

SFSFS
Shuttle
#104

November, 1993

SFSFS Shuttle: 1994 Schedule

Month/Issue	Editor	Deadline	Mailed
Jan/94, #106	Edie Stern & Joe Siclari	12/15/1993	12/28/93
February, #107	Judy Bemis	1/15/94	1/28/94
March, #108	Shirlene Ananayo	2/15	2/25
April, #109	Fran Mullen	3/15	3/28
May, #110	Edie Stern & Joe Siclari	4/15	4/28
June, #111	Judy Bemis	5/15	5/28
July, #112	Shirlene Ananayo	6/15	6/28
August, #113	Fran Mullen	7/15	7/28
September, #114	Shirlene Ananayo	8/15	8/28
October, #115	Edie Stern & Joe Siclari	9/15	9/28
November, #116	Judy Bemis	10/15	10/28
Decemper, #117	Fran Mullen	11/15	11/28
Jan/95, #118	Edie Stern & Joe Siclari ???	12/15/1994	12/28/94

Any questions or changes, contact Joe Siclari.

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Your next editor will be **Shirlene Ananayo**
Deadline for next Shuttle: **November 20,1993**

The SFSFS SHUTTLE September 1993 #104

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. Subscribing membership is \$1 per issue. The views, reviews, and opinions expressed in the SFSFS SHUTTLE are those of the contributors and editor. Neeeeagh, neeeagh, nee, neeeagh, neeeagh...

NOVEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, November 13, 2:00 PM
Riverland Library, 2710 W. Davie Blvd,
(305) 791-1085

Program: Becky Peters will be presenting a double bill: she will tell us about Tropicon XII's Guest of Honor, Judith Tarr, and give us summaries of some of her books. Additionally, she will introduce us to the Broward Library's new system: CARL, which will replace the current Suncat system. I'm excited about this new toy, as it not only has a larger database, includes magazine references, and an online encyclopedia, but will also, in future, allow access by home computer. The future is now. So come learn about "WiseGuide" and "SmartAlex" with the rest of us.

This is also the meeting where you cast your vote for next year's officers. The nominating committee has presented it's slate:

Chairman: Joe Siclari

Vice-Chairman: Judy Goodman

Secretary: Shirlene Ananayo

Treasurer: Peggy Ann Dolan

Come cast your vote (send a proxy if you cannot attend)!

DECEMBER MEETING

Date: Sat, December 18

Location: Markham Park, Sunrise, Fla

Program: Judy Bemis and Doug Wu celebrate the season in the original sense. Getting back to real basics: what did/do Pagans do to celebrate the Solstice? This is part one of a proposed educational series on the various religions practiced by fans.

In the spirit of prior December Meetings we will follow with a picnic and the official handing over of the gavel (*to the immense relief of your chairman-editor-conchair*). This will be a covered dish event, so grab your recipe books and tell Fran what you plan to bring. Also, Fran plans to camp over that weekend, so call the park and make plans to join in.

BOOK DIVISION

Joe seems to have run out of spare time (*what's that?*), so he has handed the paperwork, catalogs and microfiche machine over to Fran (*does he think my back is broader than his?*). The machine will be stored in the SFSFS library and transported to the various meetings so you each can shop at your leisure. Give your orders as usual to Judy, who will verify the amounts with the new SFSFS calculator (*thanks to Peggy*). All orders, accompanied by payments, are to be in by the 20th of each month, so the committee can compile the list and phone it in by a reasonable time (preferably prior to the end of the month). Call Fran at (305) 929-5815 if you wish to meet at a time other than those in the schedule.

COA's

Sour Grapes Dept.

We realize that you have been busy moving, but you have had plenty of time to send us your address changes. Instead, WE have paid 29 cents each for the following changes (and YOU didn't get your Tropicon XII Progress Report):

Carol Gibson

PO Box 339

Pompano Beach, FL 33061-0339

Margaret Gemignani

8307 W. Sample Rd #9

Coral Springs, FL 33065-4622

THE GOOD GUYS!

We received COA notifications from the following dear sweet people:

Bert & Arlene Garcia

13707 SW 66 St. #C116

Miami, FL 33183

305-385-4111

EARLY WARNING

Your membership ends in December, so be sure to leave some in your budget for 1994 dues. You don't want to miss even one issue of the Shuttle!

