



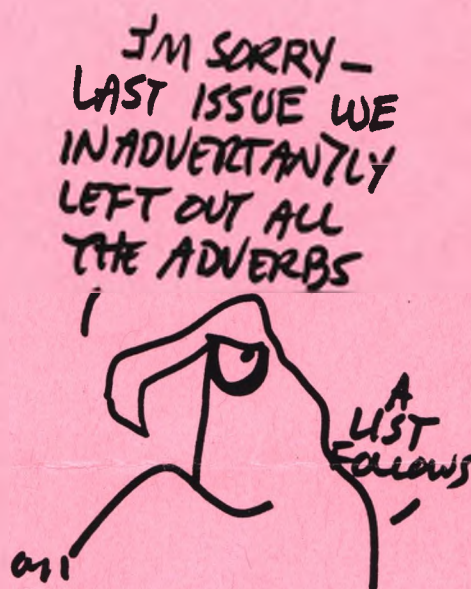
Editor's Notes

by Mike Glyer

Next issue will have a theme: a **health checkup on science fiction clubs**. I started drafting my thoughts about the topic three years ago and it's turned out to be one of the most challenging projects I've attempted.

Why do we care if our local science fiction club survives? Some fans, thinking of their club's huge sf collection, charitable contributions to libraries, support of the space program, or news-filled publications, may get sidetracked into believing the club has earned a right to survive as some kind of public institution. But all of these accomplishments happen because club members volunteer to do the work: whatever motivated them to work came before any of this institutional apparatus. So what was it? Next issue features a discussion of that question by fans with sharply conflicting opinions.

Mike Stern repeated a news story at LASFS about a member of Parliament in visiting a children's library in New York where the original Pooh animals reside in a glass case. The MP ungratefully complained that the stuffed animals looked unhappy, saying that was understandable since they have been incarcerated inside a glass case in a foreign country all these years. Someone mentioned the Elgin Marbles, and Mike agreed, "When the British lose their marbles they'll get their poohs back." Though it seems at least one MP already has a lot of pooh where his marbles ought to be.



New Walt Willis Collection Planned

Last fall Robert Lichtman filled in a complete run of the long-defunct British science fiction magazine, *Nebula*. All but one of its 41 issues carried a fan column by Walt Willis, initially called "The Electric Fan" and then, after a one-issue interruption, "Fanorama."

"Many of these are wonderful little gems," Bob writes, "and all of them are at least interesting. Quite a few include fanzine reviews. Walt did these columns between 1952 and 1959 -- and a final,

orphaned installment appeared in the first annish of my first fanzine, *Psi-Phi*."

Bob plans to collect the columns in one volume and make them available to contemporary fandom. "Since I don't have to retype any of them except the one that appeared in my fanzine, it will all be easy. My copier has one enlargement-setting, which happens to blow up these digest-sized pages to full letter-size, and I've gone through and made copies of all the columns. Most are two pages, but a few go on another page."

Now he's looking for introductory material. Anyone who came into fandom as a result of reading Walt's columns (with or without other factors) is welcome to submit introductory material for the collection. Bob would like to receive your material by August 1st, so he can publish the collection in September.

Advance orders are also needed to make production feasible: "I have to have a minimum print run of 100 copies to get a decent copying price. I need enough pre-subscribers to feel comfortable going ahead, and the edition will be larger than 100 if lots of fans respond. So, for pre-publication orders received by September 1st, the price is \$8 (US) postpaid to anywhere (by book rate). After September 1st, the price is \$10 (US). Profits above costs will go to TAFF. In case I don't get sufficient pre-publication orders to go ahead with the project, people should indicate when ordering whether they want their money returned or donated to TAFF." Address: Robert Lichtman, P.O. Box 30, Glen Ellen, CA 95442 USA.

File 770 124

File 770:124 is edited for the 20th year in a row by Mike Glyer at P.O. Box 1056, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Special "news of the same stripe" issue. Telephone number: (626) 355-3090. E-mail: MGlyer@compuserve.com

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Art Credits

Alan White: Cover
Ray Capella: 3, 11
Alan White: 12, 16
Bill Rotsler: 2, 15
R'kandar Korra'ti: 5

www.lezombie.com

Bob Tucker sent a note asking, "Were you aware of the web site for the joke convention on the moon in 2001? <http://www.sfsite.com/~silverag/clavius.html>"

The news is not the existence of a clever tribute to Clarke's 2001 series, but the awesome implication that Bob Tucker knows *anything* has a website. It confers a previously unhopd-for degree of legitimacy on the Web. What next? A Pong category for websites?

Not Gone With the Wind

Tornados tore through the Nashville area on April 16, doing an estimated \$145 million of damage. Tom Feller, editor of the *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin*, immediately reassured everyone that he and Anita were all right. Tom had actually been in Mississippi that day; back home Anita had phone service but no electricity. They were able to return to work on April 22.

Tom wrote online, "We have not heard of any injuries among Nashville fans. A tree fell on the house of Charlie Williams (Anita's ex-husband).... Our neighborhood was undamaged and never lost power. However, Debbie Hussey and several other people were without power over the weekend."

There was no loss of basic fannish services: "The post office where Anita and I rent our box survived, despite being in the tornado's path. The building next to it lost its roof, however."

Nor was the local convention schedule interrupted: "Parthekhan is still on. The hotel was in the part of Nashville undamaged by the storm."

Indeed, Nashville's hotels were open. With the hilarious insensitivity characteristic of chamber of commerce types, Nashville Convention and Visitors Bureau exec Butch Spyridon assured everyone, "Most of the major damage occurred in the residential areas, which does not affect a visitor's stay in Music City."

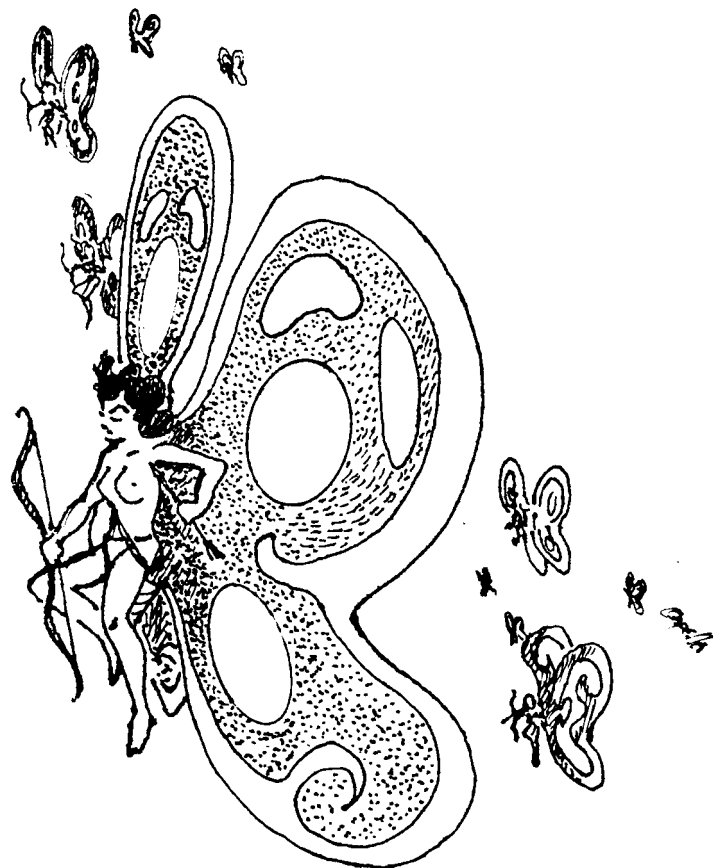
A Bidder Aftertaste

The San Francisco in 2002 committee has adjusted its proposed dates for a Worldcon due to a scheduling conflict with the preceding event in the Moscone Convention Center. Now its dates would be Friday, August 30 through Tuesday, September 3, 2002.

The Fancy Food Show's late move-out forces SF2002 to defer its own move-in until Thursday, and its opening to Friday. The Moscone is in such demand that bidding another summer weekend is not an option, and the committee is unwilling to trim the worldcon to four days.

The bid's website is

<http://www.sfsfc.org/worldcon>



Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund

TAFF Winner Announced: Maureen Kincaid Speller has won the 1998 TAFF race. Martin Tudor supplies the details:

	<u>N.Am.</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Chris Bell	12	41	0	53
Bridget Hardcastle	14	27	0	41
Maureen Kincaid Speller	42	76	3	121
No Preference	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>
Total ballots	75	145	3	223

Maureen has already posted itinerary online. She and her husband, Paul, will tour Washington D.C. before attending BucConeer. They'll leave with the Nielsen Haydens and spend a week in New York. After they visit Chicago, Paul will fly home. Maureen will continue on to Minneapolis, Seattle, Portland, Eugene, San Francisco and Los Angeles, then fly home from New York on October 28.

1999 TAFF Race: And without pausing a beat, Ulrika O'Brien announces that nominations are open as of May 1, 1998 for the 1999 North America to Europe TAFF race. The winner will attend Reconvene, the 50th British National Science Fiction Con-

vention (Eastercon), April 2-5, 1999 at the Britannia Adelphi, Liverpool, England.

Prospective North American candidates should ensure that signed nominations (two from Europe and three from North America) reach the Administrators by midnight on July 25, 1998, along with their 100-word platform and 10(UKP)/20(USD) bond. Bond checks should be made out in the name of the administrator they are sent to.

TAFF also very gratefully accepts freely given donations of money or auction goods -- such donations are the sole support the Fund has, and have sustained it for over 40 years.

European Administrator: Maureen Kincaid Speller, 60 Bournemouth Rd., Folkestone, Kent, CT19 5AZ Great Britain

North American Administrator: Ulrika O'Brien, 123 Melody Ln., #C, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 USA

To TAFF and Back: Ulrika O'Brien's TAFF itinerary promised to cram more British fannish experiences into one trip than was previously thought humanly possible.

She came home and posted, "Thanks to all the long-suffering souls who put me up, shuttled me around, smiled politely at my lame jokes, made me tea, plied me with wicked liquor, barely ever gave me the fair chance to buy a round, sweetly propositioned me while in their cups, rearranged schedules to accomodate me, took me punting and let me weasel out of doing any of the work, leant me umbrellas to prevent rain, and all with amazing warmth and good humor." ...And about four more paragraphs of personal thanks that are tantalizingly like the outline of a trip report. Ulrika plans to follow up with a real trip report: "The last three published trip reports have been British -- it's time to keep the American end up."

There'll probably be a whole chapter on attending the Tun, judging by what Jim Trash posted about April's gathering: "Caught sight across the bar of someone waving. Who 'sat? Moments passed. I stared back blankly and eventually memory stretched back a whole three weeks to Corflu to remember here was famous Taff winner Ulrika quaffing beer and making notes. I joined her for a drink and a conversation with many peculiar pauses while she wrote everything in her book. She's convinced that if she really works at it she'll beat Rob Hansen's 10 years to publish his trip report."

Her strenuous trip was more like the Boston Marathon, with a "Heartbreak Hill" at the end as she worked shifts in the Eastercon green room.

Well, it might not have been quite that rough. When I asked her about the con Ulrika replied:

"It was a bit embarrassing having a tendency to attract an entourage while working my shift, but as there were long lulls with not much to do, it didn't seem too disruptive. (I was working the Britannia Green Room, which was entirely open plan, being located on the first floor landing to be central to the various programming rooms which were distributed at various levels around the central stairwell, as well as to the two bars which we had to go to to fetch the guests their drinks. The open plan meant that it was trivial, and commonplace, for fans wan-

dering buy who knew me to spot me, and pull up a chair to hang out for a while, which left me feeling a bit rock-and-hard-spottish, seeing as on the one hand, I was TAFF delegate, and didn't want to discourage people being social, and on the other hand it seemed a bit unfortunate to be clogging up the Green Room with random folks.

"Happily, Cathy Westhead who was our half of the Green Room boss couple, didn't mind at all."

New TAFF Trip Report: Martin Tudor has published *Have Bag, Will Travel*, about his 1996 TAFF trip to L.A.con III and across America. The 66-page account is based on chapters of the instant reports he distributed en route, surely one of the more astonishing accomplishments in fannish annals. Cover art and clever interior illustrations are supplied by Dave Hicks.

