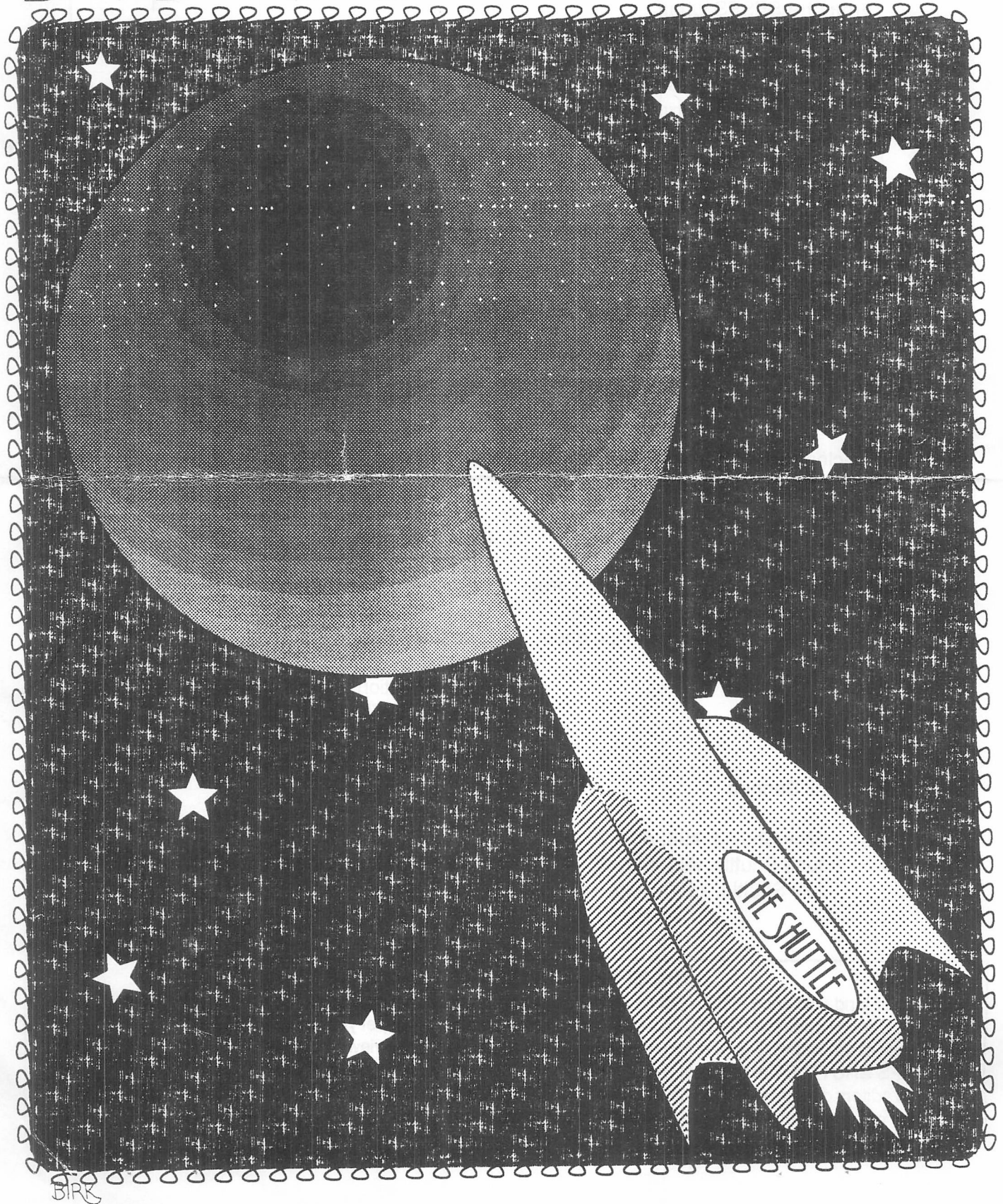


S&S SHUTTLE

NO. 97
APRIL 1993



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Shuttle Crew:

Co-Editors: Joe Siclari & Edie Stern

Contributors: Sheryl Birkhead, Peggy Dolan, Fran Mullen, Becky Peters, Chuck Phillips, Joe Siclari, Edie Stern, Bill Wilson and the ghost of fandom past.

Art:

Sheryl Birkhead: Cover

Lee Hoffman: 4

Phil Tortorici: 3

SFSFS Logo: Gail Bennett

Deadlines: May Shuttle, #98, April 25
June Shuttle, #99, May 23
July Shuttle, #100, June 14

Club Officers:

Chair: Fran Mullen

Vice-Chair: Carol Gibson

Secretary: Dea O'Connor

Treasurer: Peggy Ann Dolan

For information about SFSFS, call Dea O'Connor at (305) 792-7263.

Shuttle correspondence should be addressed to:

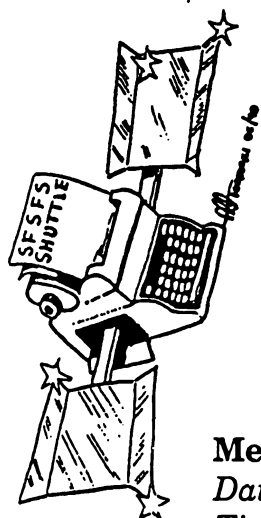
SFSFS Shuttle Editor

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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143

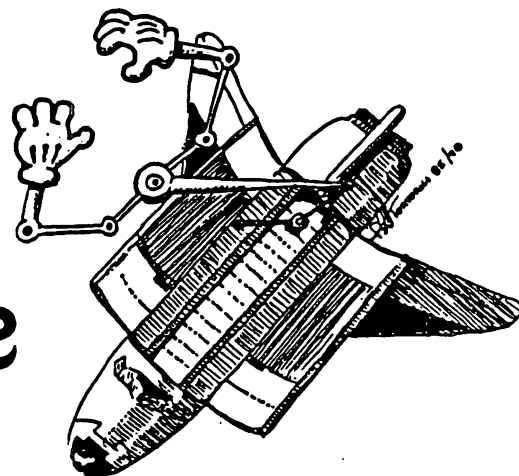
The SFSFS Shuttle #97 — April 1993

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 the issue). Subscribing membership is \$12 per year. The views, reviews, and opinions expressed in the SFSFS SHUTTLE are those of the authors and artists and not necessarily those of the publishers. However, when the editors disagree with the contributors, the editors are right. When the editors disagree with each other, they are both right. The ideas expressed here can save a marriage.



SFSFS

Meeting Space



Meeting: Spring SFSFS picnic

Date: April 25

Time: 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Place: Tradewinds Park, 3600 W. Sample Rd.,
Coconut Creek, phone: (305) 968-3880

Directions: Park entrance on Sample Rd., just West of the Turnpike. Via the Florida Turnpike or I-95, take Sample Road west until you see the signs. Turn into the north side park entrance, and follow the road. When it curves hard left, watch for the picnic tables and the SFSFS sign. Or read the map.