NEWS

F.Y.I. T.J. MacGregor will be in Miami at Books & Books, Inc on 296 Aragon Ave in Coral Gables for a reading / signing / reception on Nov 9th. Douglas Adams will be at the same place on Nov 11th. T.J. will be reading from **STORM SURGE** and Doug will be reading from **MOSTLY HARMLESS**. Both are scheduled at 8:00pm.

Saturday, Nov 20th, 8:00pm, will be a ticketed event (\$10): **A Dance With a Fraction of the Rockbottom Remainers** including Stephen King, Dave Barry, Ridley Pearson, Kathi Kamen Goldmark and friends at the Cameo Theater, 1445 Washington Ave, Miami Beach.

Shirlene/Magpi

We had eleven SFSFS members donate blood at the October Meeting and there were eight walk-ins from the mall for a total of nineteen pints of blood. The Palm Beach Blood Bank was grateful for our support. Remember to bring your donor card to Tropicon to receive your door prize. If you donate again before Tropicon or at Tropicon please register for the special drawing for all those that donate blood twice between September 1st and Tropicon. The special prizes will be awarded at the banquet. See you in November.

Dave G. Lyman

At the October meeting, Mike Drawdy upgraded from General to Regular! Congratulations, Mike.

Hats off to former member Kathy Wu! To quote the October issue of CompuServe Magazine, pg 19, in the Crafts Forum Files:

'**The Winner** - This GIF image was the grand-prize champion in the forum's 1991 logo contest. Kathy Wu's design is now sported on T-shirts, mugs, bags, buttons and pens by members all over the world. Library 14,"Graphics/Portfolio," LOGO14.GIF (7,218 bytes).'

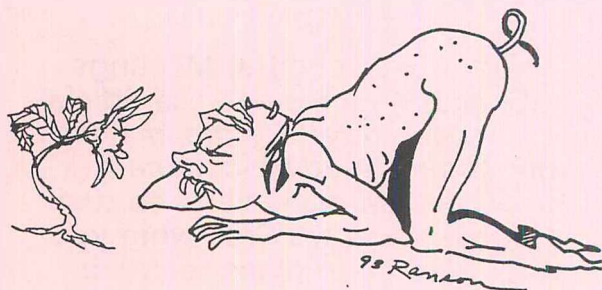
T-XII CONGCOMM

Our next meeting will be held Sunday, November 28, 12:00 noon, at Steve Gold's place: 8022 SW 22 Ct, Davie. If you are unsure of the directions, call him at 305 423-9976.

Members' Birthdays:

11/6 Peggy Dolan
11/16 Bob Ewart
11/19 Phil Tortorici
11/20 Maureen Sheehan
11/28 Steve Gold
12/3 Bill Wilson
12/8 Audrey Maciejewski
12/9 Stu Ulrich

Remember to get your room at the hotel for T-XII, Jan 7-9



REVIEWS REVIEWS REVIEWS

ROBIN AND THE KING

Parke Godwin, Wm Morrow & Co., Inc.,
c1993

ISBN 0-688-05274-6

Cover Art by Bryan Leister

Read this book! I'm buying my paperback copy as soon as it's released, in the meantime I may check this out again. If you read **SHERWOOD** you know well he retold the Robin Hood story, his version set against the Saxon/Norman conflict. The characters were very well done and the research superb. To my surprise the Sheriff turned human...and interesting.

In this continuation all of the strong points continue, depicting the older Robin and Marion as the same determined individuals who are still in conflict with the Normans who have taken over their homes. Their way of life was relatively free from major change (barring the Norman presence of course) but now trying to save it involves Robin leaving Sherwood. The sea battles and undercover sorties behind enemy lines are new to the legend, as are some of the character traits developed. Parke Godwin introduces two new characters, well fleshed out from historical truth: Ros[s]el, third son of William the Conqueror known as Rufus, and Ranulf of Bayeux known as Flambarð in latter years, who never forgot Robin besting him in a minor case and set out to destroy all he held dear in a try for vengeance. The research is solid, the tale well told. If you have any interest in legends (Robin Hood in particular), English history, or just want an exciting read - try this. It is even better if you have read **SHERWOOD**, but that is not necessary.

THE DOOR INTO SUNSET

Diane Duane, Tor, c1992,

ISBN 0-312-85184-7

Cover Art by Romas Kukalis

Finally, here's what has happened to Freelorn, his loved Herewiss, his loved Sunspark (a fire elemental), Segnbora and her mind mate, the dragon Hasai. I hadn't expected to wait this long for the news (12 to 15 years!) and now the title page says this is Book 3 of "Tale of the Five"...ARGH!!!