Printed copies are available outside the UK for the equivalent of 8 UKP (which includes postage). Make US dollar checks payable to Ulrika O'Brien. Order from Martin Tudor, 24 Ravensbourne Grove, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV13 1HX, U.K. The text is also available from:

<http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/SF-Archives/Taff/>

[[Taff sources: Martin Tudor, Ulrika O'Brien, Gary Farber]]

Down Under Fan Fund

Terry Frost will be the 1998 DUFF delegate to BucConeer. Fund administrators Janice Murray and Perry Middlemiss have finalized the results. They extended the election a week, with the candidates' consent, to maximize voting:

	<u>Aust</u>	<u>N.Am.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Susan Clarke	14	15	29
Terry Frost	26	46	72
No preference	2	17	19
Hold Over Funds	-	1	1
Write-In	-	1	1
Total	42	80	122

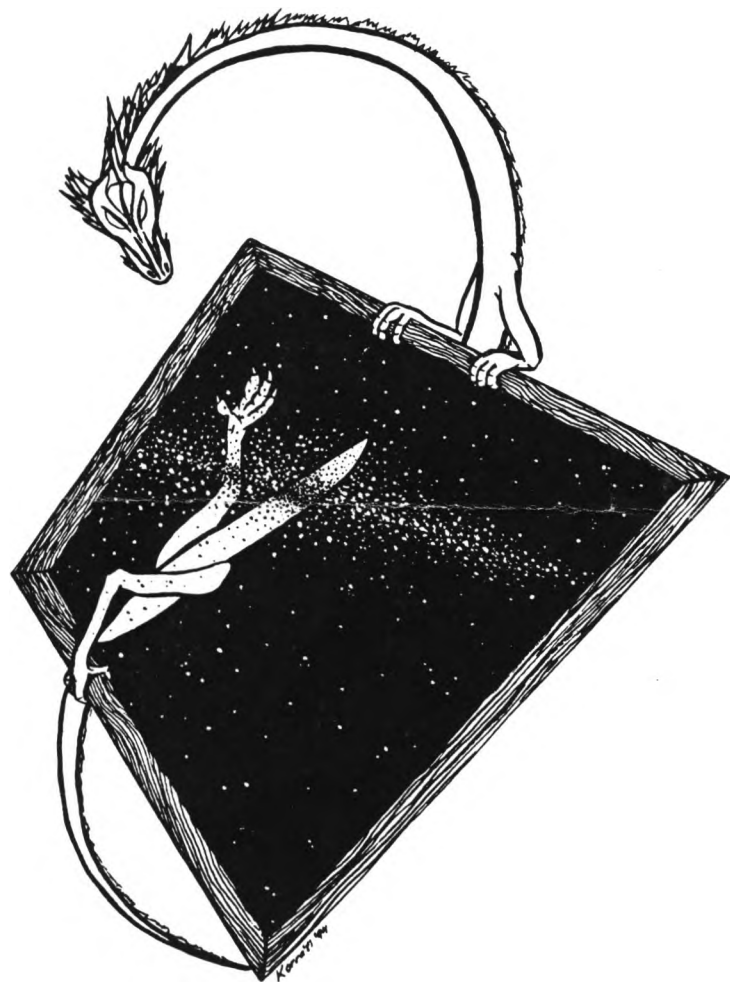
Both administrators expect to publish newsletters detailing the Fund's current finances and listing the voters in the 1998 contest. Within the next few months they will announce the dates for the 1999 race. Perry believes, "Given the fact that next year's worldcon will be held in Melbourne, Janice and I are anticipating a sizeable field of candidates from North America."

Fan Fund of Australia/New Zealand

FFANZ is working hard to deserve its obscurity. This year's election rivals last year's CUFF proceedings for the shortest fan fund race ever run.

According to Marc Ortlieb's *Australian Science Fiction Bullshead* 98, the ballots were first seen on May 8 and the voting deadline was May 15.

In case that's not enough reason to ignore FFANZ in 1998,



Renaldo the Party Sheep is one of the candidates. The other candidates are the team of Phil Wlodarczyk and Frances Papworth, who will accompany Renaldo if he wins.

Marc pleads, "Come Back Rogers St. Laundry Door. All is forgiven."

The Polar Route

CUFF, the Canadian Unity Fan Fund, has been contested again, in a race officiated by last year's winner, R. Graeme Cameron. Yvonne and Lloyd Penney were the lone candidates and won by acclamation. They will go as CUFF delegates to Con*cept '98/Boreal '98/CanVention 18 in Montreal this October, a con where they were also GoHs at last year.

Past winners of the Canadian Unity Fan Fund are:

- 1981: Michael Hall, Edmonton
- 1988: Taral Wayne, Toronto
- 1989: Robert Runte, Edmonton
- 1990: Paul Valcour, Napean
- 1992: Linda Ross-Mansfield, Winnipeg
- 1996: Rene Walling, Montreal
- 1997: R. Graeme Cameron, Vancouver

Even American fans can donate to CUFF: "Your money will be

accepted at par," winks The Graeme. Contact him at #110 - 1855 W. 2nd Ave., Vancouver, BC V6J 1J1, Canada.

Smith to Russia; Leeper to Turkey

Here are the latest moves in the fannish edition of Diplomacy:

T.R. Smith said the State Dept gave her the good news first, "We have to go through a Senate confirmation!" Then, "They told me I'm going to Siberia."

The whole truth is that T.R. asked for Yekaterinburg. "What can I say -- it seemed better than Lagos, Nigeria!"

Many of you will remember Yekaterinburg as the city in which Nicholas and Alexandra were murdered and buried, though lately their remains have been shifted to Moscow, awaiting ceremonial reinterment in St. Petersburg with the rest of the Romanovs.

So the Czars will miss wintering in Siberia, but T.R. will not: "If all goes as planned, I will be leaving in September, so I'll have a month to get used to it before the snow sets in. Hooray!"

Meantime, **Evelyn Leeper** is touring Turkey and will be expected to come home and post another fascinating epic travelogue.

Pirates' Apprentices

BucConeer's Student SF Contest has drawn over 100 entries in the various categories. There are about 15 entries in each of the three age-groups for the science fiction or fantasy story, about 30 entries in the art category and one entry in the science essay.

C.J. Cherryh, Michael Whelan and Charles Sheffield have agreed to be finalist judges.

There's been a spate of complaints from fans having trouble booking the nights they want through the **Housing Bureau**. Out of the first 400 reservations there were 25 complaints, and there have been more since.

And back on the Spanish main, pirate **Lance Oszko** almost got his keel spliced by the rest of the crew when he revealed that, unknown to them, he was organizing and had already arranged sponsors for a major party that would conflict with the worldcon's own opening night reception. The plan came to light when Lance asked for the use of a ballroom!

They almost didn't have any mad left over when they learned that on his own hook (so to speak), Lance had contacted the Maryland Governor's office and invited him to attend BucConeer....

Thought You'd Want to Know

The LASFS Library's copy of *Inferno* is personally autographed by "Lorenzo Niven & Hieronymous Pournelle."

If the Libel Suit is Filed by 2001 Will It Be Settled by 2010?

Arthur Clarke and his executive secretary, Roshan Amarasekhara, in online statements distributed by the *SFWA Bulletin*, say the London *Sunday Mirror*'s attempts by the paper to link Clarke's name with people suspected to be involved in child-abuse cases have proved to be fabrications. The May *Locus* also declares "Clarke Vindicated in Sri Lanka."

The statements actually made to reporters by Sri Lankan Deputy Inspector General of Police, M. S. M. Nizam, are less resounding. He told the AP wire service he was satisfied that Clarke had violated no laws. He gave a conflicting statement to the *South China Morning Post* (Hong Kong) that they were still pursuing the investigation against Clarke.

According to Roshan Amarasekhara, Clarke's secretary, "The disgraceful allegations made against Sir Arthur by a British Sunday paper have now been conclusively demolished. The local broadcaster who had taped some of the most serious charges has now sworn, under oath, that they were completely false..... In a last-ditch effort to maintain credibility, the London paper now claims to have an incriminating tape. This is in fact a tape which Sir Arthur insisted on making himself, and giving to the reporters, expressing his abhorrence of any form of sexual exploitation -- especially that involving children. Some of his statements have been deliberately taken out of context, to convey the exact opposite of his meaning."

Clarke is now styled Sir Arthur, despite cancellation of his ceremonial investiture planned in connection with Prince Charles' visit to Sri Lanka for its 50th Independence Day Celebrations. Clarke did get to attend the Independence Day Banquet. There he was photographed laughing together with Prince Charles; one of these photos appears on the cover of *Locus*.

Sir Arthur writes about a potential lawsuit, "If I do receive any of the compensation to which I feel morally entitled, it will all come to Sri Lanka. And it will be used to support genuine children and

young persons' organisations here, as well as the Ragama Rehabilitation Hospital, of which I am honoured to be Patron."

The Geis Letter devoted pages to this story, giving its own unique slant. Geis even had a comment left over for *Ansible*, which should have been headlined, "Once A Knight Is Not Enough."

Time is Out of Joint

The nominees for the Sidewise Awards for Alternate History have been announced. The award, founded in 1995, is named for Murray Leinster's short story "Sidewise in Time." Qualifying fiction is divided between between long and short form, with the breakpoint at 60,000 words:

Long Form

Peter Delacorte, *Time on My Hands* Dell 1997, Gollancz 1998

Michael Swanwick, *Jack Faust*, Avon 1997, Millennium 1997

Harry Turtledove, *How Few Remain*, Del Rey 1997, Hodder & Stoughton 1998

Short Form

Lee Allred, "For the Strength of the Hills," *Writers of the Future XIII*, Bridge, 1997

Eugene Byrne & Kim Newman, "Teddy Bear's Picnic," *Interzone* 122-123

Roland J. Green, "The King of Poland's Foot Cavalry," *Alternate Tyrants*, Tor
William Sanders, "The Undiscovered," *Asimov's* 3/97.

A **Special Achievement Award** is being given to Robert Sobel's, *For Want of a Nail*, MacMillan, 1973; Greenhill, 1997

Nominations are currently being accepted for the 1998 awards. See: <http://www.skatecity.com/ah/sidewise>

His Comp List Is As Long As This Bus

The publicists for the new *Godzilla* movie ruthlessly tracked down Chicon 2000 chairman Tom Veal and insisted he take 20 or 30 free tickets to a sneak preview in Chicago. Tom gave the tickets away to local committee members "since I don't want to see it 20 or 30 times simultaneously." Tom obviously will not be a candidate for the 1998 Sidewise Awards.

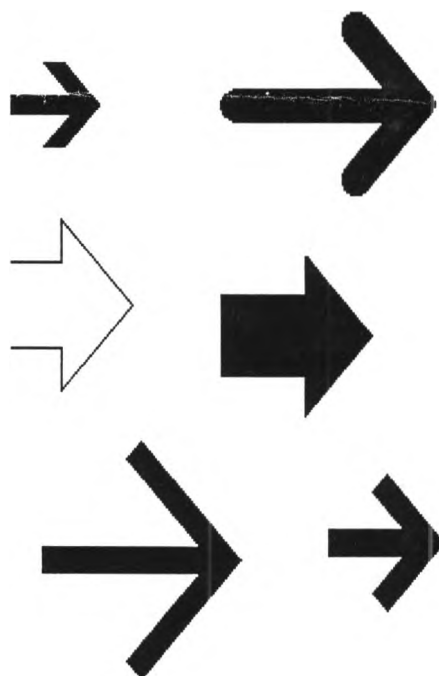
Return to The Planet of Bids-at-a-Glance

Last August *File 770* saluted "Bids-at-a-Glance," that very handy reference tool invented for *Jane's Fighting Smofs* by Scott and Jane Dennis.

Their "Magazine of SF Convention Bidding" was filled with tantalizing gossip as well as sound technical advice. *Jane's* best-remembered feature was a summary of the essential information about Worldcon, NASFiC, DeepSouthCon and Westercon bids in a single two-page spread.

File 770 is reviving the idea and every few issues will present Worldcon bid information in a side-by-side comparison chart.

The bidding scene has really changed since the first version that appeared in August: the Boston in 2001 bid has become an Orlando bid, SF in 2002 has announced a date change, and the Berlin in 2003 bid has dropped off the map.



Survey Questions

1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?

2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other hotels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space available (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?

3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact address? Your web page address (if any)?

4. How many hotel rooms are available for con members within the following distances of your main facility?

- (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km)
- (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-.4 km.)
- (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-.8 km.)
- (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)

5. Do you offer presupporing memberships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bids policy for redeeming presupporing memberships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending membership)?

6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)?

7. What is your bid's policy on the handling and distribution of any post-convention surplus (have you committed to pass-on 50% of profits to future Worldcons that have made a similar pledge)?

