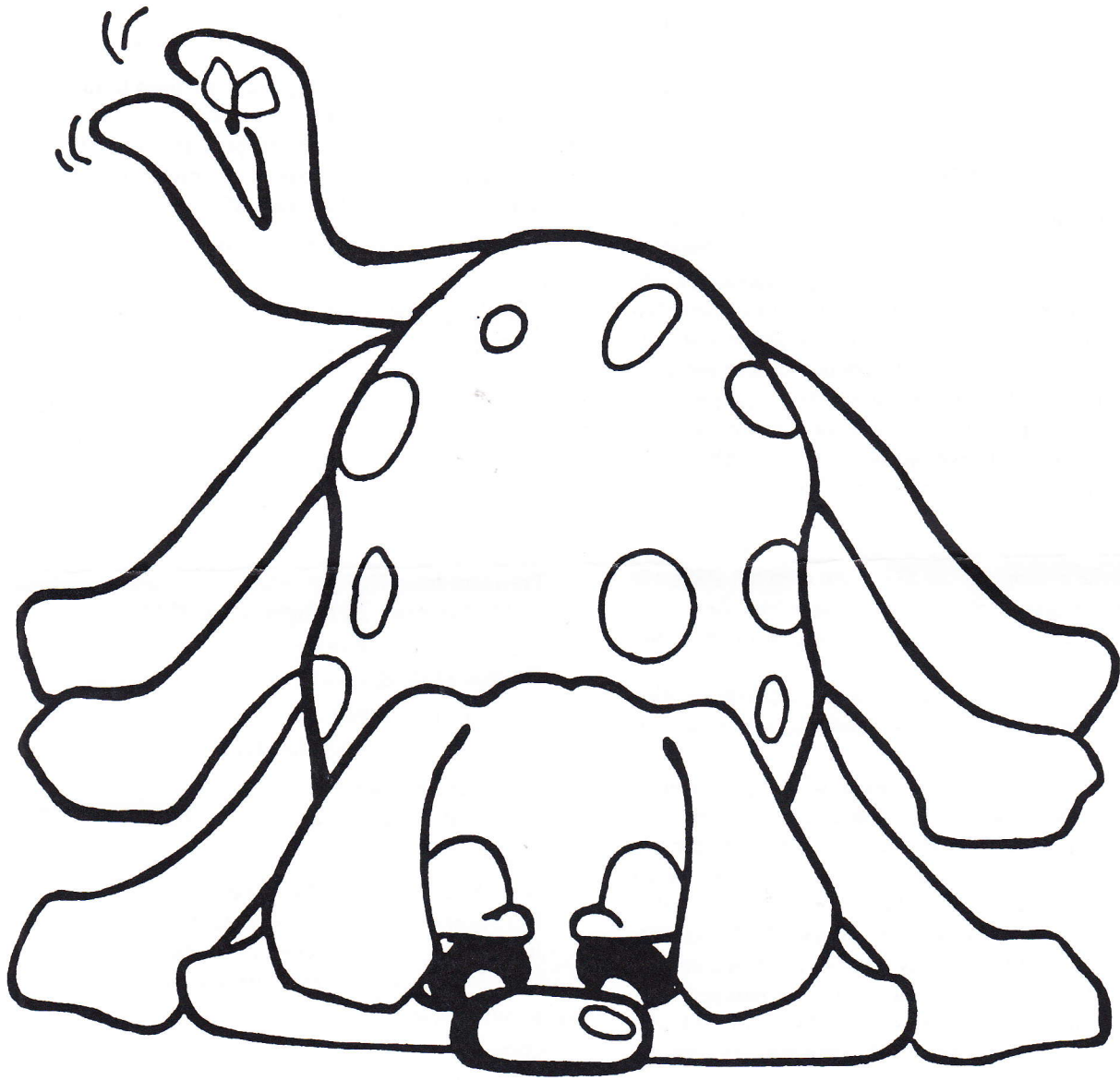


The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin



Volume 7, Number 9
April 2001

Southern Fandom Confederation

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Policies

The Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin Vol. 7, No. 9, April 2001, 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 \$15 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	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$12.50
Pro	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$25.00

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

When last I wrote, hockey season was just beginning and now, as I – once again belatedly – start production on the *Bulletin*, it has ended, in Birmingham anyway. Possibly forever. The Birmingham Bulls began their second incarnation in the East Coast Hockey League here in 1992. Their first was as a World Hockey League team that moved here from Toronto in the '70s, changing their name from the Toros to Bulls. Gordie Howe, while a member of the New England Whalers became the first player in the history of professional hockey to score 1000 career goals on the ice of the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center. He did it while playing in front of a crowd of 11,000 against those Bulls. I went to my first ECHL Bulls game in 1994 with my new husband and I fell in love with the game of ice hockey. I have been a season ticket holder since the 1995-1996 season. Seven years later, a lot has changed. The husband is an ex, the Bulls changed ownership and have suffered through several disappointing seasons, culminating this year when we set a team record for most losses in a season, were nearly the worst team out of 28 in the league and didn't make the 16-berth Kelly Cup playoffs for the second season in a row. The new owners have killed three hockey teams previous to ours and seem determined to destroy this franchise as well. Promotion and marketing were seemingly reduced to nothing this season and we heard many stories of players not wanting to come to Birmingham because they didn't trust the management. A botched trade and fines from the league for salary cap violations last season contributed to the general feeling of gloom and doom this season. I only saw a

crowd anything close to 11,000 once in those years, but towards the end it was closer to 1000 most games. As we finally reached the end of this horrible six months of minor league hockey, there is a question if the team will be back next season. If it remains under the current management, I won't buy season tickets, in any case. I'm not a fair weather fan. It's just not much fun any more, and that's what it's supposed to be.

What does this have to do with Southern Fandom? Not a thing. But things do change. The DSC here in Birmingham is coming up soon. The SFC elections with it. Hopefully, I will have gotten this *Bulletin* out by then. I do still enjoy doing the *Bulletin*, it has not reached the point of not being fun (it hasn't been 7 years, either), but it must be obvious that I am having trouble getting it done in a timely manner. Other things in my life besides hockey have changed. If anyone out there has any interest in taking a turn, please feel free to let us all know at the meeting on May 6th. Or, think about it for next year. Don't forget that SFC dues are payable each year at DSC. So, send 'em to Judy if you won't be there.

