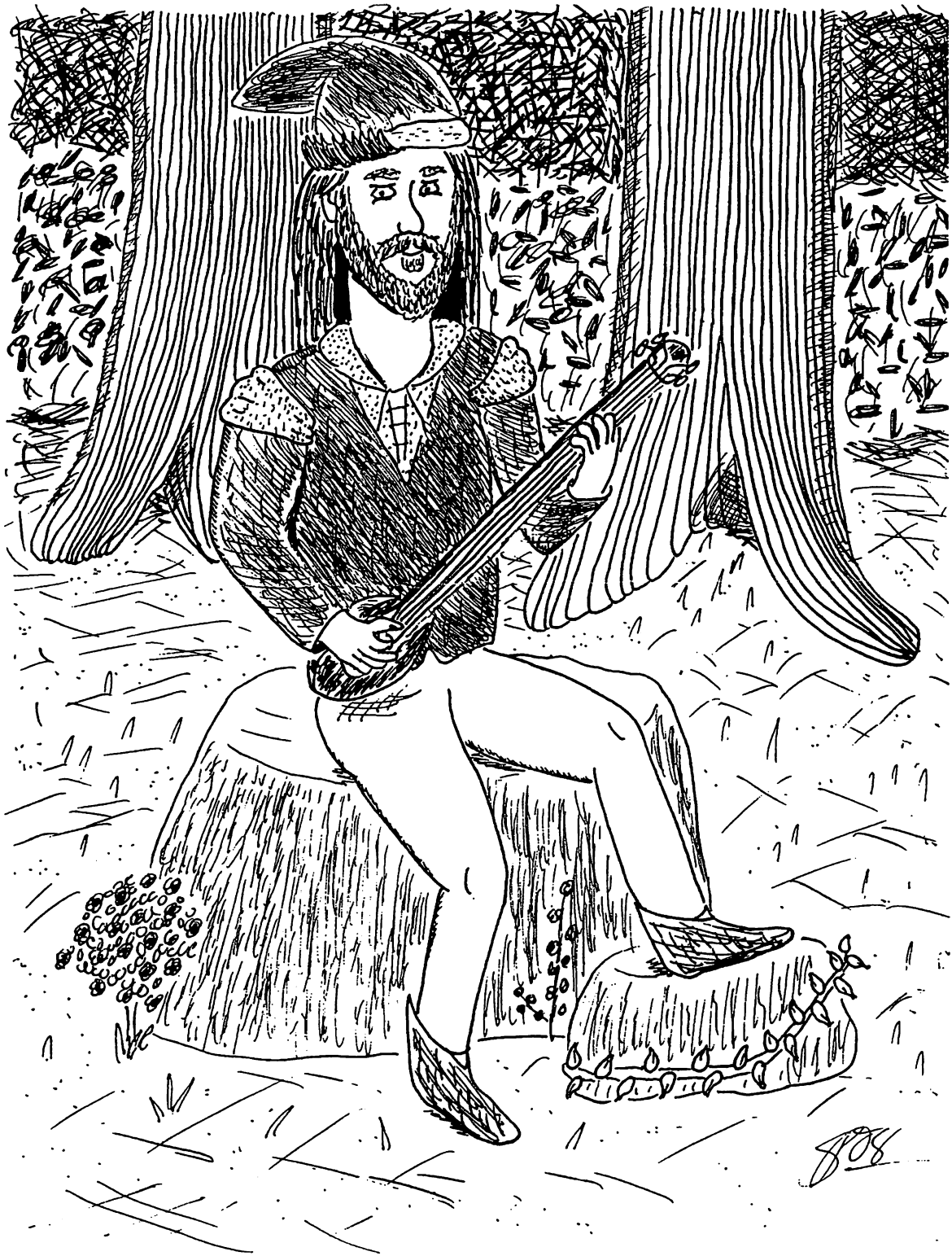


The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin



Volume 7, Number 6
March, 2000

Southern Fandom Confederation

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Policies

The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin Vol. 7, No. 6, March 2000, 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 SFC Bulletin is edited by Julie Wall and is published at least three times per year. Membership in the SFC is \$10 annually, running from DeepSouthCon to DeepSouthCon. A club or convention membership is \$50 annually. Donations are welcome. All checks should be made payable to the Southern Fandom Confederation.

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

The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin is also available for trades, published contributions, and letters of comment.

The editor encourages submission of lengthy written material and art – covers and illos. Contributions and LoCs via electronic means are highly desirable. If you wish to use the Internet, you may send the article as electronic mail or an attachment. If you wish to send the editor computer media, 3.5" floppies, Zip disk, 88/200 MB Syquest, JAZ and CD-ROMs are acceptable. Virtually any file format, IBM compatible or Macintosh, is acceptable. Media will be returned. The Bulletin is laid out in QuarkXPress on a Macintosh. Ink and typewritten submissions also graciously accepted, of course. If you're not sure what all this means, get in touch to work out a solution.

Throughout the Bulletin, you will find comments in italics and enclosed by curly brackets *{{like this}}*. Those are comments from the editor, Julie Wall, unless otherwise noted.

Ad Rates

Type	Full-Page	Half-Page	1/4 Page
Fan	\$25.00	\$12.50	\$7.50
Pro	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$12.50

SFC Handbooks

This amazing 196 page tome of Southern Fannish lore, edited by T.K.F. Weisskopf, is now available to all comers for \$5, plus a \$2 handling and shipping charge if we have to mail it. The Handbook is also available online, thanks to the efforts of Sam Smith, at <http://www.smithuel.net/sfchb>

T-Shirts

Size	S to XL	2X	3X
Price	\$15.00	\$17.00	\$18.00

Plus \$3 shipping and handling fee if we have to mail it. These are the newer design, on a white shirt. A few of the old "map" shirts have surfaced, the ones on pink and green shirts. Sizes are limited and tend to be small, so contact Julie for details. These are only \$5 plus shipping and handling.

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Off the Wall

by Julie Wall

I was casting about for an editorial topic, so I asked Toni Weisskopf for some ideas. She emailed me back: "The importance of parties to Southern fandom? A history of the silly drink in Southern fandom?"

I laughed, but the more I thought about it, and the longer I went without coming up with something better...well, those didn't sound like such bad topics after all. I can't really do a comprehensive history of silly drinks. I mean, I'm sure I've drunk them all, but since I did, my memory isn't so great.

I can sort of list the ones I do remember and make a few random comments. Unsurprisingly, Bill Zielke is heavily featured in my memories of silly drinks. Bill met his wife, my dear friend Linda (nee Riley), through fandom, but I always tell her that I've known him longer. I met Bill at what was my second convention and what I believe was his very first con party, held at the ABC Con in Rome, Georgia in 1981. They were known as the Bill & Bob parties back then, as Bill co-hosted with Bob Faircloth. I was 16 at the time and fandom, like American society in general, was much less...er, paranoid about underage drinking. My mother heard they served beer in the consuite at conventions and she told me not to drink any. I never did. I still, nearly 20 years later, don't drink beer.

Eventually, as Robert and Becky Zielke got involved in fandom and helped out with the parties, they became known as Zielke parties, and those of us who helped with them, the Zielke Associates. There were even business cards, and buttons that read, "Have Blender, Will Travel." For that is what the Zielke parties were most famous for, frozen blender drinks. Strawberry daiquiris, pina coladas, margaritas, frozen screw drivers (Randy Satterfield once mistakenly poured an entire pitcher of these on my head – at least I think it was a mistake). Now, none of these are particularly silly drinks. Fruity, yes, but fairly normal. But we were always experimenting. Different kinds of daiquiris were constantly being tried. All the fruits you can imagine: mango, kiwi, blackberry, raspberry, passionfruit, and the most famous – black olive. Olives are a fruit, aren't they? No matter, they made horrible daiquiris, even without the pits. It was very late at night when they were made, but that didn't help. They were gray, the color and consistency of snow that has been scraped off the road. As I recall, they tasted pretty much like sludge, as well.

Speaking of sludge, the Zielke Associates are by no means the only group in Southern fandom responsible for mass inebriation. Ken Moore, of course, used to hold L&N parties at which the main attraction was Swill. You can find the recipe for Swill in the *Southern Fandom Confederation Handbook*. (Plug, plug, plug – I still have literally hundreds of these – only \$5!) Ken would mix it up in a hotel garbage can (I have heard varying reports on whether it was just one garbage can that he actually washed and carried with him, or if he just used a handy can), and the results, if memory serves,

varied somewhat from batch to batch.

I worked on a lot of Atlanta in 86/95 parties. Peach daiquiris were the specialty at those. And homemade Irish Cream. I saw a recipe for that in *The Galactegg Gourmet*, a cookbook that Hawk and Thea did for Electrical Eggs.

More recently, Millie and Frank Kalisz have taken the lead in theme party drinks with their Skippy. The Crack and Cheese Party at ConCave in 1999 featured a wonderful punch. I don't know what it was, but it was blue and delicious. The Pirates of Constellation XVIII served a wicked PGA/Mountain Dew punch that sported fresh fruit. That fruit was awesome, especially the grapes. And the punch was really tricky in that you got drunk, but the caffeine in the Mountain Dew kept you from ~~passing out~~ going to sleep. That was the only time I stayed up eating fruit until 3 AM, only to be up in time to go to the Waffle House at 9 the same morning.

Not actually a silly drink, but a silly drinking practice arose at, I think, a RiverCon, where Linda Zielke and I went to party where they were serving a snack mix containing dried green peas. (Yes, food is also present at these parties. Don't get me started on Naomi Fisher – that would take up a whole column... hey!) Linda and I somehow decided to put a single dried pea in our drinks – you know, for the vitamins. Ever since, whenever we spy a pea-laden snack mix, a dehydrated pea ends up in our drinks.

I, myself, served Fuzzy Navels (or Hairy Navels, depending on your preference) at the Birmingham DSC parties I hosted and still do at SFC parties, on occasion. The Charlotte in 2004 folks made something called VooDoo Tea at their party at the DSC in New Orleans last year.

I know I'm leaving out some very important silly drinks. (Can you say oxymoron?) Please write in and remind me of your favorites. But this incomplete list brings me to the first question Toni proposed that I address: The importance of parties to Southern fandom. Why parties are important should of course be obvious by now: We have to have some venue at which to serve these silly drinks!

Well, you can't do it at panels, or the Art Show. Seriously, though, parties, or at least the social functions, are the main reason I go to conventions. This has been true throughout most of my fannish career. Programming certainly has its place, and many people who have been in fandom much longer than I have still enjoy it tremendously. Personally, though, I go to cons to see old friends and make new ones. Fandom has always been a haven where I could find a lot of intelligent, interesting people ("Not Stupids," as Mike the computer called them in *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*) to hang out with. Of course, you do also find other sorts of people, but the percentage seems lower than in the mundane world.

So, even for fans who don't imbibe, parties are a great place for folks to gather and participate in this lovely thing we

call fandom. And nobody throws parties like Southern fans. I have been to cons in other parts of the country where there weren't any parties. It was like they rolled up the carpet in the hotel hallways after the last programming event. Ghastly!

PLEASE NOTE: This will be the last *Bulletin* before the DSC in May at Jeckyll Island. Regular SFC memberships run from DSC to DSC, so if you won't be at the DSC, please send your dues into Judy Bemis at the address on the back cover of this zine. Additional monetary contributions are always welcome, too, of course. I want to state here for the record that, come May, I will be happy to continue as SFC President. Our financial problems have not really been eased very much, however, by the shortened *Bulletin* production schedule. Once again, at the SFC meeting at DSC I am going to ask for a raise in the price of dues, as well as ad rates. If we can't reach some kind of solution, I'm afraid I will have to give up the Presidency/Editorship in favor of someone who has access to cheaper copying. Printing costs are by far the biggest expense we have. At the meeting last DSC it was suggested I send the *Bulletin* to someone out of town to get it printed, but I'm just not willing to do that. Call me a control freak, I'm used to it. If the *Bulletin* is my responsibility, then I want to be in control of the quality and timeliness of its printing. Plus, anyone who had it copied would then either have to send it back to me for the tedious job of folding, taping, labeling and postal bundling, or else do it themselves before it is sent off to Tom Feller for mailing. The SFC is already in Tom's debt for the use of his mailing permit, so I certainly don't want to ask him to take over that worst part of the job – a job he has indicated he doesn't want. I don't think anyone else, who doesn't get to be Editor, wants it either. Heck, people who want to be Editor, don't want that part of the job. I also feel that shipping cartons of the *Bulletin* back and forth all over the place increases postage costs and production time, not to mention the chances of something going wrong. Once again, if I am to continue as Editor, which I would certainly be happy to do, I'm not willing to give up responsibility for that job either. If we don't increase income, however, at the current rate of treasury depletion, the SFC will have to give up publication of the *Bulletin* because we will be out of money. I hate to have to go on and on about this, but it is a fact.

Gary Rowan writes, "I used the COLA conversion program (essentially the CPI) on the SFC yearly dues amount. If something cost \$10.00 in January 1984, it converts to \$15.30 in 12/99." I don't know if the dues were in fact \$10 in 1984, but they have been as long as I've been a member. I don't think an increase to \$15 per year is too much to ask.

News and Notes:

First, updates on news in the last *Bulletin*:

Walt Willis has died, did die before publication of the last *Bulletin*, in fact, but the news was a little slow getting out. I attended a wonderful wake for him, James White and other members of Irish fandom at Tropicon, which is reported on

elsewhere in this zine.

Huntsville fan Mike "Doc" Brookshire is now at home recovering from the injuries he sustained in the fireworks factory explosion.

Other news:

Ray Bradbury suffered what was called a "mild" stroke on Saturday, Nov. 6, 1999. The stroke was reportedly caused by a blood clot in Bradbury's brain stem, and left the beloved author temporarily paralyzed on his right side.

According to *Variety* columnist Army Archerd, producer John Dayton visited Bradbury on Nov. 11 and said the author is as sharp as ever and is expected to fully recover the use of his right side. Bradbury was recently in the news for his work on a new Mel Gibson film adaptation of his famous novel *Fahrenheit 451*.

