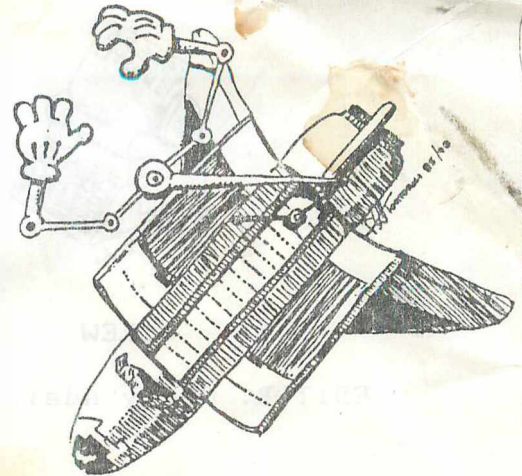


# SFSFS SHUTTLE



**MAY '90**

**62**

## **The Official SFSFS Newsletter (really!!)**

### **MAY GENERAL MEETING**

**DATE:** Sunday May 20th at 2:00

**TOPIC:** "Tryin' To Reason With  
Hurricane Season"

**LOC:** The National Hurricane Center  
in Coral Gables.

Just 10 days before the start of the 1990 hurricane season, we've been invited to tour this regional facility. Our guides will be Hurricane Specialist Hal Gerrish and Meteorologist Jesse Moore. The HMC is responsible for tracking, forecasting and issuing warnings in the Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico and eastern Pacific. We'll see their radar, satellites and state of the art computer networks in action, much of which has never even been seen on the evening news.

**DIR:** Take I-95 south until it becomes US 1 (aka South Dixie Highway). Continue south to 1320 South Dixie Highway, across from the University of Miami. Look for the 15 story I.R.E. Financial Center. There's parking around the building. Take the elevator to the 6th floor. A sign on the 6th floor will direct you to the meeting room.

### **SFSFS BOARD MEETING**

**DATE:** Thursday May 24th at  
7:45 p.m.

**LOC:** TO BE ANNOUNCED

All Subcommittee Chairs are to have their budgets ready for discussion and approval.

Call 305-370-0461 for Information.

### **FILK MEETING**

**DATE:** Saturday June 9th  
at 7:30 pm

**LOC:** The Siclari/Stern residence  
4599 NW 5th Ave  
Boca Raton

Call (407) 392-6462 for info.

### **TROPICON IX MEETING**

**DATE:** Saturday May 19th  
at 2:00 p.m.

**LOC:** The Bemis/Parker abode  
1745 NW 4th Avenue, # 5  
Boca Raton

Call 407-391-4380 for directions.



## CREW

EDITOR: Gerry Adair

## CONTRIBUTORS:

Joe Siclari, Bill Wilson,  
Judy Bemis, Christine A  
Kittler, Michael Sellard &  
Waldo Lydecker.

ART: Sheryl Birkhead

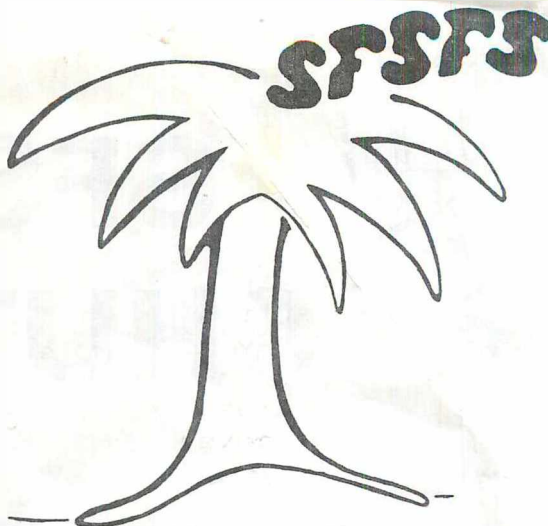
LOGO: Phil Tortorici

SFSFS LOGO: Gail Bennett

COLLATER, STAPLER, STAMP  
STICKER & PURVEYOR OF  
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR  
THE EDITOR: Marion Lean

Send art, poetry, reviews,  
LoC's, etc. to:

Gerry Adair  
1131 Harmony Way  
Royal Palm Beach, Fl 33411  
407 793-7581  
FAX #: 407 833-0646



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## THE SFSFS SHUTTLE May 1990 # 62

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 (\$1 for children). The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors and artists and not necessarily those of the publisher. Why are you reading this?

SEMPER SURSUM

## DISPATCH FROM THE HELM

### Pro's and Cons

Fans involved in planning and creating regional conferences, as well as those authors/artists/media personalities who are invited to attend these gatherings, may have more than a passing interest in Thomas F Monteleone's column in the March '90 issue of **MYSTERY SCENE**.

In his usual self-described "shoot-and-run" style, Monteleone vents his spleen on the convention organizers who invite "mid-list" writers to be quests at their cons, sit in on panels, sign autographs, judge a fiction contest or masquerade, etc., for no financial compensation. Even worse, while these writers are apparently invited merely to lend professional credibility to our little regional gatherings (gratis), we have the unmitigated gall to ensure that all expenses are covered for a big name GOH like "Isaac JerkMeOff". (Anybody familiar with him? Guess he must have written for Lazer.)

As for the Pros who respond to these invitations, he blasts these "dunderheads" for "...trading in their self-esteem and their professional status for a few hours of bullshit ego gratification." He concludes by suggesting that all professionals band together to "...put a stop to this free-labor crapola, and demand some sort of compensation for the services requested by these con-men...compensation that any professional should receive without having to ask."

Now I happen to enjoy Monteleone's work, be it fiction or opinion pieces (Hell, his column is the main reason I've started picking up **MYSTERY SCENE**) and I think there may be some validity to his complaint. I always felt it was the responsibility of each "dunderhead" to seriously evaluate the merits of any invitation to anything, be it a regional Con, Bar Mitzvah or a nude wesson oil wrestling match with the Dolphin cheerleaders.

If financial reimbursement is required, ask for it up-front or don't attend. Let's not kid ourselves, in this little lambada, the fans use the pros and the pros use the fans. It's done for a myriad of reasons (some laudable, some execrable) and, while compensation may not always bear a dollar sign, it has been my experience that it was provided, eagerly and freely, in one form or another.

On the other hand, I feel that if a big name professional GOH has his/her expenses (and frequently more) covered, a certain degree of professionalism is expected in return. Monteleone, to his credit, divulges that as GOH at the British Fantasy convention he was "... half drunk most of the weekend and completely shitfaced the rest of the time." His apparent incapacitation resulted in his being unable to function during an hour set aside for him to provide a reading, juggle, do schtick etc., and resulted in his being carried off the stage. This, unfortunately, is not an isolated example of the "professionalism" exhibited at any number of our little regional Cons.

Hey Tom, just what would a professional such as yourself have provided for the **REAL BIG BUCKS?** Projectile Vomiting?

