



Issue #101

August 1993



CONTENTS

- 3 Meeting News
- 4 "The Strangest Dream" by L. Mullen
- 5 Book Reviews by Becky Peters
- 7 Movie Review by George Peterson
- 8 Fanac
- 9 Membership Application Form

Errata: Issue #99 Editor was solely the work of Carol Porter.

To confirm next SFSFS Meeting call:
(305) 929-5815 and listen to the message.

Shuttle Crew
Editor: Fran Mullen
Contributors:
 Latisha Mullen
 Becky Peters
 Georgr Peterson
Cover:
 Sheryl Birkhead
Art:
 Linda Michaels
 Bill Rotsler
 Brad Foster
SFSFS Logo:
 Gail Bennett



Thisish is mercifully short, due to lack of time, and yr ed is incredibly overworked. Do I hear any volunteers to do the Shuttle?

Correspondence should be addressed to:
 SFSFS Shuttle Editor
 PO Box 70143
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143
 or E-Mailed to Fran Mullen via
 Compuserve # 72124,1626 or
 Genie: F.MULLEN

COA's should be sent
 to the SFSFS Secretary
 at the above PO Box

Deadline for next Shuttle: August 27, 1993

The SFSFS SHUTTLE August 1993 #101

The South Florida Science Fiction Society is a Florida non-profit educational corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501 (c) (3). General membership is \$15 per year for adults, \$1 for children (*see form at the back of this issue for current pro-rated dues*). Subscribing membership is \$1 per issue. The views, reviews, and opinions expressed in the SFSFS SHUTTLE are those of the authors and artists and not necessarily those of the publishers.

AUGUST MEETING

Saturday, Aug. 21
2:00pm
Riverland Library

Subject: The Hugo Nominees
presented by Frederick Bragdon

This may be a bit unusual. Our speaker found a conflict, not only with this scheduled meeting, but with every other weekend in August. Not to be daunted, he plans to video tape his presentation, which will be played to our crowd, and discussion will be ensue after. A lot of us have read at least one of the nominations, and surely you have seen some of the movies. Bring your opinions and contribute.

If you missed the last meeting, shame on you. Doug Wu presented a well planned, well sung repertoire. Some of the songs were new to all of us, and all were enjoyable. During the program, members quietly slipped to the back of the room a few at a time to peruse the book catalogues and place orders with the Book Division (the first order has been placed and is expected any time!).

Our newest **General Member, Mike Genovese** was voted in. Welcome. Hope to see you at future meetings. Don't be a stranger.

After the general meeting, a considerable number of us adjourned to the Mid-Eastern restaurant to enjoy the exotic food and belly dancer, then on to the filk at Steve Gold's place. *(Wow! What an evening. I staggered in at a pretty late hour for this old lady. Thank goodness I could sleep in the next day. It takes me longer to recover nowadays.)*

COA:

Chuck Phillips
PO Box 290521
Davie, FL 33329
(305) 964-2118

The **August Book Discussion** meeting will be on Friday the Thirteenth. It will be about Dan Simmons, and in particular, his novel: **Children of the Night**, probably the easiest to read of all his novels (The meeting will be held 8:00pm at Joe & Edie's place, 4599 NW 5th Ave, Boca Raton. Call 407-392-6462 for directions).

The next Discussion meeting will be a special one. On Sunday, September 26, at 1:00 pm we will have a Book Discussion, Fanzine Reading and barbeque. Don't miss it! You can be a literary snob, fannish sophisticate and glutton all at the same time. For this meeting, **YOU MUST CALL IN ADVANCE**, and let us know you are coming (407-392-6462).

The author of the month is Judith Tarr, Tropicon 12 Guest of Honor. We will talk about all her work but particularly her "The Hound and the Falcon" trilogy. You can order the three-in-one book thru the Book Div. I just did. List price is \$14.50, so it comes to about \$10.77 including tax.

Since we are starting early, we figured that we would give those so inclined a chance to read some of the fanzines that the club and various members get. I have a collection of older zines that can be read if anyone is interested.

BBQ: we'll have some hot dogs and munchies. If you want anything more elaborate, bring it. This should be fun. But please let us know you are coming so we can prepare.