Maurice Anthony Beyke, better known as Boris in fandom, died in traffic accident in January. Boris was 38 when he died and was employed as an electrical engineer at Teledyne-Brown Engineering in Huntsville, AL. He is survived by his wife, Sherri and their daughters. His funeral was held at St. Mary's of the Woods Catholic Church in Whitesville and buried at St. Mary's of the Woods Cemetery. Donations are asked for the St. Mary's of the Woods building fund or to your favorite charity in Boris's name.

Catherine Mintz will have her first ever reading at Borders in July. See her web site: www.catherinemintz.com

Joy V. Smith was a runner up in the short story category of the 1999 *Scavenger's Newsletter* Killer Frog Contest for humorous/outrageous horror. Single copy price \$4.50 ppd (Contest entrants may buy copies for \$4) to Janet Fox, 833 Main, Osage City KS 66523-1241. Mailed by first class in clear plastic envelope.

MCFI has announced that they are bidding Boston on the traditional Labor Day weekend for the 2004 WorldCon. The facilities include the Sheraton Boston Hotel and Towers, the Copley Marriott, and the Hynes Convention Center. Contact: Boston in 2004, MCFI, P.O. Box 1010, Framingham, MA 01701, USA, <http://www.mcfi.org>, email info@mcfi.org.

SFC Treasurer Judy Bemis wants to extend an apology to members Lynne Giles and Jack Stocker. Yes, she got your renewal checks, sent in response to my dunning letter back in October, but they slipped out of the paperclip of stuff to be deposited and weren't rediscovered until recently.

Club Notes: *{{Please note that these will take the place of the Club listings until the July 2000 issue, per the amendment made to the SFC By-Laws at the 1999 DSC .}}*

The Allies for Star Trek (Memphis, TN) sent an update on the club info.

Secretary Steve Joyce

Treasurer David Jackson

Also they asked to delete the web address and said they'd let us know when the new one was up. ☹

Con Reports

by Tom Feller

Constellation—

The weekend before this convention, Anita and I went to a Halloween party at the house of one of her co-workers. I'm afraid I overindulged by having one brownie and one cupcake. For the next week, I had high blood sugar readings. I had a bad one the Friday of the convention, which was not a good way to start a con weekend. (I prick my finger at least once a day to draw a sample for my glucose monitor. It's a small, hand-held computer designed for the one purpose of checking blood sugar. Anita calls it, "Doing your vampire thing.") To compensate, I was even stricter with myself than usual about junk food and booze. I eschewed all junk food in the con suite and at room parties. The only time I consumed alcohol was during dinner on Saturday night. As a result, my best reading of the weekend was on Sunday morning.

This convention was significant in two ways: first, it was the first weekend we had been away from home since we adopted Emily, our kitten. We didn't know how she would react. Second, we were Fan Guests of Honor. This was the first time for Anita.

The con invited us to come down Thursday evening, but I'd been very busy at work and did not get home until late Thursday night. I also worked for a few hours at home on Friday before we got in our car for the short drive down I-65 between Nashville and Huntsville. We were happy that the fall colors had appeared. A few miles short the state line between Tennessee and Alabama, we stopped at the Shady Lawn Truck Stop, home of the Big Chicken (a 12-foot statue of a chicken). Anita says the name reminds her of a cemetery. The country-style cooking there is excellent and the prices reasonable. We had lunch there and then continued our journey.

We arrived around 3 PM and checked into the hotel and with the convention. The con fed us supper in the ops room at 5, where we met Allen Steele, Guest of Honor, and Charles Keegan, Artist Guest of Honor. Opening Ceremonies were at 6:30, and we each said a few words. Ken Moore presented Allen with an original of an interior illustration of one of his stories. Allen said he actually owns very little original art that illustrates his fiction. Like almost all of us, he can't afford a Bob Eggleton original! (By the way, Anita is jealous of Eggleton's hair.)

Our next duty was the Meet-the-Guests party in the con suite. David Weber was Master of Ceremonies, and, as you might expect, there was a crowd of people around him. When Allen came in, he talked to us for a few minutes before the fans surrounded him, too. Jim Kennedy and his wife came over to talk to Anita and me. I noticed Charles Keegan and his wife standing by themselves, so I went over and talked to them. The hour passed pleasantly.

There was a dance, but the music the deejay played was not to our liking. They also had live music by a local band

called Toxic Spleen, but it also was not to our liking. Then we visited room parties. The Planet Xerpes in 2010 bid party had Diet Mountain Dew so I could drink something. As it turned out, this would be the last time we ever saw Maurice "Boris" Beyke, whom Southern fans knew for wearing a jester hat and hosting parties. He died in an automobile accident in January. He and his wife were driving home from an SCA Twelfth Night feast.

Anita and I had a 10 AM panel on Saturday, so we got up early and had breakfast in the consuite. I had an apple, but no doughnuts. The program called for us to talk about our personal fan histories, but mostly we discussed various incidents at conventions. Anita shared stories about the "sardine can" tradition of Nashville fandom. Since none of them had much money 20 years ago, 10 or 12 people would get together and share a hotel room. At one particular convention, this included a nice young man who, Anita assumed, was a friend of Ken Moore's. When she commented to Ken on how nice he was, Ken said, "I thought he was your friend. I never saw him before." She polled everyone else in their group, but they all said, "I thought he was your friend."

We had lunch in the hotel's restaurant with Bill Francis, Mary Stephenson, and Irv Koch. Bill and Mary told us of their experience with Hurricane Floyd. (They evacuated from St. Simons Island, Georgia, but had car trouble and barely managed to get to Waycross.) After lunch, we went to Allen Steele's reading. In addition to the reading, he explained how he decided to become a writer when he was 15. He didn't actually make a professional SF sale until he had gone to college and graduate school, where he majored in journalism.

Then we attended The Dating Game, based on the Sixties

Treasurer's Report As of 10/15/99

by Judy Bemis

Balance as of 10/15/99 \$1,294.39

INCOME

Memberships & Renewals \$230

Club/Con Memberships (Memphis) \$100.00

Donations \$5.00

Bulletin Ads \$25.00

TOTAL INCOME \$360.00

EXPENSES

Bulletin Vol 7 #5 \$574.90

Bank Service Fees \$18.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$592.90

BALANCE \$1061.49

game show. The structure is that a man or woman interviews three prospective dates of the opposite sex. However, he or she is not able to see them, so looks do not play into it. Julie Wall portrayed Honor Harrington, who interviewed three prospective dates: Clark Kent, a Klingon, and a Mad Scientist. Her first choice was Clark, but the Klingon had Kryptonite and killed him. Then she chose the Mad Scientist, but the Klingon scared him away. This left her with the Klingon as her date.

At the Guest of Honor speeches, Allen commented that we live in a science fictional world. The best example is the ability to fly to any point on the globe within 24 hours. Anita said a few words about fandom and threw Hershey Kisses at the crowd. I expounded on Anita's all-out dedication to having a good time.

We rode with Toni Weisskopf to The Heidelberg, a local German restaurant for dinner. The other participants were Allen, the Keegans, Julie, and Gary and Debbie Rowan. I had my only alcoholic beverages of the weekend: three bottles of an imported Pilsener beer.

We returned in time for the Masquerade. I was Master of Ceremonies and Anita was one of the judges along with David and Sharon Weber. There were fourteen entrants. I got through it without any glaring blunders. The only problem was that the judges awarded something to each participant, but we didn't have that many medals and ribbons.

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Anita and I then visited room parties, including the Charlotte in 2004 Worldcon bid. Then we returned for the dance. Again the deejay's music was not to our liking, but we managed a few dances before we returned to the room parties.

The following morning, we came down for the roundtable with all the guests. This was an unstructured discussion that started with the Egyptian Air crash and ended with the Y2K situation. Allen said that he polls other writers on their writing methods. Kevin Anderson, for instance, dictates about 10,000 words daily into a tape recorder. Michael Swanwick, on the other hand, writes one page each day, but that one page is ready to publish.

Anita and I checked out of the hotel shortly afterward and said our good-byes. We really had fun as guests. We stopped at the Shady Lawn Truck Stop once again for lunch and made it back to Nashville late in the afternoon. Again we could see the fall colors. Emily was glad to see us, and she hadn't made any messes while we were away. We played with her for the rest of the evening, but when we were ready for bed, she wasn't. She mewed at the door to our bedroom all night wanting us to stay up and play with her some more.

Tropicon—

For over 20 years, Anita has attended a convention on the weekend following Thanksgiving. For years, she and her friends drove to Champaign, Illinois, for Chambanacon. In recent years, we've gone to Con-Cat in Knoxville. This year, however, Naomi Fischer and Pat Molloy invited us to their wedding. Although we expected to see lots of fans at the wedding, Anita persisted in complaining about convention-deprivation.

Earlier in the year, I flew to Jacksonville, Florida, on Southwest Airlines for business. I noticed that the flight continued to Fort Lauderdale. On the flight back, I noticed that the flight originated in Fort Lauderdale before stopping in Jacksonville and continuing to Nashville. I filed this information in the back of my mind for future reference.

Then we received a mailing from Tropicon, a Florida convention that was to take place the week before Thanksgiving. I've been curious about Tropicon for years and knew that the site, Hollywood, was close to Fort Lauderdale. Since we did not go to Worldcon or Nasfic this year, this seems to be our year for attending cons out of our normal range, such as Midwestcon. So we decided to attend Tropicon in place of Chambanacon and ConCat.

That week I flew down to Florida on a business trip and had meetings in the Jacksonville area on Thursday and Friday. Anita flew down on Friday afternoon on that Southwest flight that stops in Jacksonville, and I boarded her plane there. We then continued to Fort Lauderdale. The Tropicon hotel was only seven miles from the airport in nearby Hollywood, and we took a taxi.

Now this elaborate scheme would have worked great, except that Anita got sick that week. Her sinuses give her problems from time to time. She did not make the final deci-

sion to go until Friday morning. As it was, the changes in altitude make it worse. I, on the other hand, had good blood sugar readings all week. I did not have to be as careful about eating consuite food and drinking alcoholic beverages as I was at Constellation and had no bad readings all weekend.

We were too late for opening ceremonies, but we did make it to the VIP party. The hotel has an outdoor poolside bar where the con set up a little "casino". We mostly played the "Spaced Race" in which you choose a token, such as a miniature for Godzilla, and the caller rolls dice to determine how fast your token runs. At this convention, they don't do dances in favor of late night filking. We tried to stay up, but Anita still wasn't feeling well, so we turned in early.

The following morning Anita perked up a bit when we realized that we could see both the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway from our room's balcony. We drank coffee and watched the boats cruising by. Nonetheless, she decided to rest while I attended some programming. Hal Clement did his hard SF slideshow in which he explains what you can't get away with and then how to get away with them anyway. For instance, the current theory of stellar evolution says that our sun will never explode. However, you can still blow up the sun by postulating a discovery that changes the theory, which has happened five or six times in his lifetime.

My next panel consisted of several hucksters who explained the value of several collectible items that the moderator, Joe Siclari, brought in. Among them were Hallmark *Star Trek* ornaments, comic books (including a *Conan* #1), action figures, books, and paintings. The various factors that determined price were condition, rarity, and popularity. Then I went to a panel on alternate history. Joe again moderated and challenged the panelists to come up with alternate histories based on improbable events such as American Indians being the first humans to land on the moon.

By this time, Anita felt better, and we made our one excursion to the beach. We crossed the street and walked about one block to a public accessway. She had a milkshake at a small bar before we sat down on a park bench and watched the tide come in.

This con does not have a masquerade but instead a banquet followed by guest of honor speeches. They had a cash bar and a buffet. Hal Clement was at our table. He is also a diabetic, which he learned when he had his exit physical with the Air Force Reserve. Judy Bemis and Tony Parker also shared our table. They were good company as usual. However, we did have to share the table with a bad-mannered couple. The woman read a magazine throughout the meal, and the man a paperback through much of it, except when he wanted to talk. When other people talked, he went back to his paperback.

After the speeches, there was a program item called "This is Your Life, Mike Resnick." It consisted of several people such as Roger Sims who told embarrassing stories about Mike as well as testimonials from people who could not attend. When this broke up, we visited the only room party of the weekend, put on by Melanie Herz, for Oasis, the Orlando con-

vention. Then there was a wake for the departed members of Irish Fandom. Walt Willis and James White had died recently, and Bob Shaw, Chuch Harris, and Vincent Clarke have also died in the last few years. Mike Resnick read his introduction to *The White Papers*, a collection of White's writings. He also commented that he usually doesn't care for SF series, but he made an exception for White's *Sector General* books. Joe Siclari and Edie Stern reminisced about Willis and the other Irish fans. Joe Ellis, the filk guest of honor, sang songs at the beginning and end of the wake. We toasted them several times with Irish whiskey.

Anita tried to stay up for the late night filking again, but she fatigued quickly. We had planned to go to the beach Sunday morning for breakfast, but the rain stopped us. Instead, I saw Judy Bemis in the hotel lobby, and we worked out together in the hotel's exercise room. Anita and I came down to see the media guest of honor, Peter Woodward (Galen in *Crusade*), introduce the episode in which his father, Edward Woodward (*Breaker Morant*), guest stars. However, we needed to get to the airport, so we couldn't stay for his presentation.

Once again, we took Southwest to Jacksonville, where I got off to work in that area for a few days, and Anita continued back to Nashville. When I got home, she commented that we would be the only fans in Nashville who were staying home that weekend. Actually, she was wrong. There were at least two Nashville fans at the wedding.

Con-Nuptial (the wedding of Pat Molloy and Naomi Fisher) –

Before Anita and I left for the Opryland Hotel, site of the wedding, we had four crises (I hope I don't sound like Richard Nixon) that we had to deal with. (Other people may not consider them crises, but you would if you heard the tone of Anita's voice.) The first was that our cat, Emily, knocked over the Christmas tree twice in the first 48 hours it was standing. We solved this crisis by removing the expensive ornaments, such as the Hallmark *Star Trek* ones, and moving the tree outside. To replace it inside, we bought a 3-foot tall artificial tree and placed it on a counter top that we hoped the kitten could not reach. (It took her two weeks to find a way.) We left the cheapest ornaments on the old tree and decorated the new one with the medium-priced ornaments. The expensive ones we placed on top of a bookcase. Anita commented that the old tree looked better outside and that the medium-priced ornaments showed up better on the smaller tree, but she was not willing to thank Emily for this enlightenment.

