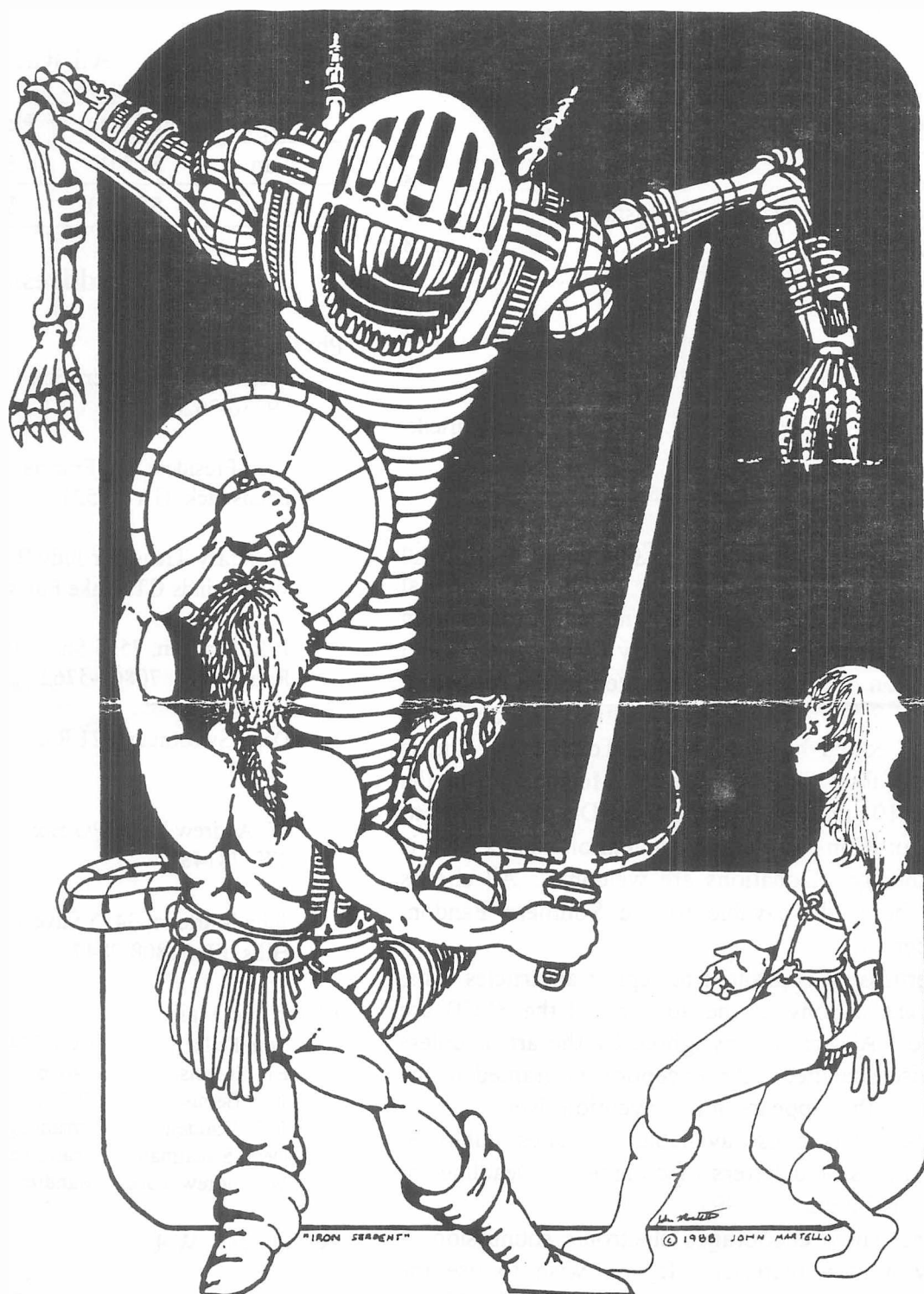


Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin



Volume 6, No. 6: October, 1996

Southern Fandom Confederation

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Cover Artist.....John Martello

Policies

The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin (SFCB) Vol. 6, No. 6, October, 1996, 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 Science Fiction and Fantasy 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.

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The SFCB is also available for trades, published contributions, and letters of comment. Deadline for issue #7 is January 1, 1997.

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.

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The Carpetbagger

by Tom Feller

7/1 to 8.1. 1996

I completed issue no. 5 of the *SFC Bulletin*, had the copies printed at Office Depot, and prepared them for mailing. I studied the instructions for the new bulk mailing rules very closely. The main difference for those of us mailing 200-300 pieces primarily in one part of the country was that the new rules drop the state sort for sorting by Area Distribution Center (ADC). There may be more than one ADC in a state and an ADC may include parts of more than one state. I even raised the question in the class I attended back in May. All the material I received reinforced this point. I got a list of the ADCs and carefully sorted my pieces.

However, a few hours after I dropped off the mailing, I received a call from the bulk mailing center. The person at the other end said my mailing was all screwed up, because I hadn't sorted by state. I replied that I tried to follow the instructions I received at the class and from the instructional material. He replied that they may have indeed said that, but they still wanted the state sort. He did give me the option of resorting, but I had to catch a flight so I chose to pay a penalty instead.

I wrote a letter of complaint a week later, but there has been no reply. This tells me that the post office doesn't want to bother with small bulk mailers like me. An incident like this makes electronic publishing very attractive.

8/2-4: Crescent City Con

I was working in Baton Rouge that week, so instead of driving back to Jackson Friday afternoon, I went in the direction of New Orleans. I arrived at 4 PM and had no difficulty registering with the hotel. However, getting my luggage and party supplies to the room was a challenge. The hotel's bellman carts had been nussing since the morning. One of the bellman and I carried my stuff to the elevators and placed half of the items inside. Then one of the other passengers hit a button to close the door. We watched helplessly as the elevator went all the way to the top floor with most of my luggage and supplies inside. This included my laptop computer. Fortunately, another bellman brought the elevator back with my stuff intact. Then I went out to the airport and picked up Anita Williams, who was flying down from Nashville.

Fortunately, I don't go to conventions for the guests. John Rhys-Davies (*Raiders of the Lost Ark*) canceled, because he had to film more episodes of *Sliders*. George Alec Effinger had to cancel due to illness. I do go to one of Hugo Montero's demonstrations Sunday. He spray paints space landscapes. A single picture takes him about 30 minutes. Most of them would require a Hal Clement to explain the planetary physics.

I attended one panel, "*Babylon 5* as classic space opera?" The consensus was that it is not classic space opera. "Space opera" is itself a derogatory term for work that uses stereotypical characters and simplistic plots. There were dances both Friday and Saturday night. Robert Neagle, the conchairperson, deejayed both with some help. Anita and I enjoyed both, although by Saturday night we were finding the selections to be rather repetitious. I spent more time watching videos than is normal for me. Courtesy of the Krewe of the Enterprise. I watched the recent *Dr. Who* movie and the mirror universe episodes from *Star Trek: Deep Space 9*.

The highlight of the convention was the DeepSouthCon party. Since I was pleased with the turnout at New Orleans Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival, Anita and I started the party at 7 PM Saturday when the dealers room closed. We had a steady stream of people until after 10 PM, when we closed down to attend the dance.

The conversation was very interesting. Someone discussed the possibility of opening the dealers room to the public. This led to a discussion of what then do the members of the convention actually pay for, if not in part for the dealers room? This in turn led to the question of why people actually attend the

Convention Facts

Name:	Crescent City Con	WorldCon/LAcon III	OutsideCon
Date:	August 2-4	August 29-Sept 2	September 21
Site:	Quality Inn	Convention Center Hilton, Marriott	Camp Marymount
City:	Metairie (New Orleans)	Anaheim	Nashville
State:	Louisiana	California	Tennessee
Attendance:	600	6,000	100
Guests:	Hugo Montero	James White Roger Corman Takumi & Sachiko Shibano Elsie Wolheim (In Memoriam) Connie Willis	none

convention. This reminded me of a question a fan had asked me that day. "What exciting activities do you plan for the DSC?" Is a science fiction convention a series of planned activities to entertain the fans? Is it a kind of day-care? Or is the purpose to give fans the opportunity to brownnose with pro writers (or actors in the case of media cons)? When I started attending conventions, I was so relieved to find out there were other people like me that I didn't worry about activities. My purpose was to meet like-minded people and to renew acquaintances with fans from other cities. However, I may be out of touch with today's fan.

8/5-24

Preparations for the DeepSouthCon proceeded. I checked with the planetarium. The people there were favorably disposed to giving discounts to members of the DSC. I also checked the cost of running a shuttle between the hotel and the planetarium. The cost of renting two 12 seat vans was reasonable. Of course, we have to furnish the drivers.

8/25-9/2: LACon III

I met Anita Williams in the Dallas-Fort Worth airport, and we traveled together to the John Wayne Airport in Orange County, CA. Our flight arrived on time, but our luggage did not. Then the Santa Ana Holiday Inn-Express denied my employee discount, because my office's discount cards were out-of-date. Fortunately, the luggage arrived on the next flight and a secretary in my office faxed a letter assuring the Holiday Inn management that I was legit.

After a few days, we moved over to the Anaheim Hilton for the con. We ran into Anthony "Skip" Ward, one of my oldest fannish friends, at registration in the Marriott. Attached to my badge was a note directing me to Program Ops. I worked there during the convention to prepare for running the department next year in San Antonio.

At this Worldcon, Program Ops took up about a quarter of the Green Room. In addition, Program Ops registered program participants. We worked until about 7 PM Wednesday. Anita and I walked around the neighborhood that evening and eventually ate at the Jolly Roger. Australia in 1999 had a room party that night, which we visited. We ran into Benoit "Ben" Gerard (The Frozen Frog). Ben and I had a long talk that night.

Ben complains that he was received so many good letters that he cannot afford to put out another issue.

I was back at Program Ops the following day. Much of our effort went toward registering program participants. The most amusing incident occurred when David Feintuch, one of the Campbell nominees, came in about 30 minutes before we opened Thursday. We did not have him down as a program participant, because he was a late registrant. He jumped to the conclusion that he would be on no program items at all. "I've come a thousand miles for nothing," he cried. Finally, we got his program figured out. I'm sure he was glad that he came when he won the Campbell Award later that weekend.

One day I put out table tents for panels in the Hilton. This allowed me to sit in on one panel "Write This Way" with Christina Lake, Dick Lynch, and Teresa Nielsen-Hayden. They made the point that good fan writing is not inferior to professional writing. Rather it is unsellable, because it is written for a small audience of around 300 readers. After putting out the 4 PM cards, I returned to Program Ops, where we closed about 6 PM.

Anita and I then had dinner with Alexander Slate (Texas SF Inquirer, PhiloSFv) at the Hansa House, which featured an all-you-can eat buffet. The restaurant review in Stat!, the convention zine, had been favorable. We found the service poor, as no waitress ever took a drink order from us. Of course, it didn't hurt us to drink plain water for once during the weekend. We then found the fan lounge in the Hilton and sat in on a panel, "Fanzines I'd Like to Publish" with Lenny Bailes, Richard Brandt, Leah Zeldes Smith, and Art Widner. Lenny Bailes was on a futurist kick during the convention. He proposed that the fanzine of the future be distributed electronically and reproduced on the reader's own printer. Art Widner told us the story of Earl Singleton's suicide hoax, which led to Art's gaffiation of many years. We then went to the parties. One advantage of using the Hilton is that all room parties were located on the 5th floor, where there were also two courtyards and the swimming pool. This minimized elevator usage, and we learned to use the stairways early in the weekend.

By this time, we were on shifts in Program Ops. We did double shifts Friday. I took 9-12 and 3-6. When we heard that Harlan Ellison was within 100 meters, we made sure that badges for him and his wife were in order. (Ellison has been known to throw a tantrum whenever there is the least little mixup in his registration.)

