

FILE 770



COVER STORY

SHERATON SHAFTS WORLDCON BID AGAIN

On February 14, Sharon Sbarsky announced, "The Sheraton Boston has let MCFI know that Labor Day 1998 has been booked by the American Political Science Association. The Sheraton is unwilling to consider the Worldcon on a non-holiday weekend. Therefore, based upon the loss of this facility the bidding committee no longer feels it can bid for a traditional Noreascon. However, we are investigating alternative structures and concepts for a Worldcon in Boston. There will be public meetings at Boskone to solicit ideas from fandom, and discussion on the nets. A final decision will be made in one month. During this period we will not actively solicit presupposing memberships."

Attendees of the March 3 meeting of MCFI (Massachusetts Convention Fandom, Inc.), decided to investigate possibilities more before making a decision. Said Sbarsky, "We formed several subcommittees to look into subjects like hotels, transportation, communication, finances, peripheral 'problem' groups like babysitting and handicapped access, reconstructing the Hynes, other Options for MCFI and Leslie's Lemonade Stand (How to make Lemonade out of the Lemons we were given)."

Tony Lewis, NESFA Clerk and *Instant Message* editor, characterized these factions of Boston fans, saying: One believes MCFI should bid for the 1998 Worldcon, even if Boston is nuked. At the other extreme, the second believes that even if Bill Clinton seizes all the hotels in Boston and gives them to MCFI, they shouldn't bid for a worldcon. The third group will think about it for awhile before deciding whether they have the resources to stage the kind of worldcon they want.

Just four years ago the DC in '92 bid lost much of its hotel space to another organization offering an immediate commitment and fell out of the race.

FLOPPY DISK HUGO ANTHOLOGY

ClariNet Communications Corp. of Cupertino, CA, is contacting all 1993 Hugo nominees to print their nominated work, or representative material, for distribution in computer-readable form. Brad Templeton, Publisher, states he has already gotten rights to reprint all fifteen short fiction nominees.

File 770:97 is edited by Mike Glyer at 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. *File 770* is available for news, artwork, arranged trades (primarily with other newzines and clubzines), or by subscription. Yes, need those subscriptions to afford to do this thing! Subscriptions cost \$8.00 for 5 issues mailed first class in North America or surface mail rates overseas. Air printed matter service is available for \$2.50 per issue. Telephone (818) 787-5061.

ART CREDITS: Brad Foster - Cover; Diana Harlan Stein - 3; Bill Rotsler - 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15; Peggy Ranson - 5; Ruth Thompson - 9; Ian Gunn - 14, 17, 21, 22.

ERRATA: Several fans noticed a particular error in the last issue, but none so humorously as Roger Wells, who wrote:

"I am quite disturbed by some implications in your article 'Just A Minute' under Conventional Reportage in issue 96, in reference to the somewhere-in-Australia 1999 Worldcon bid. Particularly, I am concerned by your statement, '...1999 is the next year Atlanta could legally bid for.' Since Atlanta was last eligible, and bid, for 1995 (losing to Glasgow) it would normally be eligible three years later. Is this the first indication that the Clinton administration has intentions of eliminating the year 1998 as part of the overall scheme for cutting the deficit? Or does Atlanta's Olympic Committee perhaps have plans for moving the city to the western zone, which is eligible to bid for 1999? Will their high-tech mascot 'Whatizit' be snuggling into Silicon Valley? Can we expect an Atlanta Westercon to follow?"

LAST MINUTE CONVERSION

Dave Axler, of Philadelphia, came to the fan consumer's court of last resort to complain that he received *Intersection's* progress report 0.1 containing information on how to convert to an attending membership just four days before the next price hike. "I'm half amused and half pissed off, and I won't tell you which half."

PORSFISDAMUS PREDICTS!

In *Pulsar #174* a faanish seer predicts, "The Westercon 46 Business Meeting will again amend the site selection procedures, finally admitting that a geographic based, North/South rotation fails to address the issue when fans move around so much. The revised bylaw Section 3.2 will read, 'Only fans whose names begin with A-O shall be eligible in odd-numbered years and only those whose names begin with P-Z shall be eligible in even-numbered years.'"

15th ANNIVERSARY FILE 770 POLL RESULTS



VOTERS: (31) Eve Ackerman, Harry Andruschak, Allan Burrows, Mike Donahue, Brad Foster, Don Franson, Janice Gelb, Mike Glicksohn, Mike Glycer, Rich Gutkes, Joe and Gay Haldeman, Judith Hanna, Andy Hooper, Robert Lichtman, Guy H. Lillian III, Gary Louie, Dick and Nicki Lynch, J. R. Madden, Joseph Nicholas, Mark and Priscilla Olson, Elizabeth Osborne, Diana Lynne Pavlac, Bruce Pelz, Ben Schilling, Dale Speirs, Willard Stone, Jefferson P. Swycaffer, Dave Travis, R. Laurraine Tutihasi, David Weiner, Taras Wolansky, Martin Morse Wooster.

FAVORITE FANZINE

<i>File 770</i>	15
<i>Mimosa</i>	13
<i>Fosfax</i>	8
<i>Lan's Lantern</i>	5
<i>Stet</i>	5
<i>Outworlds</i>	4

Receiving (3) votes: *Ansible*, *Astromancer Quarterly*, *Radio Free Thulcandra*. Receiving (2) votes: *Anvil*, *Frozen Frog*, *Idea*, *Tightbeam*, *The Reluctant Famulus*. Receiving (1) vote: *BCSFazine*, *Space-Time Continuum*, *Button-Tack*, *Chernobylization*, *Cleveland Ansible*, *Connotations*, *Cube*, *Erg*, *Folly*, *FTT*, *Ghoul Pardi*, *Iota*, *Jews in Space*, *Joe Wesson's Fanzine*, *Locus*, *The Mentor*, *Nexus*, *Niekas*, *OASFIS Event Horizon*, *Rune*, *SFC Bulletin*, *SF Eye*, *Smart-Ash*, *7th Inning*, *Spent Brass*, *Spicy Armadillo Stories*, *Trapdoor*, *Weberwoman's Wrevenge*, *Yhos*.

FAVORITE FANWRITER - HUMOR

Dave Langford	9
Sharon Farber	5

Receiving (3) votes: Chuch Harris, Arthur Hlavaty; Receiving (2) votes: Richard Brandt, Mike Glycer, Arnie Katz, Charlotte Proctor, Bob Shaw, Paul Skelton; Receiving (1) vote: Harry Andruschak, Michael Ashley, Marty Cantor, Chuck Connor, Buck Coulson, Gary Deindorfer, Martin Gittins, Rob Hansen, Joe Maraglino, Elise Matheson, Joe Nicholas, Bill Rotsler, Ian Sorensen, Matthew Tepper, Jean Weber, Elst Weinstein, Walt Willis.

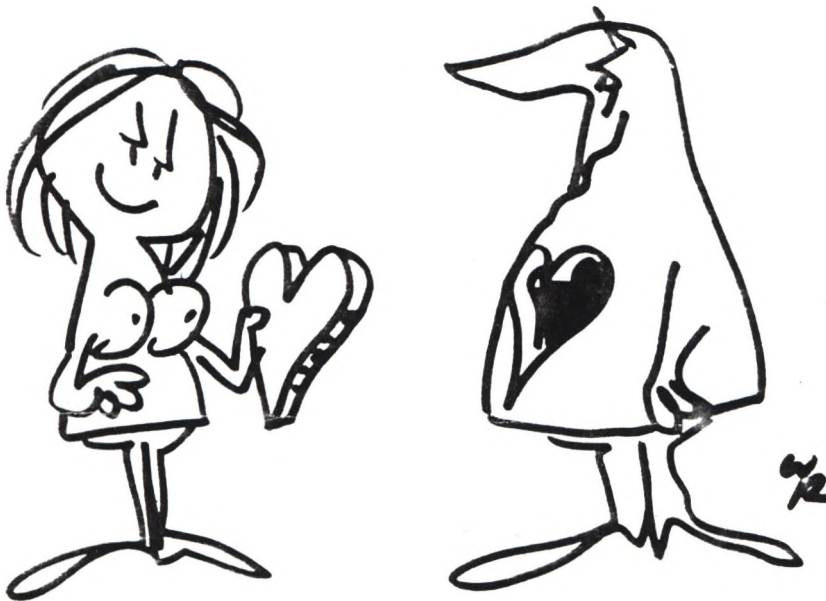
FAVORITE FANWRITER - NARRATIVE

Joseph Major	4
Harry Warner Jr.	4
Mike Glycer	4
Andy Hooper	4

Receiving (3) votes: Helga Trautwetter. Receiving (2) votes: Lan Laskowski, David Thayer, Guy H. Lillian III, Arnie Katz, Avedon Carol. Receiving (1) vote: Redd Boggs, Bill Bowers, David Bratman, Buck Coulson, Al Curry, Dwight Decker, Sharon Farber, Doug Fratz, Tim Gatewood, Richard Geis, Janice Gelb, Glenn Glazer, Jeanne Gomoll, Judith Hanna, Marty Helgesen, Dave Langford, Fred Lerner, Eric Lindsay, Eric Mayer, Fred Patten, Mike Resnick, Cas Skelton, David Schlosser, Geri Sullivan, Matthew Tepper, Kimiye Tipton, Jean Weber, Ted White, Walt Willis, Taras Wolansky.

FAVORITE FANARTIST

Teddy Harvia	13
Bill Rotsler	9
Brad Foster	7
Peggy Ranson	6
Alexis Gilliland	4
Taral	4
Stu Shiffman	4



Receiving (2) votes: Sheryl Birkhead, Merle Insinga, Joe Mayhew, Linda Michaels, Dan Steffan, Diana Harlan Stein, Steve Stiles. Receiving (1) vote: Atom, Alicia Austin, Randy Bathurst, Harry Bell, C. Ross Chamberlain, Gary Davis, Delphyne, Steven Fox, Ian Gunn, Alan Hunter, Mike Hutchinson, Terry Jeeves, Marc Schirmeister, Terrie Smith.

MOST IMPORTANT FAN NEWS EVENT OF 1992

- (5) Best Fanzine Hugo winner screw-up
- (5) Glasgow winning 1995 Worldcon bid
- (4) Isaac Asimov's death
- (3) Roger Weddall's death
- (1) Engagement and gaffiation of Mike Glicksohn
- The 1992 election for president
- Fritz Leiber's death
- Corflu 9
- Magicon succeeds
- Discovery of life at Loscon
- Woofing the Hugo
- Quantum shuts down publishing
- Cryptoball league expansion!