The second crisis, and the one that was most important by objective standards, was that her mother, Jewel, telephoned to claim she did not have hot water. We had been at her house two days before to take her out for dinner on Thanksgiving, but she had forgotten to mention it. Jewel lives 30 miles away in Lebanon, so we did not have time to drive over there and back, but we did check prices on thirty gallon hot water heaters. Jewel thought it had to do with the fuses or the pipes, but we could hardly make a diagnosis over the phone.

Mysteriously, she always has hot water whenever we visit.

Anita had resigned from her job with the state of Tennessee that week and needed to fill out papers related to the disposition of the money in her 457, 401K, and insurance accounts. I helped her fill out the forms and explained about direct rollovers to Individual Retirement Accounts.

Finally, Anita claimed she had nothing to wear. After agonizing over the issue all morning, she decided to wear a black skirt and a glittery blouse. At the hotel, she went into a restroom, where a familiar-looking woman had removed her eye contacts. Although the woman had blurred vision, she said, "Tall and wearing black and glitter. You must be Anita."

I was expecting a lot of food at the reception, some possibly cooked by Naomi herself. Consequently, I was very careful about what I ate all day and made sure I took a 30 minute walk in the morning. Just to be on the safe side, I took a blood sugar reading when we were about to leave and found I had overcompensated and was on the verge of hypoglycemia. Knowing we had several hours before eating, I had a glass of orange juice before we drove the few miles down Briley Parkway to the hotel.

Nonetheless, we made it over to the hotel in plenty of time and found the meeting room by finding people we knew. It was on the Delta Island in what we called the Delta Quadrant part of the hotel. If you're not familiar with the Opryland Hotel, it is the largest in the United States that does not have a casino. The Delta Island reminds me of the Jackson Square portion of Disneyland. Both are recreations of the French Quarter in New Orleans. They provide security and cleanliness that you do not find at the original, but Opryland goes one step further by adding climate control. It sits under a glass dome so that you have buildings within buildings.

The wedding took place on the second floor of one of those buildings. There were two musicians: a harpist and a flutist. They played Celtic tunes and classical pieces, including Offenbach and Bach, for the Prelude and Processional. During the ceremony, we sang the hymn "Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee", which the writer set to the "Ode to Joy"

movement of Beethoven's 9th Symphony, and the recessional was Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. The ceremony was a traditional one, except that Naomi's youngest brother was the Flower Person.

After the ceremony, we all took a boat ride on the artificial river that runs around Delta Island and goes past a giant artificial Christmas tree. Then Anita and I sat down and visited with people before going into the dinner and reception, which was on the second floor of an adjoining building. I was right that there would be a lot of food and tried to choose the ones low in carbohydrates so that I could have a piece of cake. This was a good idea, as Naomi herself had baked the cake, which had white chocolate frosting and was delicious.

The band started to play after dinner. It consisted of four musicians playing guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, and drums respectively. It took them a while to figure out their audience.



They started with conservative, middle-of-the-road songs for what they thought was a family reunion, but realized that we were a little different from the normal family. After they played a Beatles tune, they went for rock and roll. One of their most interesting pieces was a sexually suggestive version of "The Hokey Pokey". *Women: Put your upper torso in!....Men: Put your Belly Button in!* Anita and I weren't out on the dance floor at the time, so we got to watch. They were the first band that I've ever heard who had "The Time Warp" in the repertory. Unfortunately, I had a collision with a woman who jumped to the right when the instructions say, "It's a jump to the left." Afterward, I felt light-headed, which is one of the symptoms of hypoglycemia, so I had another piece of cake. My blood sugar reading the following morning was a good one, so it was the right decision.

Toni Weisskopf and Julie Wall invited us to a party in their room after it was all over. We proceeded there after the band stopped, but they were late getting back from a supply run so a bunch of us waited outside and hoped we had the right room. Eventually, they got back and we had the party where we did a one-shot fanzine. Julie was drinking Diet 7-UP *{{not straight, Tom, come on, I have a reputation to uphold! Mine was a little darker than yours!}}* and let me have some of hers. Anita had Diet Coke. While not working on the one-shot, we visited with the fans from out of town. I had a nice conversation with Nicki Lynch, for example. About midnight, Anita and I said our good-byes and headed for home.

At the party, Gary Robe declared the wedding to be an incarnation of UpperSouthClave. This provided me with a comeback a few weeks later when Ken Moore accused Anita and me of being "fake-fans" for choosing a wedding over a convention.

Chattacon—

The Christmas and New Year's holidays are rough on diabetics, and my blood sugar readings had still not returned to their pre-Christmas levels when we left for Chattacon. In addition, Anita's sinuses were bothering her that week, but she felt that since she could walk, she could go to a con.

I had arranged for the day off, and Anita's last day at work was December 30. We left early enough on Friday to have lunch at the Smokehouse Restaurant on the top of Monteagle, the tallest mountain we had to cross. It features a country buffet, and I had catfish and salad while Anita ate ribs. It was a clear day and the roads were dry, so Anita didn't criticize me for driving too fast down the mountain.

We arrived in the afternoon. As usual, there was a shortage of hotel rooms, so Ray Jones brought his sleeping bag and slept in our room on Friday night. We had dinner in the hotel restaurant with Irv Koch.

The layout was different this year. The dealer's room and art show were in the sub-basement and the con-suite in the basement. The room on the lobby level that was the dealer's room in previous years was available for gaming during the day and special events at night. This meant more people could

attend the costume contest. On the other hand, the con-suite was smaller, and there was a bottleneck around the bar and entrance. They served beer, but I had to be cautious and only drank immediately after eating.

I worked the Charlotte in 2004 party on Friday by placing stickers on people's badges as they entered. We held the party in a part of the con suite and got a lot of young fans who were not familiar with the sticker tradition. A lot of them gave me strange looks when I tried to stick their badges. Kelly Lockhart served barbecue sandwiches, and Irv sold pre-supports. Anita sat outside the party, but had trouble talking. Nonetheless, people sat down and talked to her.

At opening ceremonies, Bruce Sterling commented that although he had written about Chattanooga, he had never actually been there before. Otherwise, I only attended one panel. The subject was "How NOT to get published." Michael Stackpole commented that the biggest mistake writers make is sending their stories to the wrong markets, e.g., sending a fantasy story to a science fiction magazine. The others cautioned that writers should not take rejections personally. Anita and I spent most of Saturday in the consuite until I persuaded her to get some rest. She could not talk all day. Because of her illness, we skipped the dances on both nights.

Room parties started early Saturday. Charlie Dickens and Pat Clements held one for Parthecon starting at 5 PM. They served mimosas and salmon. I skipped the champagne and only had orange juice. Later we visited the MidSouthCon, Dragoncon, and Boston in 2004 parties. MidSouthCon, the Memphis convention, featured a pyramid of Oreo cookies. Naomi Fisher catered the Boston party. I skipped the Boston Creme Pie, but had buffalo wings and Sam Adams beer. We decided to skip dinner in favor of party food. This was a mistake. Although I avoided sweets, I had a high blood sugar reading the following morning.

Maurice Beyke and his friends had planned to hold a Xerpes in 2010 room party, but obviously his death a week earlier changed that. Instead, his friends held a wake in his honor.

The costume contest was a good one. My favorite was Lord Gates of Redmond, Lord of the NT Domain. He wore a tunic consisting of AOL Cds. Another pair came as two of the characters from Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats*. They tried to sing "Memories", but their voices were not quite good enough. Other costumes included Queen Amidala, RoboCop, Worf, and Jadzia Dax.

It was cold and raining Sunday, but Anita's voice had returned. Anita usually complains that I walk too fast, but, as we left the hotel for the car, she proved she can walk a lot faster when she wants to get out of the cold.☞

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Hey, I Read a Science Fiction Book

Reviews by Rodney Leighton

While that is not an unique experience, it is rare. I enjoyed it all, too. Even rarer for me to find SF that I enjoy.

Letter From Space and Other Fun Stories is a collection of short stories written by C.F. Kennedy over a number of years and collated this year into a collection published by Necessary Drift Press. The 14 tales have appeared in various small press publications at various times, under various names, between 1982 and 1999. There are a number of spaced out illustrations throughout by well known small press guy Jeff Zenick.

The front cover has a picture of a spacecraft headed for Outer Mongolia, or mayhap Valhalla. To be blunt, this is a book that I would not have given a second glance, except for three factors:

1. It showed up in the mailbox complete with flowery autograph.
2. I have known C.F. Kennedy as a friend, correspondent and trader of small press stuff for quite a few years.
3. Having read a considerable number of Kennedy authored tales, I knew that he always produces a good, interesting story, usually with some fun elements. They almost always make some salient point about society, politics, human beings and their psychological makeup, and the idiocy that humans get up to and, most importantly, the crappy SF parts are usually dealt with swiftly. *{{Rodney, is just crappy SF, or is it crappy because it's SF? Enlighten me, do you not like SF?}}*

Somewhat strangely, although I have read dozens and maybe hundreds of Kennedy stories, I only recall reading one story of this collection before. "Coming of the Boggledées" is a 9-page tale of pure fun, in which aliens arrive on earth in the form of snow in mid August, form themselves into snow people complete with stolen clothes. Then they become active folks who basically take over the world, solve all the wars and politically driven crap and leave. I have actually read this one three times now.

"To Each His Own—And To Us, Ours" is my favorite story. Partially because it starts out with a form of the belief that I have long held: that the space exploration program is the greatest waste and misuse of money ever invented. Partially because it deals with the aspect of SF stories I most dislike, space travel, very quickly: "The journey took a year, seven months, ten days, four and a half hours, to the minute." And, partially because it's mostly humorous. But I mainly liked it for the end. The travelers find Utopia or maybe the Garden of Eden. It is a group of planets in a solar system similar to ours with a main planet inhabited by a group of folks just like us. EXCEPT. They do not hate anyone; they engage in no wars; they do not use money. They don't even have politicians or even fan feuds. They are much more advanced in many ways

than we. All due to a gene, or some such, known as humemories, which they have and we don't and which eliminates jealousy, greed, envy and such traits of the human animal. One of the ten-person crew suicides for some reason but the other nine decided to stay. They moved out to uninhabited Planet Two, where they could be more normal, sent the spaceship home empty with a letter to the robber barons on earth saying stay away or we will fight. Great ending.

The title story, "Letter From Space," placed last in the book for some reason, is a pure SF tale of a human space explorer who found himself floating in space. He was rescued by some sort of alien type critter who turns out to be very smart, very affectionate and so forth and so this guy lives forever and 500 years later sends a letter to earth. Probably a good place for this story, come to think of it.

This would be a great book to take to cons and such things. Everyone I know of in fandom can read faster than I, some three or four times as fast. I could read each of these stories in twenty minutes or less. People who devour the printed word could read each tale in five minutes or so. Then they should take a few minutes to contemplate them.

Rodney reviews another C.F. Kennedy book, *The Barnacle Tales*, not necessarily SF:

A not very wide man-made isthmus attaches Cape Breton to Nova Scotia. It is a very real place. In fact, the Cabot Trail, which is in Cape Breton, was recently listed as one of the ten most scenic drives in Canada or possibly North America. I suppose I should take a drive around it sometime, since I live less than 100 miles away.

The Barnacle is a tavern set somewhere on Cape Breton. I assume it is a creation of Cape Breton native, author C. Fairn Kennedy, although it might really exist for all I know. I am reasonably certain that Arthur Chisholm MacDonald and his storytelling pal Walter are creations of C.F. Kennedy, although they could well be real people.

The Barnacle Tales begins with an interesting and informative three-page introduction to the man known as C. Fairn Kennedy. Following are six short stories involving Arthur C. MacDonald. He is one of those gentlemen who knows everything, and becomes involved in everything. He is often asked to solve riddles and mysteries, and sometimes asked to resolve problems. These types of folks, especially with a companion storyteller, abound throughout fiction. This bunch is indigenous to Nova Scotia, The Maritime Provinces, and especially Cape Breton Island.

The first story is a 17-page tale of diamond minds, greed, and lost wealth which introduces A.C. MacDonald and his buddy Walter, as well as young Alfie, a waiter at The Barnacle who appears in all the stories. It's a neat story that I was happy

to read for the third time.

Next up is "The Martian," a pure scientific thing of 16 pages involving a home brewery, a space ship, a Martian, a gullible listener and a purely down-home fun tale. I enjoyed reading it for the second or third time.

Then comes "Mr. Gray," a 20-page tale of a man's dreams taking on a life of their own, becoming a viable entity for a brief period of time and then vanishing, and all the confusion this causes. There is a jab at nose old ladies and a sampling of small town life in which everyone knows everything about everyone, or wants to. Fun tale which I only recall seeing once before.

"The Fish Tale" is altered a bit from the other versions I have read. It involves love and death and horror and true love and if I tell you more, you won't have any reason to read it.

I don't recall ever seeing the 15-page "Faces In The Smoke" before. Nor do I recall ever encountering Casper, Arthur Chisholm's only brother previously. The story is a

humorous little tale involving a genie, a couple of drunks and the desire of a poor genie for a quiet life in the bottom of a nearly empty booze bottle. Sounds like some SF fans I can think of.

The final 15-page tale, "Sammy Snowshoe," is the kicker. All the rest of the stories are in The Barnacle. This one takes place in MacDonald's home. All the other stories are fun but there is no humor in this one.

It is an all-too-true tale of white men coming and taking the land and the way of living from the natives. The natives are currently fighting back and the idiot politicians are bending over backwards to please them. But Sammy Snowshoe lost his land, his family, his livelihood, his way of life and ultimately his life to crass white men and their greed. Arthur MacDonald invites them for a Christmas Eve party and tells them off in fine style. I suppose this story is fiction although I am afraid the first part is all too true to life and the second part is wishful thinking.

There is also a collage of other works by C.F. Kennedy. This is a recommended book, a very good book to quick readers to take on the bus or to a con or some such. Very enjoyable read which will give the reader a bit of a look at the Maritimes and its people.

