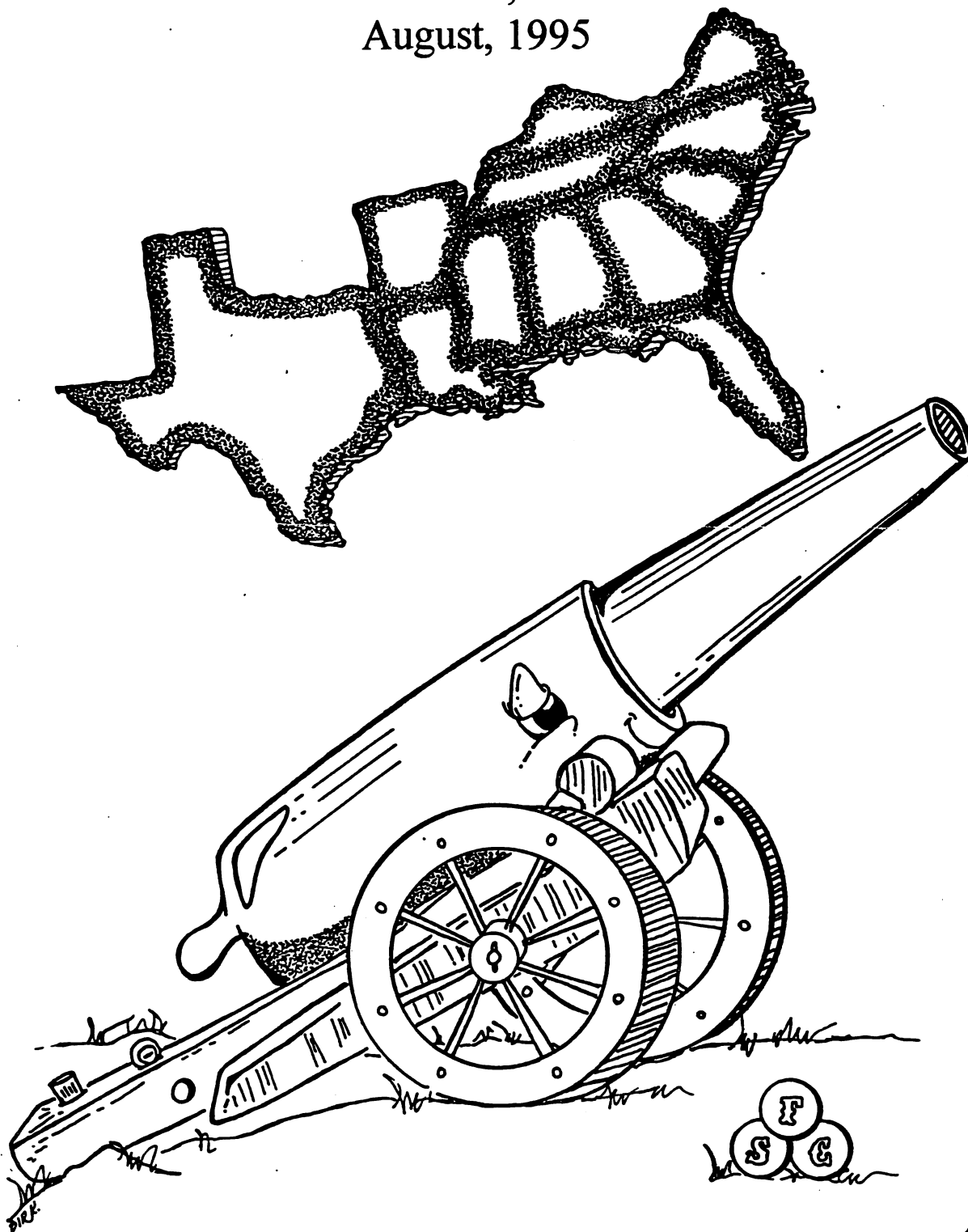


# Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin

Volume 6, No. 1

August, 1995



# Southern Fandom Confederation

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## Art Credits

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| Stan Taylor               | 11          |
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Ruth Shields helped with the proofreading but the editor is fully responsible for any errors.

## Policies

The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin (SFCB) Vol. 6, No. 1, is the official publication of the Southern Fandom Confederation (SFC), a not-for-profit literary organization and information clearinghouse dedicated to the service of Southern Fandom. The SFCB is edited by Thomas R. "Tom" Feller and is published four times per year. Membership in the SFC is \$10 annually, running from DeepSouthCon to DeepSouthCon. A club or convention membership is \$50 annually. Donations are welcome. All checks should be made payable to the Southern Fandom Confederation.

Permission is granted to reprint all articles, lists, and flyers so long as the author and the SFCB are credited. All art is copyrighted by the artist, unless otherwise specified. An exception is granted in the case of art that appears in a convention flyer.

The SFCB is also available for trades, published contributions, and published letters of comment. Deadline for issue #2 is November 1, 1995.

The editor encourages electronic submission of lengthy written material. If you wish to use the Internet, send the article as electronic mail. If you wish to send the editor a diskette, his computer ONLY takes the 3.5" MS-DOS format. His wordprocessor is Amipro 3.0. If you're not sure what all this means, get in touch with him to work out a solution.

## Treasurer's Report

At the end of June, the SFC's bank balance was \$1,855.19. There were \$172 in deposits in June and no disbursements.

## Ad Rates

| Type | Full-Page | Half-Page | 1/4 Page |
|------|-----------|-----------|----------|
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## The Carpetbagger

by Tom Feller

### Introduction--

For those of you not familiar with my background, here is a brief autobiography. I was born in St. Clare's hospital in Monroe, Wisconsin, on September 28, 1954. My father was at that time a dairy farmer living near Monticello, WI. When I was twelve, he switched to hog farming exclusively and has farmed happily ever after. (His evenings are not occupied with the nightly milking.) My mother was a farmwife until I went to college. She then studied to become a real estate agent. After serving stints with various firms including Century 21, she has become a partner in her own firm, affiliated with Better Homes and Gardens. I have one younger brother, who stayed on the farm. He is divorced and has one son and one daughter, both teenagers.

I graduated from Monticello High School in 1972 and then attended Ripon College in Ripon, WI. I received my BA in 1976, spending my junior year in Bonn, West Germany. I majored in philosophy with the equivalent of minors in political science and German literature. I spent the next two years as a graduate assistant in the philosophy department at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

Graduate school did not work out for me, so when my assistantship expired, I got a desk clerk job at one of the Holiday Inns in Baton Rouge. For some mysterious reason, the managers liked my work and promoted me to night auditor and, finally, to front office manager. In 1981, I was once again promoted, this time to the position of internal auditor with the operator of the BR Holiday Inns, Mississippi Management (now called MMI Hotel Group). This promotion required that I move to Jackson, MS. I have been here ever since. My work requires a lot of travel.

Although I have been reading science fiction and watching SF TV shows and movies since I was a child, fandom remained something I had only read and heard about. Then I read the Mid-September, 1983, issue of *Analog*. Among the classified ads for ordained ministers and university degrees was the following:

YES Beauregard, Fandom is alive and well in Jackson, MS. Write: CFSFS, 5587 Robinson Rd Ext. Jackson, MS 39204

Out of the 100,000 or so readers of the magazine, I was the only one to answer the ad. I discovered it was for the Chimneyville Fantasy and Science Fiction Society. My life has never been the same.

Since that fateful day, I have been a member of several clubs and been president of now two, worked several cons and chaired two, edited two fanzines before this one and contributed to others, participated in five apas, attended seven Worldcons, and been caught in a fan feud. More important, I have made a host of wonderful friends.

I decided to structure my regular column in the form of a diary and will start with what became a turning point in my fannish life.

### March 23, 1995--

I had been fairly contented with my level of fan activity. I published a little zine, participated in one N3F round robin and in two apas, attended 5-6 conventions a year, and spent most of my Saturday nights as a member of a fantasy RPG group. However, this all changed starting with a telephone call.

