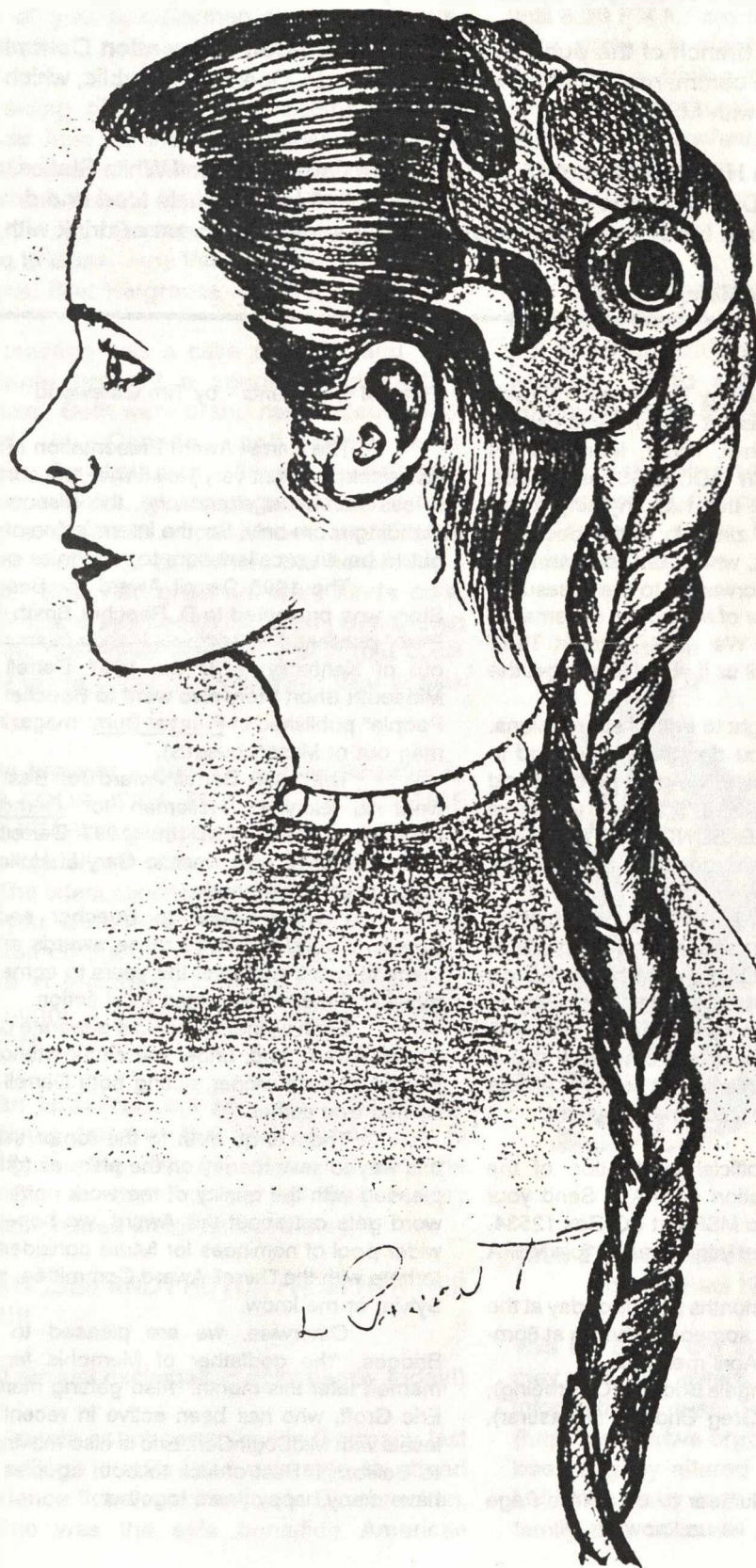


# Memphen # 230





## Upcoming Events:

**Monday April 14 - 7pm MSFA Library Meeting** - main branch of the MSCPLC library - Peabody & McLean. Program: The Titanic and SF. Chairbeing Angie suggested we discuss time travel and SF stories that dealt with the Titanic, since this will be close to anniversary of the sinking and since the Wonders Exhibit on the Titanic opened in Memphis recently. Hope to see y'all there!

**Sunday April 20 - 2pm** - main branch of the public Library - **MidSouthCon Convention Committee meeting** - Nominations for next year's con comm, reports on how the Con did, etc. Open to the public, which includes MSFA members not already involved with MSC.

**Sunday April 27 - 6pm - MSFA House meeting** - 5390 Sycamore Grove Road (off White Station, north of Poplar) - the home of Jane and Reece Dike (and "the Janettes"). Call 685-2710 to coordinate food and drink. Remember - this is not supposed to be a huge burden on the host(s); so bring something to eat or drink with ya, ok?

**Monday April 28** - deadline for Memphen 231.

Memphen is currently edited by Tim Gatewood (with Barbara Gatewood serving as Assistant Editor), who can be reached at 3125 South Mendenhall, #353, Memphis TN 38115-2808 (PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS as of Jan. 1997). Please send EVERYTHING that has anything to do with Memphen to this address -- zines in trade, books or other items for review, articles, art, whatever. You can even send your money to us and we'll forward it to the Treasurer.

You can contact the Editor of Memphen via email at : 72740.3445@compuserve.com. We gladly accept TEXT submissions via email. Call or email us if you'd like to get the electronic version of Memphen.