Just as the "professional" expects some form of compensation for appearing at conventions, convention organizers and attendees deserve a modicum of professionalism from those who agree to attend.

'till next month, I'll see you on the Dark side.

*Gary*



## SFSFS NEWS

Phil and Nick Tortorici have renewed their memberships and are hereby graciously welcomed back into the fold. Townsend Reese has requested and received regular member status.

SOLSTICE 2 X 4 has been printed and will be distributed after the Hurricane Center General Meeting. This long awaited double-issue was four years in the making, yet is still free to SFSFS members.

SFSFS has agreed, by unanimous vote, to sponsor SerCon 5. As mentioned in issue # 60, SerCon 5 will be held from March 15 - 17, 1991 at the Fort Lauderdale Airport Hilton. A special pre-registration rate of \$25.00 will be in effect until 7/31/90. Checks should be made payable to the South Florida Science Fiction Society.

Mail to: SerCon Treasurer  
P.O. Box 70143  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307

Interested in Gaming? Townsend Reese reports that a gaming group is forming in the Cutler Ridge area. The particular game is entitled "2300 A.D." and is based on an original manuscript of Townsend's. If interested, give him a call at (305) 252-6403.

An incredible array of genre books and magazines are available to all members at the SFSFS Library at Davie Rd & SR 84. Also, if you have a few hours to put to good use, Richard Tetrev could use some assistance maintaining this invaluable, yet seldom used, asset of the club.

Call him at 305 - 587-6171

It seems that a change of location may be in order for the Literary Discussion Group. For months the group's attendance has been dwindling and many attribute the drive to Boca Raton as a primary reason. Joe Siclari has volunteered to help anyone who'd care to host the group at a more accessible locale. If interest continues to wane, the group may be disbanded although a significant amount of literary discussion will always be a primary part of the monthly general meeting.

In the meantime, if you'd like to host a discussion group, Joe would like to hear from you. Give him a call at 407 - 392-6462

Two new categories of membership will be voted upon during the May General Meeting: a Lifetime Membership and a Subscribing Membership.

The proposed Lifetime membership will cost \$300. Specific entitlements will be discussed at the May meeting.

The proposed Subscribing membership will cost approximately \$12.00 and entitle you to 12 monthly issues of the SFSFS Shuttle.

Big plans are in store for the SFSFS Shuttle. At the last General Meeting your humble editor requested, and received unanimous approval, to expand the newsletter from 12 to 20-24 pages. Beginning in July or August, the Shuttle will place more emphasis on poetry, art, short fiction, opinion pieces, LoC's etc. Our "breakout" issue cover art has already been selected and is guaranteed to knock your socks off!

## FILK NEWS

Judy Bemis, acting as an intermediary for a listing on a Comp-U-Serve Bulletin Board, was able to bring together the engineers at McDonald Douglas and the Filkers at Firebird Arts and Music, Inc. As a result of her efforts, the filk song "Cosmos" was used as the Saturday morning wake-up call for the STS-31 astronauts.

In space, they may not be able to hear you scream, but at least 5 people can hear you filk!

The folks at Firebird report that they are currently attempting to get the material on "Don't Ask" back in print. The new title is "Never Set The Cat On Fire". They add "...also on the studio schedule are a remake of "Minus 10 And Counting", featuring Cecelia Eng (Of Shoes And Ships), Heather Alexander (1/2 of Magic, Moondust & Melancholy, plus Kethy on Oathbound/Oathbreakers) and Larry Warner (Lead on St Elmo's Fire). In addition a sequel to "Minus Ten" called "Escape Trajectory" is in the works".

### BRADBURY COMES TO FAU

"I feel that I must warn you," the silver-maned figure, clad in black, confided in his opening statement, "I have very strange dreams."

When the laughter ended, Ray Bradbury gently took an obviously enraptured audience by the hand and provided a personally guided tour of the dreamscape of his imagination. For the next 75 minutes, we listened to a parrot who used to converse with Hemingway, ate bologna sandwiches with two boys on a hill outside of Milwaukee as they waited for the

end of the world; and marvelled at plans to turn the Space Center, The "Spruce Goose" and the Queen Mary into tourist attractions par excellence!

As in his writings, I found some of Bradbury's ideas and views just a tad too sentimentalized for my tastes. Fortunately, he would skillfully shift gears whenever I felt he was about to stall and off he would take us to another more interesting, more exotic locale.

He concluded his stream of consciousness lecture by advising the audience to follow the example of the writers of the very first science fiction stories; our prehistoric ancestors who drew pictures of the hunt for the woolly mammoth in caves in what is now France. "Dream mammoth dreams.", he said. "Then work to turn those dreams into reality."

At a small reception following the lecture, Bradbury spent at least another hour answering questions, shaking hands and signing autographs.

### SWEENEY TODD AT PARKER PLAYHOUSE

Stephen Sondheim's musical thriller **SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET** will play for 6 performances at the Parker Playhouse in Fort Lauderdale on August 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, & 19.

This one's got it all folks: Lust, revenge, rape, a razor-wielding psychotic, treachery, deceit, cannibalism and a hell of a great score!

SFSFS members interested in attending as a group should contact Bill Wilson ASAP at 305-983-0749.

Trust me, this is a helluva piece of theater. Don't miss out!

## FLORIDA AUTHORS UPDATE

Ray Aldridge is certainly gaining more visibility. His novelet "Hyena Eyes" is the cover story in the June issue of F & SF. "I'm looking forward to seeing that one in print.", he wrote, "I think it's one of my best efforts so far."

The Fort Walton Beach author added that he'd just sold his first novel, and two unwritten sequels, to Bantam Spectra.

"The first novel's working title is ARMORED HEARTS. It's also a far-future piece, set in the same decadent universe as most of my short stories. It has a picaresque hero, a healthy proportion of sex and violence, and a number of bizarre settings. At it's heart, it's a novel about the depressingly- numerous varieties of slavery. It's also a romance - but I'd better not say any more. The first book should be out next Spring if the creek don't rise etc."

Richard Lee Byers (DEATHWARD) informed the Shuttle of two short stories that he hopes will be accessible soon.

"My short story "Fright Wig" is being reprinted in the small press book QUICK CHILLS: THE YEAR'S BEST HORROR FROM THE SMALL PRESS. The book was supposed to appear in February, but God knows when it will really appear. Another short story, "Nestled", will supposedly appear in Crispin Burnham's small press magazine ELDRITCH TALES later this year, but I don't know in exactly which issue. Information like that is so vague that it scarcely seems worth mentioning."

Richard, if it's worth writing, it's worth mentioning. We'll keep an eye out for them!

Joe Haldeman has a fascinating article entitled "About BUYING TIME" in the March issue of MYSTERY SCENE. In it, he demonstrates how he used a Macintosh to plan the direction of this novel. He also relates the various methods he used for his next novel, THE HEMINGWAY HOAX, as well as a "hybrid method" currently being used for WORLDS ENOUGH AND TIME.

