

JERRY
Collins
Worke Gilbreath
Chris Biggers

ATARANTES

fanews - atarantes 43

On December 23rd, Cecil and Cathy Hutto were married; Ceese and Cathy have now relocated in Dallas, where they both expect to be for the foreseeable future. The new address is 1246 Peavy Road, Apt #255, Dallas TX 75218.

Meanwhile, former ASFiC/Atlantan Janic Gelb has settled down in her own apartment in the Los Angeles area, has found a job, and has purchased an electric-blue AMC Pacer that she says is the most conspicuous car in the known universe. It sounds like this may necessitate a Gelb Transfer Fund all over again; the first project got her back to the states, and the second will get her back to Georgia, where she belongs. Meanwhile, you can write her at 13850 Victory Road, Apt 111, Van Nuys, CA 91401.

Chattacon VI, held over the January 16-18 weekend, drew over 600 attendees. Programming was erratic, but the con boasted a most impressive art show. More information will be available next issue.

Cliff Biggers is putting together a small-distribution fanzine tribute/memorial to John Lennon; fanartists interested in doing pieces related to Lennon and/or his works are particularly invited to contribute. For more information, contact Cliff at 6045 Summit Wood Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144.

Sandy Paris and Bob Barger are engaged, and their plans call for the two of them to get married at DeepSouthCon in Birmingham this upcoming August. ((Last issue, it was Valerie Procter, this issue it's Sandy Paris--all the B'ham females are getting engaged nowadays! Must be a trend...))

MEETING

The January meeting of ASFiC will be held Saturday, January 24th, at 8:00 PM, at the meeting room of Tucker Federal Savings and Loan at 5424 Buford Highway in Doraville. This will be our meeting site for one month only; after this meeting, we will move back to the Peachtree Bank meeting room. Please notify all friends who might attend the meeting of the location change, which was necessitated by our date change this month.

To get to the meeting place, take I-285 to the Buford Highway exit in Northeast Atlanta. Turn left on Buford Highway, no matter which way you were heading on the interstate. Tucker Federal is approximately a half to three quarters of a mile below the intersection, on the right. This will be our first meeting with our new slate of officers, so everyone is urged to attend and help welcome them in. Dues are due at this meeting, also, so members are asked to bring

their \$10 for the upcoming year. Iris Brown will be taking dues, and she promises that no one will be shortchanged.

Copies of SUNCATCHER, the ABC fanzine, will be on sale at the meeting. While regular price for the zine is \$1, ASFiC members may buy copies at the meeting for 50¢. Only a limited number will be available (because Cliff forgot to bring more back with him...) so it is hoped that all ASFiC members will come prepared to buy tight away. SUNCATCHER needs the support of ASFiC to make it work, so help out the budget.

Due to Ye Editor's inability to get in touch with Dann Littlejohn, the program item for this month is To Be Announced at the meeting; Dann had several programming ideas at the last meeting, but I'm not sure which was decided on. Be sure to attend the meeting at Tucker Federal and find out!

Again, don't forget this one-month change in meeting place; we're back at the old Tucker Federal location on Buford Highway. Next month, we'll be back at Peachtree Bank again. Best be there!

OVER APOX ON
THESE STAPLES!



CHOICE BITS

asfiCon change

The major news item this month is the recent change of the date for ASFiCon 2 to October 23-25, 1981. The change was caused by a conflict in CoH Robert Silverberg's schedule; he found himself scheduled to be in Atlanta doing his CoH duties at ASFiCon and in San Francisco doing other duties at the World Fantasy Convention at the same time. The new date will still enable Silverberg to make his first appearance at a Southern regional convention. Fan CoH JoeD Siclari and MC Michael Bishop will also be able to attend during the new dates.

Convention memberships are \$8 at present, but will escalate to \$10 on April 1st. There are also dealers' tables still available for \$20 per table, but dealers and fans interested in huckstering at the con are urged to get in money soon--a great many dealers had to be turned away at the last minute at last year's ASFiCon, and we'd hate to disappoint more dealers this year.

In less cheerful tones, we must report that Larry Mason, the Fan in the Iron Desk, was burglarized Friday, January 9th, while he was out to dinner. The burglars were persistent enough to open a window that had been nailed shut, and helped themselves to Larry's stereo equipment and his Sony Trinitron. Larry, extremely dejected, says he hopes that the thieves end up bringing the equipment in to him to be fixed someday in the future, and is considering opening a repair shop specializing in Pioneer and Sony equipment...Alas, it's a lot easier to make light of the situation now than it was when it occurred, and we can hope the burglary isn't too financially devastating.

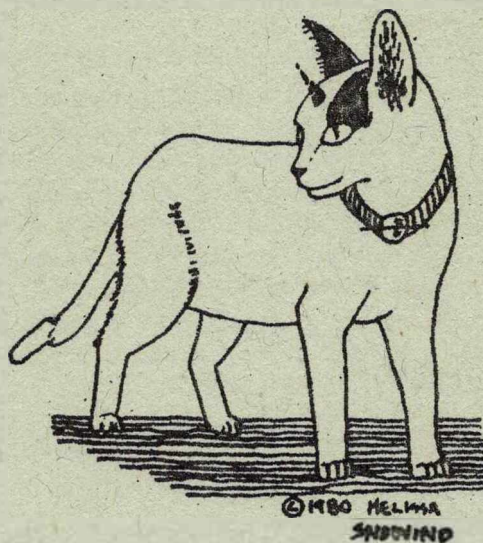
SUNCATCHER, the often-discussed ABC zine, is finally due for release at Chattacon (in fact, it should have been released by the time you read this). This should be the first of a series of quarterly SUNCATCHERS; issues are available for \$1 each, and Cliff Biggers will have copies for sale at the ASFiC meeting.