BOSTON IN 2001

Chairman: Deb Geisler; Treasurer: Tim Szczesuil; Secretary: Ann Broomhead; Other members: Claire Anderson, Dave Anderson, Bonnie Atwood, Ted Atwood, Judy Bemis, Seth Breidbart, Dave Cantor, Elisabeth Carey, Chris Carpenito, Gay Ellen Dennett, Ed Dooley, Michael Drawdy, George Flynn, Pam Fremont, Lisa B. Hertel, Melanie Herz, Chip Hitchcock, Saul Jaffe, Rick Katze, Allan Kent, Deborah A. King, Kenneth Knabbe, Alexis Layton, Tony Lewis*, Suford Lewis, Paula Lieberman, John Lorentz, Jim Mann, Laurie Mann, Richard C. Maynard, Mark L. Olson*, Priscilla Olson, Kelly S. Persons, Tim Roberge, Ruth Sachter, Sharon Sbarsky, Joe Siclari*, Davey Snyder, Dick Spelman Edie Stern, Leslie J. Turek*, Pat Vandenberg, Monty Wells, and Ben Yalow. (* denotes past Worldcon chairmen) The officers of the convention, by tradition, are elected April Fool's Day of the voting year.

Walt Disney World Swan (a Westin) & Dolphin (a Sheraton), at Walt Disney World, and attached conference center. Altogether, they include 254,000 sq. ft. of meeting and exhibit space (in ballrooms and exhibit halls) and 72 meeting rooms.

Boston for Orlando in 2001/MCFI
P.O. Box 1010
Frammingham, MA 01701-1010 USA

E-mail: info@mcfi.org

Web page: <http://www.mcfi.org>

(A) Room Block of 1,850 in Swan & Dolphin; total rooms in Swan & Dolphin, 2,267 (including 195 suites).

(B)-(D) More than 20,000 additional hotel room choices within the Walt Disney World resorts complex and in close proximity. Free transportation within Walt Disney World resorts property.

Presupporing memberships: \$10
Precprossing memberships: \$20.01
Preambivalent memberships: \$50.00
Friends of Boston for Orlando in 2001: \$60.00

Friends of Boston for Orlando in 2001 who vote in site selection will automatically be converted to full, attending membership at no additional charge. Other fixed discount policy will be set by the committee within the next two months.

Massachusetts Convention Fandom, Inc. (MCFI) is a 501(c)(3) organization.

As the originator of the current pass-on pledge, we will participate in the pass-on funds tradition. Some surplus may be used to produce a memory book, such as the ones distributed at Noreascon 2 and Noreascon 3. Other surpluses will be distributed to the benefit of fandom, TAFF, DUFF, etc.

PHILADELPHIA IN 2001

Chair: Todd Dashoff; Vice Chair: Gary Feldbaum; Secretary: Lew Wolkoff; Treasurer: John Syms; Other members: Yoel Attiya, Barbara Attiya, Tim Binder, Bridget Boyle, Joni Brill Dashoff, Ira Donewitz, Bill Farina, Rich Ferree, Tony Finan, Mike Fisher, Rosemarie Freeman, Larry Gelfand, Terry Sisk Graybill, Joyce Carroll Grace, Barbara Higgins, Robert Himmelsbach, Becky Jollensten, Rebecca Kaplowitz, Lynn Cohen Koehler, Alex Latzko, Danny Leiberman, Lois Mangan, Warren Mayer, Wilma Meier, Ed Metesky, Skip Morris, Phil Nathanson, Gene Olmstead, Sara Paul, Jeff Poretzsky, Pete Radatti, Cathy Olanich Raymond, Mark Roth, Hank Smith, Rich Stoddard, Laura Paskman Syms, Mark Trebing, Margaret Trebing, Bob Schwier, Winona Whyte-Schwier, Tess Wade, Lew Wolkoff. Overseas Representatives: Martin Hoare, Kees Van Torn

Pennsylvania Convention Center, a four-year-old facility located in the center of Philadelphia. The Center contains: Exhibit Halls (A-D) 430,000 sq. ft; Grand Hall 55,000 sq. ft; Ballrooms/Meeting Rooms 117,000 sq. ft.

The Center is connected by a pedestrian bridge to the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel (1400 rooms blocked). Marriott: 41 meeting rooms with 88,000 sq. ft.

Philadelphia in 2001
Suite 2001, 402 Huntingdon Pike
Rockledge, PA 19046

E-mail: phil2001@netaxs.com

Web page: www.netaxs.com/~phil2001

While we do not have a breakdown yet by distance, there are currently 6600 rooms within walking distance of the Convention Center. There are 1200 rooms in the Marriott (one block away), with 200 more to be added. The Courtyard Marriott (one block south of the Center) and has 500 rooms. The Hawthorne Suites (1-1/2 blocks north) has 300 rooms.

New hotels are being built across from the Marriott and one block east of the Center. They are scheduled to be open by 2000, although we are not yet counting these hotels in our plans.

Presupporing memberships: \$10. While we cannot guarantee a fixed discount for presupporers at this time, due to the fact that prices (conversion and function space rental costs) are still being calculated, we will give some benefit to those people who have presupported the bid, although not necessarily the entire amount of their presupporing membership.

Yes, we are a 501(c)(3) organization

We will participate in pass-along funding.

Survey Questions

1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?

2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other hotels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space available (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?

3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact address? Your web page address (if any)?

4. How many hotel rooms are available for con members within the following distances of your main facility?

- (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km)
- (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-.4 km.)
- (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-.8 km.)
- (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)

5. Do you offer presupporting memberships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bids policy for redeeming presupporting memberships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending membership)?

6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)? If not, please define how your bid is organized (unincorporated group, for-profit corporation, whatever)

7. What is your bids policy on the handling and distribution of any post-convention surplus (have you committed to pass-on 50% of profits to future Worldcons that have made a similar pledge)?

SEATTLE IN 2002

Chairperson: Pat Porter; Vice-chairperson: Dick O'Shea; Secretary/treasurer: Linda Denieroff. Others: Jack Beslanwitch, Fran Beslanwitch, Rick Bligh, Vickie Bligh, Keith Johnson, William Sadorus, Ben Schreiber, Jody Franzen, Lou Anna Valentine, Eric Weber, Sally Woehrl, Richard Wright, Eric Weber, Rob Taylor, Jane Larson, Conrad Larson, Michael Citrak, Becky Simpson, Ryan Dancy

Our main facility will be the Washington State Convention Center, 250,000 sq.ft.

We will not use the Sheraton Hotel for parties, though we probably will use their lower-floors function space.

Group of Friends/Seattle in 2002
P.O. Box 1066
Seattle, WA 98111-1066.

E-mail address: seattle2002@isomedia.com

Web page:
www.webwitch.com/Seattle02/

(A) currently 1800 rooms within this distance, expected to expand to 2300 by 2001.

(B) There are an additional 1750 rooms at this distance.

(C) And still another 1500 at this distance.

(D) None worth mentioning, unless you want to stay at the airport and travel into the city.

Presupport: \$10.01, Preoppose \$20.02; Friend of the Bid \$100.00 (payable in quarterly installments)

At a minimum we will discount an attending convention membership by the price of the presupport paid. An exact schedule will be determined at a later date.

Yes. Group of Friends is a committee of SWOC, which is a 501(c)(3) organization.

We plan to follow the current standard of passing funds to the qualified, i.e., 501(c)(3), bids eligible at the time of our convention.

SF IN 2002 Dates: Fri., Aug. 30-Tues. Sept. 2

Chair: Kevin Standlee; Deputy Chair: Eric Larson; Vice Chair for International Operations: Cheryl Morgan; Facilities Liaison: Crickett Fox; Secretary: Greg Dougherty; Treasurer: Shirl Roth; Agents: (UK) Steve Davies, Giulia de Cesare; (Can.) John Mansfield; (Aus.) Terry Frost. Others: Gary Alexander, John A. Blaker, Jeff Canfield, Raymond Chuang, David Clark, Tony Cratz, Kathryn Daugherty, James Daugherty, Brenda Daverin, Bob Daverin, Greg Dougherty, David W. Galla-her, John David Galt, Lynn Gold, Lisa Hayes, Craig Howlett, Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Mary Kay Kare, Danny Low, Richard Ney, Pat Nay, Jim Partridge, Julie Porter, Jan Price, Shirley Roth, Ed Rush, Teri Sears, Michael Siladi, Brent Wahl, Michael Wallis.

Moscone Center: Hall D (138,684 sq. ft.); Hall E (37,360 sq. ft.)
(Moscone Center room dimensions available at <http://www.moscone.com/roomcapa.htm>.)

Marriott Hotel: includes Yerba Buena Ballroom, 40,852 sq. ft.; Golden Gate Hall, 23,400 sq. ft. The plans are available on line at <http://www.mttonline.com/hotels/h66f.htm>. We also anticipate using space at the ANA Hotel.

San Francisco in 2002
PO Box 61363
Sunnyvale CA 94088-1363

E-mail address: info@sfsfc.org

Web page:
<http://www.sfsfc.org/worldcon/>

(A)(B) Marriott: 1500 rooms, 133 suites. At least 1200 sleeping rooms will be available to convention members (we're negotiating for more).
ANA: 667 rooms (including suites). We are still negotiating a specific room block allocation.

(C)(D) Although there are a large number of hotel rooms in downtown San Francisco in a variety of price ranges within these distances, we are not at this time actively negotiating for additional sleeping rooms. We believe that the Marriott and ANA contain between them sufficient rooms to meet our members' needs.

	US\$	AUS\$	CAN\$	GBP
Pre-Supp.	20.02	25	25	12
Pre-Opp.	49.00	60	60	30
Friend	100.00	125	125	60

All classes receive brass cable car pin. Friends receive a custom-imprinted Lands' End item. Pre-Supporting and Friend members receive low membership numbers, Pre-Opposing receive high membership numbers.

Pre-supporters will receive a discount toward their membership of at least as much as they paid in as pre-supporters.

Yes. SF in 2002 is a committee of San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization. Note that San Francisco in 2002 is a bid committee only. Should we win, we anticipate handing off to a Worldcon Operating Committee whose composition has not yet been determined, but will be a different standing committee of SFSFC Inc.

We are committed to participating in the "pass-along funds" program which has been in place since 1989. Confrancisco, the 1993 Worldcon, which was also an SFSFC Committee, passed along approximately \$12,000 in surplus funds to its three successors.

Survey Questions

1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?

2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other hotels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space available (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?

3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact address? Your web page address (if any)?

4. How many hotel rooms are available for con members within the following distances of your main facility?

- (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km)
- (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-.4 km.)
- (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-.8 km.)
- (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)

5. Do you offer presupporting memberships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bids policy for redeeming presupporting memberships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending membership)?

6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)? If not, please define how your bid is organized.

7. What is your bid's policy for any post-convention surplus? (For example, if a Worldcon bid have you committed to pass-on 50% of profits to future Worldcons that have made a similar pledge?)

CANCUN IN 2003

Co-Chair: David Thayer; Co-Chair: Randy Shepherd; Treasurer: Diana Thayer; Facilities: Dennis Virzi; Publications: Bill Child; Website Administrator: Sharon Sbarsky; Programming: Laurie D.T. Mann; Advisor: Mike Glyer; Advisor: Mark Olson.

Centro de Convenciones, Cancun, Mexico; 54,000 sq. ft. total; (Cancun Ball Room, 29,000 sq. ft.; Cozumel Mtg. Room, 14,000 sq. ft.)

Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Cancun, 30,000 sq. ft. total.

Hyatt Regency Cancun 7,200 sq. ft.

Camino Real Cancun 6000 sq. ft.

Cancun in 2003
c/o David Thayer
P.O. Box 905
Euless, TX 76039-0905 USA

E-mail:
artemis@cyberramp.net

Web page:
world.std.com/~sbarsky/concancun.html

(A)
Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Cancun, 602 rm., (across the street from the convention center.); Hyatt Regency Cancun, 300 rm. (one block away)

(B)
Camino Real Cancun, 381 rm.

(D)
17,000 additional hotel rooms on the island of Cancun

\$7 US (to US address)

UKP 5 to: Kim Campbell, 69 Lincoln St., Leeman Rd., York YO2 4YP U.K.

A\$10 to: Ian Gunn & Karen Pender-Gunn, P.O. Box 567, Blackburn, Victoria 3130 Australia

\$10 Canadian to: Ron Gillies, 5416 48 Street, Lloydminster, Alberta T9V 0J7 Canada

Probable \$3-5 discount on attending memberships to presupporters, who vote in site selection in 2000.

We are currently an unincorporated literary group, Sociedad de Ciencia Ficción, but are applying for 501(c)(3) status.

We are committed to passing on 50% of our profits to WorldCons who have made a similar pledge.

