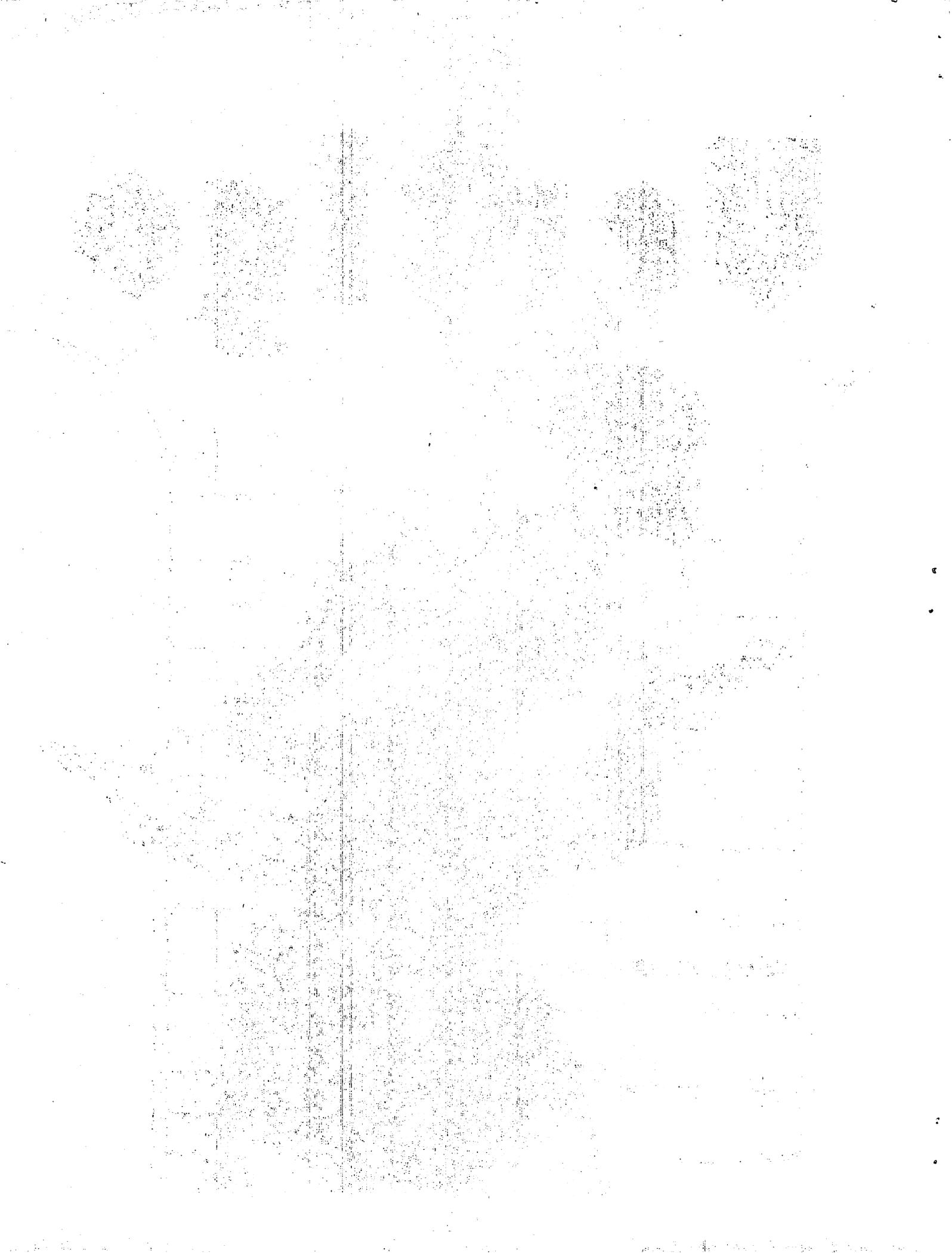


Wentigo



GALLOWAY 78



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under the elm tree

ANOTHER NEW FACE Dept

This issue we have the cover debut of another area artist, and I'm sure you'll agree with me that he has earned the cover spot. Tony Galloway has been attending the mini-cons for some time but only recently did we find out that he was an aspiring artist. The cover illustration was picked from his portfolio at one mini-con and Tony added the logo before he brought it back the next time. Since you are probably unfamiliar with his work, if not him, I asked Tony to tell us a little about himself. "I was born 19 years ago with a pencil in my hand. After discovering comics when I was about thirteen I produced the first issue of The Prowler, a terrible strip which ripped-off art and dialogue from old Spider-Man comics. There was no second issue. I have now mor or less gravitated towards the sword and sorcery genre. My work is influenced by anyone who's good: Kirby, Adams, Wrightson, Frazetta, etc, but I'm probably most influenced by Barry Smith." Tony also mentions that he would be interested in doing other fanzine work. Anyone wishing to get in touch with him should write: Tony Galloway, 1318 Sunset Dr., Asheboro, N. Car. 27203.