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. If science fiction fans made a list of seven deadly sins, what would two of them be?

Two (2) votes: Sloth; Failing to bathe regularly; Gluttony; Being boring; Mundanity; Obesity; Fuggheadedness;

One (1) vote: Making lists; Robert Sacks; Procrastination; Calling it SCI-FI; Throwing away fanzines; Folding back a paperback cover; Using fandom for personal monetary gain; Cons without rock'n roll dances; Book gluttony; Rambling conversation; Self-pity; Smoking; Rudeness; Asking an author "where do you get your ideas?"; Bringing a boom box into the Con; Surte; Smoffing; Gossip; Inflated Egos; Narrow-mindedness; Tobacco addiction; Pretension; Feuding; Illiteracy; Abstinence; Bad jokes; Holding material forever; Hoaxes; Taking another fan to law; Harassing pros; Plagiarism; Claiming you've got a copy of *The Last Dangerous Visions*;

Obnoxious drunk; Failure to LoC fanzines; Failure to publish fan fund travel reports;

2. Who is the funniest (most humorous) man/woman in science fiction?

Three (3) votes: Bob Shaw.

Two (2) votes: R.A. Lafferty, Dave Langford, Terry Pratchett, Spider Robinson.

One (1) vote: Isaac Asimov, Robert Bloch, David Brin, Peter David, George Alec Effinger, R. Lionel Fanthorpe, Esther Friesner, Alexis Gilliland, Harlan Ellison, Michael Kurland, William Rotsler, Robert Silverberg, Larry Stewart, Elst Weinstein, Howard Waldrop, Connie Willis.

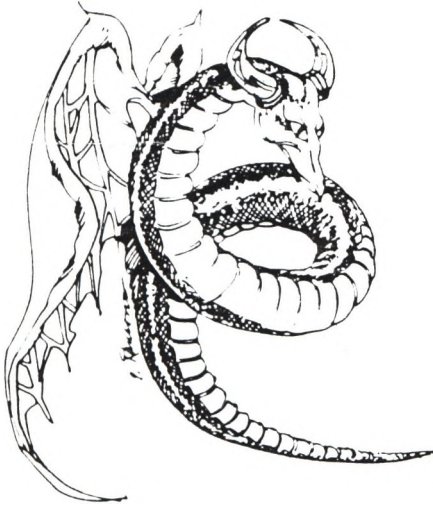
3. Name the pro you'd feel most comfortable introducing to your mother.

Joe Haldeman	4
C. J. Cherryh	2
L. Sprague DeCamp	2
Jack Williamson	2
Hal Clement	2

Receiving (1) vote: Poul and Karen Anderson, Isaac Asimov, Michael Bishop, Lois McMaster Bujold, Arthur C. Clarke, Avram Davidson, Sharon Farber, L. Dean James, Nancy Kress, Keith Laumer, Andre Norton, Bruce Pelz, Stanley Schmidt, Julius Schwartz, Bob Silverberg, Gene

Wolfe.

[[We asked this question twelve years ago in the 1981 FILE 770 POLL with the following results. Would you be surprised to discover a high correlation between pros people wanted to take home to mom and the pros they picked as Worldcon guests of honor? Me, neither. Two asterisks (**) denote someone who was Worldcon GoH after this poll was published; one asterisk (*) denotes somebody who had already been GoH by 1981.



1981 Votes:

- (10) Gordon Dickson**
- (9) C. J. Cherryh
- (8) Isaac Asimov*, Poul Anderson*, Harlan Ellison*
- (6) Wilson Tucker*, Larry Niven**
- (5) Theodore Sturgeon*, Ursula LeGuin*, Jack Williamson*
- (4) Ray Bradbury**, Barry Longyear, Joe Haldeman**, Kelly Freas**
- (3) Hal Clement**, Joan Vinge, John Varley, Jo Clayton, George R.R. Martin
- (2) Ben Bova, Andy Offutt, Greg Benford, Fritz Leiber, Jerry Pournelle, Ted White**, Jack Chalker, Michael Whelan, Gene Wolfe**, Roger Zelazny*, Tanith Lee, George Scithers, Webb, Arthur C. Clarke,

Meanwhile, back at the 1993 poll...]]

YES, NO AND MAYBE

1. Did you vote in the Site Selection for the 1995 Worldcon (Atlanta vs. Glasgow)?

Yes: 23
No: 7

2. Did you vote for the 1992 Hugo Awards?

Yes: 21
No: 9

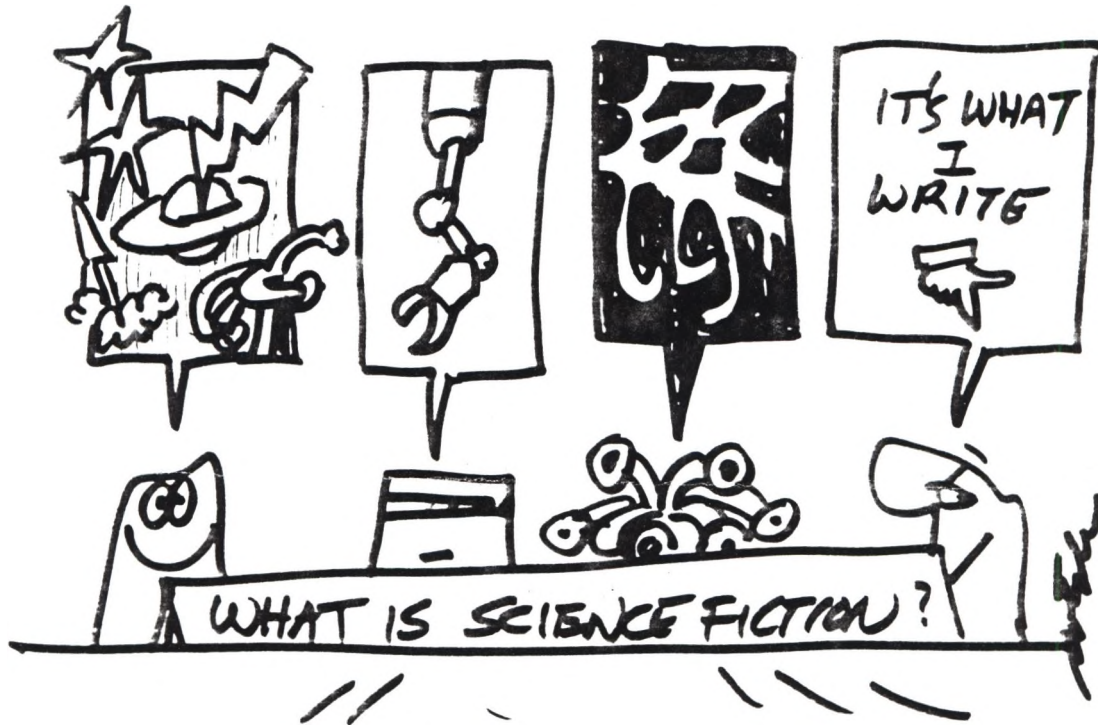
3. What year did you go to your first Worldcon?
4. What was your favorite Worldcon?

Key: First parenthetical number indicates how many people responded that this was their first worldcon. Second number indicates those who responded it was their favorite worldcon.

First Favorite
W'Con W'con

1	0	1948 Torcon I, Toronto, Canada
0	1	1949 Cinvention, Cincinnati, OH
1	0	1958 Solacon, South Gate, CA
1	0	1959 Detention, Detroit, MI
1	0	1963 Discon I, Washington, D.C.
1	0	1964 Pacificon II, Oakland, CA
1	0	1966 Tricon, Cleveland, OH
1	0	1967 Nycon 3, New York, NY
0	1	1968 BayCon, Berkeley, CA
1	1	1969 St. Louiscon, St. Louis, MO
1	0	1970 Heicon '70, Heidelberg, Germany
1	0	1973 Torcon 2, Toronto, Canada
1	0	1974 Discon II, Washington, D.C.
2	2	1976 MidAmeriCon, Kansas City, MO
2	0	1977 SunCon, Miami, FL
1	1	1978 Iguanacon, Phoenix, AZ
1	1	1979 SeaCon, Brighton, U.K.
1	1	1980 Noreascon 2, Boston, MA
3	1	1982 Chicon IV, Chicago, IL
2	4	1984 L.A.con II, Los Angeles, CA
1	0	1985 Aussiecon Two, Melbourne
4	2	1986 ConFederation, Atlanta, GA
0	2	1987 Conspiracy, Brighton, U.K.
1	1	1988 NOLAcon II, New Orleans, LA
0	4	1989 Noreascon 3, Boston, MA
0	1	1990 ConFiction, The Hague, Netherlands
0	2	1992 Magicon, Orlando, FL

Analysis: Stereotypes to the contrary, hardly any voters picked their first worldcon as their favorite worldcon. On the other hand, there was a minor correlation between fans' first worldcon and their favorite one which occurred four or five years after: our growing experience, learning how to attend worldcons, may determine what we consider to be the best worldcon.



Knowing the voters personally, I had some preconceptions but these, too, were shattered. There was no tendency for people's favorite worldcons to be one where they were the fan GoH, won a Hugo, or where their worldcon bid won a Site Selection vote. A couple of people voted that a worldcon they served as a high executive had been the best worldcon; a few others who might have wanted to do so simply left the question unanswered.

SERIOUS AND CONSTRUCTIVE QUESTIONS

7. Among fantasy and science fiction writers, artists and editors who have entered the field since 1970, who would you like to see as Worldcon guest of honor? [Vote for two in any order.]

Lois McMaster Bujold	5
Greg Bear	3
David Brin	3
Orson Scott Card	3
George Alec Effinger	2
Dan Simmons	2
Vernor Vinge	2
Chelsea Quinn Yarbro	2

Receiving (1) vote: Arlan Andrews, Douglas Adams, Octavia Butler, Gregory Benford, Pat Cadigan, Kara Dalkey, Ellen Datlow, Julia Ecklar, William Gibson, Mike Glycer, P. C. Hodgell, Stephen King, Michael Kube-McDowell, Vonda McIntyre, Andy Offutt, Jerry Pournelle, Tim Powers, Terry Pratchett, Mike Resnick, Kristine Kathryn Rusch, Charles

Sheffield, John Varley, Howard Waldrop, Gene Wolfe.

