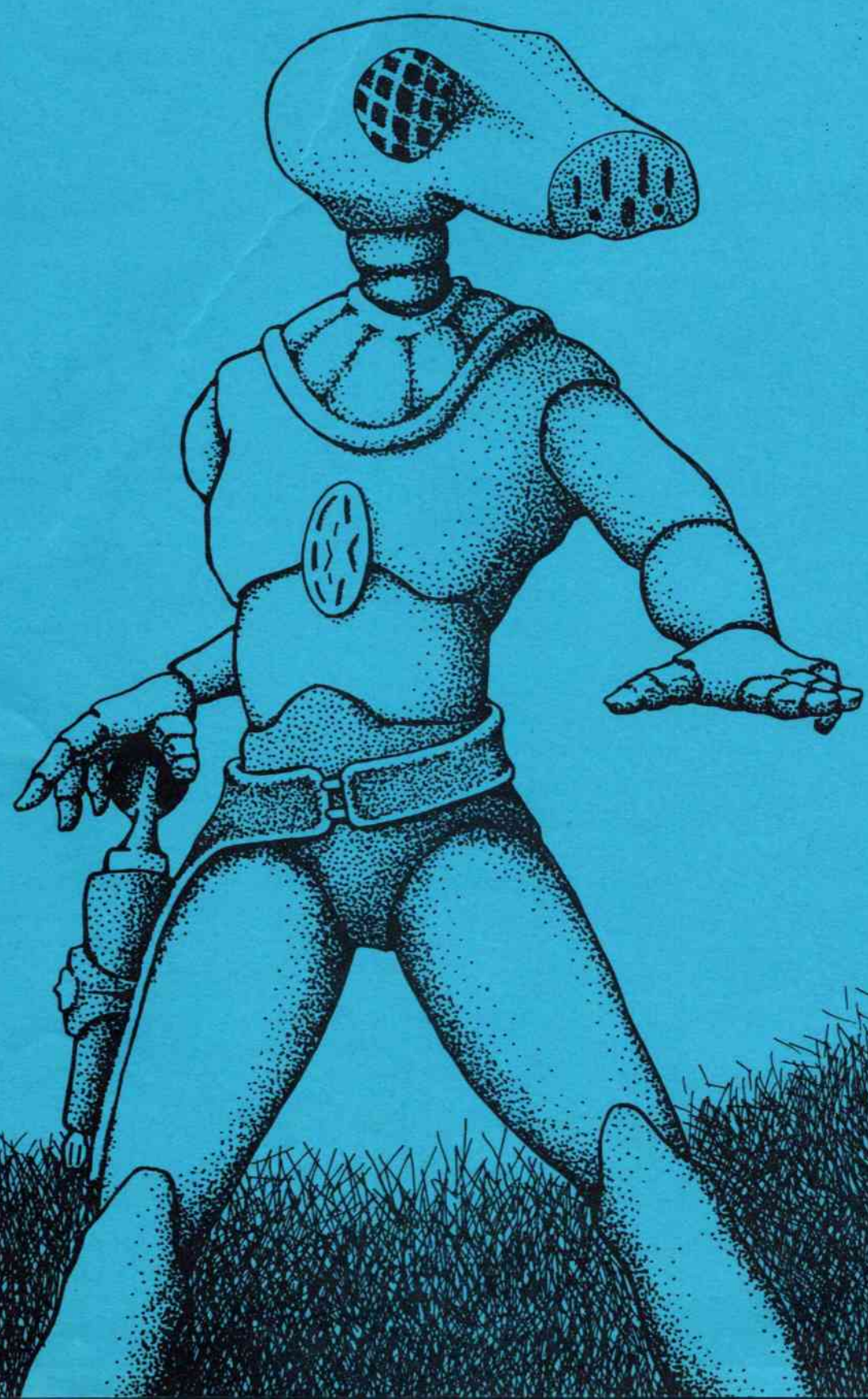


מאורעות



Maurus '79

In the Spotlight

Nominees for the World Fantasy Award have been announced. The awards will have been given by the time you read this, and we'll list winners next issue.

BEST NOVEL: THE BLACK CASTLE, Les Daniels; THE SOUND OF MIDNIGHT, C.L. Grant; THE STAND, Stephen King; NIGHT'S MASTER, Tanith Lee; GLORIANA, Michael Moorcock.

BEST SHORT FICTION: "Within the Walls of Tyre", Michael Bishop; "A Good Night's Sleep", Avram Davidson; "Naples," Avram Davidson; "Hear Me Now, My Sweet Abbey Rose", C.L. Grant; "The Magic Goes Away", Larry Niven.

BEST COLLECTION/ANTHOLOGY: THE REDWARD EDWARD PAPERS, Avram Davidson; SHADOWS, CL Grant, ed.; NIGHT SHIFT, Stephen King; HEROES AND HORRORS, Fritz Leiber; YEAR'S BEST HORROR #6, Gerald W. Page, ed.; NIGHT WINDS, Karl Edward Wagner.

BEST ARTIST: Alicia Austin, Dale Enzenbacher, Stephen Fabian, Michael Whelan.

Special Award/Professional: John Bellairs, Edward L. Ferman, Donald M. Grant, John Myers.

Special Award/Nonprofessional: FANTASY NEWSLETTER, SHAYOL, WEIRDBOOK, WHISPERS, Donald H. Tuck.

Ironically, Atlanta's Gerald Page, whose YEAR'S BEST HORROR #6 is nominated for a Fantasy Award, has recently announced that he will no longer be editing that series for DAW Books. The new editor will be Karl Edward Wagner (himself a nominee), while Page will devote himself more to his writing career. Jerry has a novel making the rounds at present, according to Rich Garrison, and he has talked from time to time of adding to his Worldsong Cycle of stories that has been so well received by the fan press. No announcement has been made by Jerry Page or by Hank Reinhardt concerning the possibility of future volumes of HEROIC FANTASY, the other DAW anthology Jerry had co-edited.



In addition the Ted White as Guest of Honor, Michael Bishop as MC, and Mike Glyer as Fan Guest of Honor, confirmed attendees at ASFiCON include Grant Carrington, Bob Maurus, Perry Chapdelaine, and George Alec Effinger. The conven-

tion is slated for the August 22-24, 1980 weekend, at the Northlake Hilton in Atlanta. Memberships are available for \$7.50 until January 1st from ASFiCON, 6045 Summit Wood Drive, Kennesaw GA 30144.