I came home from work the night before leaving for MidSouthCon and found a message on my personal voice mail. The caller identified himself as from the Metro Jackson Visitor's and Convention Bureau. His message was that the bureau was interested in the "Deep South Regional Science Fiction Convention." The following morning I returned his call.

He told me that he had found a listing for the World Science Fiction Society in a reference book that lists conventions. He said he had telephoned the number listed and had spoken to "Carl Brandon." (I could not place the name, but I did realize it was someone I had heard of someplace. I was halfway to Memphis before I remembered that I read about this fannish hoax in *The Wealth of Fable* by Harry Warner.) "Brandon" had given the rep my name and phone number. I told the man at the convention bureau that I would speak to some people and find out whether a Jackson bid was feasible.

### March 24-26: MidSouthCon--

Shortly afterward I drove to Memphis and checked in at the Holiday Inn-Airport, where I had confirmed an employee discount room. I then went to the Best Western, where the convention took place.

I don't usually game at conventions. However, the previous year I had finished second in their trivia tournament despite having entered only two rounds. This year I was determined to win by entering all rounds, which I did. I won two rounds outright. The first was media excluding Star Trek, and the second covered books, comics, and gaming. The media round had some challenging questions, but the book questions were a little too easy. (Who wrote the *Foundation Trilogy*?) Although I did not win the rounds on *Star Trek* and medieval trivia, I did score some points. I plan to rest on my laurels next year.

When I tell people that I like to attend programming at conventions, most of them give me a strange look. Fortunately, they're usually tolerant of this eccentricity. One panel Saturday was "Which Ten Books Would I Take to the Moon?" by Timothy Zahn and Uncle Timmy Bolgeo. This was a variation on the old "ten books I would take to a desert island" question. The main difference is that you could take all the reference material and classic works you want on a CD-Rom. Heinlein and Tolkien

dominated the lists. I mentioned *The Mouse That Roared* by Leonard Wibberley.

Later that evening Dal Cogger led a discussion of the controversial book *The Bell Curve*. I was familiar with it by listening to the audio tape during one of my business trips by car. Cogger summarized the general thesis of the book and said he was still studying it. The audience was skeptical of the book's most controversial argument that, as a group, white people were significantly more intelligent than black people. Among their questions: Do intelligence tests really measure intelligence? Don't intelligence tests have a cultural bias? Were the subjects properly motivated to score well on the tests?

Directly afterward, Tim Gatewood did a presentation on fanzines. His emphasis was on apas and clubzines. One of his points was that those of us who put out zines need to write. The following day, Tim also led a discussion of the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F).

I did not attend the art auction, but I did bid on some pieces by Ruth Thompson. I put the minimum bid on every one of her works that did not already have a bid. As it turned out, I won four of them.

March 27 to May 10--

I talked to several people that weekend about the possibility of a Jackson DSC bid. They were mostly encouraging. After I returned to Jackson, I telephoned Steve and Sue Francis to get their advice. They also encouraged me to put together a bid and informed me of the formal requirements.

I contacted the convention bureau. The man I had talked to passed me on to another rep, a woman. We arranged a meeting at my office. It may have helped my credibility that she had once applied for a job there. We discussed the requirements for bidding on DSC. I also tried to explain fandom to her. I never succeeded completely. She still believes that the Southern Fandom Confederation is a division of the World Science Fiction Society and that the SFC's "Board of Directors" oversee

DeepSouthCon. I was fortunate never to have mentioned the N3F.

The first order of business was to get the hotel. One of the services the bureau provides is to help conventions find hotel space. I already knew what my first choice was. As I said in my introduction, I work for a hotel management company, and a few years ago we acquired a Holiday Inn in Jackson originally built around 1970. The land and building belong to Millsaps College, who leased the Holiday Inn to a company called United Inns, who also owned the other Holiday Inns in Jackson. Several years ago, United Inns got into severe financial trouble and reduced the number of hotels they were running. (This year they were acquired by another company.) They relinquished the lease on this Holiday Inn, and we picked it up. After a year, we converted it into our Cabot Lodge concept. It was what we call mid-scale limited service. It features Holiday Inn-quality rooms with a deluxe continental breakfast and free cocktails in the evening. We kept the old Holiday Inn meeting rooms, but converted the old restaurant and lounge into a giant living room. I came to terms with the hotel and got a tentative contract.

The bureau agreed to my recommendation to do a mass mailing to announce the bid. I later found out that announcement prevented the group that puts on the New Orleans Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival from putting on a bid. However, the bureau did not agree to hold a room party. The idea scared them, although they probably would have gone for a catered function, if the hotel had the facilities.

May 11-14: KublaKhan/DeepSouthCon--

The big story about this con took place months before. Gaylord Enterprises, operator of the Opryland Hotel, purchased the Quality Inn the con had booked. Rather than operate the property as a hotel, they canceled all pending functions and reservations and converted it into a workers' dormitory. As a result, Ken Moore and his crew had to scramble to find another hotel. They finally wound up at the Shoney's Inn in Lebanon, a

### Convention Stats

|             |  |   |  |   |   |
|-------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| Name:       | MidSouthCon 14                               | Parthekhan/DSC 33                                     | New Orleans SF&FF                          | DragonCon/Nasfic                                      | Crescent City Con                                       |
| Date:       | March 24-26, 1995                            | May 11-14   | June 16-18                                 | July 13-16  | August 4-6  |
| Site:       | Best Western-Airport                         | Shoney's Inn  | Radisson-Airport                           | Atlanta Hilton  | Quality Inn   |
| City        | Memphis                                      | Lebanon(Nashville)                                    | Kenner(New Orleans)                        | Atlanta   | Metairie(New Orleans)                                   |
| State:      | Tennessee                                    | Tennessee   | Louisiana                                  | Georgia   | Louisiana   |
| Attendance: | 500  | 200   | 800  | 10,000  | 700   |
| Guests:     | Timothy Zahn<br>Alan Gutierrez<br>Tim Bolgeo | Elsie Wollheim<br>Larry Elmore<br>Steve & Sue Francis | Connie Willis<br>Don Maitz<br>Jean McClain | George Alec Effinger<br>Harlan Ellison<br>Bjo Trimble | Michael O'Hare<br>George Alec Effinger<br>Nigel Bennett |

small town outside of Nashville. If you have ever stayed at a Shoney's Inn, you know that they are not designed to host conventions. Nonetheless, it hosted the DSC, and it worked. The main reason, I feel, is that everyone who attended had the attitude that he or she was going to have a good time, regardless of the facilities. They also took the attitude that they were capable of entertaining themselves. The weather cooperated. The motel has exterior corridors and much of the socializing took place out of doors by the swimming pool. Heavy rains fell that weekend, but mostly at times like 4 AM.

I arrived Thursday night only to discover that the motel did not have my reservation. This distressed Ken Moore, who had gone over the reservation list with the manager, seen my name on the list, and specified me to be in the party area. Nonetheless, when I arrived, there was no reservation. I finally got a room for Thursday night with instructions to check back the following morning. Fortunately, the next day they had enough cancellations and no-shows to extend my stay for the entire weekend. It would have been difficult hosting a room party from the motel across the street. Even so, I was in the dealer area (dealers had to huckster from their rooms), but I was just glad to have a room.

Thursday night, I went shopping with Lance Oszko, who was representing the Baltimore in 1998 worldcon bid. Their bid and Australia in 1999 were the only worldcon bids represented at this convention. I had my bid parties Friday and Saturday nights. Although I did not have the backing of the convention bureau, I did not want to risk offending the fannish ghods and paid for the party out of my own pocket. I was somewhat concerned of the reception, because I was not serving any alcohol, not even beer. I had decided beforehand that since I was all by myself that I could not prevent minors from serving themselves so it was better not to try. However, I did find that I was one of the few parties serving Coca-Cola products. Many people visited the party and were glad to find Coke Classic, Diet Coke, or Sprite.