My shift wasn't until 3 PM Saturday, so I attended panels at 10 AM and 1 PM. The first panel was "Why do People Write for Fanzines?" with Lenny Bailes, Benoit Gerard, Nicki Lynch, and Martin Tudor. The discussion quickly turned to the issue of paper vs. electronic fanzines. Henry Welch made a point about the advantage of paper zines by personally handing Lenny Bailes a copy of The Knarley Knews. Martin Tudor handed out installments of his TAFF trip report. He was so personable, that he almost made me sorry I didn't vote this year. Joining Anita and me for lunch were Ruth and Rickey Shields and Johnny

Australia wins the 1999 WorldCon!

Total votes:

Australia	808
Zagreb	158
Other sites	28
None of the Above	33
No Preference	35

Lowe (CFSFS Almanac). Johnny is a Mississippi native who lives in Southern California. We then separated for the 1 PM panels. Ruth and I went to "Fandom in the Boonies" with Richard Brandt, Randy Smith, John Trimble, Art Widner, and Perianne Lurie. Randy Smith has the most difficult time. He lives in central Nebraska, where there are no clubs or conventions. Richard Brandt told about being a fan in Mobile, AL. He once went with his parents to a *Dr. Who* convention in that city. This became their permanent conception of fandom.

It was quiet during the shift back at Program Ops. Debbie Hodgkinson and I sat down with Rick Katze and others to discuss the policies and procedures of programming, especially program ops. After my work shift, Anita and I went to the room of Skip Ward and John Andrews. They are members of a group of fans to whom Ruth and Rickey introduced me at my first Worldcon. This is informal fannish circle formed during the 1977 Worldcon (Suncon) and tries to hold a reunion at each WorldCon. John likes to take a group picture each year.

My final shift was 9-12 Sunday. After lunch, Anita and I hung out at the fan lounge before attending a filk concert. Then I attended a four o'clock panel, "Why is Fandom so White?" with John Hertz (Jewish), Fred Duarte (Hispanic), Brad Lyau (Asian), Kenne Estes (Black), and Ken Porter (Black). Estes made the point that no member of a minority is inclined to join another minority such as fandom. Porter said that with *Citizen of the Galaxy*, Robert Heinlein showed he understood young Black men. At his first LASFS meeting, Porter spent several hours in conversation with Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle without knowing their names. I asked about the appropriateness of the Confederate battle flag (a controversial issue in this zine). Both black panelists said that seeing the flag on a con flyer or newsletter would say to them that they were not welcome as members. From the audience Evelyn Leeper responded that when she traveled in India, she saw swastikas. Intellectually, she said, she knew they were not Anti-Semitic symbols, but emotionally she could not disassociate the symbol with the Nazis. The discussion from the audience was livelier than on the panel, but the subject moved to the issue of print vs. media fandom. (Minorities are better represented in media fandom.) Since San Antonio was sponsoring the Hugo losers party, Fred (LoneStarCon II vice-chairperson) and I proceeded there after the panel. Anita arrived before me, and we helped set up.

Anita and I dressed up for the Hugos, where we met Ben Gerard, Henry and Letha Welch, Ben Schilling, and Ruth and Rickey Shields. Then we went to the Hugo party. David Bratman, one of the Hugo administrators, told me that *Babylon 5* was originally nominated twice for Best Dramatic Presentation. However, Mike Straczynski declined one of the nominations so as not to split the vote. Ironically, a third episode of that show was number six, so the *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* episode got on the ballot courtesy of its rival.

As it turned out we got no sleep that night, as our flight was very early in the morning.

9/3-20

I finally took control of the SFC site on the World Wide Web. Chad Childers had done a fine job with the initial setup, but I gained the confidence to work with HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) myself. The new URL (Uniform Resource Locator) is <http://pages.prodigy.com/trfeller/sfc.htm>. The site will never be finished, as I plan to update it every time I publish another SFC Bulletin.

9/21: OutsideCon

I made a business trip to Nashville the week before this con and was staying over to visit Anita. This is a unique convention founded by Bob Emler, who is also active in the SCA. This year it took place at Camp Marymount. As the name indicates, it is a Catholic summer youth camp. People attending all three days stayed in cabins, although there was space for tents if so desired. The price of admission included three or more square meals each day. (Bob Payne deserves much of the credit for this.) There was no programming, strictly speaking, although one of the cabins functioned as a video room. Nor were there any official guests, although local fantasy writer Sharon Green attended. Larry Niven has attended in past years. This year he was present in spirit as one of the cabin parties featured his recipe for Irish coffee.

I really admire this kind of experimentation. One of my irritations as a con runner is having people tell me my conventions MUST have x, y, and z. Sometimes I wonder why I'm in fandom, if all I'm going to do is what other people tell me.

1996 Hugo Award Winners

- Best Novel: *The Diamond Age* by Neal Stephenson
- Best Novella: "The Death of Captain Future" by Allen Steele
- Best Novelette: "Think Like a Dinosaur" by James Patrick Kelly
- Best Short Story: "The Lincoln Train" by Maureen F. McHugh
- Best Non-Fiction Book: *Science Fiction: The Illustrated Encyclopedia* by John Clute
- Best Dramatic Presentation: "The Coming of Shadows" (*Babylon 5*)
- Best Professional Editor: Gardner Dozois
- Best Professional Artist: Bob Eggleton
- Best Original Artwork: *Dinotopia: The World Beneath* by James Gurney
- Best Semi-Prozine: Locus, edited by Charles Brown
- Best Fanzine: Ansible, edited by Dave Langford
- Best Fan Writer: Dave Langford
- Best Fan Artist: William Rotsler
- John W. Campbell Award: David Feintuch

Unfortunately for Bob, several things went wrong. First, there was a last minute change of both the site and the weekend. Second, it rained hard both the Friday night and Saturday morning of the convention. Of course, the risk you take with any outdoor function is that you are at the mercy of the weather. Nonetheless, those of us who attended enjoyed ourselves. And the sun did come out Saturday afternoon.

Another Con Report

by Dean Sweatman

The standard disclaimer applies ... "I don't go to a con for Guests, Films\Video, to Dance, Party Hearty, get laid or go to the dealers room. I go for the sharing and renewing the fannish spirit with other fen through conversation and communion."

Well, some 60+ hours have now passed since the 11th Crescent City Con opened its doors and they are at last putting that puppy to bed. The Dead Dog Party with discussions of what went right and what things could have been done better should be going on as I sit here composing these thoughts. I saw very little that the con-com could have done something about which crossed the line to be declared "wrong" this year. The losses that occurred during the dance on Saturday night coming close but since the beeper and wallet with credit cards and licenses along with the "knapsack" they had been left in were later recovered and returned to the owner this incident came to a desirable close. The loss of the cash and some other personal items was regrettable but, luckily, not too great.

My own assessment that Crescent City Con was a solid #2 for this year's con scene is a very biased opinion and only based upon the fact that a gathering of old NOSFAns (New Orleans Science Fiction Association) in the Bar at NOSF3 (New Orleans

Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival) back in June was not equaled at C-C-C even with some of extra special happenings that this event produced. While it is true that some of those same NOSFAns returned for C-C-C to join in with other former members, the timing or local just was not such that the Magic worked again this time. Sigh. Still it was good to see Albert Hoffman, Guy Lillian and a few others of those active during the good old days.

In my measurement, this year's C-C-C stands out over those that have come before, even the total extravaganza that was produced last year. Yes, even better than meeting (and grabbing a few quick smokes with) Michael O'Hara and the other guests, meeting a wonderfully delightful Fem-fan, or any of the other highlights of last year's event. It was better because I got to talk to many more interesting and diverse people than I have in the past.

I saw and spoke with Dr Jack Stocker, Mike Todd, Number Six, Zane & Grace Melder (Edge Books), Jo & Lonnie Peshek, Al Hoffman (with the lovely Cat), Guy H Lillian III, Tom Feller (with the lovely Anita), Uncle Jack, The Disk Doctor, Frank Schiavo (with the lovely Julie), The Lovely Babs, Neils Ericson, The Lovely Annette, The Lovely Pat (who I had just met at the recent P/P Dance some 3 weeks prior to the con), Roy LeBlanc (Sadly sans Tambda), The Very Lovely STORM, Robert Neagle (with the lovely Anne), Gus & Monica Michel, Steve & Rebecca Rush, Joe Gilliam (with the lovely Dena), Ironwolf Odinson, Harry & Marilyn Alm, and many more who in many cases were old friends that should toss me over the side of the bridge for leaving their names off a list that would rival some sections of the Bible. My usual subject of discussion of Fiawol (both the Sub and BBS) and the poor state of New Orleans Fandom was replaced by tales of New Orleans Fannish Lore and grouching over many of the recent aspects that have forced their way in from the mundane side of life. In all I probably bored more people during this 2 & 1/4 days than I have in many moons. It is a shame there were a number of local fen who were not able to attend for various reasons who were missed by many of the attending members ... mayhaps next year.

The con started out as quite an affair (but as always that did not last long) at noon on Friday with a steady building of events to an elevator grid-locking peak on Saturday night and subsiding at the close to a whimper as the skies shed tears of rain at the passing of such an excellent fannish event.

The elevator problems on Saturday evening trapped one small group of fen and hotel guests between the 1st and 2nd floors for a while. This was resolved in short order while the slowness and lack of space on the remaining cars backed up into 1/2 hour (or longer) waits for transport to the upper floors with many fen remarking that there must have been teleporters on the 10th floor beaming the cars back to the 2nd or 1st since the 3rd through 6th (those floors I can speak for from experience) saw very few cars going back down in relation to those that would stop in their upward trek. The hotel had to finally request that the cars be limited to 5 adults (about 1000/1200 lb.) per trip so

1946 Retro-Hugo Winners

Best Novel: *The Mule* by Isaac Asimov
Best Novella: "Animal Farm" by George Orwell
Best Novelette: "First Contact" by Murray Leinster
Best Short Story: "Uncommon Sense" by Hal Clement
Best Dramatic Presentation: *The Picture of Dorian Gray*
Best Professional Editor: John W. Campbell, Jr.
Best Professional Artist: Virgil Finlay
Best Fanzine: Voice of the Imagi-Nation, edited by
Forrest J. Ackerman
Best Fan Writer: Forrest J. Adkerman
Best Fan Artist: William Rotsler

Editor's note: On October 12, the board of directors for LoneStarCon 2 voted to NOT award the Retro-Hugos next year in San Antonio.

that the overload sensors were not tripped and cars refused to move or bypass those awaiting transport on the upper floors. The elevator problem was aggravated by the fact there are no stairs in the hotel (only the outside fire escape which had automatic locking doors on each floor so that once exiting the building one had to go to the ground floor or bang on the doors until some one from the inside opened up). I found this strange since the membership numbers were lower than last year's extravaganza, and I do not remember having such a problem at that time. Perhaps there was more vertical movement this year than last or the loss of one car caused too much overload on the remaining 2 cars to withstand the hordes.

I was reminded of the same type of problems that took place at the 1969 St. Louis World-Con. I can remember putting Ann Wilson on one of the elevators to ride back to the first floor so that she could ride to the 15th (IIRC) while I climbed the 10 floors of stairs in between. Sad to say I beat the elevator and was standing outside the door finishing a smoke when she finally arrived. So in all, this is a problem that has plagued many cons and C-C-C weathered the storm as well as most others have in the past.

The highlight of the con was the Saturday evening Deep South Con '97 Party hosted by Tom Feller and the Lovely Anita. I wandered into the same about 7 PM after a couple of Marguerites in the bar with Lonnie Peshek and The Lovely Babs to get into a series of wonderful conversations with Tom, Guy Lillian, Dr Stocker and a host of others. Sadly the group broke up a bit after 10 PM so that Tom and Anita could join in the fun down on the dance floor.