Books

DAW Books will release AMAZONS, edited by Jessica Amanda Salmonson, in December; the book is a collection of heroic fantasy adventures with female protagonists, and authors represented include Norton, Cherryh, Russ, Lynn, and more. Also on the DAW agenda for December is EMPHYRIO by Jack Vance; A FORTUNE FOR KREGEN by Akers, a Dray Prescott novel (oddly, do you notice that they don't credit the author on these?); THE GOLDEN GRYPHON FEATHER by Richard Purtill, a fantasy; and a reissue of WOLLHEIM'S WORLD'S BEST SF: SERIES III. In January, DAW will offer THE FADED SUN: KUTHATH, the final novel in the trilogy by C.J. Cherryh.

Dell Books will release a new Brak collection, THE FORTUNE OF BRAK, written by well-known Bicentennial-series author John Jakes, in January. Jakes, a North Carolinian, writes very little sf/fantasy these days, so it's assumed this will be a collection of older, uncompiled stories. Dell will also reissue the classic Philip K. Dick novel, CLANS OF THE ALPHANE MOON, and will offer BEYOND, a collection of six stories by Theodore Sturgeon.

Pocket Books is releasing seventeen paperbacks and/or trade paperbacks in the Star Trek field to tie in the release of the motion picture. There will be puzzle books, costume-design books, etc.; also, Pocket will be offering new Star Trek novels now being commissioned (these will presumably show up in the Pocket line in the next twelve-eighteen months). The movie will serve as a focal point of a major Star Trek push by Pocket Books, who has acquired the rights to the various Star Trek titles. December, 1979 will bring Hilbert Schenck's WAVERIDER, a short story collection, and January 1980 will bring EYES OF FIRE, the rewrite of Michael Bishop's first novel.

ATARANTES #28, October 1979, is produced and edited by Cliff Biggers, 6045 Summit Wood Drive, Kennesaw Georgia 30144. Copyright (c) 1979 by Cliff Biggers; all rights revert to the contributors. ATARANTES is available free to members of ASFiC, or at a 12/\$3.50 rate to all non-members--35¢ per sample copy. Contributions are welcome, as is news--free issues will be given to contributors of articles, columns, news bits, and/or artwork. The deadline for the next issue is November 10. Members of ASFiC are entitled to run classified advertising in ATARANTES; the first 20 words are free, and after that the rate is 3¢ per word. Don't you love reading colophons and indicia?

Doubleday will release THE THIRTEEN CRIMES OF SCIENCE FICTION, edited by Isaac Asimov, Martin Harry Greenburg, and Charles G. Waugh, on November 23rd; the book is a collection of different meldings of the mystery and the sf form. Forthcoming in February of next year is the second half to Isaac Asimov's autobiography. Another November title from Doubleday is SHADOWS II, s edited by C.L. Grant.

Ariel Books will now be distributed by Simon and Schuster, as they have terminated their arrangement with Ballantine. Their first major release with their new company will be ELFSPIRE, a fantasy novel by John Pocsik, with illustration by Thomas Blackshear in both color and black and white.

GLORIANA has won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award for the best novel of 1978.

Choice Morsels

Astute fans may recall, at the post-meeting pizza run in September, Janet Lyons' announcement that she was still not pregnant. As it turns out, that report is/was erroneous. Janet has announced that she and Vince will be adding to their family (no, they're not getting another cat) as of mid-May of 1980. Got that, Mike Glyer?

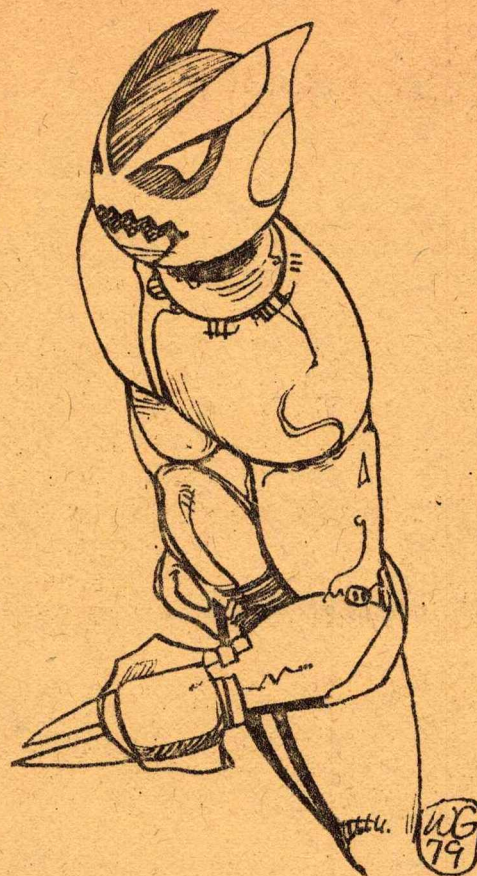
Speaking of babies, as-of press-time, Angela Howell has not given birth to a new ASFIC member. The baby (babies?) is/are due at any time now, and perhaps there will be news at the ASFIC meeting. Papa-to-be Rich Howell, co-chair of the 1980 DeepSouthCon, has just been elected Official Editor of MYRIAD; he is rumored to intend to hold onto that position with a steely grip until after the one hundredth mailing, at least.

Alan Hutchinson, long-time OE of SFPA, is not running for that position again. The only announced candidate on the ballot is Guy Lillipap, which means he is almost definitely the next OE of this esteemed apa. Guy, also, plans to put out the hundredth mailing of the apa (a different one, of course).

And while apas are under discussion, Deb Hammer-Johnson is the new editor of SHADOW-SFPA, the waitlisters' apa edited formerly by Nicki Lynch.

Avery Davis managed to near-total his car again--Avery is reported to be keeping little silhouette-paintings of cars killed in action on the side of his current piece of transportation. Janet warns against riding with Avery for distances longer than the length of a driveway...

Gary Steele, once actifan in the Atlanta/Rome area, seems to have totally gafiated; Gary was dropped from SFPA this mailing for lactivity after having stayed in last mailing on a technicality.



A.J. Barker-Bridget has resigned from the Chattacon committee for personal reasons, as has Julia Wilhoit. No replacements have been announced as yet. Speaking of Chattacon, look for Barry Longyear to be in attendance there.