TORONTO IN 2003

Bid co-chairs: Larry Hancock and Mike Glicksohn; Committee Chairs: Legal: Ken Smookler and David Warren; Finance and Membership: Raymond Alexander; Electronic Communications: Alex von Thorn; Events: Marah Searle; Hotel and Facilities: Jody Hancock; Human Resources: Lloyd and Yvonne Penney; Publications: Athena and Peter Jarvis; Sponsorship: Peter Halasz; Timeline: Lloyd and Yvonne Penney; Recording Secretary: Yvonne Penney; Chairman Emeritus: John Millard

We are currently pencilled in at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and the Sheraton-Hilton complex. We could also consider the Toronto Congress Centre, near Pearson Airport.

We are in negotiation with the Convention Centre (over 500,000 sq.ft.) for use of the north wing. If we get it, we will also be using the Royal York Hotel [site of the 1973 Worldcon], as well as the Crowne Plaza and the Skydome Hotel, both attached to the convention centre.

Toronto in '03
P.O. Box 3
Station A
Toronto, ONT M5W 1A2
Canada

E-mail:
info@torcon3.on.ca

Web page:
http://torcon3.on.ca

Depends on which site we choose:
i) around the Convention Centre.
ii) around the Sheraton Centre (just over 1/4 mile from the Convention Centre).
iii) around the Congress Centre.

(A)(i) About 2400; (ii) About 2800;
(iii) About 1700.

(B)(i) About 3200; (ii) About 4500;
(iii) About 2500.

(C)(i or ii) About 8,000; (iii) About 6,000

(D)(i or ii) 14,000 hotel rooms in the downtown area; (iii) 10,000 hotel rooms in the airport strip.

Presupporting:
CDN \$20.03 or US \$15.00; benefit, 10% discount on all bid merchandise.

Preopposing:
CDN \$20.04 or US \$15.01. No benefits.

"Eager Beaver" (friend of Toronto in 2003) CDN \$125, US \$100

The value of a pre-supporting membership will be counted towards any other membership of the 2003 Worldcon, if we win the bid.

"Toronto World Science Fiction Convention in 2003" is a non-profit corporation registered in the province of Ontario.

Our general thinking is to pass along funds to future Worldcons, to develop and strengthen fan organizations in the Toronto area, and perhaps to keep some seed money to support future bids. Basically, we think a surplus is likely in a well-located Worldcon, but we're not quite ready to plan for what happens after 2003

Worldcon Bidders Survey, continued

Question 8. What else do voters need to know about your bid?

Boston for Orlando in 2001 is the bid formerly known as Noreascon 4. Because of the extremely high cost of hotels in the city of Boston, we have moved our bid to the beautiful (and affordable!) Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin resorts in Orlando, Florida.

The Walt Disney World Swan (a Westin) and Dolphin (a Sheraton) resorts (the third largest hotel-convention facility in the U.S.) allow us to run a seamless convention day and night. Attached to the Dolphin is a hotel conference center that includes meeting rooms, function space, and exhibit hall.

We do not have to shut down a convention center at 6 p.m. and scatter the evening events to non-contiguous hotels. *Everything will be compact—in two adjacent hotels with a covered walkway between them, and no busy city streets to cross.* Walking time (and effort) will be minimized. There will be a central area for fans to gather—not multiple hotel lobbies scattered around a convention center. The hotels' ambiance is much more pleasant than the "airplane hanger" feel of a convention center.

Choosing this site allows us to keep the traditional Labor Day weekend. The cost of hotel rooms is \$119 Single/Double; \$129 Triple/Quad. Parking is free, as is all transportation within the Walt Disney World resorts complex.

Philadelphia in 2001: We believe we have the committee and the facilities to put on a great Worldcon in the city that started the Hugos. Make sure to stop by our bid table and say hello, and be sure to visit the parties we'll be throwing in the Chesapeake Ballroom on the first floor of the Holiday Inn. We're looking forward to showing attendees a small sampling of what they can expect in Philadelphia in 2001. We'd appreciate your vote for us at Bucconeer :-)

San Francisco in 2002: If you attended ConFrancisco in 1993, you may remember the general layout of the area, but you should know that there have been substantial changes. The construction which members had to dodge in 1993 is over, and the area surrounding the convention center is now the Yerba Buena Gardens park, Center for the Arts, and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. The walkways across the park and a mid-block traffic light on the street that separates Moscone from the Marriott/ANA mean that these two hotels are now even closer to the convention center than they were in 1993.

The distance between the Moscone Center and Marriott in San Francisco is about 350 "Standlees." The shortest-path distances include several sets of stairs; the "flat" distance is somewhat longer, although still not prohibitive.

In addition, we are working with the Marriott Hotel to provide what we consider to be a premier hotel facility to our members, with sixteen elevators to serve the 39 floor property. This is a great hotel, and we think people will be very pleased to attend a Worldcon in it.

Our committee combines experienced veteran conrunners and enthusiastic newcomers with a site in the heart of one of the most-visited cities in the world. It really will be a "Worldcon in a World-Class City."

Seattle in 2002: This is not your father's worldcon.

Toronto in 2003: We throw great bid parties! Look for us at major conventions. If you're running a con with a Worldcon-savvy membership, let us know and we'll see if we can bring a party your way.

Keep an eye on our web site at www.torcon3.on.ca for updates on activities of the bid and activities of Toronto fandom and our local writing community.

The Toronto in 2003 bid is an open coalition with members from every established group of Toronto fandom. The bid committee comprises members from Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, British Columbia,

and New York state. The group includes filkers, 'zine fans, gamers, long-time con-runners, and not a few people who attended the 1973 Toronto Worldcon; we are open to any individual or group who wants to come together to celebrate science fiction and fantasy.

Fortune magazine has rated Toronto the best place in North America to live. The United Nations consistently rates Canada as having the highest overall quality of life among the world's nations, and Toronto as the world's most multi-cultural city, with over 130 ethnic groups speaking over 100 languages.

The Canadian dollar is very cheap, so American and European currencies go farther than in many other places. Toronto is within easy driving distance of most of the Eastern and Midwestern states, and is a global airline hub.

Conventions aren't just about vacation, they are about community, and Toronto has an active SF community, with many conventions, organizations, local writers, stores, etc. We have one of the oldest SF bookstores, Bakka (celebrating its 25th anniversary last year), and perhaps the largest public SF library in the world at the Merrill Collection.

Cancun in 2003: We are recruiting fans from across the US and around the world to help with our bid and convention. With the emergence of e-mail, true WorldCons have become a reality. We are committed to a well-organized bid and convention, with open communication, openness to new ideas, and clear direction key elements. Cancun has much to offer: the facilities, the beach, the culture, the Maya ruins, the sea, shopping, restaurants. We want to put on a convention that is fun for both the attendees and the conrunners.

We will be throwing a bid party Friday night of Bucconeer (opposite the Hugo Nominees party) in the same function space Orlando in 2001 will be using the other nights of the convention. We will be distributing our bid t-shirts to friends of the bid at WorldCon also.

News of Fandom

Medical Updates

Elliot Shorter is back home in Providence and doing well after a double-bypass heart operation. Incredibly, the first thing he did after leaving the hospital was go out for BBQ ribs.

[[Sources: Andy Porter, Vijay Bowen, Gary Farber. *It takes a village...*]]

Vincent Clarke, one of Britain's most beloved fanzine fans, spent his 76th birthday in hospital as doctors tried to determine the cause of his severe physical problems. Doctors have apparently set aside the early diagnosis, reported in *Ansible* 129, of "a severe but unnoticed heart attack." The most recent description of Vince's condition as "mixed connective tissue damage" replaces an interim diagnosis of muscular dystrophy. Rob Hansen's skeptical comment about that diagnosis still applies: "Until this is firmed up, I'll take it with a pinch of salt. It was only a few weeks ago that they were talking about fitting him with a pacemaker."

A faithful visitor, Hansen has posted several times about Vince's physical decline, however he wrote after a visit on May 9 that he found Vince to be "both physically and mentally stronger than last time. His handwriting is getting less shaky and they have him walking with the aid of a walking frame twice a day. Unfortunately, he's still being drip-fed and dreams constantly of real food and drink."

When surgeons operated on **Lan Laskowski** for a bile duct blockage in January, they discovered an abnormal growth. Tests showed it

cancerous. He was scheduled to have the "Whipple" operation in February (removing the duodenum, gall bladder, the head of the pancreas, part of the bile duct and the stomach, and looping the small intestine up to reconnect everything). However, his pancreas was inflamed and that made the operation risky, so he was sent home to recuperate: as Lan says, "There are no drugs to help the pancreas; the body has to do it on its own."

Radiation and chemotherapy with the best doctors in the state of Michigan have contained the cancer and gotten his pancreas back to normal. A CT scan, blood analysis and the surgery will be scheduled.

Lan writes, "The effects of radiation and chemotherapy vary from person to person. I have experienced fatigue, having to rest after slight exertions, some loss of appetite (I've lost over 20 pounds, down from 156 to 180 -- I don't recommend this as a way to diet), stomach pain, some headaches, coughing and some numbness in the extremities. All of this means that I would be a disaster in front of a classroom. Cranbrook Kingswood school has supported me throughout all of this. The paychecks are still coming, and I go to long-term disability in May. I am planning to return to teaching in the fall. I do miss my students, and they have been good at sending me notes, cards and gifts in the mail. I really appreciate them. I've

gotten a lot of morale boosts from fellow faculty, friends and family.

"When Ross Pavlac was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, it was too late for him to recover. Mine was caught early enough that no doctor has said anything about a time limit for me. Also, Ross had his faith to fall back on; since this has happened to me I have regained mine. Prayer has helped me keep my spirits high. And, of course, there is also my wife Kathy who has helped me and cared for me through all of this. I love her dearly.

"As for keeping busy, I have been reading, watching videos and some TV, and working on some projects -- like the Poul Anderson special issue of *Lan's Lantern*. I have read a lot of his work in the past three months and will be writing some articles about him. I am also collecting articles, art, anecdotes, tributes and stories about Poul, so if any readers of *File 770* would like to submit something to me, please feel free to do so. I plan for the issue to be out in the fall of this year (how's that for optimism!), so the deadline is in the summer, say Labor Day."

Lan Laskowski, 2466 Valleyview Drive, Troy MI 48098-5317.

Fans have been saddened to learn that **Gary Anderson** is losing his struggle against a rare form of brain cancer, glioblastoma multiforma, diagnosed eight months ago. Cat Devereaux commented in her latest e-mail update:

"That Gary made Christmas, and was able to celebrate with his friends and family, was a grand conquest in and of itself. He even went to a Victorian Ball and danced (assisted by ladies pushing his wheel chair).



"His 'Strong like Bull' metabolism allowed the doctors to blast him with much more chemo than hardly anyone can stand. They have been able to pour vials of the poisonous chemo in his veins to try and nuke out, or at least keep, the cancer at bay. He has gotten through this while keeping up his immune system to a point that amazes the doctors. During these treatments he's entertained friends, told old war stories and generally partied celebrating life."

Unfortunately, both the disease and the treatments are taking an incredible toll. The last time Gary was able to get out of bed on his own was when he went in for his last chemo treatment two months ago. He sleeps all but a couple of hours per day.

After much soul searching and investigation, his wife Janet has decided to do everything possible to make him comfortable at home. She now has two helpers every morning to move him and give him hygienic care. She thanks the Friends of Gary for making this help possible: the insurance does not cover custodial care.

Janet also thanks all who have sent cards, not only to Gary, but to support her as well. The next few weeks will be the hardest yet, and mail is welcome: 3216 Villa Knolls Dr., Pasadena CA 91107.

Justin Ackroyd was hospitalized to remove a cyst on his jaw, along with a couple of teeth. He's getting better.

[[Source: *Australian Science Fiction Bullshead* #97]]

Short Waves

Linda Markstrom is seeking information on the whereabouts of 50s L.A. fan George Fields. She wants to deliver ego-boo for a painting he did for her late father, Chas. Burbee. Contact her at 10433 Messing Dr., Whittier, CA 90603.

The Oscar: Matthew Tepper has been teasing his e-mail correspondents with the tagline, "***My* boss just won an Oscar.** What kind of week is ***your* boss** having?" Rabbi Marvin Hier is with the organization that produced *The Long Way*



Home, a winning documentary. Matthew wasn't employed by the Wiesenthal Center when the film was made, but another member of LASFS was: Ken Rudolph, who did the movie's animation.

After being in the same location for 25 years, **Bakka Books**, Toronto's SF bookstore has moved. They are now at 598 Yonge St., right on Toronto's main street.

