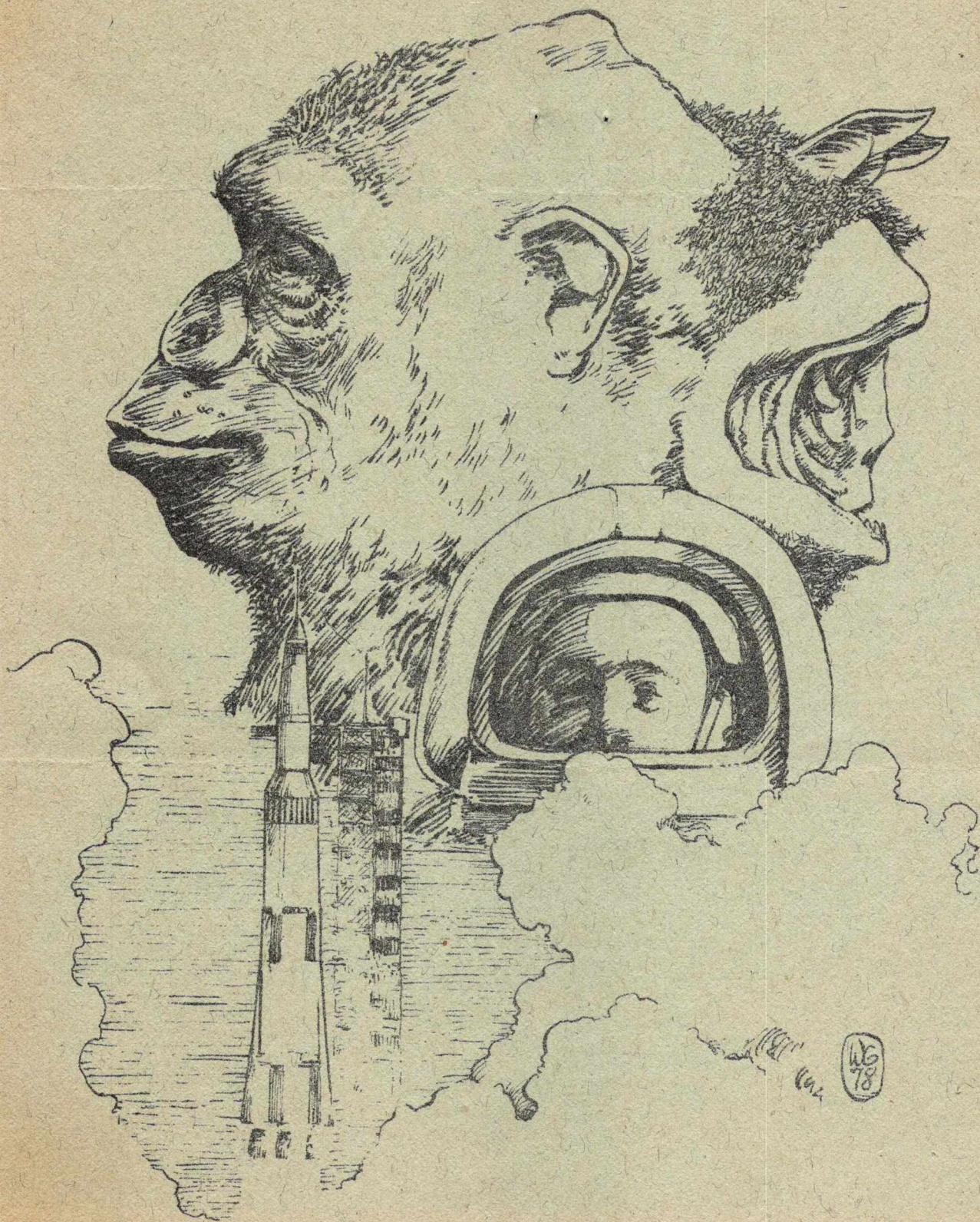


ATARANTES



CON DIVIDED BY TWO (AND OTHER SOUTHERN NEWS)

Halfacon (also known as ^{con}~~2~~) was held in Birmingham's Hilton Inn over the November 9-11 weekend; guided by Wade Gilbreath, chairman, and an able committee that included Jim Gilpatrick, Penny Frierson, Frank Love, Valerie Proctor, Charlotte Proctor, and David Wood. The con drew in excess of 100 people, average for a Halfacon, and proceeded with virtually no problems from Friday evening's opening until Sunday afternoon's sum-up.

Halfacon is a traditionally low-programming con that is basically a fannish get-together; since it began here in Atlanta in 1973, it has hopped across the South and even ventured into the wilds of Arizona one year. The 1979 Halfacon followed the low programming standards--with the exception of the trivia quiz and an SCA display, and a special evening showing of an excellent print of THE QUESTOR TAPES, courtesy of Steve Ashlee, there was no programming at all--but offered a well-stocked con suite (one that never ran dry), good conversation, and elevators that arrived within a minute of having the button pushed.