Material is Urgently Needed for issue two; the full range of faanish writing is asked for, from faan humor to sercon, from interviews to satire to commentary. Editors Jim Gilpatrick, Wade Gilbreath, and Cliff Biggers will gladly receive material in person or via the Post Offal.

The results of the December elections for ASFiC officers was made public at the meeting, but for those of you who missed it there, let us present a rehash. The new president is Angela Howell; the new vicepresident is Cliff Biggers; the new secretary-treasurer

is Iris Brown; and the programming director remains Dann Littlejohn, a bastion of stability in an unstable world. See the minutes in this ATAR (Deb's last minutes, by the way) for more information.

Brad Linaweaver appeared on the radio program "The King of Schlock" on December 3rd, 1980, to discuss bad films and his column for ATARANTES. The program was broadcast on 89.3 FM from 11 pm to 1 am. Subjects under discussion included material covered in Brad's columns for 1980, as well as Brad's involvement in a bad film, the Azteca Mexican monster films, blood/meat pictures, and a host of generally obscure movies. Response to the program was favorable and Brad has been asked back for an encore performance on the first Wednesday in February. The emphasis this time will be on teenage horror films of the fifties.



ATARANTES #43 is produced by Cliff Biggers, 6045 Summit Wood Drive, Kennesaw GA 30144 for the Atlanta Science Fiction Club. January, 1981 issue. This zine is published monthly, is free to members, and is available 12/\$4 or The Usual to interested bystanders. All contents copyright (c) 1981 by Cliff Biggers; copyright and all rights are returned to artists and contributors. Isn't this such a humdrum section to read every month? I certainly get tired of writing it, anyway...

DER KRAPP

brad linaweaver

"Good evening and welcome to El Sleazo Drive-in. Tonight's sci-fi quadruple feature stars that ever-popular--and six hundred ton--character actor, Godzilla! We know you'll consume lots of beer to help you through the night. Food every bit as good as the films is available at the concession stand. Please do not use the speakers to bludgeon each other. Before driving home, it might be a good idea to put the speakers back in their cradles rather than leave them attached to your windows. Finally we have a message for those of you who are here for lewd purposes: please don't position yourself so that you bump the car horn. It disturbs the patrons who wish to concentrate on the cinema. After all, Godzilla's art was discussed in TAKE ONE. Thank you for your attention and we hope you enjoy the show.

GODZILLA'S REVENGE: This is an appropriate one with which to begin, as it serves in lieu of a cartoon. The only Toho monster film to be approached in the style of a--God help us--Disney movie, the star is a young boy completely obsessed with those lovable rubberoids of Monster Island. The story takes place in the real world of a Tokyo never so much as scratched by a giant monster, much less demolished and rebuilt every few years. The kid has seen all the pics and daydreams about his favorite monsters. He's a fan, you see. Both his parents work, so he's pretty much on his own, except for a friendly uncle who makes bizarre toys (such as a crawling hand that cries out: "Support your local police!"--maybe the English dubbers were on drugs).

A bully makes life miserable for this imaginative youngster at school. Some criminals kidnap him, and present him with a problem outside of school. He solves both difficulties by dreaming that he's on Monster Island, where the son of Godzilla, otherwise known as Minya, befriends him, talks to him, grows to different sizes when need be...but fortunately doesn't say, "Curiouser and curiouser." Minya has a bully of his own to face, a goony looking monster with bumps all over. When dear old dad isn't fighting monsters in stock shots from his other films (such as the giant lobster, Ebirah, from the obscure **GODZILLA VS. THE SEA MONSTER**), he teaches his kid how to use his head to ram enemies in the gut, and how to shoot out that useful radioactive breath. The little boy

returns to reality and defeats the gangsters with the spray from a fire extinguisher. Later he uses the billy-goat trick against the bully. See, Godzilla movies are good for children, after all--so long as they don't become radioactive.

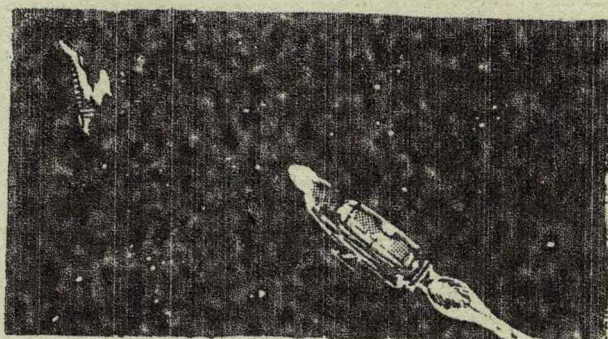
GODZILLA VS. THE SMOG MONSTER: Toho varies the style of the Godzilla series. This is as close as they get to--Satan help us--an art film. The Big G makes his entrance in slow motion with a weird lighting effect, in a child's dream (shades of the other movie), as an omen of what will save Japan from the Smog Monster. About the latter, its name is Hedorah (they all have names--this one derives from the Japanese word for pollution). It seems that pollution in Suruga Bay has congealed in some way to produce a monster made out of sludge. There is a cartoon sequence done in the style of a science short to demonstrate how the Smog Monster developed through its various stages of giant tad-pole to red-eyed blob to the mature article that is bigger than Godzilla, and can walk, fly, swim, emit gas, and spit out poisonous glop that looks like oversized rabbit turds but acts like acid on even Godzilla's tough hide.