The new **Aussiecon Three** website designed by Tim Richards can be found at: <http://www.aussiecon3.worldcon.org/>

British author **Lionel Fanthorpe** will bid for a place in the Guinness Book of Records by attempting to write an instant 24-hour novel. Fanthorpe, holder of six previous writing marathon records, has chosen to write a follow-up to Lewis Carroll's children's classic "Alice in Wonderland" next week. The author said, "The story of the book is that Alice falls asleep in a library and is woken by a magic bookworm who walks her through a variety of doors, each of which opens another book."

[[Source: *Reuters*, via *Craig Miller*]]

The 1998 **National Fantasy Fan Federation** (N3F) amateur short story contest is open. Contest rules define "amateur" as having sold no more than two stories to professional sf or fantasy publications. For an entry blank, contact Donald Fran-

son, 6543 Babcock Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91606-2308. The deadline for entries is December 1.

Changes of Address

Judy Bemis, new e-mail address: jcbemis@ibm.net

Robbie Bourget (formerly Cantor), 8 Warren Close, Langley, Slough SL3 7UA, Berkshire, England

Genny Dazzo, e-mail address: gdazzo@jpl.nasa.gov

Vincent Docherty, PIM/1, NAM BV, P.O. Box 28000, 9400 HH Assen, The Netherlands. E-mail: vjd@compuserve.com

Gordon Eklund, 4420 - 176th St. SW, #C-3, Lynnwood, WA 98037

George Flynn, P.O. Box 426069, Kendall Square Station, Cambridge, MA 02142

Jim Khennedy, Corpul Pacii (Peace Corps), Str. Anton Crihan, 38A, 2009 Chisinau, Moldova

Shaun Lyon and Chad Jones, 4227 Whitsett Avenue, #4, Studio City, CA 91604

Mark Protection Committee, P.O. Box 426159, Kendall Square Station, Cambridge, MA 02142

Michael Nelson, 3178 Summit Square Drive, Apt. D9, Oakton, VA 22124

Nigel Rowe, e-mail address: nigel@mwpssoft.com

Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame, P. O. Box 3464, Olathe, KS 66063-3464

Craig Smith, 10329 Meridian Ave. N., Apt. A-103, Seattle, WA 98133

Tom Springer, 2255 E. Sunset Bldg. 18, Apt. 2030, Las Vegas, NV 89119

John, Bjo and Kathryn Trimble; Lora and Jason Boehm; 601 E. Foothill Blvd, Monrovia, CA 91016-2403 -- phone: (626) 359-3398; Bjo's e-mail: bjot@juno.com

The Bjo Chronicles: "Oh, the Foothill address is also that of Lora and Jason Boehm. Double change of address. Ya see, moving from TX to CA was a budget-shock, and we can only afford this dandy 1913 Craftsman home if we share expenses. We've already heard all the unasked-for opinions, thanks. If five adults can live for 3 months in a 2 bed-

room, ONE bathroom house, without murdering each other, we'll do fine in a much larger place."

"Our household has been in storage all this time. At least, everyone else is packing. I'm finishing that dye book, which is weeks overdue at this point. Cartoon of Lora's friends moving desk, computer and a madly typing Bjo into a U-Haul.....

"Just before we left TX, in one last act of macro mania, my computer ate our entire Friends and Family mailing list. Also, my e-mail server membership with Flashnet lapsed, and I wasn't told, so I merrily wrote to allen sundry, never knowing my mail wasn't going out. Anyone who should have heard from us earlier, but didn't, that's why. I am reconstructing it, so need new input."

Oil's Well That Ends Well: Vince Docherty has left Oman after five years to work in the main office of NAM (the Shell Exploration and Production company in the Netherlands.) He posted, "I am looking forward to a more lively social life, proper entertainment facilities and faster pace, (but probably not the weather). I will probably be living in Groningen which is a busy university city in the north of the Netherlands. I have also exported my Jeep back to Europe, so I expect to be doing a lot of driving around!"

Nigel Rowe explains, "The new address is at my own domain (MWP Software) so it will be valid for a long time. Sometimes it's so much simpler to take care of things oneself."

"**Genny Dazzo** has started a new job at JPL," writes Craig Miller. "A much further drive but a much cooler e-mail address."

Michael Nelson promised everyone who helped him move a "'Get Out of Bucconeer Free' card, worth exactly as much as the paper it's printed on." Worse yet, the promise came via e-mail.

The Mark of Flynn: "In order to better facilitate the processing and distribution of mail," the Cambridge post office has seen fit to change the World Science Fiction Society, and George Lynn's own Kendall Square Station box numbers. The Postal Service says the old

number will still work for the foreseeable future.

Still Moved and Staying That Way: Danise Deckert sends this update about life as a transplanted Los Angeleno in Ames, Iowa.

"Dan's job is going great (maybe too well -- know any engineers with kids to raise? They are looking....) He is busy and feeling needed. He just had his first review and raise (which was a little unexpected as it was not cheap to relocate us). That was a nice Christmas present.

"I am working again, almost full time. I am working 30 hours a week at a nearby (five minutes away in snow if I hit the light wrong) elementary school as a one-on-one educational assistant to an autistic fifth grader. He has some serious problems and is prone to violence (kicking, scratching, biting mostly). Needless to say, I don't get paid nearly enough for the job (teacher, mediator, etc.) but it is fascinating and the hours and vacations are identical to my kids. That makes up for a lot!"

She adds that you know you are in Iowa when the New Year's Eve *Des Moines Register* lists the Top 10 Farming Stories of 1997.

SF Hall of Fame inductees for 1998 will be announced at ConQuesT 29 in Kansas City over Memorial Day weekend. Its current directors are: Robin Wayne Bailey, James Gunn, Joe Haldeman, Larry Hopkins, Allison Stein, Keith W. Stokes and Ben Thomas-Morgan. See their web page at: <http://home.unicom.net/~sfreader/HoF.htm>

OBITUARIES

Monty Wells

Monty Wells died of cancer on April 15. After NESFA bought its clubhouse, Monty's name suddenly became one of the most frequently-mentioned in *Instant Message* as he served tirelessly as propmaster, major-domo, and handyman. Monty's day job was teaching high school chemistry, where he won awards for excellence.

Lisa Hertel recalled his ironic boast: "In my classic cars group, I'm the smart-

est; at NESFA, I'm the handsomest..."

Laurie Mann's tribute, "Everything I Learned About Buying and Renovating Buildings I Learned from Monty Wells" can be found at: <http://www.city-net.com/~lmann/>

Jackie Causgrove

Jackie Causgrove passed away May 15 at the age of 57. At the peak of her activity she was one of the most well-known Midwestern fans, a writer and fanartist, co-OE of an apa with her significant other, Dave Locke, and a controversial TAFF critic.

She experienced a number of health problems over the past decade, including a mild stroke. More recently she has suffered from increasingly worse emphysema and scoliosis. A little over a year ago she was found to have lung cancer.

Dave Locke, cared for her -- in every sense of the word -- as her conditioned worsened, attending to her needs 24 hours a day so she could remain at their home in Cincinnati. He announced her death with the simple posting, "R.I.P., my love." *[[Sources: D. Gary Grady, Gary Farber, Bruce Pelz]]*

In Passing

Alex Schomburg died April 7 at the Maryville Nursing Home in Beaverton, Oregon (a suburb of Portland) at the age of 92.

Crystal Marvig, an artist reported missing immediately following Minicon this year, was found dead in her car in a slough outside Fargo.

South Australian fan **Allan Bray** died in Adelaide on April 24. Marc Ortlieb recalls, "Allan's place was a delight to visit; he was an inveterate collector of electronic bits and pieces, books, Goon Shows and old motor vehicles and would delight in pulling out some obscure piece of technology from the chaos. My own fanzine publishing career is deeply indebted to Allan's cheerful help. Each visit to get electrostencils made was punctuated by conversation, Goon Show quips and milk coffee in shocking pink mugs with naked ladies as handles, heated in the microwave."

1998 Hugo Nominations

Best Novel

Forever Peace by Joe Haldeman (Ace)
Frameshift by Robert J. Sawyer (Tor)
The Rise of Endymion by Dan Simmons (Bantam Spectra)
Jack Faust by Michael Swanwick (Avon)
City on Fire by Walter Jon Williams (HarperPrism)

Best Novella

"The Funeral March of the Marionettes" by Adam-Troy Castro (*F&SF* 7/97)
 "Ecopoiesis" by Geoffrey A. Landis (*SF Age* 5/97)
 "Loose Ends" by Paul Levinson (*Analog* 5/97)
 "Marrow" by Robert Reed (*SF Age* 7/97)
 "...Where Angels Fear To Tread" by Allen Steele (*Asimov's* 10-11/97)

Best Novelette

"Moon Six" by Stephen Baxter (*SF Age* 3/97)
 "Broken Symmetry" by Michael A. Burstein (*Analog* 2/97)
 "Three Hearings on the Existence of Snakes in the Human Bloodstream" by James Alan Gardner (*Asimov's* 2/97)
 "We Will Drink A Fish Together..." by Bill Johnson (*Asimov's* 5/97)
 "The Undiscovered" by William Sanders (*Asimov's* 3/97)

Best Short Story

"Belulahatchie" by Andy Duncan (*Asimov's* 3/97)
 "Standing Room Only" by Karen Joy Fowler (*Asimov's* 8/97)
 "Itsy Bitsy Spider" by James Patrick Kelly (*Asimov's* 6/97)
 "The 43 Antarean Dynasties" by Mike Resnick (*Asimov's* 12/97)
 "The Hand You're Dealt" by Robert J. Sawyer (*Free Space*, Tor)
 "No Planets Strike" by Gene Wolfe (*F&SF* 1/97)
 (There are six items due to a tie for fifth place)

Best Related Book

Space Travel by Ben Bova with Anthony

R. Lewis (Writer's Digest Books)
The Encyclopedia of Fantasy edited by John Clute & John Grant (St. Martin's Press)
Infinite Worlds by Vincent DiFate (Penguin Studio)
Spectrum IV: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art edited by Cathy Fenner & Arnie Fenner with Jim Loehr (Underwood Books)
Reflections and Refractions: Thoughts on Science-Fiction, Science and Other Matters by Robert Silverberg (Underwood Books)

Best Dramatic Presentation

Contact (Warner Bros./South Side Amusement Company)
The Fifth Element (Columbia Pictures/Gaumont)
Gattaca (Columbia Pictures Corporation/Jersey Films)
Men in Black (MacDonald-Parkes/Columbia Pictures Corporation/Amblin Entertainment)
Starship Troopers (TriStar Pictures/Big Bug Pictures/Touchstone Pictures)

Best Professional Editor

Gardner Dozois (*Asimov's*)
 Scott Edelman (*SF Age*)
 David Hartwell (Tor; *Year's Best SF*)
 Stanley Schmidt (*Analog*)
 Gordon Van Gelder (*F&SF*)

Best Professional Artist

Jim Burns
 Thomas Canty
 David Cherry
 Bob Eggleton
 Don Maitz
 Michael Whelan
 (There are six items due to a tie for fifth place)

Best Semiprozine

Interzone edited by David Pringle
Locus edited by Charles N. Brown
The New York Review of Science Fiction edited by Kathryn Cramer, Ariel Hameon, David G. Hartwell & Kevin

Maroney
Science Fiction Chronicle edited by Andrew I. Porter
Speculations edited by Kent Brewster

Best Fanzine

Ansible edited by Dave Langford
Attitude edited by Michael Abbott, John Dallman & Pam Wells
File 770 edited by Mike Glycer
Mimosa edited by Nicki & Richard Lynch
Tangent edited by David Truesdale

Best Fan Writer

Bob Devney
 Mike Glycer
 Andy Hooper
 David Langford
 Evelyn Leeper
 Joseph T. Major
 (There are six nominees due to a tie for fifth place)

Best Fan Artist

Brad Foster
 Ian Gunn
 Teddy Harvia
 Joe Mayhew
 Peggy Ranson

John W. Campbell Award for best new writer of 1996 or 1997 (not a Hugo)

[Sponsored by *Dell Magazines*]
 Raphael Carter (2nd yr. of eligibility)
 Andy Duncan (2th yr. of eligibility)
 Richard Garfinkle (2nd yr. of eligibility)
 Susan R. Matthews (2th yr. of eligibility)
 Mary Doria Russell (2th yr. of eligibility)

The Simple Art of Hugo Administration: Hugo administrators John Lorentz and Ruth Sachter have caught the usual amount of flak for admitting how they interpreted the rules -- nothing that wasn't forgotten 24 hours and 500 e-mail messages after they posted the explanation.