The banquet was held a nearby Ponderosa Steak House. Andy Offutt was his usual witty self, and Sue Francis read selections from the pornographic novel *Shameless Sue*. (Her selections were themselves non-pornographic.) Both the Phoenix and Rebel Award winners were absent. Dr. Darrell Richardson won the Phoenix and J. R. Madden the Rebel. The Rubble Award was presented in absentia to Gaylord Enterprises. Not only did they force Kubla-Khan to move this year, but years ago they also forced the Nashville in 1994 worldcon bid to become the Louisville in 1994 bid.

There was one small meeting room devoted to programming. Andy Offutt interviewed Elsie Wollheim, who told the audience how she met the Futurians, including her late husband Donald A. Wollheim, Fred Pohl, Cyril Kornbluth, Isaac Asimov, and Damon Knight. Elsie was working as a legal secretary when a woman in her office introduced her to the group. She was very popular with them, because, besides just being a woman who did not consider them geeks, she had a driver's license and access to her father's car. She drove them

out to Chicon in 1940 in her father's car, but had an accident enroute. At a fork in the road, someone yelled "Turn right" and someone else said "Turn left." Elsie did neither and rolled the car over. No one was hurt, but the car needed a new body. So they exchanged the car's four door body for a two door one. When Elsie came home, she didn't explain the switch.

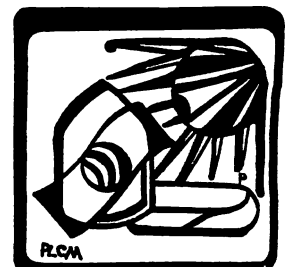
The business meeting was Sunday morning. When I arrived Thursday night, Steve Francis took me by surprise by informing me of his intention to nominate me to succeed Sue as President of the Southern Fandom Confederation. I had read Sue's resignation in the last bulletin, but I assumed that her successor would be someone better known and longer established in Southern fandom. Fortunately, I had all weekend to get over my shock. Irv Koch nominated Bill Francis as well. I don't know what the final vote was, but I won. Bill was then elected vice-president. Susan Stockell was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

There were two other important item of business. First, we authorized Toni Weiskopf to spend up to \$500 to put together a history of Southern fandom. It is to be published in time for next year's DSC. I agreed to write a piece on the Chimneyville Fantasy and Science Fiction Society by Thanksgiving. Second, on the recommendation of Sue Francis, we voted to extend the expiration dates of all current members of the SFC to next year's DSC. Her argument was that the infrequency of the bulletin in the last year meant that members did not get full value for their fee.

Then came the voting on the DSC. I gave a brief presentation on my bid, especially the role of the convention bureau. I was a little nervous when I announced my intention to have a dry consuite. I had always heard that DSCs always serve beer in the consuite. However, it's not in the by-laws, and I would prefer not to assume the potential liability. Besides the convention hotel serves complimentary cocktails from 5:30 to 7:30 every night. When I mentioned my relationship with the hotel, Steve Francis shouted, "Whitewater! Whitewater!" Guy Lillian entered a last minute bid for the motel in New Orleans where Jimmy Swaggart met prostitutes. However, I still won.

May 15 to June 15--

I spent several nights going through several boxes Sue Francis gave to me as part of her legacy. One item I did not find was a good original of the patch logo she has been using for the last several years. When I called them to ask a few questions, I found there was never a good original. They had taken the patch and given it to a computer guru to scan. There was no original, only computer generated reproductions. It occurred to me that since I needed to find a good original anyway, I might as well look for a new one to signify the change of leadership. The Confederate battle flag is unacceptable, because it is offensive to many people. Maybe a map?



June 16-18: The New Orleans Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival--

I got a late start on my way to The Big Easy. I decided to watch a matinee showing of *Batman Forever* before getting on the highway. It was a good decision, since then I didn't have to worry about people who insist on sharing all the plot details, whether you want them to or not. After I arrived and registered, I toured the dealer's room and met up with my good friend Michael Scott. I then went to dinner with him and his wife Jessica. We ate at a nearby Popeye's and discussed the movie *Congo*. I mentioned that I thought that it was very convenient that they could find a diamond on the ground, pop it into a laser, and use the laser as a weapon. Michael pointed out that diamonds aren't even used as parts in lasers.

I continued my strange practice of attending programming. Janny Wurts, Barbara Hambly, and Ed Bryant were on the panel called "Jungian Archetypes in SF/Fantasy." All the panelists claimed ignorance of Jung's theories regarding archetypes. Nonetheless, they proceeded. All agreed that using archetypes overtly leads to characters that are no more than stereotypes. They also cited the movies of Mel Brooks as excellent examples of twisting archetypes for comedic purposes.

The panel "Rise and Decline in TV Science Fiction" was interesting, because one of the panelists, James Hogan, said he has not owned a television for 20 years and had no first-hand knowledge of television SF during that period. He did, however, tell us how he came to become a writer. He saw *2001: A Space Odyssey* during its first theatrical run and, like everyone else, did not understand the ending. To satisfy himself, he wrote his own science fiction story with a similar premise, but in which he wrote an ending that he himself found satisfying.

Joey Grillot was the moderator for two back-to-back panels "Best Movies of 1995" and "Worst Movies of 1995". The consensus was that *Pulp Fiction* was superior to *Forrest Gump*, and all the Academy Award nominees were good movies. There was less consensus about the bad movies. One audience member said that *Interview with the Vampire* was infuriating, because it just missed being a good movie. If it had been truly bad, she would not have been as disappointed. I had a problem contributing to the discussion of bad movies, because I rarely see truly bad ones. I do, however, see movies I consider overrated, such as *Natural Born Killers*.

At the "Future of SF Cons", I learned that a possible New Orleans worldcon bid for 2003 is in the talking stage. This, of course, led to a discussion of the infamous Nolacon II. The consensus of the panel was that most of the bad memories of the con have been forgotten, but the good ones remain, so perhaps it's time to start thinking about another one.

The only major problem I saw was that the hotel was too small for a convention of this size. The art show, for instance, was located in two connecting sleeping rooms whose beds were removed. The hospitality suite featured an outside patio, but it was too windy to take full advantage of it.

June 19 to July 12--

I then embarked on a long business trip to Florida. I stopped one night in Gainesville, FL, and had dinner with fan Eve Ackerman and her handsome husband Howard Rosenthal. We also saw the movie *Braveheart*. Eve was excited about her upcoming trip to Glasgow for the worldcon and explained to Howard why Scotland is so close to the hearts of SF fans. Many of the most enduring works of fantasy and SF, such as *The Lord of the Rings*, utilize Celtic myths and traditions. On my way back home, I detoured to Atlanta for another convention.

July 13-16: NASFiC/DragonCon--

I arrived Wednesday afternoon and met my roommates at the downtown Travelodge, only a short distance from the main convention hotel, the Atlanta Hilton and Towers. Two of them signed up for a live-action role-playing game called "Dark Confrontation" that the program book described as being in the techno-horror genre, whatever that is. The International Starfleet Convention and the Southeast Trade And Retail Symposium (STARS) were also held in conjunction with the NASFiC.

I spent much of the convention working the LoneStarCon 2 table and its party under Debbie Hodgkinson's leadership. LACon II was our neighbor on one side and the Boston in 1998 worldcon bid was on the other. Ross Pavlac was working the Boston bid, and this was the first time we had ever talked for any length of time. At Nolacon II, he had the same job that I will have in San Antonio, program ops. He said he would send me some material and warned me to make sure that the schedule was set in concrete at least 30 days before the con. At both the table, and the party, we sold memberships, T-shirts, and pins as well as giving out information about the con. One difference between this convention and worldcons is that one question we occasionally heard was "What's a worldcon?" Our party was well attended in that there seemed to be people coming through all the time.

The other parties were good and plentiful. One of the people putting on the Philadelphia in 2001 worldcon bid party asked me whether there were any conventions in the South besides DragonCon. I guess they'll find out if they want our votes. At Bill Francis's party for DeepSouthCon 34, I ran into Janice Gelb, who had my job for San Antonio at the Orlando worldcon. So between her and Ross, I should learn what to do and what NOT to do.

