

File 770

Published by Mike Glyer, 5828 Woodman Ave. #2,
Van Nuys CA 91401, approximately every six weeks,
and actually irregularly. Available for hard news,
soft rumor, cold facts and hot gossip -- but

best of all, in return for \$4 US you'll get 5 issues of file 770 mailed first class in North America or printed matter rate overseas. (\$1 per copy air printed matter). Searing revelations may be vouchsafed to the editor by dialling (818) 787-5061. I'll be home, or my answering machine will do its best to fill in. Rider this issue: TAFFLUVIA. Last stencil finished 2/4/85.

NO MORE MR. NICE GUY: In the course of ten days Mike Glicksohn submitted and withdrew some startling comments: but that's okay, we have plenty of equally acerbic contributions in this issue. Suffice it to say that DUFF candidates Marty and Robbie Cantor long ago announced that if they won DUFF it would only fund the travel for one of them, not both.

While the attention of all fandom is focused on the L.A.con II financial disclosures, what better time to slide past with FILE 770's balance sheet, a tale of economic nonrecovery that will warm the hearts of those afraid that amateurism was losing its hold on fandom.

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>
INCOME	\$ 1145.46	1538.80
POSTAGE	1011.84	800.30
SUPPLIES	382.26	465.69
REPAIRS	0	89.13
ADVERTISING	78.60	0
PRINTING	111.90	0
PHONE	117.72	116.40
LABELS	-	39.61
NET	(556.86)	27.67

I wish Austin was running for the NASFiC every year; 1983 was the only time I ever broke even with FILE 770, on the strength of Robert Taylor's campaign to get Texans to vote in the F770 POLL and indicate they were backing Austin. Not only did they stuff the ballot box, they stuffed the subscription lists, too. Some have lingered to become regular readers of the zine -- at the other extreme one wrote in demanding to be removed from my subscription list because somebody had entered her name without her knowledge! Fortunately she didn't

disclose this fraud to Bergeron, and I was able to keep the lid on the scandal. Of course, now Robert will have to give the NASFiC back...

On the expense side of the ledger, differences can be readily explained. The postage is out of line because I initiated a policy of sending more freebies overseas. Printing Brad Foster covers was another new, but worthwhile, category of expense. Also, I expended \$1.32 more on the phone last year striving for as much accuracy in the news as you can get for \$117.72 I know the NY Times would love to trade phone bills with me! For that matter, so would anyone who was directly involved in the TAFF feud. See, peace and prosperity at home is not just another pretty slogan.

Mr. William T. Center of Murphysboro, Illinois, writes, "There is one thing that I wish that you would look into in future issues, and since you were involved it shouldn't be too great a task for you to ferret out the information. What I am referring to is the financial goings on of L.A.con II. I have heard rumors of profits of close to \$500,000 as well as rumors that some of the money was going to be spent on air conditioning for the LASFS clubhouse. Since you are close to the source, why don't you look into these rumors and publish a financial report for L.A.con II (something that the concom has failed to do, so far as I've heard, and this being contrary to the WSFS rules."

Well, Mr. William Center of Murphysboro, Illinois, here it is, because:

YOU ASKED FOR IT



L.A.con II has released some interim financial information and summary figures, reporting a surplus of \$194,000, from which \$129,000 has been spent or committed for the following purposes:

- \$65,000 : reimbursed to volunteer speakers and staff of the convention. Program participants and volunteers with 8 hours in received a membership refund; volunteers with more than 20 hours on the job got their memberships refunded and \$100 towards general expenses; volunteers with 30 hours service, and committee level staff, received membership refund and reimbursement for accomodations and meals at L.A.con II. This dollar amount is tentative, pending the receipt of 20 more expense reports.
- 20,000 : held for use by SCIFI (Southern California Institute for Fan Interests, Inc.) in bidding for the 1990 Worldcon.
- 10,000 : donated to LASFS Inc. to air condition the meeting hall (job completed)
- 10,000 : donated to the consortium to Bail Out ConStellation
- 10,000 : invested in NESFA Inc. Lunar Realty Trust, to aid the club in acquiring a permnent meeting facility.
- 7,500 : held for publication of FANCYCLOPEDIA III. (FANCYCLOPEDIA III was to have been the Fan Guest of Honor book for L.A.con II, but

it was determined that an adequate job of preparation could not be completed prior to the convention.)

- 3,000 : Donated to TAFF, DUFF and GUFF, in six \$500 installments, two for each fund, payable to a fund when it meets the condition that a prior fund winner writes and publishes (ie, the full report in a single volume) his or her trip report. One installment per report.
- 2,000 : Donated to Aussiecon II, the 1985 Worldcon, for sponsorship of an event to be mutually agreed upon by SCIFI and Aussiecon (such as con suite refreshments, or a meet-the-pros reception).
- 1,000 : donated to the Fan Fund Publishing Project, for use in keeping trip reports in print.
- 500 : donated to the British Columbia Science Fiction Association to defray V-Con 12 losses reported beyond BCSFA's ability to pay.

\$129,000 Committed Funds

65,000 Uncommitted surplus
\$194,000

SCIFI is now exploring for sound ways to apply this surplus for the benefit of fandom. At its 1/27/85 meeting SCIFI committed \$2000 for a thank-the-pros reception in connection with the Nebula Awards banquet. Seed money of \$1000 was blocked for revival of the Science Fiction League as an organization providing information to clubs and conventions regarding membership, fundraising, and activities. The idea of reviving the SFL surfaced a few years ago. Dan Deckert, president of LASFS, has volunteered to establish contact with other clubs towards recreation of a cooperative SFL.

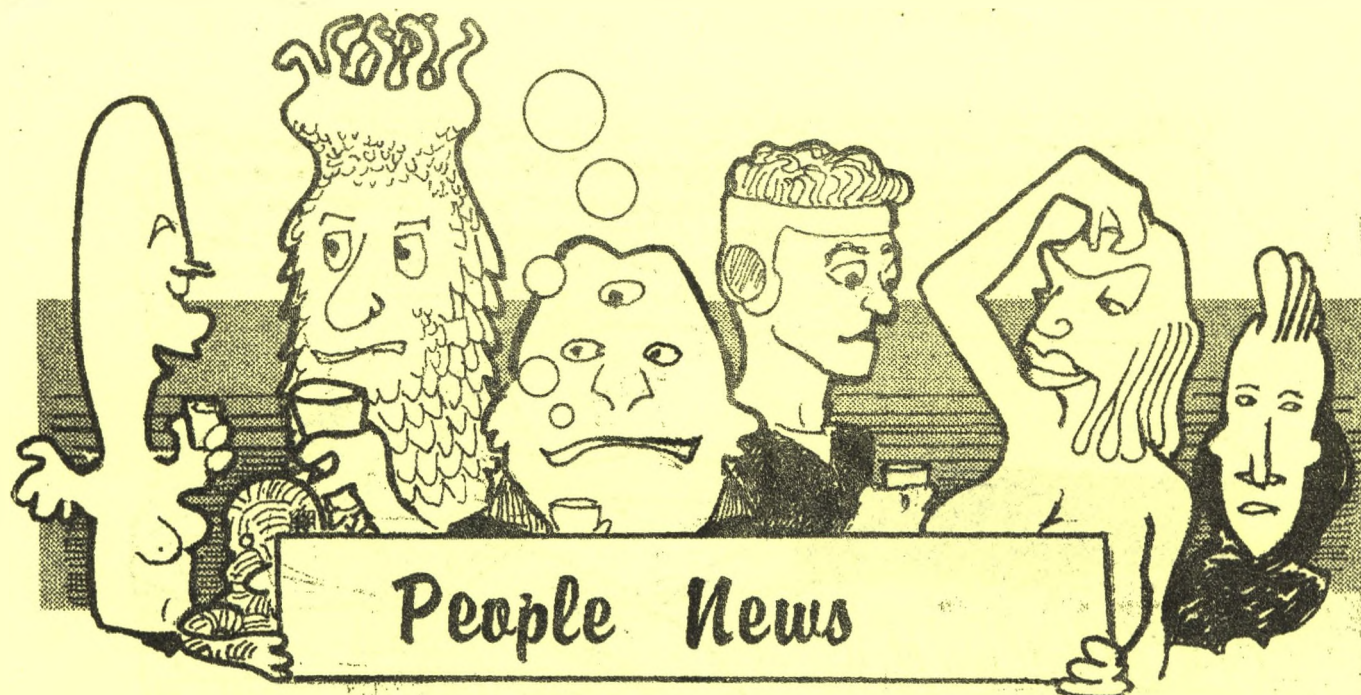
SCIFI directors (25 in all) also discussed and sent to committee ideas including limited funding of science fiction clubhouse building funds. And until its funds are committed elsewhere, SCIFI will consider aiding fan organizations/conventions when they suffer losses due to unforeseen circumstances not of their own making. Other suggestions should be sent to: SCIFI, PO Box 8442, Van Nuys CA 91409.