Mike Bledsoe plans to issue the first issue of his new fanzine, DRAWN AND QUARTERLY (published five times a year, and don't ask me why...), in mid-to-late November. Copies will be available for \$1 each from Mike at Southern Garden Estates, Lot D-14, Hattiesburg, MS 39401.

Longtime Atlanta fan Joe Celko is moving--but only as far as Marietta. He will retain his old box number, for those who keep in touch with him via mail.

Dave Minch and Charlie Moody keep talking with a straight face about an Atlanta in '83 Worldcon bid. Nothing official has been announced yet, so pester them for more information. Meanwhile, other rumors are afoot for 1986...but we aren't supposed to mention that, are we?...

Bidders for the 1981 DeepSouthcon thus far include New Orleans, LA; Jackson, MS (according to Mike Bledsoe); Huntsville, AL; and a possibility of another prominent Southern bid forthcoming after November of this year. It looks like this will be a hotly contested DSC site-selection; anyone else want to join in on all the fun?

I need a short-short linefiller.

Meeting

The October meeting of ASFiC will be held in its new (temporary) location at the Collingwood Apartments Clubhouse in Marietta. These apartments are just about two and a half miles above the I-75/I-285 intersection. To get to the clubhouse, proceed as follows: from the South (Atlanta), head on I-75 North to the second exit past 285, the Delk Road/Dobbins Air Force Base Exit (it may just say "Military Air Base"). Take this exit. Follow it through its complete loop; then, turn left on Delk Road. Collingwood Apartments is about a quarter of a mile down Delk Road, on the right. Turn into the apartments, and the clubhouse is one of the first buildings you see on your right. The clubhouse/rental office is prominently marked.

New meeting places, closer to our old familiar Chamblee area, have been found and are going to be voted on in October; be sure to make the drive out to Marietta and vote, and plan on having a typically good time while we're at it.

The meeting starts at the Collingwood Apartments Clubhouse at 8:00 p.m., as always. Be there by eight and get the best parking places. The pre-meeting convention committee meeting begins at 7:00 at the same clubhouse, and all ASFiC members are invited/urged to attend that one, too.

In keeping with the Halloween spirit, since this will be our pre-Halloween meeting, members are encouraged to wear any costuming they wish. In addition, the topic will be horror fiction, and there will be a brief discussion of the genre, with all members urged to attend, followed by a horror trivia quiz, if enough members are interested.

So it seems
...cliff biggers

There has been a great deal of talk about the growing Southern fan base, and the fact that Southern fandom is on the verge of coming into its own on the national and international level. One of the most obvious symbols of this, and one we can all witness, is the growing camaraderie among the Southern clubs. The ABC group (Atlanta, Birmingham, and Chattanooga) have already hosted a Southern hospitality party at NASFiC, there's clubzine trading and club-apas in the formation, there's some talk of a Southern Fanzine Network, and conversation with Wade Gilbreath, president of the Birmingham club, has touched on the idea of an ABC-con, a sort of relaxicon hosted by all

three clubs, with free memberships to any members of ASFiC, CSFA, or BSFC. It would be an unprogrammed event, sort of a weekend long party held at a mutually convenient location - for perhaps an annual event, rotating from one of the three cities to the other to the third, year after year after year. Sort of a weekend-long meeting of each club, but capturing a bit of the Halfacon spirit as well. It's a step beyond the reciprocal-membership agreement we all presently have with one another, and a nice way to establish even closer ties with clubs.

A couple of years ago, several people claimed that there could be no real interaction among clubs because of the distances between them. The reciprocal-membership agreement was the first of several steps to prove that isn't necessarily so. Now, I'd like to know what other ideas people might have on mutual cooperation; what things can the ABC group do as a whole that might be too time-consuming or difficult for each individual club to attempt? A bio/listing of all club members, a la Rich Howell's superb form for the ASFiCtory, is one idea. What are some others?

And, lest you think it was overlooked: there has even been talk of a mutual Atlanta worldcon bid in 1986, with the three clubs pooling their efforts and their personnel to push for a true-South worldcon. I have my qualms on that one, and I still tend to judge the theory as the result of too much pizza-topped-with-chocolate-chip-mint-ice-cream on an empty stomach, but the people who keep bringing it up don't even smile when they suggest it... and when Wade talks about it, Dick and Nicki and I actually take him seriously... *sigh*



THE TRUTH BEHIND THE '74 DSC by JOE CELKO



This short, rambling piece is to act as a guide to those fools who throw cons in the future that they might profit from my example and avoid the folly. It is also centered around the 1974 DSC, which was one of the dumbest, most enjoyable things that I vaguely remember. I will probably screw up a few things in the telling and I know I will drop out a lot of ripe gossip of the times to keep people happy; it is up to the reader to sort out the Truth, or his version, from all this.

In 1974, the DSC was just starting to take shape as a strong regional con--many of the local cons we now enjoy were either very new or just getting on their feet. Now, the conversation turns to fannish dinosaurs...

Glen Brock decided that 1974 would be a good year to do a "Science Fiction Mardi Gras" (that was his slogan!), and to try to turn DSC into a full party-con, running 24 hours a day with costumes, etc., all in one area.

To this end, he got up what was then the Atlanta Science Fiction Club as a committee to work on the con. As an aside, let me say that Atlanta has had more clubs than I can count, with the one being number four or five in the chain. In New Orleans, they have gut-hating fan-fights within one club; here, we form new clubs as seasons change. The committee grew quite large, encompassing the SCA chapter, etc., and we all met at Allen Greenfield's house every week or two, with Glen at the helm and Sam Gastfriend as number two man at this point in time. I did petty little committee things, sitting on the sidelines.

One feature of the con was to be girls running around in har-em costumes and belly dancing. Barbara Greenfield organized the training sessions, Rebecca LeDock did most of the sewing for costumes, and practice work was done at Allen Greenfield's place--it was undoubtedly the finest time I've ever had at a con committee meeting...

But not all things proceed well, even when you are surrounded by half-naked women...

Internal troubles developed between Glen and the rest of the group. To back up and hope it helps to clarify: Glen and I had been roommates in college, business partners in a set of bookstores (lots of good stories there), and he knows that I think his taste in women is horrible. We are still friends after all these years in spite of this.