I have no idea what copies of these books would cost. Anyone interested can contact C.F. at any of a slew of electronic addresses. Email: tangle@interlog.com or fido2001@dwp.net. I don't know if the website has anything about this book but someone may wish to visit <http://maxpages.com/drift> or itsmysite.com/necessarydrift. Or, if you happen to be one of the other three people in the world without a computer, write to Necessary Drift Press, c/o C.F. Kennedy, 39 Claremore Ave., Scarborough, Ont., Canada, M1N 3S1.☺

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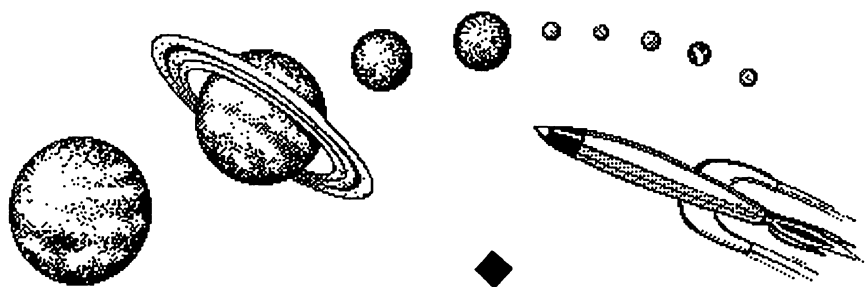
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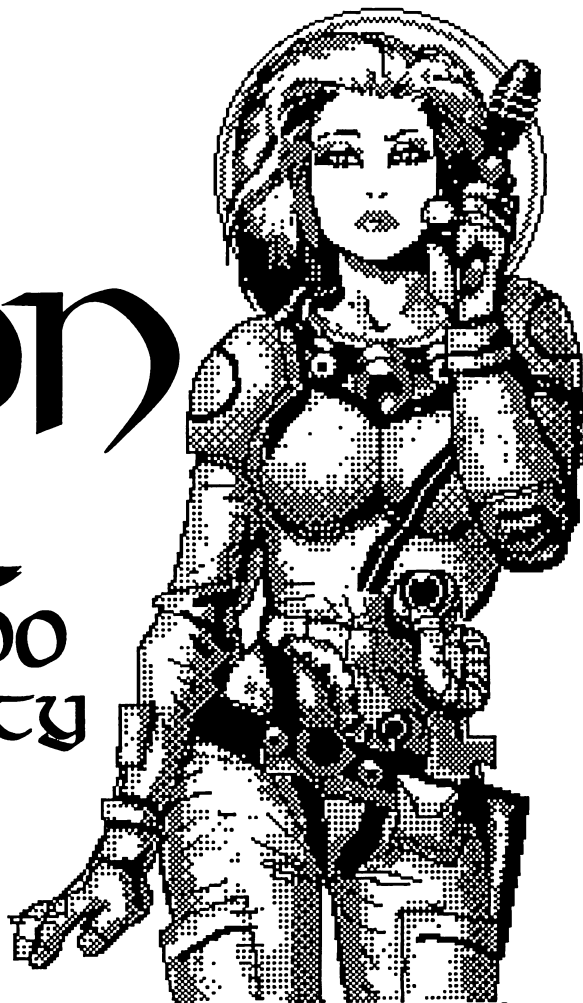
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Fanzine Reviews

by Tom Feller

Please send zines for review to me at PO Box 68203, Nashville, TN 37206. All these zines are available for trade unless noted. Also unless otherwise specified, when writing for a sample issue, send \$1 to cover postage. A SASE is likely to be too small.

Ansible, #'s 146-150, published by Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK. Dave's U.S. agent is Janice Murray, PO Box 75684, Seattle, WA 98125-0684. Fannish news. In #146, Dave reports on the Discworld Convention. Unfortunately, he has had to write a number of obituaries lately. In #147, he eulogizes Marion Zimmer Bradley and James White; in #148, Walt Willis.

As the Crow Flies, #3, published by Frank Denton 14654 8th Avenue SW, Seattle WA 98166-1953. Frank mediates on the deaths of people, including Marion Zimmer Bradley, and describes his life.

Baryon Magazine, Vol 22, #4, published by Barry Hunter, PO Box 3314, Rome GA, 30164-3314. Available for \$1 per issue. Book reviews.

CAR-PGa Newsletter, Vol. 8, #'s 11-12 & Vol. 9, #1, published by the Committee for the Advancement of Role-Playing Games, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418. Edited by Paul Cardwell. Available for \$10 annually or 85 cents per copy; no trades. Each issue has a convention calendar. In #11, Paul discusses media coverage of RPG. In #12, Carsten Obst reports on Spiel 99, a big gaming convention in Essen, Germany, and several people comment on the perception of gamers by non-gamers. Paul makes his annual report in #1, which also includes platforms from the three candidates for chairperson.

Challenger, #10, published by Guy Lillian III, PO Box 53092, New Orleans, LA 70153-3092. Available for \$6. Those of you eligible to nominate zines for the Hugo should remember Guy. The writing, illustrations, pictorials, letters, and layout are all excellent. This issue emphasizes the Colombine and other high school murders. Allie Copland relates incidents of the harassment she suffered as a Goth; Charlie Williams discusses the Paducah, KY, high school murders, where his family has lived for generations; Janet Larson comments on the treatment of children in this country; Nola Frame-Gray has a few words about violence in the media; Sabina Becker describes her high school years; and Joe Major argues about the causes of such murders. In other articles, William Breiding writes about the concept of Home, Joe Mayhew describes painting Katherine Anne Porter's casket, Joy Moreau gives us a brief history of gorillas in American circuses, Susan Higgins tells us what it was like to be a single mother living in the woods, Mike

Resnick remembers Lou Tabakow, Jodie Offutt describes the first grade teacher of all her children, and Guy tells us about one of his clients.

Communications Console, #'s 6 for 1999 & 1 for 2000, newsletter for Allies for *Star Trek*, 2195 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104. Edited by James Kacarides. Annual dues: \$12 per year. All issues have club news and reprints of newspaper articles concerning *Star Trek*

Con-Temporal, Vol 6, #11 & Vol 7, #1, published by Pegasus Publishing, PO Box 1845, Sherman, TX, 75091-1845. Edited by Scott Merritt. Monthly subscription: \$36 per year; Bi-Monthly subscription: \$25 per year. No trades. This zine has the most comprehensive listing of conventions that I have seen.

Covert Communications From Zeta Corvi, #5 & 9, published by Andrew Murdoch, 508 - 6800 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC, Canada V7C 1C5. In #5, Andrew reviews books and reports on V-Con. In #9, Chester Cuthbert reviews books by and about A. Merritt, and Andrew reviews zines.

De Profundis # 326, official newszine of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601. Edited by Scott Beckstead. Club news, calendar, and meeting minutes.

File 770, #'s 133, published by Mike Glyer, 705 Valley View Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016. Available for \$8 for 5 issues, \$15 for 10. This is fandom's leading newszine and has an active letter column. In this issue, Mike reviews the *Collecting Channel*, a website maintained by fans, collections of Arthur Thompson's (ATom)'s art, and John Hertz's *Vandamonde*; Jack Speer and Roy Pettis report on Aussiecon Three; and Chris Barkley argues in favor of commemorative stamps for SF artists, authors, and editors. As in other zines, there are eulogizes for Walt Willis, Marion Zimmer Bradley, and James White.

FOSFAX, #'s 197, published on behalf of the Falls of the Ohio Science Fiction and Fantasy Association, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281. Edited by Timothy Lane and Elizabeth Garrott. Subscription: \$3 per issue, or \$12 for 6 issues. These 84 pages of small print include book, poetry, and movie reviews, long articles, poetry, convention reports, political commentary from a libertarian viewpoint, and long letters. In this issue, Joe Major and Leigh Kimmel report on Rivercon, Rodford Smith forecasts the use powered armor in future wars, Timothy reviews historical books that resemble alternative histories, Taras Wolansky reports on Aussiecon,

Mike Resnick recounts his efforts to bring the books of Alexander Lake back into print, and Sally Morem defends the *Star Wars* movies against their critics, especially David Brin.

The Geis Letter #'s 68-71, edited and published by Richard Geis, PO Box 11408, Portland, OR 97211-0408. Fandom's leading conspiracy theorist shares his views on current events, reviews books, and prints letters. This zine also has eulogies: Marion Zimmer Bradley and James White in #68 and Walt Willis in #71. In a private e-mail, Dick indicated these might be his last issues because of illness.

Instant Message, #'s 652-656 & 658, newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Association, PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701-0809. Edited by Pam Fremon. Club and Boskone news. In #652, Charlene Taylor D'Alessio reviews the Aussiecon Three art show. #658 includes a flyer for the Boston in 2004 Worldcon bid.

The Knarley Knews, #'s 78 & 79, published by Henry Welch, 1526 16th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024-2017. Available for \$1.50 per issue. Besides book and zine reviews and letters, Henry complains about the splitting of Milwaukee into two

area codes and Alexander Bouchard comments on the politics of pleasure in #78. In #79, Charlotte Proctor reviews a Harry Connick, Jr. concert, and E.R. Stewart discusses Arthur C. Clarke and religion.

Kronos, December, 1999, & January, 2000, newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society, 115 38th Ave. N., Nashville, TN 37209. Club dues: \$12 annually. Edited by Debbie Hussey. Club news and event calendar. The December issue reports on the wedding of Pat Molloy and Naomi Fisher, Chambanacon, and Con-Cat. In the January issue, Debbie comments on the Boston and Charlotte bids for the 2004 Worldcon.

NASFA Shuttle, Vol. 19, #'s 10-12, & Vol 20, #1, newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, PO Box 4857, Huntsville, AL 35815-4857. Edited by Mike Kennedy. Subscription: \$1.50 per issue, or \$10 for 12 issues. Club news, book and fanzine reviews, and locs. #10 prints the Chesley Awards. #11 reprints Steve and Sue Francis's Worldcon report that originally appeared in the last *SFC Bulletin*. *{{Well, I asked Steve and Sue to do it, and had first dibs, but Mike actually got it out first.}}*



MarkTime, published by Mark Strickert. Available for \$2 in cash or stamps. This special one-page issue announces his move to California. His temporary address is c/o John Sally, 2981 Canyon Crest Drive #58, Riverside, CA 92507.

No Award, #6, published by Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore Street, North Hollywood, CA 91606. Subscription: \$5 per issue. Marty discusses jury duty and retirement; there is a poem by the late Bill Rotsler; Milt Stevens analyzes Edward Bellamy's *Looking Backward*, an 1888 novel describing life in the year 2000; Joe Major reviews Guy Lillian's *Challenger*; Len Moffatt remembers Los Angeles fandom after World War II; Mike Glyer reviews *Sixth Sense*; Ed Green describes his experiences as a National Guardsman during the Rodney King riots; and there is a fine letter column.

Omegazine, # 113-116, Journal of the Omega Society, 3415 Silverwood Drive, Pine Hills, Florida, 32808. Edited by John Martello. Available for \$10 annually. Club news and comics by John. In #116, John reports on a screening of *Galaxy Quest*.

Opuntia, #'s 41.1B, 43.1B, 43.5, 44, & 44.1A, published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Almost all issues contains letters. 41.1B, 43.1B, and 44.1A review other zines and books. #43.5 covers Dale's work and life. In #44, Garth Spencer discusses the various reference works, or lack of them, on the art of running an SF convention. This is one of the best perzines I receive.

Out of the Kaje, #5, published by Karen Johnson, 35 Mariana Avenue, 5th Croydon, Vic. 3136, Australia. Available for \$3 per issue. Karen writes about time travel, especially in *Star Trek*, and reviews books and Hugo-nominated short fiction; and a variety of people discuss what "Ten Things I'd Take to Mars". There is also a good letter column and a fannish glossary.

PhiloSFy #13, published by Alexander Slate, 8603 Shallow Ridge Drive, San Antonio, TX 78239-4022. Available for \$1 per issue. Alex writes about his life and reviews books and zines. The letter column is excellent. In this issue, the discussions concern medical ethics and politics

SFSFS Shuttle, #139, published by the South Florida Science Fiction Society, PO Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143. Edited by Carlos Perez. Subscription: \$12 annually. Besides club news, there are book reviews, a report on Traveling Fete (their relaxacon) by several people, and letters

Three Pipe Problem Plugs and Dottles, newsletter of the Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem (Sherlock Holmes), November, 1999, & January 2000. Edited by Gael Stahl, 1763 Needmore Road, Old Hickory, TN 37138. Available for \$7 annually; no trades. Club news and book

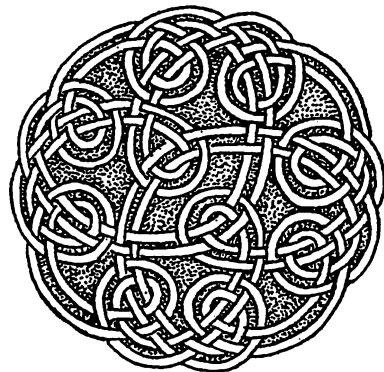
reviews. In the November issue, Gael reports on Baskerville Hall Under the Arch in St. Louis, and Ron Kritter interviews John Chaffin, who has adapted several Holmes stories for the stage. In the January issue, Ron interviews the editors of *Sherlock Holmes: The Detective Magazine*.

Thyme, # 127, PO Box 222, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, VC 8005, Australia. Edited by Alan Stewart. Subscriptions: \$15 for 6 issues. Checks should be made payable to Mark Olson, 10 Shawmut Terrace, Framingham, MA 01702. This newszine contains fan and SF news, letters, book reviews, and a calendar. In this issue, Karen Johnson reports on a *Battlestar Galactica* convention, and Alan interviews Janny Wurts and Don Maitz..

Twink, # 16, published by E. B. Frohvet, 4716 Dorsey Hall Drive, #506, Ellicott City, MD 21042. In his editorial, E.B. reveals he nominated *The SFC Bulletin* for the Hugo. Although an anti-climax to the editorial, there are also book and zine reviews and letters. Otherwise, Lyn McConchie discusses "political correctness"; in a three part essay, E.B. writes about law in SF, especially how it relates to inheritance, emancipation and warfare; and Gene Stewart argues that ideas are the central core of SF.

Vanamonde, #'s 323-337, published by John Hertz, 236 South Coronado Street, No. 409, Los Angeles, CA 90057. These 2 page perzines were originally published for APA-L, the weekly apa. They all have John's mailing comments to other members of the apa. In #325, he eulogizes Lan Laskowski and Marji Ellers. In #'s 326, 327, 332 & 337, he prints responses from people outside the apa. In #328, he describes a memorial service for Marji. In #'s 329 & 331, John reports on the NASFiC.

