

Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin  
Volume 6, No. 2  
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# Southern Fandom Confederation

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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. 2, 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.

Except for Eric Watts' article, 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 letters of comment. Deadline for issue #3 is January 1, 1996.

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 October, the SFC's bank balance was \$1,922.85

## Ad Rates

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## The Carpetbagger

by Tom Feller

8/7-8/31:

After I finished my August FAPazine "The Road Warrior", I concentrated on the SFC Bulletin. Once I finished "The Carpetbagger", it came together very quickly. Overall, the zine satisfied me, although I could see lots of room for improvement. For instance, the reproduction of the cover of Nolazine #10 on page 11 did not turn out as well as I had expected.

I used third class bulk mail for the main U.S. mailing. Some people claim that you should use first class so you can get address corrections and so on. However, if you put "FORWARDING AND RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED" and "ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED", ones with invalid addresses will come back. I'm hopeful that this will be the smallest issue I put out. If we get up to three ounces, the savings will be sizable.

I had to make one business trip to Florida and Georgia during August. On the return flight, I flew Atlantic Southeast Airlines (ASA) from Atlanta to Jackson. A few days later, an ASA plane of the same type crashed enroute from Atlanta to Gulfport. It was rather disquieting.

9/1-9/4: Rivercon

This convention is normally outside my range, but the combination of a holiday weekend and discount airfares made my attendance feasible. Friday, I put in a solid day of work before going to the airport for a 7 PM departure. This marked the first time I ever flew ValuJet, the new discount airline based on Atlanta.

One of the ways ValuJet saves money is by not issuing tickets, boarding passes, and advance seat assignments. When you make your reservation, you get a confirmation number. You still get claim checks if you check your baggage. Then you go to the gate, where you hang around until they start issuing boarding passes. They recycle their boarding passes, which are laminated strips of paper with numbers on them. (I don't know how many trees have to die so the passengers of the other airlines can have tickets and boarding passes, but it can't be just a few.) Let's say you get number 20. When it's time to board, the gate agent first calls out for passengers with passes 1 through 10, then 10 to 20, and so on. You get on the plane and take the first available seat. There is no division between first class and economy. All their planes are DC-9s, which are preferable to the little planes ASA flies. Another difference is that the employees look like they just graduated from high school, while the ones at Delta look like they're older than me. The pilot, nicknamed "Maddog", played the harmonica while we were getting seated, pausing to tell us that we can't leave until EVERYONE has buckled their seat belt.

One pleasant surprise was that they had a gate agent in Atlanta to direct us to the right gate for our connections. This was one area I expected them to cut. I was watching for it, because years ago I had read the *A Passion for Excellence* by Tom Peters and Nancy Austin and remembered the following passage:

Without a doubt, Tom [Peters] is a "rational" man" -- with two degrees in engineering, two degrees in business and a career principally as a business consultant/analyst. This rational man, Tom, flies Delta when he can. The reason? When you arrive at an airport for a connection, late in the day, say, and dragging, there's a living breathing body from Delta who smiles and says as he points, "Hope you had a nice flight. San Francisco is Gate 26, two down on the left." Tom believes *him* -- and automatically disregards the CRT display. That's it -- completely irrational. Tom, the rational man, is even a bit ashamed of such "reasons." But we've come to think they are critical.

On the other hand, my flight from Atlanta to Louisville was an hour late in departing. The gate agents explained that the plane was at the jetway, but the flight crew was late arriving from another flight. I did not find this reassuring, as I did not relish the idea of a fatigued flight crew flying my plane. Then we were put into a holding pattern when we arrived in the Louisville area. So I arrived at the convention past Midnight on Friday night.

I spent most of the daytime working a table for the SFC. I sold a few memberships and patches. I would have sold a lot of renewals if we had not decided at the DSC to extend all the memberships through next year's DSC. Bill Francis and Susan Stockell spelled me at various times. Lots of people stopped,

### Convention Stats

Name:	Rivercon	CoastCon Jr.
Date:	September 1-4	October 28-29
Site:	Executive Inn-West	Holiday Inn-Airport
City:	Louisville	Gulfport
State:	Kentucky	Mississippi
Attendance:	900	200
Guests:	Philip Jose Farmer Robert and Juanita Coulson Andrew Offutt	Daniel Jouet Hugo Montero Steve Rush

including Philip Jose Farmer to ask directions. The Baltimore Worldcon, Buccaneer, had a table nearby where I converted to an attending membership. While I was sitting at the table, Nancy Holland asked for some help with a "kitchenzine" she is doing. Since I hesitate to dignify what I do to prepare meals as "cooking", I said I would restrict myself to spreading the word. She needs contributors, and her address is Box 121701, Nashville, TN 37212.

In the dealer's room, I introduced myself to Buck Coulson, with whom I have corresponded. I also bought a couple of novels by him and Gene DeWeese that are set at Worldcons.

We shared the hotel with some softball teams that were in town for some big tournament. They were rude and obnoxious and made us look like model hotel guests in comparison.

I did attend the masquerade, the dance, and some parties. The most notable was Baen Books, where we hit balloons around the room. I was trying not to spill my beer, so I used my head, legs, and feet. Andy Offutt was complimentary, commenting that I must have had soccer training, which I have not.

I flew back to Jackson that afternoon and drove to Baton Rouge that night, where I was working the following morning. We are converting one of our Holiday Inns to a Holiday Inn-Express. This entailed closing the restaurant. I packed up the point-of-sale equipment and shipped them to one of our other locations.

9/5-10/27:

I met with the hotel about DeepSouthCon 35. I had some victories and some defeats. They agreed to allowing the gaming room to stay open 24 hours a day during the con, to allow us to bring our own food into the meeting rooms, and for there to be no corkage on room parties. On the other hand, they vetoed the dance. You win some and you lose some. We made some decisions on room allocation and measured the dealer's room. The hotel is on the small side for meeting room space, but we'll make it work. We picked up another guest when James Hogan agreed to come up from his home in Pensacola.