The April SFSFS meeting will be held at Tradewinds, the Broward park that boasts not only rent-a-horse stables, but also Butterfly World. Admission to the park on weekends is \$1/driver, and 75¢ for each passenger. Children 5 and under are free. Butterflies are not free. Dogs are permitted, if kept on a leash, and accompanied by a pooper scooper.

SFSFS will supply hotdogs, hamburgers and buns. Everyone is invited to come and bring a dish, so we have a complete fun in the sun day. PLEASE CALL FRAN MULLEN at (305) 929-5815 (Note: new phone number) to coordinate dishes. We might survive 15 desserts and no vegetables, but I shudder at the thought of a like number of bottles of ketchup (without plates). Bring frisbees, games, and so on, *and be ready for a quest.*

Rain plans - None right now. We survive small drizzles, and rely on the club meteorologist to prevent large problems with the weather. If, as the date approaches, Florida is under water, please call Fran for foul weather plans.

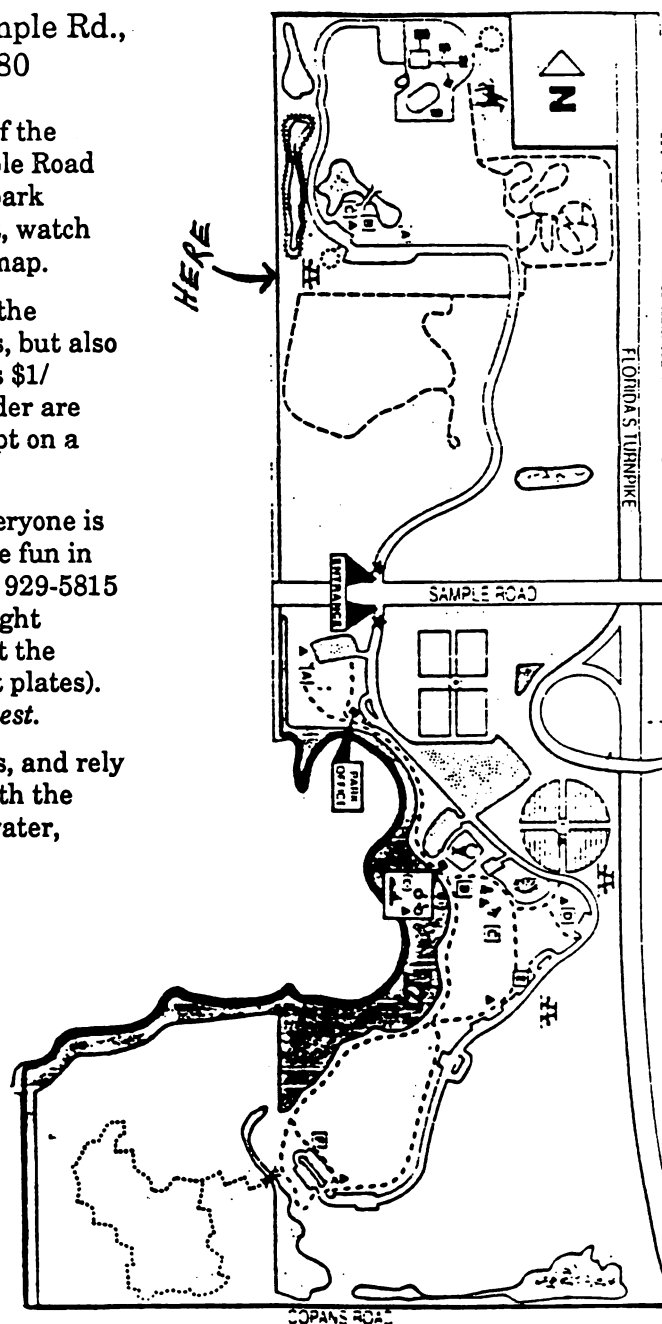
Other info about Tradewinds Park:

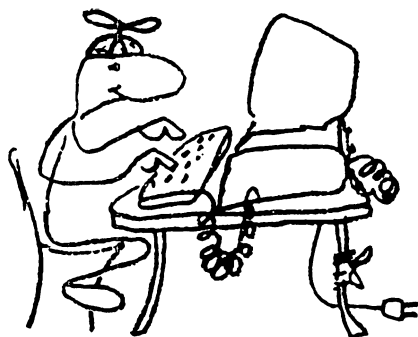
Butterfly World: 1-5 PM, \$8.95, Children 3-12: \$5.00

Stable info call (305) 968-3875. One hour guided rides every 1.5 hours \$13.00 each. Children must be 9 & 52" tall. Pony rides also available. Make reservations early that day from 9 AM on.

There are also boat rentals, bicycle rentals, a miniature golf course, nature trails, batting cages, playgrounds, fishing and more. So even if you get bored with the rest of us, there should be something for you to do.

Park closes at 6:30 PM.





3/21/93 12:41 AM

From Her Supreme High &
Mighty Highness:
Francine Mullen

As your president, I am very pleased with the direction that our club is taking. We are putting MagiCon behind us - a very well done to all who worked on it for so long. We are pulling together and working as a team again. I'd like to thank those who are supporting me in putting these meetings together. Thanks to Joe and Edie and Becky and Judy and Tony and Bill and... who have I forgotten? Without your support, it just wouldn't happen. Let's keep this up.

My special thanks to Stephen R. Donaldson for spending so much time with us Saturday at the Conference. His comments have added depth and meaning to what I have read. Now I'm looking forward to tackling his current five-book SF series (of which three have been published).

If you have any suggestions or ideas you would like to share, feel free to share them with me. Our April meeting will be a picnic at Tradewinds Park on Sample Road. For May and June, we may do something really special, as the ABA will be held in Miami over the last of May and beginning of June. Joe is looking for a list of author guests who will be attending that function. Frederick Bragdon has volunteered to do the Hugo Nominee program in August. (We plan to take you up on it, Fred. I'm already reading some short stories to get a head start on it.) That leaves July, September, October and November. We already know that we must have a dinner in December. Just a matter of finding an appropriate place. So what shall we do with the unplanned months? Feedback, please!

Welcome to four returning General members. Voted in at the March 20th meeting were: Bob Ewart, Gary Mahan, Donald Thompson, Rita F. Sheinblatt.

Franny

Thus, We Refute Entropy

(editorial(s) for



the SFSFS Shuttle)

I've always been in favor of conservation, whether it applies to energy or natural resources or hair. However, it seems that lately I've been stuck with a different version of conservation, something perhaps on the order of "conservation of organization".

Last year, as MAGICON got closer and closer, the preparations and some of the committee became more and more organized, with plans, backup plans and refinements of previously made plans. As MAGICON became more organized, my household became less and less organized. There's a natural law here, or a balance or something. When my living room and social life disappeared completely under the stacks, I knew we had donated a little too much of our organizational underpinnings. I'm not sure such donations count at full value, but MAGICON seems to have had a decent run at its public Mayfly life period. And now it's our turn again.