A final financial report will be distributed after the close of the convention's books, which is expected by July 1, 1985.

Closing statistics for L.A.con II stated official attendance of 8,214 (with a total membership of 9,406). These figures include guests, child memberships and dailies. The Art Show has 269 artists exhibiting 2711 pieces of art on 391 4 x 6 panels and tables with total sales of over \$112,000.

Several areas of controversy have been illuminated, though perhaps not settled. The surplus is very large, but it is now an identifiable number, which need not redouble with each new telling.//SCIFI could have hacked together a financial report within the arbitrary 90 day period called for by WSFS rules, but this would have been a duplication of work for treasurer Bruce Pelz who carried much of the accounting burden (along with a full-time job) and has made targeted quarterly deadlines all along.//The LASFS is now heated and air conditioned, having added around \$2500 of its own money to the \$10,000 furnished by SCIFI. This expended 5% of the total surplus. (If any reader is not already aware, LASFS members were the largest single group of L.A.con II committee and volunteers.)

Fannish creativity and initiative will, one hopes, make the best use of the remainder.



FEEDBACK FROM PORTLAND ON F770:50 (1) NASFiC: Sam Butler disposes of reports on a Portland NASFiC-in-'87 bid, saying, "Back in December 1984 several people in Portland entertained the notion of bidding on the NASFiC and did some research into the matter as to site needs, staffing requirements, financial considerations for the bid and the convention. We talked with the Austin NASFiC people, and the Cincinnati NASFiC people among others. Upon consideration we are not doing a NASFiC bid for 1987 due to unsuitable site facilities. We were unwilling to do a split site that would be forced on us due to hotels already being booked that we decided if we couldn't do it right we wouldn't try and do it wrong. Instead we are putting together a Westercon bid for 1988 and will have our publicity ready to roll in the next few months. We have an excellent facility lined up (the Lloyd Center Red Lion) and look forward to letting fandom know about our intentions." ...I think you just did, Sam.

(2) WESTERCON 37: The 1984 Westercon has closed its books and mailed a check to bail out ConStellation, according to Butler. Other distributions of Westercon profits he explains are, "4% which will go to the local science fiction club (PorSFis, Portland Science Fiction Society - the publishers of PULSAR); Con 3... will be getting 3% for use only in the hospitality suite. The 45% skimmed off for Oregon Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., will be partially used to purchase items which we have borrowed in the past, ie art show panels...space dividers, a computer program to do registration, etc."

THE WORLDCON BIDDERS KALEIDOSCOPE: (1988) New Orleans in '88 is the dream of Guy H. Lillian III, Justin Winston (aka Farouk von Turk), John Guidry and Dennis Dolbear. They'd be happy to get \$5 presupporting memberships in their mailbox, PO Box 8010, New Orleans LA 70182. (1989) Brian Burley phoned to make it clear to me that METRO, the organization which created the bid, had withdrawn its '89 bid. (1990) The first LA in '90 bid party will be held at Boskone. (1991) Per Mick Hamblen, he supports Nashville in '91 ("Nashville is neat in 100 degree heat"), though fans in his Indianapolis hometown also are trying to launch a bid for '91. (1992) Robert Sacks, in ANARCH'S LEGION 4, reports receipt from Stu Hellinger of this statement: "The formation of the New York in '92 Worldcon Bidding Committee has been temporarily delayed. Details will be forthcoming by Lunacon '85."

OH DEAR... I REALLY SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT TAFF... REALS SO NOW... BUT I
 FEEL SOO-O "LAZY" ^{TO LARRY CARMODY}... MAYBE I COULD CHANGE "EAST COAST" INTO
 "EFFETE EASTERN JEWISH LIBERAL ESTABLISHMENT... AND "WEST COAST"
 INTO "POWER-BROKING PACIFIC MELOW SQUISHY FANS"... ZZZ... THAT
 WOULD SHOW 'EM... ZZZ... MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GO BACK TO SLEEP

ENNUI

PENS

NOTE USE OF PLAIN ENGLISH WORDAGE

SKETCH PAD →

1984 (THE PAST)

ANOTHER PEN

UNFINISHED TRIP REPORT

Goodie Eco TRIP

JACKIE CAUGHEE '85

"All the current 'fudes' carries me back to the 1930s when some of us did it for fun, and some who lacked a sense of humor did it seriously." -- Bob Tucker 1/4/85

	<u>N.Am.&Australia</u>	<u>UK</u>	<u>Total</u>
Patrick & Teresa Nielsen Hayden	144	117	261
Martha Beck	183	6	189
Rich Coad	42	9	51
Hold Over Funds	10	2	12
	<u>379</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>513</u>

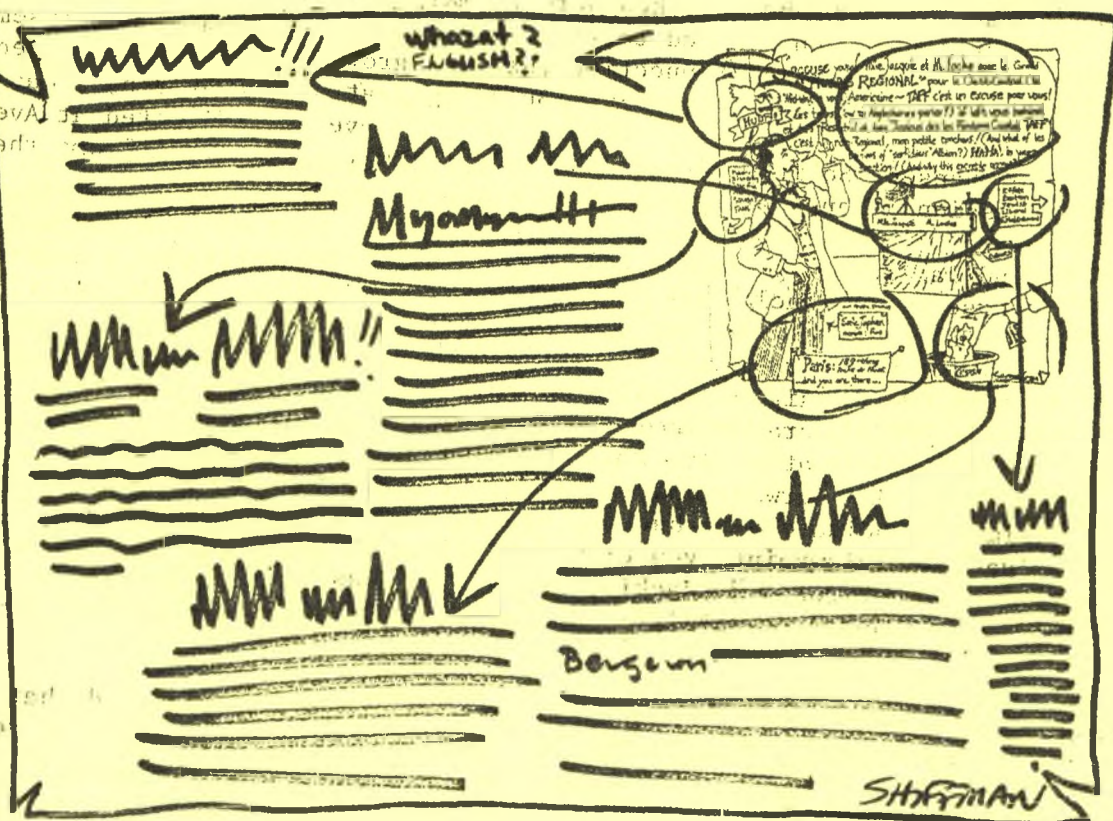
January 1985

Haydens' thrift is not born of necessity. Fans voted in full knowledge that the pair would make the trip: they could choose to spend twice as much as they've announced and be assured of leaving enough cash to completely finance the next winner's trip -- even if American donations dried up, even if no TAFF reports were published to trigger the \$1000 promised by L.A.con II, even if the UK TAFF account went untouched. There is so much TAFF money floating around this year one wonders what, other than jerk reflex, the Nielsen Haydens expect will stimulate fans to join their enthusiastic fundraising mail auction? (See TAFELUVIA.) Prudent use of the Fund for the purpose fans raised it will encourage fans to keep on contributing. It is important to preserve the fannish habit of donating to TAFF, for the Fund will not always be so flush. But it is a habit that could be lost during the years that existing capital is hoarded to such an extent that no logical need for donations is apparent.

TAFF OFFICIAL lists the 379 voters who sent their ballots to Avedon Carol. I did not recognize 105 names; I assume most of them were midwesterners turned out to vote for Beck, since there was a heavy midwestern count among the names I knew. However the Nielsen Haydens must have polled some of their own homer support, for there were New York fans whose names I only recognized because Larry Carmody rounded up a stack of Lunarian votes in the 1983 FILE 770 POLL (on behalf of NY in '86, naturally.)