While some questions are worthwhile, Worldcons are also lightning rods for dizzy complaints like one that L.A.con III received from someone wondering why

Stephen Donaldson never won a Hugo. Co-administrators David Bratman and Seth Goldberg prudently buried my reply:

Top 10 Reasons Why Stephen Donaldson Has Never Won the Hugo

10. Fantasy never wins Hugos
9. Stephen Donaldson *was* nominated, but all his ballots had *Battlefield Earth* in first place and were immediately shredded.
8. Stephen Donaldson is even more depressing than Barry Malzberg, who also never won a Hugo.
7. There is no "Best Octology" category.
6. Nobody told the voters the story was finished.
5. Fans who like Donaldson already spent all their money on his books and can't afford to join the Worldcon to vote.
4. Stephen Donaldson did win a Hugo -- I'm sorry, that was a Yugo...
3. Look, we just got C.S. Lewis nominated -- you'll have to work your own scam if you want a Hugo for Donaldson.
2. Could somebody remind me what new Donaldson novel was out in 1995 -- and why we are answering this question?
1. No Hugos may be given to an author whose book title has been parodied by a prize-winning Masquerade costume. (Lord Bane's Fowl)

Tails of Known Skunk

Deb Geisler, in charge of a committee to humanely remove Mr. Skunk from the NESFA clubhouse, is reduced to the faint hope that with the coming of spring he has decamped to a different climate. "If you see a skunk in a propeller beanie, give him directions to the Lunarians, would you?"

NESFA Clerk Claire Anderson is overwhelmed by demand for up-to-date news from *Instant Message* subscribers "who are unable to smell the evidence in person." Claire answers, "Yes, the skunk is still in residence, favoring us with a low-key blast every few days. (And no, I



don't know whether the skunk had a successful mating season.)" Davey Snyder suggested Claire save that extra work by affixing scratch'n sniff skunk stickers to out-of-town subscribers' copies.

The same meeting heard Sharon Sbarsky read the postcard version of my "Ballad of Mr. Skunk" (to be sung to that well-known tune by Mssrs. Flatt and Scruggs). They immediately appropriated \$50 for an unidentified revenge, warning: "*Be afraid, Mike Glycer, be very afraid!*"

Conventional Reportage

Con*Dor
February 27-March 1, 1998
Town & Country Hotel
San Diego, CA
by Mike Glycer

Con*Dor has the same wonderful qualities as cons I used to go to in the Midwest, like the early Confusions. What a nice little convention is doing in Southern California I couldn't tell you.

We don't do little cons out here. Western conrunners like to see themselves as empire-builders. Local fans also have trouble catching the vision for a small event. San Diegans held ConQuistador for

several years in the 1980's, then folded. Before that, I tried to model Loscon 3 (1977) after Midwestcon: I can't deny our effort at an LA relaxacon felt too much like a big LASFS meeting (325 at that Loscon, compared to 150 at weekly meetings.)

Con*Dor, however, seems an exception to every rule. It uses the familiar sf convention formula (pro guests, multi-track programming, evening events, dealers, art show, etc.) In spite of that it feels like a relaxacon because everything the committee does is based on a charmingly personal approach. A key contributor to the con's success is the head of programming, William Stoddard. Bill really understands the local scene, and has good relationships with many of the creative and interesting fans and pros. Because of the relationships, Con*Dor truly is what all cons strive to become, the place we go to see our friends.

The con kicked off Friday night with fans in concert. Barry Gold sang classic folksongs, including "The Long Watch." There were several more soloists, then a six-member group, Wild Oats, favorite of local coffee houses, specializing in British/Celtic music. Their lead guitarist had long, red hair that he gave a contorted flip when he needed to pull his guitar strap over his head -- always on the verge of insuring the strangulation his maneuver was intended to prevent.

Wild Oats sang straight ballads and novelty songs, only departing from their Celtic canon for the finale. They ended with Talking Heads' "Take Me To The River", led out by the group's two-man woodwind section -- one playing a brightly-painted diggerdoo that throbbed in rhythm like an air conditioner gone mad, and the other playing a kind of antique horn that looked like the musical cousin of that j-shaped pipe under your sink. Both held their instruments jauntily upright and waved them side to side in time like a big band brass section. And that lead guitarist could really wail. It was lots of fun.

Lynn Maudlin followed them, singing several new songs she's written, including "I'm Gonna Kill My Clone"

There was substantial programming

on Saturday. Guest of honor Harry Turtle-dove answered questions from the audience. Those questions often focused on his knowledge of history and devotion to accurate research. That prompted Harry to tell a story on himself, how one of his alternate histories assumed no native Americans and he carefully vetted his vocabulary accordingly. But a fan twitted him for overlooking that a word he used, "woodchuck", is not originally English, it is based on a sound-alike Indian word. Oops.

The panel "Making Long Books Into Short Movies," featured David Brin, Michael Underwood and moderator Lynn Maudlin. David was there because of *The Postman*, Underwood because he is working on a dissertation about *Lord of the Rings* and a studio has proposed to make a film based on the trilogy.

David defended the version of his story presented in *The Postman* -- sort of. He said early versions of the script were nothing like his story, but when Kevin Costner got involved in the project he wanted a script that was more faithful to it, the reason why the final version included any scenes actually taken from the book. This history made David more accepting of the final version. As he said, "When you've been getting hit with a ball-peen hammer for 12 years and they finally stop, it feels really good."

Dave Clark has attended Con*Dor all along, and this year Bay Area fans Kathryn and James Daugherty also flew down. After I discussed the 2001 bids with Kathryn, she turned to James and asked who he was supporting. James answered, "I'm a friend of Boston." Kathryn reminded, "You're also a presupporter of Philly." James seemed surprised: "Am I?" I guess we all know who's getting his vote.

After talking about the disappearance of the Berlin in 2003 bid, Kathryn shared a smofly insight that the San Francisco bidders hope their rival, Seattle, stays in the fight to the 15th round, to discourage overseas bids who, vulture-like, may be looking for

dead bodies and could be tempted to jump into the 2002 race.

Con*Dor is also well connected to the costuming community, so it boasts a nice masquerade. Not very many technical bells and whistles, just beautiful costumes. One fan wore an Elizabethan Peacock costume "four years in the making." Bridget Landry donned an electric-pink, plastic body suit and silver wig to play a performer being chased by a horde of adoring autograph-hunters. The fans stampeding behind her included the guy in the gold Viking propeller-helmet, and a fellow running with his tiny baby in his outstretched arms. (I bet this was not a specially-trained stunt-baby; not a very bright idea.) Another group did a faux "Wild Kingdom" documentary of a multi-color fairy tribe: researchers lured the fairies onstage using Skittles for bait, very funny....

Con*Dor makes 150-200 fans very happy, proving that an astute committee can make small-con values work, even in Southern California.

Intuition (Eastercon)

Manchester, England

April 10-13, 1998

Report by Wolf von Witting

[[Wolf von Witting hails from Saltsjobaden in Germany. He's a frequent contributor to the Intersmof discussion list, where the original version of this report appeared. Wolf, a long-time conrunner and filksinger, was a guest of honor at this

year's SF Tage in Dortmund.]]

General Notes: My primary mission to Manchester was to observe and to learn from the organizational structure of the convention. I love to watch fans at work, to lean back and enjoy the comforting thought that I will not be flogged if something should go wrong.

Preparations: Since it was my first Eastercon, I had a lot of names to put the right faces to and faces to remember where I didn't know the name. The first committee-member I spotted in action was Claire Brialey, in the International Suite on Thursday. It was about that time she found out the stage was not going to be used during the opening ceremony and the whole room had to be refurbished. She acted very professional about this, otherwise "calm and mellow", so my conclusion was that I'd better be quiet until spoken to.

As far as I could tell, there were a lot of no-nonsense people in motion to create an enjoyable convention. Can't say that Intuition ran like a tangerine clockwork, but things came together smoothly. There was not much for me to do, except popping off to the first dinner party with some British, German and Swedish fans. What I like about Eastercon is that I can use all three languages at the same con.

I intended to make a video-documentary of this event, but soon found out that recording program items wasn't generally permitted without an explicit permission of the moderator of the item. Fine! With nine different program streams it is im-

possible to do any good documentary with only one camera anyway. So I decided to use the camera mainly for one specific series of items, which I am particularly fond of (and that was the Filking sessions).

Guests of Honor: The Opening Ceremony was worthy but slightly overstretched. The Guests of Honor were presented: Ian McDonald (so funny that I decided to read one of his books next), Martin Tudor (a man of few words at this point in time -- but he has



been to Sweden, so he must be an okay fan) and Connie Willis (who was stealing the show completely together with Ian). However -- I disagree with her about *Titanic*, but that's just because I've decided to look favorably on whatever James Cameron does (I know it's silly, but I like his work).

One thing that I noticed was that whenever a GoH was in session all parallel program streams (except the films) were paused. This is a very sensible thing to do and I don't know if it is done at every Eastercon -- but it should be so at every con (except maybe Worldcons). Some conrunners forget to honor their GoHs. I think it is important to make a GoH feel that his presence is truly valued and that he or she isn't just a routine program item.

I regret that I didn't find the time to attend any of their program items -- I just hope they were well attended anyway. Ian must be a blast to listen to. Connie was a very nice person and the only one who I got opportunity to speak to, briefly. Martin is a fan I really would have liked to talk with (but Tony Berry and Steve Green wrote in "A Fan for All Reasons" that he isn't happy at all to talk to "those bloody Filkers" -- so I spared him the discomfort, since I'm one of them).

Oops: I was assigned to a competent team at Ops with John Richards as manager, Mike Figg as troubleshooter and his wife Janet as deputy. I got a feeling that Fiona Anderson had given a lot of thought about who was going to be on duty with who. "Will they work nicely together?" I think we did. I'd be happy to work with John, Mike and Janet again -- at any time.

Ops must be the frontal lobe of the convention. It is similar to my work in train traffic control: all problems are routed through Ops. But the fact that this con was so well organized had the effect that there was little for us to deal with on my first shift, Friday morning. Basically I just got acquainted with my own function and with the Ops Manual.

On my second shift, Saturday, we had plenty of time to socialize although we were supposed to be at work. The sheer joy of listening to John and his bitter tale

of early fanhood was only comparable with Mike Cheater's incredibly inspired storytelling in Ratzeburg 1997. One is left with stunning insight on the usefulness of wardrobes and the mirth a refrigerator can bring.

The Gophers soon learned that "Assistance is futile". So did I. The con was just too bloody well organized for us minions to be of much use. I don't intend to complain about this since it gave me plenty opportunity to learn everything that I was curious about. It also gave me an insight into British fandom at such level that I had to ask; "Am I really supposed to hear this?" Apparently it didn't matter.

Frances Dowd (chair -- or sofa) was in once and was asked if N.N. had been excluded from the convention. "No, he has just been forced to leave the hotel!" Since this was a split-site convention he was allowed to carry on in the other hotel (in an orderly fashion). The level of tolerance was admirable and the number of smegheads in charge of anything was negligible. Now I understand why Fran is called the "sofa". She must have a great sense of humor.

Someone equipped with a ballpoint pen added an extra "O" to the sign on our door in the Deansgate Suite. Fortunately our joker didn't go berserk all over the consite. But we didn't have much to go "oops" about, except on our last shift when everyone got tired and strung and when Marcia Illingworth expressed herself as eloquently as ever.

N.N.: "I don't know why you all seem so irritated."

Marcia: "It's because you're an irritating person!" This remark set off a dispute which forced John to intervene with his best skill in diplomacy.

I was unable to see the problem from N.N.'s point of view, but I understand that he was a good man in any case. But it also confirmed the importance of being polite at all time (it can rarely be a mistake). And Marcia is a sweet Tennessee Lady that deserves some respect. Marcia was also Ops Manager for another team with filker Rhodri James as troubleshooter. If she had been more mobile she would have done a damned fine troubleshooter herself, touring the convention for

trouble and then -- shooting it! She can draw fast (verbally), I tell you!

I'm not as quick myself unfortunately (except on duty at the railway) and particularly not in English. I thought that I was pretty good, but have to admit that I still have a lot to learn. I had no idea what Gaffertape was (did I spell that right?). Now I know. It is like the force: "It has a dark side and a bright side and it binds the universe together."

Rafe Culpin came asking for Gaffertape and I looked at him very much the same way that he would have looked at me if I had asked him for *vaevtejp*. Anyway, we couldn't locate the requested item, so John decided that Rafe would have to ask "Tech" for it. "And where is Tech?" The answer was an echo which hung over the consite throughout the entire convention. "It's in the other hotel!"