I cared enough about the characters to keep my paperbacks of **THE DOOR INTO SHADOW** and **THE DOOR INTO FIRE**, only to have this one appear in hardcover. Thanks to Judy I didn't have to wait for the library copy to arrive, but I never found it in the local bookstores. I loved the cover, everyone properly delineated, even the embroidery on Freelorn's tunic and the blue flaming sword are correct. Except...Herewis is wearing the tunic and Freelorn is holding the sword (trust me, it can't work that way!).

The story moves at the same frenetic pace but the characters have matured. Herewiss's place as the first male in 2000 years to wield flame makes him a notable if not easy target. Segnbora is pregnant with Freelorn's heir, which means Hasai is too, which is a bit hard on a male dragon. Sunspark has learned a bit more about coexisting with fragile humans and has a new hunting cat persona. Freelorn realizes what being king really entails and shows he may yet become a good one. Freelorn does regain his throne but the happily ever after may involve everyone setting off on a different path. Wish I could have been at the wedding celebration though! Hope **THE DOOR INTO STARLIGHT** doesn't take as long to arrive.

- Becky D. Peters

Gripping Enough

The Gripping Hand

Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle

Pocket Books

Hard Cover: ISBN 0-671-79573-2, \$22.00

Paperback: ISBN 0-671-

The Gripping Hand is not as good as **The Mote in God's Eye**.

Now that that's out of the way, we can get on with reviewing the new book.

Twenty-five years previous, "The Empire of Man" discovered a civilization of asymmetrical aliens inhabiting a system on the far side of the Coal Sack nebula. Dubbed "Moties", they were divided into distinct physical castes: Masters, Mediators, Engineers, Warriors, Farmers, etc. Each form was perfectly to its function. The Moties, it was discovered, have a serious problem. If a Motie (except for the sterile Mediators and Keepers) doesn't complete its reproductive cycle it dies, unpleasantly. Trapped in an ever expanding population increase, the Moties have watched their civilization rise and fall over and over again. Realizing the enormous danger the Moties represented, the Empire set up a blockade to keep them imprisoned in their system.

Now, a quarter of a century later, it looks as if the blockade may be about to fail.

During the years of the blockade, trading magnate Horace Bury has been working as an imperial agent. Bury, with good reason, has a phobic hatred and fear of Moties, and with the help of pilot Kevin Renner, he's been keeping an eye on the Trans-Coal Sack region watching for Motie activity.

A false alarm triggers a desire to check up on the blockade fleet, personally. For that, he needs permission from the imperial government. So he heads to the capital planet, Sparta. While pulling strings he and Renner discover some good news and bad. The good news is Rod and Sally Blaine have found a partial solution to the Motie reproduction problem. The bad news: a new star is about to kindle in the Coal Sack,

creating a new jump point and giving the Moties access to the outside.

The result, Bury, Renner, the Blaines' kids and assorted friends, crew, and a couple of imperial warships find themselves in the middle of a Motie war over possession of the new Jump point.

The best thing to do is reread **The Mote in God's Eye** before reading **The Gripping Hand** (both are currently in paperback). Especially if you haven't read the first book in a long time (if you've never read it, put it at the top of your list - it really is one of the best SF novels ever written). **The Gripping Hand** is a pretty good continuation of the original. The blockade established at the end of the first book was unstable and a sequel was obvious. Niven and Pournell do a good job, especially by showing us a whole other aspect of the Motie civilization we didn't get to see in **Mote**.

Whereas I always thought of **Mote** as being more Pournelle's book, **Hand** seems more Niven's. Possibly it's because there is less of the Imperial Space Navy stuff that Pournelle likes. Instead the emphasis is on Nivenesque characters like Renner and Bury, and on the Motie civilization. Even with an FTL drive, centralized galactic empires are pretty much poppycock. But the Moties' asteroid civilization is quite plausible, and is something that might evolve in our own solar system.

The Gripping Hand is an idea and action oriented novel. Characterization is adequate, but there is enough going on and enough to look at, that it is not a flaw. Niven has said he likes to play tourist with his stories. And he and his partner give us an interesting and exciting second visit to the very strange world of **The Mote in God's Eye**.