Richard Geis, former publisher of Science Fiction Review, send me an ad for his new zine, Taboo Science Fiction. Unfortunately, it contained objectionable language. After consulting with Steve and Sue Francis, I wrote him asking to change the language. He was amenable, and the result is the ad on page 9. He also sent a copy of the first issue. One of the stories first appeared in the Baen Books anthology *Nanodreams*, so the writing is at the professional level. He touts the zine as "an outlet for stories of future anti-authoritarian japery and future socio-cultural-political sexcapades and occasionally the grisly future destruction of human bodies." However, this year I have read five novels by Anne Rice, all of which are available at my local supermarket here in the Bible Belt. The actions of Geis's characters break no more taboos than Rice's.

I logged on to LACON III's World Wide Web site and printed out the lists for retrospective Hugos for 1945. In the fiction categories, the standouts are two installments in Isaac

Asimov's *Foundation* series, "Dead Hand" and "The Mule", and "First Contact" by Murray Leinster. Another excellent story is "Giant Killer" by A. Bertram Chandler. The list of movies includes some borderline fantasies such as *Anchors Aweigh*, *Wonder Man*, and *The Road to Utopia*. The class of the horror films for that year was *The Body Snatcher*, starring Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi.

10/28-10/29: **Coastcon Jr.**

This convention started out as a party for the CoastCon committee. Then it became a relaxacon. Now it is a two-day convention with a dealer's room, guests, gaming room, charity auction, programming, costume contest, and con suite. I took a table in the dealer's room to promote the SFC and the DSC. I did not take in much money, but I did hand out a lot of flyers and SFC Bulletins. I also donated an SFC membership to the charity auction for the Mississippi Aids Task Force.

My table was next to Hugo Montero's, the artist guest of honor. He specializes in space landscapes using spray paint. I was unable to see any of his demos, but I am told they are very impressive in his ability to get so much detail in that medium.

The costume contest had five entrants. Afterward I attended the dance until about Midnight. Supposedly Robert Neagle, the deejay, was to go to 3 AM. I don't know whether he made it.

### Starfleet

This international *Star Trek* club has affiliates across the South. For information, write to the regional commanders. Info compiled by Tom Feller based on material supplied by Bethany Theilman.

Region One: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee  
c/o Linda Neighbors  
837 Regal Oaks Way  
Amherst, VA 24521-3306

Region Two: Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama  
c/o Edward W. Danley  
11021 Challeux Drive, South  
Jacksonville, FL 32225

Region Three: Texas, Louisiana  
c/o Brad Pense  
P.O. Box 1822  
Arlington, TX 76004

Region Twelve: Arkansas  
c/o Comm Coyote  
P.O. Box 411793  
Kansas City, MO 64141

## Clubs in the South

compiled by Tom Feller

### 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

Baton Rouge: **Star One Delta**, P.O. Box 45577, Baton Rouge, LA 70895. Meets the third Sunday of every month at the Mr. Gatti's Pizza on the corner of Essen and Perkins. Dues: \$15 annually, \$7.50 per additional member in the same household. *Star Trek* and other media. Newsletter. Officers: President Karen D. Morton, Vice President Jeff Tircuit, Treasurer Johnnie Johnston, Secretary Sue Smith, Newsletter Editor Michael Scott.

New Orleans: **Krewe of the Enterprise (KOTE)**, 4101 Norman Mayer Ave. #75, New Orleans, LA 70122. *Star Trek*. Officers: Captain Keith L. Rombach, First officer A.J. Catalano.

### 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.

Nashville: **The Nashville Science Fiction Club** meets the 1st Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Cumberland Science Museum. c/o Dan Caldwell, 3522 Kings Lane, Nashville, TN 37218.

Nashville: **The Middle Tennessee Speculative Fiction Association** meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Cumberland Science Museum. Address: P.O. Box 68203, Nashville, TN 37206. Officer: President Anita Williams.

### 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.

Kissimmee: **Alliance of Gaming Enthusiasts and Rogue Society**, c/o GOTH, 105 Honeywood CT, Kissimmee, FL 34743. Newsletter.

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

### Mississippi

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

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

### Texas

El Paso: **El Paso Science Fiction and Fantasy Alliance**, PO Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923. Monthly newsletter and meetings. Officers: president Anita Ruble, Vice President Tom Cagle, Secretary Muriel van Sweringen, Treasurer Nancy La Rock.

## More Convention Reports

by Samantha b Jeudé

The New Orleans Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival (NOSF3) is off the "beaten track" of Deep South Fandom. You're as or more likely to run into Midwestern or Southwestern fans than, say, people you regularly see at Kubla Khans.

And that's a shame, because this New Orleans convention is ... well, far from conventional. Consider a Dealer's Room that includes not just the usual book/game-sellers and jewelers, but also features costumes and incense-sellers, or consider the dances which require "Lingerie or Cocktail" dress.

In fact, you couldn't walk through the Con without finding a party. The guests clearly enjoyed the atmosphere; they seemed to be always smiling, laughing, conversing, sipping. The attendees were in and out of costume so often, it became impossible to determine who was wearing what: mundane garb, fannish clothes, or actual costumes.

If NOSF3 isn't a con you regularly attend, take my advice: reconsider. After all, there's no other place you can attend Mardi Gras in June!

As the guests suggest, the Atlanta Comics and Fantasy Fair is a Media Convention; what might not be visible is their shrinking size. Every year seems likely to be their last.

Despite their venue (Atlanta's Hotel from Hell, the Castlegate, which features a labyrinthine layout and Con-unfriendly staff) the Con did one thing right: they chose terrific people for their guests. Although Con Security wanted to keep the Guests from the Attendees, the stars more-or-less did what they wanted. Claudia Christianson (*Babylon V*) was charming (although succumbing to flu the last day); Dwight Schultz (*Star Trek: The Next Generation*) was friendly and accessible, and Dirk Benedict (*Battlestar Galactica*) was more than willing to let anyone snap a photo -- or, for that fact, to smooch anyone who wanted a photographic record of his warmth.

They made up for the rest of the weekend's flaws: a Dealer's room filled with photos, magazines, and other media-related items (but nary a book in sight!), programming that had no relationship with the Real World, and a sweltering function space that the hotel refused to air condition ... while outside temperatures climbed to the upper 90's and interior temperatures matched.