Even so, I still attended my share of programming. Unfortunately, I went to one on Thursday afternoon on fanzine publishing, but after 15 minutes no panelist showed up. (I later learned that Timothy Lane was not aware he was scheduled so early and was only just getting into Atlanta at the time the panel was supposed to start.) Fortunately, I had a second choice lined up, a presentation on Alfred Hitchcock. The presenter, Bob Coughlin, showed how Hitchcock's skill could make absurd situations seem plausible within the context of the movie. His



favorite example was the cornfield scene in *North by Northwest*. He also showed how Hitchcock could artfully combine humor and violence, as exemplified by the murder scene early in the first version of *The Man Who Knew Too Much*. Another comment was that Hitchcock delighted in breaking the conventional rules, such as when he killed off Janet Leigh's character early in *Psycho*. Coughlin finished by showing various Hitchcock appearances in his movies.

Then I went to Opening Ceremonies. As I walked in, I ran into George Alec Effinger. He mentioned that this week was the 25th anniversary of his first sale. Unfortunately, it has never been printed, as it was to Harlan Ellison for *Last Dangerous Visions*. George used this piece of information to his advantage during the ceremony itself. When Harlan Ellison started to needle Effinger, George replied, "Watch out, or I'll tell where I sold my first story." Ellison backed off and started needling someone else. This is the only time I have ever seen anyone shut Harlan up.

I saw and heard more of Ellison when I went to his question and answer session the following day. Of course, any time you go to one of Harlan's shows, you have to prepare to be insulted. This time, he was pretty easy on the fans. Most of his venom was reserved for his fellow writers. After making the remark that Anne Rice and John Grisham could not write, he excoriated the Science Fiction Writers of America (SFWA). He feels they have been too stingy with their Grand Master award. He feels that people like Poul Anderson and Kate Wilhelm need to receive the award before they die as Roger Zelazny died without receiving it.

One unusual feature of DragonCon is that they have rock concerts. I attended the one by a band called "Sea of Souls". I had never heard of them, but the program book said they have received considerable acclaim. Their music was really not to my liking, and I'm not even sure whether a passive form of entertainment like this is really appropriate to a science fiction convention. I like dances instead, because they encourage social interaction among fans.

Registration was very smooth. However, the dealer's room was very cramped, and the art show was even worse. Most of the aisles in the art show were one-way. It was impossible to back away and get a good look at any of the work. Several people marveled at the fact that the fire marshal did not walk in and shut them down.

### In the Future

Eric Watts has agreed to do a column on apas. He may be reached at 346 Carpenter Drive, #51, Atlanta, GA 30328-5030.

Dean Sweatman has also volunteered to do a column on electronic fandom. His address is 821 Randolph St., Harahan LA 70123.

July 17 to August 3--

After one night at home, I traveled to Baton Rouge on yet another business trip. I met Michael and Jessica Scott at a Walden's bookstore, where Michael was meeting with the store's director of marketing to plan a *Star Trek* function. Then I actually had some time at home, where I finished two apazines, worked on the SFC Bulletin, and got back with my Saturday night fantasy RPG group.

August 4-6: Crescent City Con--

Hurricane Erin threatened to cancel this convention for a few days, but, fortunately for the people of New Orleans, it turned north and came ashore around Pensacola. In Jackson, it was raining when I left, but the only hard rain I encountered was brief. I arrived in time to attend fan guest of honor Ann Cavitt's talk. She said that she discovered fandom through a display in a bookstore and that her first convention was NutriaCon here in N.O.

The Meet The Guests party started late as the guests were late returning from dinner. Robert Neagle, the con chair, finally decided to start serving the food, only holding back the cake until the guests arrived. The three media guests, Michael O'Hare (*Babylon V*), Nigel Bennett (*Forever Knight*) and Deborah Duchene (*Forever Knight*) were all accessible and personable. I've never seen an episode of *Forever Knight*, so I had no pre-conceptions about what Bennett and Duchene look like. However, I would never have recognized O'Hare. He wears horn-rimmed glasses and his hair is mostly white.

Once more I attended programming, although one of the panels was by accident. I went to the con suite for some refreshment and walked into a demonstration on the Internet. The phone line in the panel room did not work correctly, so they moved the demo there. Two women did a presentation on the Internet and then showed how to dial into it and "surf the Web". They tried to list the news groups devoted to Arthur C. Clarke, but misspelled his last name and found the groups for Marcia Clark. There are more groups devoted to the latter than the former. The discussion consisted of more techno-babble than I care for, but I learned that one of the women had designed the New Orleans Free-Net, which allows people to join the Internet without charge.

George Alec Effinger read his latest Maureen Birnbaum story, in which Muffy visits a soap opera world based on *All My Children* and meets her evil twin. George said that after a few more stories, he is going to kill her off by having her fall off the Reichenbach Falls. He also mentioned that he is a fan of All My Children and that from it he learned that a good villain is worth ten good guys.

P.N. Elrod, Thomas Schellenberger, and Sharida Rizzuto did a panel on vampires. Schellenberger and Rizzuto are vampire fans from a long time back. Schellenberger praised Elrod for writing vampire books that are not gory. Elrod said that when she first met Forry Ackerman, he showed her Bela Lugosi's ring. She felt she should kiss it like a Catholic kisses the Pope's ring.■

## More Con Reports

by Samantha b Juedé

**MagiCarpet Con (MCC)**, held in Dalton, GA, where many carpet factories are located, is normally a little convention. Considering who their major guest was, Con Chair Clara Miller decided there would be need for larger facilities. So she rented the Dalton Convention Center on the top of a nearby hill, and used a Day's Inn across I-75 and a mile away.

This had the unfortunate effect of splitting the Con into two mini-cons: a small, jolly convention at the Day's Inn, and a sparsely attended Big Con that barely used the bottom half of the Convention Center set aside for MCC. During the day, the Dealers (and Electrical Eggs) sat at their tables and waited for SOME action while a majority of the Con-goers visited and played cards and in general enjoyed the little relaxacon at the Day's Inn. Shuttle buses were promised but not delivered, with the sad result that some Con-goers demanded a refund and left.

It was tragic to see the once-fiery Marion Zimmer Bradley reduced to a nice, sweet old lady. Marion was always full of energy, sharp as a tack; the stroke has left her a mere shadow of herself. Luckily, Artist Guest of Honor Hannah Shapero was energetic and "up" for the Con, and had many people eager to talk to her. In the evenings, once the Convention Center closed, everyone adjourned to the Day's Inn and visited or filked or just hung around and enjoyed each other. This was what MCC has been in years before; i was sorry it hasn't stayed that way.

The Masquerade, scheduled after the Art/Charity Auction, was held during a break in the Auction instead, so that auctioneer "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo could rest a bit. We Masque judges made our decision quickly, but had to wait for the plaques to be delivered before we could announce who won what. LibertyCon loaned their Art Show panels for MCC's Art Show (so that MCC didn't have to scratch-build its panels), and several Liberty workers were on hand to help out.

### MagiCarpet Con Stats

Date: April 28-30, 1995  
Site: Dalton Convention Center  
City: Dalton  
State: Georgia  
Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley  
Hannah Shapero  
Buck and Juanita Coulson

In short: the MCC Con Com didn't seem to be able to pull off MCC as a Big Con, and the split facilities made Security, Access, and many other departments a nightmare to run. If there is a MagiCarpet Con next year (they went deeply in the hole on this one), i hope they'll return to being the little Con with heart.

**Kubla-Khan/Parthekhan/DeepSouthCon 33** seemed doomed from the start. Gaylord Enterprises, a.k.a. Opryland, had bought up all the Nashville hotels with any programming space (ostensibly to house their foreign workers), leaving Khen Moore's staff to scramble for a new venue.

They pulled it off, it was a wonderful con.

This year's convention was held in the Shoney's Inn in Lebanon TN, where the Hotel Staff were friendly, accommodating, and delighted by the "Huckster's Row". We shared the Inn with a tour group on Thursday and Friday, and a bridal party on Saturday and Sunday; the former didn't like us and the latter seemed bemused by the party atmosphere.