HOT FANS Dept

Durham mini-con XXXX will be held on Sunday July 23, 1978 at 2540 Chapel Hill Road, Durham, N. Car. As always, the "official" opening time is 9:00 AM and the last stragglers are usually leaving by around 5:00 PM. The dealer set-up time is also 9:00 AM. We do not charge for dealer space since it comes in all sizes and shapes. Those of you who can are encouraged to bring a table and set up outside. Any recent attendee can tell you that half or better of our dealers do set up outside where we have plenty of room for all. There is no admission charge but you are encouraged to donate something to "the jar" to help cover costs. Consider the usual warnings of "space shortage in case of foul weather" to be given. It is no fun trying to fit everyone into half the space when we can't use the yard. There is never any program because we found out long ago that it only gets in the way of whatever everyone wants to do (talk, buy, sell, etc).

DWINDLING FUTURES Dept

We will have our Tenth Anniversary mini-con on September 17 but have no special plans to mark that date. The first mini-con was held on September 8, 1968 and drew a very few good friends. We have come a long ways from the days when we would have ten or twenty people come to a mini-con. With the upcoming milestone it is time to shift gears and slow down a bit. Ten years ago there was little fan activity in the area and it was one of the main purposes of the CFF to promote contact among area fans whether they were into sf, comics, movies, or whatever. Now there are several cons held regularly in a number of different cities and, except for the local fans in each area, you can meet and talk to the same people at most any of the cons. The past ten years has seen the establishment of a recognizable fannish community in

the Carolinas and Virginia area. A particular con may come or go but the community will remain and that is what we have been striving for. Not too many years ago we were able to serve each mini-con attendee a plate lunch and fit them all into one room for movies. Now we can just hope to have enough drinks and snacks on hand, and must dread the thought of foul weather because everyone won't fit inside (and be able to move around). At the early cons we had three or four people selling stuff so we put out displays to take up table space. Today we never have enough table space as the dealers almost seem to outnumber the buyers at times. In the early days we knew and had time to talk to everyone who came to the mini-cons. Today they have grown so large that sadly we are lucky to know some people by name and some on sight but few both ways. Name tags help but they are a habit most people don't subscribe to these days. Mostly we end up talking to people we knew from when the cons were smaller and/or with dealers we are buying from. Don't be afraid to pin Terry and elm down for a short chat as we have at least a passing interest in most fannish areas and will gab as much as the next guy. (Two words of warning tho: As host for 100 plus people it is not unusual for us to be pulled away from a conversation for one reason or another so don't feel we are slighting you if we keep circulating. Also, Terry is the resident sf expert so you will get a more intelligent conversation from him in that area than from elm.)

What all of this amounts to is that area fandom seems to have outgrown (or overgrown) the mini-cons. As a result, we will be trimming the number of Durham mini-cons to be held in 1979 by one or two. There are plenty of other cons in the area to take up the slack we won't be leaving much of a gap to fill. Given our chronic space shortage in cold or wet weather it should come as no surprise that the January con is the first to go. We are no longer able to have a comfortable indoor only con here so we will only be holding them during the warmer months. Con chairpeople should plan now to fill any gaps in the winter schedule. During the summer there are cons every two or three weeks if not more often so we are strongly considering giving up our time slot to ease the congestion a bit. We are still open to comments on our plans for these two dates. The con for next summer is not definitely out but we are strongly considering dropping it. That leaves us with two dates that we plan to continue with, early April and early September. The weather should be warm enough for an outside con either month. April is picked because it is after basketball season and before exams for some people. September should be before the World Series and just catch the first couple weeks of football season. We plan the con for the first Sunday the local team (Duke) is either out of town or has an open date. This is not only because we are partisans but because at work we are especially busy when they play at home. As things stand now we will have two (maybe three) Durham mini-cons in 1979. It could mean that they will become larger than ever, because there are fewer, but the trend is in this direction anyway so it should not make a lot of difference. We should be able to continue at two a year for a while even though it is rapidly becoming evident that the cons like we have been holding are becoming outdated. And although we encourage the development of other area cons we do not plan on becoming involved with putting on a regular con ourselves at any time in the future. We've become too identified with the mini-cons to want to be involved with the normal hassles of other con people. I am mentioning all of this now rather than next time to give everyone two cons to get used to the idea of there not being as many mini-cons in the future.