One sad note: actor Christopher Reeve had been at the Castlegate a year ago that weekend, speaking for a charity. This year, at her Electrical Eggs Access table, Marilyn Teague had both a card and a letter for fans to sign.

Dragon\*Con isn't really a SF con. It's a Major Fannish Event (which a lot of "fans" wish would go away), chaired by a man who firmly believes that Fandom's Motto should be: "The More, the Merrier!". Their for-profit corporation annually plows its profits back into the next year's budget (thus expanding their enormous Guest List), making Dragon\*Con an *enfant terrible* with an endearing puppy charm.

Since Dragon\*Con has added other "Event Conventions" (such as Gaming's Origins) to its venue before, the Staff didn't expect to face any major problems also being the NASFiC. They weren't fully prepared for attendance of over 15,000 and could not have foreseen that two major Directors (Programming and Fan Tables) would fall ill at exactly the wrong time. Both attended anyway, hoping they could salvage the last-minute snafus that popped up. And no one expected that the Fire Marshal would insist on moving the Art Show from a tight area to a 26-inch maze -- one that was not just wheelchair-unfriendly, but Large Fan unfriendly -- and then approve that set-up.

Another, less understandable, fiasco was their handling of George Alec Effinger, who was under-programmed, under-appreciated, and lost in the airport shuffle. A writer as superb as Effinger deserves a Full Spotlight, not a paltry flip of the flashlight -- AND an apology from Dragon\*Con.

### More Conventions Stats

Name:	New Orleans SF&F Festival	Atlanta C&F Fair	Dragon*Con	JoPhan Family Renion	LibertyCon	FanFaire
Date:	June 16-18	June 23-25	July 13-17	August 25-27	July 7-9	Sept 7-9
City:	New Orleans	Atlanta	Atlanta	Birmingham	Chattanooga	Greenville
State:	Louisiana	Georgia	Georgia	Alabama	Tennessee	SC
Guests:	Connie Willis Jean McClain Barbara Hambly Don Maitz	Claudia Christianson Dwight Schultz Dirk Benedict	George Alec Effinger Harlan Ellison Bjo Trimble Michael Whelan Timothy Zahn	Jerry Page	Bob Tucker	David Weber

There were many things that were done right: a "roast" of Harlan Ellison that left him beaming (and the dead-on description by Ellison of Dragon\*Con chair Ed Kramer as "a man who looks like a deer perpetually caught in headlights"). Michael Whelan, who announced a multi-year hiatus, was still approachable. Bjo Trimble's entire family -- her daughter Kat offered terrific backrubs all Con! -- shared her FGoH spotlight. Tim and Anna Zahn were awarded full laurels, albeit in the *Star Wars* Programming.

Dragon\*Con tied up every hotel in a 3-block radius, every parking space in 5, and most of downtown's restaurants. An SF Con that ties up a Major American Metropolis is something to experience --- once.

i'm sure Dragon\*Con's staff would agree.

The **JoPhan Family Reunion** is a get-together of the descendants of Matthias JoPhan, his five (that we know of) lovely wives, and dozen daughters (with never a son among them!). It is a combination picnic, schmooze-fest, and very relaxed relax-a-con. If you're a JoPhan, you're welcome.

**LibertyCon** is a deliberately small convention that offers an excellent staff, clever programming, enjoyable themes, and terrific guests.

So what's the real reason people attend? Family. "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo's con is like a family reunion where the obnoxious relatives rarely show up ... and your favorite Uncle Bob is always easy to find. The hotel set-up itself has many little nooks, crannies, and open places where people can sit, relax, visit, play cards ...

Every year, LibertyCon has a theme; this year it was "Dragons, Elves, & Fairies". There weren't a huge number of these in attendance, but no one was too upset. Equally, the post-banquet "Roast" of Bob Tucker seemed more a fete than a flame-fest.

There were two "aliens" at LibertyCon this year: Tim Illingworth of the "Glasgow in '95" bid and Robert "Nojay" Sneddon, who shared a room with me. Now, Tim is semi-well-known to Chattanooga fandom, by way of Marcia McCoy. Yet Rob knew only the people staying in our room ... and he spent most of the con with Liberty fans, who took him in as a friend.

There's only one thing that might flaw LibertyCon: next year, they're going to have to schedule around the 1996 Olympics. That's not an easy task to overcome, even for the Liberty crew....

Doing a "review" on **Rivercon** is difficult for me; Rivercon 1 was my first SF Con. As far as i'm concerned, Con Chair Sue Francis could throw it in her backyard and i'd still have a ball! Luckily for everyone else, the Francis clan does an excellent job of creating a con that only improves with age.

This year, Rivercon moved to Labor Day Weekend and added an extra day. The 20th Rivercon saluted previous Rivercons, from Jodi Offutt's Opening Ceremonies speech that listed the changes in fandom since the 1st Rivercon, through "Survivor" ribbons for the few fans who've attended every Rivercon, to slide

retrospectives. In fact, the Guests of Honor were all the guests for what became Rivercon 1 (with one sad exception: Special Guest fantasy writer Thomas Burnett Swann).

There were a number of fans who attended Rivercon XX as an "alternate NASFiC". The Art Show was, as ever, full of wonderful artwork and prints by local artists as well as the AGoHs. Although the Masquerade didn't showcase the variety of costumes that inspired Fandom's prized Ming Awards, a special Ming -- for his excellent and sustained costumes -- went to Masquerader-turned-MC B. J. Willinger.

**FanFaire** is the yeoman effort of Greenville fans that shows its origins as a Gaming convention with heavy emphasis on live-action role-playing, traditional RPGs, Society for Creative Anachronism fighting, and miniatures' battles. But they also feature programming with local authors, filking, even a Full Moon Observance by a local pagan Priestess.

They also hold a "Slave Auction" to support local libraries -- and any and all volunteers are welcome. Electrical Egg Bill '5' Anders was "sold" while still in the wheelchair he was using to counteract the discomfort from his soft-tissue rheumatism. The lady who "bought" him didn't seem to mind 5's unexpected flare-up, the audience loved 5's antics ... and it raised money for a Worthy Cause.

