

England in '79. I just heard the latest on this Worldcon bid. Rumors that the bid is floundering are thankfully wrong. There are now over 600 pre-supporting members. Pete Weston has already done a lot of planning for GoH and hotel, etc., and a decision is now being made on the hotel (either in Brighton or Birmingham). Rumors of problems with the committee and hotel are entirely unfounded. I support the 79 English bid, by the way.

Univ. of California SF Club is being organized with Greg Benford as the faculty advisor. Greg is also involved in an SF lecture series which will have guest speakers including Larry Niven, Roger Zelazny, and Bill Rotsler. The cost is \$5/lecture for the general public and \$1.25 for UCI students.

New Orleans in '79 bid. According to Don Markstein in the recent issue of his fanzine, the New Orleans bid is not actually being run by Meade Frierson (or John Guidry for that matter, whom I erroneously reported was running the bid - actually John has nothing to do with the bid). Actually Meade Frierson is lending his name to the bid as a front, and the real chairman is Don Walsh. According to Don, Walsh has such a bad reputation in fandom that he couldn't run the bid on his own. According to Don, Walsh has been involved in theft and embezzlement.

Nashville in 79 - according to recent reports, this bid, supposedly chaired by Ken Moore, is a hoax.

Steve Miller has announced that SF Bibliodd, Newsletter for the UMBC SF Research Collection, is folding. *OSFIC* has established a committee to dispense the profits from the recent Fan Fair III for the benefit of fandom as a whole, and the fans who attended Fan Fair in particular. The Fan Fair will sponsor parties at Windycon and Anonycon to begin with. *Dale Donaldson* editor of MOONBROTH has wed *Jane Breiding*, mother of STARFIRE editor *Bill Breiding* and *Sutton Breiding*, editor of BLACK WOLF.

WANTED: People Interested in Audio & Video Tape Recording to Work at MidAmericon!

Scott K. Imes (3935 17th Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn. 55407 - phone 612-722-4451) is looking for people who can run a video camera, have done so, or merely want to learn how. He will need all the volunteers he can get at MidAmericon. It should be fun, and will be a great help to the convention. So why not volunteer? There will be a convention (COMMUNICON) on Jan. 1-4 in Minneapolis with video tape workshops to train people. It will be held at Andrews Hotel. See details on the next page in the convention listings.

CONVENTIONS



SHUN
5-28-75

Nov. 7-10 - Tus-Con III. GoH: Gordon Eklund. Registration \$5. At Tucson Inn, 127 W. Drachman; \$12 single, \$14 twin, \$16 double. Films, panels, special dinner with Eklund, and banquet. Write P.O. Box 49196. Tucson, Ariz. 85717.

Nov. 22-23 - Mexican 1. Guadalajara, Mexico. At Posada Guadalajara. GoH: Mack Reynolds. Panels, banquet. Write Elliot Weinstein, APDO 6-869, Guadalajara 6, Jalisco Mexico.

Nov. 27-30 - Witchcraft & Sorcery & SF Con at Sheraton West Hotel in Los Angeles. Write 1855 W. Main St., Alhambra, Ca. 91801.

Dec. 5-7 - L.A. 2000 - in honor of 2000th meeting of LASFS. At International Hotel, 6500 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles. Milt Stevens is con chairman. Memberships are \$3 now, \$4 at door. Rooms are \$18 single, \$22 double. Write LASFS, 11360 Ventura Blvd., Studio City, Ca. 91604.

Dec. 5-7 - Halfacon. International Hotel, New Orleans. \$5 membership, \$5 banquet. Write Box 8466, New Orleans, La. 70187.

Jan. 2-4 - Chatta-Khon. Sheraton Inn, Chattanooga South. \$19 single, \$23 double; \$5 in advance, \$5 at door, \$6.50 banquet. Write Irvin Koch, c/o 835 Chattanooga Bank Bldg., Chattanooga, Tenn. 37402.

Jan. 1-4 - Communicon - Selected topics in SF audio and video tape recording; audio, color, and monochrome video workshops, technical and ethical problems in magnetic tape recording, equipment maintenance and operation, creation of a fanish magnetic tape library. At Andrews Hotel in Minneapolis, Minn. Fees \$25/day, 4-day rate \$80 if received by mail. Fees cover entrance to programming and workshop materials. Fees are \$35 and \$100 if arranged by phone after 12/21/75. No at the door registration. Contact Scott K. Imes, 3935 17th Ave., So., Minneapolis, Minn. 55407 (612-722-4451).