What fannish stuff has gone on since last I wrote? Not a lot, actually, and what there was was packed into two weekends in a row! In February, I went to Boskone for the first time and had a good time. Went to a couple of panels (gasp!) given by Hal Clement and Jack Cohen, which were highly entertaining. Presupported LA in '06 at their party. Saw a good bit of Boston, too. And a small bit of New Hampshire.

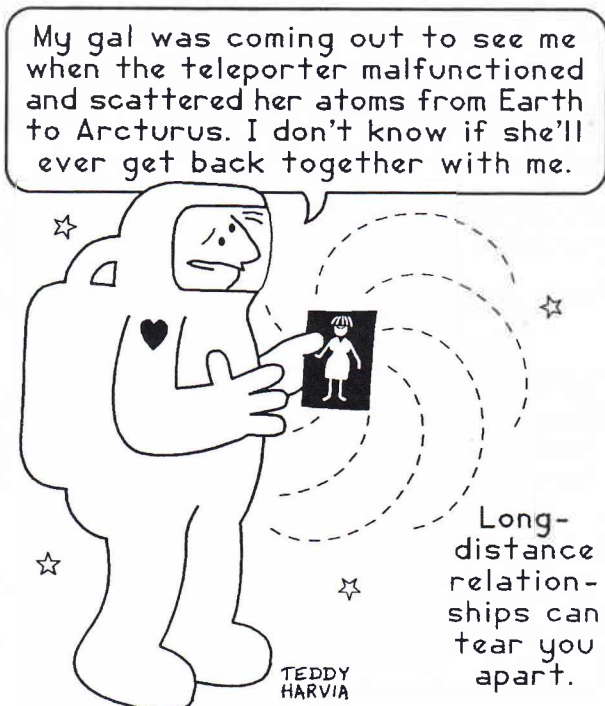
Then, the very next weekend was ConCave, in a new hotel! Yay! ConCave is always fun – this year was no exception. The banquet was in a used bookstore, very fannish, and the food was much better than the past offerings from the Park Mammoth Resort. GoH Janice Gelb gave a good speech about her introduction to fandom. I gave an SFC party and attended several others, as ConCave has great parties. If you've never been, or been put off by the room lottery, there's more space now. I definitely recommend ConCave.

Another con I recommend is LibertyCon, which is always a great time over Memorial Day weekend. Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend this year because I am going to Denver to visit my sister, her husband and my new niece! Yes, my baby sister made me an aunt for the first time on January 27th and I can't wait to go meet little Janie.

News and Notes:

SF giant Gordon R. Dickson passed away on January 31st of complications from asthma. Gordon's family asks that those wishing to make contributions in his memory send them to the SFWA Emergency Medical Fund, 1436 Altamont Ave., PMB 292, Schenectady NY 12303-2977.

January also saw the passing of Rick Shelley (who was still Kubla's GoH in honor of his memory). He died from liver and kidney complications while awaiting a heart transplant at



Vanderbilt Hospital. He suffered massive heart attack while at Chattanooga. He was first taken to Erlanger where a bypass was performed and later to Vanderbilt. Cards may be sent to his mother, Hazel Shelley at 153 Old Clover Hill Road, Marysville, TN 37803.

In happier news, Rose Marie Donovan and Guy H. Lillian III will be wed in Cocoa, FL, on June 30th!

And, my dear friends Debbie and Gary Rowan are expecting twins!

Bob Tucker writes: "I am publishing a web version of *Le Zombie*, now called eZombie. Five issues can now be found at this address= <http://www.kcsciencefiction.org/currentlez.htm> If you want to be added to the list for fresh copies as they are published send a note to me=btucker@davesworld.net."

From Eve Ackerman: "My book is out! For all of you who've been wondering when you'd be able to read a good swashbuckling tale of romance, *Pirate's Price*, by Darlene Marshall, is now available in disk or download from Daylight Dreams, www.daylightdreams.com. Thanks for your interest, and enjoy!" eackerman@compuserve.com or darlenemarshall_author@yahoo.com

From Annapolis: "The Aerospace Engineering Department at the United States Naval Academy invites applications for the Robert A. Heinlein Chair in Aerospace Engineering commencing as early as August 2001. Created to honor novelist Robert A. Heinlein (USNA '29), the inaugural Heinlein Chair will provide vision and direction for the USNA's astronautical engineering curriculum, our small satel-

lite program, and our satellite ground station.

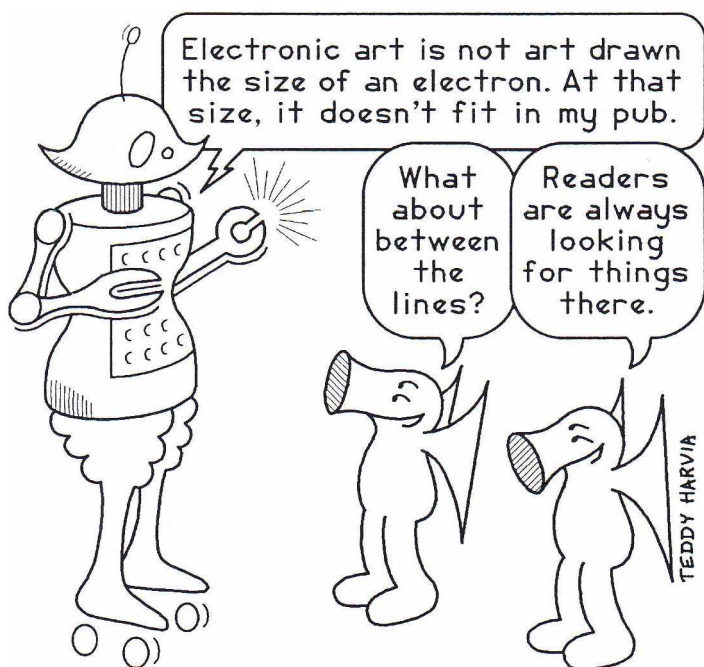
Applicants must have a strong background in designing, building, testing, launching, and operating spacecraft, along with demonstrated research ability, a strong commitment to undergraduate teaching, and excellent communications skills. An earned doctorate is desirable, but applicants with strong industrial/laboratory experience will be considered."