Après le deluge, moi. Or rather nous. We now have a living room again. We now have a long promised dog (who is trying her hardest to destroy the living room). Joe has the ability to sign up for night classes (and not spend his life on the telephone smoffing. Well, only if he wants to.). And we have the time to get more active in SFSFS. This issue of the *Shuttle* hopefully demonstrates that. I don't know about Joe, but I'm delighted to be back!

— Edie

P.S. I blame Cliff Simak for the dog. He's about the only SF author I can recall whose sympathies were canine. Anyone think of others?

Well, back to our fannish roots, sort of. I started out with fanzines but Worldcons — CONFEDERATION and MAGICON, primarily — have kept me from a fanzine for about ten years. Ghod — *Fanhistorica* was due out before LACON II! Maybe someday...

With this issue, Edie and I are starting on what we hope will be an occasional series of larger issues of the *SFSFS Shuttle*. We're going to try to add a little additional "business" (fannish and otherwise) every so often.

That is, if we can convince you all to contribute. We don't require BIG contributions, a review, a paragraph or two about your favorite things, an article on the societal impact of the writings of Ivar Jorgenson. They're all welcome.

And we want artwork — fillos, potential covers, cartoons. If you are willing to write and illustrate something, let us know that, too.

Many of you know of my obsession with fannish history, and this issue gives me a chance to reprint

a worthy piece from our past, even if it's just a short one this time. I'll try to find items that are interesting and maybe give a little background to bring our ghosts back to the present.

Enclosed with this issue are two flyers. The TAFF ballot speaks for itself — VOTE! The second flyer is a questionnaire. The SFSFS Board is considering a book co-op. If you are interested in saving money on the books and tapes you buy, fill it out and return, ASAP. If there is enough interest, I'd like to see us start quickly. We can make some contacts at the ABA when it's in Miami next month.

100 IS COMING!

Yeah, that's right! The hundredth issue of the *Shuttle* is coming up. That will be the next issue Edie and I will be doing. We're looking for long, critical and fannish erudite writing or short silly reminiscences but erudite without question.

Well, anyway, we'd like to do something special for that issue. Will you help? — Joe

The Ghost of Fandom Past:

Just about 40 years ago, this idyll was published in Hyphen. After having run a 7,000 person Worldcon, I dream about the small convention and this is about as small as even Bob Shaw could prevaricate.

The quality of Bob Shaw's bicycle was a favorite topic of derision amongst the Belfast mob. It was often alleged to have more rust than steel. George Charters was one of stalwarts of Irish Fandom, not as well known as some of the others. Perhaps because he did not have any of the peculiarities of the others; Chuch Harris is deaf; James White is blind; Madeleine Willis is the perennial Best New Fan; Walter Willis is Ghod; and Bob Shaw is Bob Shaw.

Some things survive the test of time. Sometimes silliness is one of them.

The Soupçon Report

by Bob Shaw

From Hyphen #5, November 1953

Convention day dawned bright and fair over the Castleroagh Hills and the Soupçon welcoming committee rose early in preparation for the events that were to take place during the day. The fine weather was a good omen but deep in their hearts the Con committee were, now that the time had come, doubtful as to whether they could handle the complexities of the massive undertaking. After all this was the first actual convention to be held in Belfast, and although it was thought that the attendance figures might be decreased by the simultaneous running of the Coroncon, it was going to be a huge task to see that all went well.

However, having broke fast, the welcoming Committee sped swiftly in the direction of the main entrance to the city to await the arrival of the fans who would be arriving from all parts of Lancaster Avenue. The whole operation was put over smoothly and in record time the visiting fan contingent had been directed to the waiting conveyances and were whisked away to the Convention Hall.

A rough idea of the general happy mood of

the affair can be had from this snatch of conversation between Handsome Bob Shaw and Guaranteed Genuine George Charters, who had arrived travel-stained and weary from Bangor.

B. Well, George, it's not much farther now.
G. Good.

B. Why? I'm not going too fast for you am I?

G. No, it's not that. I'm just afraid of a policeman seeing us, and my coat is getting all rusty from rubbing against your handlebars.

B. George, it's hard enough trying to pedal for two without you fidgiting so much. Every time you wiggle you change gear.

Having arrived at Oblique House, the chosen site, the Welcoming Committee helped the visitors to get sorted out and they all trooped into the banqueting hall in a happy, laughing bunch.

Once the introductory sessions were over the Chairman, a Mr. B. Shaw, invited the visiting pro editors to make a few remarks. G. Charters (who headed this panel by virtue of having Had His Name In Hard Covers) rose and delivered a few well chosen words. Here is

an extract from his speech.

"...and we are all very much indebted to Mr. Willis for letting us use this fine hall for our main sessions," he said, absently flicking away some small lumps of coal which had adhered to the seat of his trousers. "Also, I am overjoyed to see that the Coroncon has not attracted too many fans away from our own Soupcon — bilingually so called because of course it was intended to be a small convention."

This speech was very well received by the audience, who applauded to a man. The next item was a debate between the pro authors and fans. The subject chosen was "Has Contemporary Tibetan pulp writing had a decisive influence on the portrayal of Kimball Kinnison?" The pro authors, represented by Bob Shaw among whose better known works are extracts from the Fansmanship Lectures in STARTLING and a letter to ANSWERS in 1949. The fans were represented by none other than Geo. McCoy Charters, well known in fandom for the tee-hee type letters he writes to Vince 'Peter' (short for petrified) Clarke.

The former was inclined to the affirmative but was quickly quelled by the opposition who delivered a two hour monologue on the necessity for more mad scientists in science fiction.

In the banquet which followed immediately those present received a startling array of foodstuffs. Not good—just startling. After the last course which consisted of Guinness and rock cakes, there was a contented silence as the fans picked their teeth and, happily, they were able to select their own teeth very quickly.

The afternoon sessions were conducted with the same efficiency as had been the earlier parts of the programme. There was a film show in which the audience were able to examine stills of "Metropolis". When that was over there was a talk about "High Noon", followed by a few games. A pleasant hour passed with such amusements as "Hunt the Fanzine" and "Pro-Eds Knock."

By the time the tea interval came around the conventioners were ready for a slap-up meal and they travelled by a roundabout

route to where Bob Shaw had booked a corner in a large restaurant. On the way to the venue Bob Shaw gave a short lecture on the sights of Belfast. It was obvious in this that he was speaking from the heart, but most of the listeners, lacking stethoscopes, failed to hear him.

Once at the eating place things went smoothly as one can judge from the following notes of a conversation between Robert Shaw and an eminent Bangor fan Pseudo George Charters...

G: Are you sure this place is all right? I don't see why we had to come up a smelly old entry to reach it.

B: Really, George! I thought you had more sense of adventure. Of course this place is all right. Wait till I get you something. That's right—give me your money. No friend of mine has to pay for himself. Two pints and two pies, barman.

G: Well, if it's all right, why are you wearing a shoulder holster?

B: To keep my shoulder in, stupe. What else? Here, drink this up and you'll feel better.

G: What is it?

B: Milk.

G: But it's *black*!