In addition to the Huckster's Row, there were 3 Con suites, all situated near the indoor pool/outdoor patio. Programming was light, but seemed to be well attended; the Art Show, as befits a Kubla Khan, was filled with beautiful paintings and prints, hand-made pottery mugs, some Celtic jewelry, and absolutely gorgeous blown glass.

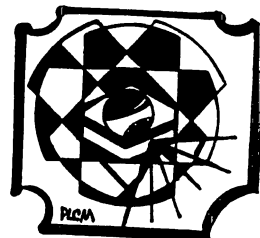
Khen Moore came up with an innovative banquet: we all walked next door, to the Ponderosa Steak House, bought what we wanted, and then we to a back room set aside for Kubla Khan-goers. It was a bit TOO successful an idea; the back room was filled by the time my party arrived, so we joined the many Khansters in the "overflow" room next door. After, we all listened to the awards, then returned to the Shoney's Inn for the "Masquerade".

There wasn't a room that could be used for the Masque, so Bill Payne decreed the Khandors would go to Hall Costumes. Awards were bestowed at midnight; i was in the bath, getting ready for bed, when the word came that i had won one of the coveted black birds -- as "Best Illustrated Fan"!

On Saturday night there was a wake for Diane Osbourne, who had contributed so many delicious items & delighted us with her company. She'll be missed, but at least we memorialized her as she'd have wanted: with joy and good food and sweet memories.

Since i usually "work Eggs" at conventions, this year's Kubla was a wonderfully laid-back affair for me. We took Egg donations out of our room, which meant we set up as soon as we could pry Neil Fuller (my oldest Klingon son) out of bed; we closed when we wanted to, and didn't have to worry about leaving things set up. Sunday, we simply shoved everything into Neil's van and closed when we wanted. Paul, the manager-on-site, came by to donate and ask if we'd be back next year.

If Khen says "yes," i'll be there for sure!■





## Southern Fanzines

reviewed by Tom Feller

Baryon Magazine, Vol. 18, #2, Summer 1994, and Vol. 19, #1, Summer 1995; c/o Barry Hunter, PO Box 3314, Rome, GA 30164-3314. Book and magazine reviews. Art by Ruth Thompson, Steven Fox, Sheryl Birkhead, and Lawrence Williams.

Ben'Zine, Vol. 2, #2, March 1995; c/o Ben Zuhl, 2239 Highland Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046; the usual; 34 pages. This issue features fiction and non-fiction by Francesca Kelly, an article on fan Mark Riley by Mike Glicksohn, and Dick Lynch's first installment of his report about his trip to Russia.

Blat!, #4; Winter, 1994; c/o Dan Steffan, 3804 South 9th Street, Arlington, VA 22204, and Ted White, 1014 North Tuckahoe Street, Falls Church, VA 22204; the usual (trades to both editors) or \$10 per issue; 94 pages plus a 30 page supplement. Several interesting articles and letters. Of special interest is White's article on the threat from Samanda b Juedé to the Transatlantic Fan Fund (TAFF). Although his information about Samanda is limited, he explains why he thinks she is inherently unqualified for the honor. Her main disqualification, according to White, is that she is not a fanzine fan, whatever her prominence in convention fandom. White also quotes from a letter from Greg Pickersgill, who, besides having nasty things to say about Southern fans, recommends eventual discontinuation of TAFF. I tend to disagree with Pickersgill, but for a completely different reason. If fans like Samanda are to be treated in this way, then why should I support TAFF? Furthermore, why should worldcons give time and space for TAFF fundraising? (If you're not familiar with the outcome, Steffan was another candidate and the eventual winner.)

Challenger, #2; Winter, 1995; c/o Guy Lillian and Dennis Dolbear, P.O. Box 53092, New Orleans, LA 70153-3092; the usual or \$3; 68 pages. Guy is still sore about Ted White's negative (to put it very mildly) review of Challenger in Habakkuk. Other items of interest: another installment in Guy's series on his life in 1969; an account of Guy defending a man accused of first degree murder; Toni Weiskopf's guest of honor speech for Galaxy Fair, which she was unable to give because of time limitations; Dennis Dolbear on the movie *Blue Velvet*, and lots of locs.

Fosfax, #175; June, 1995 & #176, August, 1995; c/o Timothy Lane and Elizabeth Garrott, P. O. Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281; the usual or \$12 for 6 issues; 68 pages. A typical issue contains book and movie reviews, con reports, current events articles, and many letters. My favorite pieces are Joe Major's series of articles on the Heinlein juveniles. The

editorial viewpoint is libertarian, but they welcome letters from people with opposing viewpoints.

Habakkuk, Vol. 3, #4; Fall, 1994; Bill Donaho, 626 58th St., Oakland, CA 94609; the usual or \$2; 78 pages. This is not a Southern fanzine, but it contains several items of interest to Southern fans. Ted White responds to various responses to his review of Guy Lillian's Challenger and quotes H. L. Mencken in defense of his reviewing style. White then reviews Fosfax. While his review is not positive, White is not as negative about it as he is about some fanzines. There is also an excellent article by Donaho entitled "Growing Up In Texas." (Warning: This article contains sexually explicit material.)

It Goes On The Shelf, #14, July 1995; c/o Ned Brooks, 713 Paul Street, Newport News, Virginia 23605; the usual; 26 pages. Short reviews of rare and unusual books Ned comes across in second-hand shops and other odd places. The reviews are intermingled with letters.

Lan's Lantern, #43; 1995; c/o George "Lan" Laskowski, 1306 Cherokee, Royal Oak, MI 48067-3386; the usual or \$5 per issue; 166 pages. This is not a Southern fanzine, but it contains two articles of interest to Southern fans. First, there is a short autobiography by Samanda b Juedé that describes how she made a life for herself despite polio. Then she writes a history of Electrical Eggs. Lan was one of the fans who nominated Samanda for TAFF.

Phassionate Fulcrum, #3; June, 1995; c/o Mike Whalen, P.O. Box 55422, Metairie, LA 70055-5422; the usual; 22 pages. Mike's writing is very personal. In this issue, he recounts his battles with depression and the break up of his marriage. Mike also reviews books and fanzines and wrote an interesting piece on his hobby of collecting old newspapers and books.

Southern Gothic, #1 & #2; December, 1993, and May, 1994; c/o Lucy Huntzinger, 2305 Bernard Avenue, Nashville, TN 37212; available for selected trades and letters of comment only; both are 16 pages. I don't know what part of the country she originally comes from, but she moved to Nashville four years ago and writes about adjusting to life in the South, or strictly speaking, somewhat adjusting. "It's not hellish all the time," she writes in #1. Also in #1, she makes the incredible statement, "I haven't found a supportive fan community in Nashville." Not knowing what her contacts with Nashville fandom have been, I'm not going to comment. Perhaps some of our Nashville brethren should take the initiative and contact her. Ms. Huntzinger is hosting Corflu, the convention for fanzine fans, next year in Nashville.

## Mad Dog's Southern Con List

This listing was compiled by J.R. 'Mad Dog' Madden, 30 May 1995, from various sources such as LOCUS, Science Fiction Chronicle, Starlog, Fandom Directory, Erwin "Filthy Pierre" Strauss' SF Convention Register, and, very rarely, from the convention committees themselves who send the information out in good time. Please remember: a lot of lead time should be allowed for publication in this listing. If any of our readers know of other cons which might be of interest to Southern fans, PLEASE forward the information to me at 7515 Sheringham Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808-5762 (new ZIP). E-Mail: jrmaddog@aol.com.

NOTE: In all cases, when writing to a convention for information, be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) with your request in order to speed the reply.

+ + + + +

RiverCon XX (September 1-4 '95), Executive West Hotel, Louisville, KY. Guests: Philip Jose Farmer, Buck & Juanita Coulson, Andrew J. Offutt, Glen Cook, Stephen Leigh, Maureen F. McHugh, Bob Tucker, Alan Clark, Debbie Hughes, Mark Maxwell, Cliff Amos, Dr. Bill Breuer, Linda Dunn, Jack Nimersheim, Jodie Offutt. Membership: \$25 to 8/15/95, then \$35. Info: RiverCon, P. O. Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009. 502-448-6562.