Glen had finally gotten rid of a real bitch of a girlfriend--she married our third partner in the business. This depressed him, of course, but it relieved me because I had been forced to referee their triangle in the store. You ought to try running a store under these circumstances sometimes...

The cure for his depression was another woman; she is now his wife. Unfortunately, I soon grew to care for her even less than the previous girlfriend. She started off with a ten-point bonus because she wasn't the last girl and everyone was happy to see Glen out of the pits. This edge was quickly destroyed, for me, as I got to know her. She managed to draw hostile reactions from a few others in the group at that time, as well, including most of the committee core.

Glen, who had a really bad temper, announced that he was incensed with everyone for this and that, and refused to work with the group. He stopped the whole ball of wax in the middle of the final planning stages.

Chaos. Disorder. Panic.

And now, enter our hero, stage left. I was the only person that Glen was still talking to in the group at the time. Ergo, I was coerced into taking out the contract with the hotel, and doing the final con with Sam. Surprise! No one else could find jout a thing from Brock, since very little of it was every written down, and I learned a valuable lesson. LESSON: Do not try to honor anyone else's contracts, verbal or written. It is worse than a used car. Secondly: A verbal contract is not worth the paper it isn't written on.

I tried to honor every promise that everyone attributed to Glen or other committee members. I thought I was going to die. In the meantime, Stven Carlberg and I started a fan-feud; he though the price was too high, and wanted to more-or-less attend the con for free, and I wanted to turn him over to Sam to punch out. That got to be a nice thing in SFPA, along with... but it seems I drift a bit.

The hotel was the next problem. Glen still swears that they knew we wanted the main ballroom for 24 hours, all wekkend.

They swear the opposite. I found this out the day of the con.

Panic.

We got the downstairs ballroom/display hall instead with a bit of trouble and the agreement that we pay for a private security guard or two. They panicked at the sight of silly costumes and my mention of swords and firearms... the littlest things upset the mundanes...

The downstairs area worked out better, really, because of the size of it. The agora-like dealer area caused some troubles because of loss or theft. The front area became a stage and the structured part of the program went on there. The costume contest was the fun part.

Little Janet Dairis (now Lyons) was a bit pudgy back then (baby fat?), but not bad in her harem outfit. I have some nice photos of her, with John Ellis dressed as the new Manhunter from the Walt Simonson comics series; she's stroking his broom-handle Mauser suggestively... meanwhile, we have Sam Gast-friend, a Polish Jew, as an Arab. We have Celko as a monk. Barbara Greenfield turned into a professional dancer shortly after DSC. Oh, fond memories.

I never slept. I never let the cashbox out of my sight that weekend. I used it as a pillow when I tried to nap on the tables. By Sunday, I was exhausted. I learned yet another valuable lesson: always plan a back-up program.

Room parties were encouraged to come to the central area and we hid beer all over the place. By this time, the hotel had sent the security people home, seeing we were weird but harmless.

The SCA had a feast in the middle of the meeting hall and they were a bit rude. In fact, it was here that the worst disputes concerning the con originated, and we almost had a fist fight or two with the hard-core hearts and diplomacy players against SCAers.

At the end of the whole thing, we were a few hundred dollars in the hole, and Sam and I made it up--I still owe him, too.

I had promised a post-con report, with photos. I think this is a good idea, and I wish more cons would do it. It took over a year, and was a source of derision in the process, but I did it. It stank, but I kept my word.

Why did this happen? Well, I could not let Atlanta fandom blow a con because it would mean that we would never get anything else if DSC 74 came off badly. Would you vote for a group that promised you something and failed. Of course, I also have an ego that needs feeding now and then, and that supplies some motivation.

AFTERWORD: The best piece of advice I can give has to do with the advertising of a con. First, get it out early, even if

you have nothing more than the name of the con and the general pattern of it (films, art show, etc.). I am convinced it was that adveftising that brought us so much early money. Unfortunately, I assumed we would still get the same percentage of membership, with twice as many registering at the door. Actually, we only changed the payment pattern, but even so, that early money was useful.

I was also an ardent supporter of the inclusion of reply envelopes and hotel cards in mailing packets. The hotel card (or, if necessary, a hotel coupon to be clipped from the flyer) helps with room blocking considerably. It may sound like a rather traditional habit now, but it was almost unheard of at DSCs at this time. I mean, when you have seventy-five people attending, you don't worry about running out of rooms.

However long third class should take, it will take three times that long. To the post office, the phrase "time value" means next to nothing, and encourages them to slow down deliveries if anything. And if you get a mailing out late on top of that, forget it. People need more than two months to plan their con-going. I realize that doing a mailing is shit-work, and first-timers would rather spend time talking with the glamorous pros and BNFs than doing this (even Ellison is more fun than licking 5000 envelopes shut), but it's necessary to draw people.

You may be surprised to realize that the hotel industry generally likes us because we have a low property damage rate and we spend a good bit of money. Tipping is a sore point, though; fans seem unaware of the practice, much to a hotel's chagrin. This managed to cause problems at several DSCS...

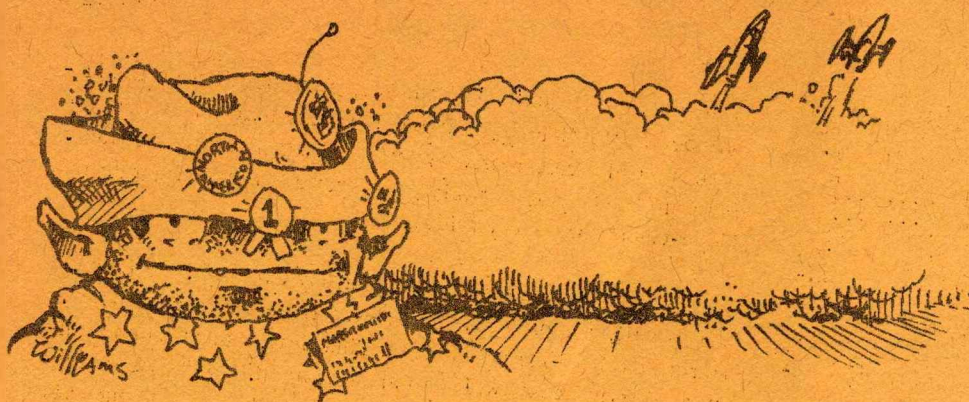
I'm an avid believer in paying your bills. All of them. The problem is in finding all of the bills. Many times, people with the con stick out money from their own pockets to get something for the con--extra beer, the name badges at the printers' place, taxi service for the guest of honor. Make sure they are paid, or at least that they agreed to put out the cash without expecting to be repaid. This agreement should be made in front of witnesses, preferably notary publics.

