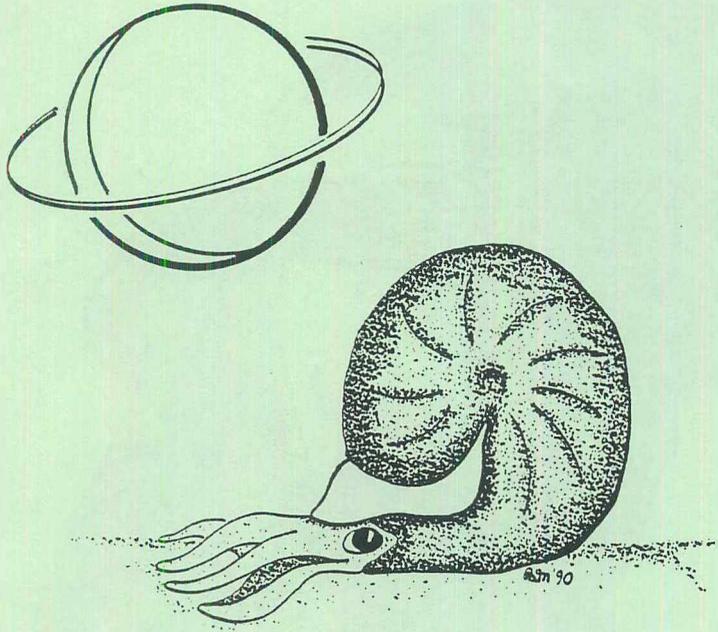


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Deadline for April Shuttle:
Wednesday, March 31, 1993

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For information about SFSFS,
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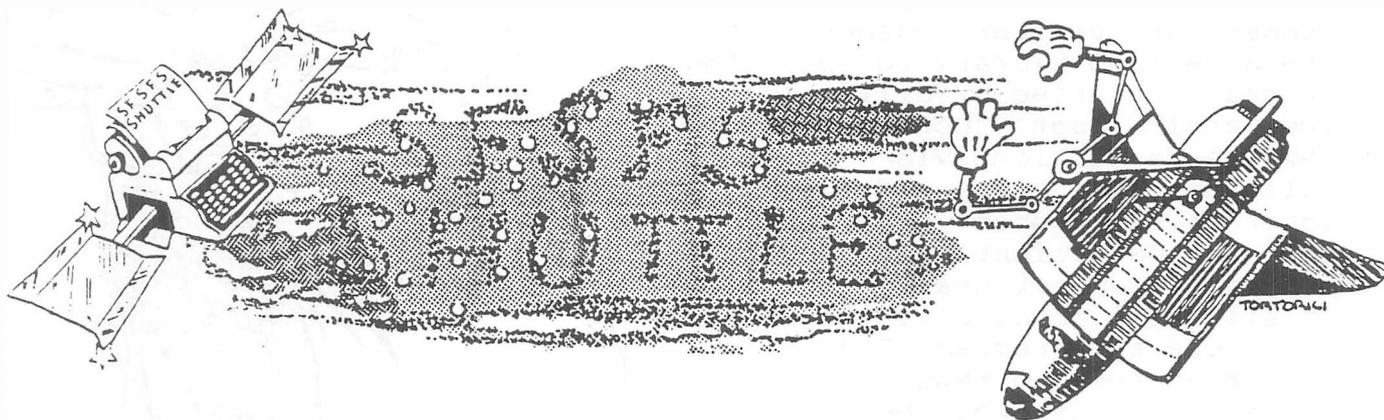
Shuttle correspondence should
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SFSFS Shuttle Editor
PO Box 70143
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307

The SFSFS SHUTTLE #96 March 1993

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And so it goes . . .

SEMBER SURSUM



The Official SFSFS Newsletter
Issue #96 March 1993

MARCH MEETING

DATE: Saturday, March 20
TIME: 3:00pm
PLACE: Airport Hilton
1870 Griffin Road
Dania
(just East of I-95)

We have a special treat in store for you this time. We took a long shot and asked Stephen Donaldson if he would speak to our group while he is out here for the Conference on the Fantastic. He called to say he would be delighted. For his convenience we are trying to arrange to use one of the rooms the Conference isn't using. Lacking current data, the first plan is to meet at poolside (remember our meeting with Nichele Nichols?). If a room is available, we will adjourn to it, otherwise it's the pool. If it rains we will meet at the bar and go from there. Stephen prefers not to give a speech, but welcomes an interview and questions from the audience. Bring questions!