Chairman Gilbreath reports that the convention is on the break-even borderline; losses, if they occur, will be marginal. Apparently the close budget of this Halfacon is causing some rethinking of the Birmingham DeepSouthCon-in-1981 bid that Jim Gilpatrick was talking up earlier in the con.

The trivia quiz was won by Nelda Kennedy, Mike Weber, and Guy Lillian; the hearts tourney was won by Hank Reinhardt. His prize was to have been a new battery for his pacemaker and his hearing aid, but they were unavailable, so he was given a copy of the FAERIES calendar instead--and don't ask me what the committee meant by that.

No Halfacon site for 1980 was announced, although conversation kept linking "Halfacon" with "Nashville" on different occasions.



Jerry Page, former editor of YEAR'S BEST HORROR STORIES for DAW Books, and Hank Reinhardt, the co-editor with Jerry of HEROIC FANTASY, will both be in attendance at ASFiCon; in fact, Jerry will be the recipient of a Southern fannish honor: the roast.

Hank Reinhardt has committed himself to bring the spit and the microwave oven for Jerry's roast, but he says he intends to let some people talk about Jerry before he gets down to the real business.

Sharon Webb, north Georgia author whose stories in ISAAAC ASIMOV'S SF MAGAZINE have begun appearing and attracting attention, will also attend the DSC being held at the Atlanta Northlake Hilton Inn over the August 22-24 weekend.

Memberships for ASFiCon remain \$7.50 until the end of 1979, then go up to \$10. Get your money in to ASFiCon, 6045 Summit Wood Drive, Kennesaw GA 30144.

In the Spotlight

Charles Williams of Nashville reports that there has been a bit of dissension in the Nashville club concerning the election of officers and the application for a charter as a non-profit organization. An application was filed, according to Williams, after the membership had voted that they desired neither the elections nor the charter. An appeal to the initial charter application has been filed, asking that the application be withdrawn or denied. Meanwhile, the present officers of NSFC have been voted into office until they choose to leave their positions.

At present, there are three announced bids for the 1981 DSC. New Orleans, host to the 1979 DSC, will offer a bid chaired by the same people responsible for this past July's convention. Jackson, MS, will definitely bid, according to Michael Wright, with Mike Bledsoe acting as the primary force behind that bid. And finally, Huntsville will bid for the DSC under the leadership of Andy Purcell. Andy is the chairman of this coming June's MidSouthCon. Birmingham has apparently backed off from the idea of bidding for the moment, although Jim Gilpatrick has assured us that it isn't beyond consideration.

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A suggestion to end the meeting-weekend conflict between ASFIC and CSFA has been made (see lettercol herein): the idea is that the clubs should hold a Putt-Putt tourney, with the winning club retaining the third weekend as a prize, while the second-place club will shift to first weekend, probably. All people interested in trying out for the club team should arrange to be at the meeting where a preliminary round will be set up.

Jennifer Marie Howell was born October 24th to proud parents Rich and Angela Howell; all are doing fine now, and the baby's arrival just two weeks before Rich sent out his first Official Organ for MYRIAD allowed him to prove that all methods of reproduction worked well at the Howell household.

Not realizing that Halfacon in Birmingham was the same weekend as a regular B'ham club meeting and was thus taking the place of the meeting, Meade attended Halfacon, inadvertently breaking his record of never being able to make a Birmingham club meeting. (Lest some one think we're serious about Meade avoiding meetings, let us remind you that Meade is probably one of the most active and supportive fans in the South, and his inability to attend meetings is (a) coincidence, or (b) video overload from getting too many tapes in the mail the day before).

Three candidates have presented petitions of nomination for Vice Presidency of the SFC thus far: Cliff Biggers, P.L. Caruthers, and Larry Mason. Two more candidates are rumored.

Books

In December, Ace will issue THE DEMON OF SCATTERY by Paul Andersson and Mildred Downey Broxon; THE HORRIBLES by Michael de Larrabeiti; VECTORS, a short story volume by Charles Sheffield; and PHASE TWO by Walt and Leigh Richmond.

Del Rey Books will issue Alan Dean Foster's novelization of THE BLACK HOLE in December, along with E. Hoffman Price's THE DEVIL WIVES OF LI FONG. New titles from Del Rey in January include Jack Chalker's THE RETURN OF NATHAN BRAZIL; L. Neal Smith's THE PROBABILITY BROACH; Anne McCaffrey's ALCHEMY & ACADEME; and Edson McCann's PREFERRED RISK.

GALILEO had almost a 40% sale rate for the first newsstand issue, quite good for the first issue of an sf magazine (first newsstand issue, that is). The magazine continues to have severe problems getting subscription copies out on time, though, and it's not uncommon for sub-

scribers to receive issues 5 and 6 weeks after they reached the newsstands.