My thanks to the following artists who sent contributions: Sheryl Birkhead, Teddy Harvia, Trinlay Khadro, Julia Morgan-Scott, Ruth Shields, and Scott Thomas. It is all greatly appreciated and more is always welcome!

Corrections to Club Listings from the last issue:

These are the 2001 officers of the Birmingham Science Fiction Club, according to ex-President George Little: Richard "The King of Hearts" Hyde – Prez, "Dangerous" Don Reynolds – Vice, Elise "Tax Mistress" Bodenheimer – Treasury, Sharon Olm – Mistress of [Dis] Information.

Karen Hopkins, publicity person for NASFA in Huntsville writes: "The meetings are still the 3rd Saturday of the month unless there is a nearby convention. The meeting place has changed to BOOKMARK, 7500 South Memorial Parkway, Suite#133 in the Village Square South shopping center. The phone number there is 256-881-3910. My phone number is 256-882-2987. Both numbers can be published for further information." Sam Smith adds the rest of the 2001 officers for NASFA: "President Mary Ortwerth, VicePresident and newsletter editor Mike Kennedy, Secretary Sam Smith, Treasurer Ray Pietruszka, Program Director Randy Cleary." 🐾



Treasurer's Report As of 4/18/01

by Judy Bemis

Balance as of 11/3/00	\$1,048.98
INCOME	
Memberships & Renewals	\$180.00
Donations	\$35.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$215.00
EXPENSES	
Bulletin Vol 7 #8 printing	\$444.72
Foreign Postage	\$40.20
Bulk Mail	\$61.10
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$556.26
BALANCE	\$1068.09

Chattacon Report

by Randy Cleary

Chattacon 26 took place January 12-14, 2001 at the Clarion Hotel, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The Guest of Honor was supposed to be David Brin (one of my favorite authors), but he had to cancel due to family illness. The other Guest of Honor was S.M. Stirling. The Artist Guest was Jill Bauman. The Special Guest was James Patrick Kelly. The Toastmaster was Charles Grant. The Regional Artist Guest was David Matthews. The Fan Guest was picked at random. There were about 1200 members. I was not able to stay in the hotel so I had to walk in the cold a few blocks (and was glad for the exercise, if not the inconvenience). I did take the shuttle van back one time.

The program book was 40 digest pages with a monochrome maroon cover with an interesting looking Jill Bauman work of a dragon and a girl. It was dedicated to Stanley Kubrick. It had appreciations, schedules, maps, ads, and interior illustrations. It also had some short fiction. The pocket program was eight digest pages of useful information and program schedules. I did not seem to get any *Trackside* daily publications this year though.

The convention Con-suite was on Level B this year in the President's Hall. I liked this layout over last year's, as it was more open. The con-suite had great food (actual entrees) and the famous Little Debbie snacks. Oh, they also had beer, which seemed popular too. The con-suite was open almost continuously. It was non-smoking, which I really appreciated. The dances were also held in the Con-suite and were well attended. I enjoyed a lot of the music (actually danceable) they played.

The Art Show was at lobby level this year in Ballroom A (big improvement over last year). I set up my bay with 21 pieces (13 originals and the rest water colored prints). I sold a couple of items. There were about 60 used panels, four tables, and 33 artists represented. I thought there was a good selection of works there. The Print Shop was on the second floor and had prints from several artists (including me). I sold a few prints of the 6 series that I brought. Check in and out went

smoothly and the art show, art auction, and print shop were well staffed and well run. I sent several pieces to auction but did not win any of them in the bidding later. The auction was well attended and there were lots of pieces.

There was an Anime Room in the Lincoln Room on Level B. A schedule was provided of the showings. I was not able to make it by there, though it looked like an interesting and diverse schedule.

The Dealers Room was in Ballrooms B and C on the Lobby level. There were about 25 dealers with a wide selection of goods, costumes, books, toys, t-shirts, gaming, anime, jewelry, crafts, weapons, and more. I passed through there a few times and picked up a few things.

I was not able to attend the Masquerade (as I was having fun at a room party). Usually it's too crowded to get in but I heard it was not so crowded this time. It seemed to go well from what I heard. You'll have to get the details elsewhere though. Maybe I'll get to attend next year.

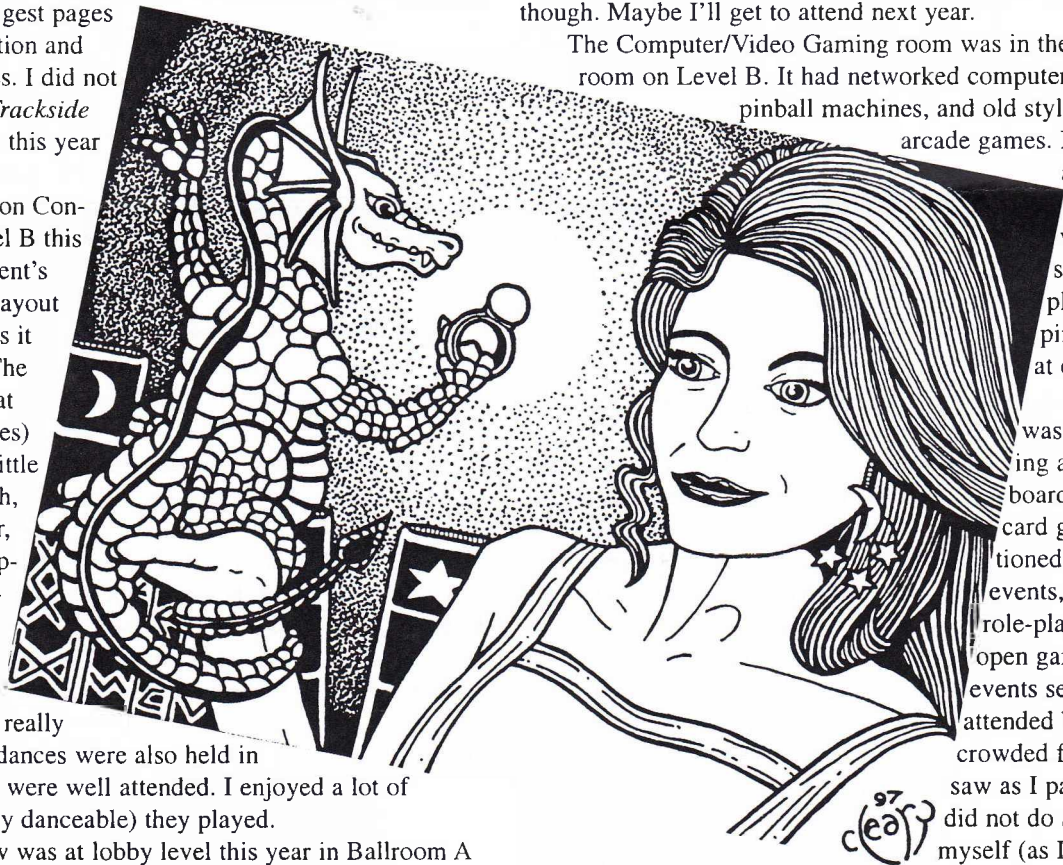
The Computer/Video Gaming room was in the Jefferson room on Level B. It had networked computer gaming, pinball machines, and old style stand up arcade games. It was