The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. If you send us something that you don't want included in Memphen, please tell us -- otherwise, we may just edit and include it in a future issue. Call 901-375-1091 if you have questions about editorial policy (PLEASE NOTE NEW PHONE NUMBER as of Jan. '97). The next deadline is MONDAY APRIL 28, 1997.

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Memphen is the semi-official publication of the Memphis Science Fiction Association (MSFA). Send your money for dues or subscriptions to MSFA at PO Box 12534, Memphis TN 38182. For just \$10 per year, you can join MSFA or subscribe to Memphen or both.

MSFA meets twice most months (2nd Monday at the main library at 7pm; 4th Sunday at someone's home at 6pm-ish). See above for details of the April meetings.

Current MSFA Officers: Angela Bridges (Chairbeing), Claude Saxon (Vice Chairman), Greg Bridges (Treasurer), Michael Kingsley (Secretary).

Does anyone want to volunteer to do a Web Page for MSFA and/or Memphen? If so, let us know.

## Editorial Comments - by Tim Gatewood

The Darrell Award Presentation at MidSouthCon 16 last weekend went very well. While the convention itself had a less-than-usual attendance, the Masquerade was nearly standing-room-only. So, the intermission of that event turned out to be an excellent time to recognize our winners.

The 1996 Darrell Award for Best Midsouth Short Story was presented to D. Beecher Smith, II, for "Don't Look Back" published in Medusa's Hairdo (a small press magazine out of Kentucky) AND the 1997 Darrell Award for Best Midsouth Short Story also went to Beecher for "The Shadow People" published in Freezer Burn magazine (a small press mag out of Massachusetts).

The 1996 Darrell Award for Best Midsouth Novel went to Gary L. Holleman for Demon Fire (Leisure Books/Dorchester) AND the 1997 Darrell Award for Best Midsouth Novel also went to Gary L. Holleman for Howl-O-Ween (same publisher).

Congratulations to Beecher and Gary for their excellent work! We hope these awards are just the first of many they will earn over the years to come as they produce more and more well-written local fiction.

Each winner received a separate certificate for each Darrell Award, and, under the circumstances, we gave one plaque to each winner, noting both Darrell Awards received by that one author.

There is no truth to the rumor that we picked 'em this way to save money on the plaques (grin). We were very pleased with the quality of the work nominated and, as the word gets out about this Award, we hope to have an even wider pool of nominees for future consideration. If you want to help with the Darrell Award Committee, please let Angela, Sylvia, or me know.

Otherwise, we are pleased to note that Greg Bridges, "the godfather of Memphis fandom," is getting married later this month. Also getting married this month is Eric Groff, who has been active in recent years at various levels with MidSouthCon. Eric is also moving later this month to California. Best of luck to both couples and may you all have many happy years together.



## MARCH 1997 MSFA MEETING MINUTES

BY Michael Kingsley

Guten Tag, Memphen readers! Wie gehts?

Or, for those of you non-German reading readers, hello! How goes it?

The March meeting of the Memphis Science Fiction Association was held at the Main Public Library at Peabody and McLean on March 10, 1997. Attendees were: Chair-Person Angela Bridges, Vice Chair-Person Claude Saxon, Jr., Secretary Michael Kingsley, Treasurer Greg Bridges, Jane Venters-Dike, Sylvia Cox, Elissa Hargraves, Bret Hargraves, and Kevin Gray.

This month's meeting was a case of Show and Tell. Vice-Chair Claude brought a couple of interesting comics to peruse. Both were brand-new, independent titles printed in Canada, and both were anthropomorphic (i.e. featuring talking furry animals). Beatrix #1 was a color, glossy-paged comic with a heroine bunny and spoofs super-heroes, and Sheba #3 was a black-and-white title where the heroine is a mummified cat. Both had great art, were kinda cute, were kinda weird, and seemed to be worlds better than the usual violent, costumed do-gooder stuff that takes the lion's share of the comic book market. Best of luck to both titles!

Secretary Mike brought a number of new fanzines to look at: TRAP DOOR, IDEA, FILE 770 and SCIENCE FICTION FIVE YEARLY (put out every five years, and featuring the serialized story by Nalrah Nosille, "Nissassa"). The latest candidates for the 1996 Nebula awards were just announced, and a print-out of the final ballot (taken off the Internet) was also on display. See elsewhere in Memphen for a listing. Treasurer Greg also brought a 1995 fanzine: Hugo nominee LAN'S LANTERN.

All good for an appetizer, but what our gastronomic juices were plying for was the Main Entree, the El Grande Enchilada, the Whoville Roast Beast, the Diamond as Big as the Ritz (for all you hungry Horta-type silicon-based lifeforms out there):

!!!! ANGELA'S SLIDES AND PHOTOS FROM HER TRIP TO EUROPE !!!!

YAY !!!!!!!!! (I am just exclamation point happy today!)

Chair-Person Angela spent some time in Germany last year earning college credits, and was able to attend SaarCon, a science fiction convention in Saarbrücken, Germany. She was the sole bona-fide American

attendee at the con. Angela brought two large photo albums full of snapshots from her trip, various books of works translated into German, an original novel in German from native author Alexander Kroeger, as well as a heart necklace and Croatian tourist guide from those good folks who campaigned (unsuccessfully) to host the 1999 Worldcon in Zagreb, Croatia. We waited until 8:00 PM for any late arrivals, and finally started the slide show. It started with moments from SaarCon (those guys drink a lot of beer!), scenes from Bavaria (snapshots of churches, Crazy King Ludwig's castles, Munich, and Dachau), and capped off with her brief stopover in London.

Sehr wunderbar!

The meeting ended with a motion from Sylvia to have MSFA pay for the Darrell Award plaques, to be handed out at MidSouthCon in Tunica, Mississippi on Easter weekend. Greg seconded the motion, and it was approved by all attendees.

Overall, definitely a better than average meeting. Hope to see you at the next meeting on April 14. Same MSFA time, same MSFA channel. Until then, Auf Wiedersehn!



## 1996 FINAL NEBULA AWARD NOMINATIONS

by Michael Kingsley

This list came out in late February, and many of you may not be aware of the latest nominees. This information was obtained from the Internet (<http://www.sfga.org/awards/1996Final.htm>). It has been slightly altered because of the title of Jonathan Lethem's entry in the Short Story category. This is a family zine, after all.

The Nebula Awards will be awarded this month, April 18-20, at the Holiday Inn Crown Plaza in Kansas City, Missouri.

The candidates are:

#### BEST NOVEL

SLOW RIVER - Nicola Griffith (Del Rey, 08/95)  
THE SILENT STRENGTH OF STONES - Nina Kiriki Hoffman (Avo Nova, 09/95)  
WINTER ROSE - Patricia McKillip (Ace, 07/96)  
EXPIRATION DATE - Tim Powers (Tor, 01/96)  
STARPLEX - Robert J. Sawyer (Analog, 07/96 - 10/96; Ace 10/96)  
THE DIAMOND AGE - Neal Stephenson (Bantam, 02/95)

#### BEST NOVELLA

Da Vinci Rising - Jack Dann (Asimov's, 05/95)  
A Woman's Liberation - Ursula K. Le Guin (Asimov's, 07/95)  
Blood of the Dragon - George R.R. Martin (Asimov's, 07/96)  
Time Travelers Never Die - Jack McDevitt (Asimov's, 05/96)  
The Cost to Be Wise - Maureen F. McHugh (STARLIGHT 1, Tor, 09/96)  
The Death of Captain Future - Allen Steele (Asimov's, 10/95)

#### BEST NOVELETTE

Erase/Record/Play - John M. Ford (STARLIGHT 1, Tor, 09/96)  
Mirror of Lop Nor - George Guthridge (IMMORTAL UNICORN, HarperPrism, 10/95)  
The Chronology Protection Case - Paul Levinson (Analog, 09/95)  
Lifeboat on a Burning Sea - Bruce Holland Rogers (F&SF, 11/95)  
Must and Shall - Harry Turtledove (Asimov's, 11/95)  
The Perseids - Robert Charles Wilson (Realms of Fantasy, 12/95; NORTHERN FRIGHTS 3, Mosaic Press, 1995)  
After a Lean Winter - Dave Wolverton (F&SF, 03/96; WAR OF THE WORLDS: GLOBAL DISPATCHES, Bantam, 05/96)

#### BEST SHORT STORY

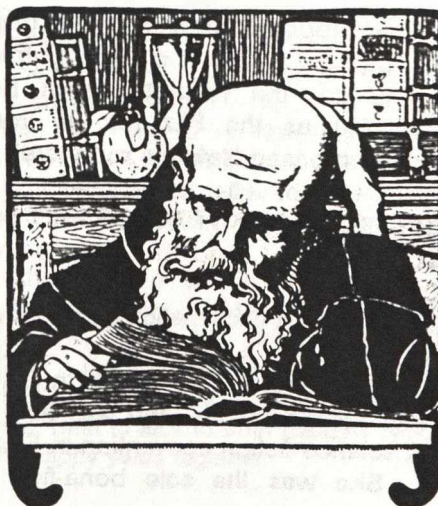
"In the Pound, Near Breaktime" - Kent Brewster (Tomorrow SF, 10/95)  
"A Birthday" - Esther M. Friesner (F&SF, 08/95)  
"The String" - Kathleen Ann Goonan (F&SF, 08/95)  
"Five F\*\*\*s" - Jonathan Lethem (THE WALL OF THE SKY, THE WALL OF THE EYE, 10/96)  
"These Shoes Strangers Have Died Of" - Bruce Holland Rogers (ENCHANTED FORESTS, DAW, 12/95)  
"In the Shade of the Slowboat Man" - Dean Wesley Smith (F&SF, 01/96)

Some of the choices were kind of surprising to me. I've always assumed that eligibility was based on publication mid-year to mid-year (in this case, mid-1995 to mid-1996). Nicola Griffith's novella "Yaguara" appeared in March 1995 and appeared on the final ballot for the 1995 Nebula.

Shouldn't THE DIAMOND AGE and "Da Vinci Rising" have been eligible for last year's Nebula, rather than this year's? I am glad to see Jack Dann's story make the list, however. This story was one of my personal nominations for the 1996 Hugo awards, but it made neither the short list nor Honorable Mention.

Another surprise was John Ford's entry in the novelette category. STARLIGHT 1 was a great anthology. Maureen McHugh's story was one of my nominations for Best Novella for the Hugos to be handed out in San Antonio this year, and I also nominated Patrick Nielsen Hayden for Best Professional Editor because of this book. But the one story in the anthology that I couldn't even stand, let alone finish reading, was the John Ford piece! I also felt that Ian McDonald's novel, EVOLUTION'S SHORE, was destined to be a science fiction classic, but it didn't make the short list for last year's Hugo ballot nor this year's Nebula ballot. Ah, well ...

There's the list. Were any of your favorites nominated?





# DRINKING FROM THE NET -- by ye Editor (News and Data gleaned from email)

Marla Ainspan of BAEN BOOKS had this to say in some recent correspondence about other matters: we'll be sending you some Hogan books for review and a couple others a few months down the road when they're published. Lastly, we don't have anything that would really qualify for the Darrell Award but thanks for thinking of us. If you need anything else, let me know.

{The "Hogan" referred to is James P. Hogan, who will be the author Guest of Honor at MidSouthCon 17 in March of 1998. He's also one of my top ten favorite authors and was a surprise guest at MSC 15 in 1996. We hope to run a complete bibliography of his works later this year, after a few that are now in the pipeline reach the shelves. ed}

Del Rey is continuing to re-issue classic TARZAN adventures by Edgar Rice Burroughs, and classic SF works by Robert Heinlein. Also, in August, they will have out MIND MATTERS: EXPLORING THE WORLD OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE by James P. Hogan, a new 352 page hardcover nonfiction work. Anne McCaffrey has turned in the next big Pern novel -- MASTERHARPER OF PERN. (For you fans of Pern, YES, you get to read Robinton's own story at last.) Yes, this ties in with their Year of Pern online promotion. Sample chapters of some of these are available now on-line (You can get the sample chapters from the Del Rey Web site [<http://www.randomhouse.com>] among other places.) Send email to [drin-dist@cruises.randomhouse.com](mailto:drin-dist@cruises.randomhouse.com) to get your very own copy of the Del Rey Internet Newsletter and keep up with what Del Rey is offering.

From Tim Bolgeo ("Uncle Timmy" as he's known in east Tennessee fandom) and his LIBERTYCON GAZETTE comes word that Memphian BOBBY BOLGEO has moved away. The Post Office facility where he works repairing stamp machines is being closed down and the big bad Post Office is forcing him to move to Pensacola, Florida. Because of this forced transfer, he decided to get himself something near the water, so he bought a 2 Bedroom Condo on the beach! His new address is: Robert L. Bolgeo, 13575 Sandy Key Drive, Apartment #835, Pensacola, FL 32507 and his phone number is 904-492-0468.

Also from "Uncle Timmy" (NOT to be confused with your editor Tim), this info on Kubla Khan to be held in Nashville on May 16-18. Registration is \$25 until 4/15 and \$30 thereafter and at the door. Guests include Allen Steele and Andy Offut; fan guest is Frank Olynky.

Send registrations and questions to Andy Bateman, PO Box 158392, Nashville, TN 37215-8392. The hotel is the Days Inn Airport No.1 International plaza (615) 361-7666 and rooms are \$58 plus tax per night 1-4 people. The cutoff date for the room block is April 25, 1997. For more info, call Bill Payne (615-851-9352) or Ken Moore (615-832-8402).

Finally, LIBERTYCON 11 will be at the Radisson Read House, JULY 25-27, 1997 with Literary GoH: FRED SABERHAGEN, Artist GoH: VINCENT DIFATE, and Special GoH: DAVID WEBER. MC: To Be Announced. Hotel Info : Radisson Read House, 827 Broad Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402; 423-266-4121 or FAX: 423-267-6193. Contact LIBERTYCON 11 at [cdc.net/~libcon](mailto:cdc.net/~libcon) via email. LibertyCon 11 has been limited to 450 paid attendees. Registration is \$25 if postmarked by June 15, 1997 and \$35 thereafter. Children under 12 will be charged half price rates.



Date: 21-Feb-97 11:24 CST  
Sb: A Correction  
Fm: INTERNET:george\_laskowski@cc.cranbrook.edu

Dear Tim,

Oh well, I spotted a small inaccuracy as I re-read the review after I sent it out. The book has 390 pages, not 190.

Best, Lan

{Lan's review of The Chronicles of Scar appeared in Memphen 229. ed}

Date: 20-Mar-97 16:50 CST

Fm: INTERNET:george\_laskowski@cc.cranbrook.edu

Dear Tim,

I got the copy of MEMPHEN #229 with my review of Ron Sarti's The Chronicles of Scar in it. Thanks for running it. I'm looking forward to see which stories make the Darrell Award list. As I've read through the various SF magazines, I have kept my eye out for such stories, but I haven't seen any myself.

Thanks for the list of artists' addresses. Since I publish my own zine, artwork is a needed commodity. Four of the seven are already doing stuff for me, so I'll have to contact the other three.

The reviews were nice, as was the conreport of Chattacon. The bibliography of John DeChancie's published work was a welcome addition to my growing list of authors' bibliographies. I find that I do not have as much of his stuff as I had thought. Thanks.

Here is another review, which will be included in the next Lan's Lantern (when I get time to finish it).

The Pipes of Orpheus by Jane Lindskold. AvoNovA, c1995, \$4.99.

Jane Lindskold takes the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice (where Orpheus travels to the underworld to convince Hades to release the soul of his wife Eurydice so she could be with him in the land of the living) and ties it together with the fairy tale, "The Pied Piper of Hamelin".

The Piper is Orpheus with his memory lost from the grief he felt over losing Eurydice a second time. Several of the children who are trapped in the mountain with the rats (which they eat for food, the children were not returned, as what happened in the Film version of the story) strive to restore the Piper's memory by traveling to the Underworld and talking Hades into returning Eurydice (or whoever her reincarnation is) to him.

The story is superbly written, and the intertwining of the two tales show how skillful a writer Jane Lindskold is. The stories which she uses as background are in our literary tradition, but how she uses them is unique, and the blend is truly wonderful. I agree with Roger Zelazny's assessment: "One of the brightest new writers to come along in years."

Now to your letter:

I understand. I am busy with so many things that trying to find time to actually put together this next issue of LL is very difficult. I thought that since I have

two weeks off from school I would have the time, but even now it isn't easy. Having a full time family has made a big difference in how I spend my free time.

Hope you had a good time at the convention. My next one isn't until April. I'm on four panels, and it should be fun.

Okay, I have other reviews which you will have first crack at before I use them in LL.

Gotta run.

Take care, Lan

Date: 08-Mar-97 14:13 CST

Sb: Memphen 229

Fm: ELISSA J HARGRAVES >

INTERNET: reallyred@juno.com

I DID renew. Angie told you so when you got to the February meeting.

Bret found your description of him before I got a chance to read it. He enjoyed gloating over it.

I would be interested in seeing the Hal Clement Special.

{Okay, I've updated the Memphen mailing list to reflect your renewal. Thanks! I am glad that Bret enjoyed my description of him. I'll try to remember to bring the Hal Clement Special of LAN'S LANTERN to the next couple of MSFA meetings. THANK YOU for the letter and your ok to reprint it here. ed}

Date: 05-Mar-97 03:44 CST

Sb: Letter2editor

Fm: John McGill > INTERNET:papajohn@netten.net

Dear Tim,

As I usually do, I read the Memphen (#299) from cover to cover. This time I felt inspired to write this for the letters page. I enjoy reading the letters from pros and big name fans, but I think it would be nice to hear from more of the local MSFA members on occasion. Perhaps this will provoke... er, convince some of them to contribute a letter or article.

Getting someone to do a web site for MSFA/Memphen is an excellent idea. A volunteer to do the job would really be great. If MSFA could afford it I'd even support the idea if we had to pay someone a nominal (read: tiny) fee to create and maintain a web site for us. Maybe Michael Landis would be willing to do the job in place of his annual dues. Michael? Why are you laughing Michael?

Your reports on the Darrell Award are nice to see. I like knowing what works are being considered, and



that the publishers are starting to get involved. Presenting the award during the masquerade intermission is a good idea. Someday the interest in the award presentation might draw more people to Mid South Con. If the presentation were held during a banquet, we might even sell more banquet tickets.

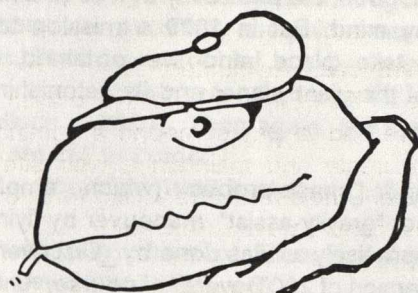
Like I said earlier, I always enjoy the letters page. Especially when we hear from someone like George Laskowski, or perhaps one of our lost fold; Danny or Randall & Donna. The Artist Addresses were a good idea. I'd just like to say Sara Elizabeth Dike also deserves fan mail for her wonderful contributions. Michael Kingsley's review of "The Whole Wide World" was an excellent read. Now I know I definitely want to see that film someday. It might even make a worth while showing at a house meeting.

John McGill, 4789 Janie Ave., Millington, TN 38053  
papajohn@netten.net

{You are SO RIGHT that Sara Dike should also have been included on the Artist List. Guess I just forgot since we've not had anything from her in quite a while and we'd need her parents' permission to give out their address -- JANE, ARE YOU READING THIS? // Otherwise, I've been very pleased with the quality of reviews and other materials from our new Secretary. Take a bow, Michael Kingsley! // We'd love to get more local letters to run in Memphen! ed}

Tom Foster, whose art has graced these pages many times recently, announced at MidSouthCon 16 that he now has a Web Page. It is : <http://www.patd.com/frogster>.

\*\*\*\*\*  
We also heard from Teddy Harvia with info on this year's FAAN Award (for fanzine publishing), but the deadline has passed for voting. Due to the size of this issue, I'll have to cut several things from the first draft and you can look for my review of the Battlefield Earth CD-ROM next time, along with several items we received in the mail or picked up at MidSouthCon.  
\*\*\*\*\*



## FANZINE REVIEW

by Michael Kingsley

TRAP DOOR #16, August 1996, edited and published by Robert Lichtman, P.O. Box 30, Glen Ellen, CA 95442; available for "The Usual" or \$4.00 per issue; stapled, 48 pages.

During the last pre-MidSouthCon ConComm meeting, Claude Saxon, Jr. and I briefly discussed how many science fictions fans in general have no sense of fan history, much as the general American public has no sense of history. I know I'm particularly guilty of it, but the thing is, I don't particularly much care. If it happened before I got seriously interested in science fiction (approximately the mid-1970's), it's ancient history fandom to me.

Like MIMOSA, this issue of TRAP DOOR is one of those zines that delves slightly into "ancient history fandom". It starts off with remembrances of late fans Redd Boggs and Charles Burbee, including reprints of some of their recollections of events in their past. It might be your cup of tea, but it wasn't particularly mine.

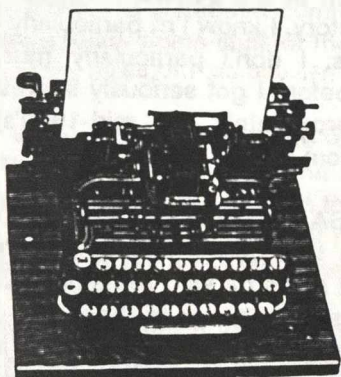
Next came what I thought was the highlight of the issue: a report on the Las Vegas Corflu convention by Gary Hubbard. It starts with a funny account of the Las Vegas gambling scene in general, telling how casino employees are not to be trusted. If you ask them for directions, they always direct you to the nearest slot machine. Mmmm, I wonder if I'll experience the same problem with Sam's Town employees at MidSouthCon in Tunica. Other amusing tidbits include a discussion with his muse (a lap dancer in a strip club), meetings with Big Name Fans, and the sheer panic of finding out he was the Guest of Honor and had to write a speech.

Gary Hubbard's piece is followed by a couple of shorter gems. Dale Spiers provides a dandy tale of his boyhood in Alberta, Canada, with anecdotes tied into verses of the old cowboy song, "The Old Chisholm Trail". Next on the agenda is an article by Paul Williams entitled "Ask Me About My Brain Injury", being an account of the consequences of not wearing a bicycle helmet.

The last 15 pages consist of the letter column, "The Ether Still Vibrates". Many comments on the graying of fandom, with some insightful comments. Richard Newsome relates that one of the major differences between old fandom and new fandom is that, at one time, if you were a fan, you were probably pretty bright. Nowadays, there are an awful lot of people in fandom that are, well, just normal. Vicki Rosenzweig is of the

opinion that nowadays new fans are people who are moving into an already developed no-longer-frontier, and simply don't have the attitudes as those who initially developed it. Kind of like those Eastern tenderfoots who moved into Western territories after the early white settlers had already established their roots.

Although I wasn't thrilled with everything in this issue, it was still an enjoyable read. The 1997 Corflu is raring to go, so I expect that TRAP DOOR #17 should be available about now. I'll let you know how that fares in an upcoming issue of Memphen.



#### IN DEPTH

(An article reprinted with permission from the Del Rey Internet Newsletter)

Arthur C. Clarke, one of the most famous minds in science fiction and space science, tells us a little bit about the origins of 2001 and the subsequent Odyssey books. Only at Del Rey could we patiently wait for a series of books whose schedule was dependent on the successes and failures of NASA!

It all began at Christmas 1948 - yes, 1948!- with a 4,000-word short story I wrote for a contest sponsored by the British Broadcasting Corporation. "The Sentinel" described the discovery of a small pyramid on the Moon, set there by some alien civilization to await the emergence of mankind as a planet-faring species. Until then, it was implied, we would be too primitive to be of any interest.

The BBC rejected my modest effort, and it was not published until almost three years later in the one-and-only (Spring 1951) issue of "10 Story Fantasy"-a magazine which, as the invaluable ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION wryly comments, is "primarily remembered for its poor arithmetic (there were 13 stories)."

"The Sentinel" remained in limbo for more than a decade, until Stanley Kubrick contacted me in the spring of 1964 and asked if I had any ideas for the

"proverbial" (i.e. still nonexistent) "good science-fiction movie." During the course of our many brainstorming sessions, as recounted in my book THE LOST WORLDS OF 2001, we decided that the patient watcher on the Moon might provide a good starting point for our story. Eventually it did much more than that, as somewhere during production the pyramid evolved into the now-famous black monolith.

To put the Odyssey series in perspective, it must be remembered that when Stanley and I started planning what we privately called "How the Solar System Was Won," the Space Age was barely seven years old, and no human had traveled more than a hundred kilometers from the home planet. Although President Kennedy had announced that the United States intended to go to the Moon "in this decade," to most people that must still have seemed like a far-off dream. When filming started in South London on a freezing 29 December 1965, we did not even know what the lunar surface looked like at close quarters. There were still fears that the first word uttered by an emerging astronaut would be "Help!" as he disappeared into a talcum- powderlike layer of moondust. On the whole, we guessed fairly well: only the fact that our lunar landscapes are more jagged than the real ones-smoothed by eons of sandblasting by meteoric dust-reveals that "2001" was made in the pre-Apollo era.

Today, of course, it seems ludicrous that we could have imagined giant space stations, orbiting Hilton Hotels, and expeditions to Jupiter as early as the year 2001. It is now difficult to realize that back in the 1960's there were serious plans for permanent Moon bases and Mars landings-by 1990! Indeed, in the CBS studio, immediately after the Apollo 11 launch, I heard the Vice-President of the United States proclaim exuberantly: "Now we must go to Mars!"

As it turned out, he was lucky not to go to prison. That scandal, plus Vietnam and Watergate, is one of the reasons why these optimistic scenarios never materialized.

When the movie and book of "2001: A Space Odyssey" appeared in 1968, the possibility of a sequel had never crossed my mind. But in 1979 a mission to Jupiter really did take place, and we obtained our first closeups of the giant planet and its astonishing family of moons.

The Voyager space-probes (which employed a "slingshot" or "gravity-assist" maneuver by flying close to Jupiter-precisely as was done by Discovery in the the book version of 2001) were, of course, unmanned, but the images they sent back made real--and totally unexpected--worlds from what had hitherto been



merely points of light in the most powerful telescopes. The continually erupting sulphur volcanoes of Io, the multiply-impacted face of Callisto, the weirdly contoured landscape of Ganymede...it was almost as if we had discovered a whole new Solar System. The temptation to explore it was irresistible; hence 2010: ODYSSEY TWO, which also gave me the opportunity to find what happened to David Bowman after he had awakened in that enigmatic hotel room.

In 1981, when I started writing the new book, the Cold War was still in progress, and I felt I was going out on a limb--as well as risking criticism--by showing a joint US-Russian mission. I also underlined my hope of future cooperation by dedicating the novel to Nobelist Andrei Sakharov (then still in exile) and Cosmonaut Alexei Leonov--who, when I told him in "Star Village" that the ship would be named after him, exclaimed with typical ebullience, "Then it will be a good ship!"

It still seems incredible to me that, when Peter Hyams made his excellent film version in 1983, he was able to use the actual closeups of the Jovian moons obtained in the Voyager missions (some of them after helpful computer processing by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, source of the originals). However, far better images were expected from the ambitious Galileo mission, due to carry out a detailed survey of the major satellites over a period of many months. Our knowledge of this new territory, previously obtained only from a brief flyby, would be enormously expanded--and I would have no excuse for not writing Odyssey Three.

Alas, something tragic happened on the way to Jupiter. Galileo was to have been launched from the Space Shuttle in 1986--but the Challenger disaster ruled out that option, and it soon became clear that we would get no new information from Io and Europa, Ganymede and Callisto, for at least another decade.

I decided not to wait, and the 1985 return of Halley's Comet to the inner Solar System gave me an irresistible theme. Its next appearance in 2061 would be good timing for a third Odyssey.

And now, at long last, Galileo has reached Jupiter. I've been downloading the Ganymede images with some trepidation: if we suddenly see palm trees and tropical beaches, I'm in real trouble! Luckily, however, so far nothing has shown up that conflicts with the descriptions in 3001. Then again, the high-resolution images are still to come...

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## UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

Continuing with the list from SF-LOVERS-CONS@RUTGERS.EDU (Saul Jaffe, 98 Sherman St., Passaic, NJ 07055) provided by Greg Bridges a few months back, here are some upcoming SF cons:

April 18-20, 1997 (Missouri)

NAME THAT CON 10. The Harley Hoel, Earth City MO (near St. Charles). GoH: Laurell K. Hamilton; AGoH: David Martin; FGoH: Susan Eisenhower; TM: Mickey Zucker-Reichert; SGoH: Wilson "Bob" Tucker. Memb: \$25 at this point. Info: NameThatCon, PO Box 575, St. Charles MO 63302; 314-583-5193; email: randy@ecmail.ecc.cc. mo.us.

May 3-5, 1997 (Tennessee)

MAGIC CARPET CON V. Days Inn & Convention Center, Chattanooga, TN. AGoH: David & Lori Dietrick; GoH: eluki bes shahar; SGoH: Marion Zimmer Bradley (health permitting); Guests: Suzette Haden Elgin, Larry Elmore, Mary Hanson Roberts, Dr. Jane Robinson, Jean Lorrain, Jacqueline Lichtenberg, more. Memb: \$35 at this point; children 6-12 \$20. Info: Magic Carpet Con, Inc., 211 Highland Ave., Smyrna, TN 37167; email: michaelm@basis.com.

May 8-11, 1997 (New York)

WORLD HORROR CONVENTION 1997. Days Inn Fallsview, Niagara Falls, NY; rms \$75. GoHs: Ramsey Campbell, Joe R. Lansdale, Poppy Z. Brite; AGoH: Rick Berry; TM: Edo van Belkom. Dealer table: \$100 first, \$125 second. Memb: \$100 (checks to Niagara Falls SF Assoc. Inc.). Info: World Horror Convention, PO Box 1072, Amherst NY 14226; email: herphaus@pce.net.

May 9-11, 1997 (Ohio)

MARCON 32. Hyatt Regency, Columbus OH; 800-233-1234. Author GoH: Harry Turtledove; AGoH: Brom; Writer GoH: J. Michael Straczynski; Media GoH: Tracy Torme; Costuming GoH: Fyberdyne Laboratories; GGoH: Games Workshops; SGoH: Julius Schwartz; EGoH: Ricia Mainhardt; Filk GoH: Juanita Coulson; Science GoH: The Rhine Research Institute; FGoH: B.J. Mitias. Memb: \$35. Info: Marcon 32, PO Box 141414, Columbus OH 43214. 614-475-8181; email: info@marcon.org; URL: http://www.marcon.org/mar32.html.

May 13-23, 1997 (Caribbean)

SCI-FI SEA CRUISE. At sea in the Caribbean on a cruise ship; 800-683-7447. Guests: Colin Baker,

Mira Furlan, Nigel Bennett. Memb: begin at \$500 (including room & board. Info: Sci-Fi Sea Cruise, c/o FPC, PO Box 836135, Margate, FL 33093-6135; 561-637-4430; email: whocruiser@aol.com.

May 16-17, 1997 (Florida)

OASIS 10. Harley Hotel, 151 East Washington St., Orlando, FL 32801; 407-841-3220; rms \$70. GoH: Stanley Schmidt; AGoH: Ron Walotsky; FGoH: Ray Herz; Guests: Ben Bova, Mike Resnick, more. Memb: \$25 now. Info: Oasis, PO Box 940992, Maitland, FL 32794-0992; 407-263-5822.

May 16-18, 1997 (Illinois)

CONVERSION. Deerfield Hyatt, 1750 Lake Cook Rd. Deerfield, IL; rms: \$78 snl/quad; 800-233-1234 or 847-945-3400. GoH: Nick Pollotta; AGoH: Reed Walker. Adult convention, you must be over 21 to register. Memb: \$35 now. Info: Conversion, PO Box 257795, Chicago, IL 60625-7795; email: converge1@aol.com.