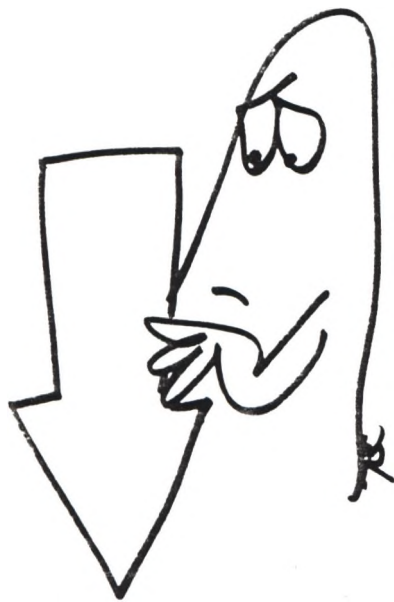
8. What are the three best science fiction and fantasy novels of all time?

Lord of the Rings, J. R. R. Tolkien (11)
 The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress, Robert Heinlein (4)
 The Man in the High Castle, Philip K. Dick (3)
 The Mote In God's Eye, Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle (3)
 More Than Human, Theodore Sturgeon (3)
 Demolished Man, Alfred Bester (2)
 Childhood's End, Arthur C. Clarke (2)
 Stranger In A Strange Land, Robert Heinlein (2)
 Starship Troopers, Robert Heinlein (2)
 A Canticle for Leibowitz, Walter Miller, Jr. (2)

Receiving (1) vote:

A Knight of Ghosts and Shadows, Poul Anderson
 Foundation Trilogy, Isaac Asimov
 Use of Weapons, Iain Banks
 The Stars My Destination, Alfred Bester
 Startide Rising, David Brin
 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll
 Downbelow Station, C. J. Cherryh
 Lest Darkness Fall, L. Sprague DeCamp
 Babel 17, Samuel Delany
 The Forever War, Joe Haldeman
 Have Space Suit, Will Travel, Robert Heinlein
 Dune, Frank Herbert
 The Dispossessed, Ursula K. LeGuin
 The Farthest Shore, Ursula K. LeGuin

Dragonflight, Anne McCaffrey
 Dying Inside, Robert Silverberg
 Eversong, Dan Simmons
 Little, Big, John Sladek
 The Time Wanderers, Boris and Arkady Strugatsky
 The Star King, Jack Vance
 "Marooned in Realtime", Vernor Vinge
 The Sirens of Titan, Kurt Vonnegut
 The Day of the Triffids, John Wyndham
 Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz - Book 2
 Circle Round the Sun
 Journey to the Center of the Earth
 Wasp, Eric Frank Russell
 The Left Hand of Darkness, Ursula K. LeGuin
 Wav Station, Clifford Simak
 Lord of Light, Roger Zelazny
 The Time Machine, H. G. Wells
 The Lensman Series, E. E. Smith
 Witches of Karres, James Schmitz



9. What are the two best science fiction short stories of all time?

"Nightfall", Isaac Asimov (5)
 "The Veldt", Ray Bradbury (2)
 "The Star", Arthur C. Clarke (2)
 "Repent, Harlequin, Said the Ticktockman", Harlan Ellison (2)
 "The Ugly Chickens", Howard Waldrop (2)
 "A Martian Odyssey", Stanley Weinbaum (2)

Receiving (1) vote:

"There Will Come Soft Rains", Ray Bradbury
 "Nine Billion Names of God" Arthur C. Clarke

"I Have No Mouth And I Must Scream", Harlan Ellison
 "When Jeffy Was 5", Harlan Ellison
 "The Cold Equations", Tom Godwin
 "Tricentennial", Joe Haideman
 "And He Built A Crooked House", Robert Heinlein
 "Requiem", Robert Heinlein
 "The Roads Must Roll", Robert Heinlein
 "The Green Hills of Earth", Robert Heinlein
 "The Long Watch", Robert Heinlein
 "Flowers for Algernon", Daniel Keyes
 "Mimsy Were The Borogoves", Henry Kuttner and C. L. Moore
 "The Big Backyard", Fritz Leiber
 "Gonna Roll Them Bones", Fritz Leiber
 "Dreamsnake", Vonda McIntyre
 "Dear Devil", Eric Frank Russell
 "Late Night Final", Eric Frank Russell
 "Metamorphosis", Eric Frank Russell
 "Second Night of Summer", James Schmitz
 "Gold the Ship Was, on! on! oh!", Cordwainer Smith
 "With Folded Hands", Theodore Sturgeon
 "The Screwfly Solution", James Tiptree, Jr.
 "The Dragon Masters", Jack Vance
 "The Persistence of Vision", John Varley
 "The Ugly Little Boy"

10. What kind of soft drink (include brand name) do you most like to find at a convention party?

Diet Coke (8)
 Classic Coke (5)
 Diet Pepsi (3)

Receiving (1) vote: Jolt Cola, Diet Jolt, Hires Root Beer, Mountain Dew, Dr. Pepper, A & W Root Beer, Vernor's, Apple juice, Brio Chinnoto, Sundrop Golden Cola, RC Cola, Schweppes Bitter Lemon, Canada Dry Raspberry Ginger Ale.

Emotion isn't running as high in this area as it did over ten years ago when fans voted these drinks into the bid party bathtubs:

1982 FILE 770 POLL

Question 8: What is your favorite soft drink?

Votes:

(33) Coke
 (7) Dr. Pepper
 (6) Perrier, Pepsi, Vernor's
 (5) Pepsi Lite, Diet Pepsi, Diet Dr. Pepper
 (4) Tab, 7-Up

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIMEBINDING: FIFTEEN YEARS AGO IN FILE 770



You know, fandom was *awfully* interesting in 1978. No wonder I started editing a newzine. I had forgotten *how* interesting until I reread *File 770*'s first nine issues.

Of course, I first had to explain the darned name. (And to think nobody had titled a newzine *Ansible* up to that time!) *Is it any wonder why I led off the first issue with this story...*

File 770:1, January 1978. "The city of New Orleans, which hosted a World Science Fiction Con as recently as 1951, has been the source of several worldcon bids in the past decade. Almost as many people have bid for the chance to bring the con back to the Crescent City as attended NoLaCon itself, 325. Although the ninth Worldcon provided the background for fandom's most famous room party, the party in Room 770, the town's bidders have not recently succeeded in associating themselves with that kind of fannish image. Having just finished throwing themselves under the wheels of the Brighton-bound juggernaut [Seacon, 1979], the fans of New Orleans nevertheless have proclaimed another campaign, eyes on the 1982 con, with John Guidry as chairman..."

File 770:2, February 1978. "560 Confused. With many a shout of 'Mush!', midwestern and eastern fans drove

through the teeth of winter storms to Ann Arbor, MI, and wound up in Confusion. Kate Wilhelm, pro guest of honor, devoted her talk to the theme that 'no matter what writers are writing about, they're lying to you.' Jackie Causgrove, fan guest of honor, reportedly spoke about her life in fandom, then hurried off to live some more of it trapped in an elevator with Dave Locke, a hysterical Trekkie, and some hairs off Glicksohn's beard (closed on by the elevator door.)"

"Ellison. Harlan Ellison, pro guest of honor for the 1978 Worldcon in Phoenix, wrote a lengthy personal policy statement for the December issue of *Locus*. [Due to Arizona's failure to ratify the ERA amendment] 'I will come to the Convention as Guest of Honor, but I will do it in the spirit of making the Convention a platform for heightening the awareness of fans and Arizona as a whole to the situation.'"

File 770:3, March 1978. "Fire. Birmingham, AL, fans Meade and Penny Frierson and their family escaped harm as fire gutted the upstairs bedroom used as an office, the adjoining bathroom, and smoke-damaged the rest of the upstairs except, by a stroke of fortune, the collection room..."

"Iguanacon. Sam Konkin III calls it 'The Night of the Long Knives.' ...Phoenix fans checking on availability [of the Hyatt Regency] for a 1980 Westercon bid were questioned by the sales staff. 'Say, are you guys still bringing in that big con over Labor Day?' Among other things Iguanacon chairman Greg Brown had not attended since winning the bid was securing a contract for the worldcon's facilities. This discovery precipitated a split in the Iguanacon central committee over retaining Brown as chairman. ...Brown resigned this month. ...Tim Kyger has become the new chairman of Iguanacon."

I arrived at the 1977 Vancouver Westercon to discover that Janus, a genzine renowned for its feminist perspective on sf and fantasy, but a fanzine I had never heard of before, had rocketed into popularity due to its combination of fresh perspective, top quality sercon writing and excellent design. The next spring it was on the Hugo ballot. While 1978 proved to be a turning-point in my attitude toward feminism and ERA, (that objectively may have been no more impressive than leaping from the Devonian into the Carboniferous age, but it was a big change for me), at the time of the Hugo nominations I was ignorantly suspicious of a Janus bloc-vote. Ignorant in both my assumptions, and in

a literal sense. because committees never published Hugo voting numbers in those days. Iguanacon's ballot-counters, the Corricks, took a courageous step in releasing some nominating vote information.

File 770:4, April 1978. "Round File". The blackout of Hugo voting statistics during the past five years concealed the meager voter attention its fan division was receiving. Led by the lone datum that hundreds of votes were cast, we had to assume that the largest circulation zines were influencing, even monopolizing the voting. I had to think that the nomination of *Janus* required a very substantial number of votes. But seeing that only 540 out of 2100 potential voters joined in the [1978] nominations, and that neither *Science Fiction Review* nor *Locus* with their thousands of readers could muster more than 50-odd votes, the fan Hugos this year appear much more whimsical than commercial. It is petty to concern ourselves about where *Janus* got its votes when it may have gotten as few as 15. If there had been an organized bloc of as few as 30 voters they could have packed the ballot with whom they pleased. So it seems there was none."

"Laurine White loc. I'm looking forward to hearing Harlan Ellison speak at IguanaCon, but plan to pay little attention to his recommendations. He says not to spend money in Arizona. Stay in tents. Get food from friends in Arizona instead of buying meals in restaurants. Where are these Arizona friends going to buy that food if not in Arizona?"

Hopefully, the mindlessness of the 1990's personified by Rush Limbaugh will not permanently submerge the challenging, to some threatening, but lively and genuine dialogue about cultural and economic equality for women that fans helped pioneer in the late 1970's. File 770:5 is still my favorite issue because of the way people with opposed viewpoints presented themselves so well, and with mutual respect.