And this is more or less how I finished in the hole at DSC 74.

ART CREDITS:

Wade Gilbreath, p 3
David Derrick, p 4
Roger Caldwell, p 5
Rusty Burke, p 6
Charlie Williams, p 7
Bob Maurus, cover





MAIL CALL

Terry Kane

POB 10983

Atlanta, GA 30310

I have generally enjoyed the few ATAR-
ANTES that I have read. As a newcomer
to organized "phantom", I am fascinated.

The realization that there are strange people who take pride in their uniqueness, and the welcome that you folks extend to fellow oddballs, makes me feel good. But on with the topic at hand...

As I said, the zine is interesting. On the basis of two issues, I would have to judge Deb Hammer-Johnson the most outstanding contributor. The minutes are fascinating! They make me wonder if I was really at the meeting they describe. I guess it's just that I am easily distracted from business as I indulge in my favorite pastime--people watching.

Cliff, I enjoy your gossip column ("In the Spotlight") too. Why don't you malign Rich into coercing more ASFIC members into providing more interesting material about themselves for the eagerly anticipated ASFICtory? Since I'm new, I'd really like to get some biographical data on members before meetings so I could really connect names and bodies, er, faces, er, whatever the case may be.

I must ask Cliff to chastize and be chastized. The Georgia Institute of Technology does not have an Urban Life Center, as Deb H-J alleged. Georgia State has that dubious honor, a fact that the editor should know, since he is a student there. ((To be quite honest, I never read the minutes before printing the zine--Deb submits them typewritten, so her copy goes unproofed... although since she is now getting the material to me earlier, I may have time to proof it briefly before printing to avoid such simple errors of transcription.))

Also, I am a bit disappointed with the zine's print quality. But I suppose that can't be helped on the low budget that the editor has. ((I'm quite happy with the mimeo quality, but I know that a lot of you don't recognize the True Fannishness of mimeo. I'd be glad to go to xerox if someone can manage to get our zine xeroxed, 225 copies, for \$10-\$15 per issue with ten-twelve pages, doublesided. If we can get offset at that price, I'll go with that. As it stands now, though, mimeo is all we can afford. Sorry!))

Mike Glicksohn

141 High Park Ave.

Toronto, Ontario M6p 2S3

For Christ's sake, guy, are you some sort of sadist? I wrote to you just yesterday and explained

that thanks to you I'd not been able to enjoy a Sunday free from fanzines after going through some seventy of them in two weeks, since I had to log FUTURE RETROSPECTIVE, and now I can't relax and enjoy Monday Night Football because today you contrived to get a copy of ATARANTES to me. Gimme a break, will ya? I've spent thirteen years locating fanzines, surely I deserve one night off?

Oh well, it won't take me long because the main thing I want to address myself to is Sue Phillips' column about BNFs. Often, it's easier to say who isn't a BNF, thereby defining the term by example rather than explicitly. Of the people Sue mentions, Mike Glyer isn't a BNF and Don D'Amassa isn't a BNF and Guy Lillian isn't a BNF and certainly Vltoria isn't a BNF. At least they aren't in my understanding of the term. Unfortunately, there are as many concepts of what a BNF is as there are fans and that's why the term has rapidly become meaningless. (All those people, by the way, are Well Known Fans, to one degree or another. And that ain't bad in itself.) When fans who have been active for six months start calling fans who have been active for a year and a half BNF, then you know the term has lost whatever validity it may have had. (I don't intend to go into the argument that the entire concept of BNF is harmful to fandom because I've always felt that the concept itself was harmless and only its abuse and misuse by fans caused problems. But then we all know that fans can tend to mess up even the simplest things.)

Anyone who rushed over to his filed and dug out their copy of ATAR 27 to see what I was talking about would have observed that by saying who wasn't a BNF I implied that Tucker and Harry Warner were such. I believe they are. No one fan can name another BNF; no fan can start to call himself a BNF; there isn't even a committee that meets in a smokefilled room to bestow BNFdom. A BNF becomes a BNF when large numbers of fans from all over fandom start to think of him or her as such. (There is also the fact that the idea of the BNF-like so much of fannish terminology and history--is connected to the field of fanzines. It isn't absolutely necessary to publish a fanzine or contribute widely to fanzines but it certainly helps. And if your activities aren't widely reported in the fan press then I'd say your chances of reaching BNF status are negligible. Although this undoubtedly won't bother you in the least if you aren't a fanzine fan.) It usually means years and years of service to fandom or participation in fandom.

Rotsler's a BNF. So is Bruce Pelz. Probably Rusty Hevelin, too, even though he doesn't do fanzines or fanzine writing. (I see I somehow overlooked Alexis Gilliland, which is hard to do even for a sober Canaddaan. Welll... Alexis... is... probably... a... BNF... too... or very close to it, anyway.) ((And that's where I disagree; Alexis Gilliland may be a talented humorist/cartoonist, but I don't feel he's anywhere near BNF status yet, particularly when compared to some of the more illustrious people you ruled out in your second paragraph.))

It's the longevity factor which means Glycer and D'Amassa and Vayne and Clickson are not yet BNFs. Maybe some or all of them will be in twenty years time (and maybe the whole concept of BNFs will have vanished by then.) But a couple of years of flashy fanac does not a BNF make. What does? I don't know and neither does anyone else. But at the very least it takes talent, perseverance, and a sufficient love of fandom to contribute to it regularly over the years. Like Bill Bowers, if you want another example.

Maybe there's no such thing as a BNF (absolute) only BNFs (relative) as Sue implied when she said certain people were BNFs to her. But as an honorary title I think it has validity if sparsely applied and I'd be kinda sad to see it go. Especially before I've earned it.

Now, do me a big favour, okay? Don't send me another fanzine until at least Wednesday!

Guy H. Lillian III As for Sue Phillips calling me a
102 S. Mendenhall #13 BNF: "A Southern institution," eh?
Greensboro, NC 27403 Maybe she meant that I belong in
 a Southern institution...