Tachy7Con (September 8-10 '95), North Orlando Hilton & Towers, Altamonte, Springs, FL. Guests: Neil Gaiman, Clyde Caldwell, Bernie Wrightson, David Prowse. Membership: \$20. Info: Lori Anne Brown, PO Box 3382, Winter Park, FL 32790-3382. 407-628-1454.

Fanfaire 1995 (September 8-10 '95), James Woodside Conference Center, Greenville, SC. Membership: \$25. Info: Fanfaire Productions, P.O. Box 1801, Greenville, SC 29602-1801.

RavenCon '95 (September 15-16 '95), Sheraton Park South, Richmond, VA. Guests: Emma Bull, Will Shetterly. Membership: \$15 in advance, \$25 at the door. Info: Renaissance Fantasy/SF Assn, Box 17338, Richmond, VA 23226. 804-750-1902.

Hubcon III (September 16-17 '95), Clover Leaf Mall, Hattiesburg, MS. Guests: William Johnson, Steven Butler, Samantha Lovelace. Membership: \$15. Info: Tim Broome 867 Purvis-to-Baxterville Road, Purvis, MS 39475. (601) 583-8810.

Rising Star 4 (September 29 - October 1 '95), Salem, VA. Guests: Frederik Pohl, Frank Kelly Freas, Hal Clement. Membership: \$17 to 8/1/95, then more Info: Rising Star 4, 545 Howard Drive, Salem VA 241531. 703-389-9400.

Armadillocon 17 (October 6-8 '95), Red Lion Hotel, Austin, TX. Guests: Alexander Jablovkov, Vincent DiFate, Dick & Leah Zeldes Smith, Terry Bisson. Membership: \$20 to 4/30/95, \$25 to 9/30/95, then higher Info: FACT, Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766. 512-339-0673 before 10 p.m.

Necronomicon '95 (October 13-15 '95), Westshore Hotel, Tampa, FL. Guests: Terry Pratchett, Ben Bova, Richard Lee Byers, Scott Ciencin. Membership: \$18 to 9/15/95, then \$25. Info: Necronomicon, P. O. Box 2076, Riverview, FL 33569. 813-677-6347.

World Fantasy Convention '95 (October 27-29 '95), Inner Harbor Marriott, Baltimore, MD. Guests: Edward Bryant, Rick Berry, Terry Bisson, Lloyd A. Eshbach, Lucius Shepard, Howard Waldrop. Membership: \$85 to 7/1/95, then more. Info: Baltimore Gun Club, LLC, P. O. Box 19909, Baltimore, MD 21211-0909.

Coastcon, Jr. (October 28-29 '95), Holiday Inn Express, Highway 49, Gulfport, MS. Membership: \$20. Info: CoastCon, P.O. Box 1423, Biloxi, MS 39533-1423.

Anime Weekend Atlanta (October 27-29 '95), Castlegate Hotel and Conference Center, Atlanta, GA. Membership: \$17 until 9/1/95, \$20 at the door. Info: Anime Weekend Atlanta, P.O. Box 13544, Atlanta GA 30324.

SAGA 4 (November ?, '95). Info: Richard Wilson (504)455-0998 or Clay LeBrun (504)734-1953.

Con\*Stellation XIV: Monoceros (November 3-5 '95), Tom Beville Center, Huntsville, AL. Guests: Rick Shelly, Ruth Thompson, Adrian Washburn, Roland Castle. Membership: \$15 to 5/14/94, \$20 to 7/16/95, \$25 to 9/30/95, then \$30. Info: Con\*Stellation XIV, P. O. Box 4857, Huntsville, AL 35815-4857. 205-883-4493.

Antares (November 10-12 '95), Holiday Inn / Atlanta Central, Atlanta, GA. Guests: Barbara Hambly, Brad Strickland, Stan Bruns, Hal Clement, Ed Kramer, Tom Dietz, Brad Lineaweaver. Membership: \$20 to 9/15/95, then higher. Info: Antares, P. O. Box 1273, Lilburn, GA 30226. 404-923-6566.

Concat VII (November 24-26 '95), Radisson Hotel, Knoxville, TN. Guests: Samuel R. Delany, Joe Phillips, Allen Steele. Membership: \$20 to 8/1/95, \$25 to 11/1/95, \$30 at the door. Info: Concat, 805 College Street, Knoxville, TN 37291. 615-522-3470.

SMOFCon (December 1-3 '95), Red Lion, Austin, TX. Convention-runners' convention. Membership: \$35 to 9/1/95,

\$45 to 11/20/95, \$50 at the door. Info: SMOFCON '95, c/o FACT, Inc., Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766-9612. 512-835-9304.

Sunquest '96 (January 5-7 '96), Sheraton Plaza Hotel at the Florida Mall. Orlando, FL. Guest: Ruth Thompson. Membership: \$20 before 11/30/95, \$30 at the door. Info: Sunquest '96, PO Box 677069, Orlando, FL 32867-7069.

ChattaCon XXI (January 12-14 '96), Clarion Hotel River Plaza, Chattanooga, TN. Guests: Walter Jon Williams, Charles de Lint, Keith Parkinson, Steven Brust Charles L. Grant, Mark Poole. Membership: \$22 to 11/30/95, \$30 to 1/1/96, then \$35. Info: Chattacon 20, Box 23908, Chattanooga, TN 37422-3908. 404- 578-8461.

Tropicon XIV (January 12-14 '96), Hilton Airport, West Palm Beach, FL. Guests: James P. Hogan, Mike Resnick. Membership: \$21 to 11/30/95, \$25 at the door. Info: South Florida SF Society, P. O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307. 305-662-9426.

Round Con '96 (February 2-4, 1996), Holiday Inn N.E., Columbia, SC. Membership: \$10 before 10/01/95, \$15 before 1/15/96, \$20 at the door. Info: Allout Helter, PO Box 8917, Columbia, SC 29202.

Concave 17 (February 23-25 '96), Park Mammoth Resort, Park City, KY. Guest: Bob Roehm. Membership: \$15 to 2/4/95, \$20 at the door. Info: Concave, c/o Gary Robe, P.O. Box 3221, Kingsport, TN 37664. 615-239-3106.

Corflu (March 15-17 '96), Clubhouse Inn, Nashville, TN. Info: Lucy Huntzinger, 2305 Bernard Ave., Nashville, TN 37212.

17th Annual Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts (March 20-24 '96), Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Academic conference. Guests: Greg Bear, Brian Aldiss, Tom Shippey. Membership: to be announced. Info: International Association on the Fantastic in the Arts (IAFA), College of Humanities, 500 NW 20th HU-50 B-9, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL 33431 (717)-532-1495.

Stellarcon 20 (March 22-24 '96), Holiday Inn-Market Square, High Point, NC. Membership: \$15 until ?. Info: Stellarcon 20, Box 4 EUC-UNCG, Greensboro, NC 27412.

CoastCon 19 (March 22-24 '96), Biloxi, MS. Guest: Elizabeth Moon. Membership: \$20 until 1/1/96, \$25 until 2/29/96, \$30 at the door. Info: CoastCon, Inc., P.O. Box 1423, Biloxi, MS 39533-1423. (601)435-5217.

MidSouthCon 15 (March 29-31 '96), Brownstone Hotel, Memphis, TN. Guests: Barry Longyear, Frank Kelly Freas, Laura Brodian Freas, Cullen Johnson. Membership: \$15 to

3/24/95, then more. Info: MidSouthCon 15, P. O. Box 22749, Memphis, TN 38122. 901-274-7355.

DeepSouthCon '96 (April 26-28 '96), Best Western, Jekyll Island, GA. Guests: Harry Turtledove, Peggy Ranson, Joe Siclari, Edith Stern, Jack C. Haldeman II, Jack McDevitt. Membership: \$25 to 3/31/96, then \$30. Info: DeepSouthcon '96, Box 1271, Brunswick, GA 31521. 921-638-1486.