Another high-point of the con was the REAL FOOD available in the hospitality suite (co-inhabiting the old C R Champs bar on the first floor with the Gaming room). With veggies and fruit (supplied by donation of the French Market Corp) and Chicken Creole, and other good eats (supplied by donation of the New Orleans Cooking School) added to the usual fare, one need not leave the hotel to find sustenance. Rebecca Rush and crew did a swell job in maintaining the supplies and keeping not only the gamers but the rest of the membership of the con filled to the brim. (Yes, they even had coffee available. You know the black stuff that you have to have a pair of scissors to cut after you pour it in a cup.)

The Lovely Mary Hanson Roberts (creator of the Fiawol Logo, Artist, Fem-fan, and lovely lady) had a dozen or so illos at the art show though her body remained in the fair state of Florida having forsaken the outdoors during the summer's heat. Her work was just a small part of the whole that displayed an impressive degree of quality art in both a drawing and cast form. The castings numbered about 25% of the work on display and make one pause to wonder if the art show is going into the same slump that the hucksters room fell into in the '60s and beyond. The large numbers of prints and now castings seem to have replaced the old days of buying original works of an artist of the likes of Morris Scott Dollans, Dany Frolich, Nancy Mayberry, or other talented locals. A shame ...

I hate to say it but I missed Jake Kreiger's anima room at the con. I never did find the room at all. In the delight of running my mouth I forgot to look for it. Sheepish grin. I also missed the Krewe of the Enterprise, Fusion Video, New Orleans Worst Film Festival, Adric's & Babylon - 504 Video rooms. There were a couple of movies had I gotten bored that I would have liked to have caught (*Earth Girls Are Easy* was one) but Luck was with me this year.

The missing guests ... What can I say? I didn't miss em at all (see the first paragraph of this report) but it would have been nice if the other fen that expected them to be there had not been disappointed.

The ban (official or not) seems to be off on the room parties this year. NOSF3 and C-C-C both had the more sedate (DSC '97) and free wheeling (B-504 and others) parties to offer. This coming after the 1995 Coast-Con and Lone Star Con parties were "dry". It is good to see that the old ways (mayhaps the Best ways) have a way of returning when they are needed.

Overall it was a good con, A Very Good Con though somewhat undersupported by local fandom this year. Attendance including Dealers, Dance/Evening, one day, and general memberships was reported at a little above 600 on Sunday. NOSF3 had about 800 just 5 weeks before suggesting that a tad more time be left between the two to allow for re-couping of funds. I made NOSF3 on a bit less than \$100.00 and C-C-C on a bit less than 70.00 (including a batch of comics that Galactic Goods was holding for me) so neither con was too outlandish this year.

FIAWOL

Treasurer's Report

by Judy Bemis

Balance 6/16/96 (last report)	\$2,294.19
Income	
Memberships (New and Renewal)	400.00
Bounce fee reimbursement	5.00
Advertising	37.50
Total Income	442.50
Expenses	
Bulletin Vol 6, No. 5	185.63
Bounce check fees	10.00
Check printing	14.00
Deposit Stamp	6.00
Total Expenses	215.63
Balance as of 6/16/96	\$2,511.06

Mad Dog's Southern Con List

This listing was compiled by J.R. Madden, 23 June 1996, and Andrew York, 13 September 1996, from various sources such as LOCUS, Science Fiction Chronicle, Starlog, Fandom Directory, Erwin "Filthy Pierre" Strauss' SF Convention Register, Scott Merritt's Con-Temporal, 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. 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.

Anime Weekend Atlanta (November 1 - 3 '96), Holiday Inn Atlanta Airport South, College Park, GA. Guests: Bill Mayo, Ed Hill, Guy Brownlee, Alex Marulich, Bruce Lewis. Membership: \$30. Info: Anime Weekend Atlanta, P. O. Box 13544, Atlanta, GA 30324-0544. e-mail: gwaters@crl.com. <http://www.ticllc.net/~idlewild/awa/>

Atlanta Starcon & Comics (November 1 - 3 '96), Marriott Century Center, Atlanta, GA. Guests: Michael O'Hare, Kane Hodder, Frank Marshall, George Perez, Kathleen Kennedy. Reg: \$40. Atlanta Starcon, 482 Gardner, Stockbridge, GA 30281. e-mail: starcon@mindspring.com; <http://199.44.124.234/starcon/>

Sci Con (November 8 - 10 '96), Holiday Inn Executive Center, Virginia Beach, VA. Guests: Larry Elmore, Charles Sheffield, Cheralyn Lambeth. Membership: \$30. Info: Box 9434, Hampton, VA 23670; 804-865-1407. E-Mail: scicon@earthlink.net; <http://www.earthlink.net/~scicon>

Con*Stellation XV: Aquila (8-10 November '96), Tom Beville Center, Huntsville AL. Guests: Stanley Schmidt, Rick Cook, Chloe Airoidi. Membership: \$30. Info: Con*Stellation XV, P. O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857; or call Mike at (205) 883-5922. email: constell@iquest.com; WWW site at <http://iquest.com/~ssmith/>

Tropicon XV (November 15-17 '96), Doubletree Guestquarters, Ft Lauderdale, FL. Guests: David Gerrold, Peter David. Reg: \$28. SFSFS, PO Box 70143, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143. 954-524-1274; e-mail: jb42@aol.com; <http://alice.icanect.net/~jackw/tropic15.htm>

Contact 14 (November 22-24 '96), Holiday Inn Airport, Evansville, Indiana. Guests: Rick Cook, Dr. Bill Breuer, Roger and Pat Sims. Memberships: \$17 to 10/15/96, then \$22. Info:

Contact SF Convention, P.O. Box 3894, Evansville, IN 47737. 812-473-3109 e-mail: ContactSF@aol.com

ConCat 8 (November 29 - December 1 '96), Radisson Hotel, Knoxville, TN. Guests: Nancy Collins, Alan Clark, Wendy Webb, Charles Grant. Membership: \$25 to November \$10, \$35 later. Info: Chloe Airoidi, 316 E. Scott Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917. 423-532-6986. e-mail: chloiea@aol.com

Stellar Occasion 3 (December 27-29 '96), Harvey Hotel Addison, Dallas, TX. Guest: Walter Koenig, Ed Wasser, Julie Barrett, Newton Ewell, Judith Ward, Lilli DeCair, PN Elrod, Myhr, Jeff Pittarelli, Cat Conrad, Mitchell Bentley, Thomas K. Martin, Roxanne Longstreet-Conrad. Membership: \$30 until 11/1, \$35 at the door. Info: Stellar Occasion, 3352 Broadway Blvd, Suite 470, Garland, TX 75043. 214-278-6935. email: phoenix@cyberramp.net; <http://www.cyberramp.net/~phoenix/stellar.html>

ChattaCon XXII (January 17-19 '97), Clarion Hotel, Chattanooga, TN. Guests: Harry Turtledove, Esther Friesner, Tom Kidd, Charles L. Grant. Reg: \$22 to November 30, \$30 to January 1, \$35 at the door. Info: Chattacon 22, Box 23908, Chattanooga, TN 37422-3908. 404-578-8461. e-mail: ccon@chattanooga.net; <http://www.chattanooga.net/chattacon>

Concave 18/UpperSouthclave XXVII (February 28-March 2 '97), Park Mammoth Resort, Park City, KY. Guest: TKF Weiskopf. Reg: \$15 to February 15, \$20 at the door. Info: Gary Robe, PO Box 3221, Kingsport, TN 37664. 423-239-3106.

Revelcon 8 (March 14-16 '97), Houston, TX. Reg: \$40 to December 31, \$45 to February 28, \$50 to March 12. Candace Pulleine, PO Box 980744, Houston, TX 77098, 713-526-5625. candacevp@aol.com

17th Annual Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts (March 19-23 '96), Airport Hilton, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Academic conference. Guests: Dan Simmons, Chelsea AQuinn Yarbrow, Brian Aldiss, Pat Cadigan, Peter Hunt. 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.

CoastCon (March 20-23 '97), Gulf Coast Coliseum, Biloxi, MS. Guests: Mojo, Christian Ready, Dr. Jack Stocker, George Alec Effinger, Michael Reaves, Frank Kelly Freas, Laura Brodian Freas, Peggy Ranson. Membership: \$30 until January 1, \$35 until March 1, \$40 at the door. Info: CoastCon, PO Box 1423.

Biloxi. MS 39533-1423. 601-435-5217. e-mail: coastcon@aol.com;
<http://www.intersurf.com/~isaac/coastcon-info.html>

MidSouthCon 16 (March 21-23 '97), Sam's Town Hotel, Tunica, MS. Guests: John DeChancie, Mitchell Bentley, Cullen Johnson, Paul Darrow. Membership: \$20 to 11/30/96, \$25 to March 1, \$30 at the door. Info: MidSouthCon 16, P. O. Box 11446, Memphis, TN 38111. 901-274-7355. e-mail: mlandis@watervalley.net;
<http://www.watervalley.net/midsouthcon>

At Sea 1997 (April 5 - 12 '97), cruise out of New Orleans, LA. Gaming convention. Guest: Jean Rabe. Membership is included in cruise fees. Info: G.O.A.T., P. O. 3116, Austin, TX 78764-3116. Office/fax: 512-443-4251. Voicemail: 512-867-3821.

AmigoCon 12 (April 18-20 '96), Quality Inn Airport, El Paso, TX. Guest: Simon Hawke. Membership: \$12 to 12/31/94, then more. Info: AmigoCon, Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923. 800-585-8574. e-mail: richbrandt@aol.com

Magic Carpet Con V (May 2-4 '97), Days Inn and Convention Center, Chattanooga, TN. Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Jerry and Sharon Ahern, Jacqueline Lichtenberg, Jean Lorrah, Brad and Barbara Strickland, David Webber, Mary Hanson Roberts. Reg: \$25 to January 1, \$30 to April 1, \$35 at the door. Magic Carpet Con, 6482B Stallion Lane, Harrison, TN 37341 e-mail: susanb14@aol.com; <http://www.chattanooga.net/mcci>

Sea-Con (May 2 - 5 '97), cruise out of Miami, FL. Guests: to be announced. Info: Sea-Con, c/o Uniglobe Gem Travel, 633 South Main Street, Milpitas, CA 95035, Attn: SAM Conaty. 800-980-9192 ext. 1701. e-mail: rhammond@libertyusa.com; <http://members.aol.com/kurkura/seacon.htm>

A-Kon (May 30-June 1 '97), Harvey Hotel, Addison, TX. Guests: Mitsuhisa Ishikawa, Scott Frazier, Newton Ewell, Steve Bennett, Ben Dunn, Elin Winkler. Reg: \$25 to December 31, \$30 until ?? A-Kon, 3352 Broadway Blvd \$470, Garland TX 75043. 214-278-6935; e-mail: phoenix@cyberramp.net; <http://www.cyberramp.net/~phoenix/akon.html>

DeepSouthCon 35 (June 6-8 '97), Cabot Lodge - Millsaps, Jackson, MS. Guests: George Alec Effinger, Barbara Hambly, James Hogan, Teddy Harvia, Hanther, J. R. Madden, Michael Scott. Membership: \$20 to 12/31/96, \$25 to 5/1/97, \$30 at the door. Info: Tom Feller, Box 13626, Jackson, MS 39236. e-mail: ccws74a@prodigy.com; <http://pages.prodigy.com/trfeller/dsc.htm>

Dragon-Con '97 (June 26-29 '97), Atlanta Market Center, Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, Atlanta Hyatt Hotel, GA. Guests: see ad. Membership: \$35 until 12/15, \$40 until 3/15, \$50 until 5/15, \$60 at the door. Info: Dragon Con '97, P. O. Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0626. 770-925-0115. dragoncon@dragoncon.org; <http://www.dscga.com/~dragoncon>.

