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UP FRONT

Howdy Folks!

Life continues to grind on toward the eventual heat death of the universe. I've been a little depressed and stressed out somewhat lately but it seems to be letting up somewhat (just in time to start the Con+Stellation XXI preparations). I'm the new president of the Southern Fandom Confederation, which means I'll be putting out another zine (and hopefully doing a much better job than with this one). *I would love to have contributions from any of the excellent Fan writers and/or artists in SFPA!* I need to get into gear soon. The absolute deadline for submissions for the next issue is September 20, 2002. Earlier contributions would be much appreciated.

DEEPSOUTHCON 40

I ran the art show for DeepSouthCon40. It's the hardest I've ever worked before, during, and after a convention. It was nice to have several artists in attendance. I got to talk some with them whenever they were in the art show. Unfortunately, I was usually a babbling idiot due to exhaustion and lack of sleep. I know Charles Keegan was puzzled sometimes by my wacky comments. I'm actually dreading running the art show for Con+Stellation in October. I hope it goes must easier. Here's the art show report.

2002 DeepSouthCon 40 Art Show Report

The DeepSouthCon 40 art show consisted of about 563 pieces from 36 artists, displayed on 68 panels and 6 tables. The mail-in participation was from 20 artists. There were 177 pieces sold for a total of \$3,958. Thus the average sales price was \$22.36 per piece and the average total sales per artist was about \$109.94.

The most sales for a single artist was \$507 and the lowest was, unfortunately, no sales. We had 45 pieces that went to the Saturday voice auction, which was well attended. We raised \$672 for various causes.

AWARDS

The following awards were determined by people's choice (ballots):

Best Amateur Science-Fiction:	Dale D. Ziemianski, <i>"The Prank"</i>
Best Amateur Fantasy:	Sue Thorn, <i>"Dragon Necklace"</i>
Best Amateur Horror:	Dale D. Ziemianski, <i>"Agatha"</i>
Best Professional Science-Fiction:	Vincent Di Fate, <i>"Going for Infinity"</i>
Best Professional Fantasy:	Charles Keegan, <i>"Into the Ruins"</i>
Best Professional Horror:	Debbie Hughes, <i>"Ghost"</i>

DEEPSOUTHCON 40 IN PICTURES



Amanda Freeman (left) was a real boon to me that weekend, helping to hang art, watching the table when I needed a break, and helping pack. Her and her husband, Jeff (who also helped me) were also the biggest spenders on art in the show. Jeff did outbid me on a print but sold it to me later when he realized I really wanted it. That piece, "Titania" by L.A. Williams, has since been nominated for a Chesley Award (ASFA) this year.

Erin Sandersan (right) suffered due to my mistake during the hectic purchasing after the art auction. I let someone buy a piece she had won the bid on. I just assumed the person who brought it to the table was the same person who bid on it. She was very upset the next day. I felt awful. I apologized

and bought the final print still available from the same artist, Mary Hanson-Roberts, and gave it to her. After the convention, I contacted Mary Hanson-Roberts to see if I could get another of the same print. Fortunately, the last one of it was returned unsold a few weeks later. Mary Hanson-Roberts sent the piece to me and I sent it on to Erin with a letter of apology. Mary was incredibly helpful and nice about the whole thing and wanted to send it for free but I sent her a check anyway. Hopefully, Erin will forgive me someday.



Guy and Rosie Lillian enjoyed a meal in the hotel restaurant. I think Guy must have encountered a vampire recently as that looks like a bandage on his neck. He should stay out of those New Orleans cemeteries. Can you spot Richard

Dengrove lurking in the background?



George Wells and Richard Dengrove wait just outside the restaurant area in hopes Guy and Rosie will toss some table scraps their way. I really want a coffee table like the one pictured here (simple square dark hardwood) but I've not seen one like it for sale anywhere.

Left to right, are Rich and Nicki Lynch, Connie Willis, Allen Steele, and Vincent Di Fate. The guest speeches were fun. However, I missed most of them as the Art Show was scheduled to close at the same time they ended and I had to keep an eye on it. The last hour of the Art Show is a hectic time but I did not want to miss Julie Wall's big moment (as I suspected she might win an award).



From left to right, a bit of Julie Wall, Linda and Bill Zielke, Charlotte Proctor, Toni Weisskopf and Hank Reinhardt. I believe Charlotte is holding a Rowan twin here but all you see is the arm. Bill recently had a 55th Birthday Bash at his place. Toni got a late night call from Julie from the hot tub that night. I got the same call when Julie was at the Linda's retirement party earlier in the year. It was a fun party and I ended up sleeping on the basement floor that night.

Vincent Di Fate was the Artist Guest of Honor. I wish I had been able to go to his panels. He is an excellent speaker and a real gentleman. I did get him to sign his book, *Infinite Visions*, for me when he was in the Art Show. He was nice enough to give a walking tour of the Art Show, in place of a panel that was cancelled as another artist guest did not show up that weekend.



Allen Steele, Guest of Honor, was the winner of the Phoenix award this year. He seemed quite happy about it. I nominated and voted for him to win so I'm glad he won



But best of all, Julie Wall, won the Rebel award! It could not happen to a more deserving fan. I nominated and voted for her also. The award is proudly displayed in her home and thrust into visitors' hands often (okay once, when I was there recently).

The awards feature pieces of the NASA Shuttle tile material (not flown), and not creamy nougat as some people (okay me) claim. Mike Kennedy was the administrator of the awards this year.



Rosie Lillian was the surprised winner of the Rubble award (or Robe'l as some people call it) this year. I believe the justification was for her marriage to Guy Lillian. Gary Robe presented the award in gleeful manner.

The Masquerade was run by Sue Thorn, who sharp-eye readers will note also won an award in the Art Show for one of her beaded jewelry pieces. There were not a lot of entries but it was short and sweet. The best costume in my opinion was "Pretty Fly for a Jedi", shown here.



In the crowd at the Masquerade were two women who have become infamous in helping run the, always fun, Xerpes room parties at many conventions. They are fun people, as shown by their choice of alien hat wear.



DOWN BACK

Well, I hope everyone enjoys the rest of his or her summer. I hope to get back to doing some mailing comments next issue (really). I am really desperate to do some serious art. I just need to break all my bad time wasting habits. Take care until next time. :-)

Sincerely,



Randy B. Cleary