File 770:5, June 1978. In Contention. Victoria Vayne: "A year or so ago, Ctein challenged the membership of the Women's Apa to give him their definitions of 'sexism'. When I read that my first reaction was to wonder why he was bothering, since the meaning of the word -- discrimination on the basis of gender -- was so obvious.... [Here] are some of my definition. Non-sexists are persons who deplore *all* sexist behavior regardless of what sex is at what end, and primarily ignore gender in themselves or in other persons dealing with them. Feminists are persons who deplore primarily or even only sexist behavior directed toward women by men, and specifically celebrate being female. I tend to think of feminists as working their way towards, and non-sexists as having arrived at, the way of living and thinking that has as its goal a truly non-sexist society -- the goal of sincere feminists and a goal I am wholly in agreement with even though I disagree with the



means that feminists are using to get there. The new style sexist, then, is the affirmative action kind of sexism: the sort of thing manifested in quota systems and separatism. Essentially, it amounts to the use of sexism to fight sexism.

Jeanne Gomoll (then co-editor of *Janus*): "Victoria Vayne has commented that feminism isn't fannish. Even beyond the simple response that everything fans do is fannish, I don't understand why it seems to be so vital to so many people to deny what a great number of people claim to feel, that is, that we are *enjoying* and *excited by* the connections to be made between our feminist perspectives and ideas and the themes of sf and the communication structures of fandom. What is more necessary to defend the fact, that for some of us fandom and feminism are not mutually exclusive but personally compatible interests?"

File 770:6, August 1978. "Iggy Shakeup. Garv Farber has replaced Rusty Hevelin as the worldcon director of operations. Short weeks after Hevelin replaced Columbus fans Pavlac and Smith, he ran afoul of a number of committee members in some unpublicized way, and was released from service."

"Ellison. Harlan Ellison, Iguacon GoH who decided amid controversy to devote his activity at the worldcon to promoting ERA consciousness in Arizona, has replied to reports in [Don] Markstein's *Rally* that he attended 'Directions '78' at Tulane University in non-ERA-ratified Louisiana. Ellison attended after consulting the national office of NOW.... Ellison spoke to Markstein by phone, and to say the least was dissatisfied, for next to speak with Markstein was Ellison's lawyer threatening lawsuit unless a retraction was forthcoming. (On the other end of the phone, it is said that 'wining, dining and wenching' was the especially suitworthy phrase [in Markstein's article]."

Doug Wright is actually still around Los Angeles, hosting huckster conventions for those who sell collectibles. In 1978 he was trying to corner the sf convention market in Los Angeles, an accusation recently leveled on a national scale against CreationCon.

"Westercon. The LA [in '80] bidders had planned to use the Marriott again. But, lo and behold, Monday of Westercon somebody -- Doug Wright -- had already gone in and signed a three-cons-a-year contract with the hotel. ...Wright is turning into quite a pirate in LA and has expanded his activities to the Bay Area. His ploys are various, one being to use con titles that are almost, but not quite, the same as established conventions. He has circulated a letter to hucksters proposing for himself a monopoly of LA conventions."

As my report reminded me, Iguacon was actually a pretty

enjoyable Worldcon if you weren't on the committee, or feuding with it.

File 770:7, September 1978. "Hugo Winners. A remarkable trend began when Phil Foglio accepted his second Hugo, with Dan Steffan booing lustily at the back of the symphony hall. Foglio withdrew his name from future consideration. I know how hard it is to get on the list, and once you do it's even harder to get off. ...When *Locus* won the fanzine Hugo, Charlie Brown withdrew the zine from next year's awards, and Rick Sternbach said if nominated next year he would withdraw his name."

"Roundfile. The [Phoenix worldcon] committee provided a plastic tent in a corner of the atrium of the Hyatt for Ellison to sit, write and be accessible to the attendees. No other pro could have handled the public interaction, readings, speeches, talks and panel appearances Ellison crowded into that weekend. It was quite in contrast to 1976, with the phalanxes of lollipop-bandiolered Dorsai convoying Heinlein through service corridors to keep him out of crowds -- though admitting that Heinlein was 20 years older and in shaky health."

Then just when I was patting myself on the back for escaping the stone age, politically speaking, the roof of my cave fell in...

"...After the awards it was time for Keith Kato's chili party. I was walking with Mark Anthony, trying to describe my letter to Ellison he'd described in his GoH speech. I wrote it to defuse some rumors, and included the fact that an LA *Times* editorial had altered my opinion of ERA. So here Mark and I are strolling along the ninth floor towards the smell of onion and jalapeno. People are returning to their rooms from the Hugos. I'm saying, 'I used to think -- whatever, the law, the women still have to sue to get their rights, so why ERA, what's wrong with the 14th and 15th amendments?' An unearthly whoop of 'No!' echoed down the hall. Who chanced to hear everything in that sentence except the part before the hyphen but Susan Wood? Well, I'd wanted to talk to Susan for years. I just hadn't planned for the conversation to start quite like that..."

I don't think the TAFF feud of 1986 has erased sweeter memories of Richard Bergeron's contribution to the field. His effort to reprint the complete works of fanwriter Walt Willis, which eventually yielded a thick hardcover mimeographed fanzine that is one of the finest things ever produced in fandom, suffered a temporary setback in late 1978:

File 770:8, October 1978. "Willis Issue. Richard Bergeron experienced another setback on the way to completing his long-awaited Willis issue of *Warhoon*. The majority of art pages have been damaged and must be reprinted."

The most pleasant memory of File 770's first year is the mock feud Rick Katze and I engaged in through the pages of this zine and NESFA's clubzine, *Instant Message*. It was real Jack Benny/Fred Allen stuff. Here, I help Rick proofread...

Department of Addition and Subtraction. *Instant Message* editor Rick Katze...announced that Tony and Sue traded Jackpot for a three-week-old mare, presently unnamed. Now it may be easy as pie for active NESFAns to figure out the message content of these cryptic statements. But for your humble editor it is a profound research chore, like one of those Dell logic puzzles where you have five guys and must determine from a few clues who drinks what, lives where, wears what color shorts, etc. First I dig halfway down into last year's fanzines and pull out the *Instant Message* with the NESFA membership list. Anthony and Susan Lewis live at the same post office box in Natick. With the cats it may be a little crowded, but wait til the new mare moves in. Of course, I can't be certain that Tony and Sue and Tony and Suford are the same, but since nobody else named Susan or Tony is higher than a subscribing member on the roster, what the hey. ...And due to the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, Jackpot is probably an animal. Indeed, Rick Katze has made this issue of *Instant Message* a veritable adventure."

File 770:9, December 1978. "Nothing Happens, So Rumor Mill Fills In The Blank. At least in fandom, fiction is stranger than truth. The following major news items have not happened. What makes that significant is at the moment most of fandom believes otherwise.

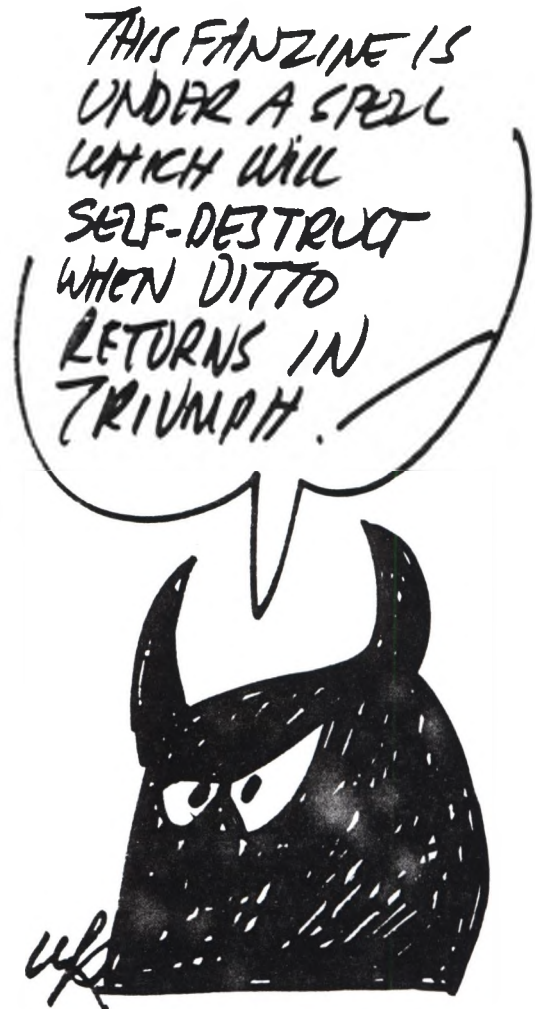
FOGLIO CANNED BY ASIMOV'S! ...MYTHOLOGIES GOES SEMIPRO ...GARRETT ABSCONDS WITH THOUSANDS! PAVLAC CLAIMS RESCUE OF IGGY!"

Issue 9's unique format of debunking other zine's news reports came from being in the right place at the right time. George Scithers, Asimov's editor at the time, saw the Foglio report in DNQ 10, Taral and Victoria Vayne's rival newzine, while we were both attending a party hosted by Bruce and Elayne Pelz. Scithers said all that had happened was one assignment had been returned to Foglio.

Mythologies was Don D'Amassa's Hugo-nominated fanzine that had become too expensive and too annoying (due to eager readers complaining about publishing delays). Don denied east coast rumors that he was taking *Mythologies semipro*; he was actually about to launch a reviewzine, *Critical Mass*, he hoped might catch on.

Vultures circling in the aftermath of feud-ridden Iguanacon seized on a confusing financial reports to accuse some members of the committee of leaving Phoenix with the profits. Tim Kyger called *File 770* to deny these rumors.

Ross Pavlac called to deny a different bizarre rumor, published by Greg Brown in LASFAPA, that Pavlac claimed to have "rescued" the Phoenix worldcon.



RETURN TO SENDER

NESFA's January 10th business meeting passed a motion forbidding Elvis stamps to be used in mailing its clubzine, *Instant Message*.

Of course, after the Boston post office damaged and destroyed so many copies of *IM* 523, sending remnants all over the country in apologetic plastic bags, NESFA may want to give up buying any U. S. postage stamps. Maybe they can mail *IM* from Canada.

They won't soon need stamps for their genzine, *Proper Boskonian*, because editor Laurie Mann just notified them she is retiring.



1993 HUGO AND CAMPBELL AWARD NOMINEES

ConFrancisco, the 51st World Science Fiction Convention, has released the nominees for 1993 Hugo Awards and John W. Campbell Memorial Award. ConFrancisco marks the 40th anniversary of the Hugo Awards, a small irony in that the San Francisco worldcon of 1954 passed up the chance to give what ought to have been the second annual Hugo awards; fortunately, the Cleveland committee of 1955 rescued the tradition.

Nominees were selected by the 397 members of ConFrancisco or MaqCon who submitted valid nominating ballots. In some categories more than 5 nominations appear due to tie votes. report ConFrancisco Hugo Administrators, David Bratman and Seth Goldberg.