~~March 1 City of ...~~

DAW Books for February are Tim Huntley's ONE KNEE; A reissue of John Brunner's THE AVENGERS OF CARRIG; Lin Carter's YEAR'S BEST FANTASY STORIES #5; Edward Llewellyn's THE BRIGHT COMPANION (hopefully, this will be a sequel to the remarkable THE DOUGLAS CONVOLUTION by Llewellyn); and George O Smith's THE SECOND WAR OF THE WORLDS.

Fantam will bring out L. Sprague de Camp and Fletcher Pratt's TALES FROM GAVIGAN'S BAR in paperback in January, along with a reissue of Robert Silverberg's TOWER OF GLASS.

January will also be the date that Berkley releases THE BERKLEY SHOWCASE: NEW WRITINGS IN SF, edited by John Silbersack and Virginia Schoscher.

New titles from Donald M. Grant include LOVECRAFT'S PROVIDENCE, a tour guide of the city for HPL enthusiasts, prepared by Henry L. P. Beckwith; TALES OF THE WEREWOLF CLAN, volume one, by H. Warner Munn, a selection of Werewolf of Ponkert stories. Both are limited to 1000 copies and are available for \$12. Also released is THE BLACK WOLF, a superb first novel by Galad Eliland-dan. This book is also limited to 1000 copies for \$12, and is a must-have for fans of HPLian horror. The final two Grant releases are companion volumes in his Deluxe Conan series, BLACK COLOSSUS, illustrated by New Orleans artist Ned Dameron, and JEWELS OF GWAHLUR, illustrated by Dean Morrissey. Both volumes have a \$20 price tag, and are presented in limited editions of 3000 copies. Order these Grant books quickly, because they are sure to cost you much more once they sell out from the publisher. (Donald M. Grant, Publisher, West Kingston, RI 02892).

Meeting

The November club meeting will be held on Saturday, November 17th at the meeting room in the Doraville branch of Tucker Federal Savings and Loan Association, 5424 Buford Highway in Doraville. If you're coming in from the north, get off at the Buford Highway exit on I-285 and head South for about a half-mile. If you're coming in on I-85, take the Clairmont Road exit, head west to Buford Highway, then head north for two or three miles.

This meeting will be our pre-Christmas-party club auction to raise money for our gala bash in December. Since we voted to hold our party back at the beautiful clubhouse in Marietta, we need lots of funds, so everyone bring auction items and be prepared to bid! Meeting starts at 8:00 sharp!

The Shining Sun: Cherryh

Vernon Clark

One of the best and most prolific talents to break into the genre of SF and fantasy recently is C.J. Cherryh. Along with Tanith Lee, Ms. Cherryh is one of the most recognizable and widely read of the new women writers in the genre, at least by readers who prefer science fantasy.

There are two reasons behind this, most probably. Neither writer espouses the "righteous" cause of feminism in her writings. They rather form illustrative examples through their choice of characters and situations within the tight and well-conceived adventure tales which they tell. The other reason is that they write chiefly SF or fantasy adventure fiction in the old school (a la Anderson, Brackett, C.L. Moore). While this doesn't preclude any possibility of a message within their work, Cherryh's and Lee's fictions are read chiefly for their entertainment values. And both ladies are extremely good at this.

I wish to talk specifically about Cherryh. While she has produced a number of works, her two major efforts are a pair of trilogies, one fantasy and the other science fiction. Her recently finished SF trilogy *THE FADED SUN* is the series I'd like to introduce you to.

THE FADED SUN series consists of three books, each preceded by the series title. The books are *KESRITH*, *SHON'JIR*, and the just-released final volume *KUTAH*. (This volume is at present available only as a Science Fiction Book Club hardcover, but the paperback is forthcoming from DAW, Cherryh's publisher) I personally feel that the books were three of the best I'd read in the SF field in the past few years.

Two factors were the motivation of my intense affinity for the books. One was the intriguing lead character Nium S'Intel, young Kel'en of the mri warrior caste. His search for his own identity is the main thread of the first novel. His story continues in the following volumes as he leads the Earthman (tsi'nri) Sten Duncan through Duncan's own self searching. The other prime factor is the intensely intriguing culture of the mri people which author Cherryh has developed. Her intense, stratified creation is very absorbing in its scope and detail. Like many authors, she can sweep you through a tale so quickly that one almost misses much of the incredible detail. Only on subsequent readings does one grasp the full sense of creation.



Unlike many sf authors, Cherryh's creation of the mri culture of Nium and his sister Melein is one of the most logical and consistent in the genre. Cherryh's anthropological background and studies in classical language fundamentals knit a unique culture of vast complexity. I fail to see how Ms. Cherryh could include all her work within the context of the trilogy format. I hope her schedule is open-ended enough to allow future writings to be produced dealing with the mri. What of the untold tales of the mri's past? Or their future? I'm sure many short fiction pieces could develop the fullness of the mri's story.