## PRUDENCE FOSTER AND DANA REED TO APPEAR AT STELLAR BOOKSELLER

Two popular Florida based Horror Authors will make a joint appearance at THE STELLAR BOOKSELLER on Saturday May 26th, from 1 pm to 3 pm, to promote the recent releases of their latest novels.

BLOOD LEGACY, Prudence Foster's second novel, has just been released by Pocket Books. Her first work (as P.T. Foster), THE VOW, was released by Leisure Books in January of '89

HELL BOARD, Dana Reed's seventh novel was released by Leisure Books in April. Her previous releases include SISTER SATAN, DEATHBRINGER, THE GATEKEEPER, DEMON WITHIN and MARGO.

THE STELLAR BOOKSELLER is located at 4834 NW 2 Ave (Teeca Plaza) in Boca Raton. Contact Joe Siclari at 407-241-1483 for further information.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The submission deadline for the June issue of The Shuttle is Wednesday, May 24th.

# TROPICON 9

Guest of Honor

**Hal Clement**

Fan Guest of Honor

**Bruce Pelz**

**Nov. 30 - Dec. 2, 1990**

*Other confirmed guests:* Gail Bennett, Sarah Clemens,  
Joseph Green, Lee Hoffman, Carl Lundgren,  
Vincent Miranda, and Gary Alan Ruse.

There will be the normal fantastic Programs, Art Show,  
Filking, Video Room, Banquet, Dealers' Room, Gaming,  
and special exhibits about our Guests, *plus* a Filk Con-  
cert, our Masquerade & some special surprises!

**Special Registration Rates:** only \$15.00 to July 31, 1990;  
\$20.00 until Nov. 1, 1990.

**Join now while the rates are low!**

**Fort Lauderdale Airport Hilton**  
**Griffin Rd. & I-95**

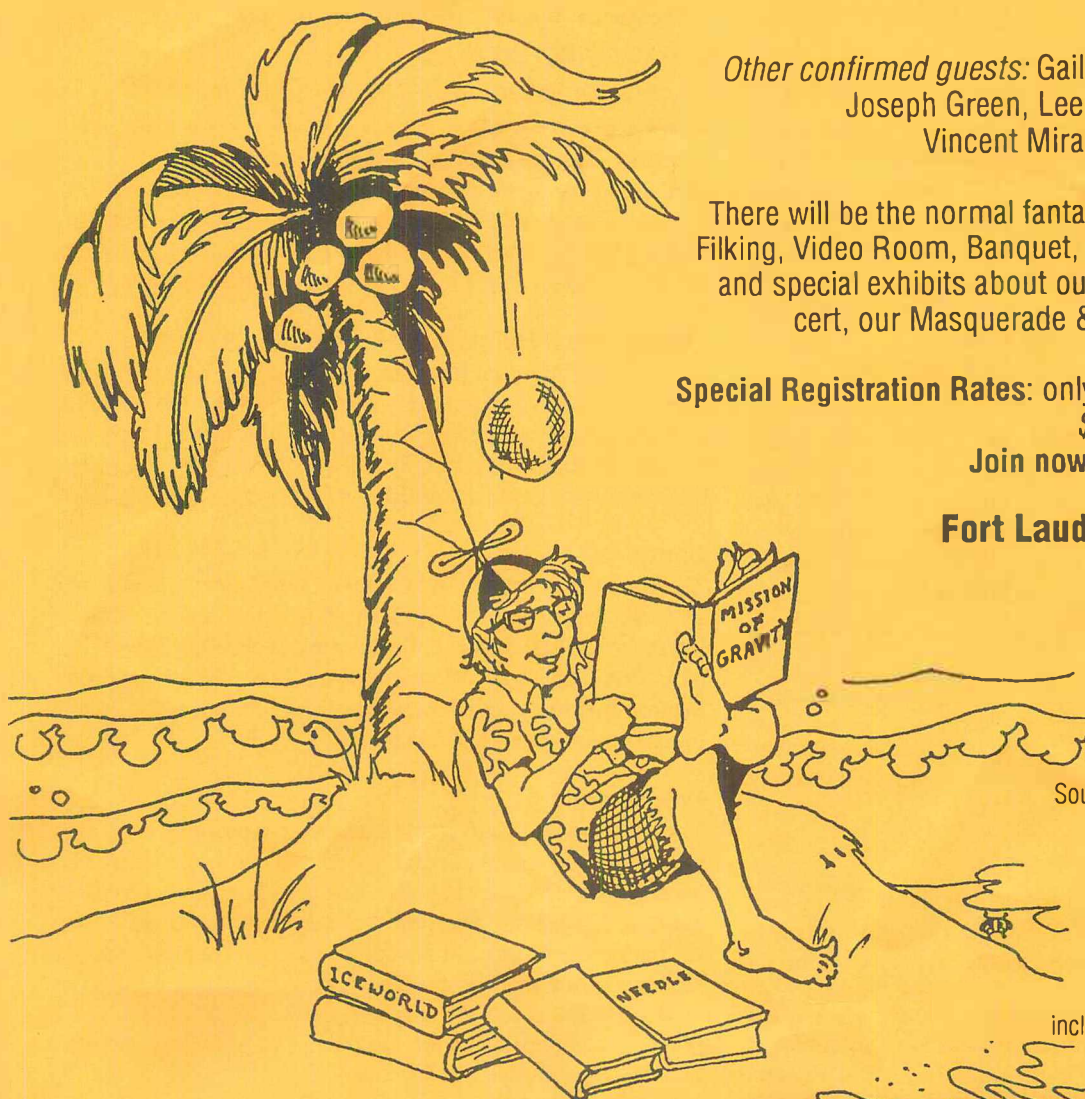
\$59 single, \$69 double

Call (305) 920-3300

*Make checks payable to:*  
South Florida Science Fiction Society.  
*Mail to:* TROPICON Treasurer  
4427 Royal Palm Ave.  
Miami Beach, FL 33140-3039

**For more information,**

including Dealers' Room and Art Show,  
please write to: SFSFS Secretary,  
P. O. Box 70143,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307





## TROPICON 9

### Professional Guest of Honor:

Hal Clement (Harry Clement Stubbs) is one of the foremost writers of *hard* science fiction in the field. From the publication of ICEWORLD in 1951 to STILL RIVER (1987), scientific accuracy has been a hallmark of Hal Clement's fiction. With his solid background in astronomy, chemistry and the other sciences, Hal's universes make sense. Novels such as MISSION OF GRAVITY, NEEDLE, and CLOSE TO CRITICAL have consistently entertained readers who like to explore the logical implications of his beautifully crafted worlds. (And in addition to building worlds with words, Hal also paints them.)

Harry Stubbs is also a long-time fan (since the 1930's). He was a member of the original Stranger Club in Boston, and has been involved in fandom ever since. (Ask him what he gave up to work on the 1971 Worldcon.) Hal Clement is to be Guest of Honor at the 1991 World Science Fiction Convention in Chicago.

TROPICON is delighted to have him with us.