always well attended when I stopped in. I played a few pinball games at one point.

There was active gaming also, with board games, card games, sanctioned RPGA events, live action role-playing, and open gaming. The events seemed well attended but not crowded from what I saw as I passed by. I did not do any gaming myself (as I do my

gaming between conventions).

There were four tracks of programming. I attended several panels over the weekend. The first was Opening Ceremonies where James Patrick Kelly revealed he writes under several more famous pen names (he was joking). It was a good panel of speeches and comments. Afterwards was a Meet the Pros reception with wine and refreshments. I would



have liked a wider selection of drinks.

The first panel I attended on Saturday was Promotion and How to Do It with Jill Bauman, David Matthews, David Deitrick, Diana Sharples, and Kenneth Waters. A lot of useful advice was given by the established artist pros and the up and coming ones also. The next panel I attended was Jill Bauman's slide show which started late due to the earlier panel running over. Jill Bauman commented on her works and was very interesting. The next panel I attended was Will the Future Look Like the Movies? with Geoffrey Landis and Jack McDevitt. It was a wide ranging panel discussion with lots of audience participation about books, genetics, society, and the internet and movies.

The last panel I attended was on Sunday, How Not to Get Published with J.P.Kelly, Jack McDevitt, Wendy Webb, and Thomas Smith. The panel got into it by pretending to give advice about how to get published (which was really bad advice if you followed it). They said things like to try calling the editor at home, etc. It was humorous and tongue in cheek.

Chattacon has great parties. I attended as many as I could. I missed a few though due to timing and having too much fun

chatting, dancing, etc. at other parties. There were bid parties, convention promotional parties, and just parties to have parties. There also were a few "Oh My God" parties (as in shocking). Chattacon has a lot to offer any fan but the parties are truly one of the reasons I keep coming back each year. I was also lucky in winning a 2001 calendar at the 2001 party, where Lewis Murphy, one of the party hosts, often donned his space helmet for his costume of Dave Bowman from the movie 2001. The whole party had incredible decorations, such as a moonscape mural that was awesome and even an actual Monolith in the room. Everyone there wore costumes themed on the movie, with great music and a real bar of various mixed drinks. This party won the Golden Margarita award for best party at Chattacon. These folks have won this award before (and are not promoting anything but having a great party). Most of them are members of the Atlanta Science Fiction Society.

So overall, I enjoyed Chattacon again this year. I wish I had been in the main hotel though. I got to see lots of friends and had lots of fun. I'm already looking forward to next year. Hope to see you there. ☾

Con Reports

by Tom Feller

Concat—

We had a favorite restaurant on I-40 between Nashville and Knoxville, but when we exited, we saw that the Catfish Cove was up on stilts. There was a sign promoting a house-moving firm, and we could see that they were widening the road. We deduced that the restaurant was closed. Fortunately, there was a Williams Travel Center across the street that had a Dairy Queen and a Pizza Express. Anita got a hamburger and hot fudge sundae while I ate a small pizza.

The con was at a new hotel in Knoxville this year, and we had thought to print the directions off the web site. While you can see the Radisson, the old hotel, from the new one, the Hyatt Regency, you have to make a series of turns to get there. It's actually a rather ugly glass and concrete building, although it does have an eight-story atrium. Many years ago, the DeepSouthCon that featured Stephen King as Guest of Honor took place there. The Hyatt is bigger than the Radisson, so the convention was more spread out and the cigarette smoke did not bother us. One disadvantage of the new hotel was that there were no restaurants within easy walking distance, unlike the old one.

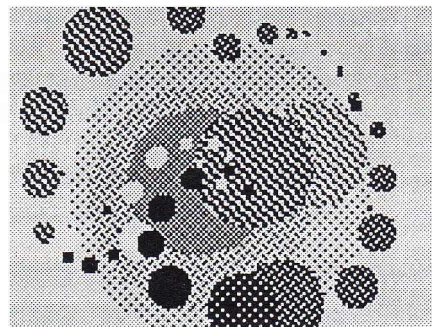
After we checked in, Anita rested while I found registration and the dealers' room. I saw dealer Curt Phillips there and bought a reference book on Sherlock Holmes, Philip Jose Farmer's "biographies" of Tarzan and Doc Savage, and *Rocket to the Morgue* by Anthony Boucher. Later Anita came down to register and we had dinner with Bob Emler in the hotel restaurant.

This con has two traditions on Friday night. The first is a

dessert party in the con suite. Anita always enjoys that, and I managed to find some veggies. Then they have an all-drum concert. It's very curious that if someone in the room next to me played a drum, I'm sure I wouldn't be able to sleep. However, in a concert in a meeting room, the drum-playing put me right to sleep, so we called it a night.

The following morning, I had a high blood sugar reading, so I found the exercise room, where I put in 30 minutes on a stationary bike. During the day, I attended a few panels, while Anita hung out in the con suite. Together we watched a rapier exhibition by the local SCA before going to the suite of Guest of Honor Charles de Lint and his wife. They put on their own folk concert, which was quite good.