B: Don't keep raising objections, George. I tell you it's milk. Besides, you aren't thinking of differentiating between black and white are you? No colour bars in fandom, you know.

G: Are you sure it's all right? I'm teetotal you know.

B: Of course I'm sure.

G: (Some time later) Thoshe cowsh. What noble animalsh they are.

B: Don't talk with your mouth full.

G: What else can I talk with, fool? (He bursts into drunken laughter and is carried out and taken to his train by Bob Shaw).

That was the end of the Soupcon and, as Charters and Shaw said while brushing the dust from their hands and knees after the long walk to the railway station, "If, next year, the London con is held on the same date as the Belfast con, you can be sure that we'll be there."



Upcoming Meetings & Gatherings

Boca Pops Space Concert

On Thursday, April 15th, the Boca Pops will present *A Space Odyssey*, with guest singer Bobby Rydell. The first half of the program is of special interest to SF film music fans.

Under the direction of Maestro Derek Stannard, the pops will play:

THE STAR TREK TRILOGY: Original TV theme (by Alexander Courage),
The Next Generation (by Jerry Goldsmith) and the world symphonic premier of Deep Space Nine (by Dennis McCarthy)!
MARS, from Holst's THE PLANETS (used as main title for the British QUATERMASS EXPERIMENTS)
ALIEN (Jerry Goldsmith)
COCOON (James Horner)
THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK SUITE (John Williams) including the Imperial March (Darth Vader's theme) & Han Solo's theme.

The performance will be at Florida Atlantic University's Center Auditorium. Tickets range from \$20 - \$35, and can be ordered in advance by calling 1-800-734-6504, or (407) 367-3758, or purchased at the door.

Filk Meeting

Date: April 16, 1993, Friday

Time: 7:00 pm - ??

Where: Becky Peters' home, 1837 NE 15 Ave., Fort Lauderdale, phone: 305-563-5788.

Directions: Take I-95 to Sunrise Blvd. Go east to NE 15th Ave. Turn Left (North). Just before bridge turn left into Edgewater. Park in rear.

The theme (if any) of this month's filk meeting is "Beware the Ides of April" or TGTADWTY (Thank God Taxes are Done With This Year). Bring all your instruments, and any songs about unfair taxation, anarchy, or alien bureaucrats. On second thought, any song about bureaucrats will do. They're all pretty alien. Bring soda and munchies, and \$3 for the Filk Guest Fund. Since we're doing a potluck picnic, let's hold off on the filk dinner, and just bring the bucks. Remember, our goal for the money is to bring in a filk guest for TROPICON. If you don't have \$3, a buck and a half will help.

Change of Address:

Fran Mullen, 2313 Madison St., #8,
Dania, Florida 33020, (305) 929-5815

Literary discussion group

Date: April 30, Friday

Time: 7:00 pm - ??

Where: Siclari/Stern residence, 4599 NW 5 Ave., Boca Raton. Phone: (407) 392-6462

Directions: Take I-95 to Yamato Rd. Go east. Make the first *three* right hand turns.

We'll look at the work of Lois McMaster Bujold, whose last three novels have been nominated or won the Hugo Award. She puts a serious style into what many people call space ops. Or is that an immature and slanderous statement? Come to the discussion and voice your opinion - or just listen. Start off books to read are either *The Warrior's Apprentice* or her latest, *Spirit Ring*, or both. We will have some additional information on Bujold and will also plan out some more discussions.

Tropicon 12 Meeting

Date: May 8, 1993, Saturday

Time: 1pm - 6pm

Where: Bert & Arlene Garcia's residence

Directions: Take 826 south to Kendall Drive.

Go West on Kendall Drive to ~~the end of the earth~~ to 142 Ave.

Turn left (south) and follow 142 Ave. to LeParc development.

Turn left into the entrance,

Then turn right and head for the clubhouse.

Park somewhere near the clubhouse. For more info, contact Bert & Arlene: 14020 SW 90 Ter., Miami, FL 33186-1263; phone: (305) 385-4111

Committee and interested volunteers should plan on attending the Tropicon 12 meeting. There will be hot dogs and burgers. Bring drinks, munchies, bathing suits and towels. Please call beforehand and let Bert and Arlene know you'll be there.

Media Research Committee Alert! *Jurassic Park!* The MRC would like SFSFS members, family and friends, to gather for a showing of *Jurassic Park*. This mega-budget Steven Spielberg film, based on the novel by Michael Crichton about a dinosaur theme park, *opens Friday, June 11th*. In order to facilitate the needs of most of our members, we'd like to arrange the get-together for Saturday, June 12th, for a matinee showing starting between 4 and 6p.m. Theater to be announced in May's SFSFS Shuttle (we'll try to find a large screen with Digital Dolby Spectral THX sound... or something like that).

- Bill Wilson

3/22/93 9:21 PM

Date line.... Jacksonville

Where... **CRACKERCON II**

What is this... A con report

Reporting.... Chuck Phillips

Well, I wasn't sure I would make this year's CrackerCon. Last year, I signed up and lo and behold, business had me at the opposite end of the country. This year looked to be a repeat, although I had been too timid to preregister. New York was recovering from its worst blizzard in a hundred years, and Boston's Logan airport had been closed for three days. However, through the grace of DELTA, I was delivered to Jacksonville safe, sound, and WARM late Friday evening.

The convention was small, but had a full three tracks of programming. This was enough to tempt even a confirmed "no panel" type like me to sit in on a few. Those who know me will guess that my favorite was Ms. Doris Mager's raptor talk. I am fascinated by the large birds. However, I did look in on the obligatory "Sex and Science Fiction" panel, as well as a couple of others.

The filks were interesting, even though small. Larry and Meredith Kirby brought "Starsong" to the small stage. Their material is eclectic and funny. In addition,

they drafted a harmonica player named Dennis (so sue me, I forgot his last name!) who brought a sparkle to the filk that we don't normally hear. Everybody who attended participated (occasionally with some small amount of persuasion) and we heard some excellent new voices.

The main feature of the Saturday night festivities was the "Chocolate with the Pros" hour. For a small fee, you got to eat some really rich chocolate and watch other people dream up new ways to enjoy it. I must admit that Gary Roen's interpretation of George Bush eating chocolate and carrots was enough to inspire weeks of dieting.

The art show was excellent for a convention of this size, and judging by how late the spirited art auction ran, I conjecture they made a few bucks.

Gripes: Very few. The video room was IN the Con Suite, making it very difficult to find any place for quiet conversation. This was especially true as the hallways were thick with cigarette smoke, as the many No Smoking signs were roundly ignored.

Overall, a very relaxing and enjoyable weekend. I'll definitely plan on CrackerCon for next year.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE (FANNISH) THINGS**Julia Ecklar and Leslie Fish songs by Edie Stern**

The songs of Julia Ecklar and Leslie Fish (and the songs of Julia & Leslie together) are my favorites in all of SF folk music. They both tell stories in song with wit, passion and an economy of language that is outstanding. It's no surprise that both Julia and Leslie have become professional writers, Julia winning the Campbell award in 1991 for best writer. Whether they tell stories of their own, or illustrate the characters and stories of others, the songs of these two are vivid musical vignettes, complete in themselves.