It's not your regular Con, but Con Chairs Raymond and Kimber Foldhazi are working hard to build a base for Fandom in an area that's been poorly served. By emphasizing Fandom's diversity, and by encouraging any and all interests, they're slowly succeeding. Those who aren't sold on non-"traditional" SF Cons should bear in mind that many of the Next Generation of Con-throwing fans are going to come from these people ... and if we don't encourage them, they're going to continue to grow regardless.



## Mad Dog's Southern Con List

This listing was compiled by J.R. 'Mad Dog' Madden, October 08, 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.

**MusiCon 5** (January 5-7 '96), Ramada Inn Governor's Plaza, Nashville, TN. Guests: Mark Bernstein, Tom Smith, Rennie Levine. Membership: \$23 to 12/1/95, then \$28. Info: Musicon, P. O. Box 198121, Nashville, TN 37219-8121. 615-889-5951 or 708-394-3340. cbw@io.com

**Sunquest '96** (January 5-7 '96), Sheraton Plaza Hotel at the Florida Mall, Orlando, FL. Guest: Ruth Thompson. Membership: \$30. 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), Doubletree Suites, Fort Lauderdale, FL. Guests: James P. Hogan, Joe and Jack Haldeman, Ben Bova, Mike Resnick. Membership: \$21 until 12/15/95, \$25 at the door. Info: South Florida SF Society, P. O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307. 305-662-9426.

**Legacy's GulfCon** (January 19-21, 1996), Gulf State Park Resort Hotel, Gulf Shores, AL. Guests: Ben Bova, Mary Hanson-Roberts, Del Stone. Membership: \$30 at the door. Info: Conquest-Legacy's GulfCon, P.O. Box 4092, Shalimar, FL 32579-4092.

**Contact 96**, the first Sci-Fi Convention at Walt Disney World (January 21-23 '96). Info: 407-827-7600 or your travel agent.

**Round Con '96** (February 2-4, 1996), Holiday Inn N.E., Columbia, SC. Membership \$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.

**MidSouthCon 15** (March 22-24 '96), The Brownstone Hotel, Memphis, TN. Guests: Frank Kelly Freas, Laura Brodian Freas, Cullen Johnson, Paul Darrow. Membership: \$15 to 3/24/95, \$20 to 11/30/95, \$25 to 3/1/96, then \$30. Info: MidSouthCon 15, P. O. Box 22749, Memphis, TN 38122. 901-274-7355.

**CoastCon 19** (March 22-24 '96), Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, Memphis, TN. Guests: Elizabeth Moon, Michael Stackpole, Tim Beach, Tom Dupree, Ruth Thompson, L.A. Williams. Membership: \$20 until 1/1/96, \$25 until 3/1/96, \$30 at the door. Info: CoastCon 19, P.O. Box 1423, Biloxi, MS 39533-1423

**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 Etihliw Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 8593, Columbia, SC 29202.



**World Horror Convention** (May 10-12 '96), Valley River Inn, Eugene, OR. Guests: Clive Barker, Charles de Lint, Michael Whelan. Membership: \$65 to 12/31/95, \$75 to 5/1/96, higher at the door. Info: World Horror Convention, Box 40842, Eugene, OR 97404. 800-738-2660. J.York3@genie.geis.com.

**Roc of Age's 96** (May 10-12 '96), Sheraton Airport Plaza, Charlotte NC. Guests: James Doohan, Gunnar Hansen, Doug Bradley, Barbra Leigh, Allan Handelman, Neil St. Crosse, Steve Jackson, Christian, Inge Heyer. Membership: \$15 until 3/1/96, \$25 at the door. Info: ROC of AGE's, c/o Goth, 105 Honeywood Ct. Kissimmee, FL 34743. 407-344-3010

**Roc\*Kon 20** (May 17-19 '96), Little Rock Hilton Inn, Little Rock, AR. Guests: Diana Gallagher. Membership: \$18 to 4/30/96, then more? Info: Roc\*Kon, P. O. Box 24285, Little Rock, AR 72221. 501-776-1146.

**Kubla-Khan** (May 17-19 '96), Ramada Inn South, Nashville, TN. Guests: Charles L. Fontenay, Howard Devore, Andrew J. Offutt. Membership: to be announced. Info: Ken Moore, 647 Devon, Drive, Nashville, TN 37220. 615-832-8402.

**Cruise Trek '96** (June 15-22 '96), out of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Guests: Tim Russ, Roxann Biggs-Dawson, John De Lancie, Eric Menyuk, Karen Westerfield. Info: Cruise Trek, P. O. Box 2038, Agoura Hills, CA 91376-2038. 818-597-2940.

**Dragon-Con '96** (June 20-23 '96), Atlanta Hilton and Towers, Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, Ramada Hotel, Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, GA. Guests: Rudy Rucker, John Shirley, Bruce Sterling, Dr. Timothy Leary, Robert Anton Wilson, Chris Claremont, Robert Williams, William Stout, Charles Vess, Peter David, Neil Gaiman, John Byrne, Kevin J. Anderson, C. J. Cherryh. Membership: \$40 to 12/15/95, \$45 to 3/15/96, \$50 to 5/15/96, \$60 at the door. Info: Dragon Con '96, P. O. Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0626. 404-925-0115. dragoncon@dragoncon.org; <http://www.dscga.com/~dragoncon>.

**ConDiablo / WesterCon 49** (July 4-7 '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, \$50 to 12/31/95, then higher. Info: ConDiablo, Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923. 800-585-8754, in El Paso, 542-0443.

**LibertyCon 10** (July 12-14 '96), Days Inn and Convention Centre, Chattanooga, TN. Guests: Timothy Zahn, Dave & Lori Deitrick, Les Johnson, Bob Tucker. Membership: \$25 to June 15, 1996, \$35 at the door. Info: LibertyCon 10, P.O. Box 695, Hixson, TN 37343.

**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.

**Concat 8** (November 22-24 '96), Radisson Hotel, Knoxville, TN. Guests: Nancy Collins, Alan Clark, Wendy Webb, Charles Grant. Membership: TBA. Info: Chloe Airoidi, 316 E. Scott Ave, Knoxville, TN 37917. 423-523-6986

## Quest for the Green Hills of Earth

reviewed by Ruth Shields

This booklet is edited by Ned Brooks and illustrated by Alan Hunter. It is published by Brooks' Purple Mouth Press, 713 Paul Street, Newport News, VA 23605. Price is \$5 (domestic postage included).