RiverCon XXII (July 18-20 '97), Louisville, KY. Guests & Membership: to be announced. Info: RiverCon, P. O. Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009. 502-448-6562. e-mail: raroeh01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu

LoneStarCon 2 / 55th World SF Convention (28 August- 1 September, '97), Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center, Marriott Rivercenter, Marriott Riverhall, San Antonio, Republic of Texas, U.S.A. Guests: Algis Budrys, Michael Moorcock, Don Maitz, Roy Tackett, Neal Barrett, Jr. Membership: \$120 until 12/31, \$25 supporting. Info: LoneStarCon 2, P. O. Box 27277, Austin, TX 78755-2277. 512-453-7446. email: lsc2@io.com; <http://www.io.com/~shiva/>

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Southern Fanzines

compiled by Tom Feller

CAR-PGa Newsletter, Vol. 5, No. 8, August, No. 9, September, and No. 10, October, 1996, edited by Paul Cardwell, c/o Committee for the Advancement of Role-Playing Games, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418; subscription: \$8.50 annually or 75 cents per copy; 8 pages. Gaming news, convention calendar, a review of the episode of *Kung Fu: The Legend Continues* that involves a role-playing game, and article on a suicide in Italy that the media claims is related to RPG.

ComCon, Nos. 1-5, 1996; edited by James Kacarides, c/o Allies for *Star Trek*, 2195 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104; annual dues: \$12; 8-12 pages. *Star Trek* and club news, fan fiction, recipes, and con reports.

The Comlink, Vol. 3, #7, July, #8, August and #9/10, October, 1996; edited by Bethany Theilman, c/o Starship Haise, 131 Rosebud, Brandon, MS 39042. Membership: \$10 annually; 6-8 pages. *Star Trek*. Club and Starfleet news and a report on Trekstock.

Con-Temporal, October, 1996; edited by Scott Merritt, c/o Pegasus Publishing, 2501 W. Sublett Rd., #890, Arlington, TX 76017-5461. Subscription: Monthly--\$30 US/\$45 foreign annually, Bi-Monthly \$20 US/\$30 foreign, Quarterly \$15 US/\$23 foreign; 20 pages. Comprehensive listing of conventions around the world. The publisher recently bought out Filthy Pierre's SF Convention Register.

FOSFAX #181, August and #182, October, 1996; edited by Timothy Lane and Elizabeth Garrott, c/o FOSFA, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281; available for \$12 for 6 issues or the usual; 72 pages of small print. Book, candy, movie, filk music, and poetry reviews, Alexis Gilliland on space colonization, a two-part article by Joe Major on Heinlein's *Space Cadet*, political commentary by Tim and Grant McCormick, a

two-part article by Todd Jensen on the Arthurian legends, Gene Stewart on the nature of science fiction, Patrick McCray on the current state of *Star Trek*, reports on Kubla-Khan and Inconjunction, a fanzine listing, and many letters.

It Goes on the Shelf, #16, September, 1996; c/o Ned Brooks, 713 Paul Street, Newport News, VA 23605; available for the usual; 20 pages. Comments on books and magazines that Ned collects.

Memphen, #221, July, and #222, August, 1996; edited by Barbara and Tim Gatewood, c/o Memphis Science Fiction Association, PO Box 12534, Memphis, TN 38182; \$10 per year or the usual; 8-10 pages. Club news, movie and book reviews, fiction, and letters.

Moebius Strip, August, 1996; edited by Alexandra Ceely, c/o El Paso Science Fiction and Fantasy Alliance, PO Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923; \$15 annually or the usual; 4 pages. Club news, the first fanzine to list the Hugo winners, fanzine reviews, and convention listing.

NASFA Shuttle Vol. 16, #7, July, #8, August, #9, September, and #10, October, 1996; edited by Mike Kennedy, c/o North Alabama Science Fiction Association, P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville, AL 35802-2841; available for \$10 annually or the usual; 10-16 pages. Club news, extensive Dragon*Con report in installments by Randy Cleary, RiverCon report by Mike Kennedy, LAcon report by Alex Lucyshyn, Trekstock report by Lin Cochran, movie, book, and zine reviews, and letters.

Omegazine, #74, August, #75, September, and #76, October, 1996; edited by John Martello, c/o The Omega Society, 3415 Silverwood Drive, Pine Hills, FL 32808-2847; available for \$15 or trade; 20 pages. #74 has a *Color* cover in honor of the 7th anniversary of the club, club news, reports on Oasis and Tachyon, and a continuing fantasy comic story.

PhiloSFy, #3, c/o Alexander Slate, 8603 Shallow Ridge Drive, San Antonio, TX 78239-4022; available for \$1 per issue or the usual; 28 pages. Discussion of the morality and ethics of death, book reviews, a tourist guide to San Antonio, and letters.

Robots & Roadrunners, Vol. 10, No. 1, October, 1996; edit by Lynn Garcia, Ursa Major, PO Box 691448, San Antonio, TX 78269-1448; available for \$1.50 per issue or the usual; 16 pages. Trip reports, a report on the Ursa Major Writer's Workshop, and book reviews.

Kevin Welch writes:

Regarding Confederate APAs -- **SLAN APA** has a rotating OEShip and with two members residing in North Carolina, collation is done in the South two months out of seventeen. We're about 12 percent of a Confederate APA.

For more information, write Kevin at P.O. Box 2195, Madison, WI 53701

Southern Fandom on the World Wide Web

by Tom Feller

One of the increasingly popular types of web pages are personal pages. I have one myself (<http://pages.prodigy.com/trfeller/cover.htm>). Services such as Prodigy, America-On-Line, and Compuserve offer them as part of the basic membership package. There have been comments in the media comparing this practice with vanity publishing, but I regard it as the electronic equivalent of a perzine. I even found one advantage of a personal web page over a personal fanzine is that you can go back and fix the typos. I try to avoid extensive rewrites, because I feel there is a value in knowing what I wrote about a particular subject at a particular time. But it's comforting to know that if I misspell my mother's name, I can go back and fix it.

One of my predecessors as editor of this publication has her own web page. The main feature of P. L. Caruthers-Montgomery's site (<http://users.quicklink.net/~plcm/>) is a portrait of her. TERI HATCHER. EAT YOUR HEART OUT! (Hatcher, TV's Lois Lane, is the most popular electronic "pin-up" on the web.) There is also a brief autobiography, two pictures of her husband Larry, and a report on Larry's genealogical research. I finally learned that P. L. stands for Pamela Lynn. By the way, P. L. is recovering from a complete hysterectomy. A tumor the size of a fist was removed, but the post-operation biopsy indicated it was benign. Check out her site and give her a get well e-message.

P. L. tipped me to some other interesting web page. The outline of Dick Lynch's history of Sixties fandom is located at <http://www.fentonnet.com/smithway/history/hist.html>. I'm really looking forward to the book, since I found just the outline to be fascinating. Dick invites comments. Of course, I've always heard that if you can remember the Sixties, you really weren't there.

Many authors now have their own web pages. James Hogan's page (<http://www.global.org/jphogan/>) is maintained by one of his sons. It includes a brief autobiography, what Hogan is currently writing, upcoming bookstore and convention appearances, a complete bibliography, and the means to obtain his books. Hogan now lives in Pensacola, FL, and Ireland. He says he spends enough time in each location to fully appreciate the other.

If you're trying to locate a particular fan on the net, there is a web version of the Fandom Directory (<http://members.aol.com/fandata>). This listing of individual fans, clubs, zines, and conventions is very comprehensive. The standards for qualifying for the list are minimal. (They even include me!) Each listing has an e-mail link, which allows the browser to immediately send an e-message to the fan's address. Some of the listings also have links to web pages.

One of those listings led me to the Friends of Fandom's Science Fiction Page (<http://clever.net/cam/sf.html>). This club is based in Houston, TX, and has one of the most extensive sets of links I have seen. I enjoyed reading "What is Science Fiction?" by Richard Treitel and Octavia Butler's advice to novice writers. Although I did not take advantage of the links to books on the Web, it was comforting to learn that I can find a copy of *Frankenstein*, *A Princess of Mars*, *Ivanhoe*, *The Fairy Queen*, or *The Enchanted Duplicator*. There are also links to pages on authors such as Lynn Abbey, Douglas Adams, Roger MacBride Allen, Piers Anthony, Isaac Asimov, C.J. Cherryh, James Hogan (the same one that I visited earlier), Richard Knaack, Terry Pratchett, Bruce Sterling, Jack Vance, and Gene Wolfe. Finally, there are links to the pages of bookstores, conventions, clubs, zines such as *Ansible*, and other publications such as Rob Hansen's history-in-progress of British science fiction fandom.

Speaking of conventions, Constellation (<http://iquest.com/~ssmith/>) in Huntsville, AL, has a very interesting page. In addition to the convention information such as the dealer's room and the art show, there is both a biography and a bibliography for their guest of honor, Stanley Schmidt. On the other hand, to describe the biography of Chloe A. Airolidi, the fan guest of honor, as "Brief(est) Bio (Yet)" is an understatement.

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Clubs in the South

compiled by Tom Feller

((I am deeply indebted to the *Fandom Directory* for much of this information.))

ALABAMA

Birmingham: **Birmingham Science Fiction Club**, P.O. Box 94151, Birmingham, AL 35220. Monthly meetings on the second Saturday of each month at 7 PM at the Southside Public Library. Dues: \$15 for one person, \$20 for family. Officers: President Elliott Davis, Treasurer Debbie Rowan.

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.

FLORIDA

Clearwater: **American Tolkien Society**, Box 901 Clearwater, FL 34617. Newsletter Minas Tirith Evening-Star. Contact: Paul S. Ritz.

DeLeon Springs: **HMS Solar Queen II**, PO Box 836, DeLeon Springs, FL 32130. Semi-monthly meetings. Contact: Gary Gordon.

Fort Lauderdale: **South Florida Science Fiction Society**, P.O. Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143. <http://scifi.maid.com/sfsfs.html>. 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.

Green Cove Springs: **LORE (Legends of Reality Enacted)**, PO Box 717, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. Live-action role-playing. Monthly meetings and newsletter Fairy Rad. Contact: Cindy Sudano.

Jacksonville: **Star Sector North East**, P.O. Box 8356, Jacksonville, FL 32239-8356

Kissimmee: **Alliance of Gaming Enthusiasts and Rogue Society**, c/o GOTH, 105 Honeywood CT, Kissimmee, FL 34743. Monthly meetings and newsletters Rogue Society and AGE Tome.

Lake Mary: **The Guardians of Gallifrey**, 170 Broadmoor Ave, Lake Mary, FL 32746. *Dr. Who* and British SF. Monthly meetings and newsletter The Gallifrey Guardian. Contact Julia Langston.

Miami: **Black Point Naval Yards**, 17842 SW 77 CT, Miami, FL 33157. Modeling and rocketry, weekly meetings, and newsletter The Blue Ghost. Contact: George Dorris.

Panama City: **Panhandle Science Fiction Society**, 3911 Ereno Ct., Panama City, FL 32405

Pine Hills: **The Omega Society**, 3415 Silverwood Dr., Pine Hills, FL 32808-2847. *Dr. Who* and other media, monthly meetings, and newsletter Omegazine. Membership: individual \$15 annually, family \$20, newsletter subscription \$9. Contact: John Martello.

Riverview: **Stone Hill SF Association**, P.O. Box 2076, Riverview, FL 33569. <http://www.stonehill.org>. Monthly meetings on the second Sunday. Newsletter Stone Hill Launch Times

Tallahassee: **North Florida Gaming Association**, 931 Kendall Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32301. RPG, card, board, and miniature gaming. Weekly meetings and newsletter Legends and Legions. Contact: David Glenn.