The movie is filled with moody night sequences and lots of eco-awareness rock music, such as the title song, "Save the Earth" (so there really is noise pollution, after all). The Smog Monster is genuinely disgusting; when it isn't sucking off industrial smokestacks and poisoning everyone in the vicinity, it does battle with Godzilla by behaving in a vile manner, even by monster standards.

For instance, the Smog Monster throws Godzilla into a crevice, then turns around and starts dripping black gunk off its body until Godzilla is covered in the mud-like substance. It looks like Hedorah is having an attack of diarrhea. Not to worry, Godzilla wins, and destroys all of Hedorah's eggs...but not before discovering that he can fly, too, by pointing his breath at the ground and taking off like a rocket! This is pure Toho: Godzilla discovers powers he never knew he had--e.g., the ability to defy the laws of physics--when it's convenient for the plot.

The little boy in this one has the best line of dialogue: "Hedorah is only sludge--he can be dried!"

NEXT: THE OTHER TWO TOHO GODZILLA FILMS





APRIL 3-5, 1981

SATYRICON

KNOXVILLE, TN.

WITH...

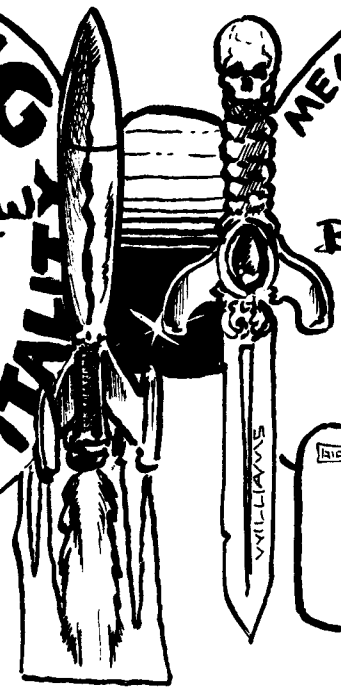
GUEST OF HONOR **GORDON DICKSON** **STAN SCHMIDT** **Special Guest**

MASTER OF CEREMONIES **ANDREW J. OFFUTT** EDITOR OF ANALOG MAGAZINE
SURPRISED GUEST **KARL EDWARD WAGNER** ...AND OTHER NOTED AUTHORS, ARTISTS, AND PROFESSIONALS

FAN GUEST-OF-HONOR GUY HILLIANT III

At the **RAMADA INN WEST** AT THE WEST HILLS
EXIT OFF I 40/75

FEATURING
Parties!
CONSULTE ARTSHOW
MASQUERADE BANQUET
HUCKSTER VIDEO
ROOM ROOM
Parties!
SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
\$10 ADVANCE
\$12 AT THE DOOR
BANQUET TICKET \$10
ACCOMMODATIONS
SINGLE RM (1 DBL BED) 32⁷⁰
DOUBLE RM (2 DBL BEDS) 43⁶⁰
PRICES INCLUDE TAX

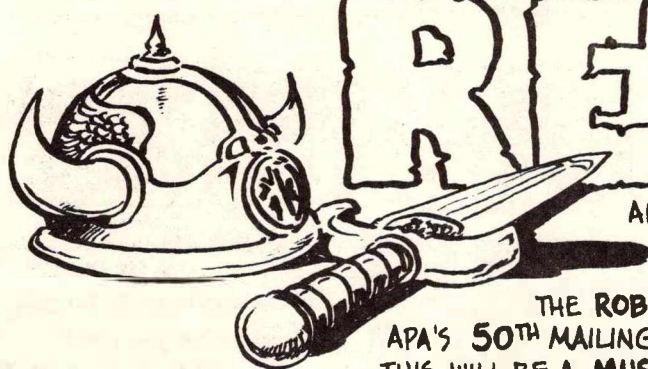
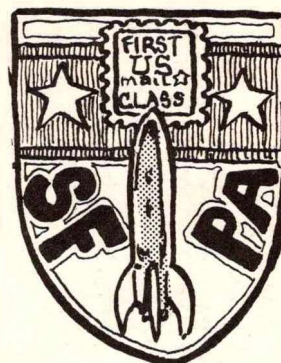
to-
SATYRICON
P.O. BOX 323
KNOXVILLE, TN
37901

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE

SPECIAL EVENTS

SFPA★100

SATYRICON'S FAN GUEST OF HONOR, **GUY H. LILLIAN III**, OFFICIAL EDITOR OF THE **SOUTHERN FANDOM PRESS ALLIANCE**, WILL PRESIDE OVER THE CELEBRATION OF THAT ORGANIZATION'S MILESTONE **100TH MAILING**, WHICH WILL BE **COLLATED & DISTRIBUTED** AT THE CONVENTION! YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE EXCITEMENT AND HOOPLA OF THIS VERY SPECIAL OCCASION!