It contains the story "Quest of the Starstone", by C. L. Moore and Henry Kuttner. It is set in a font which resembles that of its original appearance in Weird Tales in 1937. (The printing history of the story is strangely absent from the credit page, but is mentioned later in the booklet.) This story contains perhaps the first science-fictional use of the song title, "The Green Hills of Earth", and Brooks was inspired to reprint the story because of his interest in various film versions of that song. In addition to the story, the booklet contains Heinlein's verses under that title, and film additions by Chuck Rein, George Heap, Don Markstein, Steve Sneyd, and others. And most important to Ned Brooks, he has published several pieces of sheet-music for tunes which have been used by those singing some versions of "The Green Hills of Earth". He expresses his concern that those tunes, especially one written by George Heap, might be lost, and therefore he chose this method of getting them into print.

Moore and Kuttner's story is one which I had not previously encountered. In it, the warrior-maid Jirel of Joiry, of old France, meets Northwest Smith, a character from space-faring stories of the future. The catalyst of their meeting is a wizard enemy of Jirel, who magically searches the timeways for someone to hire to help him take revenge on Jirel. As might be expected, Smith and Jirel end up uniting against the wizard. The story is moody and full of fine imagery, one of the more memorable by these authors, and I am glad to have found it. The illustrations are an appropriate counterpoint to the text of both story and verses.

Ned Brooks is looking for current addresses for Cindy Heap, Elliot Shorter, and Jason "Chuck" Rein, in order that he may send them copies of this publication. If anyone can help, he can be reached at the above address.

## Confederate Apas

by Eric L. Watts

### Part One of Three Copyright (c) 1995 Eric L. Watts

The *New Moon Directory* defines an amateur press association (apa) as "a group of people who, individually, produce original publications primarily intended to be collected, collated and bound into volumes which are distributed back to the members of that group, with restricted distribution to nonmembers." That is a rather dry description for a fannish activity enjoyed by many hundreds of fans throughout the world, since apas are usually devoted to some sort of specific topic, genre or other activity. When Bulletin Board Systems (BBSs) first gained popularity, they were sometimes described as "electronic apas" because the interaction between subscribers was similar to that of apas. Conversely, apas could be described as "BBSs in print." Apas, however, have the advantage of allowing each member to strictly control the content, format and circulation of the material he publishes, and generally knows who his audience is. Participating in an apa can be a very rewarding experience for anyone who enjoys writing and publishing his own zines.

The 1995-1996 *New Moon Directory* lists nearly 200 apas from around the world. For the purposes of this column, "Southern" apas are defined simply as any apa which is collated in the South, without regard to their particular subject matter. Because Central Mailers/Official Editors are usually elected to annual terms, this list is subject to change without notice. For the purposes of brevity, apa descriptions have been edited to just a couple or three sentences. If you are interested in joining any of the following apas, please contact the apa's collator directly. Complete descriptions of these apas, as well as listings for hundreds more, can be found in *The New Moon Directory* (\$4.95 postpaid from Eric L. Watts, 346 Carpenter Drive #51, Atlanta GA 30328-5030).

**ALPHA-OMEGA** Coordinator: Harry W. Miller 1106 Jones Ave Bowling Green KY 42104 (502) 843-2300; bimonthly; copy count 35; 25 members; minac 4 pp/2 issues, no maxac; dues = positive postage account; open roster, 30 maximum; no waitlisters; spec copies \$3; back issues \$3

ALPHA-OMEGA (AO) was founded in 1985 for committed Christians who are both fans and creators of comics and animation which present positive Christian values to their audience in a wonderfully entertaining and edifying manner.

**APA ARGON** Official Editor: Randall S. Stukey 4122 Tallulah San Antonio TX 78218-3452 (210) 655-2678 Internet: lensman@crl.com or r.stukey@genie.geis.com; bimonthly; copy count 12; 11 members; minac 2 pp/2 issues; dues \$10/year; open

roster, 15 maximum; no waitlist; spec copies \$3; back issues unavailable

APA ARGON is the "official" apa of Argon of Cantee, a small, international SF/F fan club with special interest groups covering Anne McCafferey's Pern, Star Trek, Elfquest and others.

**APADEMIC** Publisher: Joseph P. Gill 4605 Hollandale Ave Wichita Falls TX 76302-2835 (817) 761-1756; hexaweekly; copy count 12; 8 members; minac 1 pg/issue, maxac 20 pp/issue; dues \$6/year + postage; open roster, 25 maximum; no waitlist; spec copies \$1 + postage; back issues \$1 + postage when available, none currently available

APADEMIC was formed in the summer of 1991 without any special focus on any particular area. We are a friendly bunch of people who just like to write and we're looking for more friends. We would love to have you join our group!

**BRAID, THE** Coordinator: Stan Baker 3705 S George Mason Dr #313-S Falls Church VA 22041 (703) 931-4566; 5 issues/year; copy count 16; 14 members; minac 1 pg/3 out of 5 issues; dues ?; open roster; no waitlist; spec copies free; back issues usually unavailable

THE BRAID is an apa that takes the novels of C. J. Cherryh as its central focus but feels free to deal with any subject in the galaxy or beyond that its members may find of interest.

**BWA** Official Editor: Linda Blanchard PO Box 50788 Midland TX 79710-0788; bimonthly; copy count 30; 25 members; minac 1 pg/3 issues; dues = positive postage account; full roster, 25 maximum; open waitlist; spec copies ?; back issues ?

BWA is a women-only apa. Conversations range from science fiction to sex to quilting to comics - it's a very friendly and welcoming group.

**CONFLICT, THE** Contact: Tom Claypool PO Box 240504 Memphis TN 38124-0504 (901) 458-7009; quarterly; open roster, 25 maximum; all other details ?

THE CONFLICT is dedicated to the Civil War.