What is most surprising about Ms. Cherryh is that she is still in her adolescence as a published author. Yet in 3 and a half years she has had seven novels and four short stories published, with three more novels slated for publication in the near future. She has already had her talents recognized by fandom, receiving the John W. Campbell Award in 1977 and a Hugo in 1979. I foresee more awards in the future.

I close this brief essay with the hope that those among you who have yet to experience the craft of C.J. Cherryh's writing go out and buy her *FADED SUN* trilogy soon. And I envy your being able to read these books for the first time, books which to me already seem like old friends to be enjoyed for years to come.

FANZINE REVIEW

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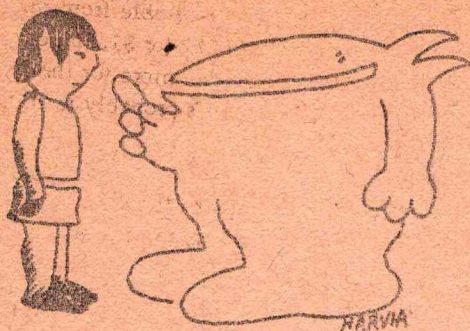
Mike Bracken has a driving ambition to do a Hugo-winning genzine, and *KNIGHTS* is the result of that drive. I've followed the fanzine since it was mimeo and had delusions of grandeur; it has, of late, begun to live up to its delusions, and I'm beginning to wonder if, in the future, they might not be delusions at all.

KNIGHTS' biggest problem is the lack of variety in the material, coupled with a need for somewhat tighter editing than the material seems to get. This latest issue, 26 pp. counting covers (reduced offset), is somewhat better edited than most, is highlighted by a piece by David Gerrold, "It's Better than Not Writing", and by Victoria Wayne's piece about beginning fanpubbers and fanzines in general, "The Mistakes They Make." The drawback to the issue is the incredible amount of wasted blank space in those 22 reduced interior pages, which takes away almost 25% of the text space when coupled with overlarge

illustrations. The art is good, though, and the reproduction is impeccable. *KNIGHTS* 21 is available from Mike Bracken, PO Box 387, O'Fallon IL 62269 for \$1.50 per issue or 4/\$5. I'd recommend this issue more for the art than the text, on the whole, but it's probably worth the cost.

THE MONTHLY MONTHLY is a bizarre little thing that arrived in my box when I wasn't looking; it is, as it purports to be through its title, a new monthly fanzine edited by the Gang of Four, which seems to be six people (Christine Kulyk, Dave Vereschagin, Michael Hall, Bob Weir, Robert Runte, and Rosanne Charest). The fanzine is typical laid-back fannish, very informal and tending towards dryly humorous, and it may signal the beginning of a new trend--joint-edited fanzines where the many editors split production costs to enable them to get issues out on a more regular basis. Michael Hall's piece on how he managed to join fandom, "Fandom Considered as an Irreversible, Entropic Force, or What Am I Doing Here, or Nurds Are People, Too...", was the highlight of the issue for me, and probably the only piece of writing I totally enjoyed. Dave Vereschagin's art is visually appealing, but lacks enough real coherence to impress me tremendously--it's as if, on "sans serif" in this issue, his talent is undirected in some way. At any rate, I'm holding judgment on *THE MONTHLY MONTHLY* until a few issues are out and we see if it can indeed maintain schedule; give it a try from Robert Runte, 10957 88th Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA T6G 0Y9. It's 75¢ an issue or \$9 a year.

And how can one ignore the release of not one, but two Atlanta-area fanzines? Naturally, I can't, at least. First, we have Deb Hammer-Johnson's supposed-one-shot *NEW MOTHER DEMENTIA*, a year-late fanzine about life in Rome, running a bookstore, and becoming a mother. It's a personalzine/fanzine cross, with a touch of friendly letter to nonfans thrown in, and probably the only thing memorable to those not familiar with Deb will be her guide to fandom, titled "Ook! Ook! Slobber Drool!" It's a good overview of what fandom is, and new club members might want to try it. I recommend NMD--ask Deb for a copy at the meeting. As for the other fanzine--well, Rich Howell has finally gotten his *SIRIUSNESS* out, and the first issue is very reminiscent of my and Susan's own *FUTURE RETROSPECTIVE* #1. Rich offers some reviews, not enough introductory material (personal writing is Rich's real forte, and he ought to share it outside of *MYRIAD* through longer editorials), a brief lettercol (in a first issue!) and some fanzine reviews. The first issue may be a bit slim, but what can you expect for 35¢ a copy, 6/\$2 or the usual? Rich hasn't let himself go yet, and I think nervousness about a new market is holding him back--support the zine so he can really let loose.



I love your ears!