APRIL FOOL CON Dept

Durham mini-con XXXIX was held on April 2, 1978 at the usual place and just missed April Fools Day by one day. Fortunately the weather did not make fools of us, it was sunny and pleasant. I think we even had one case of sunburn. Not too surprisingly, the attendance was around 110. Most of the recent cons seem to draw 100 or more. Looking back after a few months it is hard to remember any specific events but I did want to mention that the Cary Matthews family was able to come again after missing several. As usual I don't want to take any blame for misreading any hand rotten on the Sign In sheet. Among those who registered were: Ed Wray, David Luebke, Pete MacDonough, Eddie Lasky, David Matthews, Richard Wrobel, Cathy Broadhead, Tim Marion, Robert Wilson, Chris Foss, Peter Hirshman, Leon & Donice Howard, Dennis Minter, Richard & Mildred Minter, Scott Whiteside, Norman Hunter, L. P. Williams, Rowdy Scarlett, Steve Rowe, Brian Lockhart, Lester Brin, Mike Pugh, Clay Kimball, Bert Kimrey, Sam Joyner, Kent & Viva Kerr, James Lowe, M C Goodwin, John Allison, E. K. Cannady, Larry Hobbs, Tom Long, Adam Burns, Bob Burns, Gale & Drake Maynard, Paul Snead, Janet Rawlins, Rusty Rawlins, Will Bullard, Mark L. Van Name, Mike Coxe, Russ Garwood, Gerald Williamson, John Ess, Tony Galloway, Jim Weston, Tom Hines, Ev Granger, Ken Puryear, Brian Hooley, William Baker, Eric L. Larsen, Milton Read, Steven Squires, Clai Snisson, Bill Pearce, William Williams, Jimmy B. Wade, Deborah Ruiz, Keith Hinson, David Hinson, Glenn Kinceman, Philip Duncan, Billy & Nancy Saunders & family, Michael Starnes, Steve Shoulars, Peter Gillis, Mike Cromartie, Charles Guess, John Maroney, Karl & Barbara Wagner, Carol Strickland, David Alan Ayscue, Robert & Rebecca Bailey, Barbara Ward, Kevin Lashmit, Randy Minter, Bill Allen & family, Barry Hill, Philip Kafe, Mary Sue Keefe, Avon Swofford, Richard Milward, Robert Lee Bradley, Charles Lawrence, Betty Stinson, Doug Foltz, Cary & Lucinda & Kym & Kelly Matthews, Chris Woodbury, Jeff & Willie & Elda David, Linda Whiteside, Jennifer Ball, Gloria & Charles Bridges, D Gary Grady, Tag Gibson, Yance Parrish, Terry & elm. All others shall remain nameless.

CON CONGESTION Dept.

Summer is the busiest time for conventions and this area is no exception. There will be at least four cons during one three week stretch in July and several more after that. If you can't take in all of them we hope you will at least go to the one(s) closest to where you live.

On May 27 the Old Time Western Film Club held a meeting at the City Hall in Siler City, N.C. They featured a special All Bob day with films of Bob Allen, Bob Baker, Bob Steele, and Bob Livingston. This one is already past but you might want to send Milo Holt (P O Box 142, Siler City, NC 27644) a stamped self-addressed envelope for notice of the next one.

Richmond Mini-Con V will be held at the Holiday Inn on 3200 W. Broad Street in Richmond on July 16th. The hours are 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM with dealer set up at 8:00. Admission is \$1. For more info (and availability of tables) write Bruce Messick, 5621 Walmsley Blvd, Richmond, Va 23224 (phone 276-0652). It should be noted that the Richmond cons attract buyers and sellers from areas too far north to make the NC cons.

Hark!-Con will be held in the Morale Activities Association Building in the NASA-Langley West Area (Langley AFB) on Saturday, July 22 1978. The full name is the Hampton Roads Science Fiction Convention. Hours are 10:00 to 5:00 and admission is \$1 at door. Frank Kelly Freas will be pro Guest of Honor and D. Gary Grady will be fan GOH. Also featured will be the usual

dealers room, an art show of the STARBLAZE series art by Kelly Freas, a dramatic presentation of HAROSFA CHRONICLES by Gray Raspberry(?), films, cartoons, computer games, a moon rock, etc. For more info, map, directions, table info, etc write C W Brooks Jr, 713 Paul Street, Newport News, Va 23605. This con will be the day before the one in Durham and we hope that those who can't make it to ours will try to go there.