Best Novel

China Mountain Zhang by Maureen McHugh (Tor)
Red Mars by Kim Stanley Robinson (HarperCollins (UK), Bantam Spectra)
Steel Beach by John Varley (Ace/Putnam)
A Fire Upon the Deep by Vernor Vinge (Tor)
Doomsday Book by Connie Willis (Bantam)
 No Award

Best Novella

"Uh-Oh City" by Jonathan Carroll (*F&SF* June 92)
 "The Territory" by Bradley Denton (*F&SF* July 92)
 "Protection" by Maureen McHugh (*Asimov's* Apr 92)
 "Stopping at Slowyear" by Frederik Pohl
 (Axolotl/Pulphouse, Bantam)
 "Barnacle Bill the Spacer" by Lucius Shepard (*Asimov's* July 92)
 No Award

Best Novelette

"True Faces" by Pat Cadigan (*F&SF* Apr 92)
 "The Nutcracker Coup" by Janet Kagan
 (*Asimov's* Dec 92)
 "In the Stone House" by Barry N. Malzberg
 (*Alternate Kennedys*)
 "Danny Goes to Mars" by Pamela Sargent
 (*Asimov's* Oct 92)
 "Suppose They Gave a Peace ..." by Susan Schwartz
 (*Alternate Presidents*)
 No Award

Best Short Story

"The Winterberry" by Nicholas A. DiChario
 (*Alternate Kennedys*)
 "The Mountain to Mohammed" by Nancy Kress
 (*Asimov's* Apr 92)
 "The Lotus and the Spear" by Mike Resnick

Asimov's Aug 92)
 "The Arbitrary Placement of Walls" by Martha Soukup
 Asimov's Apr 92)
 "Even the Queen" by Connie Willis (Asimov's Apr 92)
 No Award

Best Non-Fiction Book

Enterprising Women: Television fandom and the creation of popular myth by Camille Bacon-Smith (Univ. of Pennsylvania Press)
The Costumemaker's Art edited by Thom Boswell (Lark)
Virgil Finlay's Women of the Ages by Virgil Finlay (Underwood-Miller)
Monad Number Two edited by Damon Knight (Pulphouse)
Let's Hear It For the Deaf Man by Dave Langford (NESFA)
A Wealth of Fable by Harry Warner Jr (SCIFI)
 No Award

Best Dramatic Presentation

Aladdin (Walt Disney Pictures)
Alien 3 (20th Century Fox)
Batman Returns (Warner Brothers)
Bram Stoker's Dracula (Columbia Pictures)
 "The Inner Light" (*Star Trek: The Next Generation*) (Paramount Television)

Best Professional Editor

Ellen Datlow
 Gardner Dozois
 Beth Meacham
 Kristine Kathryn Rusch
 Stanley Schmidt
 No Award

Best Professional Artist

Thomas Canty
 David A. Cherry
 Bob Eggleton
 James Gurney
 Don Maitz
 No Award

Best Original Artwork

Cover of *Aristoi* (W.J. Williams) by Jim Burns (Tor)
Dinotopia by James Gurney (Turner)
 Cover of *F&SF*, October-November 1992 (illustrating "Bridges", by C. de Lint), by Ron Walotsky
 Cover of *Illusion* (P. Volsky) by Michael Whelan (Bantam)
 Cover of *Asimov's*, November 1992 (Asimov portrait), by

Michael Whelan
 No Award

Best Semi-Prozine

Interzone, edited by David Pringle
Locus, edited by Charles N. Brown
The New York Review of Science Fiction, edited by David G. Hartwell, Donald G. Keller, Robert K.J. Kilheffer, and Gordon Van Gelder
Pulphouse, edited by Dean Wesley Smith
Science Fiction Chronicle, edited by Andrew Porter
 No Award

Best Fanzine

File 770, edited by Mike Glyer
FOSFAX, edited by Timothy Lane and Janice Moore
Lan's Lantern, edited by George J. Laskowski Jr.
Mimosa, edited by Dick and Nicki Lynch
Stet, edited by Leah Smith
 No Award

Best Fan Writer

Mike Glyer
 Andy Hooper
 Dave Langford
 Evelyn C. Leeper
 Harry Warner Jr.
 No Award

Best Fan Artist

Teddy Harvia
 Merle Insinga
 Linda Michaels
 Peggy Ranson
 Stu Shiffman
 Diana Harlan Stein
 No Award

John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer of 1991-1992

(sponsored by Dell Magazines)
 Barbara Delaplace (2nd year of eligibility)
 Nicholas A. DiChario (2nd year of eligibility)
 Holly Lisle (1st year of eligibility)
 Laura Resnick (2nd year of eligibility)
 Carrie Richerson (1st year of eligibility)
 Michelle Sagara (2nd year of eligibility)
 No Award

Seth Goldberg and David Bratman, ConFrancisco Hugo Administrators, explained that "Best Translator," selected by the committee as its optional Hugo category, was

eliminated due to lack of interest. "A few voters commented that a knowledgeable vote in this category would require linguistic expertise beyond what can reasonably be expected of Hugo voters."

Dinotopia by James Gurney received enough votes to be nominated in both the Original Artwork and Nonfiction Book categories. The administrators judged that it is a single sequential work of art, and thus best placed in Original Artwork.

Two nominations were withdrawn from the ballot. Michael Wheilan declined nomination as Best Professional Artist for this year. Boris Vallejo declined the nomination for Best Original Artwork of his cover of Vernor Vinge's *A Fire Upon the Deep*, saying that it is against his principles to enter in a competition among professionals. Both artists thank the voters who nominated them, and feel honored to have been chosen.

Maureen F. McHugh and Poppy Z. Brite received enough votes to be nominated for the John W. Campbell Award for best new writer but were ruled ineligible due to professional publications of fiction in the science fiction and fantasy field prior to 1991.

Statistics

Category	Ball.	Votes	Nom.	Most	5th
Novel	326	1102	191	81	45
Novella	184	521	50	48	30
Novelette	181	540	120	31	16
Short Story	226	753	206	65	27
Dram. Pres.	214	582	112	100	26
Nonfic. Bk	165	304	60	32	12
Prof. Editor	212	579	59	99	43
Prof. Artist	248	750	142	61	47
Orig. Artwk	125	329	143	47	9
Semiprozine	205	448	52	99	24
Fanzine	179	436	109	47	21
Fan Writer	141	374	135	23	12
Fan Artist	145	428	119	38	19
Campbell	158	346	94	29	12
Translator	40	53	25	14	2

Exact statistics for each category will be in the final ballot. "Ballots will be mailed to ConFrancisco members in PR #6, going out in late May. They must be postmarked by July 31 and received by August 6 to be counted. The good news is, you'll be able to fax your ballot; you still can't e-mail it, because we'd like it signed. Contacts: David Bratman (408) 725-8559; Seth Goldberg (408) 541-6834."

FILE 770 RETROSPECTIVE CONTINUES: THE DREAM FATHOLOGY ESSAYS

Release of the 1993 Hugo nominations prompted me to look back at the very first of the forerunner articles to my 1986 "Dream Fanthology" essay that Dennis Virzi and Pat Mueller transformed -- almost Pinocchio-like -- into a real Fanthology. Some of my personal favorites of 1978 are still making the final Hugo ballot 15 years later.

BEST FANZINES OF 1978 (from File 770:11, March 1979)

1. *Mythologies*, ed. Don D'Amassa
2. *Janus*, ed. Janice Bogstad and Jeanne Gomoll
3. *Twll Duu*, ed. Dave Langford
4. *Maya*, ed. Rob Jackson
5. *Four-Star Extra*, ed. Arnie & Joyce Katz, Bill and Charlene Kunkel

BEST FANWRITERS OF 1978

1. Don Thompson
2. Dave Langford
3. Arthur Hlavaty
4. Avedon Carol
5. Richard Harter
6. Arnie Katz
7. Eric Mayer
8. Don D'Amassa
9. Dave Locke
10. Taral

MOST VERSATILE FANARTIST 1978

1. Derek Carter
2. Bill Warren
3. Charles Williams
4. Joe Pearson
5. Ole Kvern
6. Stu Shiffman
7. Wade Gilbreath



NEWS OF FANDOM



A ROAD RUNS THROUGH IT

Real soon now the county is going to run a road through Dick and Leah Smith's house. Last summer they were asked to move by October 1. Last December they got a letter asking them to move by May 1. Never let it be said Dick and Leah don't cooperate with the government, because they are about to pack their bags and head for Australia.

DICK AND LEAH WIN DOWN UNDER FAN FAND

Dick and Leah Smith will be on their way to Swancon 18, the Australia National Convention in Perth, having won the 1993 DUFF selection. North American administrator Art Widner reported they won by the following margin:

	US	AUS	TOT
Dick & Leah Smith	129	38	167
Richard Brandt	38	6	44
Charlotte Proctor	18	9	27

As of October 1992, the fund had a balance of \$2,588.61 which Widner forwarded to his successors, Dick and Leah. Contact them at 17 Kerry Lane, Wheeling, IL 60090-6415, phone (708) 537-1306. Aussie fan Phil Ware has succeeded

the late Roger Weddall as Australian DUFF administrator. He may be contacted at 77 Railway Place West, Flemington VIC 3031 Australia.

TRANS-ATLANTIC FAN FUND

Jeanne Bowman's March 1993 update reports TAFF began the month with over \$4,600.00 on tap. Candidates to travel from the United Kingdom to the U.S. on the next leg of the trip are Michael Ashlev, Tony Berry, Abigail Frost and Ashley Watkins. All four candidates live in England, to the consternation of European administrator Pam Wells, recently seen in continental newzine *Shards of Babel's* March issue wondering why no one outside of England stepped forward. After all, the last two winners of GUFF, the Europe-Australia fan trip fund, were Czech fan Eva Hauser and *Shards'* Dutch editor Roelof Goudriaan.

TAFF's voting deadline is May 1, 1993. Contact Jeanne at P.O. Box 982, Glen Ellen, CA 95442-0982.

WELLINGTON RETREAT

The first hint across the Atlantic that London's weekly sf meeting had migrated back to the Wellington came from a distressed Alun Harries on CompuServe: "I have not got a clue what is going on, and will have to ring Pam Wells or somebody before I go again. Why can't things remain the same? But any exit from HH is a welcome one to me as I detested the place, full of smarmy young geezers in suits attempting to impress the sort of girl one expects, probably unfairly, to be called Fiona. Last time I was there, meeting some people before moving on, if I'd had an AK-47 I would have seriously considered opening up with it."