Colin Wright Pleased to hear that y'all are hold-
8803 Lake Villa Ln. ing the 1980 DSC. Assuming I get
Chattanooga, TN 37416 to go (which shouldn't be too hard,
 since Atlanta isn't too far a way),
this will be my first DSC. I remember when I sat there in
August and y'all were arguing whether or not you could hold
a DSC in your fair city. Glad to see it's going to be a reality.

I find it hard to believe that Oklahoma is now in the SFC. I mean, I've never heard an Oklahomite say "y'all." I guess I can, in reality, see the sense of it, since I've always considered Oklahoma to be in the South. ((I haven't, and I still question it, but a vote is a vote, so I'll accept it. As if it mattered either way...))

I'm not sure what I think of the movie QUINTET. To me, it seems that someone as rare as Newman's pregnant girlfriend wouldn't compete in the game. Then again, without that, there isn't a story.

Deb should be congratulated for her efforts to make the ASFiC meeting minutes seem hilarious. She does a wonderful job of making the meetings seem that they're happening in my room as I read the zine. I look forward to coming to y'all's mad-

ness soon. Why don't y'all put your club meetings on the Friday before the CSFA meetings? It is very hard for us who attend the CSFA religiously to come to your meetings. Atlanta is so close that you probably would get a few at least from the Choo-Choo town every Friday.

((ASFiC met, at one time, on Thursday evenings; the club was very small, almost tiny, and showed little tendency to grow. During the half-year we met on Thursdays, our attendance increased from about twelve to about sixteen. Since we switched to Saturdays, our attendance has skyrocketed, and our paid membership has grown. I fear that a move back to weeknight meetings--even Friday nights--would hamper that growth. What we have considered, from time to time, is a switch to either first or fourth Saturday, as the case may be, so we can meet without conflicting with CSFA or Birmingham's club. Our acquisition of a meeting place seems to be a determining factor in that, though. Nonetheless, I would love to see a non-conflicting meeting schedule, to allow more healthy interaction.))

The cover was really decent. That's the kind of a cover I could get into. Charlie Williams has once again proven himself as a capable artist. He should be nominated for a FAAN Award; maybe you're right about Southern fan not voting on such things.

I think that, in response to Sue's column, fan don't talk about sf as much as neos would like to think because we are forever trying to tell the neos about sf and fandom, and the meetings provide a change of pace where we can gossip, feud, discuss Chinese food, root beer, and the ever-present menace of trools. ((What--don't you northerners know the wonders of pizza? Fakefans!))

What?? Someone doesn't know what a trool is?? Well, let me explain. A trool is a gremlin that infests the place where fan eds and fan pubs live. They make their nests out of zines, and have been rumoured to eat them. Their nests are usually made of apa mailings with the closest deadlines. They have faves: locs on bagels with cream cheese, unused checks, and lime jello. They also drink Kocha-Cola. I have come to understand that male trools reproduce by mimeography, which leads me to believe that female trools reproduce by photocopy.

Sue Phillips This was a well-balanced issue of
1596 Collingwood Dr. ATAR. As you mention, input seems
Marietta, GA 30067 to be limited and that's a real shame.
 It makes me wonder what sort of
stimulus people who do contribute have to do so, and what is lacking from the rest. I think the club members are getting too complacent about their clubzine... which isn't really theirs unless they help to put it out in some way. Maybe no clubzine for a month or two would get things going.

Then again, it probably wouldn't. I've had experience with taking things for granted and all too often people just don't care. I hope that's not the case; if it is, we do have a problem.

There seems to be a dividing line in ASFIC between those members who are motivated and those who aren't. The newer fen seem to be among the latter group and that raises a question I think we have to give definite thought to: How do we involve those who are not?

On another subject, the fanzine reviews were welcome. I'm sending money to SFC right away. With my sudden resurgence of interest in writing, it sounds like just the thing. I sort of wish you'd reviewed FOSFAX. It seems currently to be a step away from the old Bob Roehm-edited version and I haven't decided if I wholeheartedly approve or not. It would be nice to see your opinion. ((Coming up in the next ATAR fanzine review column will be a review of FOXFAX.))

The FAAn Awards have been chastised in the past, I think, for being too cliquish, etc. I too would like to see the South better represented, but I think before it can be, it must have more outlets for the work of Southerners. People (including me) have made a lot of noises about new genzines, but these plans seldom come to fruition.

((In conversation, the topic of "faanish incest" turned up regarding Southern fanzines; many of them tend to make use of the same writers, Sue pointed out, and it seems like it's very cliqueish. I'm convinced, though, that we have a large enough membership base here, and in Birmingham, and in Chattanooga, and in Louisville, and so on, to find a number of lesser-known but talented fanzine writers.))

Iris has a point about STAR WARS. I think I chose it originally because it is a well-known film that most people think of as sf despite any disclaimers by Lucas. As far as Deb's comment is concerned, I don't remember my phrasing, but I meant to say/imply that writers and fans are partly to blame for the sf film dilemma. If it is mostly the public's fault, then we should shoulder the blame too for not educating them about the genre.

Okay, Cliff, what's the Duke of Earl story (Deb mentioned)?

((How "Duke of Earl" became a fannish ditty, I'll never know. It seems to have originated in the wilds of Texas, where the weather and the distance from Atlanta drives Southern fans to strange diversions. Out there, while driving across the flatlands, Sven Carlberg hooked Romefan Sven Ahlstrom on the pasttime of singing endless versions of "Duke of Earl", a capella, to pass the lonely journey. Unfortunately, Romefan Gary Steele also lived with them in Texas that bizarre summer, and it's rumored he would grimace, grind his teeth, and bay at the moon at the first few words of that veritable schlock-rock classic. The habit caught on; soon, people would drive from Rome and Cedartown to Atlanta, singing out-of-tune versions of "Duke of Earl." But alas, after a while, this magic tune was forgotten. Then, Penny Frierson came up with the warped idea that Susan Biggers had gone to bed at too early an hour at the 1979 Chattacon--and what better way to awaken her than a serenade? Knowing better

by virtue of having lived with Susan for eight-plus years, I still succumbed to the temptation. There, assembled in a hallway, was Penny Frierson, Wade Gilbreath, Larry Mason, Eric Frierson, someone else, and another unknown--all singing the most horrendous version of "Duke of Earl" known to man. On the fourth repeat of "duke, duke, duke/duke of Earl", the door opened. The rest is left to imagination, but suffice to say that silent Susan has yet to let me forget that night.))