REHUPASO

ANOTHER MILESTONE IN AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION HISTORY WILL BE CELEBRATED AS SATYRICON'S SPECIAL GUEST **KARL EDWARD WAGNER** JOINS MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF THE **ROBERT E. HOWARD UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION** IN MARKING THAT **APA'S 50TH MAILING**, WITH FANTASY ILLUSTRATOR **JOHN MAYER** AS TOASTMASTER. THIS WILL BE A **MUST** FOR ALL LOVERS OF HEROIC FANTASY! **BE THERE!**

ARTSHOW & AUCTION

MANY OF THE FINEST SF & FANTASY ARTISTS WILL BE DISPLAYING WORK AT SATYRICON, AND THE SATURDAY NIGHT AUCTION PROMISES GOOD BUYS FOR THE ART LOVER. ARTISTS SHOULD SEND **SASE** BY FEB. 15TH TO **CHARLIE WILLIAMS**, 4314 HAYES AVENUE, KNOXVILLE, TN 37912 FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION.

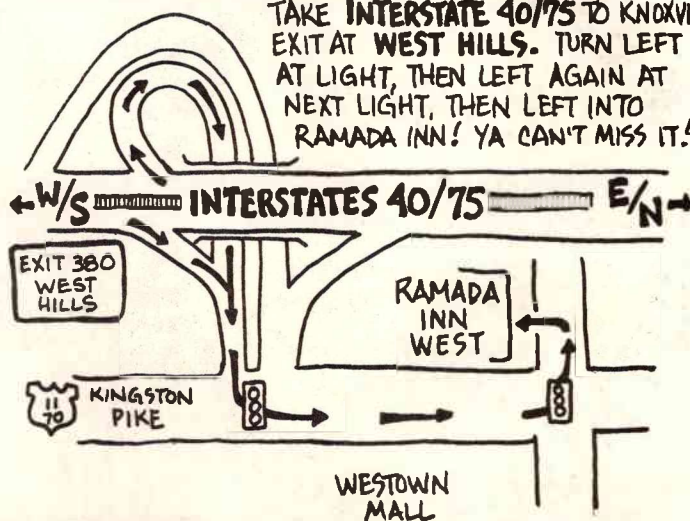
HUCKSTER\$

SATYRICON'S HUCKSTER ROOM WILL OFFER A WIDE SELECTION OF SF & FANTASY BOOKS, MAGAZINES, AND RELATED MERCHANDISE. HUCKSTER TABLES ARE **\$15⁰⁰** EACH (DOES NOT INCLUDE MEMBERSHIP). A **SASE** TO **JOHN NEAL**, 2119 WOODBINE AVE., KNOXVILLE, TN. 37917, WILL BRING ADDITIONAL INFO.

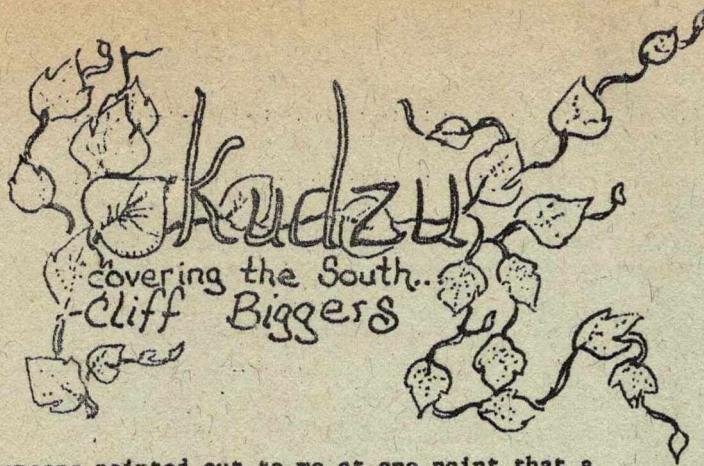
- ◎ FOR THE COMFORT & SAFETY OF ALL, SATYRICON WILL REQUIRE **PEACE-BONDING** OF ALL WEAPONS OF ANY TYPE, AT ALL TIMES.
- ◎ PERSONS UNDER 16 YEARS OLD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT GUARDIAN.

HERE'S HOW TO GET THERE:

TAKE **INTERSTATE 40/75** TO KNOXVILLE. EXIT AT **WEST HILLS**. TURN LEFT AT LIGHT, THEN LEFT AGAIN AT NEXT LIGHT, THEN LEFT INTO **RAMADA INN**! YA CAN'T MISS IT!



SEE YA AT SATYRICON APRIL 3-5!



Someone pointed out to me at one point that a lot of comics fans looked down on science fiction fans just as much as they in turn looked down on the comics fans. While the point was far from a stunning revelation, since I had been on both sides of the fence and could take in the view very well by myself, it made me very aware that fans have a tendency to find some other fandom to ostracize.

I've never been very certain as to why this was; as much as "sci fi fans" are laughed at and mocked in a non-fannish environment, it's odd that we would direct so much mockery at, say, funny books, or anachronists, or any other sort of fandom. No one said that fans had to be any more logical, rational, or equitable than any other group of human beings, however.