Chris Croughton replied, "As far as I know HH has been dropped totally. It really was getting very bad. I expect some people will turn up at HH for a while to catch anyone who hasn't heard (the same as they did when we moved from the 'Ton).

"The problem is that even with the changes the Wellington is still the largest available place in London. Even the large (read 'expensive') private rooms are generally booked (or if not, they don't want to open them to 'rabble' like us - they might for a private club, but since we don't have any list of 'members' of fandom we wouldn't qualify.)

"We really don't want to lose the meeting: it's a direct descendant of the one that Arthur Clarke wrote about in *Tales of the White Hart*."

FLASHBACK ON ISSUE 96

Debbie Keais, editor of the San Diego clubzine *Interphase*, writes that pessimists who thought the Sci-Fi Channel

wouldn't make it to Cox Cable there before 1994 were wrong. Cox started carrying the Sci-Fi Channel on January 1. (Two days later Frank and Laura Broadian Kelly-Freas appeared on the channel's "Sci-Fi Buzz" program.)

Martha Beck lists all the visitors she expects this spring and declares: "We will not dry up and die for want of fans in Payson (Arizona) -- *they will Come!*" Jon and Joni Stopa and Midge Reitan are scheduled. Then Martha will travel to several conventions, perhaps even Westercon. Meanwhile, "Tenant moved out December 20, first guests on December 22, just in time. We had to get some strong backs and weak minds to move all the furniture under the porch up into [the] mom-in-law apartment. ...Love it here -- still chest cold for HK and asthma for me. Come see us!"

David Levine and Kate Yule like their new house in Portland, OR, too. They mention: "It was built in 1913 (just think if we could see the original furnishings! Someone lived in this house and learned of the sinking of the Titanic.)" Well, the Titanic sank on April 5, 1912 so if anyone was there they were sitting in a vacant lot....

Martin Morse Wooster sent a clipping from a January issue of the *Washington Post*. If Dick and Nicki Lynch thought the travail of winning the Hugo resembled a practical joke, what will they think of the fame it has brought them as *Mimosa* leads a list of zines in the *Post's* article about "Desktop Publishing" including *Action Teen*, *Teenage Gang Debs* and *Black Leather Times*...?

A TRUCK NAMED DIGBY

Tom Digby: Along Fantasy Way, a collection of fanwriting by one of ConFrancisco's guests of honor, is in production. Editor Lee Gold says the 50 page issue will be available for \$5 at the Worldcon. It includes artwrok by Kaja Murphy, Phil Foglio, Brad Foster and Teddy Harvia. She promises, "over 25 years worth of poems, fiction and various other strangenesses."

SPECIAL D

Bruce Bethke and Karen Karwacki were married January 9, reports the Minneapolis clubzine *Einblatt*.

I'LL TAKE TWO SCOOPS

SF Chronicle editor, Andrew Parter, called me two minutes after I walked into my apartment after work on March 29, and coincidentally learned I had been burglarized that day almost as soon as I did.

The burglar forced open a ground floor window at the rear of my apartment for access, then rifled everything, but taken only a VCR and touchtone phone. Porter had called

to pass on some somber news reported elsewhere and got an unexpected scoop in the bargain.

SIGNAL CLOSE ACTION

Ensign Phillip Pournelle, serving as electronics division officer aboard the USS *Tripoli* as part of Operation Restore Hope, was interviewed by *The Burbank Times* about the Somali relief effort. Pournelle told them, "The operation was helpful to restoring order and hope but it was only temporary. Restoring peace to more of the country will be possible if the Somali warlords put greed aside and work together. Somalia can not be restored to a full nation until it decides for itself that it wants to be a nation. Until the Somalis decide to work together all the force and food in the world will not put the country together again."

STAR TREK EXHIBIT LEAVES AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

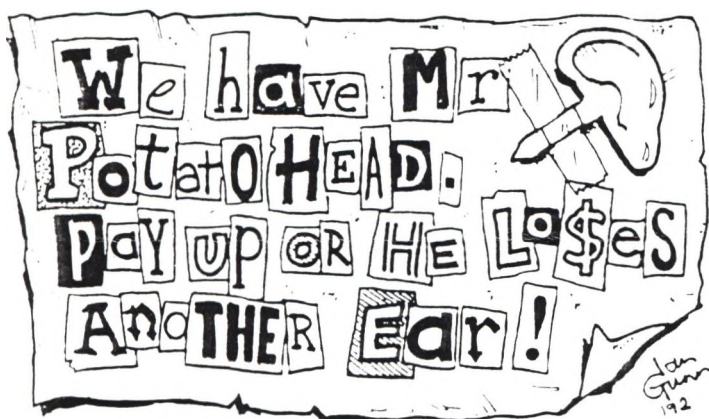
Before it left town on February 1, Martin Morse Wooster spent an hour-and-a-half in the *Star Trek* exhibit at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington DC. "I am surprised that no one reported how tacky the exhibit was. There were lots of old issues of *Life*, for example, to show how much Trek was concerned with Big Issues like War and Sex and Drugs and Stuff. There were lots of frowns among the visitors when they learned that Paramount had thrown 98 percent of the original Enterprise set into the trash and that most of the props, far from being futuristic pieces of goshwow imagination, were actually pretty tacky pieces of wood. There was even an appearance by Harlan Ellison, trying out his new role as the Ancient Mariner of science fiction. I, of course, paid three bucks to hear exciting narration by William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy in which Shatner was, if possible, *even more* egotistical than usual. When I returned the tape recorder I told the woman who rented it to me, 'This was groovadelic!' (I felt in a 60's frame of mind, and tried to use words appropriate to the period.) 'Now I'll have to go home and listen to William Shatner sing 'Mr. Tambourine Man' sixty-nine times!' ...Not to mention Leonard Nimoy singing "Bilbo Baggins"...

MUNDANE EMERGENCIES STRIKE SF CLUBS

The March 14 meeting of the New England Science Fiction Association was delayed three days on account of horrendous weather in Massachusetts, and all along the east coast. A challenge to the legality of the date change was answered by George Flynn with the comment, "a state of emergency was not covered in the rules because no one thought of it."

LASFS had much the same excuse after last April's riot and curfew. With another April and another (federal) trial result

on the way, the LASFS board of directors recently passed a standing rule that its meetings and activities will be automatically canceled when a curfew is in effect. The directors earlier organized a telephone tree so that all club officers can be contacted in case of emergency.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Mark Manning gives an assist to long-time fan G M Carr who asks: "Do you know if Larry Truzinsky has contacted any... fans? He used to be a BNF, but hasn't been heard from lately, since he moved to Seattle. He is a First Fandom member, so he is no youngster, and the First Fandom Secretary wants his address, if possible. Can you spread the word?" If you know anything, call Mark at (206) 325-8129.

STEALTH FANAC OF EDMONTON

News from Edmonton being so scarce, even Georges Giguere's confession of gafia sounds like a prime time broadcast. Long-ago editor of the recently-defunct *ESFACazine* confesses: "Gafia is simply part of my life now; I see a few of the locals occasionally and have made a few business deals with them -- most of my volunteer time goes to the City Media Club, a roots bar, nonprofit organization and all. From doing a monthly Open Stage I now do the bookings, and have been privileged to do sound for the likes of John Hammond, Jonathan Richman, Ani DiFrano, Eddy Clearwater and Buddy Guy, among many others. Interesting doing the hiring now."

"So, since gafiating in '85, I've done majorly crazy powerlifting, karate, lettercarrying, industrial music, campus radio, blues-band roadwork, bluegrass/swing, folk music, hardcore and heavy metal, rigwork from Alaska to the Gulf of Mexico, and learned how to play with computers."

Presently I'm again a journeyman electrician, though most of what we do is heavy data transfer, like Level 5 copper cabling and multimedia fiber optics. Still learning, but at least I'm over the fear-of-computers."

Georges enclosed three cassettes he worked on, apparently showcasing performers from the club, "two from the noise&poetry band and the folkie compilation." He developed the text for the j-cards.

FROM THE ANTIPODES

Craig Hilton has received his diploma in Sports Medicine. Meantime, his partner, Julia Bateman, was on the receiving end of medical treatment, a successful operation to remove her gall bladder. Craig says they'll now turn their attention to founding a science fiction club in their hometown of Collie, in Western Australia. "The people of Collie won't know what hit them. There's virtually no social life but sport here, although I know for a fact there's a sizable proportion of non-sporty people who'd welcome a club."

Weber Woman's Wrevenge editor Jean Weber received this politically correct complaint from Joseph Nicholas: "Judith [Hanna], who opened *WWW* (and the accompanying issue of *Gegenschein*) tells me that it was in fact addressed only to her, and not to both of us. Does this mean that we should consider you for inclusion in *FTT 13's* Hall of Shame?" Jean thought not: "The omission of your name from the mailing label was quite deliberate. At one time you said you did not read or respond to zines that were not addressed to you, and we had got tired of your reptitious letters decrying our publishing efforts, so we removed your name from the label. Now that it's clear that didn't work, and you are reading our zines anyway, we have restored your name to the list. We've had our little joke." Just remember, Joseph, your rambunctious LoC's are welcome here...

RECOMMENDED SF READING LIST

Galen Tripp has revised the LASFS' "Recommended Reading List" of science fiction and fantasy for young adults. There were 2,000 requests for the first edition from every state in the U.S., plus foreign countries. For your free copy, stick 52 cents postage on a self-addressed envelope and mail to: *Recommended Reading list*, c/o LASFS, 11513 Burbank Bl., North Hollywood CA 91601.

OBITUARIES

Oscar Feder, 82, father of Moshe Feder, died January 21 of an aneurysm in Petach Tikvah, Israel. [Source: *SF Chronicle*]

Chicago fan Roger Gonder died of pneumonia, an AIDS-

related complex, on September 6. He was head of the Gaviactic fan network in the Chicago area, and chair of this year's Gaviatixcon, which has been canceled. [Source: *SF Chronicle*]

Larry W. Martin died suddenly on January 20 at his home in Boston. He was 55 years old. In 1975, when he was a professor in the University of Iowa Linguistics Department, he team taught a class in Science Fiction Writing with Joe Haldeman. Some of the students in that class formed the Science Fiction League of Iowa Students, which still meets weekly at The Mill, the same bar where the class met. Larry attended Clarion that year. He finished one story, sold it, and never wrote another. He did write and edit for a living, doing technical material for Houghton Mifflin. He was a regular convention-goer, though he kept a low profile.