TAFF OFFICIAL was dispatched to every voter whose ballot included an address Avedon could decipher. (Apparently lots of potential doctors voted this year...)

CARTOONISTS' RIGHT OF REPLY: On the opposite page is Jackie Causgrove's visual rebuttal to Stu Shiffman's fanpolitical cartoon in F770:50. It turns out to little resemble Stu's prediction, below, titled "WHAT WE EXPECTED JACKIE TO DRAW."



Under the conditions that prompted most of the votes to be cast, one assumes most TAFF voters had at least a passing knowledge of the feud, so one cannot suppose very many of them were shocked by the three-page TAFF OFFICIAL rebuttal to the feud material in circulation. Avedon presented her account of the facts, and her interpretations, regarding (1) The brevity of the nominating period; (2) the circumstances in which Martha Beck's candidacy did not qualify for the official ballot; (3) the impropriety of running a TAFF candidate without transatlantic friends; and (4) the British backlash to a candidacy run solely in one region of the US. The issues merit fannish attention, and Avedon felt she could hardly ignore the demands made on her to discuss them (by correspondents over the past three months). In my opinion, I don't see how it helps TAFF to publish a discussion riddled with snide remarks of which the following is a typical example: "Those of us who have worked hard to maintain that trans-Atlantic relationship have not been pleased to see the kind of trouble-making, dissembling, and disregard for the British connection that Causgrove and Locke have injected into the race." I editorialized against Bergeron's attack on Avedon; I have been appalled by the unnecessary vitriol Locke and Causgrove have directed at Avedon Carol and Rob Hansen. So it would hardly be consistent for me to welcome the same tone of discussion in an "official" TAFF publication.

Dave Locke and Jackie Causgrove have their own perception of what they've attempted to do, of course, which includes Dave declaring, "...for the record, I love Martha Beck. She is one of the neatest people I have ever known, and I may send out adoption papers tomorrow. The last thing I'm going to sit still for is any suggestion that her campaign started in the middle of this crap -- as opposed to a scenario where the crap started in the middle of this campaign. To me her candidacy became a matter of either withdraw because of the mud- and shitslinging, or press forward and correctly counter the charges that she was not a legitimate candidate and that her supporters were not legitimate TAFF voters. Given that viewpoint, you either say Fuck It and bow out, or you say Goddam It and press forward." Jackie would like to ask, "Who has been the most open, honest, and up-front in these issues -- even taking into consideration things like Anger and other emotions? Us? Or Them?"

The tragedy of the TAFF feud was how readily the participants assumed that differing views of the issues, and actions taken on those views, were evidence of character defects and callous disregard of ethics. Sort of like the Red Cross showing up after the battle, Jackie Causgrove's ETTLE TWO published a comparatively noncontroversial discussion of how TAFF should be run and who should qualify as a candidate, and carried out her declaration that "these pages will remain clear of feuds and feuding, to the best of my ability." This meant taking the scissors to some contributions (a bit more than called for says Dave Langford of his own letter). She still came up with a wide range of views, from several past TAFF Administrators, and from fans who either felt that TAFF must be saved by reorganizing it under a steering committee or who ridiculed any deviation from the status quo. (ETTLE 2, available for 66¢ in cash or stamps from Jackie Causgrove, 6828 Alpine Ave. #4, Cincinnati OH 45236.) Had these issues been raised as ETTLE does, things would have run a very different course than they ran in reaction to Bergeron's accusations, echoed in the correspondence of Locke and Causgrove.

The scenario in F770:50 about Martha Beck's candidacy needs amending, in the eyes of Dave Locke, who asserts, "Over Labor Day weekend Joni /Stopa/ and Rusty /Hevelin/ at a rumpcon did what Ted White and others did at the exact same time at the Worldcon: they came up with a second candidate, so that there could be a TAFF

race (Terry Hughes: 'There is no limit of nominees on a ballot except that there must be at least two.') Joni had received FILE 770:48 (our copy postmarked 8/21) which noted only one 'candidate' (a set), the day she left for the party in Wapakoneta over Labor Day weekend. I'm going to quote Jackie Causgrove at this point. 'She read it in the car en route. When she got to the Holiday Inn she'd developed a Bright Idea. She tracked down Rusty and noodled it with him. She and Rusty approached Martha. Martha suggested everyone under the sun -- even people in Chicago not known beyond a 10 mile radius of their homes -- and finally agreed. Joni, Rusty and Martha approached me. Would I be willing to be one of her nominators? Of course I would! On September 1st I agreed. Gay Haldeman also agreed. I don't know when Roy Tackett was contacted by Joni, but he sent a letter which included his endorsement to me on September 8th.'

id Dave feels the F770:50 scenario is not valid since it states that there were two known candidacies, and that Joni, Rusty and Jackie were motivated to find someone to carry a Midwestern banner for TAFF. Says Dave, "This needs to be corrected, because from it springs such ugly speculation that Rusty was involved because he had an old hard-on for the Nielsen Haydens..." or that the Midwest felt slighted for various reasons. Dave's account is presented here on the principle that for some facts it constitutes "the best available evidence" though I do not think that it makes an attempt to offer an alternative explanation for Midwestern outrage when Martha failed to make the published ballot. How is anyone supposed to believe that sectional pride was not an issue, having read the Beck campaign literature?

But midwestern pride and an alleged grudge by Hevelin against the Nielsen Hayden's are not one in the same, and Patrick Nielsen Hayden feels the latter is no issue at all, writing, "I would just like to clarify that, if Rusty Hevelin asserts he has no axe to grind against Teresa and myself, we therefore have no axe to grind against him either. I apologize to Rusty for the charge made against him in rich brown's VOTING PACKET, to the effect that his active role in campaigning for Martha Beck for TAFF was motivated by spite at our having been part of /the/ Worldcon committee which fired him...."

TAFF DODGES THE BULLET: Swift-moving events -- mainly the TAFF results showing Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden as the winners -- have rendered the following of academic interest only. But last December 13, when the TAFF race had two weeks to go, Rob Hensen, European TAFF Administrator, declared "Since British fandom has indicated that they are not prepared to accord them such trust and respect I'm afraid I have no alternative but to serve notice that we will not recognize a US TAFF administration run by Martha Beck or by her campaign managers (Locke, Causgrove, Hevelin) or by any other individual nominated by them."

The Greg and Linda Pickersgill petition in England urging a freeze on TAFF funds (in the UK) if Martha Beck won received mass support. How did it begin? Avedon Carol synopsis, "For one thing, ETTLE came out talking about TAFF without talking about what it was for -- neglecting the Brits altogether. For another, a few concerned Midwesterners were picking up those Martha Beck fliers and mailing them outside of the midwest -- and some of them reached Britain through these intermediaries. Those fliers were incendiary in content to begin with (turning TAFF into a regional conflict in the US and seeking to override British desires), but even more galling to them was the fact that the entire campaign was being carried on without their knowledge -- no one was making any attempt to represent Martha Beck to the Britons nor even let them know that she was standing for TAFF."

Rob Hansen responded to my editorial in F770:50: "You wonder, on the back page, what popularity the Pickersgill Petition would have, and it turned out to be quite a lot. The number of people who signed it was 120, 77 of them being also TAFF voters who comprised some 57% of those who voted in TAFF over here this time. This put me, as you pointed out, in something of an awkward position."

Hansen viewed his responsibilities as being to the people he represented, British TAFF voters, therefore after extensive consultation he issued his December 13 letter. "As I saw it all that Martha and most of those who voted for her wanted was for her to take the trip, so a possible way out was, for this time only, to split the trip and the administration, with the latter going to someone acceptable to all parties. This doubtless wouldn't have pleased Martha's campaign managers but it might well have been the only way TAFF could have continued in anything like its present form and with the active participation of British fandom. Feelings were running pretty high over here, ...and this seemed to me the absolute minimum action I could have taken. In their substitution of regional chauvinism for internationalism and their list of names to use to rubber-stamp ballots, the flyers offended a lot of people over here. I myself witnessed people at the One Tun who had originally refused to sign the petition falling over themselves to do so after reading the flyers.... Something else I didn't mention in that letter /December 13/ -- mainly because I preferred not to think about it unless it became necessary -- was the call on that petition concerning UK TAFF funds. I honestly don't know what I would have done had it come to the crunch but fortunately it didn't, so now I'll never know."