There was also a dance, which we attended until late. Unfortunately, when we got up the following morning, Anita had a sore knee, mostly because of the dancing. On the other hand, the dancing helped me have a good blood sugar reading. We hung around the convention for a while before driving home.



Chattacon—

I had gotten home late from my first business trip of the year on Thursday night, but, because I was going right back out again on Monday, I had a lot of stuff to do Friday before we could leave for the convention. There was a big envelope from my office waiting for me, but fortunately, only a few items required some action. The package consisted mostly of periodicals. Then, of course, there was my regular mail. I didn't even have time to look at the latest *Mimosa*! We also had errands to run, including the bank, the drug store, and a department store to return a gift. I had gotten up at 6 AM and didn't finish until 2:30.

We had to go over Monteagle Mountain in the dark, which made Anita nervous, but we still reached the hotel in time for Opening Ceremonies. Charles Grant made his usual witty introductions and throughout the weekend pointed out that the New York Giants were still in the NFL playoffs, but the Tennessee Titans were not. David Brin, the guest of honor, had to cancel because of illness, but there were more than enough pros on hand to make up for it. Afterward there was an excellent wine and cheese reception, where we had a chat with Randy Cleary. Anita especially liked the brie.

Then we visited the Xerps in 2010 and Charlotte in 2004 parties. I didn't have any skippies (beer, vodka, and lime juice), but did enjoy Millie Kalicz's meatballs at the former. At the latter, I had barbeque. Then we went down to the dance in the consuite, where I had my two-beer quota for the night. This year the suite consisted of one large room rather than a series of small ones. We found most of the music to be danceable, so we stayed there for the rest of the night until we pooped out.

We slept late the following morning and had lunch in the hotel restaurant. Then we visited the dealer's room (I only

bought one book so Anita didn't get upset with me) and attended panels and presentations until 5 PM. These included "Learning from the Past and Using It," "Our Fascination with Evil," "On-Line Publishing," and "Movie Spoofs and Trailers." In the history panel, S.M. Stirling emphasized the importance of disease in history; in the second, Charles Grant pointed out that in fiction, villains are much more interesting and good people less interesting than in real life; and the panel on on-line publishing, two of the panelists maintained amateur sites, and one of them published a professional magazine on-line. In the movie presentation, John Hudgens showed fan films. We had seen most of them, except for "George Lucas in Love", as spoof of *Shakespeare in Love*, in which Lucas encounters elements of the *Star Wars* movies while a student at USC.

The parties started at 8 PM. Our first one was for MidSouthCon on our own floor, followed by Libertycon, Dragoncon, the 2001 DeepSouthCon, and Kubla Khan. The theme of the DeepSouthCon party was the Chattanooga Choo Choo. They made little choo choo trains out of various candies. Paulette Baker made one for me that was low sugar. The Kubla Khan party featured their traditional "swill" drink. At about 10:30 we stopped party hopping to attending the masquerade. We only missed one party, but Randy told us it was the best one of the night. The masquerade had 17 contestants. My favorite was a combination of *Star Wars* and *The Beverly Hillbillies*. Then we went to the consuite for the Saturday night dance. This time the music was not as good, so we didn't stay up as late.

Sunday morning we visited the con suite, and I attended one panel before we got back on the road. We went over Monteagle in the daytime, so we saw ice still clinging to rock walls that face north. ❄️

UncommonCon Report

by Paul Cardwell, Jr.

reprinted from the *CAR-PGA Newsletter*

Uncommoncon was held 24-26 November in Dallas. For a first time con, it went well. While it was expected to be comics, anime, and games in more or less equal measures, gaming was at least half of the activity. TCG was restricted (by interest, not rules) to a couple of tables of informal play. Comics and anime dominated the dealers' room, but comparatively few seminars. There were constant science/fantasy fiction and anime videos running, games and game seminars were abundant, and the remainder was seminars which crossed category lines. It was well attended and CAR-PGA got a free booth in the dealers' room. At previous cons, we have been exiled to a nonprofit organization ghetto, often away from traffic.

There was one significant and widespread problem. I found out that I was to lead a Saturday seminar when I read

the program Friday noon. Fortunately it was for the next day and I was able to go home Friday night and get the material for it (75 miles [120 km] each way). Rick Loomis at least knew his assigned subject matter, but had no idea when it was to be held until I showed it to him in the program. At least it beats the con in which he was notified 15 minutes ahead of time or another in which the scheduled time had passed hours before he was informed (they rescheduled that one). But then as head of both Flying Buffalo and of GAMA, Rick has attended far more cons than I have. Three other seminar leaders had the same problem. This is just what came up in conversation about the con in general and no attempt was made to specifically find these people or problems to highlight.

The seminar was scheduled at the same time as the dealers' room opening and the public address system was broken

so there was a small turnout, but a good discussion. I ended up having more of the same subject (games and education) at the CAR-PGa booth a couple of more times, one almost equaling the official seminar in both attendance and duration.

The biggest complaint I heard was regarding the schedule in the printed program, which was as clear as a south Florida ballot. Even the con staff disagreed on the times by 30 minutes. The printed program looked like it was one time, but the web page gave another. Finally, they went with the ambiguous printed program rather than the unequivocal web page.

The CAR-PGa booth was a great success. I recruited one member on the spot, which is better than the usual average of one per two conventions. Considering CAR-PGa booths are usually more for information and "showing the flag" rather than recruitment, this is not a bad showing. A lot more had heard vague references to CAR-PGa and this was their first chance to get first hand information. Members should try to do the same with their local cons. If you lead a few games or seminars as well, you can usually get admission and a booth in barter for the work.

Most remarkable of all, they even got role-playing games mentioned in the *Dallas News* Events calendar! I have been trying for two years to get DFW Con listed and they refuse. Except for one mention in passing in a letter-to-the-editor in 1994, which could not be duplicated in a subsequent attempt

(although the rest of that letter was published), the last mention of RPG in that paper we have found was a feature article on players at Baylor University published in 1983! I heard rumors that they published something about the 1984 Origins, but it could not be found in an exhaustive search of microfilm copies of both (Dallas had two papers then) papers of the time, nor was it listed in the Nexis database, back when we had access to that source. They did not cover the 1993 Origins in nearby Fort Worth, although the local paper had a small feature article on it. However, they did at least accept paid ads and gave one of a few generally favorable reviews for the D&D movie.