### Hotel & Room Rates

For Hotel Reservations, contact the Fort Lauderdale Airport Hilton, 1870 Griffin Rd., Dania, FL 33004. (305) 920-3300. Rates are: \$59.00 a night, single; \$69.00 double. RESERVE EARLY before our room block fills up. Mention TROPICON 9 when reserving your room to get the special rate. It is the guaranteed lowest rate available for daily guests.

### Art Show

All panels are large (8' x 4'). Full panel/\$20.00. Half panel/\$15.00. Quarter panel/\$10.00. 10% commission. A few tables are also available. For special arrangements, write ATTN: Art Show Director Becky Peters. TROPICON 9 will accept art shipped from out-of-town. Write *early* for shipping instructions. TROPICON's Art Show is an important part of the convention and receives much attention from artists and fans and the local press. Reserve panels by Nov. 15.

### Dealers' Room

Dealers' Tables are only \$40.00 and they include one membership. Dealers' room space is limited, so get your tables early. Limit 2 to each dealer.

### Trivia Free-For-All

Think you know it all? Or even something about SF? TROPICON's Trivia Contest gives you the chance to prove it! Everyone gets a chance to win tokens redeemable in the Dealer's Room.

**Register NOW!** TROPICON memberships go up after Nov. 1, 1990. Advance registrants are eligible for the drawing for over \$50.00 worth of books. Remember to order your Banquet ticket too.

**Attention Convention Organizers:** SMOFcon, the convention on SF convention running will be held the weekend after TROPICON 9 in Fort Lauderdale. For TROPICON or SMOFcon information, write to P. O. Box 70143, Ft., Lauderdale, FL 33307

### Fan Guest of Honor:

Bruce Pelz has been called one of the (not so) Secret Masters of Fandom (SMOF). And maybe they're right. Co-chairman of the 1972 World Science Fiction Convention (LACon I), Fan GoH at the 1980 Worldcon (Noreascon 2), and current co-chair of the Los Angeles in '96 Worldcon bid, Bruce has been involved in almost every aspect of fandom.

Bruce discovered fandom through prozines and the National Fantasy Fan Federation. He began publishing his first fanzine, PROFANITY, in 1958 while attending the Univ. of Florida. Then he left for LASFS (Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society), and to work at USC's School of Library Science.

Bruce is a collector/cataloguer *extrordinaire*. His interests span the fannish spectrum, from fanzines to convention running, from costuming to filk-songs. He is a mystery fan, an SF art connoisseur, a convention memorabilia collector and creator of an unusual Tarot deck.

Welcome him as TROPICON 9's Fan GoH.

### Second Annual Flamingo Masquerade

Participate in another memorable evening of dress-up fun! Whether this is your first masquerade or your fortieth, we are certain you will enjoy recreating your favorite alien, fantasy, or medieval personality. Or have almost as much fun watching.

### Third Annual Heinlein Memorial Blood Drive

With special approval from his wife Virginia, TROPICON 9 will have a blood drive on Saturday in memory of the late Robert A. Heinlein. Some special gifts will be presented to those who donate blood. As you probably know, encouraging blood donations was very important to SF's master writer.

### Banquet

The Banquet honoring Hal Clement and Bruce Pelz will be a special event, capped by the Guest of Honor speeches. Don't be left out in the hall. Banquet tickets must be purchased by Wed., Nov. 28th, to allow for selection of your choice of entree. Seating for this year's banquet will be limited, so be sure to purchase your tickets in advance.

### Programming

TROPICON prides itself on its outstanding programming with topics tailored to the panelist's expertise as well as the audience's interests. Listen to your favorite authors, artists, and fans discuss exciting and sometimes controversial subjects that form the background material for science fiction literature and the fannish culture that has grown up around it.



## CON-siderations

**MisCon 5** May 11-13  
Best Western Executive Motor Inn  
210 E Main Street  
Missoula, MT 21203  
**GOH:** Elizabeth Scarborough  
**FanGOH:** Dr Jane Robinson  
**Memb:** \$20 at the door  
**INFO:** 406 549-1435

**OASIS III** May 11-13  
Plaza Inn 603 Lee Road  
(I-4 exit # 46)  
**GOH:** Joan D Vinqe  
**FanGOH:** Joe Siclari  
**Memb:** \$20 at the door  
**INFO:** Fl Watts 1-800-342-0271  
US Watts 1-800-824-2333

**Kubla Khan Census** May 18-20  
Ramada South Inn 737 Harding Pl  
Nashville, TN 37211  
**GOH:** Michael Bishop  
**MC:** Andrew J Offutt  
**Fan GOH:** Charlotte Proctor  
**MEMB:** \$17  
**INFO:** 615 - 832-8402

**V-Con 18** May 25-27  
Totem Residence, University of  
British Columbia  
**GOH:** Elizabeth Scarborough  
**TM:** Elizabeth A Lynn  
**Canadian GOH:** Dave Duncan  
**MEMB:** \$25 at the door  
**INFO:** V-CON 18  
P.O. Box 48478  
Bentall Centre  
Vancouver, B.C. v7x 1a2

**VULCON** June 8-10  
Ft Lauderdale Airport Hilton  
**GOH:** Denise Crosby  
**MEMB:** \$25 at the door.  
**Hotel Info:** 305-920-3300

**The New Orleans Science Fiction  
And Fantasy Festival** June 15-17  
Bayou Plaza Hotel  
4040 Tulane Ave  
New Orleans, LA 70119

**GOH:** Roger Zelazny  
**TM:** Edward Bryant  
**FANGOH:** Frank & Cece Terry  
also George R R Martin, George  
Alec Effinger, Ellen Datlow,  
Melinda M Snodgrass, J K Potter  
and more!  
**MEMB:** \$20 until 6/1/90  
\$25 at the door.

**ARCHON 14** June 22-24  
Henry VIII Hotel  
St Louis, MO  
All **WILD CARDS** Guests  
- George R R Martin, Ed Bryant,  
John J Miller, Melinda Snodgrass,  
Stephen Leigh, Leanne C  
Harper, Gail Miller, Victor Milan,  
Walter Jon Williams, William F Wu,  
Walton Simons, etc.,  
**INFO:** ARCHON 14  
P.O. Box 50125  
St Louis, MO 63105

**TRAVELLING FETE III** Jul 27-29  
Econo Lodge/South Central  
St Petersburg, Fl  
A Laid-Back Relax-a-con  
**GOH:** Charles L Fontenay  
**MEMB:** \$15 until 6/15/90  
**INFO:** SFSFS Secretary  
P.O. Box 70143  
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33307

**ConFiction:** 48th World Science  
Fiction Convention Aug 23-27  
Netherland Congress Centre  
The Hague, Holland  
**GOHs:** Joe Haldeman, Wolfgang  
Jeschke, Harry Harrison.  
**FanGOH:** Andrew Porter  
**TM:** Chelsea Quinn Yarbro  
**MEMB:** Supporting US \$28  
Attending US \$70  
**INFO:** ConFiction Worldcon 1990  
P.O. Box 95370  
2509 CJ  
The Hague, Holland

## IT CAME IN THE MAIL!

**ANVIL # 51** March '90

Editor: Charlotte Proctor  
B.S.F.C. newsletter

**The Mad 3 Party # 38.** Editor:  
Leslie Turek. Probably the last  
issue.

**BCSFazine # 202 & # 203**

Clubzine of the British Columbia  
Science Fiction Association  
Editor: R. Graeme Cameron  
- In # 202 Stan G Hyde attacks  
"splatterpunk" and Clive Barker  
as it's leading proponent.  
Lighten up Stan! Splatterpunk is  
just a hoot! (Or is that a Hoot  
In Hell?)