Before I get to the next con on the schedule let me give you a bit of background on it. Last issue I mentioned that there was talk of a con in Greenville, N.C. but I had no info on it. That con was held a little after ours and there is another one coming up soon. I'll turn you over to Charles Lawrence to pass along info on both: "Since VERTIGO has recorded the history of fan gatherings in North Carolina, I feel I should inform you of the first Eastern Carolina Minicon held in Greenville, NC April 29. The con was held in the Roxy Theatre, an old moviehouse that has been renovated and now features craft shows, musicians, etc. Admission was free, as was dealer space. The con drew ultimately around 50 people which wasn't bad for a first time and on the short notice. The few larger dealers who came did a booming business, probably since most con attendees were new to the comic scene. Everyone that I spoke with was pleased with the con and turnout. Attending were Charles Lawrence, David Lyscue, Robert Bailey, Carol Strickland, Billy Saunders, Watson Edwards, Homer Spring, Carrol Credle, Sam Joyner, John Lutz among others. An attempt was made to get a list of attendees, but most did not sign in. There were a number of shortcomings (shortage of tables, proper lighting) but nothing too serious, and enthusiasm for a second con is very high. So high, in fact, that the ECU Comic Book Club has decided to have another one this summer. The best date we could arrive at is Sunday July 30. The first con was on a saturday and the next will be on a Sunday, so we can see if the response will be greater. The set-up for the con will be the same as the first. Free admission and free dealer set-up, though we will solicit contributions toward costs of the con. Dealers who would like information on how sales went and what sold best at the first con should contact Billy Saunders or Watson Edwards. Any artist who would like to display his work is very welcome, space will be available. Dealer set-up will be at 9:00 AM. The con will run from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Roxy Theatre is located at 629 Albemarle Avenue in Greenville, just off either 5th St/43 or Dickinson Ave/264. For further information people can send me a SASE at either the Nostalgia Newstand, 919 Dickinson Ave, Greenville, NC 27834 or at my home address (Charles Lawrence, Box 27, Falkland, NC 27827)." Plan now to attend the Eastern Carolina Minicon one week after the Durham mini-con.

Next on the con schedule is a favorite of ours, the Virginia Comic Book Trade Mart Convention held in Richmond on August 20. This is one of the more established of the area cons, having been at the same location for several years. It is held at the Colony House Executive Motor Inn (5215 West Broad St, Richmond) and runs 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. For table information, etc contact David Luebke, 6813 Edmonstone Ave, Richmond, Va 23226 (phone 804-288-8930). As before, the Richmond cons attract a number of buyers and sellers not seen at the NC cons.

One of the few annual cons in the area is RoVaCon, an annual s-f con put on by members of the Nelson Bond Society. RoVaCon 3 will be held at Northside High School, Roanoke, Va on Friday evening Oct 6 and all day Saturday Oct 7. Guests will include Frank Kelly Freas and Nelson Bond. Leigh Brackett had been scheduled to return before her untimely death last March. Registration is \$1.50 by mail or \$3.00 at the door. Tables are \$10 for the first and \$5 each after that. For current info on table availability, directions, new

guests, program, etc write RoVaCon, P O Box 774, Christiansburg, Va 24073. The men behind RoVaCon 3 are Dr. Fred Eichelman, Ron Rogers, and Richard Hurt. Those of you who attended RoVaCon 1 or 2 will want to see what new goodies they have thought up to entertain you.

I have misplaced the flyer but I did want to mention that Peter Hirschman and some of the Nameless Order (notably Scott Whiteside) are working on a con in Raleigh for 1979. Tentative plans call for it to be held on the State Fair grounds around the first weekend in May. It would be a one day con. Anyone wishing to help out (a little early for more info) should get in touch with Peter at 8 Maiden Lane, Raleigh, NC.

As you can see, there are quite a few cons coming up in the area so a cutback in the number of mini-cons should not present too great a hardship for most of you. It isn't often that Vertigo comes out in time to publicize other area cons but consider this an open invitation to all NC, SC, and southern Va Con chairpeople to let us mention their con when we have an issue coming out shortly before. Vertigo does not carry flyers anymore but we will be glad to pass along the vital info as we did with the previous few cons.