- George Peterson

We laughed, we cried...
we kissed 100 bucks goodbye!

or
"Neos Do Necro"

by Ericka Perdew

It was the best of time, it was the worst of times... "it" was held at the Airport Holiday Inn in Tampa, Florida the weekend of October 15-17. "It" was Necronomicon, and perhaps the "Necrofile", the newspaper style program book, said it best, in a headline trumpeting "TAMPA BAY TURNED INTO TOXIC CESSPOOL: Science Fiction Convention Blamed".

Guests included writers Lois McMaster Bujold (**Brothers In Arms, Falling Free**, and the upcoming **Mirror Dance**) & Peter David (various Star Trek books, The Incredible Hulk comic book). Other well known names and faces attending were Scott Ciencin, Charles Fontenay (whom I sat next to in the Sports bar, inadvertently making a comment about his stinky cigar, before realizing whose it was), Owl Goingback, Joe and Patti Green, Jack Haldeman, and Timothy Zahn. All were out and about at the various panels and autograph sessions and sometimes just mingling in the hallways.

I broke a longstanding tradition of mine and actually (gasp) *attended panels*! Well, who couldn't resist such programming as "Bimbos, Bitches, and Earth Mother-Female stereotypes in the genre and how to overcome them"? Besides, there wasn't much going on film-wise, despite the presence of two video rooms. There was something like 16 hours of Japanimation (their word, not mine, *Anime* fans) which, in my opinion, was a little bit much. The rest of the time was pretty much divided between old "Dr. Who" episodes, the inevitable "Beauty and the Beast", and even "Space 1999" and "Six Million Dollar Man"(!). The only movie I sat all the way through (well...almost...I came in late) was "Meet the Feebles", an extremely sick and deranged puppet movie made by New Zealand's Peter Jackson. I would describe it in greater detail but Fran warned me that if I did she wouldn't print it. This was inexplicably on at 8:00 Saturday morning

(just perfect for the kiddies, huh?) and Bill Wilson and I were the only ones in there, save for a skinhead asleep on the floor.

The Dealers' Room, too, was not quite up to par, in my humble opinion. It took maybe 10 minutes to walk through it and see *everything*. The tables were pretty much books (I have to admit I *did* make some nice acquisitions lit-wise, including an out-of-print first edition Alfred Bester, dirt cheap), costume type-stuff, and bondage equipment (yes, leather masks with zipper mouths, the whole nine yards). I suppose looking on the bright side, I *did* save a lot of money!

The Art Show, like every one I've been to, had some To Die For pieces, some Good, and some Eh, I Bet I Could Do Better. "G" of the "P/G/V Trinity" acquired a To Die For piece which she had a little bit of trouble getting home, but I assume (hope! pray!) finally did. I myself came as close as I probably ever have to buying a fairly expensive painting, but was sobered by my realization that my eensy teensy efficiency apartment does not have that kind of wall space.

The Masquerade was quite enjoyable, despite the proliferation of Klingons (doesn't anyone want to be in Starfleet anymore??). The top prize was taken, deservedly, by three brutally lovely Klingon females who entertained us with their rendition of "Three Little Maids" from Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado". Probably one of the oddest visual non-sequiturs in the history of con masquerades.

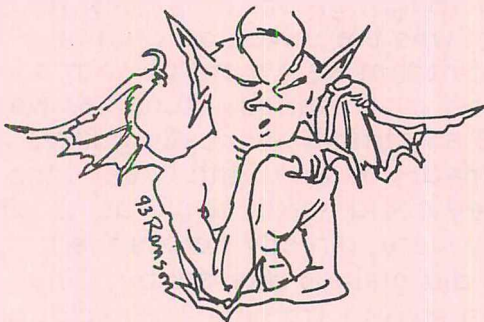
Finally, the Tropicon party was held in our room ("our" being Me, Fran, Bill and Cyndi). Bright green, refreshing Reactor coolant was the beverage of choice (to that point that we wound up with a lot of soda left over), various munchies were served and briefly, acoustic guitars were strummed. Joe and Patti Green stopped by (they could hardly avoid us, positioned, as they were, directly across the hall from us) as did curious passers-by. One membership to Tropicon was sold, and

deadaliveaargh

Guests of Honor for the fictional "DEADCON" were chosen and discussed (ad nauseam). We even had a bit of excitement when a drunken and possibly insane mundane wandered into the festivities to regale us with tales of his dealing with the occult (my bleary brain recalls something about spinning dentures). Suddenly, the man pointed his finger at "V" of the "P/G/V Trinity" and declared "You are the POINT!" to the slack-jawed amazement of everyone. He then whipped out his harmonica (Melanie almost fainted at this...all she saw was a flash of metal) and proceeded to slay us with blues music. The really strange thing was, he was a pretty darned good harmonica player.