**OASFis EVENT HORIZON # 34 & 35**  
Editor: Ray Herz. Monthly  
Newsletter of The Orlando Area  
Science Fiction Society.  
- Great Back panel on # 35.

**PENGUIN DIP # 33.** Editor: Stephen  
H Dorneman. Fanzine, Gaming zine  
and Postal Diplomacy. Tortorici  
cover.

**BruzzFuzzel News Vol 1 # 163 & 164**  
Newsletter of The Baton Rouge  
Science Fiction League. Editor:  
Clay Fourrier

**P.S.F.S. News Feb & Mar.**  
Newsletter of The Philadelphia  
Science Fiction Society.

**DasFax Vol 22 # 3 & 4.** Monthly  
Newsletter of the Denver Area  
Science Fiction Association.  
Editor: Fred Leaver

**ROBOTS & ROADRUNNERS vol 5 # 1**  
Editors: Alexander R Slate & Lynn  
Garcia. Published Quarterly by  
Ursa Major.

**DeProfundis # 217 & 218.** Monthly  
Newsletter of The Los Angeles  
Science Fiction Association

**THE SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION**  
Bulletin # 6.  
Editor: P.L. Caruthers-Montgomery

**DON-O-SAUR # 57**  
Editor: Don C Thompson

**STATEMENT # 152 & 153.** Editor:  
Lionel Wagner. Monthly Newsletter  
of The Ottawa Science Fiction  
Society.

**FosFax # 148** Editor: Timothy Lane  
Mammoth LoC filled Fanzine of The  
Falls Of The Ohio Science Fiction  
& Fantasy Association  
- Tortorici art.

**STONE HILL LAUNCH TIMES vol 4 # 3**  
& # 4. Newsletter of the Stone  
Hill Science Fiction Association.

**THE INSIDER # 157 & 158** Editor:  
Deb Roe. Newsletter of The St  
Louis Science Fiction League.

**TRANSMISSIONS # 297/298 & 299/300**  
Newsletter of Nova Odysseus in  
Panama City.

**INSTANT MESSAGE # 473, 474 & 475**  
Published twice monthly by The  
New England Science Fiction  
Association.

**WestWind # 145/146 & # 147.**  
Editor: Robert Suryan. The  
Clubzine of the Northwest Science  
Fiction Society.  
# 145/146 contains the **Norwescon**  
12 progress report and a knockout  
cover by David Cherry.

**THE INTERGALACTIC REPORTER vol 14**  
# 3 & 4. Editor: Carol Smith.  
Monthly Newsletter of The New  
Jersey Science Fiction Society

# VOLGA★CON-1991

AN INTERNATIONAL SF CONVENTION ON THE VOLGA  
Volgograd, USSR, September 8-14, 1991

SF Club "The Wind of Time" and the Youth Association ATOM  
announce the establishing of the VOLGA-CON Organizing  
Committee.

## V O L G A - C O N

has in store for YOU:

- \* Seven unforgettable days on the Volga!
- \* Meeting old and new friends. Interesting conversations  
from morning till night and all night long!
- \* Talks, discussions, lectures and meetings with

CYBERPUNKS ON THE VOLGA

THE YOUNG WAVE IN THE SOVIET SF

THE CONCISE HISTORY OF THE SOVIET SF AND FANTOM

- \* A mini-con for SF Clubs of the Volga Region.
- \* Various Poetry Rounds, Folk-Song Performances, Story-  
Telling Contests, SF Stories Competition, an Auction  
and a Fancy-Dress Ball with a g r e a t Universe  
Banquet to crown it all!

We are inviting 300 Official Guests to the VOLGA-CON,  
including Guests of Honour from many lands.

We also welcome SF fans, writers, painters, critics,  
journalists, editors and publishers - all people who love  
SF & Fantasy!

We do believe that YOUR participation will make the  
VOLGA-CON brighter and more fascinating!

Please, do not hesitate to contact us for further infor-  
mation. Our address for applications and inquiries is:

BORIS A. ZAVGORODNY

Volgograd-66, Poste restante,

USSR, VOLGA-CON

Our telephones: 34-74-62, 34-74-64, 34-44-09, 34-86-56

SFSFS SHUTTLE #62



Bill Wilson Reviews...

**THE GUARDIAN** Universal Pictures Rated R  
Starring: Jenny Seagrove, Dwier Brown, Carey Lowell  
Based on "The Nanny" by Dan Greenburg  
Director: William Friedkin

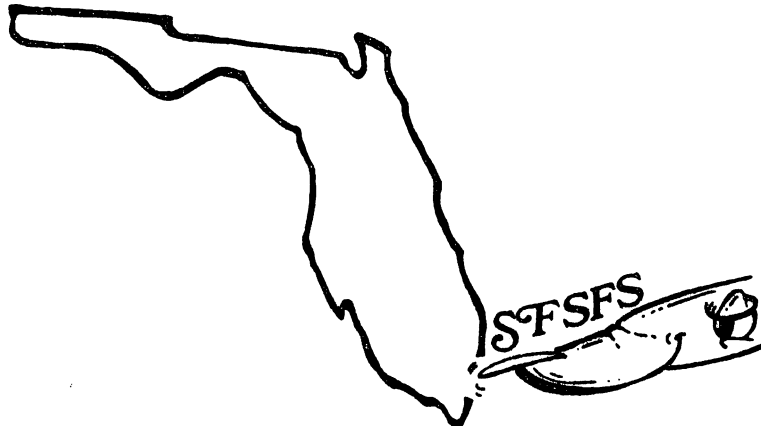
Having done in the youngest member of one family, a woman ingratiates herself into another after being hired as a nanny. She's a druid serial babynapper, stealing innocent souls to feed to an evil tree spirit in the woods outside of a nearby suburb.

William Friedkin's first horror movie since *THE EXORCIST* (though he did direct the "Nightcrawlers" episode for the new *Twilight Zone* series) is a mainstream work with good performances. Suspense abounds, and there is enough gore to shock those unfamiliar with recent offerings in the horror field. Still the film is a little lean when it comes to characterization and logic. We know nothing more of the characters by the end of the film than we did in the beginning. The entire premise is spelled out within the first few minutes. The parents struggle but do not grow, and their survival owes more to sheer dumb luck than maturity or understanding.

*SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE* alumni Brad Hall has a frightening sequence as an architect stalked by the tree's demon wolves. But dominating the film is the performance of actress Jenny Seagrove. Her portrayal of the nasty nanny who's actions are driven by the hunger of the ancient tree is very convincing. I almost believe her when she says she won't harm the child. After all, who's to say that having your soul absorbed by a tree doesn't have it's own rewards? What are the spiritual implications of being effigied in bark? Friedkin avoids plumbing any real depth of thought.

Taken as is, *THE GUARDIAN* is a good horror movie. Unfortunately, it failed to reach the usual high standard of quality I expected from Friedkin.

Rated \*\*\*



## RANDOM REVIEWS

**BY BIZARRE HANDS** by Joe R Lansdale  
Mark V. Ziesing. \$25. 246 pages

It comes as no surprise that Joe R Lansdale's first short-story collection is published by a small press.

Lansdale bewilders the major publishers.

He refuses to conform to conventional molds and insists on being honest, innovative and imaginative. at the same time, he defies genre classifications, producing exciting - if not somewhat disturbing -short stories and novels in the fields of suspense, horror, science fiction and westerns.

In spite of all this - or more accurately, because of it - Lansdale has earned a loyal cult following.

**BY BIZARRE HANDS** collects 16 of Lansdale's finest works and should certainly help multiply the growing number of avid fans.

An area in which Lansdale excels with frightening clarity is his handling of the sociopath and other modern-day horrors. Stories such as "I Tell You It's Love", "Boys Will Be Boys" and, most notably, "The Night They Missed The Horror Show" (for which he won the Bram Stoker Award for best short fiction) daringly examines these sociological deviants.

Lansdale honestly portrays the flippant brutality of his antagonists, who are generally lacking a single shred of human decency.

Lansdale's darkly humorous brand of storytelling is another reason for this East Texas writer's popularity. Very few have the talent (or the nerve) to create Lansdale's scenarios. This is evident in the book's title piece, "By Bizarre Hands", and again in "The Fat Man And The Elephant", one of the collection's two original works. It is further displayed in all its well-crafted eccentricities with the wonderfully titled "On The Far Side Of The Cadillac Desert With The Dead Folks".

Lansdale also manages to get in a few good jabs in the crime fiction arena. "The Pit", along with "The Steel Valentine" (the collection's other new work), supplies a similar story line - two men in a life and death struggle. There, however, the similarity ends and Lansdale delivers the goods in his very own no-nonsense style.

"Trains Not Taken" and "The Windstorm Passes" are fine examples of what may be Lansdale's strongest voice, the western tale. These particular stories allow us to view the gentler side of Lansdale, whose grasp of time, place and sentiment is remarkably well-defined and just short of poetic.

"Hell Through A Windshield", Lansdale's social commentary, offers us a glimpse of the birth and significance of the American drive-in theater as told by a man who spent more than his share of Friday and Saturday nights in selfless research.

There is a strong possibility that one or more of Lansdale's novels may be produced as a feature film. This would certainly help him gain the widespread recognition he deserves. If **BY BIZARRE HANDS** is any barometer for Lansdale's future, he's likely to Kick up quite a storm.

- Michael Sellard

(Originally published in the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel. Reprinted by permission of the author.)

## RANDOM REVIEWS

### **THE ARKHAM HOUSE COMPANION: FIFTY YEARS OF ARKHAM HOUSE**

- Sheldon Jaffrey

Starmont Reference Guide # 9. Starmont House, Inc.

HC - \$34.95 PB - \$22.95. 184 pages.

In 1982, Sheldon Jaffrey released a 142 page bibliographic history and collector's price guide to Arkham House entitled **HORRORS AND UNPLEASANTRIES** (\$5.00). While this slim volume may have provided an enjoyable read for Arkham-philes, its lack of an index rendered it almost impossible to use as a reference work.

With **THE ARKHAM HOUSE COMPANION**, Jaffrey not only remedied this rather glaring oversight by adding an author/title index, but also: 1) Revised the price guide, 2) Added a second General Index, 3) Listed the short stories found in each Arkham collection/anthology, 4) Added summaries and reviews for the 16 additional Arkham novels/collections released since 1982 and 5) Revised, corrected and, in some cases, expanded his commentaries from the previous work.

Unlike many "revised" editions that contain more fluff than substance, Jaffrey has added innumerable additional historic facts (such as the startling revelation that the short story "The Churchyard Yew", which was believed to have been authored by Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, was actually a pastiche written by August Dereleth "as a hoax") and lists a number of biographies/references that focus on Arkham authors (e.g. the Carl Jacobi Bio-Bibliography **LOST IN THE RENTHARPIAN HILLS** by R. Dixon Smith).

The result is an enlarged, expanded, better documented and exhaustively indexed research tool to be coveted by any devotee of "Dereleth's Folly".

- Gerry Adair

### **BLUE WORLD - Robert R. McCammon**

Pocket Books. \$4.95. 435 pages.

To be truthfull, I was never a big fan of Robert McCammon's novels (with the sole exception of **USHER'S PASSING**). Although his tales seemed well crafted and his characters, for the most part, were full-fleshed and believable, he never seemed to consistently instill that slowly intensifying sense of dread and/or wonder that I relish in my horror fare. Then I picked up a copy of J. N. Williamson's 1984 **MASQUES** anthology and checked out a short story of McCammon's entitled "Nightcrawlers". The similarities between Price, the haunted veteran in this modern tale of ghostly vengeance, and a similarly "haunted" marine I'd met in a Navy Psych ward in Orlando were so startling I was unable to finish the story for 3 days.

Like I said, I'm not crazy about his novels, but , after experiencing "Nightcrawlers" I've sought every short story of Robert McCammon's that I could find.

**BLUE WORLD**, a collection of 12 short stories (8 of which have been previously published in a variety of magazines and anthologies) and a previously unreleased novella, contains a wide variety of McCammon's most fascinating work to date. "Doom City", "Yellowjacket Summer" and "He'll Come Knocking at Your Door" are reminiscent of the grab-the-reader-by-the-throat "monster" tales that Jack Davis used to illustrate

(cont'd on next page)



## RANDOM REVIEWS

for EC comics. The inner workings of the psychotic mind are subtly revealed in "I Scream Man!" and depicted with feverish, fingernails-on-the-blackboard intensity in "Pin".

For those who crave more substance than shriek, I wholeheartedly recommend the last hurrah of an aging serial star in the cliffhanger structured "Night Calls The Green Falcon" and (my personal favorite) "The Red House", a dark Bradburyesque rite-of-passage tale. If what you seek is a nightmarish vision of reality with the consistency of silly-putty, then "Something Passed By" is easily your cup of meat.

The only letdown in the collection is the title tale, "Blue World"; a tale of a young priest's obsessive involvement with a porno star being stalked by a serial killer. Although it avoids most of the plot cliches that this type of story usually spawns, it still has the feel of a "movie of the week".