I heard Julia sing Firestarter at DeepSouthCon in 83 or so, before I ever saw the film or heard of the book. What a knockout (and in my opinion better than the book or the film). Leslie's Trek songs, and space songs, and anarchistic songs have made me very aware of the mood altering possibilities of music. Some of them ought to be labelled: Handle with Care. Her *Fellowship Going South* was a pretty constant companion of mine for several years. Both Julia and Leslie are highly affecting, very memorable, and well worth listening to. I hope that their success as writers doesn't preclude their continuing to write and perform new songs. If their success in written word grows as their skills with song might indicate, I'd be happy to have one new song with each new book.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE (FANNISH) THINGS

Hannes Bok's Artwork by Joe D Siclari

To me, Hannes Bok is the epitome of what a fantasy artist should be. His work is representational, sort of, in a mad, hallucinatory way. He manages to take a normal scene and transform it with a feeling of the outré. His figures, although always smooth and seemingly natural looking, are often stretched and distorted in a way that makes them bizarre. Hannes Bok sometimes had one hell of a grasp of imagery. I have been looking at his FOUR POWERS series for years, literally. A set of the prints are hanging on my bedroom wall. Depending on mood, time of day, and lighting, new interrelationships and nuances are constantly surfacing. These four drawings are one of the highpoints of his career.

Hannes Bok is one of the few artists for whom I will go out of my way, just to see a sketch or a print new to me. It's horrible that his work is virtually unknown to the modern reader and fan. That may change soon with new publications. Vincent DiFate has written a piece on him for a reference book, and Underwood-Miller has announced a book of his illustrations to be published this spring. Dan Steffan has been writing a biography. I have some of his paintings and sketches, which are among my most treasured things. If you get the chance, take a look at the artwork of Hannes Bok.

South Florida Science Fiction Society, Inc.
Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Excess Revenues Over
Expenditures (or Deficit)
As of February 28, 1993

Revenues		
SFSFS		
Regular Membership	\$540.00	
General Membership	300.00	
Child Membership	2.00	
Minor Membership	.50	
Subscribing Membership	24.00	
Total		\$866.50
Interest		14.55
Tropicon Revenues		6463.59
Travelling Fete Interest		1.24
Total Revenue		\$7345.88
Expenditures		
SFSFS		
Bank Charges	\$24.50	
Membership Directory	4.24	
Postage - General	17.50	
Storage	104.81	
Total	150.85	
Tropicon Expenditures	5605.02	
Travelling Fete	0.00	
Total Expenditures		\$5755.87
Excess Revenue		\$1590.01

Tropicon XI
Statement of Revenues Over Expenditures
Month ending February 28, 1993

Revenues		
Early Bird Registration	\$10.00	
Early Registration	765.00	
Adv Registration 1	90.00	
Adv Registration 2	462.00	
Dealer Asst Registration	60.00	
3-Day Registration	1250.00	
Friday Registration	90.00	
Saturday Registration	415.00	
Sunday Registration	115.00	
Total Registration		\$3,287.00
Art Commissions	321.70	
Art Panel Fees	610.00	
Banquets	817.95	
Contributions	469.78	
Dealer Fees	495.00	
Interest	57.16	
Program Book Ads	170.00	
Shirts and Mugs	235.00	
Total Revenue		\$6,463.59
Expenditures		
Art Show - General	\$ 131.91	
Art Show - Postage	34.82	
Bank Charges	26.00	
Banquet	773.00	
Cash Short (Over)	15.51	
Committee Expense	64.69	
Con Suite	444.81	
Guest Expense	54.00	
Guest of Honor	997.74	
Guest of Honor - Filk	186.55	
Masquerade	30.40	
Miscellaneous	3.75	
Postage - General	441.55	
Program Book	514.30	
Programming	237.65	
Progress Report - Print	153.92	
Progress Report - Postage	292.75	
Promotion - General	55.21	
Promotion - Flyers	95.73	
Storage	516.60	
Supplies - General	41.67	
Supplies - Registration	22.96	
T Shirts	319.50	
Video Room	150.00	
Total Expenditures		\$5,605.02
Excess Revenue		\$858.57

South Florida Science Fiction Society, Inc.
Tropicon 12 Facts and Figures

Tcon12 Early Bird Regis	\$2.00
Prepaid Early Regis	495.00
Prepaid Banquets	40.00
Tcon12 Contributions	65.00
Tcon12 Interest	10.11
Total	\$612.13

Financial reports prepared by Peggy Ann Dolan, SFSFS Treasurer

TROPICON XII

Guest of Honor

Judith Tarr

January 7 - 9, 1994

Palm Beach Airport Hilton
Southern Blvd. & I-95

Confirmed guests include -

Alison Drake
Prudence Taylor Board
Ben Bova
Scott Ciencin
Sarah Clemens
Hal Clement
Ginger Curry
Christine Gentry
Richard Gilliam

Owl Goingback
Rob MacGregor
T.J. MacGregor
Martin Nodell
Gary Roen
Rick R. Reed
Robert W. Walker
Rick Wilber
Ron Walotsky

Memberships -

\$18⁰⁰ until Aug. 31, 1993

\$21⁰⁰ until Nov. 31, 1993

Room rates -

\$59⁰⁰ (Single - Quad)

Call (407) 684-9400

(Please mention Tropicon XII)

To register, or for more information, write to:

Tropicon XII

c/o SFSFS

P.O. Box 70143

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307

Please make checks payable to:

South Florida Science Fiction Society

Locus is not the only one to

Look at Books

Reviews by Becky Peters

Atherton, Nancy. *Aunt Dimity's Death*, Viking; c1992; ISBN 0-670-84449-7; \$19.00

I must admit the last book I would have expected Nancy to write would be a *cozy* mystery. On the other hand she managed to mix-in the supernatural as well as romance and historical details from World War II. The back cover has positive comments from Dorothy Cannell, Jill Churchill, Susannah Stacey, J.A. Jance, Carolyn Hart, Anne Perry and Andre Norton — all of whom found the book a pleasure. I agree...so there!

After her mother's death, Lori Sheperd discovers that the heroine of her mother's stories (tales told to buck up their spirits when things were hard) did in fact exist. Or at least had existed, since Lori was told she had inherited her estate. So Lori is off to England...and mystery, romance and a new way of viewing the world. The characters are brave, caring, difficult, eccentric, delightful and the plot unravels much as a surprise ball would, layer upon layer of secrets that reveal an occasional treasure and at its core, a bounty of treats. This is a delightful, warm and enchanting story, full of entrancing locals and fully developed characters. If warm fuzzies aren't your cup of tea - avoid this! Otherwise, put on the kettle and settle back for a few pleasant hours. (Can't wait to see what Nancy will do for her second book.)