**CONNECTION, THE** [aka THE (LIBERTARIAN) CONNECTION] Proprietor: Erwin S. Strauss 101 S Whiting St #700-N Alexandria VA 22304 (703) 461-8645; hexaweekly; copy count 1, print run 105; 75 members/subscribers; maxac 2 pg/issue, extra pp \$7 each; subscriptions \$20/year; open roster; no waitlist; spec copies \$2.50; back issues \$2.50

THE CONNECTION (TC) is the apa for talk about hot potatoes like politics and religion. Each member/subscriber can submit two 8 x 11 pages per issue, to be run free, unedited (extras at \$7/page). I send a copy of each submission to all in a handy, stapled form.

**DALLAS BRAWL APA** Contact: Mel White PO Box 495335, Garland, TX 75049-5335; Internet: 72747.131@compuserv.com; monthly; copy count 1; 70 members; no minac/maxac; dues \$2/issue + 5" x 9" envelope with \$1 postage; open roster, no limit; no waitlist; spec copies \$4; back issues \$4 each or \$45 per "yearly set" (13 issues)

DALLAS BRAWL APA is one of the silliest and most fun apas around. It's a form of "Wars-Apa" or "Zap-Apa," where creators' characters play jokes on other contributors' characters.

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### Fanzines and the South

by Tom Feller

**Challenger #3**, Autumn 1995, c/o Guy Lillian, P.O. Box 53092, New Orleans, LA 70153-3092; available for the usual; 96 pages. Guy himself writes about one of his legal clients, Harry B. Moore (chairman of Nolacon I), Kent State, and O. J. Simpson. Other articles include Binker Glock Hughes on spelunking, Harry Warner on *Northern Exposure*, Dennis Dolbear on a trip to London, and Rich Dengrove on witches. 25 pages of letters and 5 of fanzine reviews.

**Cube #60**; c/o SF<sup>3</sup>, Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701-1624; edited by Hope Kiefer; available for trades, articles, letters, art, or \$12 annually. This clubzine is not a Southern zine, but this issue contains a DragonCon report by Perianne Lurie. 16 pages.

**File 770:110**; c/o Mike Glycer, P.O. Box 1056, Sierra Madre, CA 91025; available for news, artwork, arranged trades, or \$8 for 5 issues, \$15 for 10 issues. This newszine is also not a Southern Fanzine. However, it contains several items of interest to Southern fans. The first are extensive analyses of DragonCon, mostly by Ross Pavlac and mostly negative. Another is an article on the Trans Atlantic Fan Fund. (In the 1995 race, Samanda b Jeudé lost to Dan Steffan.) Glycer focuses on the rift between fanzine fans and convention fans. Samanda's "very right to participate was sharply attacked in fanzine editorials and lettercolumns," Glycer comments. He then goes on to discuss how the bad feelings can be mended. Finally, there is an obituary for Harry B. Moore, chairman of Nolacon I, by Guy Lillian III. 22 pages.

**FOSFAX**, #177: October, 1995; edited by Timothy Lane and Elizabeth Garrott; c/o FOSFA, P.O. Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281; available for the usual or \$12 annually; 60 pages of small type. This zine missed being nominated for a Hugo by one vote, and Timothy and Joe Major admit to failing to send in their nominating ballots. Extensive reviews of poetry, movies, and books, not necessarily science fiction; articles on political issues; convention reports; another installment of Joe Major's excellent series on the Heinlein juveniles; 31 pages of letters.

**Mimosa**, #17; edited and published by Nicki and Richard Lynch, P.O. Box 1350, Germantown, MD 20875; available for the usual or \$3 per issue; 48 pages. This last Worldcon broke their string of three consecutive Hugo Awards. However, there has been no decline in quality. Dick and Nicki discuss the fire that damaged their home; Dean Grennell and Esther Cole recall the late Robert Bloch; Dave Kyle and Forrest Ackerman contribute fanhistorical articles; Sharon Farber continues her series of doctor stories; Ben Zuhl tells of the origins of Spayed Gerbils; Walt Willis on his contacts with Philip Larkin and Robert Conquest; and more; 10 pages of letters.

**The NASFA Shuttle**, Vol 15, No. 9, September, 1995; No 10, October; and No. 11, November. c/o North Alabama Science Fiction Association; P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville, AL, 35815-4857; edited by Mike Kennedy; available for the usual or \$10 annually. Issue #9 contains extensive reports on Dragoncon, Rivercon, and Intersection; #10 has more on Dragoncon; #11 has even more on DragonCon and reports on Constellation and an art theft. #9 is 26 pages, #10 and #11 both ten.

**Yngvi**, #38: September 1995; c/o Toni Weiskopf, 5020 Henry Hudson Parkway, Riverdale, NY 10471. Fanzine reviews, Intersection report, and a letter to a young French fan on distinctions among different kinds of SF/fantasy. 12 pages.

## Letters

9/9/15: Yuri A. Mironets, Oktyabrskaya st. 2, apt 15, Vladivostok, 690000, Russia

Yesterday I had a pleasant surprise -- I received a parcel from you with SF magazines and fanzines. Everything reached Vladivostok safely and I'm very grateful to you -- the zines will surely be of great help to me, because they give a lot of information about American SF fandom, and one of my lectures is devoted to SF magazines and fanzines.

But first, let me introduce myself. My name is Yuri Mironets. I'm 51, and work as an associate professor at the English Language Department of the Far Eastern University in Vladivostok, Russia. I teach mostly various aspects of English -- reading, translation and analyzing of texts, grammar, etc. But two years ago, I proposed to give the students of the English Language Department a course of lectures in American science fiction and fantasy. As you probably know, American science fiction, with a few exceptions, was practically prohibited in the former Soviet Union, but now the situation has changed.

As I have been a devoted SF fan since my childhood, I decided to get the students acquainted with the best works of American SF writers. My proposition was approved by the Faculty's Council and so my lectures began.

Unfortunately, the changes in our country didn't influence in any favourable way the situation in Vladivostok's book-shops -- they are still empty not only of American SF books in the original, but of any books in English. Still, I managed to collect a small library of American SF books and had to do with what I had.