**BLUE WORLD** is a satisfying collection that hopefully will generate enough new fans to keep McCammon returning to the short story form.

- Gerry Adair

**THE DEVIL'S DAY** - James Blish

Baen Books. \$3.95. 314 pages

This month's "Most Significant Contribution to The SF/Fantasy/Horror Readership" award is presented to the perceptive folks at Baen books for having the good sense to combine **BLACK EASTER** and **THE DAY AFTER JUDGEMENT** (the two novels that comprise the second volume of Blish's "After Such Knowledge..." trilogy) under one cover as **THE DEVIL'S DAY**.

I encourage anyone whose familiarity with the works of James Blish is limited to his "Cities In Flight" stories or his Star Trek novelizations to treat themselves to this all too frequently overlooked masterpiece of Dark Fantasy. I particularly recommend this work to those readers whose idea of "Horror" consists of endless reincarnations of Freddie Krueger, Jason or the score of interchangeable one-dimensional faceless knife-wielding psychotics that glut the field. This, my friends, is what horror is all about. Joanna Russ, in a 1968 review, summed it up most succinctly: "The book (**BLACK EASTER**) is about nothing less than the problem of Evil and it is brilliant."

In **BLACK EASTER**, a jaded munitions magnate contracts with a powerful black magician to perform 3 increasingly malevolent tasks. Restricted by the terms of The Grand Covenant, the monastic priests of Monte Albano can only observe helplessly as the final ritual is performed and all the major demons of Hell are released, unfettered, for one night.

**THE DAY AFTER JUDGEMENT** pits the post-apocalypse survivors in a life and death struggle with the demonic forces that now seem to rule the earth. The City of Dis has risen in Death Valley, appropriately enough, and becomes the target of an all-out retaliatory military strike. The final confrontation forces a complete re-evaluation of the accepted concepts of God, Satan, good and evil.

No core collection of horror can be complete without a copy of **THE DEVIL'S DAY**.

(Hey, Science Fiction Channel, if you're serious about presenting quality programming, this would provide the basis for an incredible mini-series. It would beat the hell out of re-runs of MY FAVORITE MARTIAN or LOST IN SPACE or LAND OF THE GIANTS or.....)

- Gerry Adair

## RANDOM REVIEWS

### TALES FROM THE CRYPT # 1

Published Bi-monthly by Gladstone Publishing  
\$1.95

Dear Dr Wertham,

Sorry to hear about your recent hospitalization. We are indeed living in barbaric times. If films such as **BATMAN** and **TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES** are capable of destroying Box-Office records, creating millions in merchandising and creating rabid cult followings. I can understand your despair. Well, here's a little newsflash that'll really make your day.

EC CLASSIC COMICS ARE BACK!!!!

Heh, Heh, Heh...

Enclosed is issue # 1, **TALES FROM THE CRYPT**. (Your Digitalis is on the nightstand). As you can see, it reprints **TALES FROM THE CRYPT** # 33 (1952) and **CRIME SUSPENSTORIES** # 17 (1953). The artists represented are Jack Kamen, Jack Davis, Frank Frazetta, Al Williamson, Bill Elder, Graham Engels..... Remember?? Hey, it even contains Johnny Craig's rendition of Ray Bradbury's "Touch And Go!" Aren't you excited?

As if that weren't enough, classic reprints of other EC Classics are waiting in the wings. I purchased gift subscriptions to all of them for you in hopes of speeding along your recovery. Your first issue of **THE VAULT OF HORROR** should arrive in May and issue # 1 of **WEIRD SCIENCE** (featuring Wally Wood's "My World") should arrive in June.

I hope you enjoy them as much as I do. Heh, heh, heh.....

- Gerry Adair

### CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED, NUMBER 1

**THE RAVEN AND OTHER POEMS** - Illustrated by Gahan Wilson  
Berkley/First Publishing. 45 pages. \$3.75

I'll bet anything in my room that if you ask any of my peers in the Thirtysomething generation where they received their primary exposure to classic literature, the majority of them would have to answer **CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED** comics. A new, revised, upscale version of the classic series hit the bookstores in February and, if issue # 1 is any indication, they'll be well worth looking into.

Gahan Wilson's interpretations of Poe's "The Raven", "Annabel Lee", "Lines On Ale", "The City In The Sea", "Eldorado", "Alone", "The Haunted Palace" and "The Conqueror Worm" are so devilishly inspired and witty that the works that follow will be hard pressed to match it's quality.

### HOLIDAYS IN HELL - P.J. O'Rourke

Vintage Books. 255 pages \$8.95

Summer vacation is approaching. As a public service, allow me to recommend this modern day version of **THE INNOCENTS ABROAD**. O'Rourke's acerbic accounts of sightseeing in Beirut, El Salvador, Heritage USA and other hellholes will make you think twice before you start bitching to a Maitre D in some package tour mega-resort that you didn't get a paper umbrella with your Mai-Tai. The essay "Among The Euro-Weenies", alone, is worth the price of the book.

- Gerry Adair

## THANK YOU AND GOODNIGHT

Joseph Payne Brennan

- One of the giants of modern horror, Brennan succumbed to cancer of the lymph nodes on January 28th.

### COLLECTIONS & NOVELS

#### NINE HORRORS AND A DREAM

(Arkham House 1958)

#### THE DARK RETURNERS

(Macabre House 1959)

#### SCREAM AT MIDNIGHT

(Macabre House 1963)

#### STORIES OF DARKNESS AND DREAD

(Arkham House 1973)

#### THE CASEBOOK OF LUCIUS LEFFING

(Macabre House 1973)

#### THE CHRONICLES OF LUCIUS LEFFING

(Donald M Grant 1979)

#### ACT OF PROVIDENCE

-With Donald M Grant

(Donald M Grant 1979)

#### THE SHAPES OF MIDNIGHT

(Berkley 1980)

#### THE ADVENTURES OF LUCIUS LEFFING

(Donald M Grant 1990?)

David Rappaport

- The diminutive actor died of an allegedly self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head on May 2nd.

His genre film work included:

TIME BANDITS (1981); SWORD OF THE VALIANT (1984); THE BRIDE (1985).

Television appearances include:

AMAZING STORIES ("Gather Ye Acorns") and THE WIZARD

Regular 1986-1987 (Simon McKay)

His last semi-recurring role was that of a feisty attorney on LA LAW.

## POETRY

Stars, take me away from the same old  
grind,  
Release the stress and worry on my  
mind,  
Help me seek treasures no one else  
can find.  
Stars, release me from Earth-Ties  
that bind.

Let me touch wonders that make  
mortals cry.  
Let me reach boundaries no one else  
can try.  
Let me be happy, give me the chance  
to fly.  
Let me seek adventures, not let them  
pass by.

Stars, take me where all communicate.  
Don't let my fears make me hesitate.  
Find me a way so I, too, can create.  
Stars, take me away before it's  
too late.