Deb Hammer-Johnson 308B W. 11th Street Rome, GA 30161

The highlight of the last ATAR was the Bob Maurus cover done on that luminescent blue stock; the illo has an eerie, atmospheric quality to it and is striking. The alien's physique is rendered in an appealing fashion (even for an insectoid), and the head brings to my mind's eye the mechanistic metaphor of a blow dryer; I doubt I'll be seeing him in any commercials with Farrah Fawcett, though.

Ditto on your thoughts for a "Southern fanbase." I've said my feelings on the benefits and joys of clubdom in half-a-dozen clubzines, so there is no need to restate them here. I'd much rather see a feeling of kinship and fun between the three clubs than rivalry, as we can all accomplish so much more by pulling together. The ABC Directory is a fine idea, but might be an expensive and time-consuming project; it all depends on what the other clubs are willing to contribute. There are several questions I have on the nature of the project: (1) how often should it be updated? (2) should it include area fans who aren't active in the clubs? The latter applies especially to Tennessee, which has Goodfolk sprinkled all over the place, but not necessarily active in CSFA on a month-to-month basis. It's an interesting project, and I'd like to see something come of it.

((Two good questions, and ones that, while I have opinions on them, have not been dealt with as of yet. First, I'd be

in favor of semi-annual updates, I'd guess, but that is subject to change once we get involved in the project and we see just how many additions would be needed on a semi-annual basis. On your second question, I'd tend to say that since this is a club project, it should include members of the clubs and no one else. It isn't an SFC supplement--we are hoping to offer something that the clubs might use to get to know one another, and I see no reason to use club funds to offer a page of information on a non-club-member. Becoming a club member is remarkably easy--all a person has to do, as you know, is pay dues to the treasurer. I'd say that if a person isn't interested enough in the club to pay dues to support it, then the club certainly can't afford to utilize space to present information about him. Perhaps we could offer a mere name-and-address listing of area fans who are not in the club as a supplement to the volume.))

I don't see that a Worldcon bid coming from the ABC is impossible, just difficult. The transitory nature of fans makes the legal obligations prohibitive. No matter how you form the committee, it's bound to change a dozen times over before 1986, and somebody would be left holding the bag. However, other folks do it...I don't see why we couldn't...somehow...

I enjoy your editorials and fanzine reviews and I wish it was possible for you to do more. I realize that the size of the zine and the input from other folks determines just how much you do, but couldn't you sneak something in, say every other month? ((I could definitely try, but as you say, a lot of my material is included on a "what-space-isn't-filled-up?" basis. Thanks for the gguboo, though, and there may even be some review material in this issue)) The locs are beginning to take on the shape of the "topic discussions" you tried to promote about a year ago. Thanks to Terry for his kind words, and Mike Glicksohn is, as always, the master of the Smooth-Move loc. Joe's story of the 1974 DSC bid was enjoyable; he is a good (and often risqué) storyteller.

Mike Rogers
233 Barton Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37405

Rejoice, rejoice! The time is at hand! Let the trumpets sound their fanfare, let the dancing girls strew their rose petals, let the noble steeds walk proudly down the way! I've finally gotten around to writing a loc for ATARANTES!

I'd like to talk mainly about some of the proposal for ABC projects. The idea for an ABC con sounds interesting. Let's look at the practicalities of the situation. It would be wise to hold it as a one-time event at first. If it worked out, then we could think about an annual rotating con. So where would we want to have it? Without getting out maps to find the exact geographical center of the ABC triangle, I can think of two possibilities: Rome, GA or Gadsden AL. Either one should have sufficient hotel facilities to host a small con.

((One thing to consider is the ease of arranging such a con--at present, there are a few ASFiC members in Rome, and no one knows of a club member in Gadsden. But I'd think that it would be difficult, bordering on impossible, to set up such a con with-

out having a club member living nearby to make arrangements.)

There's one detail about which I disagree with you and Wade. No way that ASFiC, CSFA, and BSFC members could be let in free. Who would pay for the con if we did that? I could see a 50% discount, however. But in any case, the fee for these people would have to be high enough to cover the costs of the con. Any profit would then be split among the clubs, or carried forward to finance the next con.

((A lot depends on hotel arrangements; for the two cons that Gary Steele, Larry Mason, and I gave in Rome, we paid nothing for meeting room space if we filled a remarkably small room commitment--25 rooms, I think it was, or maybe it was 20. At any rate, if members rented rooms and we could get the meeting space for free, the "ABCcon" could be subsidized in part via club treasuries--sort of like a giant club party running a weekend long. We could make it a Saturday-morning-to-Sunday-afternoon thing.))

ABC-con sounds like a good idea; now, is there anyone interested enough to make it come off? ((Volunteers? Jim Gilpatrick? Deb Hammer Johnson? Mike Rogers?))

ABC Directory: also a good idea. Certainly easier to pull off than a con. Who wants to do it? ((Right now, we have both Rich Howell and Deb Hammer-Johnson expressing an interest in this one, with Rich handling the Atlanta segment of it and Deb taking B'ham-Chattanooga. Any others?))