- Joe Siclari

The weekend of August 14 & 15, SFSFS members will be working a table at the **Trek Happening** at the BCC Library. This event is free, and a great opportunity to promote SFSFS and Tropicon to a vast number of people. Call Bill Wilson at 305-983-0749 and volunteer for a few hours at the table.

While you're there, catch Fran Mullen and Doug Wu out back in the ampitheatre. They will be introducing the public to filk both Saturday and Sunday, 9:30 to 10:00am and 11:00 to 11:30am.

The Strangest Dream

Latisha Mullen

"Get this one! I've been having this dream for eight nights in a row", Phillida said, putting her coffee down.

"No way, eight nights?"

"In a row."

"I've never had a dream like that before," Lissa said. "Well, are you going to tell me or what," she yelled, after a long pause. Phil always enjoyed pauses. And Lissa always enjoyed Phil's company.

Phil locked eyes for a moment with a sneaky grin, and then began, "O.K. I've had this dream about being married."

"Really."

"Yeah, well I'm married to Jack!"

"Oh?"

"And you know I just don't have the time to think about marriage. Or kids."

"Jeez, you had kids in the dream?"

"And a dog."

"So what happened?"

"O.K. Well, it starts out like I'm driving home from a teaching job..you know...I just know it's a teaching job.. and I'm taking the highway home..and the town is really nice but I can't figure out where it is..then I get home, and it's a two-story house."

"Wow."

"So I get inside and this little dog jumps on me and I play with him for a little, and then I see Jack. Have I told you about Jack? He's an old friend in the army."

"Yeah, well I thought you were just friends," and Lissa waited for Phil's reaction.

"Don't give me that! It's just a dream.. that I've had for eight days now..it doesn't change at all each time. Well, except that the last two times now we've started making love just before I wake up. Otherwise, we always have dinner in the kitchen, and then turn on the TV, even though neither of us watches TV. Then we go to bed."

Lissa tried to remember the recurring dream she had when she was little.. monsters chasing her through a warehouse.. and then she thought out loud, "You can't help but take it seriously. A dream like that, too. Where is he now?"

"I don't know. Somewhere on the planet, but I haven't talked to him in years."

Lissa's beeper went off, startling her.

"Good timing. Do you mind?", she said, getting up to make a call in the other room.

"Well," Phil sighed, smiling, "just don't let it happen again." ---

Lissa entered the room where the captain had been watching the two through a two-way mirror. He looked at her beeper and said, "That's a handy little antique we've got there. How many does she make, now?"

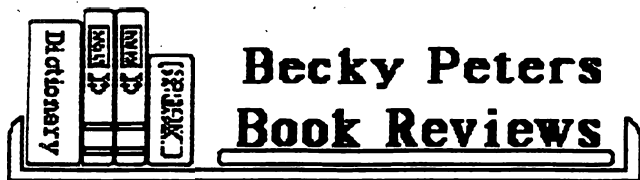
"She is the fourth on the ship to go into shock. Like the others, she has stopped working...stopped doing anything. And she has been sitting in that chair, looking at the holograph window, and telling me about her dreams for two months now."

"So..we've lost a teacher now."

"So," the doctor said, looking for some hope in her captain's eyes, "would you like to see our engineer now?"

And Lissa could have sworn she heard the captain muttering something about strange dreams as he turned toward the door.





DEERSKIN

by Robin McKinley Ace Books, c1993, \$17.95
ISBN 0-441-14226-5, Cover by Dawn Wilson

I've come to expect good reading from Robin McKinley and her latest is no exception. It may ruffle those who forget fairytales were NOT designed for children in the first place. They were stories full of adult (read lust, greed and the other deadly sins) passions wrapped up in the trappings of wealth and grandeur. Over the centuries they were tempered for the young - or for the adults sharing them with the young who forget the majority of children (especially young adults) do not see the world through rose-tinted glasses. Sometime try a few of the old originals - some unexpurgated Grimm, early Italian tales or even the original "Little Red Ridinghood" - and you will find a rich lode for horror authors, among others! This is the first of Robin's books to be classified as "adult" fiction, so you may need to ask your librarian as to its location.