Windermere: **Bajoran Alliance**, Box 653 Windermere, FL 34786. Newsletter The Wormhole. Contact: Ann Gabele

GEORGIA

Lebanon: **Electrical Eggs Ltd.**, P.O. Box 308, Lebanon, GA 30146. This organization works with conventions to provide handicapped access. Contact: Samantha b Jeude.

KENTUCKY

Bowling Green: **WKU Speculative Fiction Society**, WKU Chem. Dept., #1 Big Red Way, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Weekly meetings during academic year. Contact: Annette Carrico.

Florence: **Old Time Radio Club of Cincinnati**, 10280 Gunpowder RD, Florence, KY 41042. Monthly meetings and newsletter Old Time Radio Digest. Contact: Bob Burchett.

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

Louisville: **Burroughs Bibliophiles**, University of Louisville Library, Louisville, KY 40292. Edgar Rice, not William S., Burroughs. Newsletters Burroughs Bulletin and The Gridley Wave. Contact: George T. McWhorter. <P>

Paducah: **Starseekers of the Rim**, PO Box 2624, Paducah, KY 42002. SF spacecraft modelbuilding. Newsletter The Starseeker Battleflight Quarterly. Contact: Daniel J. Weir

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge: **Star One Delta**, P.O. Box 45577, Baton Rouge, LA 70895. <http://www.premier.net/~smengrs/sod.htm>. 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*. Newsletter: From the Krewe's Quarters. Contact: Keith L. Rombach.

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.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Columbia: **Starzone**, PO Box 2672 W, Columbia, SC 29171. *Star Trek*, *Dr. Who*, gaming and filking. Monthly meetings and newsletter Starzone Newsletter. Contact: Geoff Wingard.

TENNESSEE

Memphis: **Allies for Star Trek**, 2195 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104. Telephone: 901-276-1049. Two meetings monthly: (1) the 4th Saturday of each month at 3 PM at the Main Public Library followed by dinner at a local restaurant, (2) one social gathering at a member's home. Monthly newsletter Communications Console. Dues: \$12 US, \$17 elsewhere. Officers: President Marc Woveris, Vice President Harold Feldman, Secretary-Treasurer and newsletter editor James T. Kacandes.

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. Monthly newsletter Memphen. Dues: \$10 annually. Officers: Chairbeing Angela Bridges, Vice-Chairbeing Claude Saxon, Treasurer: Greg Bridges, Secretary J. Michael Harper, Memphen co-editors Tim and Barbara Gatewood.

Nashville: **The Nashville Science Fiction Club** meets the 1st Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Cumberland Museum and Science Center and has social functions like a Christmas party. C/O Dan Caldwell, 3522 Kings Lane, Nashville, TN 37218. Newsletter editor: James Fulkerson.

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.

TEXAS

Austin: **Fandom Association of Central Texas** (FACT) Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766.
<http://www.io.com/~shiva/fact/index.html>

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The Southern Fandom Confederation, Vol. 6, No. 6

Austin: **Non-Aligned World of Austin**, PO Box 19532, Austin, TX 78760. *Babylon 5*. Meetings are the first Saturday of each month at 1 PM at the Windsor Village Library. Contact: Jerrie Marchand, 512-441-6573 (between 4 and 10 PM), jerriem@aol.com

College Station: **MSC Nova**, Box J1, Memorial Student Center, Texas A&M, College Station, TX 77844. RPG, card, and board gaming. Meetings every two weeks. Contact: Clay Hanna.

El Paso: **El Paso Science Fiction and Fantasy Alliance**, PO Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923. Monthly newsletter and meetings. Dues: \$15 annually. Officers: President Anita Ruble, Vice-President Tom Cable, Secretary Muriel van Sweringen, Treasurer Nancy La Rock.

Houston: **Friends of Fandom**, P.O. Box 541822, Houston, TX 77254. Contact: Candace Pulleine.

San Antonio: **Ursa Major**, PO Box 691448, San Antonio, TX 78269-1448. Meetings are the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Tuesdays and the 4th Friday of each month. Newsletter Robots & Roadrunners. Contact: Mary Helm at 210-697-0597

VIRGINIA

Blacksburg: **SF & Fantasy Club of Virginia Tech**, PO Box 256, Blacksburg, VA 24063. Weekly meetings.

Blacksburg: **VTAS - The Animation Society of Virginia Tech**, P.O. Box 11582, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Anime. Weekly meetings. Contact: Rich Parish.

Burke: **The Federation**, P.O. Box 10332, Burke, VA 22099. *Star Trek*. Newsletters The Federation Presents and The Operative. Contact: David J. Moody.

Newport News: **Hampton Roads Science Fiction Association**, 414 Winterhaven Drive, Newport News, VA 23606-2518. Meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the NASA Langley Activities Building in Hampton. Newsletter The Liberated Quark. Contact: Mary Gray.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CLUBS

These are clubs with affiliated clubs and/or members spread through the South. For the chapter nearest you, contact the address listed.

Committee for the Advance of Role-Playing Games, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418. Newsletter CAR-PGa Newsletter and other publications. Dues: \$8.50 annually. Contact: Paul Cardwell, Jr

DragonWeb, 4122 Tallah, San Antonio, TX 78218. Pern fandom. Contact: Randall Stuke.

Drakmarian Alliance, 415 W. 7th Ave, Hazleton, PA 18201. *Star Trek*, gaming, Forever Knight, Quantum Leap, Japanese Animation, etc. Newsletters Allegiance, The New Breed, Drakmar Doctrine, and Pledge to Allegiance

EDC Animation Society, 3352 Broadway Blvd, \$470, Garland, TX 75043. Japanese Animation. Newsletters Nova and Whispers of Iscandar. Contact: Meri Wakefield-Hazlewood.

Federation Marine Corps, 2404 Greenwood Dr., Portsmouth, VA 23702. RPG. Newsletter Attention All Hands. Contact: Robert J. Bell.

International Costumers Guild, PO Box 94538, Pasadena, CA 91109. Newsletter Costumers Quarterly

International Fantasy Gaming Society, PO Box 3577, Boulder, CO 80307. Live-action fantasy role-playing. Contact: Janice Moore.

International Federation of Trekkers, Po Box 3123, Lorain, OH 44052. Newsletter Vovages Magazine. Contact: Russ Haslage.

Klingon Armada International, P.O. Box 1694, Des Plaines, IL 60017. Newsletter The Catalyst. Contact: Char Haguewood.

National Fantasy Fan Federation, 1920 Division St., Murphysboro, IL 62966. Newsletters TNFF and Tightbeam. Contact: William Center

National Space Society, 922 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Washington, DC 20003. Newsletter AD Astra. Contact: David Brandt.

Romulan Star Empire, PO Box 3508, Dayton, OH 45401. Newsletters Star Path and Warnings from the Edge

Starfleet, PO Box 24052, Belleville, IL 62223-9052. Contact: Dan McGinnis.

Starfleet Command, PO Box 180637, Casselberry, FL 32718. Newsletter Starfleet Communications. Contact: Rita Cawthon-Clark.

United Federation of Planets Internationale, 2445 Stonebridge Dr., Orange Park, FL 32065. Newsletter The Universal Translator. Contact: Kaye Downing.

Letters

July 18, 1996: **Joseph Major**, 3307 River Chase Ct, #14, Louisville, KY 40218-1832. jtmajor@iglou.com

Naomi Fisher getting the Rubble Award at DSC for having expanded the waistlines of Southern Fandom seems a trifle ironic, given that, going by your description, no one there need have brought anything to eat. (Bet the hotel loved that.) Birmingham in '98? I may go drop in on my cousin James Garnet Major who lives there...

Lisa [Thomas], Dave Herrington, and I went by Opryland, the Grinch that stole the Louisville/Nashville Worldcon, Kubla DSC, and many Kublas that Friday evening [during KublaKhan]. But we were looking for someplace to eat.

I think there is too high a barrier to some fanzines. Reading interminable digressions about how much fun everything was in the Sixties may be interesting to those who were there or those who were already in the trade (so to speak), but to someone just trying to get in, this is at best deadly dull.

And while you breakfasted with the man from "Detroit -- Where the weak are killed and EATEN!" [Howard DeVore during KublaKhan], we went off to the Hermitage. Now to a fan that would mean Harry Warner's house, but we went to Andrew Jackson's instead. Lisa did not try to burn the place down (her mother is from Tennessee, and like most native Tennesseans, has an unspecified amount of Cherokee ancestry).

Philip Jose Farmer (who else) did a story that was Tarzan in England, done in the style of William S. Burroughs. No wonder the Estate looked down on him!

Pamela Boal writes "John Wayne and other such heroes go from fighting in Virginia to crossing the Mexican border in the twinkling of an eye." 1) No, sometimes they go from fighting in Virginia to crossing the Heliumetic border in the twinkling of an eye. 2) How about "fighting in Texas"? -- I had no idea the Duke had played Jo Shelby.

Yaas, indeed, it was an example of how far things had gone downhill when General John Hunt Morgan was ambushed in his own bed, and killed while trying to get away. And not the last year had Kentucky's own cavalier terrorized the entire Midwest.

Not only did Nevil Shute Norway write on the side, he was an officer in the Commando Force Headquarters (properly, Combined Operations Headquarters) on the side. And to no one's surprise, he wrote a novel about Combined Operations operations, titled *Most Secret. On the Beach* seems to be out of line, thematically, with the general run of Shute's novels. The characters succeed -- there are a couple where the protagonist dies, but even then he had accomplished something big before he died. In *On the Beach*, no one can succeed. It is rather like what was wrong with the proposed sequel to H. Beam Piper's *Lord Kalvan of Otherwhen*. (Technically, the sequel to its sequel, *Great Kings' War*.) This book, which was to be titled *Gunpowder God*, had Great King Kalvan defeated, driven out of

his kingdom, and fleeing into the Midwest. This is entirely out of keeping with Piper's heroes; they prevail in the end. This may be why the book was never published except in bits here and there.

A graduate paper on the *Skylark* series! This IS the millennium.

July 19: **Guy H. Lillian III**, PO Box 53092, New Orleans, LA 70153-3092

Dan Caldwell's statement at Kubla protesting the cliquishness of fanzine fandom tallies well with my experience with *Challenger*. As you know, the first issue was greeted with an outrageously offensive review by Ted White in the pages of a much respected fanzine called *Habakkuk*. White attacked not only the contents of the issue and my stated editorial philosophy, but me personally, Southern fandom as a group ("second raters," he called us), and the idea of regional fandom in general. Now, before doing *Challenger*, I hadn't had much experience with what's called general fanzine fandom. I'd been in apas for more than 20 years, of course, but apazines by their nature have very limited distribution and are not subject to the attentions of reviewers, let alone self-appointed guardians of self-created standards, like White. White has set himself as an arbiter of the proper form and subject matter, tone and treatment of science fiction fanzines. His followers are numerous and noisy. The phrase "the Ted White group mind" was created *long ago* -- White is not a young man -- to describe the dedication and narrow focus of his coterie, but the TWGM still exists; it could still be counted upon to follow his lead and swallow his opinion, no matter how skewed, as gospel.

So fanzine fandom *is* cliquish -- but that clique is not all-pervasive. White does have a long career in fanzines and has won a Hugo for his Fan Writing and should be respected for all that, but he also enjoyed a reputation as a crank of the first water. His opinion may have had influence, but *not everywhere*. Knowing that, I didn't accept White's calumny as the judgment of all fandom. In fact, I recognized White's vile notice as an opportunity to be seized, and seize it I did.

I replied to *Habakkuk*. More to the point, I looked to who else in the *Habakkuk* lettercol mentioned the review, and dropped each of those people a line. I asked them if they wanted to see a copy of *Challenger* no. 1 and judge for themselves. As I recall, everyone did. How could they refuse? And their responses were overwhelmingly favorable. *Chall*'s subsequent issues have been greeted with great interest, and the reviews I've seen have been at least thoughtful and often kinder than that. I knew it the second I saw his review, that in trying to ax me out of fanzine fandom, White had instead carved a wide pathway *in*.