Kurtz, Katherine. *King Javan's Year*, (Volume II of *The Heirs of Saint Camber*); Ballantine Books, A Del Rey Book; c1992; ISBN 0-345-33260-1; \$20.00

A must read for Kurtz' many fans, this is not the book to introduce a new reader to her talents. The title is a literal statement — Javan, who was never intended by the scheming former Regents to have a chance to rule, leaves his enforced stay in a monastery behind and accepts the crown from his dying twin. He then leads the schemers a merry chase, almost defeating them and proving his right to rule.

The end of the story is never in doubt; although you cheer Javan on, you also know that he does not survive. His younger brother is harder to like (his backbone requires Javan's death to strengthen)

but at the end it is obvious the schemers will not yet have everything their own way.

The book shows off Kurtz' strengths: good writing, interesting characters, a strongly developed cast and world, and an ability to involve the reader. I had no intention of reading this in one sitting, but found myself galloping through it, eager to see how the known conclusion was reached. I liked Javan. This kingdom is the poorer for his loss.

Godwin, Parke. *Sherwood*, Avon, 1992, \$5.50

This is not just another retelling of the Robin Hood story. Set during the Norman invasion, it introduces a Saxon Robin, and his merry men are not so merry. The Sheriff actually gets a name and background! The strengths of the book are the historic details, as well as characters that are certainly not cardboard. The little detail of people trying to survive after having their way of life totally destroyed by war, the realities of the disagreeable compromises that increase the chance of that survival, and the small dreams that make the compromises acceptable give this book its depth.

Volume two is in the works and may be published early next year. Broward's library system owns the hardcover and the paperback is out in bookstores. If you are interested in Robin Hood, the Norman Conquest or are just looking for a good read, try this book!

Roberson, Jennifer. *Lady of the Forest: A Novel of Sherwood*. Zebra Books, c1992. ISBN 0-8127-3919-0. Jacket illustration by Yvonne Gilbert. (Nice touches)

If you have any interest in Robin Hood, history or a well-told tale - read this. Unlike the Marion portrayed in the last movie, this Marion is a real person, shaped by her time, knowing and paying the penalties for being independent and standing by her choice. As a real woman, she finds her beauty (which seems to ignite lust in most of the males) more bane than blessing. Her character is brightly-forged, like a blade, and she stands out from the multitude of legends and poems as a major contributor rather than the lady on the sidelines of the action.

.....
A Knife for Dinosaur
.....

As in the Arthurian mythos, any author dealing with Robin Hood must make certain decisions; which century and what historical characters will support the framework of the tale. Given the span of material any one of three kings could provide a focal point; Roberson goes with Richard I, the attendant complications of Saxon/Norman conflict and the realities of the aftermath of war – the same turf as used by Parke Godwin in *Sherwood*. Unfortunately for my pocketbook, both books are keepers!

Marion Zimmer Bradley said this was "A beautiful synthesis of all the Robin Hood legends and probably the best book I have read this year." It stands on its own as a complete re-telling of the legend, although it ends just before Richard I leaves for France and leaves the path wide-open for a sequel. Roberson takes the time to investigate how the 'merry' men could have come together during their historical reality, crossing all the established boundaries of class and clan. The humorous touches and the reality of the ending make this a definite re-read - and a pleasure to read the first time. Highly recommended for all lovers of fantasy or the historical tale.

Edie-tor's Note: Gee, can you imagine a version of the Robin Hood mythos where Sherwood is electronic, and the merry men gather in a groupware session, hiding from the sysop?

Actually, these are fanzines but they are special publications that I recommend to anyone who want to taste our fannish past. — Joe Siclari

"Let's Hear It For the Deaf Man", by Dave Langford. NESFA press, Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, MA 02139-0910

This special collection was compiled by Ben Yalow for Dave's Guest of Honor appearance at Boskone last year.

Without exaggeration (and without even quoting his Hugo count), I can say that Dave Langford is one of the best fanwriters ever. He has a ready wit and a pointed sense of humor. Dave's facile twists of language, and skill at satire are wonderful, and vastly entertaining. Neither does he suffer from any desire to remain sweetly good natured. He manages to be acerbic without being vicious. However, the 64 pages of small type provide almost too much of a good thing. This zine is best taken in small doses, and savored.

Niekas, 43a. "After All These Years...Sam Moskowitz on His SF Career". Niekas Publications, RFD2, Box 63, Center Harbor, NH 03226-9729, 4 issues for \$15, 8 for 29, or the usual.

This is a special issue, 4" x 11", 96 pp, and is completely devoted to an interview that Fred Lerner conducted by mail with Sam Moskowitz. In more than half of it, SaM talks about his fannish career. There are lots of details that I've never seen before. Some views expressed might not be agreed to by all those mentioned - for instance, SaM's comments on Fred Pohl's infiltration of SF clubs in order to destroy them. But it's interesting to see SaM's view of things past the end of *The Immortal Storm*.

The Phil Benfield Show

Bill Wilson listens

The Phil Benfield Show, 11pm Saturdays on WWNN 980 AM, recently hosted members from SFSFS and FAUST (Florida Atlantic University's Sciencefiction Troop). SFSFS president Fran Mullen & the multi-titled Joe Siclari answered questions about SF fandom, local organizations, the recent World SF convention MAGICON, and TROPICON. FAUST was represented by president David Zernarkin and treasurer Mike Marcus who presented the following information:

Two events are scheduled at Florida Atlantic University's University Center Gold Coast Room. A collection of skits, monologues and performance art in the live SF production, **ATTACK FROM PLANET X**. Described as a cross between War of the Worlds and the Rocky Horror Picture show, its premise involves the end of the world in 1998 due to alien invasion! The play commences at 8pm on Monday, April 12th. Cost is \$3.00 for students, and \$15 for non-students.

The next day, April 13th, FAU's same University Center Gold Coast Room hosts **ANIMÉ FEST** from 4 to 10pm. It's a collection of Japanese animation including *Bubblegum Crisis*, *Robot Carnival*, and the critically acclaimed *Akira* (I've seen it...best described as 2001 meets *Blade Runner*!). There is no fee for the Animé fest.

For updates or information on the above and FAUST, call **ALIEN DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS** at (407) 852-7721.

Letters to the



(With all the moving of our past editors, this was the only letter in the current file. Hopefully more next time.)

Sheryl Birkhead, 23629 Woodfield Rd.,
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

The March Shuttle just arrived. You still have the sea-i-corn cover but I'll see what other things I can come up with. I had an idea for another cover, but after looking at the main figure, I have a feeling I may have used it before and just not kept a record. Since I try to do my darndest not to submit any pieces to more than one place, I thought it might be better to drop back and re-group.

Linda's cover is a bit different in style than I am used to seeing from her, but *niiccee*. It looks a bit dark and, hence, in keeping with what I understand was the "theme" of this past TROPICON...if theme is the right term.

Ah, I see that you think the April meeting would be a good picnic time...before it gets too hot...if things there are anything like I recall seeing on TV, I'd guess you don't have to worry about that for a while yet. Ah yes, the Blizzard of '93!