DEERSKIN expands an old tale; variants are 'Catskin', 'Gulaida', and the original 'Donkeyskin' which Robin cites as her source. Shared plotlines include: dying Queen makes her husband promise not to rewed until he finds another as fair; their daughter reaches sexual maturity and he sees she is as fair and announces their wedding; daughter flees her father's kingdom and tries to survive elsewhere. Some additional plotlines include the daughter setting three tests and taking the resultant items with her, her dancing at three balls in disguise and the Prince/Lord of her new home penetrates the disguise and marries her. What is not usually included is the graphic physical reality of incest and its effects on the heroine.

Princess Lissla Lissar is ignored by her parents and their court from the moment of

birth, left in a tower with a half-mad nurse. It is not until after her mother's funeral that she receives the first gift ever meant for her, a puppy from a young prince she has never met. Because of Ash she asks for things for the first time (a room, which opens on an enclosed garden) and notices things (growing plants) which in turn leads her to meet people who see her for herself. Those two years are the happiest of her life, but on her seventeenth birthday her father gives a ball. She had been uncomfortably aware of something different in his gaze, but she had no expected him to announce their wedding! That night and the next he attempts her bedroom door - the third night he breaks in through the garden, severely injures the protective Ash and brutally rapes his daughter, leaving them both for dead. When she regains consciousness she attempts to care for Ash and get them both away to safety. An almost impossible task for one so severely wounded in body, mind and soul.

The majority of the book deals with the person Lissar becomes after the attack. When she finally finds a hut in which to winter (a winter the reader comes to understand lasted five years) she learns to conquer the daily chores of living and is finally strong enough to return to the real world. But it takes the intervention of a Being to heal her damaged body and guide her to the path that leads to that giving Prince. A Prince who is regarded as very odd indeed, who gives her a job with his dogs. Her talents make her an important person in the small kingdom, but she flees the night the Prince proposes. She returns just in time to save his sister from marrying her father...and although she then accepts his second proposal, "happily ever after" is not taken for granted.

The author has taken the elements of a known story and used them to limn how lives can be changed by selfishness and betrayal and created a world where the expected softness of the fairytale's medieval setting sets off the harsh reality of the heroine's plight. The characters' growth shows up even more against a cast

including fairytale stereotypes. It is also nice to see dogs getting equal time, for the dogs are contributing characters. This is a solid tale of pain and healing, fury and understanding, betrayal and hate vs. trust and love. Good does triumph, but the victory is not an easy one. Highly recommended!

(Trivia: Ms. McKinley is married to Peter Dickinson according to the jacket. When they are both writing they must have to tie the roof down! And I'd love to browse their research collection.)

DINOSAUR FANTASTIC

edited by Mike Resnick and Martin H. Greenberg.
DAW, 1993, \$4.99 ISBN 0-88677-566-3
Cover art by Jim Warren (Love the button!)

Released just in time to catch the summer's hot trend, this contains 25 new original tales by some well-known and no-so-well known authors. They include Judith Tarr, Misty Lacky and her husband Larry Dixon, Laura Resnick, David Gerrold, etc. and it seems the fantasy authors out-number those who write science fiction. The stories usually have a twist; the serial killer who is sent to live his final hours in a T. Rex, the animal activists who try to free some lab animals without enough research of their own, a storyteller with a difference, even one that starts "it was a dark and stormy night". I enjoyed the whole set - and it should be a sure-fire hit with the younger readers as well.

AQUAMANCER

by Don Callander Ace Books, c1993, \$4.99 ISBN 0-441-02816-0 Cover art by Daniel R. Horne

This is the sequel to PYROMANCER, and despite its title has relatively little to do with Myrm. Douglas Brightglade is sent on the Journey to earn his promotion and along the way encounters a wide selection of characters well known in fantasy. The most appealing of the new characters is his Familiar, Marbleheart the Sea Otter, whose bump of curiosity leads him to accompany Douglas far inland. Good triumphs (you were in doubt?) and there will probably be a sequel.