Yngvi is a Louse, # 57, published by Toni Weisskopf, 3188 Atlanta Hwy, PMB Box 385, Athens, GA 30606. (This zine was originally intended for the Southern Fandom Press Alliance for which Toni is the Official Editor. and includes her mailing comments to the other members.) Toni has just moved to Georgia. In this issue, Charlotte Proctor reports on a Harry Connick, Jr., concert and Toni reports on the DSC.☞



The Final Voyage!

RIVERCON XXV

July 28 - 30, 2000

Executive West Hotel • Louisville, Kentucky

WE ARE NEARING THE END OF THE ROAD—or river, as the case may be. Since this will be the very last RiverCon ever, we are planning a joyous celebration to say thanks and goodbye to all the wonderful guests and members who have joined us throughout the past 25 memorable years. You see below all the previous RiverCon guests who have so far agreed to be with us. Plus, our very good friend Mike Resnick will be serving as the Toastmaster Ringmaster to help us keep track of everything. We promise more fun than a three-ring circus, and we sincerely hope that you will be among the company.

RIVERCON XXV MEMBERSHIPS are \$25.00 until July 15, 2000 (\$35 afterwards and at the door). Children five and under are admitted free. Hotel rates are a low \$65 per night for single through quad occupancy (suites available at varying rates); reservation cards will be sent to all advance members, or call the Executive West at 1(800)626-2708. Join us for a weekend of SF programming, huckster room, art show & auction, masquerade, gaming, videos, parties, fun—and a whole lot more. Don't miss this last gathering of one of the region's best conventions for the past quarter-century!

Scheduled to attend: **Forrest J Ackerman** (Guest of Honor, 1995) • **Arlan K. Andrews** (Toastmaster, 1989) • **Michael A. Banks** (Toastmaster, 1987) • **Ned Brooks** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1978) • **Annette Carrico** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1996) • **Doug Chaffee** (Artist Guest, 1992) • **Jack L. Chalker** (Guest of Honor, 1989) • **Alan Clark** (Artist Guest, 1995) • **Hal Clement** (Toastmaster, 1998) • **Juanita Coulson** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1975, 1995) • **Jane & Scott Dennis** (Fan Guests of Honor, 1993) • **Don & Jill Eastlake** (Fan Guests of Honor, 1984) • **Darryl Elliott** (Artist Guest, 1996) • **Jan Howard Finder** (Toastmaster, 1982) • **Frank Kelly Freas** (Toastmaster, 1976; Guest of Honor, 1988) • **Esther M. Friesner** (Guest of Honor, 1999) • **Mike Glicksohn** (Toastmaster, 1985) • **Joe L. Hensley** (Toastmaster, 1977) • **Rusty Hevelin** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1983) • **Debbie Hughes** (Artist Guest, 1991, 1995) • **Samanda b Jendé** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1988) • **Julee Johnson-Tate & Chris Tate** (Fan Guests of Honor, 1998) • **David A. Kyle** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1982) • **Dick & Nicki Lynch** (Fan Guests of Honor, 1986) • **Laurie Mann** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1992) • **George R.R. Martin** (Guest of Honor, 1985) • **Sandra Miesel** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1977) • **Larry Niven** (Guest of Honor 1977) • **Andrew J. Offutt** (Toastmaster, 1975, 1995; Guest of Honor, 1984) • **Jodie Offutt** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1976) • **Bruce Pelz** (Toastmaster, 1992) • **Carol & Mike Resnick** (Fan Guests of Honor, 1981) • **Mike Resnick** (Guest of Honor, 1990) • **Julius Schwartz** (Toastmaster, 1994) • **Pat & Roger Sims** (Fan Guests of Honor, 1999) • **S.P. Somtow** (Toastmaster, 1988) • **Dick Spelman** (Fan Guest of Honor, 1989) • **Allen Steele** (Toastmaster, 1996) • **Kevin Ward** (Artist Guest, 1995, 1998) • **Lawrence Watt-Evans** (Toastmaster, 1999) • **Gary M. Williams** (Artist Guest, 1999) • **& more!**

P.O. Box 58009, Louisville, Kentucky 40268-0009
E-mail: RiverConSF@aol.com • WWW: <http://members.aol.com/rivercon>

Southern Convention List

compiled by W. Andrew York

Convention listings are as accurate as possible at the time they are submitted for publication. We can not and do not guarantee the absolute accuracy of any item printed in this section. You should check with the convention organizers to verify that the information is correct and current. E-mail addresses and telephone numbers are given for convenience and should not be used for any other purpose than obtaining convention information. If you know of an upcoming convention or corrected information on any listed convention, contact: W Andrew York; POB 201117; Austin TX 78720-1117 or wandrew@compuserve.com

2000

AGGIECON 31 March 23-26, Texas A&M Memorial Student Center, College Station, TX. Guests: Harlan Ellison, Terry Pratchett, Tim Bradstreet, Brian Stelfreeze, Joe R. Lansdale. MSC Box J-1. College Station, TX 77844, (409) 845-151, cepheid.tamu.edu/aggiecon, aggie@msc.tamu.edu

COASTCON XXIII March 24-26, Coliseum Convention Center, Biloxi, MS. Guests: Claire Stansfield, Jason Carter, Mark Whorrel. P.O. Box 1423, Biloxi, MS 39533-1492, www.coastcon.org, coastcon@altavista.net

MIDSOUTHCON 18 Mar 24-26, Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Memphis TN. Guests: Fred Saberhagen, Robert Daniels, Cullen Johnson. POB 11446, Memphis TN 38111, 901-274-7355, 901-664-6730, www.midsouthcon.org

MADICON 2000 Mar. 31-Apr. 2, James Madison University, Taylor Hall, Harrisonburg VA. Guests: C. J. Cherryh, Randy Asplund-Faith, Quinton Hoover, Mike Faith. Madicon 2000, POB 607, Harrisonburg VA 22807; madicon2k@aol.com; www.jmu.edu/orgs/scififantasy/madicon.

GALACTICON 2000 Mar 31-Apr 2, Ramada Inn South, Chattanooga, TN. Guests: Sharon Green. Galaticon 2000, C/O Melvin Baumgardner, Jr., 6636 Shallowford Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421, www.thewebfool.com/galaticon/, Galactic01@aol.com

FLORIDA CON-QUEST IV Apr 14-16, Tampa FL. 800-860-0085 ext 656

PARTHECON April 28-30, Days Inn Airport, Nashville, TN. Guests: James Hogan, Debbie Hughes, Andrew Offutt, Cliff Amos, Sharon Green, Charlie Williams, David Coe, Secret Commonwealth. 710 Emily Drive, Goodlettsville, TN 37072, 615-851-2059, Patsijean@home.com.

MOBICON 2000 May 12-14, Ramada Inn, Mobile AL. Guests: Sharon Green, Doug Chaffee. POB 161632, Mobile AL 36616, www.mobicon.org

DEEPSOUTHCON 38/SON OF BEACHCON May 19-21, Jekyll Inn, Jekyll Island GA. Guests: Jack McDevitt, PL Carruthers-Montgomery, Larry Montgomery, Ron Walotsky, Jack Haldemann, Allen Steele. POB 1271, Brunswick GA 31521-1271

LIBERTYCON May 26-28, Ramada Inn South, East Ridge TN. Guests: C J Cherryh, Jon Stadter, Kenneth Waters, Wilson "Bob" Tucker. LibertyCon 14, POB 695, Hixson TN 37343-0695, www.cdc.net/~libcon, 423-842-4363

OASIS 13 May 26-28, Radisson Plaza, Orlando FL. Guests: Elizabeth Moon, Rowena, Bill & Brenda Sutton. POB 940992, Maitland FL

32794-0992, 904-263-5822, jcr@digital.net, www.oasfis.org

TACHYCON May 26-29, Orlando FL. www.tachycon.com, tachycon@scifispace.com, 407-399-5538

CREATION [Herc/Xena] May 27-28, Orlando FL. Guests: tba. 100 W Broadway #1200, Glendale CA 91210, 818-409-0960, www.creationent.com

PROJECT: A-KON 11 June 2-4, Hyatt-Regency DFW, Dallas TX. Guests: Gilles Poitras, Kobushi Taiko, Amanda Winn-Lee, Shin Kurokawa, Tiffany Grant, Edward Leuna, Paul T Riddell, Newtek, Antarctic Press, Radio Comix, Valkyrie Games, Lee W Madison, Steve Bennett, Studio Ironcat, Ben Dunn, Elin Winkler, Pat Duke, Rodney Caston, Amy Howard, Newton Ewell. 3352 Broadway, PMB 470, Garland TX 75043, info@a-kon.com, www.a-kon.com

CREATION [Herc/Xena] June 3-4, New Orleans LA. Guests: tba. 100 W Broadway #1200, Glendale CA 91210, 818-409-0960, www.creationent.com

CONSORTIUM June 9-11, Hobby Radisson, Houston TX. Guests: Elizabeth Moon, John & Jennifer Wick, John Walter Williams, Ree Soesbee. 349 El Dorado, Webster TX 77598, 281-286-9282, www.horizongames.com/consortium/index.html

CONESTOGA 2000 July 14-16, Sheraton, Tulsa OK. Guests: David Weber, Nancy Pickard, Lubov, Roger Tener, Tim & Kimber Chessmore. POB 54037, Tulsa OK 74155-4037, wentworthd@centum.utulsa.edu, www.ionet.net/~rlmorgan/kon, 918-836-5463

RIVERCON XXV July 28-30, Executive Inn West, Louisville KY. Guests: Dick & Nicki Lynch, Pat & Roger Sims, Bob Tucker, Mike & Carol Resnick, Frank Kelly Freas, Andy & Jodie Offut. POB 58009, Louisville KY 40268-0009, RiverConSF@aol.com, members.aol.com/rivercon

ARMADILLOCON 22 Aug. 18-20, Omni Southpark, Austin TX. Guests: Catherine Asaro, Mary Doria Russell, Betsy Mitchell, Adam "Mojo" Lebowitz, Robet Taylor. POB 27277, Austin TX 78755

CHICON 2000/58TH WORLDCON August 31-September 4, Hyatt Regency, Chicago IL. Guests of Honor: Ben Bova, Bob Eggleton, Jim Baen, Bob & Anne Passovoy, Harry Turtledove. Chicon 2000, POB 642057, Chicago IL 60664, chi2000@chicon.org, www.chicon.org/

TRINOC*CON Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Marriott, Durham NC. Guests: Michael Swanwick, John Kessel, Graham Watkins, Paul B Thompson, Allen L Wold, Andy Duncan, William Barton, Tonya Carter, F Brett Cox, Charles Vess, Mark Schultz, Andrew Pepoy, Randy Green, Mike Wieringo, Chuck Wojtkiewicz, Richard Case. POB 10633, Raleigh NC, lghaywoo@email.unc.edu, www.trinoc-con.org

GAYLAXICON Oct. 13-15, Arlington VA. Gaylaxicon 2000, 517 N Ripley St, Alexandria VA 22304-2713; 703-567-8530; www.lambdasf.org/g2k.

WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION Oct. 26-29, Omni Bayfront, Corpus Christi TX. Guests: K. W. Jeter, John Crowley, Joe R Lansdale. POB 27277, Austin TX 78755, 512-835-9304, fduartejr@aol.com

TROPICON 19 Nov. 10-12, Clarion Hotel, Hollywood FL. Guests: Vernor Vinge, David Cherry, David Langford, Hal Clement, Kathleen Ann Goonan, Joseph Green, Mike Resnick. POB 70143, Ft Lauderdale FL 33309, sfsfs.org/Tropicon

SMOFCON 18 Dec 1-3, Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Resort, Cocoa Beach, FL. South Florida Science Fiction Society, P.O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, jsiclari@gate.net

2001

GA FILK Jan 5-7, Ramada Inn Atlanta Airport - South, Atlanta, GA. Guests: Tom Smith, Robert Cooke, www.gafilk.org/

CHATTACON XXVI Jan 12-14, Clarion Hotel, Chattanooga, TN. Guests: David Brin, S.M. Sterling, Jill Bauman, James Patrick Kelly, Charles L. Grant, David Matthews, www.chattacon.org

MILLENNIUM PHILCON/59TH WORLDCON Aug 30-Sep 3, 2001, Convention Center/Marriott, Philadelphia PA. Guests: Greg Bear, Stephen Youll, Gardner Dozois, George Scithers, Esther Friesner. 402 Huntingdon Pike #2001, Rockledge PA 19046, phil2000@netaxs.com, www.netaxs.com/~phil2001

2002

CONJOSE/60TH WORLDCON Aug. 29-Sep. 2, 2002, McEnery Convention Center, San Jose CA. Guests: Vernor Vinge, David Cherry, Bjo & John Trimble, Ferdinand Feghoot, Tad Williams. ConJosé, POB 61363, Sunnyvale CA 94088-4128; www.sfsf.org/worldcon/Index.htm, ConJose@sfsf.org

2003 WORLDCON BIDS: Toronto ON (POB 3, Station A, Toronto ON M5W 1A2 CANADA, info@torcon3.on.ca, www.torcon3.on.ca); ConCancún, Cancún MEXICO (POB 905, Euless TX 76039; artemis@cyberramp.net; world.std.com/~sbarsky/concancun.html); Berlin GERMANY.

2004 WORLDCON BIDS: Charlotte NC (PMB 2004, 401 Hawthorne Ln., Suite 110, Charlotte, NC 28204 www.scenic-city.com/charlotte2004; charlotte2004@earthling.net);

New York City (no, really!);

Boston, MA (POB 1010, Framingham, MA 01701, www.mcfi.org; info@mcfi.org)

2005 WORLDCON BIDS: UK05, [undecided] UK (379 Myrtle, Sheffield, S Yorks S2 3HQ England; kcampbell.cix.co.uk; www.panix.com/~gokce/nextuk/);

I5 in 05 ("a bid for the longest Worldcon"; Sat., Jan. 1, 2005 to Sat., Dec. 31, 2005, Interstate 5, San Diego to Seattle; <http://sundry.hsc.usc.edu/I5in05.htm>).