Stephen R. Donaldson authored the Thomas R. Covenant series, "Mirror of Her Dreams", and a followup book, but memory fails me at this point. I especially enjoyed the latter books and highly recommend them. Check them out at your local library or pick up some copies at a book store.

TROPICON XII CONCOM

Bert and Arlene plan to have a meeting at their place soon. They will bring the information to the March meeting.

APRIL MEETING

This would be a good time to have a picnic before it gets too hot and starts raining. Bring your nominations for the locations to the March meeting. Yr pres' leans toward the Dade area, as we have been slighting them lately. I recall a very nice picnic down south when I first arrived here about five years ago (has it been that long?).

FEBRUARY MEETING

The 26th of February found 30 members and visitors gathered at the Riverland Library to enjoy the program presented by Bill Wilson and Carol Gibson: "Confessions of a (Science Fiction) Video Junkie". Bill and Carol presented a very interesting program, with lots of audience participation. Apparently this is a subject dear to the us all. Well done, Bill and Carol!

Before the program, Fran announced the sad news of Gerry Adair's resignation. He felt a real need to spend time with other projects, not to mention getting reacquainted with his family. We'll miss you Gerr, and hope to see you often at future meetings.

Copies of the bylaws and current membership were distributed, so all would be aware of the procedure for filling the empty post. It was determined that a quorum was present, nominations were taken for the office. Carol Gibson was overwhelmingly elected to the office. Congratulations, Carol. Welcome aboard.

New and renewing members were voted in. They are:

REGULAR

Dea O'Connor (she re-upped before the deadline, so didn't need to be voted on)
Fred Bragdon
Carol Gibson
Gerry Giorgianni
Nunzio Giorgianni

GENERAL

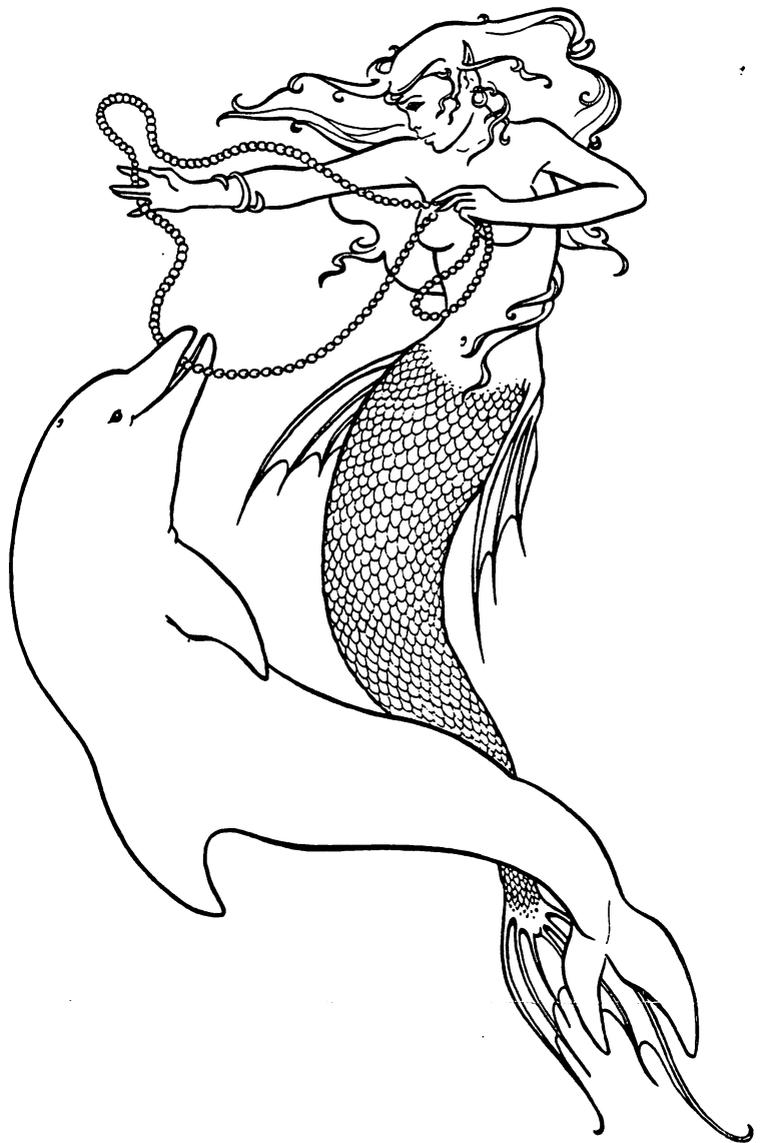
Patricia Tiller
Bruce Konigsburg
Duncan Cruickshank
Jerry Stecca

Welcome, or welcome back as the case may be.