I enjoyed PYROMANCER but fear the series is heading towards terminal cuteness. Of course it is hard to believe in the trials of anyone who has another magic trick always left up his sleeve and who sends back home to Blue Teakettle (a 1000 miles away) for hot take out. Incidentally Teakettle has a new companion as well, the Ivory Chopsticks of Wong Tscha San who promises her to teach her to cook Chinese. (I really want to visit that kitchen!). Recommended for those who read the first book.

POWERS THAT BE

Anne McCaffrey
and Elizabeth Ann Scarborough
Del Rey, 1993, \$20.00 ISBN 0-345-38173-4 Cover art by Rowena

This is a story of a lunger sent dirtside to die since she was unable to continue serving in space. What happens is a bit different - asked to serve as a spy in return for a few amenities. Yanaba manages to turn the tables on the powers that be. She proves that the planet's not so hidden realities and the culture created by mixing Aleutian and Celtic settlers can overcome the rule of short-sighted technocrats. I liked the hero, too.

This is the first volume of a trilogy and the epilog states that the concept arose during McCaffrey's visit to Fairbanks, where she met Scarborough who introduced her to the high points of Alaskan life (including moose spaghetti). When the favor was returned (folk music and the Irish) the story continued to grow. This is one trilogy I am looking forward to reading all the way through. The people are strong survivors with a sense of humor and song, the animals have charms of their own and I wouldn't mind visiting Petaybee - in the summer, after I saved up for a few fur coats. In some ways this is old-fashioned science fiction - the good guys are really good, the baddies are short-sighted and set on the wrong goals, and the main exploration is really that of a well-thought-out alien (but almost familiar) culture. Recommended for the hammock/poolside hour or two.

**On the Coattails
of Wayne and Garth
by George Peterson**

I suppose it was inevitable.

It used to be that movies became tv shows. Now we've come full-circle and tv shows of the past are rapidly being resurrected as movies.

Coneheads, from Paramount, is the latest in series of films adapted not from whole shows, but brief comedy sketches (e.g. "Dragnet", "Great White North", "Wayne's World"). The big question is whether a ten minute sketch can be expanded to feature length. In this case the good news is that "Coneheads" succeeds about as well as can be expected.

Beldar (Dan Aykroyd) and Prymaat (Jane Curtin) are sent from the planet Remulak to conquer the Earth. Unfortunately, due to a slight miscalculation, they crash into the East River instead. Pursued by the Immigration Service (who else would be going after illegal aliens?), our coneheaded heros wind up settling into a nice, middle-class life in Paramus, NJ, to await rescue. There they experience the mundane joys and trials of life in suburbia, including a teenage daughter who, of course, falls for a blunt-skull her parental units find "Unacceptable".

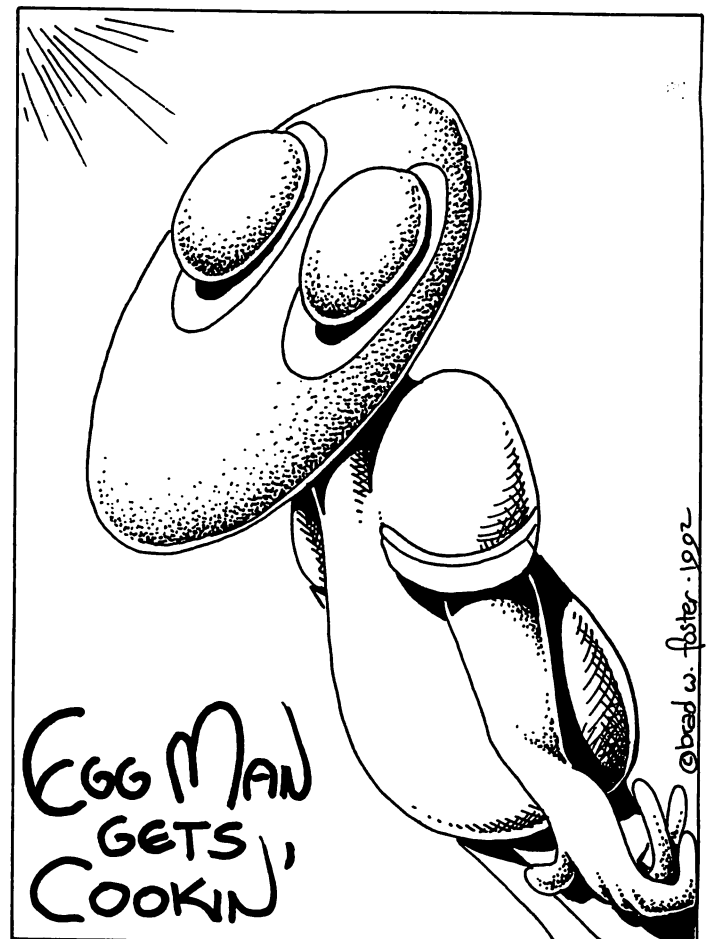
Most of the humor derives from the Coneheads' bizarre appearance, physiology, and ridiculously high-tech speech. Especially when it's accompanied by reactions from the human characters, who seem amazingly willing to overlook the strangeness of their friends. Particularly good are Beldar's trip to the dentist and Prymaat giving birth. The scenes on Remulak are also good. The film has fun sending up various cliches and stock situations, such as the final chase and rescue, so typical of alien-on-earth movies.