A 1986 Worldcon: too early to worry about. No one here can say if he/she will be in town in 1984, much less 1986. I'd say let's wait and see until early 1982. Remember, we are talking about an enormous job when we talk about a Worldcon

Re Starchild's letter, it would be very nice for the three clubs to have different meeting times. How are we going to decide which club moves off the third Saturday? This could get very tricky. If you want to be really silly about it, how about a 2 out of 3 Putt Putt Tournament? We'd flip a coin to see who gets home course advantage. Round 1 would be in the city without the advantage on one weekend. Round 2 (and Round 3 if necessary) would be at the other course the next weekend. Teams would be 2 or three players, 54 holes per round, and all scores would count. How's that for boziness?

((We accept, with one modification. Let's make it all on one weekend, to save the problems of having to get together on two consecutive weekends and to get this change handled very quickly. I'd suggest that we go to neutral ground, like Rome, and we make it one 54 or 72 hole round. Of course, I'm saying "we accept" without presenting it to the club, but what say we tentatively plan on it, alright?))

Celko's DSC 74 article is very interesting. I'd heard a great deal about Agacon, and I'm glad to see a first-hand account of it.

Before I close this missive, I have a request to make. I have been known to come to Atlanta to attend Atlanta Symphony Orchestra concerts. If anyone else is interested in attending one, I'd love to have company. The more the merrier. I'm also interested in finding people to listen to jazz performances. Anyone interested in either or both can write to me or call me at (615) 266-0298. No collect calls, please--my phone bills are high enough as it is.

Jerry Page Thanks for the kind words in the current
193 Battery Place ATARANTES. If I may, I'd like to clarify
Atlanta, GA 30307 a couple of points.

At the moment, Mike Bishop and I are working on a joint project. The first of three proposed novellas, which we call "Murder on Lupozy Station," is making the rounds now. It introduces a pair of characters who work as spaceship pilots and double at solving mysteries, the first a locked-room-in-space-murder. (Mike told you about this one.) We're at work on our second one now, and will be doing the third in a few months. It's our intention to specialize in impossible crimes in the tradition of John Dickson Carr, Agatha Christie, and Ellery Queen, while staying clearly in the sf arena. This is eating into most of my writing time just now.

I was flattered that you remembered the Worldsong stories. There are six or seven as yet unpublished stories in that cycle, and while I haven't given much thought to adding to it at this time, I've been thinking about submitting some of the finished ones to markets that might be receptive to them. In fact, I retyped one recently, although I haven't mailed it off. Most of what I intend to work on for the next year or several are novels, both sf and fantasy.

DAW informed me a few months ago that while there were no figures available as yet on HEROIC FANTASY, the best judgment is that they won't be interested in a sequel. Hank and I have discussed taking it to another publisher, but at this time that's still academic. The reviews have been good, though, and if reviews had any influence on sales, we might be expected to be doing rather well. Unfortunately, I don't think there's any evidence that they help anthologies.

Jack Massa's first novel, MOONCROW, will be out from Berkeley in December. His first short story has been sold to F&SF and he's at work on his second novel. Jack works as an editor at TV GUIDE here, as I do. Until August, when Ginger Kaderabek left to work for Emory, there were three of us at that one poor office...

To get back to my own writing for a moment, the dreamworld cycle that includes "The Man With the Silver Eyes" (from WEIRDBOOK 13) and "The Hero Who Returned" (from HEROIC FANTASY) has a third novelet coming out, "The Warrior Who Did Not Know Fear" in WHISPERS, though not in the next issue. Some of the people who've read it have called it the best thing I've yet done, and while I'm not prepared to go that far,

I'm relatively pleased with it, a not too frequent occurrence with me. It's certainly controversial, as is "The Hollow Grave", another story of mine that WHISPERS has accepted.

I enjoyed Bob Maurus' cover for ATARANTES 28. The other art is fine for fanzines, but none of it is particularly noteable. Why don't you have more art by Sally Cook? ((Would that we could, sigh sigh... since the birth of Sally's daughter back in March, Sally's had a difficult time getting to the meetings and getting involved with fanac, and as a result, we've had no art from here since that time. She is reading this zine, we hope, and perhaps this hopeful query, along with an urgent second by the editor, will serve to motivate that lovely lady into gracing our pages again.))

Joe Celko's observations on conventioning were interesting and nostalgic. At my own DSC, I avoided most of these problems by not publicizing and by having as few people as possible. We also managed to lose no money; all funds were turned over to New Orleans for the DSC that followed. But I don't think I could do that today; or even if things had not broken just right. On Mike Glicksohn's comments on BNFs, I agree in principal. But it is possible for people to become BNFs in relatively short order--for some people, anyway. Lee Hoffman became a BNF within months of entering fandom, for example, as did Charles Wells. Quality of production is a factor, as important as longevity. Longevity alone can't do it. ((But do you think a person could establish himself in fandom as quickly--and achieve BNFdom as quickly--in today's widespread fannish world as was possible in the 50s, when most fans were aware of one another and/or the major zines? I tend to think the growth and segmenting of today's fandom makes quick-BNFdom impossible.))