The more I think on it, the more it seems clear that declaring that I want to be a BNF was not a wise move. This, for two reasons. One: If it happens, it happens and I probably won't be able to alter fate one whit. Two: being known is nice, but why be a BNF?

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Shortly after joining the Atlanta club I attended NORTHAMERICON. Although I'd gone to two Worldcons before (Boston in '71 and Miami in '77), this almost Worldcon is my favorite convention to date. Now I know what they mean by a relaxicon. By showing up early enough to volunteer for staff duty, one enjoys the benefits of receiving up-to-date information. Surely the most fun a con offers is a combination of staff work and attending the programming, parties, etc.

Speaking of parties, I was fortunate to be invited to some of the pro variety. The one difference between these and the fan variety seems to lie in what is talked about at the point of happy intoxication. Sue Phillips observed in ATAR 27 that neofans are sometimes surprised that real hard-core fans seldom talk about SF when they get together. An obvious parallel would be that pros don't discuss shop at their parties. Ah, but that is only at the start; as the liquor flows, tongues loosen for both shop talk and occasional amorous pursuits. A half-sober individual can learn interesting things about the business as he sips his drink.

Several things I didn't anticipate added to my enjoyment of the con, one a fairly decent porn film (in a crowded closed party) with decent company to watch, and the other an argument I had with a woman named Lee Smoore. At the time I thought I'd made some terrible blunder to get such an important fan mad at me, but gradually I realized that a lot of fans at the con seemed to be on my side (those who heard the argument) without even knowing the particulars. What happened was that Lee overheard my observation that the ERA would probably be the law of the land right now had it not been for the very visible support it received from the shrillest, most fanatical elements of the feminist movement. Please note that this is a pro-ERA sentiment. Little did I know that Lee herself was a shrill, fanatical element all by herself. After the debate became heated, she threw me out of the operations room whereupon I called her a fascist. But I felt justified--I had been presenting my points in a calm, even manner, when Lee barged into the discussion, though I admit I helped to keep the argument going.

I'd like to comment on something Iris Brown said in ATAR 27. She maintains that STAR WARS does not have a science fiction idea behind it. She didn't specify the fantasy/magical parts of the film, but referred to the work as a whole. Well, I don't understand her point. Does she mean that the idea of a Galactic Empire is not science fiction? I mean, they weren't using flying carpets--they were using spaceships!

((I think I see Iris' point; while the gimmickry, the outer cloak was science fiction, the story itself was basically heroic fantasy, without any carefully considered sf elements to it. It bore a much closer resemblance to comics than it did to written sf. But let's leave it up to Iris to explain more fully next month.))

Deb Hammer-Johnson The zine continues with the Established Tradition of a hefty clubzine. 508B W. 11th St. The feel of the zine seems more solid, well-paced, and interesting Rome, GA 30161 than it was way, way back when ATAR was just getting started. The column heads continue to liven things up, and the spot illos this time around are particularly good. My favorites are the Harvia, Wade's mimeo illo (how well I know the feeling!) and Bob Jarrell's "trying" illo on page six. Your pizza illo was quite cute, but it sent pepperoni shudders down my spine to think of the devastation we do to those creatures are fannish communions.

I'm struck by an analogy to ALIEN with Charlie Williams' astral Morris on the cover last time.

Susan's con report is quite good, and a comprehensive example of objective con reporting. I can't think of anything I would add. The old adage that "no two people attend the same con" obviously isn't true in this case, as we were both there. Yessirree! I just hope any future art show security doesn't brand me as some sort of nefarious troublemaker or, shudder, thief.

Don't have much input into Sue's column this time except that I like the idea of SMOFs that gather at strange meetings more than I do BNFs. Anyone can be a SMOF, and generally have a much better time at it than the Thorny Crown of a Big Name Fan. Definitionally, I'd say a BNF should be known on a national level, have been involved in (1) a classic feud, (2) a successful concon on the regional or national level, and (3) be involved in some phase of fan writing, illustrating, or pubbing. Also, they should be socially acceptable humans.

Irvin Koch Since I was a director on NASFIC I 1870 Dresden Dr NE B9 felt I should make some notes as to Atlanta, GA 30319 your ATARANTES report on it. Total paid attendance, for instance, was 2054 with records showing about 250 no-shows or supporting. There was not a large percentage of locals--not there large parts of the time--but 200 or 300 of them would make your impressions jibe with the records.

A problem we faced was no knowing how many people would show up. There is no way to predict NASFICs in a zone that hasn't had one before. That is one reason we did not have a con suite. Another is that we didn't know we could afford it until it was too late. But the main reason was lack of personnel; believe me--the cokeaholic--we would have liked to have had one.

The problems with the art show guards and other problems with the art show were duely noted. I would suggest gripes there, however, go straight to Ken Moore personally.

I don't know about you, but I had no trouble finding open parties run by various groups promoting their own cons, apas, clubs, etc.--not limited to members of such, though.

B.J. Willinger deserves the kudos for the masquerade. Louisville, even when just a regional, draws near-worldcon quality.

A possible reason the fan work overshadowed the pros in the artshow is that Seacon drew off a good deal of pro material but the midwestern and eastern fan artists turned out in force and even organized regional chapters of ASFA at the con.

The hucksters' room phenomenon of too many new book dealers with identical wares is caused by overreaction to many cons previous lack of just that. You may be interested to know that the head of Nova Books, who is in charge of Nor-easConII's huckster room, is going to poll all hucksters beforehand and put out a directory of who is bringing what. If this feeds back early enough, maybe they will have a better balance. There may be some attempt at getting better title selection, too, instead of all dealers just bringing the best moving items.

I thank you, of course, for your compliments on Special Programming (which in my opinion is what makes the difference between "just a large regional" and a "substitute worldcon") and the Daily Con Zine (which I also helped on.).