2006 WORLDCON BID: Dallas TX (www.rubberrodeo.com/dallas2006/).

2007 WORLDCON BID: Baltimore

2008 WORLDCON BID: Los Angeles

2010 WORLDCON BID: Chicago

2012 WORLDCON BID: Chichén Itzá (bungalow@radix.net)

2017 WORLDCON BID: Moscow

2069 WORLDCON BID: Tranquility Base (lunatic@pobox.com; www.pobox.com/~lunatic/TBin2069.html)

2095 WORLDCON BIDS: Mars (welch@admin.msoe.edu)

2259 WORLDCON BID: Babylon 5 (rastb5mod@aol.com)

2260 WORLDCON BID: Z'ha'dum (anna@zhadum.com)

23,309 WORLDCON BID: Trantor

1973 WORLDCON BID: Minneapolis in '73



A Note About DSC 39 in Birmingham in 2001

Hi there! Paulette Baker here. Well, we've had a few changes since our bid to host DeepSouthCon in 2001 was accepted. The hotel that we went to bid with was purchased and is now currently closed for yet another renovation.

We are now at the Radisson Hotel, at the corner of South 20th Street and 8th Avenue, near Five Points South and UAB. We feel this is a much better hotel and it does have more space for us. Some of you may remember it from back in 1994 as early morning freezing water and peeling wallpaper. We've been advised that all of the guest rooms have been redone since then from the shell of the rooms inward. The rooms all have new bedding, new carpeting, new drapes, new walls, even the bathrooms have been redone. The problems with the hot water running out early in the morning should not be a problem any longer. To quote the sales director, there are "now enough furnaces to heat the entire city of Birmingham and then some." That certainly appeals to my hedonistic soul.

The convention area has been redone, too. The carpet feels cushy and looks great. The reception area of the convention floor is full of lots of big comfy sofas and deep armchairs in conversation groupings. The hotel lobby opens onto street level and has a piano in the bar. The Radisson has a restaurant, J. Gatsby's, on premises. And we will also be well within walking distance of the afore-mentioned Five Points South with the great diversity of food and entertainment it provides. You might even want to hire a horse and carriage for a leisurely ride back.

The first weekend of May should be great for it, as we managed to retain our same dates: May 4, 5, & 6, 2001. Saturday's night will even be graced with a Full Moon.

As much as we would have liked to be able to have the same great deal with our new hotel we couldn't. Our room rates have increased a little. They are now \$81 (plus tax), for 1 to 4 people. Covered and attached parking is available to hotel patrons at no additional charge. The hotel also has saunas (unfortunately gender-separate) and the pool will be open by then. For those of you wanting to make reservations early, contact the Radisson at (205) 933-9000 and please be sure to mention either DSC or Tenacity in order to obtain our special room rate. If you are planning a room party, please ask to be located on the 14th Floor.

Sharon Green has confirmed as our ToastMistress. Or as Sharon prefers, our "Queen of the Universe." Other guests will be announced as they are confirmed. Memberships have also changed slightly. At the door price will now be \$30 for the weekend, with discounted prices leading up to it. Deadline for advanced registration is March 31, 2001.

We're very excited and looking forward to enjoying your company at Birmingham's first Tenacity. Thank you for allowing us to host it along with DeepSouthCon39! We'll see you then!

Paulette Baker, ConChair
and the Staff of DSC39/Tenacity1

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Letters of Comment

January 3: **Amanda Baker**, Dept Of Physics & Astronomy,
PO BOX 913, Cardif University, Wales CF2 3YB
UK, treaclemine@mail.compulink.co.uk

Many thanks for sending me the *SFC Bulletin* 7.5 which looks like an interesting journal, and of which I was not previously aware! I wish we had something like this in Wales – and maybe we will, some day soon, now that an embryonic Welsh SF Association has been formed.

I take it that, since the back cover of my issue is white, I can hope to hear from you again at least once. For our part, my coeditrix and I are currently battling personal difficulties to get *ABV* 2 out into the world, which presumably made its way to the SFC via Vicki Rosenzweig's mailing list. *{{Yes, loccers stay on the list, as long as they loc. ABV refers to Amanda, Vicki and Bridget Bradshaw's zine, The Anti-Backuious Vaclash – what that refers to, I don't know.}}*

It is a somewhat strange experience to read so many accounts and reports, of people and of conventions which I did not attend by people that I do not know, and who live, moreover, in an unfamiliar region of a foreign country. There's a lot of context missing, I suppose. Well, the more *SFCB* I read, the more context I'll gain!

BTW, as a professional astro-type myself, the paragraph about the southern sky in the Francis' Aussiecon report caught my attention. The starscape south of Earth's equator is so much more dramatic than the north, it is truly dazzling! Also, I'd be interested to know who the resident astronomer was, as the profession is a relatively small one (since, Proxima Centauri is of course closer than Alpha, so if the information came from him, I presume he's a professional since amateurs know lots more about such things :-)

Anyhow, thanks again, and best wishes in sorting out your balance sheet.

December 17: **Mike Rogers**, 3732 Occonechee Trail,
Chattanooga, TN 37415-4333, mleerog@vol.com

I hope you are having a good holiday season. Having just finished a school term, I now have time to catch up on mail and other matters.

First off, if the timing works, I might be able to come to B'ham and help get the Bulletin out the door. Please let me know when you will need help.

If you are using QuarkXPress to publish the Bulletin, you probably already know all the typesetting tricks for getting more copy onto a page – smaller type sizes, tighter leading, condensed faces. If it comes to doing some of that, I would vote for using the condensed font and maybe reducing the size from 10 on 12 to 9 on 10. But it would be a shame to change the look of the zine. The current format is attractive and easy

to read. Small font sizes can work, but they strain the eyes after a page or two. It might also be worth investigating how to put the zine in Adobe Acrobat format for the people who would accept it that way, although reducing the print run would jeopardize the bulk mail status. *{{Exactly!}}*

From my limited experience with New Orleans traffic, the driving didn't seem any worse than Atlanta. The congestion is at least as bad or maybe worse. I spent a week commuting from the airport area to downtown and had to sit through major traffic jams every morning, mainly because the free-ways don't hold enough traffic. The Quarter is jammed because it was built for buggy traffic. I'm just glad I don't currently have to endure either city's traffic. *{{In my experience, Atlanta is MUCH worse than NO.}}*

I envy the Francis' their trip to Australia. One of my favorite sports in the world is Australian rules football, which is centered in the Melbourne area. The beginning of September is also the beginning of the playoff season. One of these years, I would love to see a game or two in person.

Hockey comments. I'm going to Atlanta tomorrow

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(12/18) for shopping and seeing friends. The Thrashers are in town tonight to play the Bruins. I had hoped to drag Zukowski to the game. Then I checked out the ticket prices for Phillips Arena. Yikes! The cheapest advance ticket was \$35. It went up to \$70 for decent seats, with the best seats listed as "Call for Information". One would guess those seats go for whatever the market will bear. As much as I like hockey, those prices were just too much to swallow. Let somebody else pay the \$10,000,000 salaries. How much are the prices for the B'ham Bulls games? Z has also mused about dropping down to Macon for a Whoopee game. *{{NHL prices are high, but I hear there's not really a bad seat in the house at Phillips. And, if there's not a sellout, you can get tickets for less than \$35 on game day, because they want to put bodies in the seats. We are going over on March 10th to see the Thrashers play the New Jersey Devils, my favorite NHL team. We paid \$65 per ticket to be right behind goaltender Martin Brodeur, my favorite player, but that's a once-a-year type deal. It will be just my luck that the backup goalie, Terreri, gets one of his 12 starts of the year that night. Bulls tickets are \$8, \$10 and \$12}}*

I can't let a mention of Krystal hamburgers go without comment. They do inspire passions. People either love 'em or hate 'em. *{{Hate!}}* By the way, if a person dislikes Krystals, the appropriate term is "gutbomb". Personally, I adore them. I liked Krystal better in the early years when they had the chrome countertops and china coffee cups. When I worked on an early Chattacon, we dragged A. E. van Vogt to a Krystal one night (this was before downtown developed an active nightlife). He seemed to like the experience.

Dale Speirs commented that it might be better for the Worldcon to go to smaller cities. I would agree. The Worldcon always gets its staff from all over the universe. ConFederation's core staff came from all over the South, with lots of help from fans around the U.S. and elsewhere. The economic impact factor means a lot. This city has had some events that filled up the hotels in recent years, and the local papers always mention the amount of money the attendees will drop locally. Chattanooga is too small for a Worldcon, but Nashville or Charlotte would be about the right size.

January 27: **Kelly Lockhart**, 208 Hillcrest Ave, Chattanooga, TN 37411, kellylockhart@yahoo.com

Very much enjoyed my first *SFC Bulletin* (Vol 7, No 5) Reading the Francis' trip report from Australia was a combination of enjoyment and jealousy, as I would have dearly loved to have gone down under, but just could not afford the trip. As it was, they gave a very nice report that was in many ways to next best thing to being there.

Looking back over the issue, I am reminded that I really need to send in my registration for Son of Beachcon. Hmm..let me do that now...

Okay, I'm back. The check is in the mail.

As of the date of writing this LoC, we are preparing for what could be a fairly nasty snow storm. By the time you read

this, it will likely be just a memory, but for right now it is a very pressing matter.

Writing LoC's is a bit like time travel if the fact that what you are reading now in your present is actually my future, and I'm in your past although for me right now is the present.

Okay, maybe I shouldn't write this when I am on medication for the flu. Then again, maybe it will be more interesting, so onward and upward!

First of all, I hope that Julie has corrected the error in my mailing address. Somehow, an extra "8" was added somewhere along the line. You just have to keep an eye on those eights, or they will sneak in and bite you. *{{Got it!}}*

Worldcon news: As everyone is by now aware, MCFI has bid Boston 2004, and are helped in part by Patrick Molloy and Naomi Fisher. Both good people whom I would have loved to have had part of the Charlotte bid, but these things happen...

As it stands right now, the three main bidders for 2004 are Charlotte, Boston, and "Nieuw Amsterdam" which is how the New York people are advertising their bid.

Even speaking as the co-founder of the Charlotte bid, I have to admit that Boston has a good package. Side by side comparison show that Charlotte has a slight edge on facilities while Boston has the edge when it comes to bid-com people with recent Worldcon experience.

I think it will be a close race and I truly hope, as I told both Patrick and Naomi at Chattacon, that the race remains cordial. I have said from the beginning with Charlotte that I won't tolerate negative campaigning on our part. There has been too much of that in past bids, especially ones involving southern cities, that I am determined to do everything in my power to keep this race as friendly as possible.

Now, on to other things.

After several years of near gaffiation, it seems I am being sucked back in fandom more and more. Until I started the Charlotte bid with Irv, I had not held any con-com position for over three years (after ten years of active, some say over-active, involvement with numerous cons). That is no longer the case, as I am proud to announce that I was unanimously elected to the position of Secretary with LibertyCon at the December meeting. Phronsie McDade had to step down due to a recent auto accident where she injured her shoulder and found herself unable to type. She is a wonderful lady, and I hope she recovers fully from a nasty injury.

I've also been going to more cons lately, several of them new to me. In the last Bulletin I wrote about my experiences at DSC in New Orleans. This time around, instead of writing a separate report for each con, I've decided to be a bit lazy (no comments from you, Julie!) and combine everything into this LoC, which keeps getting longer and longer.

First of all, I attended my very first Constellation and had a great time. The whole Hunstville group was very friendly, and while I heard some grumbling about the facilities, having nothing to compare from past Constellations, I didn't see much of a problem. I did find it interesting that the hotel was literally on TOP of the airport. Made it rather convenient for

those that flew in to the con.

Since I can't find any of my notes, I won't be able to go into much detail, but I do remember that I had a very good time, met some new people, put some faces to email names (how much of fandom now communicates online, I wonder), and made a very easy decision to return next year.

December was uneventful, other than the usual holiday frenzy, which brings us to Chattacon. This was my very first "real" southern convention, back in 1989. I had attended a few comic shows and *Star Trek* events prior to that, but I consider Chattacon to be my first introduction into fandom proper, and I have not missed one yet. *{{Chattacon was my first convention, too, back in 1981. I have missed a few – including this year's – but I plan to return in 2001 and have a 20th Anniversary Party.}}*

This year we remained once again in the Clarion, which seems to be about to burst at the seams. Chattacon has been running around 1,300 members for several years now, and the hotel just doesn't have enough committed space to handle the con, at least in my opinion. For example, the consuite was stuffed into what had until just recently been a radio station. It was a great consuite, as I feel with some justification that Zanny Leach is one of the best consuite people in all of fandom, but the rooms were small and cramped and it seemed there was more socializing going on in front of the hotel (where all the smokers congregated) than down in the consuite. I do know that we had a great Charlotte bid party in one of the consuite rooms on Friday night, with special thanks to Tom Feller for volunteering to be our door greeting/sticker "puteroner".

The con itself was as enjoyable as it has always been for me. My first love in fandom is mingling, and Chatta is a great place to do so. I had a lot of interesting chats with people, some old friend, some new. And one tidbit, Leo Frankowski, whose writing I have enjoyed quite a bit, is strongly thinking of moving down here to Tennessee from the frozen North. A very interesting and colorful man.

Up next for me in a few weeks (and I may actually take notes this time and submit a full con report to Julie) *{{Yea!}}* is StellarCon. This is another new con for me, and it should be interesting. I just hope that North Carolina will not be snow-bound then like it is now, as I dislike traveling in such conditions. I've lived in snowy climes before (Minnesota and Colorado), and have a strong aversion to driving during storms.

Well, that about wraps up this LoC. Hopefully I haven't bored everyone to unconsciousness...however, if I have, I have only one thing to say, "The cow is on fire and we're all out of prune juice!"

November 15: **Tom Feller**, P O Box 68203, Nashville, TN 37206-8203, TomFeller@aol.com

The zine looks excellent, as usual. The typeface looks fine. Thanks for standing for re-election.

I was curious to see how the DSC mixed with Crescent City Con. I missed having Diet Coke (or Diet Pepsi) in the consuite, too. Our DSC chairperson panel was fun. I'm glad we showed up for it.

I've gotten over missing the BLT dance. If I could write my report over again, I would delete that part of it. As Toni says, if I had really wanted to go, I could have taken a bed-sheet and submitted myself to the costume police.

Scott Thomas: I don't think the pod racers in *The Phantom Menace* were meant to be logical, but rather a high tech version of the chariot race in Ben-Hur.