When GAMA stopped moving Origins around the country, I predicted that there would be regional cons which would grow to fill the gap. DragonCon has more or less done this for the southeast US, but no others have emerged as a definite substitute. Once they get the procedural problems worked out, Uncommoncon has a real potential for becoming the southwest version, although personally I would prefer the games-only, all profits to charity DFWCon be the one instead.

A little SF fan support could cure the paucity of that interest's representation. The dealers room was trying to do more than just comics and anime, but outside the video room, a few writing and marketing seminars were as far as formal program SF went.☞

ConCave Report

by Gary Rowan

ConCave was the latest con that Debbie and I attended. We left work early, picked up Julie about 1:00 and headed up the road, only to get stuck in a traffic jam caused by bridge construction in northern Jefferson county. After a delay of about 45 minutes, we cleared that and kept going to Nashville. After a short snack break at a Wendy's in Cool Springs that appeared to be an ongoing experiment in Sino-Mexican relations, we jumped back into the car only to get stuck in the usual Nashville traffic jam.

After another short, very necessary stop at the liquor store in Bowling Green (you know, the one at the exit for the Corvette museum) we finally arrived in Horse Cave KY at about 8 PM Central.

Found the hotel, but did not find a parking space. This hotel is very new and has a real shortage of parking. Apparently the designer assumed that they would never have full occupancy. Luckily, this was only discordant note of the weekend.

After being assured by the hotel employees that we could "park anywhere that we didn't block anyone in" we unloaded our stuff and checked in. We had an adjoining room with Bill and Linda Zielke, first timers for ConCave, and were assured by the hotel that they were not there. We went up to the room, and found that...they were. We deduced it by circumstantial evidence, considering the amount of home brew beer and bottled in bond Scotch whisky in the room.

The rooms consisted of a two double bed room and a room with a king size bed and ...an in-room hot tub. AAAAAHHHHH! After a seven hour drive, it looked good.

But first, a beer. The beverage bar in the consuite was up to its usual standards. Sodas, good beers and some decent "hard stuff". Instead of a beer, I moved up to a Jim Beam and 7Up. No "bourbon-like" substances here! And the bartenders were not stingy with the pour, either. Libertycon is the only other con that I know of that has an open bar like this.

We then went to the food portion of the consuite, AKA, the Lobby. The good thing about this hotel that is similar to the old Park Mammoth Resort is that we have the entire hotel. The good things that are unlike Park Mammoth are that it has many more rooms, alleviating the need for the hated room lottery; an operable elevator, nicer rooms, easier access to stores, and a genuinely helpful staff and management. This is a new hotel, not a clapped out old whore like the Park Mammoth.

We saw a lot of folks that we usually see at cons, and some we have not seen for awhile. We had nice visit with Marie Miesel, who has defected to the rowing crowd. I had several JB and 7s as I needed to unwind after the long, stressful drive.

There were not many parties that night, but Pat and Naomi had one for the Boston bid and it was memorable. She had all of her usual goodies and some of her unusual goodies, and we ate lots because we really had had no supper or in

Julie's case much lunch.

After another turn through the Consuite/Lobby, we went upstairs to our rooms. Bill and Linda turned in and the rest of us got in the hot tub. This was really relaxing. After another bourbon and seven, we turned in. *{Toni says, Gary is drinking for three now.}*

The next morning, we had the hotel's complimentary continental breakfast and visited with more people. About 10 AM, we headed into Horse Cave KY. It is a small railroad town, with the ruins of a fair sized hotel next to the railroad tracks. Lots of old houses, and the business district would not look out of place in the *Andy Griffith Show*, very late '50s early '60s. I don't mean this in a bad way, either. Horse Cave itself, a commercial cave, is located downtown.

We found the local grocery store, which appeared to be family owned and operated and bought our party supplies. However, when we checked out, Julie found to her horror that they did NOT take credit or ATM cards! Luckily, Bill Zielke was able to cover the bill and we found an ATM in town where Julie could get some money to pay him back. It is really shocking to us that in this day and age to find stores that don't take plastic. Bill has to travel to backwaters like north Alabama and Kentucky for his job with TVA and was not surprised at all. We took our purchases back to our room and went and looked at the Art Show and the Dealer rooms, both small but diverse. We then took naps.

We went to the banquet, which took place at a restaurant/used bookstore located in the downtown area. (I use this term advisedly, Horse Cave is quite small, much smaller than Cave City). The food was excellent, turkey and dressing, roast beef, mashed potatoes and various vegetables. They all appeared to be homemade dishes and were quite good. We also browsed the books in the store. I looked carefully, sometimes you can find some gems in the pebbles and from the looks of it, some folks did. After we ate, GoH Janice Gelb gave a good speech about how she got into fandom and how fandom has allowed her to go to many places and see and get to know people she never would have been able to otherwise. Very different from those of us whose entry involved a punchon of rum and a press gang.

I did read a photostat of a newspaper story from the early days of Horse Cave. It seems a outsider came into town and bought a nice house and settled in to stay. For some reason, some of the local townspeople decided that they didn't want him around. The article was somewhat vague about why. Finally, they gathered together one night with ropes, torches and assorted firearms and surrounded this man's house. There was some shooting, and at least one fatality. Luckily,

the man in the house had stocked up on guns, ammunition, cotton waste, naptha and a sling. He began bombarding his besiegers with flaming naptha balls and double-aught buckshot. This broke the siege and the man and his family left the area hurriedly that night. The interesting thing is that the article mentioned that years later some of the besiegers saw the besieged on the street in Louisville and essentially they all had

a good laugh about it.

Before Janice spoke, something happened that I have never seen at a con before. We were officially welcomed by the Mayor of Horse Cave, an attractive, business-like lady. Usually, cons have to deal with the Chief of Police and in the wee hours of the morning. She said that they are trying to build up tourism in that area of Kentucky as there is very little other industry. They are studying renovating the hotel and old station down by the railroad tracks as a welcome center and hotel/restaurant. Horse Cave has some real potential. It really reminds me of the small north-west Georgia, northeast Alabama



towns of the mid to late '60s. Most of those towns have been ruined by unplanned development; I wish the Mayor luck in preserving her town. After lunch, we took a short tour (there really can be no other) of Horse Cave by auto. There are a lot of old, large houses that would be worth a small fortune in places like Atlanta or even parts of Birmingham. It appears that at one time Horse Cave was quite prosperous.