Steve Gold announced a Housewarming-Filk scheduled for Saturday, March 6. By the time you get this ish, it will be history. If you missed it, well, you should come to the meetings (how's that for incentive).

See you at the next one!

- Franny



NEWS

Received dues from the following members who will need to be voted back in at the next meeting. They are: Gary Mahan, Bob Ewart, Janet Sorenson, Gary Douglas and Charles Kimball III.

In a letter accompanying his dues, Gary Douglass says that he and a few other writers have organized a weekly workshop in the Lake Worth area. "It's an informal, constructive group and any other interested participants would be welcome." Gary's phone number is 407-533-0471. This sounds like the kind of activity we are trying to encourage. Good luck, Gary. And keep us informed.



BIRKHEAD
23629 Woodfield Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
Feb. 25

Dear Eds (so to speak),
Thanks for the Feb. ish! Nice
Ranson. No note indicating you
want/need more fillos - so I'll
hold off.

Well, I see our Art Show
"report" seemed to be dominated by
several "contributors" so I
presume they did y'all up proud.
Sorry I couldn't nake it to
Tropicon this year, but....

I hope you have [more]
convention reports/reminiscences.

I'm specifically curious about
Phil T's wining 3-D entry... ah,
the imigation can run wild.

Remind members to do their Hugo
nominating (yeah, I know, I
haven't done it yet - but I intend
to beat the deadline).

Babylon 5 starts tomorrow night
- we shall see what it "does".

Far too lazy to check the
address - but they oughta get it
there.

Thanks for the Feb ish! Sheryl

"Minas Istarion"
2 Duncan Gate
London Road
Bromley
Kent BR1 3SG
22 February 1993

Dear Don,
Thank you for your letter of
27th January which arrived before

'Pentatonic' and for the copy of
the TROPICAL AIRS songbook which
finally arrived two days ago. It
will be shown to all interested
European filkers.

Will you be holding another
filksong contest next year? If
so, could I suggest including the
British filkzine FILKLORE in your
publicity mailshots. The address
is: IAPF Publications
45 Clarendon Villas,
Hove,
Sussex,
BN3 3RE

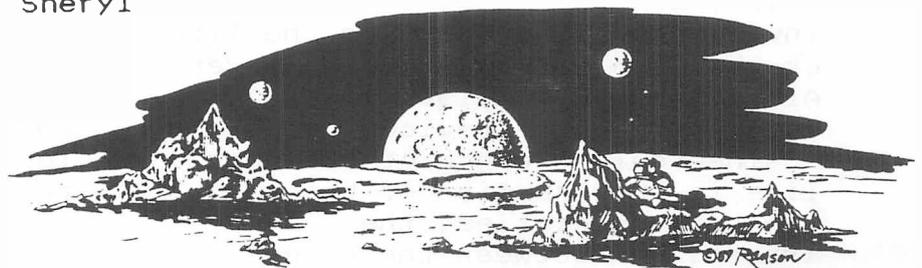
The zine comes out four times a
year, and if you give the editor
details in time for the 'Novacon'
(November) issue or even earlier,
you may get a few more entries
from Over Here (including
Continental Europe).

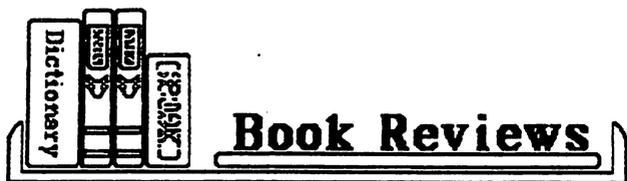
Happy filking!

Yours sincerely,
Valerie Housden

(We also received a letter from
Pattie Green, thanking all the
members of Tropicon XI who signed
the get well card. I put her
letter in front of my monitor to
type it in first when I started
the LOCs and now I can't find it.
Sigh. Sackcloth and ashes.