Students often ask a lot of questions about American SF in general and American fandom in particular, to some of which I don't know the answers myself. I plan to study thoroughly the zines that you've sent and I'm sure it'll broaden the horizons of my knowledge of American SF. ■

*((Perhaps some of my fellow fanzine editors can put you on their mailing lists.))*

9/11/95: Teddy Harvia, 701 Regency Drive, Hurst, TX 76054

The SFC Bulletin looks good. I did notice that you are not only the editor, but a major contributor. I know something about that. How long can you keep it up? Are you going to start creating artwork under a pen name, drop the facade of fan editing and writing, and go on to bigger things? Or maybe you'll simply settle for art from others with pen names. Hmmm.

Strife between fanzine fans and convention fans will hurt the Transatlantic Fan Fund (TAFF), but I don't think it will destroy it. Of the major fan funds, it requires the least amount of money to continue. The Down Under Fan Fund (DUFF) and the Gone Under Fan Fund (GUFF) are much more expensive operations. I

have to admit that I was not in favor of Samanda b Jeudé's candidacy for the simple reason that she was virtually unknown overseas. But I do not think she deserved the hostile criticism heaped on her by certain SMOFs. Perhaps we need a TAFF winner who would broaden the scope of the fannish circles and not merely refresh acquaintances.

If our finances recover, perhaps Diana and I can attend DeepSouthCon 35 in Jackson. I'll talk to her about it, after we make a dent in the bills from our U.K. trip. If I remember right, Jackson is a straight drive from Dallas.

The e-mail addresses on your colophon page were a bit confusing. Being new to the medium, I need complete, exact information to succeed. Messages kicked back because of incorrect addresses is very discouraging. ■

*((Congratulations on your second Hugo award for best fan artist. Sorry for the confusion. Please check the e-mail listing this issue.))*

9/12/95: Buck Coulson, 2766W-500N, Hartford City, IN 47348

Nice to see you at Rivercon, not that we got to talk much. Born September, 1954, eh? That was about a month after Juanita and I got married. I used to attend programming, or at least a good part of it. Now that Juanita and I are huckstering, I only attend the programs that I'm on, with a few rare exceptions.

Oh, Harlan [Ellison] can be shut up now and then when he sticks his neck out. His problem is that while he tends to talk incessantly about his own activities, he forgets about other people's and it is therefore susceptible to hoof-in-mouth disease.

Tch, Samanda [Jeudé]; you didn't even mention Suzette Haden Elgin's presence at MagiCarpet. While one of the main reasons Juanita and I went to the con was to see Marion [Zimmer Bradley] -- probably for the last time, though I hope not -- we spent at least as much time with Suzette, and I spent more with her husband George, since the Elgin huckster table was next to ours. It's a shame that neither we nor the Elgins can afford to go to just any con we choose to, or we'd see more of each other. I fell in like (if you can fall in love, why not in like?) with Suzette the first time I met her. She's a splendid conversationalist, and George also does quite well in that department.

I don't believe that convention fans should support TAFF. No convention should donate money to it. If the fanzine fans insist that only fanzine fans should win, then let the fanzine fans damnwell pay for it. They've been pulling this stuff for years; Martha Beck's candidacy was the last big uproar before Samanda's, but there's a steady undercurrent. It's about time they were told to put up or shut up. Ted White has a big mouth, but a very small pocket.

Might see you at Continuity next year, it's the only Southern con we'll be going to -- except Rivercon, of course, and that's not really very far south. (Oh yes, and MusiCon, but that's aimed at filkers.)■

9/17/95: Phil Rose, 4450 Winslow PL North #3, Seattle, WA 98103

I note that one of the books you mentioned [in your MidSouthCon report] you'd take to a desert planet is Leonard Wibberley's *The Mouse That Roared*. About two months ago I borrowed all the Mouse books, plays and movies from the library. I was amazed there were so many, and that the level of quality remained high. I also enjoyed the distant prequel, *Beware of the Mouse*. Highly recommended are Wibberley's juvenile fantasies *Encounter Near Venus* and *Journey to Untor*. Great stuff! ■

*((Phil publishes an excellent non-SF zine called Sacred City. Subscriptions are \$20 for six issues. Warning: some articles contain explicit sexual language and adult situations.))*

9/21/95: Joseph Major, 3307 River Chase Ct #14, Louisville, KY 40218-1832

The problem with my writing is that I keep thinking of wonderful ideas and then promptly forget them before I can get them written down. Perhaps this immediacy [of e-mail] will make such lapses less likely. At least I will have to turn the computer on more.

I wonder if Lucy Huntzinger's "lack of a supportive fan community" and her preference for her kind of perzine as the Perfect Product of the Magic Mimeograph are not unrelated. Surely reading the descriptions of Andy Hooper's Apparatchik makes me think that he should go directly to the zine scene, where everyone smokes clove cigarettes, dresses entirely in black, and pontificates endlessly on the nothingness of everything. Everyone should send to Apparatchik and to Blat! or be deemed fakefans, but getting trades, well, now, see here boy! Just like the post-Seth Factsheet Five, which gives no trades. (In spite of sending to all of them we certainly have gotten nothing in return.)■

9/26/95: Lloyd Penney, 412-4 Lisa St., Brampton, ON, Canada L6T 4B6

First of all, congratulations on becoming the new SFC President. The area in which I live has few fannish organizations, so I kinda envy there being such an encompassing regional group like the SFC in your area. Let's see if I can make some comments on what's inside the fanzine you sent me, SFC Bulletin, Vol. 6, #1.

I see you outline the tale of how you found fandom, and how fandom got its claws into you in return. After you got the call from the Metro Jackson Visitors and Convention Bureau, did you ever find out who "Carl Brandon" was in this case, or is this still a mystery?

The DSC sounded like fun. I would like to get to a convention Ken Moore runs, but money will probably never allow for it. I'll just have to read con reports, which, I guess, makes them virtual cons attended.

New Orleans should go ahead and bid for 2003. Baltimore won the 1998 Worldcon, and the DiamondVision debacle from 1983 didn't seem to hurt them. Bring on Nolacon III!

I'm glad you included a report on the DragonCon NASFiC. I've heard only a little bit, but what I've heard has been horrible. Next time there's a NASFiC, I think the voters will make sure there's fans running it.