We went back to the hotel, and noticed on the way that there was a game park across the freeway from us. The visible animals were a herd of buffalo, which figured prominently in a dream I had when I got back home. I dreamed that Julie was hunting said buffalo with a very large game rifle. She shot one and preceded to skin it out right before my eyes.

There were more parties on Saturday night. Frank and Millie had their Xerps party, always good, with skip or go naked punch, a mixture of limeade, beer and vodka (also known as skippies). It sounds disgusting but it is quite good, especially after the first 4 or 5. Xerps is a faux worldcon bid, with an alien theme. They give away a lot of trinkets that are not unlike a case of crabs, you look at it the next day and wonder where in the hell did you pick that up.

The Birmingham DSC had a party and so did the Crack and Cheese bunch. Alas, the latter was a shell of its former self. We had a party too. We had it early so we could go to the other parties, but this caused us to miss the always excellent ConCave art auction. 🐼

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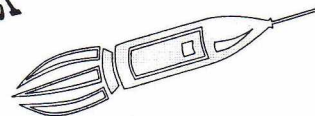
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A List of All Southern SF & Fantasy Authors

by T.K.F. Weisskopf

This rough list came as result of a query from Roland Mann, who was doing a paper in grad school about regional influence on genre literature. Somewhat to my surprise, there was more than I thought there would be. But this just inspired me, and the large list below includes those skiffy authors who live in the South, have lived in the South and may thus can be considered to have been influenced by Southern culture, and those for whom the South has played an important part in their art. So far the list includes authors known to me from my own reading, the list of Phoenix winners, and those listed in the SFWA guide as resident in the South and who are, to my knowledge, active members (who may or may not actually reflect place of residence in their work). I'm not sure if the Virginia-Washington DC area counts, but I've given authors there the benefit of the doubt. The list is in alphabetical order now, for ease of scanning, and not by order of importance to SF or to the South. This is obviously a work in progress: contributions to the list very much solicited, either in the form of more names or additional notes to writers already mentioned. My apologies to anyone I might have inadvertently overlooked. Please send additions to Julie Wall – see colophon for submission addresses and guidelines. She'll also pass on to me any comments y'all care to make.

--Toni Weisskopf
Athens, GA
April, 2001

Jerry & Sharon Ahern live in Georgia; they write mostly men's adventure, but their first fantasy novel, *The Golden Shield of IBF* (Baen), was partially set at a Dragoncon in Atlanta.

Piers Anthony lives in Florida and is the author of the best-selling "Xanth" series of fantasies (check out the map of "Xanth" for regional influence) and numerous SF novels. Phoenix winner.

Robert Asprin has lived in New Orleans for many years now and his latest with Jody Lynn Nye is a fantasy set in New Orleans and is full of atmosphere (*License Invoked*, Baen).

Eric T. Baker lives in Virginia and writes SF.

Margaret Ball is from Texas, and her "Chicks in Chainmail" novel, *Mathemagics* (Baen), has got wonderful satire on its public school system (see also stories about that same character in the "Chicks" anthologies edited by Northerner Esther Friesner). Also see her first SF novel (she'd done romance, too) for pointed satire of late 1980s contemporary Austin.

Gregory Benford is from Alabama though now living in California. Writes hard SF, and darn well, too.

Nancy Varian Berberick is a new writer and lives in NC. ("New," by the way, as I use it here means that the author has come into my awareness within the last five years or so, and may not necessarily reflect the real career path.--TKFW)

Michael Bishop is from Georgia and still lives here, and though I'm not familiar with all of his works those I've read had a pretty strong sense of place, especially *Brittle Innings* (Bantam).

Terry Bisson is from Kentucky though living up North; see award-winning story "Bears Discover Fire". He's also a Phoenix winner.

Nelson S. Bond, the prolific pulp writer, lives in Virginia.

Orson Scott Card: don't know where he's from

from{{Charlotte says Utah}}, but he's lived in NC forever – might want to check out his "Alvin Maker" fantasies (Tor) to see where they are set. Phoenix winner.

Hugh B. Cave is a prolific pulp writer still alive and publishing at 90+. Phoenix winner.

Brenda Clough lives in Virginia and writes fantasy.

David B. Coe is contemporary fantasy writer. He lives in Tennessee, and is not to be confused with David Allan Coe, the "outlaw" country singer....

Mary Elizabeth Counselman. Wrote fantasy for *Weird Tales*. Phoenix winner.

Barbara Delaplace lives in Florida.

Andy Duncan is a new author who lives in Alabama.

David Drake is from Iowa, but has lived in North Carolina for most of his adult life. The "Old Nathan" series of stories are direct homage to Wellman's "Silver John" stories. Some other short stories of his (see collections *All the Way to the Gallows* and *Military Dimension: Mark II* (both Baen)) also are set in the South. Phoenix winner.

Doranna Durgin's new novel *Seer's Blood* (Baen) is set in an alternate Appalachia. She's from Tennessee originally, I believe.

George Alec Effinger is from New Orleans. Phoenix winner.

P.N. Elrod writes mostly vampire fantasy; her latest with Nigel Bennett, *His Father's Son* (Baen), is partially set in Texas.



Linda Evans lives in Florida. Her titles are not particularly regionally inspired but include the "Time Scout" series written with Robert Asprin.

Sharon Farber is perhaps better known professionally as "S.N. Dyer." She lives in Tennessee.

Eric Flint in his time-travel novel *1632* (Baen) takes a modern West Virginia mining town and plunks it down in the middle of the Thirty Years war, which allows for some interesting cultural comparisons.... He lives in the Midwest now but has lived in Alabama and West Virginia.

Daniel Galouye, whose short story was recently adapted to the movie *The 13th Floor* (I think that's the title), was from New Orleans.

Owl Goingback lives in Florida.

Kathleen Goonan lives in Florida and writes sf.

Joe & Jack Haldeman are from Alaska, I believe, but also have lived in Florida for their adult lives.

James P. Hogan is from England, but has lived in Florida for several years now, and been a fixture at Southern SF cons for longer.