I have never been overly fond of certain members of the SCA; I have very vivid memories of their crassness and inconsideration at the 1974 DeepSouthCon in Atlanta, and this has made me rather unhappy with said people, to say the least. It has also soured me on the idea of ever taking part in the Atlanta SCA, simply because some of these people are active in running this group. Other SCA actives, like Dan Taylor, have always impressed me as fine, reputable people who have never failed to deal with me in a friendly, intelligent way. I am sure that the SCA has managed to make many friends in Atlanta, but there aren't very many among Atlanta SF fandom. In Birmingham, this relationship is much more friendly, and members of one fandom are quite often members of the other. Generally, though, the two are largely exclusive, and often downright hostile towards the other.

Comics fans have never been very popular with science fiction fans, who tend to look on comics as a rather juvenile pursuit at best. It never registers to many of them that the mundane world sees science fiction as being just as juvenile as comics. I've gained a new insight into the obverse of this coin by reading the recent issues of COMICS JOURNAL that have offered comics-fan views of sf fans as fawning pseudo-literati, or socially ostracized nerds, or escapist cretins. *sigh* I thought those were the categories sf fans had reserved for comics readers for so many years...

A new object of scorn and ridicule is the media fan (this used to be called a Trekkie, but the

use of sf in film and television media particularly has led to people having to expand this category to include fans of STAR WARS, Dr. Who, Battlestar: Galactica, Space: 1999, Lost in Space, and any of a number of other "sci-fi" series whose merits I could probably ramble on--favorably or unfavorably depending on whim and often-inconsistent attitudes at the time--that have become popular with the STAR-LOG crowd). In our club, for instance, we have at least one member whose only interest in science fiction is in the films and teevee series. I'll admit that I hold hardly any of the above series in a favorable frame of mind; that's my reaction to (a) bad sf, or (b) anything that develops such a cult following that large crowds of people imitate its main characters constantly. But it does serve to introduce us to new science fiction fans, and it's something that almost all of us have watched every now and then. I can still recall my delight with STAR TREK when it was still a network show, for instance. Yet some of the science fiction fans I know regard these people as "illiterates," or "fakefans."

I guess you could easily predict that the regard many of us in much the same way. The active film fans seem to resent our efforts to convert them to written sf; I know of one person who resigned from ASFIC, because, his best friend told me, "we don't devote enough time every month to sf films, and we don't run videotapes at most of the meetings, and we don't discuss the films and the series as much as we spend time talking in general, or talking about books and magazines when the subject drifts to science fiction."

I guess that's the fun thing about having a group to scorn; it makes it so easy to dismiss their return scorn at us...



On Dec. 20, 1980, ASFIC set a brand new precedent and started at precisely 8:00:00, thus making my last set of minutes highly accurate. Cliff led off the brief business meeting by reminding the members that the January meeting had been postponed until the fourth weekend in that month, thus allowing folks to attend CHATTACON. The meeting spot was also being switched to Tuck-it-in Federal on Buford Highway, which is a few doors down from El Toro, Beren's, and other places of culinary repute. ASFICON II predate spread the news that the date had been changed up to one weekend before Halloween so that Pro GOH Bob Silverberg could attend. Cliff also emphasized that non-dues paid attendees at tonight's party should please pay Deb \$2 to help pay for the extra food costs of the party.

Deb also had copies of the final Roster of 1980 Actives and updated Bylaws of the Club for any interested folk. Without further ado, Brad led off announcements with a spot about his "King of Schlock" hour on a local radio station in which he dealt with ATARANTES, ASFIC, and his "Der Krapp" column. Mike Weber mentioned that he was getting up an impromptu video day at his Marietta home on Sunday, and for interested members to see him for further details. Avery said that he had slides of his recent trip to NASA to show to the club after the business meeting, and added that he had some info on BALTICON to be held over Labor Day Weekend.

Next came the e*l*e*c*t*i*o*n*s*. Cliff read off names of active members from the roster, and each came up for a ballot. This year's ballot had campaign statements featured at the bottom. After twenty minutes of intercepting paper airplanes made from the ballots and scribbling furiously, Teller Deb HJ revealed that Angela Howell was selected the new President for '81 and Dann Littlejohn the continuing Program Co-ordinator, both through uncontested elections. In the hotly contested VeePee and SecTreas positions, Cliff Biggers won out by a clear majority for the Second-in-Command position and Iris Brown for the Overworked-Witty-Lackey-of-all Trades against able opponent Ron Zukowski.

There was no set time for closing the meeting. The Programming was the Christmas Party, so everything and everyone blended together to celebrate the end of another year of ASFIC. Dann L. really outdid himself on the atmosphere this time, bringing a Christmas tree with bubble lights and ornaments, a toy train to run underneath it, and various other decorations to contribute to the atmosphere. Background tapes of Tomita versions of Debussy, Holst, and Ravel kept the mood light and relaxed. A pool table allowed members to skinny dip their knuckles on the green turf. Larry Mason continued huckstering, exchanging comment, jibes, and merchandise with members. The present exchange also went well, with Ben Johnson inhering a repository of toy and gag gift from other attendees. He made a debut as either the Wormrider of Dune, complete with space cadet helmet and raygun, or Caterpillar Rider of Pern atop his rolly toy. Jennifer also held up well into the evening and finally nodded out at the Pizza Inn.