"Coneheads" is not without problems. After a while the basic humor derived from the Coneheads themselves wears a bit thin,

until the final scenes on Remulak. And from a dramatic standpoint the film runs on too even a line. There's not enough increase in tension prior to the climax, which contributes to the drag in the middle.

A more problematic issue is the cast. Not that the actors are at fault. There's only so much that can be done with the specialized characterizations in this film. "Coneheads" seems like a "Not Ready for Prime Time Players" alumni meeting. It's often amusing to see some old (or current) face pop up in a minor role. It can also be distracting.

Despite these shortfalls, "Coneheads" succeeds more often than not. It isn't a great film, but it's worth watching.



1993

August 8 - September 18

1993

Fanac

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 8	Aug 9	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12 Gary Mahan's Birthday	Aug 13 Literary Committee Meeting	Aug 14 Pennsic Wars BCTrek Happening
Aug 15 BCTrek Happening	Aug 16 Edie Stern's Birthday	Aug 17	Aug 18 Joan Baez - Carefree Theatre - WFB	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21 SFSFS Meet @ Riverland
Pennsic Wars						
Aug 22	Aug 23	Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28
Aug 29	Aug 30	Aug 31 Ward Arrington's Birthday	Sept 1	Sept 2	Sept 3	Sept 4 Trimaris Coronation Cliff Dunbar's Birthday Rita Sheinblatt's Birthday
ConFrancisco						
Sept 5	Sept 6 Labor Day	Sept 7	Sept 8	Sept 9	Sept 10	Sept 11 SeaMarch Event - WFB
ConFrancisco						
Sept 12 ConComm - Collate & Mail PR	Sept 13	Sept 14	Sept 15	Sept 16	Sept 17	Sept 18

TROPICON XII

Guest of Honor

Judith Tarr

Author of *Avaryan Rising*,
Alamut and *The Hound and the Falcon Trilogy*

January 7 - 9, 1994

Palm Beach
Airport Hilton

Southern Blvd. & I-95

Confirmed guests include -

Alison Drake	Owl Goingback
Prudence Taylor Board	Rob MacGregor
Ben Bova	T.J. MacGregor
Scott Ciencin	Martin Nodell
Sarah Clemens	Gary Roen
Hal Clement	Rick R. Reed
Ginger Curry	Robert W. Walker
Christine Gentry	Rick Wilber
Richard Gilliam	Ron Walotsky

Memberships -

\$18⁰⁰ until Aug. 31, 1993

\$27⁰⁰ until Nov. 31, 1993

Room rates -

\$59⁰⁰ (Single - Quad)

Call (407) 684-9400

(Please mention Tropiccon XII)

To register, or for more information, write to:
Tropiccon XII
c/o SFSFS
P.O. Box 70143
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307

Please make checks payable to:
South Florida Science Fiction Society

Tropiccon XII Membership Coupon

Join now! Join early! Join often!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Enclosed is a check for _____ It is for:

_____ Memberships _____ Dealer's tables _____ Art Show space

Dealer's Tables: \$40.00 each (includes one membership)

Art Show: Panels: 4'x8' - \$20.00, 4'x4' - \$12.00

Tables: 2.5'x6' - \$20.00, half - \$12.00

Mail to: Tropiccon XII

c/o SFSFS, P. O. Box 70143
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143

Ask for membership info for the South Florida Science Fiction Society!