Penned Moshe Feder, "As for Greg and Linda P., I think a funds freeze is a deadly idea -- but I understand the outrage that prompted the suggestion." Somehow I feel Americans could have justified at least as much outrage over British backing for D. West (who has often belittled American fandom) -- he polled half the British votes in that TAFF race. And if all British voters (rather than half) had lined up for West, as virtually all British voters lined up for the Nielsen Haydens, they would have dictated him as the winner of that race. But as the first person who would have protested a West win, even I would never have suggested US TAFF funds be frozen against his use or that we ignore him as a TAFF Administrator. To arbitrarily fail to cooperate with a legal winner would be the death of TAFF, and I think the fund's continuance is worth far more than the temporary inconvenience of an inappropriate winner. Hansen yielded to the pressure, and in my opinion, put TAFF's neck on the chopping block. It would have taken more courage for him to declare that he was not elected Administrator to preside over the dissolution of TAFF, and commit to accept the legal winner whoever it turned out to be. But I view that as the implicit commitment of an Administrator, not to be discarded when the heat is on.

FALLOUT: If you need an example of how the TAFF Feud has alienated fandom, read John Millard on the subject: "In the beginning /Fan Travel Funds were/ a unique and original fannish idea, and to the best of my knowledge no other group, fannish or otherwise, had a similar fund. Every one who participated followed the simple rules, paying their part of the expenses, and published a trip report on their return. Today it's quite different, the candidates expect to get all their expenses paid, and while they have committed themselves to doing a trip report, most in recent years just haven't bothered. With the present tempest, plus the fact that most of the recent candidates, to my knowledge, can really afford to pay their own way, perhaps the usefulness of the travel funds is now over and they should be terminated. In the past I have always supported the funds, but with the present squabble, I think I can find better uses for my money."



DUNE GATE

The DUNE film premiere and party reported last issue by Avedon Carol has not merely furnished an evening of entertainment for Washington DC area writers and fans, but provoked a vitriolic feud and split the club itself, to judge from subsequent publications.

Somtow Sucharitkul, in the 12/84 issue of WSFA JOURNAL, claims: "Two months ago I received a call from the charming Brenda Zimmerman of the Peachy Agency, the PR firm in charge of the DUNE premiere. Mike Dirda of the Washington POST had given them my number and asked me to help them. I was to supply them with the names of important personages in the SF community of Washington; these people would receive invitations to this prestigious premiere...."

Sucharitkul's account of the conversation added that inviting local fans was also mentioned, and though the entire membership of WSFA could not be accommodated, perhaps the officers could be invited as a gesture. Somtow gave the the number of the president of WSFA. He continues, "She promised to call them right away and then call me back. I imagined that all was well. Later I was hospitalized and didn't get back until late Saturday night before the premiere. It was then that I discovered that a number of important SF writers hadn't been invited: Ann Crispin, Paula Volsky, Patrice Duvic, Ed Byers, Tom Monteleone, and so on...."

Somtow inquired to Brenda Zimmerman, and learned that the invitations had been generated from a marked copy of the WSFA mailing list provided by the wife of the president of WSFA. Concludes Somtow, "Someone in WSFA, unfortunately, took it upon themselves to decide, not only that WSFA is identical with the SF community of Washington, which is nonsense, but also that they could, in a godlike way, select the recipients of the tickets themselves and reap the egoboo of being perceived to have the power of bestowing such bounties. I am not pleased."

WSFA president Alexis Gilliland, and Doll Gilliland, were worked over at length in the same issue by Timothy R. Sullivan, whose solution to the DUNE fracas was, "...WSFA is your club. The officers of WSFA (and certainly not their unelected spouses) can't just arbitrarily make policy. These people weren't elected to push you around and derive egoboo from exclusionary practices such as the DUNE debacle. They're elected to serve your fannish interests, and there are

ways you can get rid of them if they persist in pulling crap like this on you, including impeachment proceedings, which require nothing more than a petition signed by 15 members with the approval of the Executive Board, excluding the accused officer." Sullivan's diatribe went on, and culminated in his announcement of the Washington Alternative Science Fiction Association, which held its first meeting opposite a WSFA meeting scheduled at the Gillilands'. (Sullivan claimed attendance of 30 in a later publication.) His announcement was punctuated with a drawing of a middle-finger gesture captioned "WASFA SALUTE."

(Actually, if the correct inference has been drawn, the 12/84 WSFA Journal was distributed at the Gillilands', with the WASFA meeting announcement, a map to its location showing the route from Gillilands' to Sucharitkul's, and Sullivan's admonition, "I want to make it clear to everybody that there is something you can do. Starting tonight at Somtow's....")

Alexis and Doll Gilliland published a four-page retort, contending that Brenda Zimmerman called them November 14 as they were preparing to go out. When her needs were made clear, Doll Gilliland, "asked Brenda which authors she had. She told me. '...and Alexis, of course,' I prompted. 'Of course,' she said, 'Your invitations are already in the mail,' (She didn't mention WSFA's officers or ask about them. Everyone she had named (except James Tiptree Jr.) was on the 1983 WSFA Xmas list, and since we were in a hurry, and so was she, I offered to lend it to her. I also told her that the people on the list were authors, artists, or had an interest in SF, and offered to select them out for her. She pounced on the offer, and said a messenger would come by and pick up the list. At this point Alexis got on the line and offered to give her the 1984 SFWA Directory as well....Brenda was perfectly happy with the arrangement that she had, and declined, saying the messenger would be right over.

"Messengers cost. Are we talking last minute arrangement, or are we talking last minute arrangement? We hit all the authors she mentioned, including Chalker (who was already invited) and Somtow....The whole time of transaction, from phone call to messenger's arrival, was less than an hour, after which the die was cast."

Whereas the Gillilands might have been content with that explanation, and the page of clarification which followed it, Alexis did not read all those pro feuds in SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW without learning to "go for the jugular with a kick to the balls". Gilliland ripostes, "...Somtow's behavior in this case is markedly different from his norm. Somtow is an immensely talented writer and composer (and with early discipline might have become a world class pianist), and he is a Prince of the Royal House of Thailand, so that he might be excused for thinking that he is better than other people. In the circumstances, a tendency to megalomania would seem only natural, maybe even inevitable -- manifested as a subtle bias in Somtow's thinking, as some people have a slice in their golf swing, a minor weakness that needs to be consciously corrected for. Somtow, in protracted discomfort from his recent circumcision, might have been unable to make that conscious correction."

So many of us who have spent the past five months wading through the cesspit of fandom's TAFF feud were deluded into thinking this was a bitter, vitriolic feud. But we are outshone when Gilliland makes like his namesake on DYNASTY. Somtow and Sullivan having initially set the tone for the exchange, volleyed back in a fanzine titled DUNE GATE, cover by Sullivan caricaturing Gilliland as Baron Harkonnen and Somtow as the Reverend Mother. Somtow claims, "Although Alexis sees fit to discuss my penis in his 'article', I refuse to stoop to an exegesis

of Dolly's colitis. I will instead take a high tone here, just as Alexis has seen fit to do. I will confine my comments to the facts, so far as I know them, and indulge in as little speculation as humanly possible." This brief excerpt from Somtow's three pages bespeaks the "high tone" he actually did take. As for Sullivan, somebody must have thrown some raw meat in his pen. After initial biting sarcasms like: "Even more fun than the strained tone /of the Gillilands' reply/ are the documentary aspects of Doll's pathetic defense. 'November 14, 1984, Officer Bill Gannon and I were working the night shift in bunco, when a pile of horeshit descended on a couple of graft-taking geeks in high places, their squawking audible as far away as Modesto..." Sullivan became progressively aroused by the deep purple of his own prose. He closed page four of his polemic: "And last, but certainly not least, back to Doll for a parting shot. Where do you get off dismissing me, lady? I'm a professional in a field where you are a fan, at least as accomplished as your husband in that regard...not to mention the fact that I'm twenty years younger and handsome as the devil. The world's my oyster, bitch, and there ain't nothin' you can do about it."

Tim Sullivan reminds us that one of Mr. Ed's virtues was that he knew which end of his anatomy to speak out of.

The disposition of the underlying issue, whether the available passes to the DUNE premiere were dealt out by WSFA officers in a manner consistent with the club's wishes, seems to depend on a member's opinion of the officers (especially Alexis Gilliland.) Has a permanent schism in the club taken place; or is that a dream of a disenchanted few? Will Gilliland, Sullivan and Sucharitkul continue to leaflet the WSFA? If so, I hope members on my mailing list keep sending copies out west. (Just think how intense the feud would be if the passes had been to a good movie, like THE COTTON CLUB? A film where Norman Hollyn gets a credit for sound editing!)

"Ad hominem argument: two arguments that sound the same but are spelled different"
-- Craig Miller

GEORGE FLYNN ATTACKED BY SALVADORAN TERRORISTS: Were George devoted to gospel music he would have titled his newest adventure "The Fire Next Time", instead he revels in his role as our modern day Pepys and chronicles the Great Fire of Cambridge, "I Was Attacked By Salvadoran Terrorists."

Fans of the Flynn adventure series recall it started with an apartment fire in January 1976, followed by an April 1978 fire at his new Somerville residence (one week after he'd been burglarized there), and having moved two blocks away George was at peace until the flood of December 1979 ("caused by the tenant upstairs ripping the sink off the wall before disappearing"). "Anyway, it's gotten so I feel very nervous whenever I see a fire truck in the neighborhood," admits George, "The night of October 17, I got home at the same time the first fire truck arrived..."