Jan. 23-25 - ConFusion 12. - Lloyd Biggle Pro GoH, Bill Bowers Fan GoH. At Ann Arbor Inn, Ann Arbor, Mich. Membership \$5, profits given to fan charity. Rooms \$21 single, \$25 double. Panels, films, art, hucksters, parties. Write Ro Nagey, 115 Granger, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104.

Feb. 13-15 - Rome Con (Cyrcon 76). \$4 until Jan. 1, \$4.50 afterwards. At Ramada Inn, Rome Georgia. Relaxicon, panels, films, art show. Write C&S Biggers, 621 Olive St., Cedartown, Ga. 30125.

Feb. 13-15 - Boskone 13. GoH: Poul Anderson, Artist: Rick Sternbach. At Sheraton-Boston Hotel. \$5 advance registration. Art show, movies, hucksters, auction, costume party, discussion groups, etc. Info: NESFA, Box G, MIT Branch Station, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

March 12-14 - LepreCon II. At Ramada Inn, Phoenix Ariz. Roger Zelazny is GoH, F.M. Busby is toastmaster. Info: P.O.B. 1749, Phoenix, Az. 85001.

March 19-21 - Marcon XI. At Neil House Motor Hotel, Columbus, Oh. \$4 advance, \$5 at door, \$10 banquet. Joe Haldeman is pro GoH, Randy Bathurst is Fan GoH. Films, art show, banquet, etc. Contact: Larry Smith, 194 East Tulane Rd., Columbus Oh. 43202.

COAs

Alyson Abramowitz, Box 304, 1060 Morewood Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217 (correction)
Jay Kinney, 1786 Fell St., San Francisco, Calif. 94117
James Shull, 5503 Tilden Ave., Van Nuys, Calif. 91401
Marty Klug, 5730 Chatport, Saint Louis, Mo. 63129
Rusty Hevelin, 3023 Troy Pike, Dayton, Ohio 45404
Freff, 3624 North Potomac, Arlington, Va. 22213
Lee Smoire, Toad Hall, 2937 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, Md. 21218
Ken Josenhans, Rm. 367 East Holmes Hall, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, Mi. 48824
Frank Lunney, 715 11th Ave., Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Don Ayres, 5707 Howard Way #3, Hollywood, Ca. 90028
Richard Brandt, Box 29501, TCU, Ft. Worth, Tx. 76129
Sam Konklin, P.O.B. 9026, Long Beach, Ca. 90810
Jim Meadows, 1428 Neely, SIU, Carbondale, Ill. 62901
Balazs & Romm, 2484 Indian, SUNYA, Albany, N.Y. 12222 (new room)
Aljo Svoboda, Johnston Clg., Redlands, Ca. 92373

FOR SALE

Little Gem Guide to Fanzines - 50¢ from Linda Bushyager, useful guide by Peter Roberts; Neo-Fan's Guide to SF Fandom by Bob Tucker, revised - from Linda Bushyager for 35¢ (profits to TAFF).

WANTED: ARTISTS

Bob Tucker will be revising the neo-fan's guide for distribution at MidAmerican as part of the Neo Fan Room. I will be publishing it. I would like some new illos for it. I need funny fannish illos. I'd like to have various current fan artists represented. Bill, Grant, Jim, Randy, Terry, Tim, and the rest of you, how about it? You've got until about May, so how about it?

CREDITS AND LAST MINUTE

Thanks to all of you who supplied news. Thanks to Mike Glicksohn and Genie DiModica who pointed out some errors in the Aussiecon report last issue. It was meat pies, not pizza pies served on pie night, also, most of the filming of the con was done by fans, not Aussie TV. Also thanks to Jay Kinney who did the delightful cover for thisish, and to Jim Shull (p. 5, 7) and Mike Gilbert (p. 4).

The Canada postal strike is on, and all mail is being returned (you can go to P.O. & get postal money back). We have a family of Opossums living in our backyard. Does anyone have definite info on Philcon? I hear it is the second weekend in Dec. at the Ben Franklin Hotel and Delany is GoH. I typed another 6 pages of Granny before being interrupted to do this fanzine. Don't forget to vote on election day. Happy Halloween!

// An X in this block gives you the axe - that is, your sub has expired, or trade or other credit is up, and this is your last issue. Why not subscribe?

Karass 18
Linda Bushyager
1614 Evans Ave.
Prospect Park, Pa.
19076, USA

Mark Olson S16
Dept. of Chemistry
P.S. Bldg., SUNY/Binghamton
Binghamton, NY 13901

FIRST CLASS MAIL