Just noticed your comments about the Dray Prescott books. Actually, there's a strong precedent for what they're doing: Ellery Queen. The real author's name has never been listed on those books, anywa, since A Ian Burt Akers is a penname for Ken Bulmer. My guess is that it's simply felt that more people will remember the series' central character than will remember the author's name, and in that regard it might actually make it easier for many readers to locate books in the series--eventually. Granted that it causes confusion among collecting circles, but let's face the fact that collectors will either buy the series or not buy it for the reasons that have little to do with which fictitious name is on the spine.

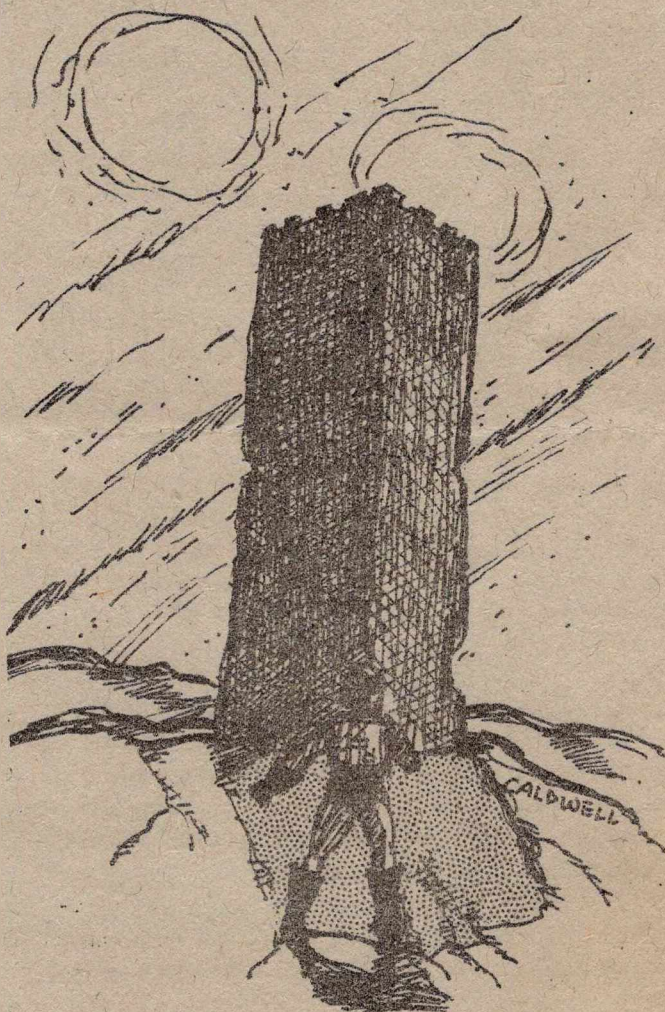
Vernon Clark
6216 Janmer Lane
Knoxville, TN 37919

Nice ish of ATAR this time around. The blue paper set off Bob Maurus' cover quite nicely. Altogether a fine cover again for ATAR.

Celko's revelations about the 74 DSC made very interesting reading. There wasn't much else could have gone wrong with that DSC, it looks like. Even with its problems Joe seems satisfied with his efforts on that con. I'm sure it will long be remembered by those who managed to attend.

Charlie Williams' rendition of an enterprising NASFIC fan looks to be a good likeness of some Southern fan; I wonder who?

Brad Linaweaver's assertion on the ERA is only partially the case in my mind. I think another equally important reason for ERA's failure to pass is the highly visible support ERA receives from the gay community. There are still many people who cringe at the thought of homosexuals having rights, I guess. And many of them are little old ladies afraid their children will be turned on to gayness if gays become sanctioned by the government. There's probably another important reason for the failure: public and governmental apathy. I'd think society is sliding back into rank conservatism rather than the joyful liberal outlook many Americans had in the 60s-early 70s.



But First, Some Words from Our Sponsor:

OCTOBER BUDGET: \$156.04, minus \$25.00 to Mike Weber for clubhouse rental, \$11.69 to our dauntless VPhillips for drinkables and eatables, and \$36.00 to Cliff Whats-His-Name for ATAR 28, bringing club money (once \$14.00 of dues are pumped in) to a theoretical balance of \$97.35, actually \$97.17 since I've made an 18¢ error somewhere in there.

Welcome to these Bright and Bouncy New Members:

Tom Piddock
2107-D Powers Ferry Rd.
Marietta, Ga. 30067
U.S.A. Earth

Ed Garner
6600 Cherry Tree Ln.
Sandy Springs, Ga. 30328

Dues for New Members for the rest of '79 are one dollar (\$1). All dues paid members will be eligible to vote in December. A list will be published in the December ATARANTES.