George lives in a duplex with three apartments on each side and a fire wall in between. Flynn went around to the back porch of his apartment and found a smouldering mattress, which burst into flame against his apartment wall when the firemen moved it. The firemen left, but George went to bed with his clothes on: a prudent move, as at 2:45 am firemen arrived again, to extinguish a blaze in an upstairs apartment. They smashed the rear door and window and some interior walls of Flynn's apartment to quell fire that had penetrated the walls. As near an explanation as could be pieced together was that two sets of Salvadoran tenants

CONVENTION LIST

BOSKONE XXII: (Feb: 15-17) Marriott Hotel, Boston MA)

PRO: Damon Knight, Kate Wilhelm; AGoH: Carl Lundgren. Membership: \$22. To: NESFA, PO Box G MIT Br. PO, Cambridge MA 02139

WAMCON: (Feb. 15-17) Chamberlin Hotel, near Hampton VA

Guests: A.C. Crispin, Clyde Caldwell, Kelly Freas. Theme: "Women in SF&F -- No longer Damsels in Distress." Art show, writers' seminar, filking, costume contest, dealers. Membership: \$20 at the door. Gaming-only \$10. To: WAMCON, PO Box 2223, Poquoson VA 23662

WISCON 9: (Feb: 22-24) Concourse Hotel, 1 W. Dayton St., Madison WI 53703.

GoHs: Alicia Austin, Lisa Tuttle. Rooms: \$49/sgl, \$57/dbl. Memberships: \$13 til 2/1/85, \$18 at the door. Supporting: \$7. Has 5723 times as much feminist programming as the average con, and twice as much nonfeminist programming. So it says here. To: SF3, PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701-1624

CAPRICON V: (Feb. 22-24) Hyatt Lincolnwood, 4500 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood IL 60646

PRO: Frederik Pohl. FAN: Darlene Coltrain. Rooms: \$40/sgl/dbl. Memberships: \$12 til 2/1, \$18 at the door. Art show, films, hucksters (\$15 first table), masquerade, Exhibit of Questionable Inquiry. To: Capricon V, PO Box 1295, Oak Park IL 60304.

CONQUISTADOR II: (March 1-3) Bahia Hotel, San Diego CA.***

PRO: Larry Niven. FAN: Mike Glycer. Masquerade, films, art show, panels, hucksters. Memberships: \$15 til 1/20 -- what afterwards!?! Dealers tables: \$30.

To: PO Box 15471 San Diego CA 92115

FILKCON 7.1/CONCHORD II: (March 1-3) Sheraton Plaza La Reina, Los Angeles CA

GoH: Cliff Flynt. Rooms: \$68 sgl/dbl. Memberships: More than \$18 (rate til 1/5).

"Mob" filksings, Filk Concert, Bardic Circle, Sunday Brunch, Songbooks, Dealers Room. T-shirt \$8.50. To: ConChord II, PO Box 599, Midway City CA 92655

COASTCON VIII: (March 8-10) Royal d'Iberville, Biloxi MS

GoH: Alan Dean Foster. TM: Vonda McIntyre. Memberships: \$12.50 til 2/22, \$15 at the door. To: Coastcon, PO Box 1423, Biloxi MS 39533.

CONCAVE SIX (UPPERSOUTHCLAVE XV): (March 8-10) Park Mammoth Resort, Park City KY

Relaxacon. Banquet, dealers, art show, hospitality suite. Rooms: \$25/sgl, \$33/dbl. Memberships: \$7 til 2/14, \$9 after. Dealer tables: \$15 first, \$17 up to max of 3. To: ConCave, PO Box 90962, Nashville TN 37209.

FANCON '85: (March 8-10) Northpark Inn, 9300 N. Central Expwy, Dallas TX 75231

GoHs: George Takei, Majel Roddenberry. Memberships: \$12 til 3/1, \$15 after (\$6/day). To: Fancon '85, PO Box 380297, Duncanville TX 75138.

NORWESCON 8: (March 14-17) Red Lion Inn, Seattle WA

PRO: Brian Aldiss. FAN: rich brown. Science GoH: Greg Benford. TM: Robert Silverberg. Membership: \$25. To: Norwescon 8, PO Box 24207, Seattle WA 98124.

6TH CONFERENCE ON THE FANTASTIC: (March 13-16) Hilton Hotel, Beaumont TX.

GoH: Gahan Wilson. Info: Roger Schlobin, Perdue Univ., North Central Campus, Westville IN 46391.

LUNACON '85: (March 15-17) Sherton Inn LaGuardia, 90-10 Grand Central Pkwy,

East Elmhurst, Queens NY. Rooms: \$55/sgl, \$60/dbl. GoHs: Gordon R. Dickson, Don Maitz, Curt Clemmer. Memberships: \$16 til 2/26, \$20 at door -- 1100 member limit. To: The Lunarians Inc., PO Box 779, Brooklyn NY 11230.

HITCHHIKING TO GALLIFREY: (March 15-17) Henry the 8th Inn & Motor Lodge,

N. Lindbergh Ave., Bridgeton MO. Banquet at Milliways: \$25. (Must include bus fare!) Memberships: \$25 after 1/15, \$14 one day. To: Renegade Time Lords of St. Louis, Inc., PO Box 1135, Belleville IL 62223.

CAPRICONWEST: (March 15-17) Amfac Hotel, 8601 Lincoln Bl., Westchester CA.

Rooms: \$56 sgl/dbl. Memberships: \$17.50 til 3/1, \$20 at the door. Dealers tables: \$45 til 3/1, \$55 at door -- for wall space and/or electrical outlet add \$5 per table. Table includes one membership. To: Capriconwest, PO Box 598, Gardena CA 90247.

NADACON: (March 16-17) Quality Inn, 616 Convention Way, Anaheim CA 92802
Guest Star: James Doohan. Rooms: \$50/sgl, \$55/dbl. Memberships: \$13 per day.
Dealers table: \$110 (includes membership, for two days). SASE to NADACON,
c/o J. Catriona McDowell, PO Box 3742, Ontario CA 91764.

MIDSOUTHCON IV: (March 22-24) Quality Inn Airport, 1400 Springbrook Rd.,
Memphis TN 38116. PRO: Frederik Pohl, ART GoH: Keith Berdak, FAN: Ken Moore.
TM: Sharon Webb. Rooms: \$30/sgl, \$6 additional being. Memberships: \$12.50 til 2/1,
\$15 at the door. To: Richard Moore, 1229 Pallwood, Memphis TN 38122.

GENERICON: (March 22-24) Holiday Inn & Rensselaer Inst., Troy NY.
GoH: Hal Clement. ARTIST GoH: Phil Foglio. FAN: Jan Howard Finder. Memberships:
\$10 til 3/8, \$12 after. To: Genericon, Box 66 Rensselaer Union, Troy NY 12180.

NOVA 10: (March 30-31) Oakland Univ., Rochester MI
GoH: Ted Reynolds. Memberships: \$3.50 til 3/1, \$5 at the door. To: Order of
Leibowitz, 64 Oakland Ctr., Oakland Univ., Rochester MI 48063.

I-CON IV S.U.N.Y.: (March 29-31) S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook NY. Membership: \$11 til
3/15, \$14 at the door. To: I-Con, Box 550, Stony Brook NY 11790.

ISTACON 2: (March 29-31) Hilton Inn, Tucker GA.
GoH: Charles L. Grant, SGoH: Kathy Ptacek, FGoH: Ken Moore, TM: Gerry Page.
Rooms: \$49. Memberships: \$15. Buffet \$15. Dealers tables: \$25 (include membership,
limit 2). To: Istacon 2, c/o 959-A Waverly Ct., Norcross GA 30071.

MINICON 20: (April 5-7) Radisson South, 7800 Normandie Bl., Bloomington MN
PRO: James P. Hogan, FAN: The Permanent Floating Riot Club (Michigan Tech U SF club),
Rooms: \$40 (\$50 poolside cabana). Memberships: \$12 til 3/10, \$20 at door.
Programming Committee is still looking for good ideas (Eric Heideman, 3649 Bryant
Ave., So., Minneapolis MN 55409). Money to: MINICON, PO Box 2128, Loop Station,
Minneapolis MN 55402.

LEPRECON 11: (April 5-7) Hyatt Regency, 2nd St. at Adams, Phoenix AZ.
GoH: Lela Dowling, G. Harry Stine, Roy Tackett. Rooms: \$47 sgl/dbl. Memberships:
More than \$14. Dealers table: \$60. To: Leprecon 11, PO Box 16815, Phoenix AZ 85011.