A weekend At Raven's Bluff II (April 26-28, '96), Holiday Inn, N.E., Columbia, SC. Info: R. Neal Wilhite, C/O Ethliw Productions, Inc. P.O. Box 8593, Columbia, SC 29202.

Comic and Fantasy Fair (May 10-12 '96), Airport Plaza Sheraton Hotel, Charlotte, NC. Membership: \$15 until 3/31/95, then higher. Info: Goth, 105 Honeywood Ct., Kissimmee, FL 34743. 407-344-3010.

World Horror Convention (May 10-12 '96), Eugene, OR. Guests: Clive Barker, Charles de Lint, Michael Whelan. Hotel, membership & info address: to be announced.

Dragon-Con '96 (June 20-23 '96), Atlanta Hilton and Towers, Westing Peachree Plaza Hotel, Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, GA. Guests & Membership: to be announced. Info: Dragon Con '96, P. O. Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0626. 404-925-0115.

ConDiablo / WesterCon 49 (July 5-7 '96), Hotel Camino Real Paso Del Norte and Convention Center, El Paso, TX. Guests: Howard Waldrop, James P. Blaylock, Brad W. Foster, Arnie & Joyce Katz, Pat Cadigan. Membership: \$30 12/31/94, \$40 to 07/03/95, then higher. Info: ConDiablo, Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923. 800-585-8754, in El Paso, 542-0443.

L.A. Con III / 54th World SF Convention (August 29 - September 2 '96), Convention Center, Hilton Hotel & Towers, Marriott Hotel, Anaheim, CA. Guests: James White, Roger Corman, Takumi & Sachiko Shibano, Elsie Wollheim, Connie Willis. Membership: Attending - \$75 to 8/15/94, \$90 to 6/30/95, \$110 to 12/31/95, then higher; supporting - \$30. Info: L.A. Con III, c/o SCIFI, Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

World Fantasy Convention '96 (October 25-27 '96), Schaumburg (Chicago), IL. Limited to 1,000 members. Guests & membership & info address: to be announced.

DeepSouthCon 35 (June 6-8 '97), Cabot Lodge - Millsaps, Jackson, MS. Guests: George Alec Effinger, J. R. Madden, Michael Scott, Hanther. Membership: \$15 to 12/31/95, then higher. Info: Tom Feller, Box 13626, Jackson, MS 39236.



## Southern Club Listing

Information about clubs and club newsletters should be sent to Bill Francis, P.O. Box 1271, Brunswick, GA 31521.

### Alabama

Huntsville: **North Alabama Science Fiction Association (NASFA)**, P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville, AL 35815-4857. Monthly meetings on the third Saturday at Teledyne Brown Engineering-Building 1. Business portion at 6 PM, program at 7 PM, followed by an "after-the-meeting" meeting for socializing. Dues: \$15 annually. Subscription to NASFA Shuttle: \$10 annually. Officers: President Randy Cleary, Vice President Mike Kennedy, Secretary Sam Smith, Treasurer Ray Pietruszka, Program Director Mike Cothran, Publicity Director Ron Lajoie.

Birmingham: **Sable Weyr**, 1449 Pine Tree Drive, Birmingham, AL 35235. Anne McCaffrey fan club. Officer: Guy Bradley.

### Kentucky

Louisville: **Falls of Ohio Science Fiction and Fantasy Association (FOSFA)**, P.O. Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281. Monthly meetings, but they are searching for a good meeting place, according to Fosfax #175. Dues: \$18 annually. Subscription to Fosfax: \$12 annually. Officers: President Elizabeth Garrott, Vice President Lisa Thomas, Secretary Joseph Major, Treasurer Timothy Lane.

### Louisiana

New Orleans: **Krewe of the Enterprise (KOTE)**, 4101 Norman Mayer Ave. #75, New Orleans, LA 70122. Officers: Captain Keith L. Rombach, Comm. Officer Janice Salaun

### Tennessee

Memphis: **Memphis Science Fiction Association (MSFA)**, P.O. Box 12534, Memphis, TN 38182. Two meetings monthly: (1) the second Monday at 7 PM at the Main Public Library followed by dinner at a local restaurant, (2) the fourth Sunday at a member's house. Dues: \$10 annually. Monthly newsletter.

### Florida

Fort Lauderdale: **South Florida Science Fiction Society**, P.O. Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143. Regular monthly meetings plus media outings, writers workshops, filk gatherings, and other activities. Dues: \$15 annually. Subscription to SFSFS Shuttle: \$12 annually. Officers: Chair Joe Scilari, Vice Chair

George Peterson, Secretary Shirlene Ananayo, Treasurer Peggy Ann Dolan. Monthly newsletter.

Riverview: **Stone Hill SF Association**, P.O. Box 2076, Riverview, FL 33569. Monthly meetings on the second Sunday.. Monthly newsletter.

Pensacola: **U.S.S. Continuum**, P.O. Box 15554, Pensacola, FL 32514-9554. A chapter of Starfleet. Monthly newsletter and semi-monthly meetings. Dues: \$15 annually. Officers: Commanding Officer David Brumelow, First Officer: Keith Boleen.

### Mississippi

Jackson: **Shuttle Haise**, 398 Highway 51N, Suite 80-122, Ridgeland, MS 39157. A chapter of Starfleet. Monthly newsletter and meetings. Dues: \$10 annually. Officers: Commander Bethany E. Theilman, First Officer Gentle Jackson, Chief of Operations Joe Mamari.

Jackson: **The Neutral Zone Bar & Grill**, P.O. Box 6645, Jackson, MS 39282. Star Trek club. Occasional parties and newsletter. Officer: Chief Bouncer Carole Miles.

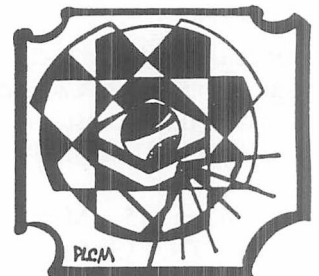
Jackson: **Chimneyville Fantasy and Science Fiction Society**, P.O. Box 13626, Jackson, MS 39236. Irregular meetings. No dues. Officers: President William Pigott, Recording Secretary Ruth Shields, Corresponding Secretary Tom Feller, Treasurer Rickey Shields.

### North Carolina

Skyland: **U.S.S. Alaric**, P.O. Box 263, Skyland, NC 28776. A chapter of Starfleet. Bi-monthly newsletter and frequent meetings. Dues: \$15 annually. Officers: President Janice Self, Vice-President Susan Vaughn, Secretary-Editor Richard Heim.

### Texas

El Paso: **El Paso Science Fiction and Fantasy Alliance**, P.O. Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79223. Monthly newsletter and meetings. Officers: President Thomas Cagle, Vice-President Richard Brandt, Secretary Muriel van Sweringen, Treasurer Nancy LaRock.



## Nolazine: A Retrospective

by Tom Feller

When I was at the New Orleans Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival, Dean Sweatman gave me some fanzines that he found during his cleaning out after the recent flooding. The most interesting ones dated from 1970-71. They were issues 10-12 of Nolazine. This was a publication of the New Orleans Science Fiction Association. Rick Norwood edited issues 10 and 11, Patrick Adkins 12.

Norwood's editorial in #10 concerned the aborted New Orleans in 1973 Worldcon bid. Shortly after St. Louiscon in 1969, they lost their convention hotel, the Roosevelt. Then the Shriners chose New Orleans for their annual convention on Labor Day weekend in 1973 and booked up the entire city. Norwood also describes the bad blood between the NO bid and the Dallas bid, accusing the Dallas bid of insinuating that a New Orleans Worldcon would discriminate against Blacks. Among Norwood statements, he says, "The Worldcon is a dinosaur; to survive it must evolve to meet new conditions." Something like this has been said many times in the last 25 years.

A consistent theme in the 3 zines is support for the space program. #10 has an article entitled "Memoirs of an Armchair Astronaut (active)" by Donald Markstein. Markstein describes his fascination with the old *Captain Video* TV program, then goes to the early space launches, including Sputnik. He concludes with predictions about the future of the space program.