FOLKS AROUND HERE Dept

Big news this time is the introduction of Starblaze Editions from the Donning Co, a series of s-f/fantasy books edited and illustrated by Polly & Kelly Freas. I know this will delight the many Freas collectors in our readership who have missed his work on newstand paperbacks recently. The first set of books is out and consists of WHAT HAPPENED TO EMILY GOODE AFTER THE GREAT EXHIBITION by Raylyn Moore, SOME WILL NOT DIE by Algis Budrys, CONFEDERATION MILDOR by J. F. Bone, and ANOTHER FINE MYTH... by Robert Asprin. (The Asprin book has my favorite Freas cover in many years.) They are 5½ x 8½ quality paperbacks and go for \$4.95 each though you can still get the first four for \$16 as a Charter Subscriber. (Va residents add 4% tax.) July is to bring THE RUINS OF ISIS by Marion Zimmer Bradley and APOSTLE by Roger Lovin. Due in August are CAPRICORN GAMES by Robert Silverberg and DOMINANT SPECIES by George Warren. The outstanding FRANK KELLY FREAS: THE ART OF SCIENCE FICTION is still available at \$12.95 hardcover and \$7.95 paperback. Order from The Donning Co., 253 West Bute Street, Norfolk, Va 23510. . .By some strange coincidence both Kelly Freas and Karl Wagner visited England in June. . .There will be a second volume of THE ART OF SCIENCE FICTION out sometime next year. . .This seems like a good place to mention that the new address for Kelly & Polly Freas is 4216 Blackwater Rd, Va Beach, Va 23457. . George Beahn is back in Va and his current address is 13 Gainsborough Place, Newport News, Va 23602. George has been hard at work on his series of artist indexes so by the end of the year you should see the publication of his Tim Kirk and Richard Corben indexes. . .Clyde Caldwell has really begun to make a name for himself as an artist recently. He has broken into the magazine and paperback market with a number of covers. He has had one back cover to Heavy Metal and has done an upcoming front cover as well as a piece for the 1979 Heavy Metal Calender which will also become a full color poster. He has also done paperback covers for ORON (Zebra), SIGHT OF PROTEUS (Ace), MIND OF MY MIND (Avon), and LORD TEDRIC (Ace?). Besides these he is doing covers for Questar and Hot Stuff on the fan scene. Still available from Charles Melvin (809 Cleermont Dr, Huntsville, Ala 35801) for \$4 (checks to Crystal Visions Press) is "The Season of the Witch", his first limited edition print. We should have some flyers for it on display at the mini-con. Clyde has also done work in Uneath, the hard to find semi-pro zine of s-f first stories. You can get #4 (\$1), #5 (\$1.50), and #6 (\$1.25) from Clyde at 505 Hand Circle,

Lowell, NC 28098. Include 50¢ each for postage unless you order all three, in which case the postage is free. Unearth #6 is an "all-Caldwell issue." . .The Sunday July 2, 1978 Durham Morning Herald had a feature on Karl Wagner that took up over half a page including photo. Among the bits mentioned are that he is under contract with various publishers for at least five more book based on how his current books sell (most into third printings) and that Bantam pays in the "middle five figures per book." Earlier there was a piece on the birthday party some of his former writing students gave Manly Wade Wellman. Unfortunately I don't have a copy on hand at the moment to give you the date. . .Carol Strickland (5316 Blue Water Place, Fayetteville, NC 28301) puts out HOLM!, a zine dedicated to articles & speculations on Wonder Woman and other comic book characters. The first two issues are available at \$1 each. . .Without meaning to I appear to have neglected to mention a couple of fandom wide projects involving area fan. For info on the International Fandom Inflation Control Club write to Chester Cox, P O Box 356, Shaw AFB, SC 29152. For info on the Fandom Directory and the various WSA services & programs write Harry A Hopkins, P O Box 873, Langley AFB, Va 23665. . .The Comic World #17 features (Clay) "Kimball's Kolumn" and my own "The Underdog," a 38 page article on ACG. It is available for \$2 from Bob Jennings, RFD 2, Whiting Rd, Dudley, Mass 01570. CW is losing much money and in danger of folding so if you want to help keep one of fandom's major article zines around you might consider subbing (\$6 for 6 issues) or buying some back issues (#9-16 at \$1 each, #8 & #17 at \$2 each) for some good reading. . .Apologies for another slim issue but I didn't have an article handy this time and the local news seemed a bit slim. I hope the few of you who are from out of the area aren't too disappointed with this issue because of the local slant and the lack of bibliographical filler material. I have noticed that Vertigo has been a bit too predictable in the past and I wanted to get away from that a bit this time by expanding some sections and cutting out others. With luck all the "regular features" will be back next time.

FROM: Edwin L. Murray
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TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL