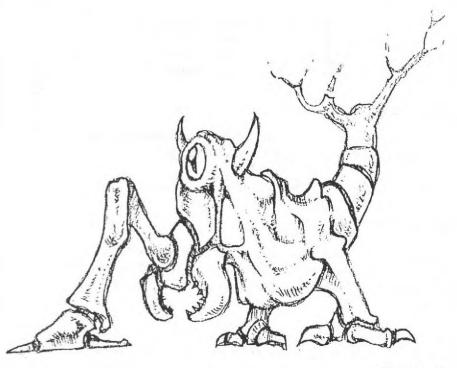
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Mots Ohrmon 1999

Trick or Treat?

The Newsletter of the Portland Science Fiction Society October 2000 Issue # 264

TIMELINE

Compiled by Debra Stansbury

PorSFiS holds a formal meeting on the second Saturday of each month—usually these are structured and have a program. After the meeting we adjourn to a social place for snacks, drinks and socialization—called Afters (that's the gathering's name, not the restaurant. We tend to go to 10th & Market McMinnamins).

There is often a social gathering in varying locations on the fourth Saturday, called alt.porsfis. Lately this has been a video party—by the way, if you want to be a host, please let us know...we can do this more than once a month...honest! And as always, everyone is welcome to everything PorSFiS does.

October 14th Meeting

Callie Hills, ½ of Echo's Children (Cat Faber, a previous guest, being the other) will be our guest in October. Please come and enjoy ☺

Room 225 Smith Hall PSU (free parking in PSU Parking structures after 2pm)

alt.porsfis October 28th, 2000

This month's alt.porsfis is a very special one! Sue Renhard and Dave Moreland, having moved into their new home, are throwing a combination Halloween, Housewarming and Time Change party! Come in costume, prizes will be awarded!

Sue writes: October's alt.PorSFiS has been subverted to become alt.-housewarming,-Halloween,-timeparty. Save October 28th for Dave Moreland/Sue Renhard's housewarming party (no, this is not the traditional "Viking-style" housewarming). Feel free to come in costume. We have arranged for Daylight Savings time to end that night, so you may party late and still wake refreshed on Sunday.

The new digs are at 6212 SE 91st

PRESIDENTS QUOTES:

First: Okay, the September issue was a bit late.

I apologize for the tardiness of the September issue, but I was in the throws of some nasty personal things at the first part of the month, culminating in going to

Idaho for a funeral. (I won't put the details here, as it is far too depressing, but I will share it with you if you ask.)

Thank you.

Second: Now for something totally different!

We are looking to have a Halloween Party this year. We've had a lot of losses in the fan community this year...let's give them a big party on All Hallow's Eve, shall we?

Sue Renhard and Dave Moreland have volunteered to host an alt.porsfis.halloween/Housewarming/Time Change party on October 28th. Let's all come and have a scary good time (scare their neighbors, that is ©)

There will be a costume contest! Come in costume! (Special category—Time Lords ©) All participants get Frequent Flyer Miles for Air PorSFiS (Kids always fly free!), winners get real prizes!

Second: Christmas Time is Coming...

But some people can't afford a fat goose. Time to get in those donations for our Annual Christmas Family © Let's make someone's holidays brighter!

Excalibur Books & Comics

Phone (503) 231-7351 http://excaliburcomics.net/ 2444 SE Hawthorne Blvd Portland, OR 97214

PorSFiS Members receive 10% off all purchases

Third: Flyer Ideas needed

We want to have flyers at Orycon (and elsewhere) but need ideas and art. I know you are a wildly imaginative and talented bunch, so come on, Submit!

Don't just keep us to yourselves! Share with your friends and family how wonderful, witty and entertaining we are. ©

Fourth: Members

Okay, the meetings are free...but we still want paying members. We have some lovely benefits...this newsletter, a beautiful blue membership card, discounts at four fine local stores, an annual picnic...

What should we be focusing on? Who is our target audience? Do we want to offer a special rate to the under 21 crowd? Like \$15 or so...to offset the fact that they can't go to Afters since we hold it in a Pub?

Cost cutting is only a stop-gap measure, what we need is a bigger constituency. If you have any suggestions or would like to get more involved, please contact either me, or John Bartley.

Fifth: Reviews Wanted

Anyone seen a good movie, rented a good video, read a good book lately? Or even a bad one? Submissions are welcome, in fact, they're encouraged!

Sixth: ORYCON 22!

PorSFiS is having a room party at Orycon on both Friday and Saturday night. Sam Butler is the Overseer of the Party, but still needs volunteers to help staff and supply said party © Volunteer and have fun at the same time! Woo Hoo! To contact Sam, e-mail him at sam_roderick@yahoo.com Donations of time, bodies, money, music and food needed—and suggestions for a theme!

NEW DEADLINE:

The Deadline for the newsletter has been moved up. It is now the third Saturday of the month (the week after the meeting) Hopefully this will enable me to get the newsletter out in a more timely manner ©

Suggestions Wanted for PorSFiS's Recommendation List

Please, send in your suggestions! PO Box 4602 Portland, OR 97208 or porsfis@email.com Your opinion is wanted!!

Looking Glass Bookstore

318 SW Taylor St Portland, OR 97204 *phone* 227-4760 *fax* 227-0829

e-mail lookglas@teleport.com

PorSFiS Members receive 10% off all purchases

The Vice President Recommends:

RECENTLY READ

John Bartley <johnbartley@email.com>

Well, it may not be exactly comforting to know I'm 51st in line of the 271 people who've requested THE BEAR AND THE DRAGON, but at least with

the new Multnomah County Library web-based system, you know where you stand. The old interface is still in place for folks with limited computers, but if yours is fast enough to support a Java-enabled web browser (Netscape, Explorer, Opera 4, et al.), http://webpac.multnomah.lib.or.us/webpacj/fast.html gives you a lot more detail on books and reserves, and allows screen dumps to a web page (so I can print a list of all my books checked out). Now if it only generated a date-sorted list (so I can avoid more overdues), that would be spiffy.

Also, <http://www.multnomah.lib.or.us/lib/purchasefm.html> allows you to request the library buy books, movie DVDs, music and program CDs and video tapes not in the catalog.

Future Dreams Bookstore

Phone (503) 231-8311 Email: fdb@hevanet.com

1800 East Burnside Portland, OR 97214-1599

Hours M-F 10am-8pm Weekends 11am-8pm PorSFiS Members receive 10% off all purchases

REVIEWS

This has been a non-fiction month, pretty much. I've left most of the fiction to the Demopublicans and Republicrats, who seem focused above all else of preventing anyone else the right to be heard. BTW, did you know under the current presidential race debate rules, Abraham Lincoln would not have qualified to debate?

BIOHAZARD Ken Alibek, M.D., retired Soviet colonel MUST READ

In a word, Scary. A head of the former Soviet (and current Russian) biological warfare program reveals it was/is far more than even the US military expected, and details in intricate detail just what kinds of bugs were bred and stockpiled ofr use against 'the Main Enemy' (folks, that's us). Now, with the continually crumbling Russian economy, the experts who knew the unthinkable are emigrating and going.... where?

THE RED HOT TYPEWRITER
Hugh Merrill, J-school professor, Georgia State, Atlanta
MUST READ

A balanced biography of the late prolific mystery writer, creator of Travis McGee, who single-handledly redeemed hard-boiled fiction after the excesses of Mickey Spillane, Donald Hamilton and other bloody-minded pulp authors.

MacDonald's SF (WINE OF THE DREAMERS, et al.) was discovered by Anthony Boucher. MacDonald had an Asimovean approach to writing, (he) 'approached writing the way any (other) Harvard MBA would. "I thought you got up in the morning and went to work and worked until lunch and then went back to work until the day was over - with good business habits as in any other job... It wasn't until my habit patterns were firmly embedded that I discovered that writers tended to work a couple of hours and then to brood about it the rest of the day." 'His 1950 WRITER'S YEARBOOK article 'Professionally Yours' just confirms it: "...Today, as a writer, I am a small businessman in a highly competitive field, fabricating a product for sale in a buyer's market, and required to establish my own merchandising and marketing procedures (which he then outlines in generous detail that is useful today).

THE IMMACULATE INVASION
Bob Shacochis, reporter, NY Times and other media
GOOD READ

Eighteen months in Haiti covering the Nth American invasion gave this report a lot of insight on how poorly most of the US military handles Operations Other Than War, and shows how the Green Berets, the organization which understands Unconventional Warfare, was hamstrung and hobbled from Day One.

MANIFOLD TIME

Stephen Baxter, Hugo winner plus other assorted awards, Ph.D. in aeroengineering research GOOD READ

Maverick ex-astronaut engineer pushes us back into space while Things Go TO Hell Around Us; and that's just the first act! Shades of Blish's CITIES IN FLIGHT and Brin's EARTH, but definately a unique book.

Oh, and what note of mine would be complete without at least one URL? Jerry Pournelle's site http://www.jerrypournelle.com> mentione KALVAN KINGMAKER, a work in progress started by H. Beam Piper before his untimely demise, to be completed by John Carr. A search on that turned up a lovely website http://www.uchronia.net/intro.html> which tracks Alternate Histories. Far out!

And, courtesy the Opiate of the Masses, two miniseries from Channel

Four, across the Big Ditch, rebroadcast on Sci-Fi:

INVASION EARTH

So-So

Puzzled Britons and USAF general Fred Ward discover through Strange Happenings they are Being Farmed, with the same care & gentility shown any farm animal. A good sequel to CHICKEN RUN if you want to become a vegetarian.

ULTRAVIOLET

Do View

Another six-hour-with-commercials miniseries. This time, Vampires Are Among Us, but Scotland Yard uses tech instead of Buffy. (Guess if they don't have Rogue Demons, mayhaps they have no need for Rogue Demon Hunters?) Mind control, biotech, stock market manipulation, perfidious Albion schemes. Oh, yes, their vamps explode...

Wrigley-Cross Books Anniversary Party and Sale

October 28

The Sale
Discounts All Day
20% OFF USED BOOKS
10% OFF NEW BOOKS

The Party 7:00 PM to 10 PM

Please join us for good food, champagne, sparkling cider, microbrews, good company.

Portland, Oregon Contact: Debbie Cross September 21, 2000 281-9449

Mary Freeman Reads From 3rd Oregon Mystery

Mary Rosenblum, AKA Mary Freeman, will be reading from her new book Friday, October 13 at 7:00 PM at Wrigley-Cross Books, 1809 N.E. 39th Ave. A signing session will follow.

BLEEDING HEART is Rosenblum's second gardening mystery written under the pen name of Mary Freeman. Rachel O'Connor, the heroine, is a professional landscaper in the small town of Blossom located near Hood

The SF/F and "Isn't It Cool?" Calendar of Events for October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				This space available		
This space available	2	3	4	5 Black Watch 7:30pm Rose Garden Arena	6	7
8	9	10 Tony Bennet 8pm Oregon Symphony Opening Gala	This space available	12	13 Mary Rosenblum reading/signing at Wrigley-Cross Books 7pm	14 PorSFiS 2pm PSU Smith Hall Room 225 Callie Hills, Guest Heather Alexander Café Pacifica 8pm
15 Portland Comic Book Show 10-5pm Exhibit Hall, Rose Quarter Mult Co Library Central Branch 2pm "War of the Worlds" dramatic reading	16	This space available	18	19 Dr Kevin Grazier Red Lion Colisseum will discuss NASA's Last Big Budget Space Probe Mission call Gregg Woods at 503.297.2776 for information or a dinner reservation	20	21 NOVA's Halloween Party at Tigard City Hall 5pm
22	Tomorrow 7pm → SF/F Book Group Barnes & Noble at Jantzen Beach	24 Neil Gaiman reading Aladdin Theatre \$20 (Benefit for the Comic Book Defense Fund) Ticketmaster or 503.233.1994	25	26 Chris Bunch at Powells in Beaverton 7pm	27	28 alt.porsfis © Also Housewarming, Time Change and Halloween Party!! Wrigley-Cross Anniversary Party
29	This space available	31	1	2	3	4 NOVA Meeting Tigard City Hall 5pm

River. This story takes Rachel to Portland to restore a botanical garden that strongly resembles Leach Gardens.

This event is free and open to the public. For further information call 281-9449.

Wrigley-Cross Books

Toll Free (877) 694-1467 Phone (503) 281-9449 FAX (503) 281-9706 1809 N.E 39th Avenue

Email wrigcros@teleport.com Portland OR 97212 Home Page - http://www.teleport.com/~wrigeros

PorSFiS Members receive 10% off all purchases

James Kline, in Concert

There will be a concert on Sunday, October 15th, at 7 PM in Room 75, Lincoln Hall, at PSU. The artist is James Kline, who plays the arch guitar and specializes in Period and post-Period music. Tickets are \$12 for general admission, \$8 for students and members of the Portland Guitar Society. If you aren't familiar with the arch guitar, imagine a regular guitar with a rather small body; now widen the neck a bit and add two more strings below the bass E; then add three *more* strings below that as drones. He plays beautifully and is a terrific person and story-teller.

He will also be playing at Milwaukie Presbyterian Church that morning (services at 8:30 and 11 AM) and will probably give a mini-concert between services, so you can hear him for free if you don't mind listening to church stuff. The church is at 2416 SE Lake Rd in Milwaukie: from McLoughlin Blvd, turn east one block to Main Street in beautiful downtown Milwaukie, turn south on Main and follow it to the end, where it curves to the left under a railroad overpass; the church is about a block and a half up the hill on the right, can't miss it.

Top 10 Bestselling SF Books per Amazon.com 9/27/00

- 1 Faith of the Fallen
- 2 Winter's Heart (Wheel of Time)
- 3 D&D 3rd Edition Handbook 4 D&D 3rd Ed Dungeon Masters Guide
- 5 D&D 3rd Ed Monsters Manual
- 6 A Storm of Swords
- 7 Star Trek: The Genesis Wave
- 8 Scion of Cyador

9 Ship of Destiny10 D&D 3rd Ed Adventure Game

From SciFi Wire

Doyle Works To Revive B5

Jerry Doyle, who played Michael Garibaldi on *Babylon 5*, told fans that he's been working hard to put the series back on the air. In a SCIFI.COM chat, Doyle said, "I've talked with [*B5* creator J. Michael Straczynski] at length, [producers] John Copleland, Doug Netter, [director] John Flinn, [and actors] Bruce [Boxleitner], Andreas [Katsulas], [Richard] Biggs, Peter [Jurasik], [Patricia] Tallman, [Tracy] Scoggins at length for many months about putting a *B5* type project on the air. We all agree it was and is a great show." Doyle added, "I've also been in touch with [Warner Brothers] and The SCI FI Channel and other related parties along the same lines." SCI FI is rerunning *B5* in widescreen format

Straczynski, however, seem dubious about Doyle's efforts to resurrect the series. In an interview with the *Buffalo (N.Y.) News*, Straczynski said, "I don't know. Jerry's a nice guy, an honorable guy, but I think at times he hears voices telling him to go save France. I keep telling him, 'Don't do it. I've seen that movie, you wouldn't like the ending.' A lot of folks have tried to get *Babylon 5* back one way or another--a half-dozen attempts so far--and none of them has been more than just talk. It all, at the end of the day, ends up in the same trajectory."

In his chat, Doyle responded, "I don't understand Joe's quote about my hearing voices telling me to go save France. I just don't understand his comment. There obviously seems to be interest on all fronts to put it back on the air, and I will personally continue to do what I can to put the show back on the air, on The SCI FI Channel where it belongs."

Exorcist Possesses Legs

The enhanced version of 1973's *The Exorcist* continued to turn heads during the weekend of Sept. 29, coming in second in the box-office rankings and scaring up an estimated \$7.4 million in earnings, according to the Hollywood trade papers. In its second week of release, the horror classic has earned a total of \$17.9 million.

Braga Preps Next Trek Pilot

Star Trek: Voyager executive producer Brannon Braga told the Fandom Web site that he and partner Rick Berman are working on the pilot script for the next Trek series. "I've told you, at the very least, that we are writing the pilot, and that we are deeply immersed in the pilot script," Braga told the site.

"Ken Biller has taken over *Voyager* officially," Braga added. "I did a script for him, and a story for him, but at some point, I had to step away to work full-time on the new show, on the pilot, which Rick Berman and I have been working on diligently for the past month. It's very exciting."

Braga declined to discuss specifics about the new series, which will replace *Voyager* when it ends its seven-year run at the end of the season that starts Oct. 4. "It's going to be quintessential *Star Trek*," Braga said. "It hopefully will rekindle the adventure and thrill of the franchise, and at the same time reinvent it. I said it before: We don't want to plop a new crew on a new ship and title it *Star Trek: Intrepid.* We've got to do something that at once recaptures the heart and soul of *Star Trek*, while at the same time reinventing *Star Trek* to make it different and fresh and bring it into the 21st century. We think we've found a way to do that."

Braga said he's unconcerned about uncertainty over the future of the UPN network, on which *Voyager* currently runs. "We are just focusing on what we have been hired to do, which is to create the best series that we can, and write a drop-dead pilot. The politics and finances of what happens with the studio and the network are really so far beyond our realm of expertise and control, that there is really nothing we can do or say or influence. I think it's probably a safe bet that *Star Trek*, this new series, will end up comfortably somewhere. We're just not exactly sure where yet."

Straczynski To Write Spidey

Babylon 5 creator J. Michael Straczynski confirmed in a post to the rec.arts.sf.tv.babylon5.moderated newsgroup that he will write for Marvel Comics' *The Amazing Spider-Man* series, according to the Lurker's Guide to Babylon 5 web site. "As a long-time Spidey fan, this is something I'm looking forward to enormously," Straczynski wrote. "You can expect to see the first JMS-written issue of [*The Amazing Spider-Man*] probably around March or April of next year."

Straczynski has been busy with his own comic series, *Rising Stars*, produced under his Joe's Comics imprint for Top Cow. Straczynski said he is also producing a screenplay for a feature-film version of *Rising Stars*, tentatively titled *Born in Fire*, which he will turn in around mid- or late November. "MGM read the outline, loved it, had a couple of very smart suggestions ... and as of Wednesday, I've been put to script," he wrote.

And Straczynski is developing a new, as-yet-unidentified TV series. Straczynski produced an outline for the pilot TV movie this week, and was asked to produce a script for that project as well, he said. "The network is indeed Showtime, as some have speculated, with Paramount Television the studio attached, and it's

for an hour series (debuting with a two-hour pilot movie) slated for their Sci-Fi Fridays slot," he said. "The project is based on an outside source, though I can't yet comment on that. I'm on as executive producer/show runner. In addition, feature-film director Joe Dante is aboard also as executive producer, and he will be invaluable in setting the visual and directorial tone of the series. It's been an absolute pleasure working with Joe, and if we get past the next few hurdle—every series has to go through the stages of pilot outline, pilot script, decision to produce the script and then the go-order on a series, same as with *B5* and every other program—I'm *really* looking forward to working with him on the series." He said he would aim to turn in the pilot script by Nov. 1.

Lastly, Straczynski said Warner Brothers wants to shop his proposed television series *The World On Fire*, which he worked on with *The X-Files Creator* Chris Carter, in the spring.

www.narnia.com

Harper Collins Children's Books has opened an official web site to commemorate the 50th anniversary of *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*, the first novel in C.S. Lewis' *Narnia* series of children's books.

Awarded

Star Trek: The Next Generation star LeVar Burton won the first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award of the Literacy in Media Awards for his 18 years of work promoting literacy on PBS' Reading Rainbow series, according to the official Star Trek Web site.

Episode II Still Going And Going ...

Rick McCallum, producer of *Star Wars: Episode II*, told the official *Star Wars* Web site that it will take three years total to finish the prequel, even though principal photography wrapped in September. "We've now come back to California to start the editing and continue other post-production activity," McCallum said.

McCallum added, "Next year we'll have our planned next rounds of shooting to pick up any live-action elements necessary, just as we did for *Episode I*. From there, the film will be in post-production right up until the planned release in the summer of 2002. So out of the whole three-year process (including a year of pre-production) we're filming for only about 14 weeks or so."

Pace Changing For Boreanaz

David Boreanaz, star of The WB's hit vampire series Angel, told EW.com that the film-noir-flavored Oct. 3 episode marks a change of pace. "What's great is

that usually we go back to the 1800s or the 1700s," Boreanaz says of the episodes that flash back in the 240-year history of the character he plays. "Here, it's the 1950s and the colors just came to life; we didn't do the typical 'let's shoot it in black and white' type of thing. It has a little bit of a James Dean vibe."

Boreanaz offered spoilers for the episode. "Basically, we find that Angel is living in a hotel with these writers and actors," he said. "He gets involved because there's a demon that's living in this hotel feeding off the insecurities of people. At the end of the episode, we find out where the new headquarters will be, where the team will be setting up shop."

Boreanaz added that this year's Angel will balance light and dark. "Last year, I think Angel developed some form of sarcastic humor that was inherent to that type of character. This year, I think the producers are going to open him up more as far as him having to sing karaoke songs, making a fool out of himself, and I think that's where he might be his funniest."

As for future episodes, Boreanaz said, "We're actually doing one right now that involves myself, Spike, Drusilla, Darla, the Master. We've got some heavy sh-t coming up there. We're going to the Boxer Rebellion next week. It's going to be wild."

Edelman Will Head SF Weekly

Scott Edelman, an award-winning writer and former editor of SCI FI Magazine, will take over as editor in chief of Science Fiction Weekly, SCIFI.COM's toprated SF e-zine, effective Oct. 9. Edelman will lead SFW's overall editorial development and readership growth efforts. Science Fiction Weekly has more than 172,000 registered readers.

In addition to eight years as editor of SCI FI Magazine, the official print magazine of The SCI FI Channel, Edelman is a four-time Hugo Award finalist for best editor. Edelman also worked as the editor of both Sci-Fi Flix and Sci-Fi Universe, as editor-in-residence at the Clarion Science Fiction Workshop, as guest editor at the Odyssey Writers Workshop and as Toastmaster for the 2000 Nebula Award ceremony.

Edelman's stories have appeared in Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine, Amazing Stories and The Twilight Zone, among others. His story "A Plague on Both Your Houses" was a Bram Stoker Award finalist in the short story category. Edelman's anthology credits include Treachery and Treason, Moon Shots and MetaHorror.

McCaffrey Finishes New Pern Book

Anne McCaffrey has completed The Skies of Pern, the 16th installment in her best-selling Dragonriders of Pern novel series, according to publisher Del Rey Books. Del Rey editorial director Shelly Shapiro told SCI FI Wire that the book will be available in stores on April 3, 2001.

"The Skies of Pern follows on All The Weyrs of Pern and The Dolphins of Pern, continuing the saga of the dragonriders after they've moved the Red Star," Shapiro said. "Thread is still falling--though we won't see much of it in this book--but after the end of this Pass, it will never fall on Pern again."

But something does fall on Pern, Shapiro said, "leading F'lessan, rider of bronze Golanth and son of F'lar and Lessa, along with green rider Tai (F'lessan's love interest), to realize a possible future role for dragonriders on a Threadless Pern—especially once they discover a new draconic talent."

Shapiro said that McCaffrey has plans for more novels that will continue the Pern story into a time when the Thread has ceased falling for good. McCaffrey's son Todd is also working on a dragonriders book that takes place in a past era of Pern.

ABOUT THE COVERS

While wandering about the web, Carl Mork came across the site for this artist. To Carl's (and our) delight, he had posted permission to use his art as long as the copyright mark was kept and proper recognition given. Since it was in a style that suited the Pulsar, Carl decided to put together some covers.

So, without further ado:

© Mats Öhrman 1999 http://sf.www.lysator.liu.se/sf_archive/

Do You Have a Shameless Plug? Get it in the newsletter ©

John Bartley is GEEKING FOR DOLLARS

He is offering to perform computer consulting and related services—and to donate the proceeds (when referred by a PorSFiS member) to PorSFiS. TFN, of course. (Til Further Notice) Phone is 888-424-8136, or email johnbartley@email.com

PO Box 4602 Portland, OR 97208

Pulsar, the newsletter of the Portland Science Fiction Society (PorSFiS), comes free with membership. It is also available in trade with other fanzines, and can be purchased at Excalibur Books, Future Dreams/Burnside and Looking Glass Books, all in Portland, Oregon.

Your editor has been Debra Stansbury. Next month's editor is the same. Deadline is the 3rd Saturday of every month. Contributions are always welcome, and may be sent to the PO Box above, or to the editor direct at porsfis@email.com or debstans@canada.com

PorSFiS meetings are open to everyone. Check the Timeline for meeting times and places. Membership per year: \$20 individual, \$30 family (1 newsletter)

Current PorSFiS Officers:

President	Debra Stansbury	(503) 620-3068
Vice Pres.	John Bartley	(503) bar-tley
Treasurer	John Andrews	(503) 771-2894
Secretary	Sam Butler	(503) 289-2670

Webster Lea Rush learush@email.com

PORSFIS INFORMATION TELEPHONE: Out of service right now

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