TO SUM UP (this is where you skip to if you didn't wanna read this whole rambling thing): Necronomicon had some entertaining and informative panels and an enjoyable masquerade (Peter David was a funny...if sometimes overbearing...emcee). The Dealers' Room really needs to be bigger and more diverse, and the Video Rooms could do with some more FILMS, rather than old 1970's TV shows. The Art Show, like just about any art show, ran the gamut of quality, from very low to quite high. I had a good time, but I don't know as I'd travel as far as I did to go again.

As for Filking? Gaming? Hey, ask somebody who knows.



I saw another horror movie. Oh yes, and I'm not going to tell you anything about it this time, I promise (fingers crossed). But I guess I could tell you the title. It's called DEAD ALIVE. And what an appropriate title, but I can't really tell you why, can I? And I can't tell you who starred in it, or who directed it yet, because well...I'll see what I can do about my brain rust problem.

So, without telling you anything about the movie, somehow, I'm still giving this one four Golden Axe Awards, which are:

1. Best Use of Lawnmowers and Blenders in a Horror Film
2. Best Use of Prosthetics and Mechanics (aka Animated Parts) in a Horror Film
3. Bloodiest Battle Scene in a Horror Film (this one beats even the best of Schwarzenegger films, see Award No. 1)
4. Best 'B' Horror Film of All Time (this means that you HAVE to see it, Bill)

I'll try to find out who the director is, or maybe even the film company that dared to release it. Once again, I saw it for free at the Student Union, and almost got kicked out for screaming, "GET HIM!" when the undead mother of the star tried to eat someone's private...uh...I wasn't supposed to say anything about this film, was I? Anyway, go see it, Bill AND Danny. I'm not so sure that any adult-like people would want to, though. See, because there's these lungs that walk around the attic and they look pretty real...damn. Did it again.

OK. I better go before I really maim this review. "Tetsuo", another Japanese horror film, is playing in November, I think, and I don't know of too many people who have seen that one...so until next time...

- Tish Mullen

SFSFS Library

Our new librarian, Cyndi Warmuth, spent last Sunday afternoon (10/31) organizing our massive collection. She was ably assisted by Judy Bemis, Peggy Dolan and Fran Mullen. The first project was to put the digest zines in order (Judy came in later during the week to finish that portion of the task). A portion of the fanzines were alphabetized, but more storage crates must be purchased to hold them all. Cyndi brought a box of books to the October meeting, enabling members to check them out for the month. The library is finally being used! WELL DONE, CYNDI!!! This will be a continuing practice, so plan on utilizing this valuable resource.

MUSINGS

When I arrived at the SFSFS Library (see above, I found Cyndi and Judy already hard at work. It seems Cyndi forgot to change her clocks. I didn't forget. In fact I spent some little time Saturday evening digging up the various instructions for resetting the darn things. Fortunately my watch has a stem and

is easily adjusted (the microwave still isn't reset). My body took a lot longer to adjust. I was still staggering around Wednesday, wondering when I would be back to normal. Whatever made people think this was a good idea? Now I leave work, and the nice sunshine is gone - sigh. What's the point of living in Florida during the season if you can't appreciate it?

This is my last issue this year. It has been a long one for me. It wasn't too bad being SFSFS Chairman, some of the editing was taken over by others. Then I took up the Con Chair reins. A lot of work, but fun. You should try it. There is a certain magic in watching it all come together. Just remember to delegate. And now the Book Div has been handed to me early. More delegation is in order. But the supply of volunteers is growing thin. My point is, this is YOUR club. You can't sit back and let someone else run it all the time. They tend to burn out. Get involved. Find out what needs doing, and pitch in.

Francine Mullen

South Florida Science Fiction Society Membership Application

November 1993

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.

Renewal (for next year only):

- ___ Regular - \$20.00
___ General (Non-Voting) - \$15.00
___ Child Membership - \$1.00 (12 years or younger whose parent or legal guardian is a SFSFS member.)
___ Subscribing Membership - \$12.00

New:

- ___ General - \$21.00

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Interests _____

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Cover Art: Ericka Perdew

Interior Art: "Lost but found" art
by Peggy Ranson

SFSFS Logo: Gail Bennett

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 did NOT dress as a Klingon at Necro
- ☐ You have been selected to do the next Shuttle
- ☐ You are "The Point"

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