Nigel Bennett is a silly sod and a self-confessed convention slut. Nigel lives up this way and has been having fun doing the *Forever Knight* series, but has gained infamy doing cereal commercials for General Mills. He's found there's more recognition factor in the cereal commercials, and he dreads anyone walking up to him and shouting, in a bad Scottish accent, "IT ISNAE OATMEAL!" You'll have to see them sometime. They're hilarious.

Your article on Nolazine shows me something I didn't know about, and that's someone else with the last name of Penney in fandom! I'd like to know more about Jan Penney and more about her fan activities. She can't possibly be a relative, but I'd still like to know something more.

End of fanzine means end of letter, I guess. I attended ConClave XX, so I decided to use the US stamps I already had, and mail it from there. Take care, keep the zines coming.■

*((I never did find out the true identity of "Carl Brandon", but the phone number belongs to LACON.))*

10/1/95: Sheryl Birkhead, 23629 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

I never thought fans needed any reason to become excited about Glasgow -- just the very name sets off thoughts of "exotic" travel and adventures. I am looking forward to conreports showing up, fairly soon now, to let those of us who had to stay behind in on the happenings there. I hadn't thought of the legacies of the Rings and other things fantastic.

Do you happen to recall who the other panelists were for the fanzine panel at DragonCon ... other than Timothy Lane? Just curious.

MagiCarpet Con sounds as if it has been a comfortable little convention ... one that didn't do too badly with its attempt at the big leagues.

A respectable list of zines received and then I realized that I get all but one of them ... that is some sort of record for



comparison of my receipts. Your comments about Blat! are very interesting. True, Ted White has just as much right as anyone to say anything he wants, but we also have the right to have our own thoughts about what he has to say and the manner in which he says it.

Lucy Huntzinger's name (to me at least) seemed to crop up suddenly a "few" (?) years ago and I know she is the mainstay of the next Corflu. I have read some of her pubs and think that if she gets out some zines, explaining her plight (a fannish drought) I'd bet she'd be able to locate at least one or two fan centers within a reasonable distance. Bear in mind that I know absolutely nothing about the area!

Very interesting (and a bit different) fillo by P.L. Caruthers-Montgomery on page 9! I hope you can get more of them.

Ah, the name Dean Sweatman -- there's a name from the past. ... N3F, if I remember correctly.

The Nolazine article has the comment about Worldcons and hotels -- how true. While I am not at all certain what capacities of the biggest hotels are, but I'd guess that it is nowhere near the registration these days. It looks as if convention centers (or the abhorrent registration limits?) will be necessary from here on unless someone can come up with another workable plan ... sad. I don't remember, but what was the venue of AussieCon 2?■

*((I don't recall who the other panelist was supposed to be with Timothy, so I'll cheat and look at the program. It says someone by the name of Forrest Black.*

*There are two club listings for Nashville in this issue. I know that at least one of them by now has invited Ms. Huntzinger to visit. J.R.'s con listing includes four conventions in Tennessee.*

*The ConFrancisco Souvenir Program Book gives the Southern Cross, Victoria, and Sheraton hotels as the sites of AussieCon 2. Not having attended, I could not tell you how it worked.))*

10/5/95: **George Flynn**, P.O. Box 1069, Kendall Sq. Stn., Cambridge, MA 02142

It may be just as well that you didn't succeed in explaining fandom to the convention bureau rep. I've seen a fair number of regionals where the hotels had signs like "WELCOME WSFS," and it's been speculated that the misconception leads them to give us more respect.

Baltimore was the only '98 bid represented at DeepSouthCon? Well, one more bit of evidence for why Atlanta did so badly in the voting.

I once rendered Harlan [Ellison] momentarily speechless. When I was Hugo administrator, he called me to make sure I had all the appearances of his nominated story correctly listed. And when I told him I was familiar with the book version because I'd proofread it, there was a *long* pause ...

Isn't Samanda's name spelled "Jeudé"?■

*((You're right. I misspelled Samanda's name all through the last issue. I was so proud of myself for figuring out how to insert the "e" that I didn't check the rest of her name. Of course, what's really embarrassing is that it was a Nesfan who caught the error.*

10/15/95: **Charles Broerman**, 2815 School St., Alexandria, VA 22303

Technically I guess I'm a Southern fan. I'm a fan, and I live in the South, though as its northernmost verge. (Do you know the Groucho Marx line, "If I get any closer to you lady I'll be behind you.") "Olde Towne" Alexandria does have a statue of a Confederate soldier, right in the middle of the street. He hangs his head in sorrow, his back turned to the north. One night the police thought he might have been making some kind of symbolic gesture, but it turned out it was just an accident. At any rate most people around here came from somewhere else, as did I, so Northern Virginia's Southern identity is rather tenuous. But so what? The Civil War would just as well not have been fought at all, imho, so I don't take any satisfaction in the North's victory.

Not that this is germane to anything, but I wonder why Maryland isn't considered part of the South. It was a slave state, south of the Mason-Dixon line, and though officially Maryland supported the Union there was considerable popular sympathy with the Confederacy. Did Kentucky secede? I don't think so (I could be wrong) yet it's included as part of the South.

I enjoyed the Nolazine article. It's sad to compare the state of the space program today with the expectations of 1970. At the time Apollo seemed a first step to greater achievements. Now the moon landings look like a high point never to be achieved again.

The latest news of the Galileo probe to Jupiter is that the data recorder is stuck in rewind, this on top of the main antenna failing to open fully. The latest shuttle mission has been delayed, again. And we can only build a space station with the help of the Russians, as bankrupted and technologically backward as they are. Back when 2001 came out, the metaphysical trappings were certainly fanciful, but the future achievements of space exploration seemed within the bounds of legitimate hard SF. A manned mission to Jupiter, a mere 6 years from now! What a pipe dream. We don't seem able to even send an unmanned probe that will work.

For what my near-neo-ish opinion is worth, I agree with you about Samanda b Jeudé and TAFF. I would have given her my vote, if I had been an active fan long enough to vote.■

*((Kentucky did NOT secede from the union during the Civil War.*

*We also heard from Pamela Boal, Sue Zuege, Nola Frame-Gray, R Laurraine Tutihasi, and Tom Evans.))*

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