Random Fandom: Dave Langford did not attend this Eastercon, but *Ansible* #129 was available anyway. I talked to KIM Campbell and came to the conclusion that I just had to go to Glasgow in the year 2000. Putting faces to names was fun, I have always wondered what Helen Joy Hibbert (today she goes under the name Joy Hilbert) looked like. The first British fanzine I've got (about 19 years ago, was by her). But I made damned sure that she wouldn't know (or get curious about) who I was.

I made good contacts with other collectors of science fiction movies on video. David Lally and I will trade some films, I hope. He's got the 1959 sf-film *On the Beach* which is quite difficult to come by. And I'm sure I have some equally rare films to trade.

Paul Treadaway, Dave Clements, Vince Docherty, Steve Davies, Tim Illingworth and Colin Fine. Now I know what they look like, but I don't think we had nearly enough time to socialize in any significant way. To me that is a problem with conventions of this size. I'd like to socialize! It is why I go to conventions. And there is one fan which I didn't get the opportunity to talk to at all -- Maureen Kincaid Speller. I'd like to thank her for *Snufkin's Bum*. And by the time I got back home to Sweden there

was another issue in my mailbox. That's when I went *grmpf* (as Germans sometimes do)! I still don't know which one of the faces she was...

But Cheryl Morgan (*Emerald City*) was there. At this convention I think she had a bad timing for Dinner Parties. She asked when I had already just eaten something. Can it get any worse? Yes it can!

The Norwegian Room Party was scheduled for the same evening as the Filk Concert where I had to participate. I was very eager to get to know fellow filkers. And I did get to know a lot of them.

The Shropshire Suite: ...may become the title of a ballad about this Eastercon. It was on the 4th floor of the Britannia Hotel and witnessed a night to remember. It gathered some of the best Filkers I ever heard (then again -- I haven't heard many). It convinced me that the best filking sessions come around after midnight when all is quiet around and only the most enthused fans attend. It is always nice to have a committed audience. That night some of us carried on until 6:00 a.m., the next night until 3:00 a.m.

Filking fitted nicely into the Centauri decor of this hotel, but I hope that as many as possible of these fine performers will find their way to Dortmund next year, because I really would like to hear and see them again and I will only be able to afford one con abroad in 1999 -- the Eurocon. Previously mentioned Rhodri James was only one of them.

There was Chris Malme, known as "the Minstrel", and author of a song based on AD&D "Against All Gods" (or Take A Look At The Drow) -- I believe it may become an alltime classic. He also did a song about "Friends" which touched me deeply. There was Tim and Annie Walker, both great performers with excellent voices. "A Pint of Contraceptive" was another song, previously unknown to me -- and unfortunately I ran out of tape just as Tim started playing it.

There was another couple, Lissa and Phil Allcock. Phil had a marvelous talent of doing his best things while I was out of battery. Got a part though of "Lies", when Tim, Annie and Mike (what was his

last name?) did charades behind his back in best monkey fashion. The audience fell about.

Rafe Culpin provided some changes of pace by doing a recitation of poems instead of singing. It fitted in rather well. Even Andy Hayton who otherwise is a shy fan joined in on our allnighter (Saturday) and sang. Sometimes it is more important that you sing, rather than that you sing well. Debra Bourne, another quite shy fan suddenly became much more talkative and she folded a small green origami-bird (or was it a dragon?) for me. It is was an atmosphere that brought out the best in fans.

There was Valerie Housden, a lady who could sing of outrageous and bizarre events while she made it sound like a love song. She could also speak German and was well acquainted with the filkers I'd met in Dortmund a couple of weeks ago. I used all the rest of videotapes to record all these wonderful filkers. So, you didn't listen to them? Your loss! I even more or less skipped the Dead Coypu Party, just to hear them one last time. We sat on the second floor in the Britannia, outside where Ops had been and sang into the night, as we had done the night before, and the night before that and the night before that...

When Valerie returned after getting herself a drink (or whatever) and heard us all singing she said: "Are you inventing new harmonies?" Tim looked at her and said: "No!" "Then somebody must be singing out of key rather well!"

Eurocon and so on ...became an issue when Beluga Post finally arrived on Friday evening. He was troubled by domestic inconveniences and felt reluctant to leave home at all. I can understand that -- if my family was ill I would also feel bad about popping off to a con and have fun while they stay at home and suffer. I guess Astrid had to convince him at gunpoint that he would have to go. Now if you think he acted distraught you understand why.

I got my Trinity-Agent-badge and was welcomed into the team. It appears that Beluga and I are equally happy about this. I feel honored to be part of a project of this magnitude and he is very happy

that I join in. I also got "in charge" of the filking sessions at the Eurocon. I will discuss the details of this on the Filk UK mail list. But I hope that I can provide the greatest show of them all, with a little help from my friends. As a matter of fact I will *need* that help. As a filker I'm rather inexperienced but hope for a lot of good advice from Lissa Allcock, among others.

Tom Clegg volunteered as French Agent for Eurocon and we accepted him gladly. It is rather difficult to find an agent for France at all. And we surely don't want to exclude one of Europe's major countries. Tom has also been French agent for Intuition. The situation in France is that about 25% of a convention consists of fans, the rest are professionals. At this year's national French convention in Nancy (where Brian Stableford was GoH) they expected about 200 people to show up. Fandom in France must be smaller than in Sweden.

Sigma TC ...was not as well represented as I had hoped for. Janne Johansson and Marcus Lindeberg came, Michael Pargman came. But we have had a lot of drop-outs due to financial insufficiency. Of course we had also Herman Ellingsen (with whom I shared the experience of the masquerade) and Eckhard D. Marwitz on site... But they mainly represented other interests. I regret that I didn't find more time to spend with my friends in Swedish and German fandom. I think Juergen Marzi was very understanding about this.

I really like to spend more time with the people that I have so much in common with. I may be a railway man, I like trains -- but my heart is still in fandom and that will probably never change. I owe Fiona a big thanks for all the help and good advice she's been giving me for the past year. Suddenly I find myself right in the middle of events.

I don't wish to appear superficial or rush from here to there throughout a convention. This time it was quite a lot of new impressions at once. Perhaps this will change as I intend to return for another Eastercon as soon as possible. I did enjoy myself immensely and I've found a lot of new friends.

The Fanivore

Gregory Benford

You and Harry Warner are right about Rotsler's carbon copy *Kteic*. I have all the WmR fmz we found in his house and am sorting and cross-filtering them with the extensive file already in the UC Riverside Eaton Collection (from Terry Carr's collection, which is entirely there). There are no carbon-copied *Kteics*, but many in mimeo (one in red ink!) and some *Masques*.

[[Bruce Pelz says he has 221 pages of early carboned Kteics, which he had microfilmed in the 60s, with Rotsler's permission.]]

I went to the kickoff meeting on development for feature film of my novel, COSM. The suits from Fox were there, peppering the screenwriter with questions about character motivation, background etc... While I sat there, glad I didn't have to respond, having merely written the novel -- and nobody even looked at me! I was present as Science Consultant, period. I'm actually rather glad I'm not doing the screenplay as I can see the endless consultation necessary; though the writer's getting \$150,000. Maybe I'll do the dialog revisions...

Gary Farber

I want to jump first to Joe Mayhew's letter/article because it reads so strangely to anyone who knows the first thing about Usenet, which Joe doesn't appear to. Before anything else though, let me say that we're all happy that he's recovering so well from his recent illness.

The first thing that anyone who knows anything about Usenet who reads Joe's letter does is to burst out laughing when he says that "they were the 'ASB,' and that means 'Alternate Sex Bondage.'" Well, no. "a.s.b" is an alt.newsgroup distributed by netnews (NNTP, doncha know?), and is in no way an organization of any sort, any more than the "smofs" mailing list is an organization. It is a

means of communication, and furthermore an obsolete one since most of the posters there have migrated to Usenet's soc.subculture.bondage.bdsm, anyway.

If Joe is going to predicate his dealings with groups based on labels, it would be sensible for him to first find out what he is talking about before making policy.

[[Joe can correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe I have heard him explain (during a conversation at LSC2) that when he asked at the 1996 Disclave what the pink clothespins on some membership badges meant, he was told they admitted the wearers to a private bondage demo area at the con hotel. I don't know whether those individuals had a collective name for themselves, but Joe is by no means the only Disclave committee member calling them "a.s.b.-ers." People wanted a handle that was less of a mouthful than, "The practitioners of bondage who communicate among themselves in such a way as to wind up booking space at Disclave." There is no reason not to use a more accurate term when someone involved offers it.]]

Secondly, while I neither post to nor read the bondage newsgroups, nor have ever been to one of their parties, the idea that a group of people's private parties would give a con a "dirty" name reads like F. Towner Laney going on about "queers in LASFS"; it comes off as very bigoted, in a way entirely separable from what sensible convention policy is. Based on the obvious errors in his letter, I'm dubious of some of his other assertions where I don't know the facts: was an actual invitation to any newsgroup actually issued, as he asserts "I heard that 'ASB' had been invited back"? Does he have any actual evidence of this? It should be easy enough to turn up on DejaNews, and if it's true, he should produce the post; if it's not true, he should withdraw the accusation and issue a correction.

[[Again, Joe can correct me if I'm wrong, however, I believe that "invited

back" means a specific Disclave committee member (whose name Joe has not published) offered to repeat the 1996 arrangement in 1997. This probably was not done by posting to a newsgroup.]]

Then Joe goes on to say that "I had let it be known in our fliers, etc. that no ASB type activities would be tolerated at Disclave in 1998." Well, could he please explain what an "ASB type activity" is? Posting to a Usenet newsgroup? If other, it would behoove Disclave to be more specific, and sensible, in coming up with a policy for what they want to ban rather than appearing to instead simply scapegoat a bunch of people based on criteria such as their clothing or a perception of someone's sexual preference.

[[There is an element of "Rule Six" in this -- referring to the rules issued by the Red Lion to members of a long-ago San Jose media con. Rule Six banned public displays of affection, with predictable results. It should have sufficed for Disclave to announce the end of the special booking arrangement that apparently existed in prior years.]]

I'm very sorry that Disclave was canceled, but scapegoating people while not knowing what you're talking about does not seem a reasonable response. What are the "ASB-type values" that he mentions? Exactly? And who, exactly, by name, subscribes to them?

On your Poll: I'm flattered to get a couple of votes on your Most Influential list. I'm tempted to ask as to who the handful of people are whom I'm not familiar with: would that be rude, or educational to many of us? Who are Eleanor Farrell, Terry Biffle, Lloyd G. Daub, Tim Gatewood, George Ivanoff, Ginger Johnson, Jeff "Hunter" Jordan, Ruth Shields, James Van Lydegraff, Paul D. Weasner, and Ron Wilber, I wonder?

[[Eleanor Farrell is a Pirate Queen, editor of Mythprint, a past chair of Mythcon, and plays faux-Siskel to Lynn Maudlin's faux-Ebert in their "Sizzling Egrets" skits. Terry Biffle was the late chair of ConFrancisco. Lloyd G. Daub edits the

Milwaukee-area genzine MSFire. Tim Gatewood currently co-edits Memphen, and I believe was the last editor of the South of the Moon apa index. James Van Lydegraff is a long-time LASFSian. A couple other names like George Ivanoff I've seen before but don't know the background, and your guess is as good as mine about the rest.]]

Your list of potential and unasked GOHs for Worldcon is interesting, of course. I'd say that it's a bit early yet for Allen Steele, Harry Turtledove, and Stephen Baxter, but there are some good suggestions here. I'd particularly like to see Phil Klass/William Tenn honored, and it's definitely past time for Robert Sheckley and Joanna Russ. I hadn't actually realized that Edd Cartier was still alive! He and the Dillons are eminently deserving. I don't really see George Lucas as being of our community, though, much as we all like the "Star Wars" films, and I don't see him as an appropriate choice therefore.

Of Fan GOH choices, I'll politely say that there are many suggested that I consider to have had insufficient time and influence in fandom for this honor to yet be appropriate (but then, I think two candidates of recent years didn't deserve it, either). I mean, how many of these people would you put before Jack Speer, for instance, or John Bangsund, neither of whom has been yet asked. Speer is responsible for much of fandom as we know it today, for goodness sake's, and here people are being listed whom only became active in the last twenty years! About the only folks on your list I consider reasonable choices would be Bjo Trimble (for her Fifties activities), Walt Daugherty, Howard DeVore, Bill Donaho, Don Fitch, Peggy Rae Pavlat, Steve Stiles, and Peter Weston. I'll barely let recent fans such as Tom Whitmore, Tony Lewis, Ben Yalow, and yourself, possibly slip in.