"He was one of the most intelligent and talent people we've ever known," say Gay and Joe Haldeman. Donations in his memory may be sent to the Books for Children Fund, First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, 7010 S.W. Moreland, Dalls TX 77710. [Provided by Gay and Joe Haldeman]

BIRTHS

Arthur Chesley Jansen Shattan was born in Portland, OR, on January 16. He weighed 9 pounds 11 ounces. His mother, Ariel Shattan, chair of OryCon in 1985, vice-chair in 1991, has run programming at several OryCon's (including two months ago), and has done tons of other things (including the Westercon program book in 1990).

ADD ROGER WEDDALL

More detail of TAFF delegate Roger Weddall's passing was reported by John Foyster in the December 1992 issue of *Doxy*. Roger Weddall died on Thursday, 3 December 1992. Roger was 36. Late in 1991 Roger was treated for a small lump which was diagnosed as non-malignant and the problem appeared to be resolved without dramatic treatment. Roger was therefore able to campaign energetically and successfull for DUFF>

"In May 1992 Roger was concerned about the recurrence of the lump, but was assured everything was normal; by June it had become clear that there was something more serious; lymphoma was diagnosed and Roger had an intensive course of chemotherapy and radiotherapy. This gave every sign of having been successful, but it did mean Roger had to reconsider his DUFF plans. The option of a long trip appeared to be closed off as some further treatment would be necessary. But a short trip of a few weeks could be considered or alternatively Roger could cancel. After consultation with his doctors (who had differing opinions) and with a number of fans Roger decided that he should make the trip: it coincided with a

break in the combination of ray treatment and chemotherapy. Following his return from the DUFF trip Roger resumed his normal fannish life with his usual enthusiasm and recently moved house despite the development of secondary cancers. This was interrupted by treatment and occasional spells in hospital."

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Lenore Jean Jones, 1120 Hudson St., Apt. 4, Hoboken, NJ 07030-5732

Tarai, 245 Dunn Ave. #2111, Toronto, ONT M6K 1S6 Canada

David Doering, 40 South 100 West #107, Provo, UT 84601

Nigel Rowe, 6339 N. Clark, Chicago, IL 60660-1216

Instant Message, P.O. Box 809, Framingham MA 01701-0203

Eric Mayer and Mary Long, P.O. Box 17143 Rochester NY 14617

Eric Mayer adds: "As you probably know, Mary Long and I were married on November 27. Mary (then Mary Read) was quite active in British Fandom in the late 60s and early 70s. She managed to get a lot of mention in Rob Hansen's history of that period. She edited *Crab Apple*. She has just had her first book published by Resource Publications in San Jose, CA, and did a book signing at the local Waldenbooks. ... We did have Dave Rowe and C.D. Doyle and Mike Glicksonn and fiance Susan Manchester at the wedding, so that was practically a mini con."

NEBULA AWARD FINAL BALLOT

Nominees for the Science Fiction Writers of America's Nebula Award are:

Best Novel: *A Million Open Doors*, by John Barnes; *Sarah Canary*, by Karen Joy Fowler; *China Mountain Zhang*, by Maureen F. McHugh; *A Fire Upon the Deep*, Vernor Vinge; *Doomsday Book*, by Connie Willis; *Briar Rose*, by Jane Yolen.

Best Novella: "Silver or Gold" by Emma Bull; "The Territory" by Bradley Denton; "Projection" by Maureen McHugh; "City of Truth" by James Morrow; "Contact" by Jerry Oltion and Lee Goodloe; "Barnacle Bill the Spacer" by Lucius Shepard; "Griffin's Egg" by Michael Swanwick.

Best Novella: "Matter's End" by Gregory Benford; "The July Ward" by S. S. Dyer; "The Honeycrafters" by Carolyn Gilman; "Danny Goes to Mars" by Pamela Sargent; "Suppose They Gave A Peace" by Susan Schwartz; "Prayers on the Wind" by Walter Jon Williams.

Best Short Story: "Life Regarded as a Jigsaw Puzzle of Highly Lustrous Cats" by Michael Bishop; "Lennon Spex" by Paul DiFilippo; "The Mountain to Mohammed" by Nancy Kress; "Vinland the Dream" by Kim Stanley Robinson; "The Arbitrary Placement of Walls" by Martha Soukup; "Even the

Queen by Connie Willis.

TIPTREE AWARD PRESENTED

Maureen F. McHugh received the second annual James Tiptree Memorial Award for her novel *China Mountain Zhang*. The trophy and a check for \$1,000 was presented to her at Wiscon in March. The 1992 judges were Michaela Roessner (chair), Eleanor Arnason, Gwyneth Jones, John Kessel and Pamela Sargent.

One of the Award's fundraising ideas is the Tiptree Quilt Project. Write for information to SF3, PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701.

1992 N3F SHORT STORY CONTEST

Don Franson sends word that the National Fantasy Fan Federation's annual short story contest was won by Robert J. Frost's "Live Bait." (I hear Robin Williams ordering Don, "Tear it right out of the book!") He gets \$25.

Second prize of \$15 went to Michael Anthony Donaldsen for "Born Loser." Even neopros -- hm, *especially* neopros want to get that three name thing started early. Third prize of \$10 was won by Leslie Parsons. Don Franson screened the 52 entries and passed on 12 semifinalists to judge Jefferson P. Swycaffer. Judge Jefferson, "Stf West of the Pecos."

PHILIP K. DICK AWARD WINNER

Since Andy Hooper complains in his Norwescon report that it was impossible to find out the winner of this award even though it had been announced at the convention banquet, let's quote the press release from the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, which sponsors the award. "The winner is *Through the Heart* by Richard Grant, published by Bantam Books. The runner-up is *In the Mothers' Land* written by Elisabeth Vonarburg, translated by Jane Brierley, also published by Bantam Books." (There is some kind of weird aphasia at work that makes me keep typo-ing it as "Batman Books"...)

The winner received a \$1,000 prize. The release adds, "A special citation may also be awarded, with a prize of \$500 to the runner-up" which I found more confusing than if they said, "the runner-up gets \$500." But since the award administrator, attorney Gary Feldbaum, knows that too, perhaps the confusion comes from a blurry attempt to convey some more subtle point?

Feldbaum's co-administrators are David Hartwell and Algis Budrys. They appoint the panel of five judges who choose the winner. Other nominees this year were, *Take Back Plenty* by Colin Greenland, *A Festival Tide* by Elizabeth

Hand and *Iron Tears* by R.A. Lafferty. The judges made special mention of Michael Kandel's *Captain Jack Zodiac* which struck them as the most "Dickian" book of the year but was ineligible owing to a small press hardcover edition.

OVERHEARD AT CON*DOR

San Diego Fandom launched a very pleasant little convention in March. I found it very quotable.

Collaborators Sherwood Smith and Dave Trowbridge were there modestly describing their draft-polishing techniques. Said Smith, "One of us has the machete and one of us has the elephant pooper scooper." Dave Trowbridge smiled because he has been "freed of the impulse to self-edit -- I can just spew, because she'll clean up the garbage."

After the panel I had lunch with the pair and Lynn Maudlin. Five full-dress Klingons trooped into the coffee shop. The waitress said, "I'll bet they're hotter than hell in those uniforms." I answered, "They think they are."

BayCon '93. (May 28-31, 1993) San Jose Red Lion Inn, San Jose CA. GoHs: Harlan Ellison, Arlin Robins. Memberships: \$45 until May 10. Contact address: P.O. Box 10367, San Jose, CA 95157.

Disclave '93. (May 28-31, 1993) Washington Dulles Airport Marriott, Washington DC. GoHs: Katherine Kurtz, Patricia Davis. Special appearance by Daniel Pinkwater. Rooms \$79 per night. Hotel phone: (703) 471-9500. Memberships: \$25 until April 30, \$30 at door. Contact address: Disclave '93, P.O. Box 677, Washington, DC 20044-0677.

Ad Astra 13. (June 4-6, 1993) Toronto, Canada. GoHs: Frederik Pohl, David Duncan, Robin Wood. Memberships: \$(US)22/\$(C)26 until May 15; \$(C)32 at the door. Contact address: Ad Astra 13, PO Box 7276, Station A, Toronto, ONT M5V 1X9 Canada.

Conjuration, DeepSouthCon XXXI. (June 4-6, 1993) Executive Inn East, Louisville, KY. GoHs: Emma Bull and Will Shetterly. Artist GoH: Dawn Wilson. Fan GoH: Genny Dazzo. Toastmaster: Andrew J. Offutt. Rooms: \$57 sgl/dbl, \$67 tpl/quad. Hotel contact number: (800) 626-2706. Memberships: \$25 until May 16, \$35 at the door. Contact address: Conjuration/DSC '93, P.O. Box 5231, Louisville, KY 40255.

Midwestcon 44. (June 24-27, 1993) Quality Hotel Central, 4747 Montgomery Rd., Cincinnati OH 45212. Relaxicon, MC Bob Tucker. Rooms: \$65 sgl/quad. Hotel phone: (513) 351-6000. Memberships: \$18.50 through May 31. Contact address: Pat Sims, 34 Creekwood Square, Glendale, OH 45246.

CONVENTIONAL REPORTAGE

NORWESCON 16: NOT AS EXPENSIVE AS A LIVER TRANSPLANT, BUT NOT AS MUCH FUN, EITHER

Andrew P. Hooper

I hope that you weren't expecting to read one of those reasoned, linear con reports that Mike himself seems to specialize in. I'm unable to be that clear on events as they happen, let alone twelve hours later. Besides, you know Glyer makes half of that shit up, right? He perpetuates this image of conventions as cheerful, airy affairs, full of good humor and hi-jinks, where whatever mistakes and blunders as may be made merely lead to further hilarious misadventures.

In reality, most science fiction conventions are like a weekend pass into Hell, in which hundreds of people that might have otherwise been institutionalized or at the very least heavily sedated, pack together into a hotel largely constructed of asbestos and formaldehyde, where they chug cough syrup and everclear and slash each other with sharp objects, clambering over one another in a jabbering, weeping pile, until the whole affair resembles the stands at an English football match, only with more badly-cut felt clothing and rubber ears. As I write this, Norwescon 16 is still choking on its own tongue, flopping and wriggling and addressing dark figments of the spiritus Roscoe as they loom out of the Bellevue night.

Perhaps I should wait for a few more hours, until the medication wears off and I have a more detached perspective on the affair, before writing this report. But no, I'm no better equipped to tell you the true story of Norwescon than Mike is, but at least I won't lie about it.

Every con report needs some kind of motif to hang its hat on, and this will be no different. The word for today is *dichotomy*. Norwescon 16 felt like two conventions, the first half leading up to the end of Friday night, and the second half being the points thereafter. The first half was actually a lot of fun, and the second half was as much happy delight as picking broken glass out of my spleen.

Friday, well, Friday was readings by fan GoH Jane Hawkins and fellow-Clarionoid Mark Bourne, happy meetings with Portlanders Dave Levine and Kate Yule, bargain hunting at the table of book-floggers Paul Wrigley and Debbie Cross, and an introduction to the talented collage artist Freddie Baer. Friday was pints of Red Hook in the "Quiet Bar" (that was the official name, not ours) with Mike Glyer and Amy Thomson (flashing the cover of her new novel) and Karrie Dunning and a host of other people. Friday was a pretty

fine panel on fanzines, where only a fraction of the time was spent blathering about electronic media or amateur fiction zines.

I ought to stop and dwell on that a moment, because it was the first time I have been to a panel on fanzines at a general interest convention in literally years, where the discussion didn't bog down on either of those aforementioned points, or for that matter, where more than five or six people actually showed up. There were over twenty people in the room! I actually recruited a couple of people for my mailing list. There was even a kind of levity to the affair, which seemed to affect Amy Thomson more than other people. She kept looking over her shoulder at me, and as she did so, her gaze fell across another fan who was dressed in a highland kilt, which seemed to driver her into subdued paroxysms. She left her seat to get a drink of water, and as she passed, she whispered in my ear, "His sporran looks just like a weasel! It has these two little eyes *and they keep looking at me!*"

I later learned that the sporran was, in fact, constructed from the fur of a muskrat. The fan was quick to reassure me that muskrats are not in any way endangered...

The day wore into evening, and while there was a lack of open, endurable parties, we did find a quiet room at the Seattle Westercon party, and spent some very pleasant time talking to various people about various things. But since Carrie and I didn't intend to stay the night at the hotel, we decided to leave fairly early, about eleven. As we walked back to the elevators, we passed a series of small parties centered around tables beside the windows in the corridors of the tenth floor. The feeling was remarkably civilized and I remarked on how nice the convention seemed on the whole. It seemed to be a real advance on last year, when the ambience was rather lacking and the convention too diffuse to develop a communal energy. I allowed as how there seemed to be some real potential in the con.

Then, as we stepped onto the elevator, this lout began jiggling up and down, saying things like, "Let's jump up and down and make the elevator crash!" This sat badly with Kate and David, who had been awakened by an earthquake the day before, and with Carrie, who is not fond of heights. They asked the fellow to cease; he responded

by bearing down on them, and making fun of their fears. Finally, Kate and David Stepped off the elevator to escape. Whereupon, this lout continued to crow about their general weakness and nervous nature. This enraged me to a dangerous degree: I must admit I spoke rather roughly to this person and pitched him off the elevator on the next floor.

Having thus damaged my karma, the next day was doomed from the beginning. I suspect I had applied a jinx with my promiscuous talk on how the convention had improved.

Strangely, the program which had seemed so rich and entertaining the day before was completely devoid of interest to me on Saturday. I missed the panel on the political significance of *Godzilla*, and there seemed to be nothing else worth looking in on. And to compound matters, everyone I was interested in talking to seemed to have disappeared until late in the afternoon. I ended up just sitting down on a couch and watching the parade of hall costumes go by.

The hot new costume this year is "Death", the sister to Neil Gaiman's *Sandman*. Dozens of pale goth-girls affect swirls of black taffeta and dark spiral tattoos under their eyes. In fact, the halls were usually full of sleek bisexual teenagers pretending to be vampires or other night-loitering persons... sometimes impeccably tailored and preternaturally mature, sometimes childish as if clomping around in their mother's high-heel shoes, with their mouths smeared with cheery-hued lipstick. In either case they clashed badly with the other common costumes: A scattering of clumsy men in pieces of plate armor over fake fur, with a bath-rug thrown around their shoulders. Many Klingons, who brought to mind not so much furious and alien honor as they did minstrel-show blackface. And Federation uniforms from *ST:TNG*, so ubiquitous that even the director of special events for the hotel was dressed as Jean-Luc Picard. (He sold me some nachos at the snack bar that afternoon.)

Eventually I tired of this, and decided to rest my eyes for a few seconds. Suddenly, a convention security operative was shaking my shoulder and telling me I couldn't sleep in the lobby, because it didn't look right. This was a continuing theme: I was in the wrong place for the pleasure of convention security several times, and they were always unfailingly, icily polite as they told me to go somewhere else.

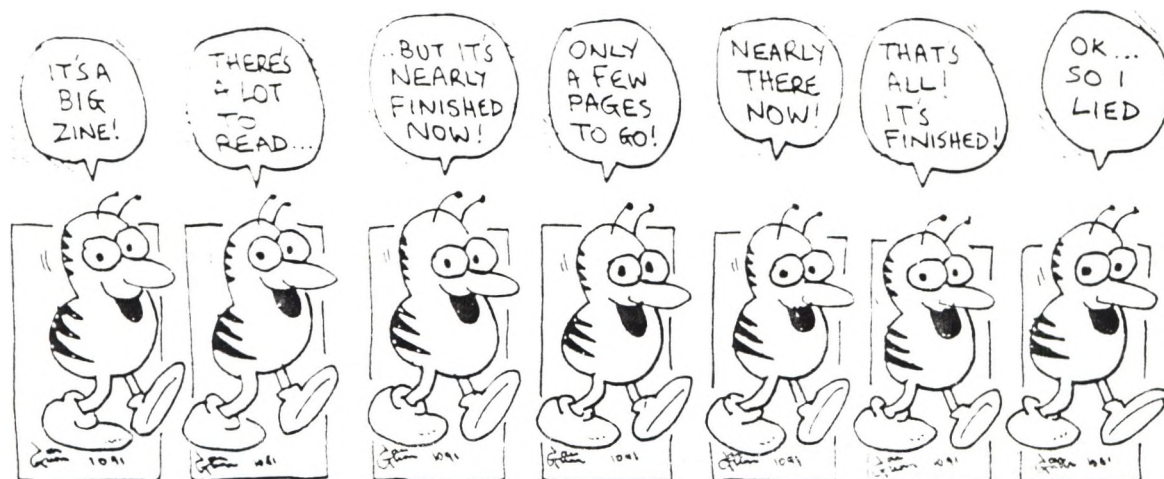
The only event I attended during the afternoon was a program of movie previews, which was marred by the exceedingly tedious patter of the fan presenting the clips. He seemed to be reading snippets from a copy of *Prevue* magazine, and had only a rudimentary idea of what trailers he was presenting. Mostly, the films mentioned were



recycled television shows, like *The Flintstones* and *The Fugitive*, and I was nearly forced to flee the room at the prospect of a big-screen remake of *The Beverly Hillbillies*. They did tell us Lucasfilm is planning to release the first of three new Star Wars films -- starting with chapter one -- on the twentieth anniversary of the original film, in 1987. The crowd, starved for good news, had conniptions.

I was doubly peeved by the poor quality of the day because the day also happened to be the seventh anniversary of my marriage to Carrie Root. Ironically, the Red Lion hotel is directly across the street from the Bellevue District Court, where we had exchanged our vows. We did make some observation of the occasion by going out to dinner, albeit with an escort of friendly fans. We tried a new nationality, Croatian Pizza, or Pogacha. A nation's misery usually seems to be the American diner's gain, as various citizens flee the country for life as an American-ethnic restrauteur. We were pleased with the quality of the food, and enjoyed the meal heartily. But while the conversation strayed, occasionally onto assassinations and the history of television news, at no point did the war in Yugoslavia ever seem to cross anyone's mind.

Anyway, we had to run back to the hotel for the great event of the evening, a party in honor of Jane Hawkins, featuring a dizzying array of chocolate and chocolate-flavored goodies. Marci Malinowicz and Margaret Organ-Kean outdid themselves in hosting the party, pushing the outer envelope of decadence.



The table fairly groaned under the weight of the mass of brown delight. I can attest to having seen all of the following forms of chocolate: two layer cakes, one chocolate frosting on a fruit-flavored cake, the other a double-chocolate cake, over three pounds of Hershey's kisses, four or five one-pound imported chocolate bars, two with nuts, two or three bags of bite-sized candy-bars, 14 batches of fudge, about 40 double-chocolate brownies with walnuts, a box of chocolate-covered macadamia nuts, two boxes of assorted chocolates, several slivered ingots of dark chocolate, a batch of cappuccino-chocolate cookies, a tailing-pile of Oreos, various foil-wrapped nodules, little rolled cookies with chocolate sprinkles, and chocolate-covered coffee beans. The assembled confections put me in mind of the preparations Hunter Thompson might have made for a bender had he been a chocolate freak. I looked around for a golf cart, in vain.

It was one of the best convention parties I have been at in some time, with a lot of entertaining people coming in and out of the room. People tended to speak in interlineations, as they do at better fan gatherings: "Aside from the little boys who were eaten by bears, my favorite books of the bible were..." or "Look, our rabbit has signed this book!"

Lesser minds than those of a trufan might question the wisdom of packing 35 people into a hotel room and stuffing them with chocolate, coffee and liqueurs. After awhile, the whole room was heavily buzzed, jabbering and laughing as if in the throes of dementia. Once or twice I walked up three flights to check out the LA party, which had a very different kind of energy. I got the impression that Mike is pretty close to loony with waiting for the process to be over, so he can get on with the business of running the real convention. I suspect he must run the whole con through his head, three or four times a day...

By midnight, even in its most enjoyable moments, the convention had begun to feel out of control. There was no sense of a social contract at work: fans moved randomly between being individuals and being particles in a mob. As people began to filter out of the chocolate party, it was clearly time to get home. I handed out a last few copies of *Spent Brass*, and we fled into the night.

Norwescon is a convention with the throttle stuck on high. There is a bewildering variety of activities, all going on at the same time. With such a diffusion of focus, it seems sometimes as though the convention does nothing particularly well, pleasing no one that much. We wondered who had won the Phil Dick award for best original paperback published in 1992, an award originated at Norwescon, and presented there each year: no one had any idea, and there was no effort to make the results public knowledge.

I'm sure that a person who came to Norwescon armed with a specific agenda, who pursued that goal and let the rest of the con take care of itself, could have a good time there. But a casual attendee represents nothing to Norwescon but 40 gullible dollars, and I'm afraid no amount of chocolate and rubber Klingon heads can do anything to dispel that impression.