TREK HAPPENING 2

Put August 14-15, 1993 in your Captain's Log For

TREK HAPPENING 2

STAR TREK CONVENTION

at the South Regional/BCC Library in Pembroke Pines.

ADMISSION IS FREE!

Special Guests:

- Dave McDonnell - Editor of STARLOG Magazine
- Carmen Carter - STAR TREK Author
- Melissa Crandall - STAR TREK Author
- John Ordover - Pocket Books STAR TREK Editor

Activities include:

- Panels
- Gaming
- Dealer's Room
- Autograph and Collectibles Auction
- SATURDAY NIGHT - Costume Contest and Dance!

(\$5.00 donation at the door - proceeds to benefit
BCC/South Regional Friends of the Library)

• AND MORE!

Sponsored by:

- The Miami Herald
- WCIX Channel 6
- Broward County Libraries
- The City of Pembroke Pines
- STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association



Dates: August 14 & 15, 1993

Time: 9am - 4pm (both days)

Dance: Saturday 7pm - Midnight

Place: South Regional/BCC Library

7300 Pines Blvd. Pembroke Pines

For more information Call: (305) 963-8825



Coming September 11-12:

South Florida Sci-Fi Festival

For More Information Call:

(305) 485-6517

South Florida Science Fiction Society Membership Application

Send this completed application form, along with your check for Membership dues to:
SFSFS Treasurer, 4427 Royal Palm Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33140-3039
Make check payable to SFSFS.

August Prorated Dues:

___ General (Non-Voting) - \$9.00

___ Subscribing Membership - \$5.00

___ Child Membership - \$1.00 (12 years or younger whose parent or legal guardian is a SFSFS member.)

___ Upgrade from paid-up General member to Regular \$5.00

(Must have attended three meetings)

___ I ask the club to waive the bylaws to permit me to rejoin as a regular member

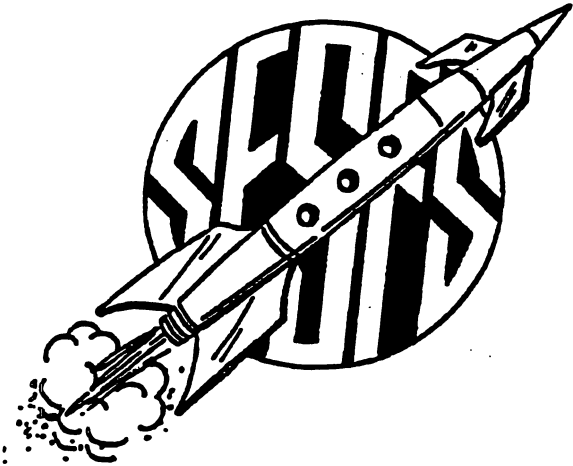
Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (work - optional) _____ Birthdate ____/____/____ (year optional)

Interests _____



YAGTB:

- __ You are a member of SFSFS**
- __ You are held in great esteem by SFSFS**
- __ You've submitted a LOC, review or art (*please send more* 😊)**
- __ Trade for your zine**
- __ It contains a review/article of possible interest to you.**
- __ You are ~~libeled~~ mentioned**
- __ You have been nominated "SMOF OF THE YEAR" (you poor sap)**
- __ You are one of the FEW in SFSFS who doesn't own a Bread Machine.**
- __ Oh my! I thought I pulled your label!**

**South Florida Science Fiction Society
P. O. Box 70143
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143**

Address Correction Requested

(556 R)
Edie Stern, Joe & Dan Siclari
4599 NW 5th Ave.
Boca Raton, FL 33431-4601

FIRST CLASS MAIL