The M & M fund depleted itself providing eats for the event, and a supplemental run was made by Chris Radney, John Ulrich, Ben Johnson, and Deb Hammer Johnson. We wound up with a surplus of food, thus proving that even with approximately 60 attendees, that there is no way to prejudge food consumption. Along about 10:00, some of us wished Irvin Koch a Happy Birthday, and brought down one or two acoustic tiles in Wrath. Mike Rogers and Dick and Nicki Lynch of Chattanooga also showed up and contributed good cheer and an ABC touch to the party. It was a Ghood Time.

...And Now for the Exciting Conclusion to "ASFIC's Buried Treasurer"

Total Income 1980

(includes: Dues, Auctions, ASFICon, and
button Sales) \$689.05

ATARANTES, extra postage, and other
club printing \$339.00

ABC related activities
(includes: ABCon and SUNCATCHER) \$55.75

Drinks, ice and Edibles
(before M & M fund instituted) \$40.99

M & M Fund
(one-fourth of auction and button sales) \$25.95

Misc. Exp.
(one quire good stencils for reports,
Jerry Page Roast Tape, flyers for
club) \$27.49

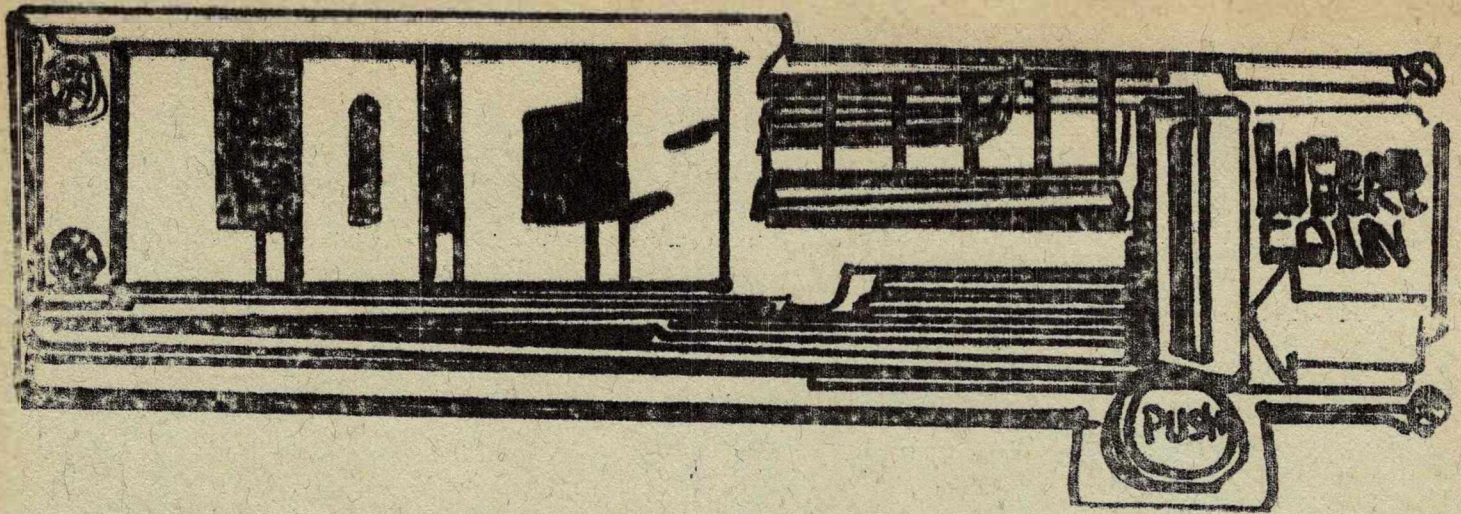
TOTAL Club Expenses \$489.18
subtracted from Total Income \$200.87
actual bank balance as of Dec '80 \$200.18
\$magical mathematical error\$ -.69
Actual Jan. balance including
prepaid '81 dues \$234.18

In case you're wondering why I wound up with such a discrepancy between the listed Dec. budget in last ATAR and the one above (\$71.37), so do I. Actually, it's unsimple human failure and the Chaos of my life the past six months. Anyhow, I wrote out a check for ATAR 39 that I accidentally subtracted from the budget twice, a check for SUNCATCHER that I voided and rewrote to Cliff adding in the local SUNCATCHER costs with ATARANTES in November, and \$10.00 cash that I gave to the Editor of Atarantes from a deposit, which I had already listed in here but been unable to get to Rome to make the deposit until later when I adjusted the deposit, and so forth...and we wind up with a very healthy budget for 1981. Thanks to you all, and thanks for having patience with me!

ONE (or two) LAST WORDS: Iris Brown will be taking over this spot. Be sure and give dues money, any COAs, or suggestions to her. Take care, and Happy Jettrails to you all!!!!
DHJ signing off*

This issue of ATARANTES marks Deb's final issue as secretary/treasurer of ASFIC, and her final set of minutes for the clubzine. For two years, Deb never missed getting in minutes of the meetings, and always managed to make them as lively and entertaining as the meetings themselves--and, on occasion, even more so. While everyone

may have their own favorite typo or somesuch, I'm sure that I'm not alone in saying that Deb deserves praise and thanks for add spirit and liveliness to the minutes to such a degree that even non-members enjoyed reading them. Deb has also managed to keep the books quite accurate for the time, during a difficult transition. I'd like to thank her, and I hope all of you will see fit to do so at the meeting.