Phil's 3-D winner was a two-
foot-high trophy for the trivia
masters final in honor of Vince
Miranda. It was very detailed and
topped by a Godzilla statue. Maybe
we can put a picture in a future
issue. - Don)





DAMIA'S CHILDREN
by McCaffrey, Anne.
Ace/Putnam, 1993.
ISBN 0-399-13817-X.
Cover Art by Romas.

Although it stands on its own in terms of plot, the reader is advised to complete THE ROWAN and DAMIA first so that the created universe's background can be better appreciated. The book presents vignettes of four of Damia's children as they take up the responsibilities that came with their Talent. All four are involved in the longstanding family effort to build a communication bridge with the Mrdini, alien allies against the dangers imposed by the known but still mysterious enemy (the Hivers.) Each youngling is shown accepting the challenge in their own way before the tale moves on to the next sibling. Damia was fecund, but fortunately for the reader's possible confusion, the vignettes are limited to daughter Laria's arrival on the Mrdini's home world, son Thian's experience with the deep-space fleet searching for the Hivers' worlds, Rojer's assumption of some of Thian's duties as he helps transport Hivers' larvae back for study, and Zara's almost neurotic involvement in preserving the life of the lone surviving queen Hiver. Along the way familiar faces appear from the previous books.

The real strength of the work lies in the creation of two non-human societies, the interaction between the three societies with resulting changes and stubborn biases, and a look at

the responsibilities of the Talented to those who are not. By now the Gwyn-Raven clan seems to have multiplied geometrically compared to the very few super-talents known in the early books, and are looking for new challenges since there are enough Talents to work the Towers.

This is a necessary purchase only for McCaffrey completists (of which I am one!) Borrow from your friendly neighborhood library for a pleasant visit. The wrap-around cover illustration is very appropriate and keeps a strong recognition factor to the covers of the proceeding two books.

WILD MAGIC
by Pierce, Tamora.
Atheneum, 1992.
ISBN 0-689-31761-1.

Many may remember the four adventures of Alanna, first Tortallian woman knight in centuries. As is often the case the hardcovers were catalogued as Young Adult but the later paperback editions were shelved with both YA and adult collections. This book is set in the same background, so that earlier characters have supporting roles; this is the first in a new series titled "The Immortals."

Heroine Veralidaine Sarrasri, known as Daine, is trying to pass so that she can get a job. Her family was lost to bandits, her revenge for that deed almost cost her her life at the hand of people she had known, and she is afraid of what she might become. Her qualifications for survival include persistence, remarkable skills at archery, and a "knack" for working with animals - all animals. This book sets the stage for her increasingly important role in the protection of Tortall.

Like most teens (although Daine does not behave like any 13-year-old of my acquaintance!) Daine tends to be VERY literal-minded. a

problem since she does not understand society's rules or what is happening to her as she matures and begins to learn what her wild talent can do. My only problem was with the earth names for both animals and mythological beasts since the lands described were not alternate earths (perhaps I'm wrong on that.) There was only one slip into instructional mode, explaining a self-evident term. I was impatient enough to borrow this through I.L.L. since our library's copy has not yet arrived and galloped through it in one sitting. If you enjoyed any of the first four books, you should enjoy this. Equally it should appeal to younger readers of well-fleshed-out fantasy.

- Becky D. Peters

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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

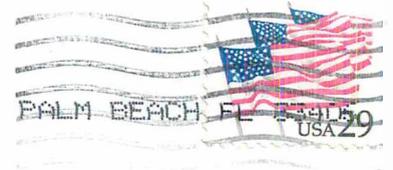
- 3 Arthur Machen 1863
- 6 L. Gordon Cooper Jr. 1927
Dea O'Connor
- 7 Fran Mullen
- 9 Carol Porter
- 10 Theodore Cogswell 1918
- 12 Harry Harrison 1925
Walter M. Schirra Jr. 1923
- 14 Algernon Blackwood 1869
Frank Borman 1928
Eugene Cernan 1934
Albert Einstein 1879
- 15 Alan Bean 1932
- 16 R. Walter Cunningham 1932
- 17 James Benson Irwin 1930
Thomas K. Mattingly II 1936
- 22 William Shatner 1931
- 25 James A. Lovell Jr. 1928
- 26 Leonard Nimoy 1931
- 28 A. Bertram Chandler 1912

YAGTB:

- You are a member of SFSFS
- You are held in great esteem by SFSFS
- You've submitted a LOC, review, or art
- Trade for your zine
- It contains a review/article of possible interest to you
- You are mentioned
- Editorial whim
- You very foolishly asked for information
- Who knows

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