May 16-18, 1997 (Utah)

CONDUIT 7. Quality Inn, City Center, Salt Lake City, UT. GoH: Timothy Zahn; SGoH: Steve Jackson. Memb: \$23 until 4/15/97, \$28 after; youths 13-18: \$2 discount; children 7-12 half-price; under 7 free. Info: CONduit 7, PO Box 11745, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0745; 801-273-0443; email: 74014.2540@compuserve.com; URL: <http://www.business.utah.edu/~dofjhw/CONDUIT>

May 23-26, 1997 (California, Northern)

BAYCON '97. Red Lion Hotel, San Jose, CA; rms \$78 snl, \$80 dbl, \$89 tpl/quad. GoH: Jack L. Chalker; FGoHs: Craig & Sharon Nicolai. Memb: \$50 until 5/15/97, \$60 after. Info: BayCon '97, PO Box 610427, San Jose, CA 95161; URL: <http://www.baycon.org>.

May 23-26, 1997 (Maryland)

COSTUMECON 15. Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore and Hanover Streets, Baltimore, MD; 410-539-8400; rms \$95. Memb: \$50; \$25 supporting. Info: CCXV c/o Rule, 5400 White Mane, Columbia, MD 21045; 410-730-7117; email: CCXV@aol.com; URL: <http://www.access.digex.net/~fanish/CCXV/index.htm>.

May 23-26, 1997 (Maryland)

DISCLAVE 1997. Ramada Inn, 8500 Annapolis Road, New Carrollton, MD; 800-436-0614 or

301-459-8700; rms \$76. GoH: Patricia Anthony; AGoH: Lissanne Lake; FGoH: Peggy Rae Pavlat. Memb: \$35 until 4/30/97, \$40 after; children 6-12 \$10, under 6 \$5. Info: Disclave '97, 3064 White Birch Court, Fairfax, VA 22031-1136; email: michaelnel@aol.com.

May 23-25, 1997 (Missouri)

CONQUEST 28. Park Place Hotel, I-435 & Front St., Kansas City MO; 800-821-8532 or 816-483-9900; rms \$53 snl/quad, \$65 suites. GoH: Larry Niven; TM: Andrew J. Offutt; AGoH: Alan M. Clark; FGoH: Bob Stoltman. Memb: \$20 until 4/15/97, \$25 after. Info: ConQuest 28, PO Box 36212, Kansas City MO 64171; email: sfreader@unicom.net.

May 23-25, 1997 (Texas)

CONTROLL '97. Houston TX. Gaming convention. Info: Con-Troll Conventions, Inc., PO Box 740969-1025, Houston TX 77274; 713-895-9202.

May 24-26, 1997 (United Kingdom, Scotland)

FANTASTICON. The Moat House, Glasgow, Scotland; rms L42 snl, L35.70 dbl. GoHs: William Campbell, Francis Matthews, Michael Williams, Barrie Ingham, Edward Hardwicke, Simon Williams, Jerry Hardin, Gareth Thomas; Guests: Harry Harrison, Lisa Tuttle, Ramsey Campbell, David Gemmell. Memb: L45 (children up to age 14, half price; children under 5 free); L15 supporting. Info: Catherine Richardson, 38 Planetree Avenue, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 9TH; email: mlr95@aber.ac.uk; URL: <http://www.aber.ac.uk/~mlr95>.

June 6-8, 1997 (Mississippi)

DEEPSOUTHCON 35/CHIMNEYCON 3. Cabot Lodge-Millsaps, 2375 North State Street, Jackson MS 39202; 601-948-8650; rms \$59. GoH: George Alec Effinger; FGoH: J.R. Madden; TM: Michael Scott; AGoH: Hanther; Cartoonist GoH: Teddy Harvia; SGoHs: James P. Hogan, Barbara Hambly. Dealer tables \$60 per table (includes membership). Memb: \$25 until 5/1/97, \$40 after. Dealer Info: c/o Diane Miller 1402 4th Avenue North, Grand Forks ND 58203. Info: DeepSouthCon/ChimneyCon, PO Box 13626, Jackson MS 39236; URL: <http://pages.prodigy.com/trfeller/dsc.htm>.

{For the sake of space, this list has been shortened. For the full list and an updated version, contact Saul Jaffe at the address above. ed}



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Box 13626  
Jackson, MS 39236  
CCWS74A@prodigy.com  
<http://pages.prodigy.com/trfeller/dsc.htm>

Tim's Last Words -- by Tim Gatewood, Editor

Since both Barbara and I are involved with the committee putting on Deep South Con, we hope y'all won't mind that we are running their flyer as page 11 of this 12-page issue.

This issue has been more effort to put together than any I have done, what with fighting off the last of a post-con cold/fever, needing to be at work to assist my tax attorney boss, and needing to do many other things on and about the computer before I could even get started. If anyone else reading this would like to try their hand at putting out an issue, we would be happy to show you the ropes and help you all we can. The reason that Memphen is the "semi-official" newsletter of MSFA is that the Editor has remarkable discretion in what to put in it and how to arrange it; most clubzines are more tightly controlled by the club that pays for them. While I really enjoy doing Memphen, time is getting shorter for my fannish pursuits as other endeavors beckon me away. If some other local fan could do at least an occasional issue, that would help delay the day when I have to pass on the editorship altogether. Think about it, willya?

And while you are thinking about it, drop a quarter in the phone and call Greg, John, Elissa, Michael, and the others who contributed to this issue and let them know that you appreciated their stuff.

We heard this past weekend that Greg and Dana are registered at Target. Just in case y'all wanted to know that before the wedding.

Finally, literally as we are going to press, we received from BAEN BOOKS the newest James P. Hogan novel, Bug Park. This is the one he was talking about when he was at MidSouthCon 15 last year. Look for a review of it in the next issue.

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