Harry Warner
423 Summit Ave.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

I never would have guessed that the front cover to ATAR #40 is a joint effort. It all looks homogenous or pasteurized or otherwise com-

patible in its various sections. If one of the artists who contributed to it should become a world celebrity in the art world, researchers and critics will spend most of the 21st century arguing the question of who did which parts of your cover.

The news that two ASFic members have sold their used book stores doesn't surprise me. I get the impression that second-hand bookstores are trouble-prone. The only one in Hagerstown is just one of perhaps a hundred storerooms in the downtown section, but a drunk woman chose it when she felt impelled to kick out a display window around the first of the year. Simultaneously with the smashing of the plate glass, the unusually cold weather reached us. Then the proprietors learned of a regulation that requires them to replace the old glass with a special shatterproof glass, but no such glass was available on a local basis. Two weeks later, the proprietors are still looking for a way to keep the store warm enough for the customers to come in, since plywood boards have no insulating value.

I'm afraid I share your inability to get too enthused over the fate of ANALOG. In most ways I'm a sentimentalist of most extreme natures. But when a prozine undergoes an endless series of changes in editorship, title, policy, publisher, and format, I just can't accept the fact that there's any real identity between the old STREET and SMITH ASTOUNDING and today's Analog. Similarly, I didn't weep at the news that A mazing might be defunct as a prozine title; everything that the title symbolized for me had gone from the magazine several decades ago.

Your concern about the paucity of fanzines in the South will have been answered by several loc writers by now with the suggestion that fanzines aren't really numerous anywhere in the nation today, outside apas. But I have begun to suspect that national conditions could result in a big boom of Southern fandom during the coming years. The rising cost

of heating residences, the probability that the Near East nations will grow peeved with the United States and stop selling us oil, the predictions that the nation faces a gradual lowering of temperatures in the immediate future, and now this latest estimate that the Northeast will suffer serious drought conditions for the next ten years are going to cause a lot of people, both fans and mundanes, to think about a warmer climate. California is filling up, Florida is growing too dangerous, so the next big population shifts might be to the areas which aren't perpetually warm but have milder winters. I tabulated about a hundred wedding announcements in the local papers to see what migration patterns I might find. If I remember my findings correctly, about one fourth of the local couples were planning to live outside this immediate area after marriage, and about three-fourths of their new homes would be in areas with a warmer climate than Hagerstown. There's probably an indication in there of what's going to happen for many other segments of the population.

The whole situation, coupled with possible international problems, makes me feel sorry for any fans who are thinking about bidding for a convention a half-dozen years or more in the future. I don't mean specifically those who favor Atlanta in '86, but the entire general custom of bidding today with its long lead times. The transportation, war, accommodations, and other factors could change so greatly in such a long period of time that it wouldn't be safe to make too many promises or establish too rigid planning standards for a world-con so far in the future.

I enjoyed Brad's column alright, but I do believe I'd rather see him writing as an essayist and get away from the film pattern he's locked himself in to.

((I, too, am eager to see Brad as an essayist; in fact, after next issue's DER KRAPP, perhaps we can encourage him to try his hand at a different approach for a while. I'm afraid that whenever anyone gets too locked in to one format, the result is that their work gets less attention than it might receive if it offered a variety of material. Of course, it'll be intriguing to hear what Brad thinks of this...))

Deb Hammer Johnson
3990 Clairmont Road
Chamblee GA 30341

By the time this hits the mimeo drum, SUNCATCHER should be seeing distribution. I'm looking forward to this being the first of many issues, and rest assured I'll be a steady contributor in some form. The other bit of news that grabs me is the death of Susan Wood. I'd heard this before, but get different causes from different sources. At any rate, her passing saddens me. She was a sort of idol and inspiration to my fan-writing endeavors. I first heard of fanzines from her column in AMAZING, and have run into her numerous essays and locs in many zines. Maybe the memorial could be an Award for Fanwriting...

Randy Satterfield gets into some of the media hot/cool analogies that McLuhan popularized. I love reading about Randy's reaction to his customers, since various public tastes in books is a consuming topic with me. Since my store was a used paperback outlet, I came into contact with readers predisposed toward disposable literature, i.e., Harlequins, Westerns, pulp action novels, and found that they preferred reading over television as a relaxing pursuit, not because of its educational value...

Let me compliment Jerry on his caricature of you on the editorial page. If you'd kept your "Kudzu" title, you could have added a sprig of it around your head like a victory laurel. ((Had I done that, it would have covered me entirely in the twenty-seven seconds it takes Jerry to complete a drawing...)) Some of my personal gripes are included in your synopsis of officer's duties. For me, the work overcame my enjoyment of the club, and I'm returning to the humble status of One Who Stares at the officers rather than One Who Gets Stared At.

Bill Brown's cover isn't as lustrous as the recent ANVIL one, but I do like the composition and sense of the sky city poised over the landscape. I continue to enjoy Jerry's prolific variations on his personal story visions. Wade's second page illo reminds me of a UFO crossed with a pinata.

Keep up the great work. Now that ATAR is the only monthly clubzine around, it seems to become more and more of an endurance contest. I hope you can continue to do such an enormous task and stay active with your other zine projects.