A dozen years from now [1970], there must be permanent Earth-orbiting space stations, permanent Moon-orbiting stations, and permanent bases on the Moon. These are coming. By the end of this decade, NASA envisions over 300 launches a year — almost one a day. ... Twenty-five years from now ... there will be commercial flights to the Moon.

Norwood's editorial in #11 mentions attending the Apollo 14 liftoff. #12 includes a Poul Anderson article on the space program in which he equates the future of the program with the fate of Western Civilization.

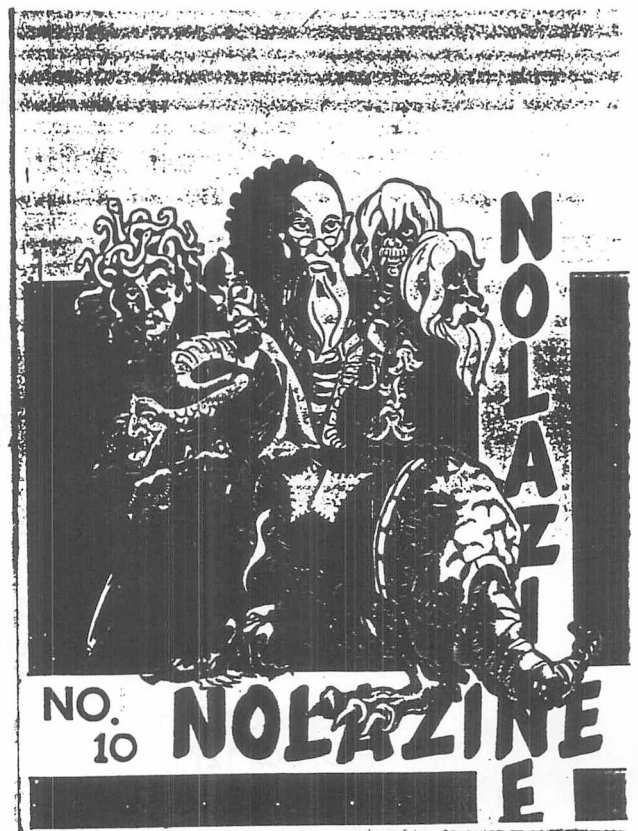
Fiction formed a large part of the zines. #10 featured "So! You Want to be a SF Artist!" by Jack Gaughan and "The Return of the Pooh" by Norwood. In Norwood's story, Christopher Robbins and his friends decide to hold a convention. #11 included "Once Upon a Time" by Dany Frolich, an anti-war fantasy. Pat Adkins published portions of *The Night Falls*, described as a "realistic novel of witchcraft in feudal England," in issues 10 and 11.

There was also some sercon, mostly by Guy Lillian. #10 included his article on the 1968 Hugo Award winners. He contrasts the novel and short story winners, Stand on Zanzibar by John Brunner and "The Beast That Shouted Love at the Heart of the World" by Harlan Ellison, respectively, with "Nightwings"

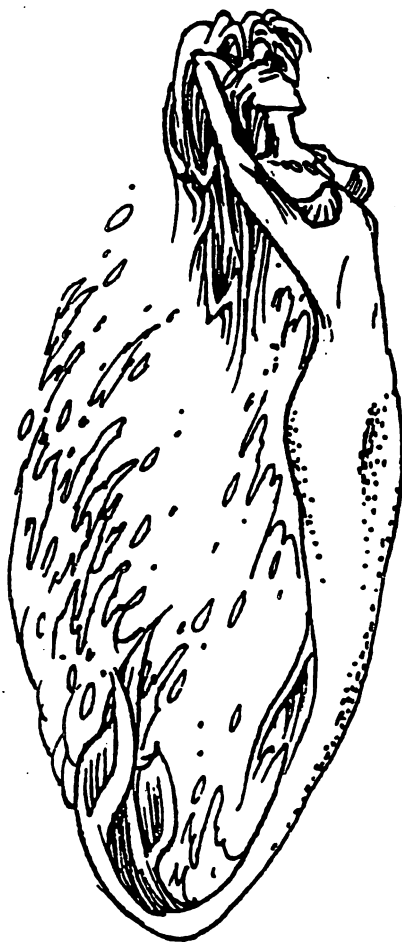
by Robert Silverberg and "The Sharing of Flesh" by Poul Anderson, the novella and novelette winners. #11 has Guy's article on Harlan Ellison's non-fiction in which he contrasts Memos from Purgatory and The Glass Teat. #12 features an account of his visit to the home of Poul Anderson in Orinda, California, and Anderson's bringing Guy to a meeting of Little Men. There were also some short book reviews in 10 and 11.

Fan history is not neglected. #11 had an article by Don Walsh on Jan Penney, ne' Jan Sadler, a NO (and Jackson, MS!) fan active from about 1956 to 1961. She edited a zine called SLANDer and co-hosted Consolacon in 1961. #12 included a short history by Norwood of the first eight DeepSouthCons. He traces it from its humble beginning at Al Andrews' house in Huntsville to #8, when the convention's attendance exceeded 100 for the first time.

The letter columns contained a mixture of pros and BNFs. Loccers included Poul Anderson, Ned Brooks, R.A. Lafferty, Robert Bloch, Harry Warner (of course), L. Sprague de Camp, and Justin Winston. Harry discourses on the problems of Worldcons. "The worldcon and hotels will not be compatible much longer," he writes. Again, something that has been said many times in the last 25 years.



WorldCon Atlanta Presents  
**A DeepSouthCon in the Deep South**  
**BeachCon - DeepSouthCon 34**  
**April 26-28, 1996 - Jekyll Island, Georgia**



Jekyll Island is on the Atlantic coast of South Georgia, halfway between Savannah and Jacksonville Florida, only ten minutes from Interstate 95 Exit 6. The convention hotel is Jekyll Island's largest oceanfront resort, the Best Western Jekyll Inn, situated on the beach. Rooms are \$74 for single to quad occupancy. Suites are also available: one bedroom \$99 and 2 bedroom \$124.

Programming? If you insist. We're planning a *relaxicon* at the *beach*, folx. We'll have the traditional and a few not so traditional functions. Don't play hearts? Planned activities include the Beach Volleyball Championship of the Known Universe and Fantasy Sand Castle Competition. The Art Show room will have natural light - there are windows on three sides, overlooking the pool.

**Guest of Honor: Harry Turtledove**  
**Artist Guest of Honor: Peggy Ranson**  
**Fan Guests of Honor: Joe Siclari**  
**Edith Stern**  
**Toastmaster: Jack C. Haldeman**  
**Cheap Local Guest: Jack McDevitt**

Information is available by contacting William C. Francis  
Voice (912) 638-1486  
GEnie w.franis1  
Compuserve 74076,3703

Convention memberships are \$20 through the end of DSC 33, \$25 through March 31 1996 and \$30 at the door. Please send checks and money orders to:

DeepSouthCon 34  
P.O. Box 1271  
Brunswick GA 31521-1271

The Chimneyville Fantasy and Science Fiction Society

presents

# DeepSouthCon 35

June 6-8, 1997

Jackson, MS



**Special  
Offer!!**

**Membership: Only \$15 until  
December 31, 1995, then  
higher**

- ☐ Pro Guest of Honor: George Alec Effinger
- ☐ Fan Guest of Honor: J.R. Madden
- ☐ Toastmaster: Michael Scott
- ☐ Comics Guest of Honor: Hanther

Contact: Tom Feller  
Box 13626  
Jackson, MS 39236  
E-Mail: CCWS74A@Prodigy.com

Hotel:  
Cabot Lodge-Millsaps  
2375 North State Street  
Jackson, MS 39202  
Room Rate: \$59 (1-4 fans)  
\$69 Executive Floor (1-4 fans)

# The Southern Fandom Confederation

## News • Convention Calendar • Fanzine Guide

## Membership Roster • Club Lists • And More !

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