YORCON III (36th Annual British Eastercon): (April 5-8) Dragonara and Queens
Hotels, Leeds, UK. GoH: Greg Benford; FGoH: Linda Pickersgill. Info: Chratiene
Donaldson, 46 Colwyn Rd., Beeston, Leeds LS11 6PY United Kingdom.

EUCON '85: (April 5-7) Eugene Hilton, Eugene OR
PRO: Theodore Sturgeon, TM: Stephen R. Donaldson. Rooms: \$34/sgl/dbl.
Memberships: \$15 til 3/31. Dealers table: \$30 incl. memb. Info: Eucon '85, c/o
Terra Nova, 207 E. 5th, Box 101, Eugene OR 97401. (503) 484-9500.

CONTRAPTION: (April 19-21) Holiday Inn, Troy MI. Full service sf con in its
very first year. The Great Traveling Japanese Animation Show; Timberlake Holt: the
nation's largest Elfquest fan club; the First Annual Contraption Design Contest
(the best or weirdest contraption wins). Membership: \$15 at the door. Info:
Contraption, 327 Orion Terrace, Lake Orion MI 48035.

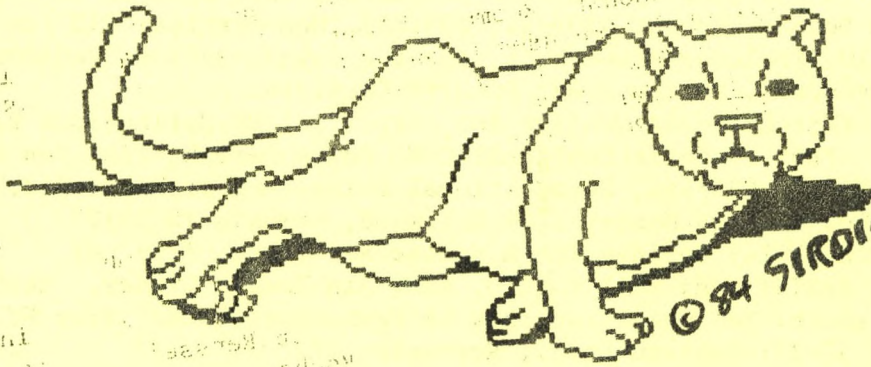
FANTASY WORLDS FESTIVAL: (April 19-21) Hyatt Hotel, Oakland CA.
GoH: Madeleine L'Engle; FGoH: Judy Gerujoy. Rooms: \$59 sgl/dbl. Memberships:
\$30 til 3/15, \$40 at the door. To: Friends of Darkover, Box 72, Berkeley CA 94701.

CON*TRETEMPS 4: (April 26-28) Old Mill Holiday Inn, Omaha NE.
GoH: Vonda N. McIntyre. Artist GoH: Carl Lundgren. FAN: Bruce Miller. TM: Rusty
Hevelin. Membership: \$14 til 3/31, \$17 at the door. To: Con*tretemps 4, PO Box 45,
Omaha NE 68101.

ALTI-EGO'S: (April 26-28) Sheraton Denver Tech Center, 4900 Denver Tech Parkway,
Denver CO 80237. Guests: Anne McCaffrey, Real & Muff Musgrave, Hap Henriksen,
Mary Mason, MC: Ed Bryant. Memberships: \$25 through March, \$35 at the door.
To: Alti-Egos, PO Box 261000, Lakewood CO 80226.

TREASURECON III: (April 26-28) Sheraton, Billings, MT
GoHs: Phil Foglio, George Takei. Memberships: \$15 til 3/31, \$20 after (\$8/day).
Dance, SCA, FRP Games, Dead Smurf Party. To: PO Box 22111, Billings MT 59104.

50TH ANNIVERSARY SCIENCE FICTION SHOWCASE: (May 11) LASFS. Tickets: \$20 adult, \$10



age 12 and under. To: LASFS, 11513 Burbank Bl., North Hollywood CA 91601.

MARCON XX: (May 10-12) Sinclair Plaza, 4900 Sinclair Rd., Columbus OH 43229

GoH: Larry Niven. AGoH: Carl Lundgren. FGoH: Bill Maraschiello. TM: Valerie Stewart. Rooms: \$44/sgl, \$50/dbl. Memberships: \$18 til 4/15, \$20 after. Art show, video, gaming. Dealers room - \$35 first table (incl. membership) to Van Siegling, 222 Andalus Dr., Gahanna OH 43230. Otherwise send your inquiries and loot to: Marcon, PO Box 14078, Columbus OH 43214-0078.

KUBLA the 13th: (May 17-19) Sheraton-Nashville Hotel, Nashville TN

GoHs: Carol Emshwiller, Ed Emshwiller; MC: Andrew Offutt. Rooms: \$45.

Membership: \$15 til 3/31, \$18 after. At Show and auction, huckster room (call Larry Wolfe, 813-845-3897). Midnight Maskeraid. Video (Friday the 13th Marathon, and The Lathe of Heaven, which Emshwiller was Art Director for.) Registrations to: Carol Wiggins Donaldson, 3017 Towne Village Rd., Antioch TN 37013.

CONQUEST 16: (May 17-19) Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, 610 Washington, KC MO 64105

PRO: George R.R. Martin, FAN: Buck & Juanita Coulson, TM: Algis Budrys. Rooms: \$30/sgl, \$34/dbl. (Mention con & ask for 5th or 6th floor; call 1-800-654-2000) Memberships: \$14 til 4/15, \$16 at the door. To: Conquest, PO Box 36212, KC MO 64111

KEYCON: (May 17-19) Winnipeg Marlborough Inn, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

GoHs: Vonda McIntyre, Tim Hammel, Crystal Marvig. Rooms: \$45 sgl/dbl. Membership: inquire to: Keycon 85, PO Box 3178, Winnipeg MAN R3C 4E6, Canada.

COSTUMECON 3: (May 24-27) Columbia Inn, Columbia MD.

Convention for SF, Fantasy and Historical costumers. Workshops, dealer's room, SF/F and Historical Masquerades. Membership: inquire to GCFCG Inc., PO Box 683, Columbia MD 21045.

BAYCON '85: (May 24-27) San Jose Red Lion Inn, CA.

GoHs: David Brin, Michael Whelan. TM: Richard Lupoff. Rooms: \$48/sgl, \$51/dbl. Memberships: \$25 til 3/1, \$30 til 5/1, \$35 at door, \$15 daily. Dealers tables (each table includes one membership) \$75 til 3/1, \$85 til 5/1. Send SASE for info: BAYCON 85, PO Box 70393, Sunnyvale CA 94086.

V-CON 13: (May 24-26) Totem Residence, University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC.

GoH: Robert Bloch. FAN: John Berry. Membership: \$15 til 3/31, \$18 til 5/17, \$20 at door. To: V-Con 13, PO Box 48478 Bentall Centre, Vancouver BC V7X 1A2 Canada.

HATCON 3: (June 7-9) Ramada Inn, Danbury CT

GoHs: Ian & Betty Ballantine, Fred Haskell. Saturday Night Bacchanal and Hat Masquerade, Pool Party, champagne reception for artists. Hotel phone (203)792-3800. Memberships: \$25 til 4/1, \$30 til 6/1, \$35 at door. Limit 350. Huckster tables \$30, plus membership. To: Kennedy Poyser, CTSFS, 108 Park Ave., Danbury CT 06810.

**AD ASTRA V: (June 7-9) Howard Johnson's Airport Hotel, 801 Dixon Rd., Toronto ONT
PRO: David Brin. FAN: Mike Glycer. Rooms: \$55/sgl, \$59/dbl. Art show info: Elizabeth Pearce, 218 All Saints Cres., Oakville ONT L6J 5M9 Canada. Dealers tables: \$20 til 5/1, \$30 at door (no membership incl). Write to: Lloyd Penney, PO Box 186

Stn M, Toronto ONT M6S 4T3 Canada. Memberships: \$15 til 5/1, \$20 at door. To: Ad Astra V, PO Box 7276 Stn A, Toronto ONT M5W 1X9 Canada.*****

LASTCON T'REE: (June 14-16) Americana Inn, near Albany Airport, Albany NY
GoHs: Christopher Stasheff, Jack Gaughan. Rooms: \$55/sgl, \$65/dbl. Memberships: \$16 til 6/1, \$18 after. Masquerade, computers, video, science programming, hot tubs.
To: LASTSFA, PO Box 13002, Albany NY 12212.

DEEPSOUTHCON 23: (June 21-23) Carriage Inn, 3811 University Dr., Huntsville AL 35805
GoH: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Barclay Shaw; FAN: Bob Sampson; MC: Marta Randall.
Hotel rates: \$35 sgl/dbl. Membership: \$16 til 5/15, \$20 after. To: DSC 23, PO Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815.

SFRA 15th CONFERENCE: (June 27-30) Kent State University, Kent OH
Registration \$40. To: Donald M. Hassler, English Dept., Kent St.Univ., Kent OH 44242.