Once in, I've found that fanzine fandom is an amazingly rich and various world-within-a-world. It's a delightful outlet for

individual creativity and a rich source of unique entertainment, as other fan editors -- or *faneds* as we're known -- exchange their publications for yours. They are an interesting and varied crew. So yes, you give excellent advice on how to penetrate the fanzine universe. Do a zine. Make it distinctly and honestly your own. *Express yourself.* Send it out -- to other zines in listings such as you provide, to names in the lettercols, or do as I did and borrow a Hugo winner's mailing list. (Thanks, Dick Lynch.) *Don't be discouraged.* If there is hassle, then fanzine fandom is worth the hassle. If you persevere, despite all, you'll find yourself part of a righteous community of distinct, but like, souls. And people will know who you are.

One thing, though ... watch the expense. Challs 3 & 4 both topped 100 pages in length. They cost a *bundle* to print, so much so that I'm seeking the cheapest possible method of reproduction. If I may address your readers, Tom, I'd request that they check with their local copy shops and ask for estimates on printing 250 sets of 100 pages each (that is, 50 sheets printed front and back) with or without stapling, and pass the answers on to me. I'd like to be able to *eat* after publishing future issues.

Onward --- I enjoyed all the con reports and stand amazed at the number of conventions coming up in Southern climes. I've attended most at one time or another, and despite different emphases have enjoyment in most. Got to admit, though, that Chattacon attendees seem to grow younger every year ... and Rivercon members grow *older*. One thing ... with so many conventions active in the South, why do we not have more contests for the rights to the DSC? Birmingham won the '98 con without opposition. Now, B'ham is probably the best of all DSC sites, and I can't imagine it *not* winning, but why hasn't Memphis come forth with a recent bid? Or Huntsville? Or New Orleans, for that matter? Look at all the clubs, too. Indeed, many are media- or gaming-oriented, but there are enough espousing general interest in SF that every year should see several bids for Southern Fandom's seminal **ahem** convention. The chance to give out a Rebel Award should be reason enough for a bid. Come on, people: shake it!

Your lettercol is excellent. I note particularly the epistle from Curt Phillips, and fondly recall my journey through his home town of Abingdon, Virginia, a few years back. Curt took me on a tour of the burg's abundant historical sites (and the cemetery, stuffed with Confederate heroes ... and one coward!) and in brief, proved himself an excellent host. He was missed at the Jekyll Island DSC; hope he can make it to yours. I disagree with him on the subject of Chattanooga's Read House, however. True, the elevators never ran and the rooms stank and the Secret Service once hassled fans there when Barbara Bush stayed over, but it had that marvelous floored and mirrored ballroom which I will always remember for its many masquerades and banquets ... and that incredible evening in 1984 when I won my Rebel.

Speaking of Rebels, I still believe that we true believers should never surrender our belief in the true meaning of the Confederate Stars'n'Bars either to the vicious racists who would hoist it over burning churches, or the politically correct who

would believe it never stood for anything *other* than burning churches. But by all means seek another symbol of our region if another one you can find. Bring the question forward at your DSC, and see what the assembled multitudes have to say.

July 20: **W. Andrew York**, PO Box 2307, Universal City, TX 78148. wandrew@aol.com

Regarding the discussion in the past two issues regarding racist attitudes and/or symbols, I think we (as a society) are too worried about the perceived "message" rather than the actual intent. I'm a police officer and, as part of our required ongoing training, we have to spend some hours on cultural diversity. Some of the things brought to our attention include common non-offensive gestures or phrases in the US being offensive to certain cultural groups in the Caribbean and in Latin America. Therefore, we were told that we shouldn't use these things in the off-chance that it would offend someone (the instructor was a professional speaker with no knowledge of the audience or the job).

Also, in the workplace, how someone perceives what is said or done can be the basis for discrimination lawsuits and disciplinary action. These cases have been supported by the courts! For instance (from another instructor), a case involved two employees talking at a low volume -- an obviously private conversation. Another employee who can lip read was able to follow the conversation and was offended. Who was punished? Of course, it wasn't the person who eavesdropped on the conversation but the two individuals.

We (as a society) have to have a paradigm shift in personal responsibility. Something someone wears, says or displays should be taken in context and in the intent of the situation. Chuck Broerman in his letter states a perfect example of where a person shouldn't have taken offense (especially to the extent it was). If the person was at a Klan meeting/rally or handing out racist literature, it is one thing. A Brit wearing a cap on a bus with a Confederate pin is something else entirely. I suppose that next historical Civil War reenactments will have to be politically correct or that the Texas Rangers should be disbanded due to their use in the mid-1800's to oppress the Hispanic population - thus their mere existence is offensive to the Hispanic community (yes, awhile back I read a news report that said this!).

I just can't understand how people can take offense by how they perceive something; not on the intent (if any). Enough on a topic that gets under my collar.

July 22: **Ned Brooks**, 713 Paul Street, Newport News, VA 23605

I have the 45rpm Fantasy Records record that Buck Coulson mentions, and I bought it new when it came out, as I was a friend of Chuck Rein at the time (I've long since lost track of him and would like to have his address). Since I didn't get into

fandom until 1962, the record has to have been done later than that -- my guest would be c.1965. Side 1 is a song based on Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*. "In Western Lands", and Side 2 is SF. "All the Planets We've Seen". Both were composed by Chuck Rein and sung to his own guitar accompaniment. Quite likely Pat Kelly, a fan of the time who worked at a radio station, had something to do with the production, as his name was scratched on the master and thus appears on each disk.

The rather good cover is by Maxwell (hint -- he scratched it on the artwork), but the name isn't familiar to me.

July 23: **E.B. Frohvet**, 2725 Dorsey Hall Dr., Suite A, Box 700, Ellicott, MD 21042

It's unclear whether we would qualify for "Southern fandom". A Yankee by birth (Connecticut), lived variously in Tennessee, overseas, Pennsylvania for a couple of years, several years in Florida, and now here in Maryland. When you sort out whether Maryland is part of "Southern fandom", let us know. The debate goes on.

The comment on fanzine fandom being "cliquish" has a familiar ring. We tried contributing to various zines, but we only received those (not always consistently). There seems to be no way short of starting up a zine and using it to bludgeon one's way through the door. We're still working on expanding our mailing list to people who will actually respond to our zine.

July 23: **Teddy Harvia**, 701 Regency Drive, Hurst, TX 76054-2307. Eushar@exu.ericsson.se

If George Alec Effinger doesn't have enough to say to fill an hour-long panel, I suggest we set up a batting cage at a convention and see how well he can hit for an hour.

Clifton Amsbury is right. I was mistaken about Zagreb. The two Croatian fans who showed up at Westercon in El Paso to promote their Worldcon bid were both charming and convincing. If only they weren't competing against my life-long desire to return to Australia.

July 25: **Harry Warner**, 423 Summit Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740

The cover of the July issue is so fine it's a shame the artist doesn't have recognition yet. Somehow, I associate the name Maxwell with New Orleans. If so, Guy Lillian might be able to give you full identification.

I wish you luck with the new bulk mailing regulations. But I'm increasingly angered by the other aspect of bulk mail, the delivery process. Some obscure regulation requires a firm called Mail Marketing, Inc., to provide a postcard to accompany small samples it occasionally distributes on an every-residence basis. Recently I received a little pack of breakfast food and its companion postcard came six days later. A bulk mailing from a

local furniture store that advertised a big sale reached my mail box nine days after the final day of the sale. I subscribe to Baseball Weekly. Three times so far this year, two issues have arrived in the same mail and on one other occasion, two issues arrived in reverse order, the more recent one day before the issue before that one. I'm bitter about the apparent slowness in getting mail order catalogs to my home because repeatedly my orders for books and records listed in them haven't been fulfilled because the items I wanted had gone out of stock, presumably because many customers received their catalogs long before I did.

The convention reports were entertaining although they left me sort of breathless in spots where I apparently identified too closely with the writers in the descriptions of the more hectic moments. I'm proud you had the courage to suggest some rock music is worth walking away from. We differ only in the fact that I think all of it is worth running away from.

The windstorm that prevented the use of large tents must have been a distant cousin of the one I encountered many years ago when the Circus Fans Association held its national convention in Hagerstown. I covered it for the local newspapers. This group always synchronizes its convention with a performance of some circus or other so everyone can attend their favorite entertainment. On this occasion, a big thunderstorm blew up in the middle of the performance with animals roaming all over the three rings. Everyone else was ecstatic because to have a tent blow down on them would be the ultimate dream of every circus fan but I was quite perturbed at the way the canvas was billowing and swaying. The fact that I'm writing this loc should tell you how it all ended.

Fortunately, I don't receive "virtually every" fanzine, as you think. The adverb signifies that I can't loc all the fanzines that come in and if I were on every mailing list, I would be in even deeper disgrace with many editors. Among general interest fanzines published in the United States and available outside apas, I believe I may receive two-thirds or three-quarters of them, basing that estimate on fanzine review sections. But that estimate doesn't count the many small clubzines of a single sheet or two, or fanzines published in other nations, or the fanzines specializing in a sub-fandom like *Star Trek* or comic books. I belong to only three of the dozens of apas so there is an enormous amount of fan publishing in the others that I never see. In the past year or two I've been very inconsistent about responding to big fanzines because they give me eyestrain and by the time I finally finish reading an issue, another issue arrives so I decide to read it and then write a loc covering both issues and all too often I never get a loc written at all. I still manage to respond to most of the small fanzines that come in, even those that have no loc sections.

Pamela Boal is right about the poor penmanship of most people. The most beautiful handwriting in fandom that I know about belongs to Larry Farsace, an old-time fan who was most active in the 1930s and 1940s. It was always a pleasure to look at his mailing labels and envelopes which he usually addressed with a pen instead of a typewriter. Just this month, I received a

little zine from Larry and I couldn't detect a bit of difference in his handwriting on its envelope.

Chuck Broerman probably isn't old enough to worry about arthritis. But I seem to be having twinges of it in my hands, and I find that when I do a lot of typing on this manual machine, the pain and stiffness abate to a considerable extent for a few days. Piano playing also helps reduce the problem. Maybe I should go ahead and write that mystery novel I've been fretting about for several years, as physical therapy even if it turns out to be unsellable.

When I was still in my teens, I corresponded with a British youth. We sent each other small coins as samples of our currency. He was terribly shocked when he looked at the dime I enclosed with a letter. The design on dimes at that time included a couple of Roman fasces, and my correspondent thought that proved the United States approved of Mussolini's fascism. I don't know if he believed me when I tried to explain that the dime had had the fasces before Mussolini seized it as a national symbol of his Italian dictatorship.

July 26: **Catherine Mintz**, 1810 South Rittenhouse Square, 1708, Philadelphia, PA 19103-5837

I was rather surprised by Dan Caldwell's feeling that fanzine fandom was hard to break into, it having been my experience that writing to any one immediately got you a half-dozen or so others. What's more, if you remain a letterhack, it is not an expensive hobby, although it is a different story if you succumb to the publishing virus. The problem may be that convention fans seldom see an array of fanzines, unless someone takes the time to run a table, and so they never find the entry point.

You left one thing out of the story about Howard DeVore and the Midwestcons. Not only has he attended forty-seven of them, but, since he worked to establish the convention, he has the privilege of attending without paying for a membership.

Since women have always had the option of using an ambiguous or masculine pen name -- James Tiptree springs to mind -- I'm not sure that there are not more of them than the casual reader might expect lurking in the genre's history. I am dubious that women currently face unusual difficulty in breaking into science fiction because of their gender, although because they historically were discouraged from taking an interest in mathematics and science, they once were not as well prepared as men to write it.

As a graphic symbol, I like the design of the Confederate flag, which is at once bold and simple, and I regret that it means unpleasant things to so many people. Perhaps it is time someone came up with a new design that could be displayed to show regional pride without prejudice? Californians fly the flag of the California Republic almost without comment.

July 29: **Randy Barnhart**, 3729 Densbury Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5N 6Z2, Canada

Thanks for sending me a copy of the Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin. It's been a long time since I've seen a nice, old fashioned (in the best sense of the words) clubzine, and the SFC Bulletin is all of that. Snazzy cover, too. While I'll probably never get to a Southern con for financial reasons, the Con Reports were most interesting for no other reason than I'm nosy.

Oddly enough, despite the address, I was actually born in the Southland, and therein lies a tale: my dad, who for some reason was eager to get into WWII, joined the Royal Canadian Artillery while underage. His uncle, a constable, tracked him down and obtained his release, whereupon my dad walked to the Marine Corps recruiting station in Buffalo, NY and signed up (we're Mohawk Indians and can live on either side of the Medicine Line). Anyway, to cut a long story short, he became a career NCO and I was born at the Naval Hospital, Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base, North Carolina. We "returned" to Canada when he retired, but I still miss driving out to Cape Lookout on holidays or into Sneads Ferry for buckets of steamed clams.

Getting a lot of Big Wind down in your end of the world these days. Up here, it's been another Year of No Summer. Since April, we've had but three days when the temp was about 25 degrees C., with the rest being very cool and dry. The weather everywhere is getting mucho weird, so I guess all that stuff about the Greenhouse Effect wasn't the complete guff the chemical would have us believe.

Curt Phillips is very right: it's great to see neofen still being pulled in by Doc Smith. Reprints of the *Lensman* and the *Skylark* series lured me into fandom in the early 1960s. For solid whiz-bang action and sensawunda, there was no one, is no one, and never will be anyone like Doctor Edward Elmer Smith, Ph.D. It's a shame that a lot of folks run down space opera these days, but it's nice to see other folks out there keeping the flame burning. (One question: are we ever going to see another round of reprints? My copies of the *Lensman* and the *Skylark* series couldn't be disintegrating any faster if they were hit with the ravaging beam of a DeLameter.)

Paul Cardwell has a point. A few years ago, I asked a pro fantasy writer why, whenever Native North American cultures appear in fantasy, non-Native writers almost always get it wrong. Her reply was illuminating: "when we get it wrong, you can laugh at us." Now wait a minute, this isn't Niven rotating the Ringworld in the wrong direction, these are the core beliefs of human beings. If you're going to use those beliefs to prop up some feeble plotline, at least have the decency (and courtesy) to get it right! It's that kind of "It's my book, I can do whatever I want" arrogance that raises the hackles of the very, very few non-white fen.

Bifocals aren't so bad, it's hearing aids that are the Grade A pain in the rump. Anyway hope the Big Winds steer clear of all of you. Until I hear from you again.

CLEAR ETHER!

August 1: **Paul Cardwell**, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418-2913

I particularly appreciate the plug for the CAR-PGa Newsletter. However, could you possibly mention that while we do take subscriptions from nonmembers (about a dozen currently), it is primarily a house organ for a network of researchers into all aspects of role-playing games. Originally, and unfortunately again currently, we worked in game defense, but our more enjoyable activities include expanding the ways the games can be used in classroom teaching, psycho- and socio-therapy, and improving both the game rules structures and playing techniques. We are currently in 21 states (adjacent to all but six) and seven countries. With a major outbreak of anti-game hysteria in Italy, we desperately need a member there. (Well it is *Southern Europe*.)

Regarding Pamela Boal's comment about penpersonship: Not trying to be ultra-picky either, penmanship is proper. This does not come from the Germanic *mann* (man), but from the French *main* (hand). A craftsman is one of either sex who does hand crafts. The construction also exists in the English phrases "all hands on deck" and "hired hand".

Curt Phillips: Soviet WW-II reenactments: Never mind Moscow, what about Leningrad (St. Petersburg)? 900 days of siege, and yet during that time, Shostakovich composed one of his greatest symphonies. Twenty-five or so years later, there was a reenactment of its premier with the original performers and audience (played to a recording by the composer). There were seven in the orchestra and perhaps a dozen in the audience. That is all that were still alive! That meat grinder tied up so many German troops that Italy and France would have been far worse on US and Commonwealth troops than it was. Let's hope this time, we can remain allies.

My own July comments: Probably more luck than active work, although that was hardly lacking CAR-PGa is back up to 25% female. As a matter of collective ego, we do prefer to lead the hobby.

Buck Coulson: It is good to see a few other old timers in the pages. I had my tonsils removed in the 1930s too, so I suspect we are contemporaries. Oops, just got to your last line, you have seven years on me.

Chuck Broerman: Confederate Battle Flag: A recent book on the battle flags of the Texas CSA regiments showed that not a one of them used the Army of North Virginia flag in its precise configuration. Almost a third used a variation of it: no center star, the center star considerable larger than the width of the arms of the St. Andrew's cross, or the center star inverted or pointing toward the staff (anarchist, not satanic, symbol in those

days). Therefore, I contend that at least within Texas, the ANV flag has no historic significance at all, and is strictly a racist symbol. Of course, in North Virginia, it's another matter.

Harry Warner: same subject: Good point. Actually, the Emancipation Proclamation didn't do anything but give the Union a very valuable propaganda cause. It did not apply to Confederate territory in Union hands nor could it be enforced in that under Confederate control. Slavery was abolished by the 13th regiment (December, 1865), although it somewhat was in Confederate territory occupied by the Union after the Proclamation, but there the slaves were not freed, merely confiscated!

August 1: **Pamela Boal**, 4 Westfield Way, Charlton Heights, Wantage, Oxon, OX12 7EW, United Kingdom

My mind tends to boggle at the thought of you folks having twenty seven cons to choose from, then of course I remind myself that the area covered is several times larger than Britain, thus per capita, so to speak, we probably now have the same amount here. My Con going days were back when Easter Con and Nova Con were it. I wonder at people who moan about Cons not being as they expected them to be, surely with so much choice they can find one to suit their needs. After umpteen years I will be putting my toe (well wheel actually) in the convention waters again next February. I have chosen one that seems to be most like those I used to enjoy, if I find that not to be the case I won't automatically blame the organisers or other fans but will wonder if I misunderstood the information supplied.

Glad to note your printer seems to have taken on board the tip about placing the staple parallel with the top left hand margin. It really does make a difference.

August 2: **Yuri Mironets**, Oktyabrskaya St. 2, APT 15, Vladivostok, Russia 690000

Summer is in full swing in Vladivostok now and the students (and most of the professors, as well) are on vacation. Two of my graduate students successfully defended their graduation papers on E. E. "Doc" Smith's and Harry Harrison's novels and though their papers weren't absolutely brilliant, both received good marks. I think their main shortcoming was that they weren't widely read in SF in general and American SF in particular. Besides, a few years ago such papers were written from the position of the so-called "socialist realism", where every "capitalist" was strongly criticized and everything "socialist" was highly praised. You wouldn't believe it, but it was compulsory to begin such papers (no matter on what subject) with quotations from Marx and Lenin. Now the situation is changed, of course, and my students based their works mainly on American and British sources and reference books. (Catherine Mintz and Helen Davis made valuable contributions to my library, including the latest edition of Neil Barron's *Anatomy of Wonder*,

which proved to be very helpful to the students). It was rather difficult for the students to be the first, but it certainly will be easier for those who will come after them.

There was a big event in Vladivostok in the middle of June -- The International TESOL Conference took place at Far Eastern University. The general theme of the conference was "Experiencing American Culture in the Classroom". There were many interesting reports made both by Russian and foreign participants. I also made a report "Teaching American Science Fiction at Far Eastern University". Judging by the reaction of those who attended my talk, it was rather highly appreciated. I feel encouraged.

I wish all the readers of the Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin Good Health, Good Luck, and CLEAR ETHER!

August 7: **Lee Billings**, 2627 Hixson Pike #160, Chattanooga, TN 37415

This is a rather belated letter, but I could not let Rich Gutke's letter in the March issue pass without comment.

Calling the Civil War the "war of Northern aggression" is akin to blaming the bride when the groom fails to show up for the wedding. This war occurred because a dozen or so states, having entered into an agreement which carried with it certain obligations, reneged when said obligations became inconvenient. Among these obligations, though not the only one in question, was the obligation to treat human beings as human beings. Attempting to condone slavery under the argument of "states' rights" is only a copout.

A flag is a powerful symbol, as evidence by the current wave of controversy over flag-burning, and it is not unreasonable to feel that someone who displays a particular flag is declaring himself to be in sympathy with the things it symbolizes. Mr. Gutkes appears to want to pick and choose among the concepts symbolized by the Confederate flag, but it doesn't work that way; the flag is a package deal. Nor is there any immediate way for someone else to distinguish between a white supremacist and a person displaying a supremacists' symbol for its historical value. At this point it's no longer a question of "giving it up" to the hatemongers; they've already appropriated it beyond immediate recall. Let us not forget either that all these people claiming to be good patriotic Americans who only want the Confederate flag as a "regional symbol" are in fact displaying a symbol of treason. You can't have it both ways.

I am not suggesting that the Civil War and the lessons it teaches be forgotten, only that it is inappropriate to view this conflict as a Glamorous Lost Cause. Yes, it's part of our history, but so are the mob wars of Prohibition part of Chicago's history. It's unfortunate that a novelist, a movie star, and the superficial trappings of the slavery culture have fixed an unrealistic view of this era into popular myth.

If the South can't find anything to define itself by except the Civil War, we're in pretty sad shape. Let's concentrate instead

on the many legitimate reasons to take pride in our regional culture. If this means packing the Confederate flag away until its racist connotations are lost in the mists of time, so be it.

August 10: **Sheryl Birkhead**, 23629 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Wow -- just put a base on the cover of July's ish -- and you have a very unique Hugo cover! The artist's name looks like Hartwell, Harwell, or some such -- as ghodd as it is, perhaps some readers will supply you with that information.

About the Dan Caldwell comment that fanzine fandom was very cliquish (yes) and that it seemed impossible to break into it (well....). There are quite a few zines I don't get which I presume is editorial choice (I'm talking about "BIG NAME ZINES") -- that's okay. I'm also not a debater a la Fosfax -- and, again, that's okay. But, I suspect my name is at least familiar to many of the zine reading community -- so, am I a part of the clique? Depends on your definition. If you want to be a part of (break into??) fanzines, it is relatively easy. Get some/any zine which lists a large number of other zines and write the faneds to get one issue (\$ helps as an intro I'd suspect, at this stage). After that -- responding with "the usual" should start smoothing the introduction stage.

I would think tents at a con would be a good idea but only in the Spring and Fall -- at least in those areas that are humid and/or have rain/snow.

I'm not sure Maryland is a part of the SFC (perhaps complimentary) -- but it definitely isn't SOUTH. (What it is seems to vary according to one's location) -- but most often is accepted as Mid-Atlantic.

Yuri Mironets: If I remember correctly, the *Fandom Directory* is world wide in scope (albeit not as thorough beyond the U. S.). Perhaps he can get a copy.

August 21: **Buck Coulson**, 2677W-500N, Hartford City, IN 47348

I was interested in the new bulk mail regulations. Juanita and I had a bulk permit for Yandro lo, these many years ago. I still have rolls of the old stickers; probably you do, too. Think we can eventually sell them as collectibles?

I'd guess the major problem for a new fanzine would be to find readers. In the Good Old Days there were fanzine review columns in the lesser-name prozines; Bob Bloch did one for a time. Fanzines still review each other, but it's hard to bring in new readers that way. The prozine reviews got people -- like me -- who had never heard of fanzines before. Doesn't happen now.

Rivercon was fun, as usual. Gene Wolfe was there; he wasn't listed in the advance notices, but he was on a couple of panels and Juanita and I talked to Gene and Rosemary quite a bit. (Complicated by the fact that both Gene's and my hearing isn't the best these days...) I was on one panel, on "under-appreciated

and unknown" books. I listed several, and while a good part of the time the audience was taking notes, I got some laughs by quoting from a book in which the "heroes" are a pair of grifters who peddle phony dissertations to college students. (It's SF or fantasy; they discover a Viking colony in southern Indiana.) What I read was the translation of a Norse sage into dissertationese; one of the funniest bits I've ever encountered. (Book is *Shame the Devil*, by Philip Appleman, and I've never seen a copy I could buy; I read a library copy and the photocopied a section to take to the con.) Mike Resnick was the real star of the panel, though Dianne Thornley and Annette Carrico made some very good points. The apa he's in brought Roy Tackett to the con; he seemed to be recovering from his 3 strokes, though he was still in a wheelchair. First time I'd seen him since we stayed overnight at his house when we were driving to California years ago.

Good and accurate comments on black participation in fandom by Paul Cardwell. They're a little more common up here in the north, but still mostly in gaming and *Star Trek*. Elliott Shorter was a big (in more ways than one) name fan in New York, but there weren't many others. A couple in Indiana fandom, and a third who was never in fandom but should have been; Denver could tell the most funny stories -- all of them more or less improbable -- than anyone else I've ever met. And make them sound factual.

September 3: **Lloyd Penney**, 1706-24 Eva Rd, Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada, M9C 2B2

I know of what you speak when it comes to understanding complicated post office regulations. A few years ago, I worked on a small magazine in Toronto, and I was in charge of getting copies mailed out to about 700 subscribers. I couldn't bundle more than 8 copies together for any one post office. I had to label copies for individual sorting plants and sub-post offices, etc. My thick-headed boss never understood why it should take me the better part of a day to get the mailing copies ready. It was a pain, but at least all our mailing copies fit into three large bags, and we could taxi them down to the sorting plant by the lake.

Dan Caldwell is right, to some extent, that fanzine fandom is very cliquish, and tough to get into. You really need someone who's willing to show you what it's about, and give you addresses to write to to get some zines in the mail. For me, it was Mike Wallis and Australia's Marc Ortlieb who helped the most. At ConAdian, some people would wander into the fanzine lounge, and look about, and even when we asked if we could help them, they'd turn on their heel and walk out again. Most fans, when they hear the term fanzine, think of a mediafan fictionzine, so our fanzines may appear to be well hidden until the Best Fanzine Hugo is announced.

Follow up on my letter ... I didn't win the Aurora Award. The Auroras will be given out in Toronto next year, so I intend

to campaign on behalf of Yvonne (*Lloyd's wife*) to get her an Aurora of her own.

September 16: **Walt Willis**, 9 Alexandra Road, Donaghadee, N. Ireland BT21 OQD

Your conreports were excellent, I thought.

Jo Peshek was good too, but I was puzzled by her reference to 200 tube steaks. I'd thought I was pretty well au courant with American eating habits, but I keep coming across new things to eat. Just what are tube steaks?

In Clubs in the South, I was interested in the Old Time Radio Club of Cincinnati. What do they do? Listen to tapes of old radio programs? I have tapes of the original Goon Shows recorded on a reel to reel recorder sold to me by old time US fan Ellis Mills. I wonder if anyone would be interested in having these?

I was pleased to see Catherine Mintz's praise for Nevil Shute, a much underestimated author. One novel of his which particularly impressed me was *Trustee from the Toolroom*, which is really about model engineering fandom. The hero makes his way across the world to contact a member of model engineering fandom, in exactly the same way as an sfan would have, staying for a few days at the homes of fellow fans, and being helped on his way. It made me realise that Nevil Shute is unique in his appraisal of the world. He sees it as organised by individuals in interest groups -- fandoms -- not by nations or countries.

((Sorry, Walt, but I don't know the answers to your questions. I had never heard of tube steaks before I received Jo's article, and I got the info on the radio club from the Fandom Directory.))

September 24: **R Laurraine Tutihasi**, 2567 Plaza Del Amo, #209, Torrance, CA 90503-7329.
71613.1227@compuserve.com

In the lettercol, I don't think Teddy Harvia means geriatric "amblyopia." Amblyopia is otherwise known as "lazy eye" and usually occurs in children. The word he wants is "presbyopia."

Buck Coulson mentions postal rate charts. I used to get those when I was sending monthly or more frequent contributions to one to three apas. In our post offices, the scales are computerized and have all the rate information available at the push of a button.

((We also heard from Berislav Pinjuh, Roger Sims, Irv Koch, Joy Smith, Henry Welch, James Kacarides, Sue Zuege, and Lori Ann Parent.))

DeepSouthCon and Southern Fandom Confederation By-Laws

Southern Fandom Confederation

SECTION 1 (a) The Southern Fandom Confederation is a non-profit organization of, by, and for science fiction and fantasy fans residing in the states of the Confederacy (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia), existing for the purpose of promoting fan and professional activity within that area. (b) The President shall have the discretion to name as "Southern Sympathizers" persons or groups outside the South for the purpose of membership and participation in the SFC.

SECTION 2. The SFC shall meet once a year, simultaneously and at the same place as the DeepSouthCon, hereafter DSC. This meeting shall be open to all dues-paid and dues-exempt SFC members, plus interested parties. Only Dues-paid or -exempt members may speak or vote except through dispensation by the presiding officer. Each meeting shall consist of: (a) a review of the year's activity, (b) election of officers, and (c) suggestions from the membership for activities in the year ahead.

SECTION 3. The officers of the SFC shall consist of (a) President, (b) a Vice President, (c) Secretary-Treasurer, with duties as follows:

(a) The President shall run the annual SFC business meeting, present a summary of the year's activities, set SFC policy on matters of controversy, publish the official SFC bulletin on a quarterly basis, and represent the SFC at all fanruth functions.

(b) The Vice President shall serve in the place of the President should the President be absent.

(c) The Secretary-Treasurer shall collect dues for the SFC and maintain an account at a convenient bank on which only the Secretary-Treasurer or the President may draw; the Secretary-Treasurer, in conjunction with other officers, shall maintain a file of all active Southern SF fans, amateur press alliances, fanzines, clubs and conventions. The Secretary-Treasurer is responsible for mailing the official bulletin at the cheapest possible rate. All SFC officers must be resident in the Confederacy. All are elected to one-year terms.

SECTION 4. Dues for the SFC are \$10.00 per year for an individual, with institutional dues being five times that amount, a year being defined as the period between successive DeepSouthCons. The following are dues-exempt: (a) Winners of the Rebel and Phoenix Awards presented at the DSC, (b) Individuals who have performed such service to the organization that the President feels they merit exemption, (c) SFC officers during their term of service.

SECTION 5. The official SFC bulletin shall be published on a quarterly basis, though more often as finances permit. One issue shall appear in the month of January. Each issue shall publish as comprehensive a list as possible of active Southern sf clubs, apas, and fanzines. One issue each year shall publish a roster of dues-paid and -exempt SFC members. Other contents shall be left to the discretion of the President, but shall revolve around Southern fandom's history, present activity, and future plans.

Editorial policy: (a) The bulletin shall concern itself freely with controversial matters confronting Southern Fandom. All editorial opinions shall be signed by the author and shall not be considered reflective of the opinions of any officer of the SFC itself. (b) The bulletin shall maintain a neutral position between and among competing bids for DSC, or between and among Southern contenders for a Worldcon. (c) A letter column shall be printed in each issue containing a comprehensive spectrum of opinion on any matter before the SFC. (d) The SFC shall promote the candidacy of Southern fans and professionals for national honors such as the Hugo Award.

SECTION 6. This set of by-laws may be amended or replaced by the SFC members in attendance at the DSC meeting. Any amendment proposed in writing and signed

by 20 or more SFC members must be brought before this meeting and voted upon. A majority of members at the meeting may cause an amendment to be brought to a vote. A 2/3 majority of members voting shall be sufficient to cause an amendment to pass.

SECTION 7. All previous by-laws, rules and constitutions of the SFC are henceforth null and void.

((As amended at the SFC 1993 meeting. Published for the annual Southern Fandom Confederation Meeting April 28, 1996, DeepSouthCon 34/BeachCon.))

DeepSouthCon

Section 1. Paragraph 1. The DeepSouthCon is an unincorporated literary society whose functions are to choose the locations and committees of the annual DeepSouth Science Fiction Convention (hereinafter referred to as the DSC); to attend the DSC; and to perform such other activities as may be necessary or incidental to these purposes.

Section 1. Paragraph 2. The membership of DSC shall consist of (A) anyone paying the membership fee established by the current DSC committee, or (B) anyone upon whom the current DSC committee confers a complimentary membership. Only members attending the DSC will have voting privileges and each person shall have one vote. Absentee and proxy votes are not allowed. An optional class of non-voting supporting membership may be established by the current DSC committee for persons who wish to receive DSC publications but cannot attend the convention and participate in the business meeting.

Section 1. Paragraph 3. No part of DSC's net earnings shall be paid to its members, officers, or other private persons except in furtherance of the DSC's purposes. The DSC shall not attempt to influence legislation or any political campaign for public office. Should the DSC dissolve, its assets shall be distributed by the current DSC committee or the appropriate court having jurisdiction exclusive for charitable purposes.

Section 2. Paragraph 1. The voting membership of DSC shall choose the location and committee of the DSC to be held in the calendar year two years after the current DSC. Voting shall be by ballot cast at the current DSC. Counting of all votes shall be the responsibility of the DSC committee, using the preferential ballot system as it is used in site selection voting for the World Science Fiction Convention.

Section 2. Paragraph 2. A committee shall be listed on the ballot if it submits to the current DSC, by 6:00 PM on Friday of the current DSC, the following: a list of committee officers, a contract or letter of agreement with a facility adequate to hold the DSC, and a statement that the committee agrees to abide by these rules. A committee may bid any site in the states of Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, and all states both south and east of any of these.

Section 3. Paragraph 1. Any proposal to amend this constitution shall require two-thirds vote of all the votes cast on the question at the DSC meeting held at two successive DSCs.

Section 3. Paragraph 2. DSC meetings shall be held at advertised times at each DSC. The current DSC committee shall provide the Presiding officer for each meeting. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, and any Standing Rules the meeting shall adopt.

Section 3. Paragraph 3. The DSC constitution shall be published in the program book of each DSC. Any amendments eligible for ratification at the DSC shall also be published in the program book.

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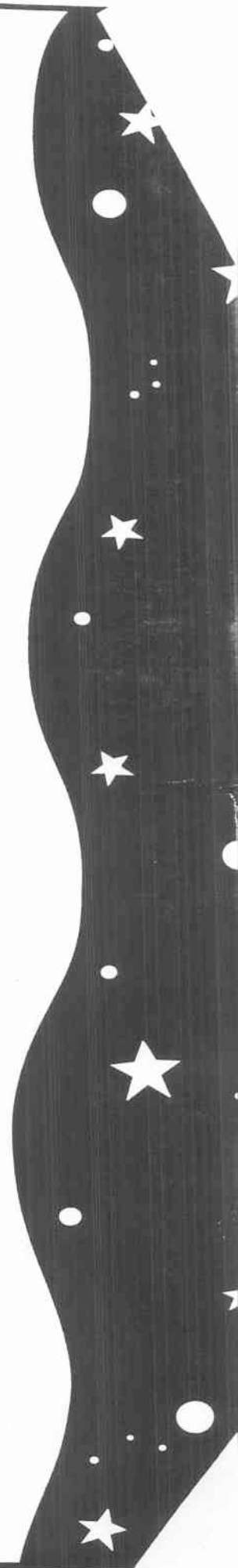
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