Sheesh, some of the folks on your list have been Worldcon Fan GOH, such as Jan Finder. *[[All glory is fleeting....]]* Most of the folks on the list are either too recent, or not active in wide enough circles, in my book. I believe that the Worldcon Fan GOHship is the highest

honor we can give, and it should be reserved for the fans who have truly had the most wide-ranging influence. Even fans of such longstanding as Len and June Moffatt would be borderline (mostly just active in LA), in my book, and many of the folks listed are otherwise just too recent or too limited in their activity (just Worldcon running, or just being a BNF in their local club). I'd also like to see less parochialism and more attention to non-North-American fans.

Really, it's long past time for Jack Speer, and it's ridiculous that so many others have been asked before him.

[[I tend to agree with you and Leah Zeldes that Speer should have been picked by now. What goes into being chosen as Worldcon fan GoH -- beginning with their achievements as a fan -- reminds me of the recipe for fire: if you're missing either heat, oxygen or a combustible substance, there's no fire. The missing ingredient for Speer has been a relationship with a community of convention-runners that is likely to run a Worldcon. Very few committees select their fan GoH by researching the most historically significant fan who has yet to receive the honor and picking him or her. What happens most often is that someone on the committee -- the chair, a mentor, a respected fanhistorian -- advocates for a particular choice and persuades the committee to agree. It is not uncommon that the fan being chosen has previously been guest of honor at the group's local/regional con -- he/she is not a stranger anymore. There are enough fans who ought to be Worldcon GoH someday that it's very hard for one to get selected who lacks the added ingredient of being regarded as "part of the family."]]

Harry Warner, Jr., of course, has it completely backwards when he worries that "present methods of preserving electronic fanzines" will become obsolete. What is hard to preserve for very long, and what isn't accessible to very many people when it is preserved, is a few dozen copies of non-acid-free paper. The safest form of fanac possible is binary data distributed to millions of sites, which is to say, fanac done on Usenet and the World Wide Web. Since the Internet is

designed to survive a nuclear war, and it's a bit difficult to track down all several dozen million sites which access it, binary information on the Internet is a tad more readily survivable than even several hundred pieces of paper. As we say on Usenet, "hope this helps."

Also, Harry should note that the Worldcon is a small convention insofar as large conventions go: large conventions are those in the 40-60,000 attendee range -- we're just chicken feed compared to them at our 3-8,000 level.

Joseph T. Major

Editor's Notes: "A few fans are still upset..." because they do not want to admit to themselves that the field has grown so large that there are people, significant in their own distinct subsection of the field, that they are not aware of.

[[It's the other way around. Those who are upset recognize nearly all the names on these In Memoriam lists. The identifiers are added as a concession to the many less-well-informed Worldcon members.]]

Clipping Service: I thought the Heinlein Archives at Santa Cruz University had the story treatment of *Abbott and Costello Move to Mars*. From the description given, the story sounds like a fictionalization of some of the more, ah, *outré* events from the making of *Destination Moon*.

1998 Disclave Canceled: There was a very sympathetic (believe it or not) and sensible (I know this sounds even more incredible) discussion on the Net of Mayhew's dilemma. The pattern of such groups is that Fans who share a common interest get together at a con. Then SF readers who are not Fans but do share that interest come to the con to practice their interest and pick up the new stuff on the side. *Then*, people who share that interest but condemn that "sci-fi shit" come to the con to play with their friends. Thus we get everything from alt.sex.bondage parties to the Gardening Track to "Friends" slash fiction.

A problem is that those in the last category above sometimes so dislike "that

sci-fi shit" that they do not even bother buying con memberships. Mayhew should be rightly annoyed about this, and so should the rest of us. (Rivercon, Steve and Sue Francis's con here in Louisville, had problems with a local -- "group" is a little too coherent to describe them, say, "assortment" of wannabe punk rockers who would rent a suite at the con hotel and party during the con in the customary punker fashion.)

Of course, the response is usually even more distorted. "Let's shun these outside groups, which in any case have their own conventions, and get down to the core of SF conventions, with no filking or costuming or so on." Or fanzine fans. And all these have their own justifications. How does one tell an a.s.b. dominatrix from a "Mad Max" fan? (Short of counting the partygoers.)

Uchujin at 40: This fanzine has been continually published for forty years?

[[Yes. See, File 770 is just a young whippersnapper.]]

Knightfall: It looks like someone was out to get Sir Arthur, as I supposed we can now call him. British courts seem to be less protective of the sacred press than American ones (having read about Randolph Churchill's many libel suits -- pity he did not live long enough to drag some of the current crop of revisionists over the coals -- helps one to understand the situation) but the *Mirror* may figure that delay is enough to win by default.

Obituaries: Jo Clayton: Perhaps the most significant accomplishment, to my mind, of Clayton's was that she wrote a series that had an end. The *Diadem* series worked out very nicely, with a pattern of plot development that reached a resolution; a remarkable accomplishment in this era of TV-ized never-ending series that usually get handed over by the original author. Moreover, Clayton carried on the classic sense-of-wonder universe, with not everything being immediately known or right on hand, so there is still room for going somewhere, and the Universe is not a nice safe place.

The Fanivore: Mike Glicksohn: While having a fanzine that showcases the Hugo nominees is a good idea, remember the Rule of Fannish Activity: If some-

thing is being done, don't contribute to it, but do be critical when it is done because you weren't consulted.

Me: I finally looked at the Rotsler movie. Talk about plastic hair!

Harry Warner Jr.

With due gratitude for having four mentions in your poll for the fan who exercised the most influence on a voter's fanac, I can't help wondering why. My best guess is that all four of those who honored me did so because my awful example showed them it's better to become an all-out lochack.

And since I didn't get even one single solitary vote for fan writer in the same poll, do you know how I should go about returning my three fan writer Hugos to the proper authorities?

[[Yes: I understand that Mr. Lillian will be at your door to collect them about an hour after he reads your letter.]]

Mark Twain's advice, "When in doubt, tell the truth," is one I've always tried to follow. But I have made exceptions in the past whenever a local resident who knows of my interest in science fiction has asked me if I've saved old proziners or early paperbacks. Burglary for the sake of antique swiping has become a chronic nuisance in the Hagerstown area, so I always reply that I have never saved everything, and ask forgiveness for the lie at the very beginning of the prayers I say every night. Rev. Darrell Richardson's loss of all those pulps convinces me that I might be on the right track. The value of old magazines has been publicized enough in the mundane media to make potential thieves interested in where they might find quantities of them. I hope Darrell recovers the remainder of his missing magazines, not only for his own peace of mind, but also because the surviving members of early 20th century pulps grows smaller all the time and this would be a real inroad on the remaining copies.

There is one consolation to keep in mind about the controversy over how electronic fanzines should be handled in Hugo voting. Nobody will ever be satis-

fied with the way the Hugo awards are structured so it really doesn't matter too much what decision is finally reached. Just about the same number of complaints will be voiced, regardless of what happens.

[[Unlike a lot of things in life, a fan can take his pet plan for the Hugos to the Worldcon business meeting and make his arguments in a forum where something can actually be done about it if he's persuasive. Won't it be sweeter to hear complaints about something already fixed the way he wanted?]]

I had heard *viva voce* about the disappearance of this year's Disclave before this March issue of *File 770* arrived. *[[Inconceivable! Are you getting your news from subspace radio?]]* This problem, coupled with the Boston worldcon bid problem, makes it all the more important that fandom should get to work on the Tucker Hotel. I think the original blueprints need to be enlarged to some extent to cope with the increased size of convention fandom since the project was first revealed to fandom.

[[That depends on how long it will take to finish: if we extrapolate the trend of diminishing Worldcons, eventually you can put that in one wing and Corflu in the other!]]

More doom and gloom in your obituary and serious illness section, alas. I hope those who are ill will benefit from all the marvels of modern medicine.

I wish I'd known in advance that Les Gerber was destined to be on the telly. Incidentally, he is a reviewer for *Fanfare*, the largest professional periodical devoted to recordings of classical music, and his opinions get him into exactly the same sort of trouble with readers as he used to experience in fanzines when he wrote such things as his regular column, *More Gerber* by Les Gerber.

I don't know how many survivors of the first worldcon may still exist. But something else worries me: we may not know when the first real member of First Fandom is gone. That organization has taken to accepting "associate members" whose activity didn't begin until long after the cutoff date under the original First Fandom rules (1938, if memory

serves). They're all lumped together in the FF roster, old and new. I don't know of any mechanism for determining when the last genuine First Fandomer is gone.

The relevance of the 1918 influenza epidemic and the number of persons born in that year who became pro writers doesn't seem apparent to me. Couldn't we theorize with equal authority that the end of World War One in 1918 and the future science fiction writers were somehow linked?

Ken Keller

Enjoyed your coverage of the KC in Boston in 2K (+1) bid in the latest *File 770*. Geez, you don't think we're serious about this bid? I'm crushed. Well, since you're now from Missouri, we'll just have to show you, I guess. (Loved that Alan White cartoon in the middle of the copy.)

Buck Coulson

To compensate for my having little to say this time, you get a nice picture of bunny rabbits. You don't like bunny rabbits, that's your hard luck; I gotta use these damn cards up on someone.

I'll stay out of the Hugo for web site argument; I've never encountered a web site.

[[You have the strength of ten, because your heart is pure....]]

Sorry to hear about Elliott Shorter; just the other day a correspondent asked about him and I couldn't tell him anything. (Now I can, if I can recall which correspondent it was....) I hope he came out of his hospitalization okay; I never saw a lot of him, but I liked him.

Thanks to Alan Dodd, I have that *Sunday Mirror* article on Clarke, and the headline did *not* call for him to be stripped of his knighthood. (For one thing, he didn't have the knighthood yet, so he couldn't be stripped of it.) It did *imply* that he was a dirty old man and shouldn't be given a knighthood. Admittedly, a small headline under "comment" in the text of the article (and still on the front page) said "Strip him of his honour: See Page 8". But the headline of the

article was "Child Sex Shame of Arthur C. Clarke", in print big enough to take up 2/3 of the front page. On page 8, a sidebar under a photo of Prince Charles said, "Arthur C. Clarke's admission that he had sex with children puts a question mark over whether he will be knighted by Prince Charles." I assume this is standard practice of such newspapers: inflammatory words on the front page to hook customers, which are toned down inside to prevent libel suits.

Joy V. Smith

Joe Mayhew's Disclave cancellation report was very interesting. What a shame! I would like to commend him for handling the closing of the con, handing out refund checks, etc., so ably.

Re: *The OSFiC Statement*, are print fanzines really doomed? I know lots of people who are not on the Internet and who do not have a computer or a modem. I even know a publisher/editor team who do not have a phone. Don't throw yourselves off the cliff, guys.

"Mr. Skunk Goes to Washington" was fun, especially the theme song parody. Who wrote that?

[[I did -- glad you liked it. I also drew Smofbert. After I sent them the lyric, I read in Instant Message that NESFA voted in closed session to spend \$50 on an appropriate reply. If I recall, that's how much Cat Ballou wired to Lee Marvin's gunfighter character. I'm getting anxious about this...]]

Lloyd Penney

The 20th anniversary issue (#122) of *File 770* has arrived. Should NESFA ever get any pun money out of Teddy Harvia, just make sure he doesn't send you any left-over Canadian change from his Montréal junket...the exchange rate is still terrible, at 70 cents American to the Canadian dollar.

I certainly agree with Michael Blake on fanzines...the move from paper to the WWW can't be compared to the move from hecto and mimeo to xero. It's a total change of technology. I'm not online, at least at home, so I can't access webzines.

However, I can pick up a fanzine at any given time, and peruse it at my pleasure without worrying about the cost of the server connection, or the length of time my phone line is clogged. Webzines will have their place, but I hope that fanzines will stay as fandom's main avenue of communication.

We Also Heard From

Robert Lichtman: As many others have noted, Ed Green's "2011 -- The Year We Almost Made Contact" is a real gem and deserves inclusion in any fanthology that might eventually appear for 1998.

Adrienne Losin: The saddest part of being around at the end of the Millenium is the losing of so many friends, relatives and other notables. Seems hardly a week goes by but that someone I know passes on. Too many are leaving us too young. In *File 770:121*, Marjii Ellers' tribute to Bill Rotsler was very touching. I first met Bill many years ago when I stayed at Bjo Trimble's in L.A. He was good fun and I admired his quick art talent. I still have an sf badge he especially painted for me.

Teddy Harvia: Your fanzine arrived yesterday. How did you know it was my birthday and that a copy of *File 770* was the perfect gift?

[[A little wingnut whispered in my ear...]]

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