MIDWESTCON 36: (June 27-30) Hampshire House Hotel, 30 Tri-County Parkway, Springdale OH 45246. Relaxacon. TM: Bob Tucker. Rooms: \$43/sgl, \$53/dbl. Membership: \$10
Buffet: \$15. To: Bill Cavin, 2215 Harrison Ave. #2A, Cincinnati OH 45211.

INCONJUNCTION: (July 4-7) Indianapolis Hilton, 31 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis IN 46204.
GoHs: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Michael Kube McDowell, Jim Gilpatrick. MC: Juanita Coulson. Rooms: \$45/sgl/dbl. Membership: \$12 til 4/1, \$15 til 6/15, \$20 after.
To: Inconjunction V, PO Box 19976, Indianapolis IN 46219.

WESTERCON 38: (July 3-7) Red Lion Motor Inn, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento CA 95815
PRO: James Hogan, FAN: Paula Crist, TM: Katherine Kurtz. Rooms: \$44 sgl/dbl.
Membership: write to: 4812 Folsom Bl. Ste.125, Sacramento CA 95819. (916)481-8753

EMPIRICON: (July 5-7) Sheraton Inn at LaGuardia, NY NY
Art show, dealers room. Info: TESSFA Inc., PO Box 682, Church St.Stn., NY NY 10002
PANOPTICON NEW ORLEANS: (July 12-14) Info: PO Box 57647, Norleans LA 70157-7647.
ARCHON 9: (July 12-14) Henry VIII Inn and Lodge, 4690 Lindbergh St., St.Louis MO
GoH: R.A.MacAvoy. TM: Suzette Haden Elgin. Art show, auction, masquerade, panels, readings. Rooms: \$48 and up for 1 or 2. Memberships: \$15 til 6/1. To: Archon 9, PO Box 50125, Clayton MO 63105.

MAPLECON 7: (July 19-21) Carleton Univ., Ottawa ONT Canada
GoHs: Richard & Wendy Pini, TM: Chris Claremont. Memberships: C\$15 til 6/30, C\$20 at door. Payments in certified checks or money orders. To: Maplecon 7, PO Box 3156 Stn D, Ottawa ONT K1P 5K0, Canada.

OKon: (July 19-21) INFO: PO Box 4229, Tulsa OK 74159

MYTHCON XVI: (July 26-28) Wheaton College, Wheaton IL. Annual conference of the Mythopoeic Society. Theme: "A kinship of dancers"; interplay in the lives and works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis and Charles Williams. Papers, panels, films, art show, auction, special music, masquerade, dealers room, banquet, banner competition, procession and pageantry, morning workshops on creating alternate worlds, and costume design. Evening party with English country dancing. Wheaton College has the Marion E. Wade collection, a unique mythopoeic institution - extended hours will be available for convention members. Wheaton College library also houses the wardrobe (from the Narnia books), and the collected works and papers of Madeleine L'Engle. Membership: total room and board package and registration \$141.50. (Includes 3 nights double occupancy, 9 meals including the feast, facilities fee and registration.) To: Mythcon XVI: PO Box A3120, Chicago IL 60690.

CON-VERSION II: (July 26-28) Calgary, ALTA, Canada
GoH: Poul Anderson. Info: Conversion II, 340 17th Ave SW, Calgary ALTA T2S 0A5 Canada.
AUGUST PARTY: (Aug. 2-4) Info: PO Box 335, Arnold MD 21012
AUSSIECON TWO: (43rd Worldcon): August 22-26) Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne. PRO: Gene Wolfe, FAN: Ted White. Attending membership: \$60. To: Aussiecon 2, GPO Box 2253U, Melbourne VIC 3001 Australia, or, Fred Patten, 11863 W. Jefferson Blvd., Culver City CA 90230.

NASFIC: (Aug.30-Sept.2) Austin, TX. GoH: Jack Vance, Richard Powers, Joanne Burger; TM: Chad Oliver. Info: FACT, PO Box 9612, Austin TX 78766.

AN INTRODUCTION
TO THE PLUTONIUM AGE
OF FANDOM

AVEDON CAROL



To my way of thinking, there's a hidden agenda to fanzine reviewing. Sure, when you review fanzines, it's a way of telling people what is available, what to watch for, who to nominate for the Hugos and all that, but fanzine reviews are also an excuse to throw some appreciation at people who have been trying to extend the friendship of the twiltone page across the globe. Criticism is all very well -- it's easier, and often more interesting to readers, if you just go for the throat, and god knows saying things are Good can get pretty boring -- but criticism doesn't help much if it's not tempered with an atmosphere of encouragement and visible recognition of the effort and achievement, and of what you're doing right.

Okay, it's true that there are a lot of faneds who give the appearance of having an endless amount of money to spend and no knowledge of what to do with it -- they can use lots of paper, double-space, pay exorbitant postage costs, make lots of electrostencils without considering content, type lots of words that don't entertain, and do not know the difference between *editing* and copy-editing. This can be irritating, especially when there's some indication that if you passed a law that no fanzine could exceed 30 pages, these people would suddenly become fine writers and editors. Sure, I've seen a lot of lousy 6-page articles that could have been good 2 or 3 page pieces. I've seen a lot of tedious 150-page fanzines that could have been delightful 30-pagers, and in fact I've seen a lot of 100-pagers that could have made two superbly delightful 50-page fanzines. Most of us get over-ambitious from time to time, we make work for ourselves when we could get a better product by doing less. We get fussy, clutter our pages, use unnecessary artwork and articles because we don't know how to say "No" to our contributors. I'm guilty, too, just as I (and every other fanwriter I can think

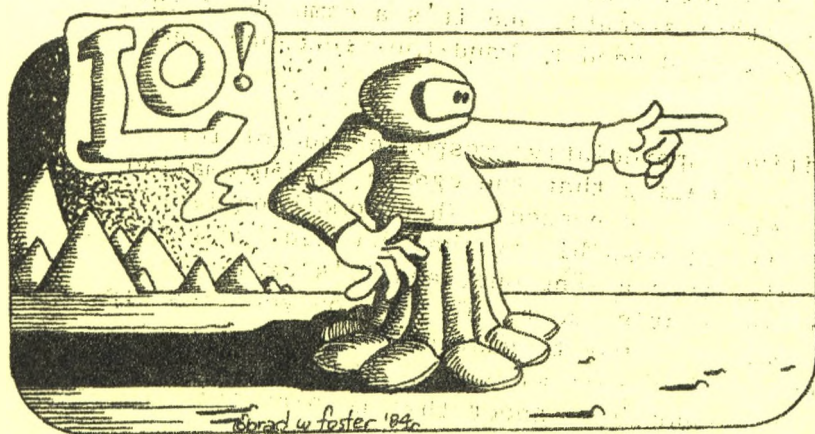
of, no matter how good they are) turn in pieces for publication that should never have been shown to anyone without severe alteration. Some of our worst junk actually gets published (to our eternal embarrassment), and it's a damn shame that the nerve of the editor failed them when they needed to hand the piece back and say "Fix it."

The bottom line is how much truly positive, appreciative response you got for the work you did. Do you always have the feeling that the egoboo in your mailbox is nowhere near proportionate to the energy you expended? Then something is wrong, and the first thing to consider is the possibility that you did too much work. It's easier to put out a short zine than a long one, and it's easier to read and respond comprehensively to a zine that's short. Go easy on your readers, and they will thk you for it. There may be no way to guarantee that you never get hate mail from the loonies, but if you play fair with your editors, your contributors, and your audience, you can reasonably expect them to play fair with you.

Usually. As I said, criticism is easier than praise, and sometimes we forget to give credit where it's due. We are so often busy telling people what we think will improve their work that we forget to make it clear that it doesn't all need improvement. So that's my agenda when I do an article like this -- to inform readers of what's available, yes, but also to give credit where it's due. Now, maybe that makes me a bit of a wimp as a reviewer, but there are just too many people who deserve kudos for what they write and publish for me to want to waste any energy decimating some poor kid who just emptied the piggy bank and stood over a hot mimeo and is waiting at the mail slot for some egoboo.

Like TARAL. Taral Wayne doesn't have much money and publishes a lot less often than he'd like, and it seems like forever since he put enough pennies together for one of his fanzines. But DNQ#34, after years of Taral's scrimping and saving, has finally slithered its way to my door and the only thing wrong with it is that it's too big to read in one sitting. Taral seems ready to have fun again, from the "Shirm Album" and the "Lewis Taral" poem to the bacover cartoon where he lets his hair down a little bit. I think it was worth the wait. Aside from beautiful production, neat pastiche art, 'real' art, a fannish map of the world, and some weird as hell metaphor, Taral has also managed to line up some great outside contributions from the best of fandom as well. Rich Coad, the man who left Ratfandom to be a semi-gafiate in San Francisco (that's what you get for that remark in SPACE JUNK, Rich); Eric Mayer, fandom's spy in Rochester; a Susan Wood reprint; Stu Shiffman (again, Flushing); the Irish John Berry; and Dave Langford, the funniest writer in fandom, the man who most deserves a Hugo (sorry Mike, but no one writes better than he does). True, the piece from NEW SCIENTIST doesn't hold a candle to your basic garden-variety Langford; you basic garden variety Langford usually leaves you chuckling evilly for days. Still, this is the most impressive table of contents I've seen in quite some time. Send Taral \$5.00 and tell him to make more fanzines. (1812-415 Willowdale Ave., Willowdale ONT M2N 5B4 CANADA).