In a round about way I am looking forward to the Worldcons in both Winnipeng and "across the Pond", even though, as of now, I have no plans to attend either one— and perhaps not San Francisco either — but the spreading around of the fannish wealth (as it were) is nice to see happening.

I have heard tidbits from various sources that some sort of trip report will be written for Roger Weddall. That's all I know — don't know who, where, or when, but I am pleased that fans will be pulling together on this one! Roger will be missed.

Gads — I'm continually straightening up rugs - the "kids" (cats) have learned that if they run from one room to the kitchen and put on the brakes, they can wad up the runner rug quite effectively—and then I come along and flatten it back again.

SFSFS Participation in the Conference on the Fantastic

Thanks from Becky Peters

Several SFSFS members helped complete our arrangement to assist at the conference this year. We provided the panels for the art exhibit, provided security and sold various items for the artist Guest of Honor, Marchetti, helped put out books for the luncheons and ran the few videos. In return, several of us were able to attend the Conference. Besides the wide range of interesting papers, the Conference's highlights usually involved the guest of honor, Ursula LeGuin. It was also a pleasure to see Marion Zimmer Bradley looking much recovered from medical problems! As always, it was a pleasure to talk with her.

My heartfelt thanks go to:

Art show set up: Gail Bennett and her van, Fran Mullen and Peggy Dolan, Judy Bemis and Tony Parker, Bill Wilson, Dea O'Conner and Steve Gold. Special Thanks to Bill for getting me to a store to replace the missing hardware *before they closed!* The missing hardware fouled up the schedule considerably, but the few panels we had to put up went very quickly.

Security: Judy Bemis for overnight, Sorchia (not yet a member of SFSFS), Karen, Elaine Ashby, Ahava, Gail Bennett, Rebecca Hubbard, Bill Wilson.

Videos: Bill Wilson

Art Exhibit breakdown: Gail Bennett (who got 1/2 of it down while we were at our meeting), Judy, Elaine, Deanna Lyman and a new person whose name I did not catch. We were also able to take down and pack Marchetti's art so that by the time he got out of his program there was relatively little for him to do. The hotel had asked that we get out of the room by five (an hour and a half early) and we were able to do it.

The Conference organizers were pleased with our efforts and have asked us to assist again next year. Please mark your calendars for next mid-March. The Guest of Honor is to be Roger Zelazny. The new head of the art exhibit has plans for a larger effort, so help will be needed!

I was sorry to miss the last part of the interview with Stephen Donaldson, who proved a very interesting speaker. Perhaps we can repeat the program next year at the Conference. The guest list is always subject to change, but the possibility stands.

IT COMES IN THE NIGHT Mail

and Bill Wilson got it

All of the following material will be available for perusal at the April SFSFS picnic. In the box was: **P.S.F.S. News**, 3/93-newsletter of the Philadelphia SF Society. Club news, book reviews, and background on their March speaker, Hal Clement. **Oasis 6 Progress Report**—Orlando Area Science Fiction Society's annual convention, May 14 - 16, 1993. GOH Connie Willis, artist guest Michael Whelan etc. Orlando North Hilton & Towers, Altamonte Springs, FL. \$63 single thru quad. Registration and activities info. Mailing address PO Box 940992, Maitland, FL 32794-0992. **The Insider**, 3/93 - Newsletter of the St. Louis SF Society. Club news, election results. Lists moving clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Savings time (April 4) among upcoming events! **Voice of the Clam**, 3/93 - Westercon 46 (July 2-5) Committee 'zine. Info on an All Staff Retreat, detailed convention planning and department ar-

ticles, and a committee roster.

DASFax, 3/93 - Newsletter of Denver Area Science Fiction Association. Club news, columns by members including book & movie reviews.

Levin SF & F Literature catalog, Spring 1993 - Sales catalog of Science Fiction "rarities".

Semi-Circular of Janus, 2/93 - Good looking publication of Circle of Janus SF Club of Central Indiana. Contains editorials, locs, interview with George Alec Effinger, and original fiction.

OASFis Event Horizon, April 1993 - Orlando Area Science Fiction Society club news, locs, roster of those who have renewed.

NASFA Shuttle, 3/93 - North Alabama SF Association newsletter of meeting news and minutes, ConFrancisco information, and lots of locs.

Texas SF Inquirer, 2/93—Bimonthly fanzine of Fandom Assoc. of Central Texas. Articles by members, locs and personal and SF related topics.

We still get a few zines ourselves, thanks to the generosity of a few faneds who have forgiven our lack of response (really, MagiCon did take up that much time!). We'd like to continue. Send them to Joe Siclari & Edie Stern, 4599 NW 5 Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33431-4601. We'll try to trade, comment or even review some zines in future Shuttles. Here are a few zines that are sitting on the desk that are definitely worth reading:

Mainstream 14/15, from Jerry Kaufman and Suzanne Tompkins, 8618 Linden Avenue North, Seattle WA, 98103, USA. Available for \$2, LOC on prior issues, contributions of written or drawn material, or editorial whim.

Mainstream is always a pleasure to receive and to read. It is a "fanzine of the Old School", as the Old School should have been. Mainstream is well balanced (did I really say that?) with articles ranging from Terry Garey's reminiscences of the Flying Karamotzov Brothers in the 70s, to Jon Singer's "Technocrat of the Breakfast Table" this time talking about the chemistry of plant pigments. Jon seems to be fixed on the color blue. First (or at least earlier), it was blue food. Here he explains how blue roses are being developed.

Mainstream is reproduced via mimeo in the traditional style. Mimeo imposes artistic disciplines and limitations that take a fair amount of discipline and experience to overcome. (Right, Suzle?) I'm glad someone is still doing mimeo. I'm glad it's not us. The faint odor of a burning e-stencil, and the charm of ink are best enjoyed in retrospect. Even if it is fannish.

Jeanne Gomoll confesses her missionary work for the Mac, Stu Shiffman intersperses reviews and reflections (thoughtfully and entertainingly), and so on and so forth. Jerry and Suzle are creative, talented

folk, and have a bunch of creative and talented friends and contributors. Mainstream is enough to make me want to live in Seattle.

Mimosa, from Dick and Nicki Lynch, P.O. Box 1350, Germantown, Maryland 20875. Avail. for \$2.

Mimosa won the fanzine Hugo last year at MagiCon. By now, everyone has heard the story of how the on-stage envelope was stuffed with the wrong name (providing MagiCon's biggest faux pas), and the happy ending as Dick and Nicki were able to accept their Hugo. Mimosa is good. The issue at hand, #12 from last summer, is typical. It's filled with reminiscences that cater to the fanhistorical among us, including Dave Kyle's farewell to Isaac Asimov, Walt Willis with "I Remember Me" and a *completely* factual account by Roger Sims of the Morgan Botts Foundation. In fact, one of the themes of the issue is how events from our past have influenced the way we are today.