- Christine A. Kittler



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From: Ms Lisa Thomas  
Henderson, Kentucky

March 12th

I have just finished reading the March 1990 SHUTTLE. (Never mind how I came to have a copy.)

...In Journal Entries, you say you've torn the cockpit apart looking for an instruction manual. Have you tried looking in back of the plane or other storage areas? If all else fails you could try the wings or parachute down for a replacement and insurance money for a new one.

How can Edie Stern be the real Anastasia when Anastasia died about seven years ago?

(Read on, the Anastasia dilemma will be resolved shortly. - Gerry)

April 12th

...I wonder if the Pod People are why I can't find a copy of Joel Rosenberg's TIES OF BLOOD AND SILVER. It certainly sounds like the reason Barbie dolls cost so much.

...I'm very sorry to hear about Wendy Ackerman. I know Mr Ackerman will miss her terribly. So will all of fandom.

...Re your Random Notes, I thought exorcisms were performed to evict ghosts, not vampires. Of course, it might work on vampires, although one might argue that vampires perform a valuable public service by recycling used blood.

FROM: Cicely Neville  
Star's End, Trantor

April 13th

In # 61 of your Stewsletter, you print a loc from someone asking if you are the real Anastasia. It is a very good thing for you that you resisted the temptation to make a vilely false claim. You see, I'm the real Anastasia. I have also been Cleopatra, Elizabeth I, Owen Glendower, Sherlock Holmes and various and sundry other historical figures.

Naturally you would like to see my credentials for these claims. Lest you doubt me, I assure you now that I have full recognition of my claims from no less eminent a group of scholars than the finest minds the General Nuisance Society could bribe, blackmail or otherwise persuade to back up my ~~surprise and fraudulent~~ claims.

(Thanks for the clarification, Cicely. Don't forget to take your medication. - Gerry)

FROM: Richard Lee Byers  
Riverview, Fl

April 10th

Thanks for the sub to the SFSFS Shuttle, which arrived today. I've been reading the copy that comes to the Stone Hill SF Association for years (which should not be construed as meaning that I'm not glad to receive a personal copy) and I must say that from an outsider's point of view, it's gotten vastly more interesting since you started editing

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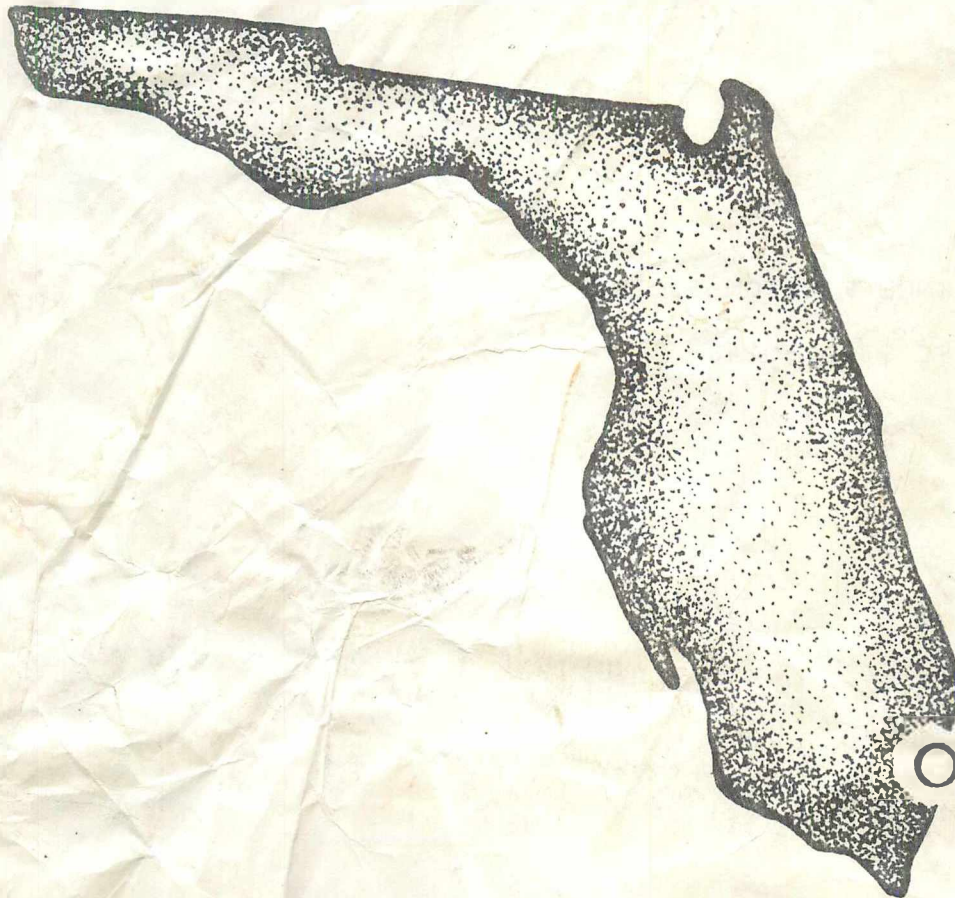
it. Clubzines often fail to offer much to readers who aren't members of the club, but now yours does.

...I agree with you completely about the Hyperion books. Dan Simmons is a master. I couldn't get into **GEEK LOVE**, though. But everyone else seems to think it's great, so I guess a defect in my aesthetic sensibilities is responsible. **ANTIBODIES** is on my shelf, waiting to be read. If you like really disturbing horror, books that not only scare and repel on a visceral level but profoundly bother you by what they imply about human nature, I recommend **FINISHING TOUCHES** by Thomas Tessier and **DR ADDER** by K. W. Jeter. They bugged the hell out of me.

(Thanks for the kind words of encouragement. I agree wholeheartedly with your evaluation of Tessier's **FINISHING TOUCHES**. I'll check out **DR. ADDER** as soon as I can. - Gerry)

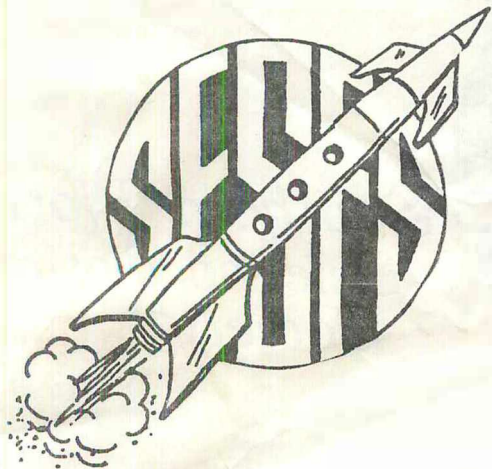
#### AT A GLANCE

**General Meeting:** May 20th at 2:00 pm. National Hurricane Center  
**Board Meeting:** May 24th at 7:30 pm. Location TBA  
**Filk Meeting:** June 9th at 7:30 pm. Siclari/Stern residence  
**Tropicon IX MTG:** May 19th at 2:00 pm. Bemis/Parker Residence



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