E.B. Frohvet: The menu at the 101st Airborne, a Nashville restaurant near the Parthecon hotel, is a standard American steak-and-seafood one.

I agree with Dale Speirs that Calgary made an excellent Worldcon site, mainly because the people made us feel wanted. We were the largest convention in Calgary that year. In cities such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, and others, we get lost in the shuffle.

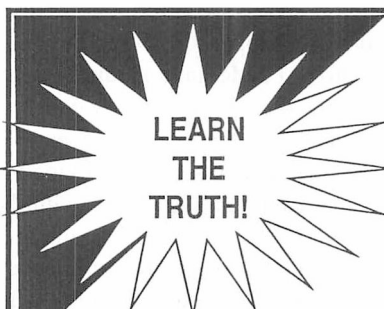
January 20: **Dave Langford**, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK, ansible@cix.co.uk

Belatedly, many thanks to Karen Johnson for her kind remarks about Live Thog at Aussiecon – and to you for sending the issue! I was deeply grateful that anyone turned up at all, virtually since all the pros and many fans had been invited to a party far away at Peter Nicholls's house (which the Worldcon committee had begged Peter not to schedule against their first evening events).

Live Thog is exhausting work and I keep saying I'll never do it again, but it's great to get such cheering feedback.

November 19: **Pamela Boal**, 4 Westfield Way, Charlton Heights, Wantage, OXON OX12 7EW, UK, PJBoal@aol.com

Thanks for this issue and congratulations. Despite the financial problems The SFC and its Bulletin is obviously firm in its regards of the international nature of Fandom. It would be all too easy to solve problems by looking inward and serve only local members with only local news.

 <p>Send #10 SASE For Details Today!</p>	<p>The SURVIVOR NEWSLETTER...</p> <p>Tells what you <i>didn't</i> learn in school and won't read in the newspapers!</p> <p>Thomas J. Evans 11-15 45th Street Long Island City, NY 11101-5154</p>
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I greatly enjoyed Steve & Sue Francis's trip report so many fascinating experiences. I also marvelled at their energy.

The children's programme at Aussiecon was a really good idea and seemed to be a great success. I keep meaning to ask Karen if it was a first, I certainly can't recall reading of a children's programme at other Cons.

As you know I'm one of your readers that has trouble with small print, though size is less of a problem than fuzzy fonts and close spacing. With your crisp font and good spacing I can cope by using my magnifying bar.

I do hope Catherine Mintz was exaggerating when she wrote that 25% of Americans are functionally illiterate! If the world's most powerful and wealthiest nation cannot educate its people what hope is there for developing nations?

November 17: **Lloyd Penney**, 1706-24 Eva Road, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9C 2B2, CANADA, penneys@netcom.ca

Many thanks for Vol. 7, No. 5 of the *SFC Bulletin*. It arrived yesterday, and I am in the rare position of being totally caught up with the fanzines I receive. So, here's a very early letter of comment.

Yes, it has been a while since the last *Bulletin*...I hope the membership understands about the reduction in number of Bulletins per year. As has been discussed in various fanzines, including *File 770*, clubs are having a tougher time staying affordable and still providing their members with the clubzines, meetings, etc. they expect for their money. Some clubs shut down, and others escape to the Web where they become nearly invisible, or will become available to all, member or non-member alike. The SFC still looks quite vital, and I hope it can keep that up. Bidding for the DSC is tougher, too, because the numbers of people who get involved in running such events is slowly declining. As those who have worked hard burn out or decide that they've done more than their part, more and more people come in, intent only on getting their money's worth from the con, or just taking their experience or entertainment without thinking to give back.

Your comments on the DSC being held in conjunction with a gaming convention sound very familiar. The annual Canadian National Convention, or Convention, is presumably held in conjunction with a literary SF convention, but there have been times when that doesn't happen. In 1997, the Convention was held in Toronto at PriMedia, a media SF convention. There were some doubts about whether they could carry this kind of event off, but they did a great job, even though it was obvious that there were two separate groups of attendees there...the authors and litfen just didn't mix with the mediafen. The 2000 Convention will be in Toronto again, at the annual Toronto Trek. People have some more confidence here...they deal with 2500 attendees each year, and those who sought and won the Convention are fans of both media and literary SF, and they know who to ask for guidance on how best to run a Convention.

Still following the Bulls, Julie? *{{Of course! They had a great first half of the season, but lately, we have been struggling defensively.}}* Didn't know New Orleans had a hockey team, but I shouldn't be surprised. Anyone following the NHL Thrashers? Good to see hockey back in Atlanta, seeing that the Flames did relatively well before moving on to Calgary. The Leafs are doing amazingly well, currently tied for first place overall.

The bad news...there's just so much of it. I didn't know about Dean Grennell passing on, and it must have been during press time...we received word that Walt Willis had died of a heart attack. Walt was suffering the effects of a stroke at the time. Too many people we all know and all at once, it seems.

I must assume that Kelly Lockhart is finding out all about Worldcon bidding. Sometimes, it comes down to hoping that you remember to do all the right things, and that you don't screw up.

As I read Tom Feller's con report article, I read that George Alec Effinger had contracted Hepatitis C. I don't know of anyone who has had more health-related bad luck than George. I'm glad that Barbara has been George's support system as well as his wife. (Both have been guests at Ad Astra over the past ten years or so. I know that Barbara has had a gluten intolerance, so I guess she knows where George is coming from.)

Yvonne was the chairman of a minicon that was part of Toronto Trek a couple of years ago...the con brought in some Babylon 5 guests (Jeff Conaway, Robin Atkin Downes and Jason Carter). A special ticket event was organized to help offset the cost of bring these three in, but even then, it wasn't enough. There were plenty of unsold tickets at the end. In the past, the average media fan would shell out as much money as it took to see the guests, but now, everyone must be a wise shopper, and won't just buy anything with a media SF logo on it.

Ah, Australia...we wanted to, but money just wouldn't allow. As the Francises said, the Toronto in 2003 bid was there holding a party in spite of confusion on the part of the committee and a greedy cash grab on the part of the party hotel. We sent down as much stuff for parties as we could, but could do only so much...the bid newsletters and T-shirts we had for sale there were printed in Australia, and what was left over was shipped back to Toronto. All pre-supporters who do not yet have issues 5 and 6 of *The Incisors Report* will get them soon, and some issues will be the British/Australian A4 size instead of the usual 8 1/2 x 11. And now, it's only nine months until Chicon 2000...

Coming up...if everything works out the way I want it to, I will be in two movies. One will be a documentary about fandom produced locally by two fans active in the 50s and 60s, and the other is the movie version of *Illegal Alien* by Robert J. Sawyer. I was a character in that book...if I get to play the character in the movie (very good chance of that), that takes Tuckerization to a whole new level! Also, Yvonne and I will

be the FanGoHs at Ad Astra 2000 in Toronto in February, and (if the bid is successful) at V-Con 25 in Vancouver in May. 2000 promises to be my best fannish year yet...and that's all I'll say until next time. Many thanks for another good zine, and I look forward to the next one.

December 1: **Henry L. Welch**, 1525 16th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024, welch@msoe.edu

Thanks for the latest *SFC Bulletin*. I'm sorry to hear that publication will be going to three times per year, but the reduction in "required" pages should help as well.

You have no doubt heard by now that Walt Willis passed away in mid-October. The news traveled very slowly in comparison to other such news of late. I did not hear until the first week of November and this after having attended Ditto over Halloween.

The Krystal restaurants of the south sound just like the White Castles of the Midwest. Small slimy little burgers (nicknamed the slider) that are nominally steamed. I've met very few people who've eaten there twice.

December 25: **Sheryl Birkhead**, 23629 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

My sympathy to Mike Ray's family and I hope Doc Brookshire is doing well. I've seen/heard several other DSC conreports and I gather that a combocon is not the best route to go. Whoever did the art on the BeachCon 'flyer' did a nice job. Steve and Sue's report makes it read as if US fans travel in packs! Nice for you to have a foreign correspondent. Sorry to see that Karen had her purse stolen. Agh—it's almost time to start the nominating process all over again.

November 24: **Harry Warner, Jr.**, 423 Summit Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740

I'm very sorry I failed to loc the previous issue of the



SFC Bulletin, and I hasten to make some amends by an almost instant response to the November issue which arrived just a couple days ago. You may have read in other fanzines about the troubles that have caused me to become so spasmodic a loc writer this year: a typewriter breakdown in the spring and a month spent searching for another non-electric machine in good condition, then two illnesses in the summer complicated by unmercifully hot weather. Another crisis looms just ahead, that of finding a new ribbon that will fit this machine and figuring out how to unthread the old one from what appears to be absolute security of the mechanism.

But I do appreciate your keeping me on the mailing list amid all this silence, and I did enjoy very much the latest issue. Your problems with postage and other publishing expenses are common to all fanzines-on-paper people nowadays. Have you considered the radical method of reducing weight, that of trimming the margins? If you are just above a weight that brings your postage costs to a certain figure, you might be able to get rid of ten percent of the avoirdupois with a paper cutter that would remove everything above, below, and beside the type. Of course, many persons would growl that this violates all the rules of typography or allows no space for them to pencil obscenities beside the items that they disagree with.

The convention coverage is excellent. I hadn't heard about the dress code for a BLT party at any convention which makes me wonder if this was something originated by the Crescent City Con and thus unfamiliar to those who attended because it was also the DeepSouthCon. However, I suppose the Rebel and Rubble awards would have been equally unknown to CCC attendees who happened to wander into that session among the DSC individuals.

Indeed, death is decimating the ranks of fandom. You must have gone to press before you heard about the fact that we've lost Walt Willis, Eddie Jones (not as well known in the United States as Walt but a splendid British artist) and Dean Grennell, mostly inactive in recent years but a famous fan about two-thirds of the way through this century.

I had already read the worldcon report by Steve and Sue Francis in another fanzine, but I admired it so much when I read it there that I reread most of it in the *SFC Bulletin*. It certainly makes Australia and Tasmania seem like a wonderful place to visit, with or without a worldcon as a feature of such a trip.

And Karen Johnson should get some sort of special journalism award for finding the time to make those daily reports from the Aussiecon. It must have been good training if she ever should decide to get into the broadcasting business and be required to do a 15-minute news summary every so often during the day. I'm sure the parents whose kids she supervised are particularly aware of her talents.

I long ago gave up entering the sweepstakes from companies that conduct them through the mails.

Even if there's no need to buy something to have a chance to win, the odds against snatching a major prize are astronomical. And even those top prizes aren't as impressive when you calculate how much you'll actually receive in spendable cash, after federal, state and local income taxes are deducted and you pay more from your normal income by being bumped up into a higher tax bracket. It's even worse if the top prize is an automobile or around-the-world vacation trip or something of equal value, because you'll need to fork over your own money to pay the income tax on the value of what you got.

The information on Krystal restaurants is useful, because none of them exists in the radius from Hagerstown which I normally travel around in and I had been sort of mystified by references to them in fanzines.

Dale Speirs' remarks on conventions and their effect on communities remind me that Hagerstown was once the favorite city in Maryland for statewide and even multi-state meetings of various organizations. Back around the middle of the century, it hosted many conventions for a unique reason. Although science fiction fans rarely go outside the hotel during a large convention or maybe make brief trips to nearby restaurants, many other types of conventions have trouble keeping their delegates where they should be to attend the ses-

sions and business meetings. In those days, this problem was almost non-existent in Hagerstown because anyone who wandered away from the hotel to sample the night life or the fleshpots of the city wandered back to the hotel in a matter of minutes because of the scarcity and quality of these things.

Unfortunately, after World War Two motels started to be built in quantity around here, they siphoned off most of the business from the local hotels, and all the large hotels either closed down or converted to apartments for permanent residents, eliminating convention facilities from the city. It wasn't until quite recent years that motels large enough to handle a large convention were constructed, and by then vice and sin were available to delegates here in greater quantities.

I believe a native of a city can usually be recognized by the fact that he or she doesn't look around as he walks down the street, moves rapidly and never establishes eye contact with any passerby.

November 21: **E.B. Frohvet**, 4716 Dorsey Hall Drive #506, Elliott City, MD 21042

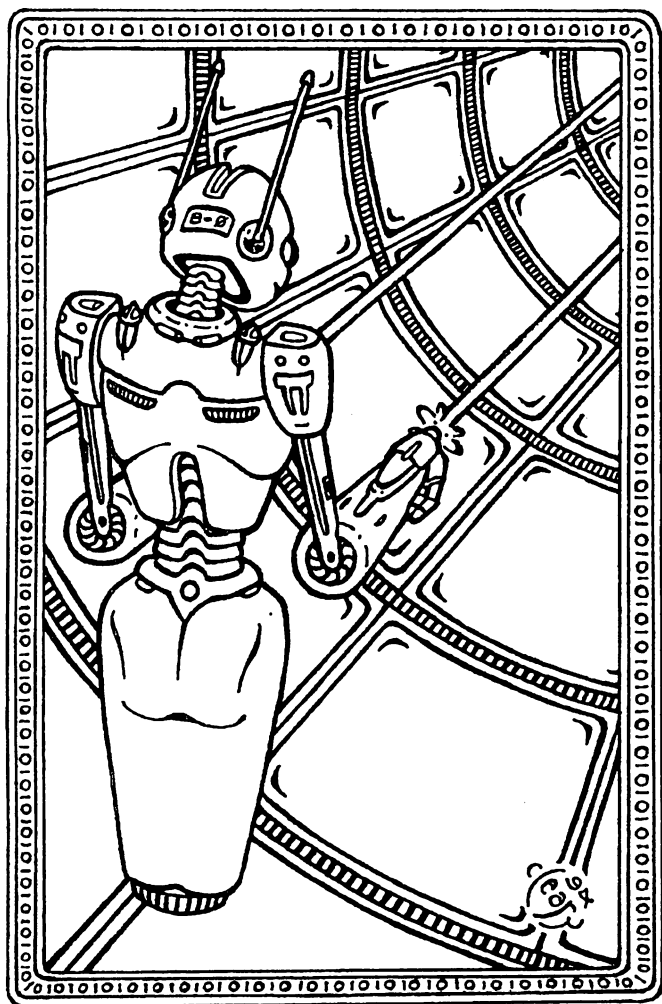
Volume 7 #5 has been received. Charming portrait of you by Sheryl Birkhead on the cover, but don't you find combing your hair around your antennae difficult? *{{You think that's tough, try finding three-legged pants off the rack!}}* I enjoyed your report of the DSC as well, though it's a little surprising to encounter someone who doesn't drink coffee! What's "voodoo tea"? If it contains tea and rum, I can understand its limited popularity.

A very sad story about the fan who was fatally injured in an explosion at a fireworks factory. Any fans who are Catholic (I'm not myself) could ask Saint Barbara to intervene on his behalf. As Mr. Heinlein pointed out back in *Space Cadet*, Saint Barbara is the patron saint of those who work with explosives. Her father was a pagan, but she had converted to Christianity. When she refused to participate in a pagan ceremony, Saint Barbara's father dragged her to a hilltop and whacked off her head—and at the very instant of the martyr's death, so the account, he was struck down by a bolt of lightning. Hence the connection.

Scott Thomas comments that motor racing is relatively safer than the "pod racing" in *Star Wars*. True, but still dangerous. The fine Canadian driver Greg Moore was killed earlier this year when his car got out from under at high speed and went straight into the wall at 200 MPH.

As Tom Feller comments, it is difficult to get a fanzine in a situation where you can use bulk rate. I pay first class rates in the U.S. and the "printed matter" rate for my outside the U.S. mailing list.

A wonderful travelogue by the Francises. Francis's? Um, by Steve and Sue! Well, fribble me: what does crocodile taste like? I never knew that Worldcon had a "Marks protection committee". One assumes that the anonymity of this group is proof that Sue Francis and other members have been doing a good job at, umm, whatever they do.



Not to backtrack, but Tom says that at dinner in Louisville he had a "hot brown". Surely I will not be the only one to feed Tom the obvious straight line: a hot brown *what*, Tom? ((Kinsey Millhone discovered Hot Browns in Sue Grafton's "*O*" is for *Outlaw*: "I picked up my fork and tried a tiny bite. A Hot Brown turned out to be an open-faced sliced turkey sandwich, complete with bacon and tomatoes, baked with the most divine cheese sauce I ever set to my lips. I mewed like a kitten." This epiphany took place in 1986 (book-time) in Louisville, where the sandwich was invented at The Brown Hotel.—Your Humble Obedient Servant, and Chief Typoist, cp))

Note to Karen Johnson: Glad you had such fun at your first Worldcon. There are other Worldcons and various ways to get to them. Paying your own way is the simplest, but there's also running for DUFF...

Pamela Boal sounds like she has an interesting lifestyle, cruising up and down the Thames for months at a time. I wonder how she enjoyed Connie Willis' book, which also involved a lot of boating on the river.

November 27: Catherine Mintz, 1810 Rittenhouse Square, 1708, Philadelphia PA 19103

I was sad to see they are going to cut down on the frequency of SFCB as an economy measure, although I will not condole with you, knowing it's a lot of work. Three issues a year may be just about right as far as you are concerned. Especially unless someone starts sending in artwork.

Am I right in remember I did pay dues this year? If not, ping me and I will cough up. Well-intentioned vapors dues pay no bills.

This will have to be a short letter, since I'm cutting back on my fanac in favor of real work. Real work being writing, I hope a few of you will come along for the journey. My web

site can be accessed through www.catherinemintz.com now, so once you can spell my name —"Don't be bashful; many people find it challenging," says Kathryn Minty — you can get there in the blink of an eye.

There seemed to be an unusual number of good convention reports this issue. It was good to see a few that admitted some fans lack endless energy, even when fueled with Coke or Pepsi, and go off to bed before dawn.

On the other hand, it was sad to see the obituary listings. It's getting harder to believe that within the memory of living fans that almost all of the greats of our past were still alive and telling stories to rapt circles of neos.

December 3: Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore Street #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606

I thank you for the *SFC Bulletin* Vol. 7, No. 5, which made it into my mailbox today. Having recently retired, I have the time to loc most of the zines which I receive. Unfortunately, nowadays, that is a far fewer number of zines than I used to receive.

Catherine Mintz writes, "Something on the order of twenty-five percent of Americans are functionally illiterate." Whilst I am not surprised by this, I must say that I have had almost no contact with people who proved to be functionally illiterate, despite what is a continuing local lambasting of California schools, a rant saying that we are raising a crop of functionally illiterate graduates. Well, maybe, but I must say that my only sighting of one of the species was when I was working for BellSouth Product Support (a Help Desk). One of my callers did not know his area code and was not able to read his phone book to get the appropriate number. Not knowing Kentucky or where in that state his town was located, I had to try every Kentucky area code (followed by his telephone number) before I found a number with his name so that I could take

care of his request. I am glad that I never got such a call when I worked for PacBell and handled calls from throughout the state — California had 23 area codes at that time (with many more on the way). At least, knowing that state, I would have been able to narrow down which area codes to try as I know where all of them are (but not the exact boundaries of each one). Los Angeles County alone has eight current area codes, with two more coming soon.

The problem I have with what is almost the equivalent of functional illiteracy is that Los Angeles County has a large number of non-English speakers. Now, at PacBell, much of this problem is alleviated when a caller dials in their telephone number. When customers set up their account with us, their telephone number is coded (internally at PacBell) so that, when it is dialed in (as



requested in the opening greeting), the dialing in of that number automatically switches them to an office where their language is spoken. If no number is dialed in, it automatically goes to an English-speaking office. If we could determine the language spoken by the caller, we would speed-dial the caller to the appropriate office.

I have no problems with non-English speakers as I usually have no interactions with them nowadays. When I worked on Hollywood Boulevard, managing a small tobacco shop, I interacted with many foreign tourists. I had acquired a small variety of English/other language books and always managed to satisfy my customers. What I do have problems with is basic stupidity, such as telephone salesmen who try to speak to me in Spanish. I do not speak that language and have no need to – if those who move to a country do not attempt to speak the language of that country, that is their problem. (I was very helpful to tourists – but I always felt that permanent residents should at least make an attempt to learn the language of the area.) Anyway, telephone salesmen are already in my house without an invitation, so after initial niceness on my part, I soon tell them to go away. One idiot even said that I had a Spanish name – at which point I told him that my first name derived from Latin and that my last name was Hebrew – and that I was an English speaker in an English-speaking country and to get the hell out of my ear.

One other time that I can remember a problem was going into a doughnut shop to buy a dozen doughnuts and the Spanish-speaking lady who attempted to take my order did not know what I wanted. Hey – the problem here was the idiot who hired/trained her. I mean, not knowing the meaning of “a dozen doughnuts” (even if it is not in your native language) in a doughnut shop is unforgivable. In fact, as the saleslady should have known the meaning within her first hour on the job she had either just started the job mere minutes before or she was dense.

Sorry about the rants. Now that I am retired I do not intend to put up with idiocies. Well, I am a grouch from way back, but I no longer have to hold this tendency in check. I have put up with idiots for 40+ years of full-time work – I am not at the time of life when I can live my life as me. Of course, without the stress of full-time work, I find myself not being bothered by what would have set my teeth grinding in my working days. Well, enough of this nonsense. I thank you for your attention.

November 21: **Rodney Leighton**, RR#3, Tatamagouche, N.S.
BOK 1V0, CANADA

Thanks for the November issue of the *SFCB*. Who was Sheryl depicting on the cover, humm?

I don't think the hiatus is going to last a year. The quitting smoking part lasted 2 ? months. Mind you, I've quit smoking at least 2,000 times. Haven't given any thought to *LOOK* but I will confess to contemplating other newsletter/zine type things. Some of the things I want to consider re fandom have

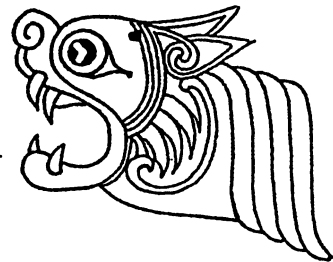
already been resolved.

Note to Charlotte Proctor: that was cute, identifying yourself as chief typist. But...where are the typos?? I couldn't find any. Seemed to be a few words missing in the Francis travel odyssey but other than that... ((When I began typing zines for the club in the late 1970s I used typewriters which had correction ribbons but no brains. I was fast but tended to type “now” for “not” and other common typos. Thus I was dubbed Chief Typist. Nowadays the word-processing program underlines in red and green everything it doesn't like, whether spelling or grammar, and allows me to go back and correct most of my spelling, though I tend to leave the letter-writer's grammar alone. –cp))

Speaking of which, I read and enjoyed the Francis' trip report. Surprising since I don't usually read travel reports and only skim con reports. But just recently various things changed and I received 4 or 5 fanzines and I decided to try to spend half an hour or so reading fanzines each night until I ran out. If I include older, unread zines, that may take awhile since I read slowly and I have only read about 3 pages in *FOSFAX* 196.

Hmmm...are there any pictures of T.K.F. Weisskopf in that *SFC Handbook*? The last issue of *CHALLENGER* I received, #7, has a nice picture of a very attractive young lady dubbed as being Toni Weisskopf. My disposable income is going to take a dip for awhile but perhaps I will someday see if I can find the cash for one of those books.

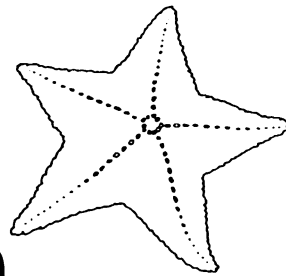
WAHF: Ned Brooks, Srdjan Stankovic, Todor Stoyanov, whose email address has changed to bagatur@operamail.com and Sam Smith, who went out and got himself his very own domain name, after having been asked to change addresses one too many time by merging internet companies. His email address has changed to ssmith@smithuel.net and web site URL is now http://www.smithuel.net/ He has also volunteered to host the mythical SFC web site – an offer I have tentatively accepted. ☛



Thanks again to my tireless helpers:
Charlotte, Gary, Debbie & Toni!
George Little helped last time with the
folding and mutilating. Here's hoping he
makes it a habit.



Son of BeachCon



DeepSouthCon 38
May 19 - 21, 2000
Jekyll Inn,
Jekyll Island, Georgia

Jekyll Island is located on the Southeast coast of Georgia,
half-way between Jacksonville, Florida and Savannah, Georgia.
The hotel phone numbers are (800)736-1046 and (912)635-2531

Guest of Honor: Jack McDevitt
Fan Guests: P L Caruthers-Montgomery
and Larry Montgomery
Artist Guest of Honor: Ron Walotsky
Toastmaster: Jack Haldeman
Special Guest: Allen Steele

Son of BeachCon will feature all of the usual DSC trappings:

The Hearts Tournament of the Known Universe.

The Rebel/Phoenix/Rubble Awards on Saturday evening.

The SFC Business meeting and DSC 40 site selection for 2002
on Sunday morning.

The ever popular Sand Castle (Mermaid) contest on Saturday (between the tides).

Plus: Con Suite, Huckster Room, Art Show, and miles of beach with jellyfish
and sunburn (bring your Sunblock 5000).

Memberships: \$20.00 thru Aug. 8, 1999 (DSC 37)

\$25.00 from Aug 8, 1999 to Apr. 30, 2000

\$35.00 thereafter and at the door

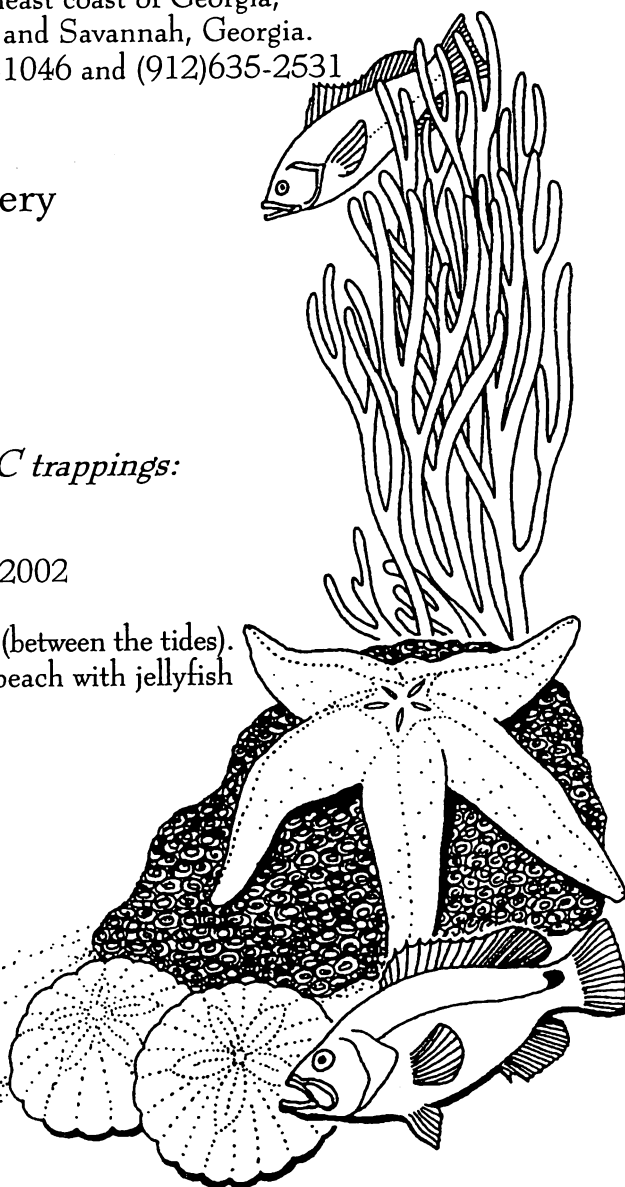
Send memberships to: Steve Francis, 5503 Matterhorn Drive
Louisville, KY 40216-1326

(Make out checks or money orders to "DeepSouthCon 38")

Hucksters Room: Klon Newell, 305 Stoneland Dr.
Athens, GA 30606-2455

Art Show: Carolyn Morgan, 219 Tennessee Ave.
St. Simon's Island, GA 31522-2620

General Information: Son of BeachCon (DSC 38),
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I want to keep in touch with Southern Fandom! Please enroll me as a member in the Southern Fandom Confederation and send me the next four issues of the *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin*. I have enclosed my check or money order (no cash please) for \$10.00 for a one-year membership. (Please make checks payable to the Southern Fandom Confederation.) Mail to address at left.

ZIP