Vernon Clark Charlie's cover was, as always, excellent. I know of no other fan artist who has such a flair for sf hardware. 6216 Janmer Lane Especially liked the mouse's suit enclosed tail. Hope you'll feature more of Charlie's art in the future. Knoxville, TN 37919

The Hugo popularity results have come in and surprise, surprise! some of the awards for fiction were actually deserved for a change. Such can't be said for the winners of Pro Editor (does no one read Ed Ferman's F&SF?), Pro Artist (DiFate has all the appeal artistically of a wet mushroom, as he is the Vallejo of sf artwork) ((I find DiFate technically proficient, but totally uninspired and uninspiring. He worries so much about composition and design that he fails to put any bit of life and vitality into his work.)) The awards for fanzine and dramatic presentation were, as always, a joke.

At 8:02:26, Cliff Biggers called ASFIC to order. However, ASFIC doesn't like to take orders, and everyone went on eating and chatting. At 8:04, Cliff spoke in a more determined voice, and everyone took heed.

The principal point of business was the selection of the new meeting site. Sue Phillips, VeePee and head of the Site Selection Committee, reported on some Prime Choices. The local Malls had been checked out; Northlake, Cumberland, and Phipps had all panned out. But Perimeter offered a rather tempting deal--\$15 per meeting and no set time limit to clear out. Also, the location was central to Atlanta members. Mike Weber reported that he and Sue had checked with the management at their Cellingwood Apts. in Marietta, and that their clubhouse was available free, provided we paid a damage deposit. Cliff mentioned that the Ida Williams Library in Buckhead had usable meeting facilities, and there were no rental expenses; this is the same setup that the Birmingham Club uses with good success. Mike Tippens asked if anyone had checked into Emory or Georgia State as a possible site. Since the club no longer has any members attending those colleges, and neither allows outside organizations on campus, they were ruled out.

Folks argued and disseminated to and fro about the respective qualities of each site. Janet thought we should keep \$\$\$ in mind and go for the cheapest facility, releasing the club budget for other purposes. Dave Minch reminded the club that edible programming was our principal interest, and that we should keep the closeness of a good pizza spot in mind. Charlie Moody pointed out that some members have to hustle MARTA to get from spot-to-spot, and that we should chose a place accessible to bus routes. He also mentioned that perhaps ATARANTES could help with setting up car pools if the site is way, way out in some exotic spot like Marietta.

We eventually got around to voting. What follows is the unusual account of how the group finally voted on the new site. Mind you, I don't explain 'em, I just record 'em. The First Vote tallied at: LIBRARY (12), Collingwood/MARIETTA (6), and PERIMETER (7). The Library site was a clear preference, but since negotiations with the library folk hadn't been finalized, Cliff called for a runoff vote. The runoff was a tie between the two remaining sites, and Vince Lyons suggested a coin toss to settle the matter. History doesn't remember whose coin was used or what denomination it was, but PERIMETER was on the winning side. The arbitrary nature of the decision bothered some folks, so Cliff called for yet another vote. After further discussion, the third and final vote tallied at: Marietta (12), and Perimeter (11). Thus, the final order wound up as: 1) Ida Williams Library, 2) Collingwood Apts. Clubhouse, and 3) Perimeter Mall.

With this Gruesome Dilemma out of the way, the club settled into other business. Mike Tippens mentioned that he was heading up the Project of a Circulating Want List for club members to interchange books. Bill Ritch added that he would supply a notebook and ring binders, and perhaps some computer time on his home computer. They were immediately made into a Committee of Two, and will report on their progress at the October meeting.

Avery Davis brought up his Circulating Membership Listing idea. He explained it as a way for a different member to get the names of each attendee at meetings, thus expanding knowledge and camaraderie among our ever expanding ranks. Cliff thought it was a good idea, but that the "duty" should be voluntary and not made a mandatory task. Deb Hammer Johnson mentioned that there had been calls for a signup sheet to gauge membership attendance in the past, and that such a project was related to Rich Howell's dormant ASFIctory. It was decided to continue the project, in some capacity, at the next meeting.

Joe Celko made a pitch for "microfiche fandom." It appears that Bell & Howell has an offer of free micro-fiche for a number of readers sold. It opens up new horizons for sf collectors, and will someday make it possible to have the Ultimate Pulp and Paperback collection condensed to the size of a Giant Thumbnail.

There were no ASFICon announcements, except that the Concom meets an hour before the regular meeting at the same place, and that the meetings are open to all club members. Minutes from the month's previous meeting will be made available to all interested folk for the asking. Copies of Fosfa's FOSFAX were distributed, and people quickly snatched them up.

At 8:47, things mercifully ground to a halt and we shifted gears for our Goodbye to Janice and the Old Clubhouse Festivities. Avery D. had some slides of NASFLC on hand, and attending members supplied appropriate commentary. Janice, arriving after Sundown, was treated to a Living Wake. Sue P. and Iris B. had supplied a "Jerusalem in '90" cake, and amidst many good hugs and not a few tears, we bid Janice Gelb goodbye. Mike Tippens and Pat Morrell were moved by the moon and inner tides of joy, and did a Paddy Dance outside the door; everyone became a little tipsy with Good Vibes. It was, indeed, a meeting to remember.

[illegible]

NEW MEMBER: Welcome to Olde (but Elusive) Don Windham, Roswell Rd., Cove Apts.,
F-3, Atlanta, Ga.

NEW CLUB LOCATION: Collingwood Apts.. Marietta, Ga. ((Details of location elsewhere in this zine))

[illegible]

Money Stuff:

SEPT. BALANCE: \$198.51 minus \$13.07 to Sue Phillips for EATS; \$36.40 to Cliff B. for More EATS (we were exceptionally hungry) and ATAR 27 equals \$149.04, plus \$8 income from diverse dues, brings OCTOBER BALANCE to \$156.04.

[illegible]

LATE NOTE: In addition to the copies of FOSFAX for all ASFiC members at the October meeting, we will have copies of the latest issue of Birmingham's clubzine, ANVIL, to give to all members. This is yet another in the continuing effort to offer you a variety of clubzines and of reading material. Special thanks go to Wade Gilbreath and Jim Gilpatrick for making this arrangement with us.

Next issue will bring more artwork, more letters, a return of "Calabans and Thrani" by Sue Phillips, and surprises. Be sure to get something in!

ATARANTES #28
Cliff Biggers
6045 Summit Wood Dr
Kennesaw, GA 30144

first class
first class

meeting Saturday, October 20, Collingwood Apartments in Marietta//don't miss it!