PRCLOGUE Due to the last minute meeting switch, the club met at the Collingwood Apt. Clubhouse in Marietta, instead of the Ida Williams Library. The Library was unavailable past 6 p.m., and that put a damper on our nocturnal habits. So...the group met at the First Alternate Site. And what a site!!! The Clubhouse is a split level affair, with well stocked junk food machines, and lots of plush, individualized seating--all the comforts of most people's homes. But, as you will read, ASFIC isn't destined to endure long in these surroundings...

At 8:02, the Unholy Trio gathered in a corner and began the October meeting. Copies of FOSFAX and ANVIL were distributed to attending members, with a notice from Prez Biggers that there were copies for non-attending members as well.

The First Item Up was a new meeting site. The Collingwood Management had decided to tack on a \$25 per meeting charge for the use of the clubhouse, and unless dues were doubled (an unthinkable thought), the treasury could ill afford the expense. Since the Library had panned out, Cliff suggested bank facilities, and after some discussion, the Tucker Federal on Buford Highway was agreed upon; not only is this spot closer to the center of town, but it is FREE. Deb HJ suggested that the bank account be transferred there, if possible, as a show of good will.

Terry Kane, from his post behind the bar where he glassed up soft drinks, suggested that the facilities would be ideal for the club's Christmas Party, even though it would mean flip-flopping the meeting spot in a confusing manner. The idea was unanimously yayed, even by Avery, and the December meeting will be held at the Collingwood location. Cliff mentioned that the Bham group was holding their year end Gala Bash on the second weekend in December, and that the Chattanooga group was holding a similar fete on the third weekend in November. Both are open to members of the ABC.

Next, budget problems were dissected by the keen economic minds present. An auction will be held at the November meeting to boost the balance, and the club will start supplying beverages only at the meetings; this was decided in view of the Pizza Habit most folks indulge in after the meetings. The culinary artists among us were urged to bring edibles of their own making (or buying) to the meeting if they so desired.

Atarantes' editor mentioned that the clubzine is the group's largest single expense, especially with the cost of quick-copying the covers. However, the club only pays for the first 125 copies; Cliff foots the bill for the rest. If a trade is arranged with the New Orleans group, then the circulation will go up to 325, with is getting a bit extravagant. Further club subsidies were discussed. Bill Ritch volunteered several reams of paper, and any one with further contribs should contact Cliff. He also mentioned that he was quite pleased with recent club input, and was always on the lookout for columnist and loc-writers.

The Year End Election Time approaches, and procedures for the elections were discussed. They will be held at the December meeting, with the new officers taking their positions at the January meeting. Cliff suggested that candidates could use ATAR as a platform, thus saving December for fun and games rather than rhetoric. He urged all interested members to run, and emphasized that the positions are open to all dues paid members. Both Cliff and Sue P. announced that they would be trying for their President and Vice President positions again. Deb HJ said that her candidacy is pending the sale of her Rome Bookstore, and a possible move from the Atlanta area. Elections will be on written ballot, and will be tabulated and announced by the sec/treas.

Copies of the Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin (not from the Frierson household) were distributed. An announcement was made that Dallas Stewart has been located in the wild "Texies", and might be moving back into the area. Avery, ASFIC's Official Photog, showed slides of the previous meeting; the highlight was a slide of Janice and her good-bye cake. Mike Tippens opened up his "Wantlist Notebook" and declared himself ready for listers.

When things had calmed down just a tad, Mike Tippens started off official Halloween Celebrations by a fine reading of his poem on ghosts. No members had shown up in costume, but it's generally accepted that we look gruesome enough in ordinary clothes. The highlight of the evening was the Horror Trivia Quiz, moderated by Prof. Biggers. Terry K., Brad L., Deb HJ, Cletis B., and Bill Ritch were all up-against-the-bar and hit with a barrage of clever questions. Rich Howell and George Shackelford were chief kibitzers, and Sue P. served as the scoretaker. Brad emerged a winner, and collected his dubious prize of "Urshurak," by the Brothers Hildebrandt and Nichols. Deb placed second, and Bill third.

After the meeting, there was a good turnout at the Village Inn, where everyone indulged in pizza and some lighthearted smoffing. All in all, a good meeting in a nice spot, with lots of new faces and the best of the old.

ART CREDITS: Cover, Wade Gilbreath; p. 4, Charlie Williams; p. 6, Terry Harvia; p. 8, Roger Caldwell.

NEXT ISSUE: "Calabans and Thrax" by Sue Phillips, commentary by Vernon Clark, and much more--get your locs and contribs in early!

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meeting 11/17/79, 8 pm, Tucker Federal on Buford Highway//auction!//bring goods & cash!