Sharon Farber's continuing series of medical adventures (and mis-) is entertainingly bizarre. (Gee, I wonder what her anecdotes would be like if they happened in James White's Sector General?) Steve Stiles writes about his first orgy. Other contributors include Richard Brandt, Terry Jeeves, and Ted White. Dick and Nicki have a very readable style, and produce a warm fanzine. Chuch Harris' LoC says "...There's seldom anything I disagree with and I seem to read through each issue in a sort of rosy haze, nodding approval every couple of paragraphs or so." Of course, he goes on to exempt the previous issue, but the sentiment rings true.

PS - Dick and Nicki donated a sizable SF collection to SFSFS. When you borrow an issue of Astounding from the club library, it's there because of them.

April - May 1993

SFSFS Calendar

7:29 PM, Fri, Apr 9, 1993

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 Tony Parker's birthday:
4 Daylight Savings: Spring Ahead One Hour!	5 Passover begins:	6	7	8	9	10
11 Easter:	12 8:00 Attack From Planet X - FAU:	13 4:00 Animé Fest - FAU:	14	15 Boca Pops "Space Odyssey": concert	16 7:00 Filk Gathering: at Becky Peters	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
National Library Week:					Marcon 28:	
25 11:00 SFSFS Meeting: Spring Picnic: Tradewinds Park • May Shuttle deadline: material to Fran Mullen Marcon 22:	26	27	28	29	30 7:00 Literary Discussion Group: Lois McMaster Bujold	1 Fred Small Concert: 9:00 So. Fl Gamers Assoc.: Roc-Kon 17:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 11:00 SFSFS Meeting: Spring Picnic: Tradewinds Park • May Shuttle deadline: material to Fran Mullen	26	27	28	29	30 7:00 Literary Discussion Group: Lois McMaster Bujold Roc-Kon 17:	1 Fred Small Concert: 9:00 So. Fl Gamers Assoc.: FILKONtario 3:
2 Peggy Gemignani's Birthday: • Tropic Hunt: Roc-Kon 17:	3	4	5	6 Lynn Stokes birthday:	7	8 1:00 Tropic meeting - Miami:
9 MOTHER'S DAY:	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Oasis 6:	23	24	25	26	27	28
• June Shuttle deadline, #99: material to Fran Mullen Corflu:	29	30	31	1	2	3
1:00 SFSFS Monthly meeting (Miami): Disclave: ABA:	4	5	6	7	8	9
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Memorial Day:	Cynthia Plockelman's birthday:	Janet Sorenson's birthday:				

Last Minute Stuff Worth Noting

TROPICON has a new hotel. That's right, we moved again, but just down the road from last year's hotel. We're at the Palm Beach Airport Hilton, at Southern Boulevard & I-95. We have more space, and it's all together on both sides of a single corridor. We even have our own entrance where we can put up a Tropicon banner. Best of all, the room rate is only \$59.00. The banquet will be a buffet with chicken, beef, and fish for \$23.00. Make your reservations early!

Gaming: Phil Tortorici submits some info about the South Florida Gaming Assoc. (SFGA) activities. On May 1, from 9 AM - 9 PM, they will have a "Get Acquainted" meeting at the Riverbridge Center (Forest Hill & Jog Road), free. On June 26 - 27, Tricon, a gaming con, will be held at FAU. Cost: TBA. Call John McConnell (407) 947-0686 for info on SFGA.

ABA: The American Booksellers Association's annual trade show is being held in Miami this year, May 29 - June 1.

Bouchercon XXIV: From Charles Levitt Chairperson, Bouchercon XXIV, 9400 SW 63rd Court, Miami, Florida 33156

As Chairman of next year's World Mystery Convention, Bouchercon, I thought your group might be interested in attending. The convention usually draws over 300 authors and 1000 fans. If you need more information on Bouchercon or other events you can reach me at (305) 663-8997. My address is 9400 S.W. 63rd Ct., Miami, FL 33156.

Contributions: Write or draw something! Still another reminder. Send news for the next two issues to Fran Mullen. See page 8 for her NEW address and phone.

Contributions for Shuttle #100 should come to Edie Stern & Joe Siclari, 4599 NW 5 Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33431-4601. Phone: (407) 392-6462. CompuServe: 71450,171. We'll take IBM or Macintosh diskettes.

1993 SFSFS Membership Application

Please make checks payable to SFSFS and send to
SFSFS Treasurer, 4427 Royal Palm Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33140-3039

Name: _____ Birthday (optional): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone(s): Home _____ Work _____

Interests: _____

Prorated dues:

_____ General (non-voting)	\$12
_____ Subscribing	\$9
_____ Child	\$1
_____ Upgrade from paid-up General member to Regular: (Must have attended 3 meetings)	\$5

____ I ask the club to waive the bylaws to permit me to rejoin as a regular member at \$20.

YOU'RE GETTING THIS BECAUSE:

- ☒ YOU ARE A MEMBER OF SFSFS
- ☐ YOU ARE HELD IN GREAT ESTEEM BY SFSFS
- ☐ YOU'VE SUBMITTED A LOC, REVIEW, OR ART
- ☐ TRADE FOR YOUR ZINE
- ☐ IT CONTAINS A REVIEW/ARTICLE OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO YOU
- ☒ YOU ARE MENTIONED
- ☒ YOU ARE LIBELLED
- ☐ YOU ARE IGNORED
- ☐ EDITORIAL WHIM
- ☐ YOU FOOLISHLY ASKED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SFSFS
- ☐ ARE WE THERE YET?
- ☒ EITHER THE FAIRY GODMOTHER DEPARTMENT, OR THE DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL JOKES SUGGESTED IT. WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK IT WAS?
- ☐ YOU'RE DAN THE DINOSAUR KILLER!

**South Florida Science Fiction Society
Shuttle97**

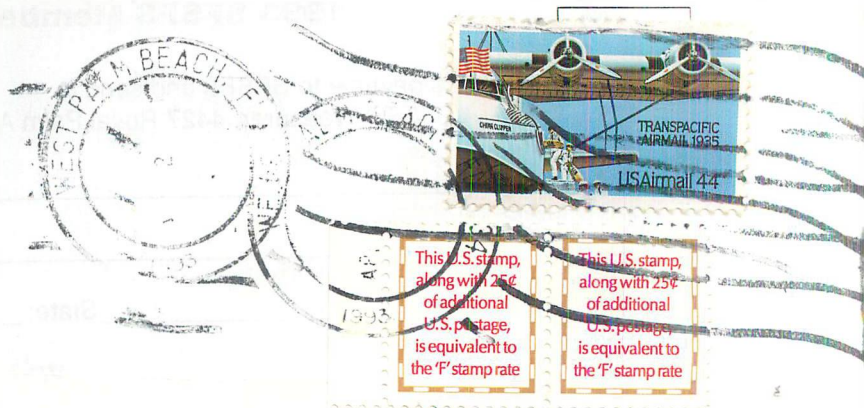
P. O. Box 70143

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143

Address Correction Requested



(7 F, R)
Judy Bemis
(38 F, R)
Tony Parker
1745 NW 4th Ave, # 5
Boca Raton, FL 33432-1545



First Class Mail