Dan Taylor
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Atlanta, GA 30312

I suppose I ought to say something about this Atlanta '86 Worldcon bid, but it's hard to stop laughing long enough. A few people want to "help," nobody wants to chair, and most people seem to have no opinion either way. I think Atlanta should host a Worldcon--but making plans and hoping someone's stubborn streak will break long enough to accept the chair is not the answer. Is there some particular hurry here? If hotels are "falling over themselves" to accomodate us now (as has been reported), then they'll be just as willing in a year or two (assuming no major economic collapse--in which case we all have bigger

problems than Worldcons). Let it simmer a bit and cogitate on a later Atlanta bid.

"Der Kräpp" was very entertaining, Brad; however, it would have been stronger presented all at once, which means that either the article was too long for the available space, or the space was too short for the article (depending on whom you wish to blame). I humbly suggest to Ye Editor and Ye columnists to think twice before concocting multi-chapter epics. ((Most of Brad's multi-chapter epics are split by his choice--but then, that may be because I ask that he generally work with one to one and a half pages of micro-elite type, and that requires the split. I guess you can blame us both...))

Marty Cantor did an excellent job of not flying off the handle in response to my comments, for which I am grateful; however angry he may have been at the time, he managed to subdue it by the time his thoughts hit the paper, so that I perceived what I was hoping for in the first place--reinterpretation and elaboration. Just because I prefer Atlanta doesn't mean Marty can't have Los Angeles--and just because I don't know much about West Coast fandom doesn't mean I'm unsympathetic.

However, there is, really and truly, a Southern identity that transcends even the common bonds of fandom. In other words, I have at least as much in common with my neighbors, purely by the coincidence of geographical proximity, as I have in common with fans from other parts of the country. Before we were fans, we were Southern. (Well, most of us, anyway) Allow me to recommend a book, SOUTHERN LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, by Florence King, available in paperback from Bantam Books, which, although its primary emphasis is on how Southern Ladies and Gentlemen treat each other, is still an excellent and entertaining examination of the Southern psyche.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT A
VIKING PROBE IS, BUT I
DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF IT...



But, back to the original question, the FAAn Awards:
Let's assume that there should be a fannish achievement award. First, you must define your parameters. What is a fanzine--and especially, what is not? Is LOCUS a fanzine? Is ROCKET'S BLAST-COMICOLLECTOR? Is SUNCATCHER? By what criteria are categories established within which zines and writers compete? Would all the above zines have to compete with each other? I assume that, since the FAAns have gotten this far, these questions have been dealt with. ((Yes, by a sort of innate common knowledge; since the voters and nominators have to be fanzines writers, artists, and editors, it is assumed that what they nominate will be a fanzine.))

At this point, you reach the most crucial question of all: who makes the decision? If the awards are the results of a fannish popular vote, who distributes--and collects--the ballots? How is an individual fan to acquire a significant portion of the nation's fanzines (assuming he had time to read them)?

If the awards go through a nominating committee, by what criteria do the members of the committee justify their presence thereon? ((Nominators have to have been active in the fields in which they nominate--and the activity must have taken place during the calendar year covered by the awards)).

If the committee is not broken down geographically, how can the committee hope to judge zines from a region geographically removed from it--or even obtain zines from there?

ART CREDITS: Cover: Jerry Collins, Wade Gilbreath, and Cliff Biggers. P. 2: Melissa Snowind. P. 3: Jerry Collins. P. 4: Charlie Williams. P. 7: Allen White. P. 10: Jerry Collins. P. 11: Wade Gilbreath.

ATARANTES #43
January, 1981
Cliff Biggers
6045 Summit Wood Drive
Kennesaw GA 30144

Why you're getting ATAR
___ ASFic Member
___ Subscriber
___ Contributor
___ we hope you'll contribute locs, art, news, etc.
___ we hope you'll make the meeting
___ this is your last ATAR unless you pay dues, subscribe, or sweet-talk me

On a different subject, I see from Deb's LoC in #42 that you've been having trouble with noisy socializing in the kitchen. I can sympathise, as I've been having similar problems with the local SCA chapter. The only solution I see is to suggest to the offending parties that they go ahead to the Pizza Inn and wait for the rest of us. Scream at them, if necessary. If they are too dim-witted to feel shame at having to be screamed at, then perhaps the club would be no worse off if they got offended thereby and left.

Far be it from me to suggest that all of the membershit should sit through the business and the programming; if, however, the same people habitually lose interest in the program, then perhaps they should be invited to contribute ideas for programming they would find interesting. ((It doesn't work; our Lovecraft panel came from a member's suggestion. Said member still left the room and became one of the Noisy Ones...))

One other point from Deb's letter, which touches on the FAAns again. I quote: "As the South gets more and more people who fit the mold, Southern zines will be more recognized." Pardon me--backup a sec. Fit whose mold? Marty's? Mine? I like Southern fandom fine like it is--and I don't care for the idea of changin it to fit the FAAn Award's mold...

WA HF: Dan Taylor (again); Don D'Ammassa; Stven Carlberg; Brad Linaweaver (via phone--write these comments down, folks!); Fay White; and Mike Rogers.

NEXT MEETING OF ASFic
Saturday, January 24th
8:00 am (regular time)
Tucker Federal Meeting Room
Buford Highway
ASFicCon Committee Meeting 6:30
All Committee Members are urged to attend