BRIAN EARL BROWN's STICKY QUARTERS isn't as good as his MAD SCIENTISTS DIGEST, but it comes out a lot more regularly and gets good contributors. Fortunately, Brian does keep threatening to put out another MSD, and that ain't bad. I do my best to encourage him. Recently, Brian experimented by extending the new fannish cliché about "ensmalled fanzines" in the other direction, presenting us with an "embigged" SQ ((tabloid size)), the contents of which weren't bad, but the size



made it unwieldy. SQ is usually a tiny (entined?) foldover which is easier to handle, but never as easy to read as a regular 8 1/2 x 11 MSD. I'm still looking forward to that MAD SCIENTIST'S DIGEST, Brian. (20101 W. Chicago #201, Detroit MI 48228.)

LINDA BLANCHARD appeared in fandom not long ago with a small fanzine called SOME LUCK/IT FIGURES. It got bigger and became EGOBOODLE.

Linda looked like a perfect Jophan as soon as she showed up with her first zine. Since then she has produced THE MOVING PAPER FANTASY (or PAPER FAN, for short), demonstrating once again that Linda's zines are well worth getting, especially if she keeps printing great stuff like Tom Weber's piece on reality: Tom is the New Fan To Watch this year, people. Her most recent zine, SCATTERSHOT, is a touching farewell to a dream that didn't work, and a transition to what we can only hope will be a more successful life back in the West. (c/o Weatherlow, 21339 Willow Lane, Strongsville OH 44136.)

RICH BROWN, in the face of all sorts of disasters, nevertheless keeps trying to pub his ish. Rich should stop involving himself in other people's feuds and go back to making normal fanzines. His recent publications have been a bit downbeat, which I suppose can't be helped, but we're hoping he'll cheer up soon and go back to doing what he does best: speaking and writing with a friendly chuckle in his voice. You should remember his address, because rich keeps the mailing lists for a good ten or twelve of the major faneds in North America. If you want those fanzines to go to the right address, send those COAs to rich brown, every time, without fail, so I don't keep writing to you at High Park Ave., or wherever you used to live. (c/o Ted White, 1014 N. Tuckahoe, Falls Church VA 22046.)

Lucy Huntzinger has done other things than simply be my partner in crime when I coedit rude fanzines. Ms. Lucinda has put out a few titles of her own, all of which she insists are "not really fanzines." Lucy holds herself up to standards she can never meet. She is a Travelling Giant who hates to stay home. She worked on Corflu and produced its attractive flyer/fanzine/progress report, THE TWILTONE ZONE. I don't know when she plans to do something next, but I hope this time she admits it's a fanzine and learns to take a compliment in good grace. (251 Ashbury St. #4, San Francisco CA 94117).

STEVEN BRYAN BIELER is an interesting guy who started mailing things to me recently enough that I should even remember it. With Linda, Lucy and Tom, he seems to be part of a new generation of fanwriters who appeared on the scene almost fully formed. I haven't got a real handle on Bieler yet, but so far I've been impressed with everything he's sent me, and I consider him another Fan to Watch in the 80s. If these four people continue to live up to their promise, the Plutonium Age of Fandom is going to be one of the best yet. (PO Box 1970, Seattle WA 98111.)

BILL BOWERS is publishing OUTWORLDS again. OUTWORLDS was a pretty reliable example of a good standard zine during the 1970s, but it disappeared for while. Bill has recently published enough issues in reasonable succession that I actually believe in its existence again. Bowers publishes lots of long interesting letters from all over the world, and hears from most of the better known letterhacks in the US. He can also be relied upon for good stuff by Dave Locke (including a recent interview with Walt Willis) and even articles by Tucker himself. Bill's production is always straightforward and solid, and generally clean, excepting the occasional unavoidable page so faint you can barely read it. His layouts are often clever, seldom fussy, and he's kind to his artists. (2468 Harrison Ave., Cincinnati OH 45211.)

DON D'AMMASSA is another fanned who had a hit in the 1970s, disappeared for awhile, and recently re-emerged. MYTHOLOGIES had a rep as the letterzine forum for heavy discussion, and usually could be counted on for a fairly complete fannish roll call. In its way, it was the focal point fanzine of its time, drawing comment from almost every quarter, radically divergent philosophies clashing in its pages. As we made some of our most outrageous statements in MYTHOLOGIES, the action never stopped until Don found some of his best LoCs came DNQ, so he retreated into SF reviews for awhile. Now he's back with his attractively-packaged bundle of explosive comment hooks, and I'm relieved to see it. (323 Dodge St., East Providence RI 02904.)

CLIFF WIND's RHETORICAL DEVICE is "available for discourse and by editorial whim alone," which means if you want to keep getting it you've got to think about what you read and send him comments. Most of us feel the same way: one dollar looks like another, and we'd like to know there's a real human being on the other end if we're going to expend the energy of keeping them on our mailing lists. In Cliff's case, he follows Don D'Amassa's structure of introducing controversial subjects for discussion and letting the letters fly. His format is simple and clean, and RD is a quick easy read at 24 pages. (308 Summit E. #206, Seattle WA 98102.)

MARTY & ROBBIE CANTOR have kept up their publishing schedule with HOLIER THAN THOU and certainly it is one of the most frequent genzines. Although Marty's penchant for "putridity" may some times put people off, or at least confuse them, Robbie seems to have kept him in line a bit more since she joined the editorial team. I say she seems to have done so; maybe some other explanation exists for HTT becoming more comfortable and readable ((especially if the reader is cautioned that this column was written before the issue of HTT with Bergeron's TAFF feud column)). The latest issue I have sports a beautiful and tasteful Bergeron cover that makes a stunning contrast to the previous issue's use of Jon Langford's health poster (which described what flies do when they land on your food). The contents also impress: Dave Langford's SF review column "The Dragonhiker's Guide to Battlefield Covenant at Dune's Edge: Odyssey Two," Terry Carr's "Entropy Reprints", and material by Higgins, Berry and Bergeron.

The packaging is good, but the publishers commit a couple of unforgiveable sins. Marty's concept of editing is to alter the original words of his contributors to suit an affectation; there is nothing wrong with the word "while", Marty. There is often something wrong with the word "whilst." Marty often interrupts locs to insert his own comments, thus interrupting the flow of the author's own work, and he frequently cuts out the best part of locs and prints only the introductory matter, making both his publication and his contributors look the worst for it.

He seems to take perverse pride in the fact that he does not otherwise edit the articles he prints at all. There is clearly something wrong here: this kind of non-editing does justice to no one. While Marty's publications have improved, he's still not an editor, he's a printer. ((Robbie always edits my contribution for style and lucidity...and whilst. Two out of three ain't bad.))

JOHN D. BERRY puts out WING WINDOW when he gets around to it, and it was one of the first zines I saw referred to as "an ensmalled fanzine." At 12 pages it zips right by with short columns by John and his impressive, if short, list of contributors. One of my favorite bits was the colophon in #3 a few years ago:

WING WINDOW #3, just like the first two, is edited and published by John D. Berry, 525 19th Avenue East, Seattle WA 98112. To get WING WINDOW you don't have to laugh in all the right places, but it helps. The mailing list is volatile, and distribution is by osmosis. The beginning of this issue has been estimated, using televisioncarbon dating, at July 8, 1982, plus or minus 144 years. All rights will be festival seating. Smash the state and have a nice day.

See, we work so hard on our colophons and no one ever reads them. In any case, this one in its way says it all.

~~THE ADVENTURES OF GEORGE FLYNN: Continued~~
~~got into a dispute, and rumor had it that the fire began when a pair of pants was~~
~~shoved into an oven. So you see, it wasn't merely modesty that led George to~~
~~sleep in his clothes. For weeks afterwards George's apartment was torn up in the~~
~~slow process of repair, and he ate so often at Burger King that he began to~~
~~feel like part of the royal family. But now George is rolling along again from~~
~~project to project...maybe even the L.A.con II Business Meeting Minutes.~~

ART CREDITS: Taral: Cover. Tim Marion: 2 (Calligraphy). Steve Fox: 3. Ray
Capella: 5, 11. Jackie Causgrove: 6. Stu Shiffman: 7. Al Sirois: 16.
Ray Capella: 18. Brad Foster: 20, 22.



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