Holly Lisle is a Southerner and her "Devil's Point" series were set in NC. Writes mostly fantasy.

John Kessel lives in North Carolina and writes SF.

Daniel Keyes, author of the classic SF story "Flowers for Algernon," lives in Florida.

Brad Lineweaver writes libertarian SF and lives in Georgia. Phoenix winner.

Rick McCammon, the horror writer, is from Alabama, and has also featured the South in his books.

Richard Meredith wrote SF in the 1960s. Phoenix winner.

Elizabeth Moon is from Texas and her novel *Remnant Population* really draws on her experiences there, as, to a lesser extent, do some of the works in the Heris Serrano and Esmay Suiza saga (see *Once a Hero* and *Change of Command*, *Rules of Engagement* and *Against the Odds* for a future Texas culture).

Andre Norton, Grandmistress of SF, is from the Midwest (see a post-Apocalypse Cleveland in her first novel, *Star Man's Son*), but has lived in Florida and settled in Tennessee and established a writer's retreat and library in its hills.

Andrew J. Offutt lives in Kentucky and writes SF and fantasy; his son is the one who can be accused of writing "regional" fiction, though. Phoenix winner.

Gerald W. Page writes fantasy and is from Georgia. Phoenix winner.

Richard Parks writes mostly short stories, I believe, and lives in Mississippi, the sole SFWA writer with that distinction.

John Maddox Roberts writes SF and mysteries and is from

Georgia, though not living here anymore.

John Ringo is an Army brat and a Georgia boy. His first novel came out in October 2000: *A Hymn Before Battle* (Baen). In *Gust Front*, the sequel, Fredricksburg, Virginia is destroyed by alien invasion and the mountains of Georgia play a part, as does Key West.

Rick Shelley wrote mostly military SF and lived in Tennessee.

Wm. Mark Simmons lives in Louisiana and writes sf and fantasy. His novel *One Foot in the Grave* is set partially in the South.

Allen Steele writes hard SF novels and is from Tennessee though now living up North. Phoenix winner.

Brad Strickland lives in Georgia and writes fantasy.

Thomas Burnett Swann wrote myth-inspired fantasies, and died too soon of cancer. Phoenix winner.

Harry Turtledove is from California, but he's got a new series, (*Sentry Peak* and in late 2001 *Marching Through Peachtree*), that is a fantasy re-telling of the Civil War, (*Sentry Peak* = Lookout Mountain, etc.) and another series about an alternate Civil War that started with *Guns of the South* (Del Rey). Phoenix winner.

Karl Edward Wagner, a fantasy writer (the "Kane" series and others) and small press publisher, was from NC. Phoenix winner. World Fantasy Award winner.

David Weber is a contemporary SF author, and one novel, *The Apocalypse Troll*, takes place partly in the South (okay, rampaging all over it--but it has good portraits of regional characters). He's from South Carolina.

Bud Webster lives in Virginia and writes SF.

Sharon Webb lives in Georgia and has had several SF novels and short stories published.

Manly Wade Wellman wrote a very regional sort of fantasy in his "Silver John" Appalachian mountain stories, influencing generations of writers.

The special case of Texas: Since it is sometimes considered Southern, sometimes Western, I haven't listed above all the SF authors resident there, just those I know have Texas influence their works. But the list includes: **Carole Nelson Douglas** (also writes romance and mysteries), **Ardath Mayhar**, **Michael Moorcock** (an expatriate Brit, best known for the "Elric" fantasy series), **Martha Wells** (writes SF), **Arlan Andrews** (writes hard SF), **Bruce Sterling** (of *Wired* fame), **Aaron Allston** (writes mostly fantasy & is a professional in the gaming industry), **Katherine Eliska Kimbriel**, **James Stoddard** (writes SF), **John Steakley** (SF and fantasy), **C. Dean Andersson**, and **Alexis Glynn Latner** (SF short stories in *Analog*). ☘

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Annotated Fanzine Listings

by Tom Feller

Please send paper zines for listing 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. eZines should be sent to tomfeller@aol.com {{Please note: I received a couple of zines that Tom did not. I try to send these to him for review, but don't always succeed. If you want reviews published, it's best to send zines to Tom. I always compare his list to the mailing list to make sure trades are kept current. Also received were *Dewachen* from Trinlay Khadro, *Ethel the Aardvark* from the Melbourne SF Club, *Forty-Two* by Mark Strickert, *Future Times* from the Atlanta SF Society, *International Revolutionary Gardener* by Judith Hanna and Joseph Nicholas, *Mumble Gutter*, *On East Broadway* and *Terminal Eyes* by Tim Marion, *Nova Express* by Lawrence Person and con zine *Trinoc*Connections* by Shannon Sudderth}}.

Ansible, #s 160-164, 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.

Baloney, #2, published by Tom Springer, 15515 NE First Circle, Vancouver, WA 98684, and Arnie Katz, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., PMB 152, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Tom and Arnie discuss Tom's TAFF (Trans Atlantic Fan Fund) candidacy, and Tom reports on his move from Las Vegas to Washington and reviews the fanzine WABE.

Baryon Magazine, #s 79-81, published by Barry Hunter, PO Box 3314, Rome GA, 30164-3314. Available for \$1 per issue. Book reviews.

CAR-PGA Newsletter, Vol. 9, #s 11 & 12, & Vol. 10, #s 1-3, 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, Cameron Hays writes about using the Internet to find other gamers, and Paul reviews a study of people who play Vampire: The Masquerade and discusses his experience with writing for scholarly journals. In #12, Carsten Obst reports on Spiel 2000 (a gaming con in Essen, Germany) and Alan Thomas on Archon. Paul reports on UncommonCon in #2. Carsten Obst reports on happenings in Germany, including a Perry Rhodan TV series in #3.

Challenger, #13, published by Guy Lillian III, PO Box 53092, New Orleans, LA 70153-3092. Available for \$6. The writing, illustrations, zine reviews, and letters are excellent. In this issue, Guy describes a shuttle launch and comments on the election, Greg Benford and Russell Blackford discuss Shakespeare and science fiction, Gene Stewart analyze some letters of Philip K. Dick, John Berry describes a burglar he once knew, Jeff Copeland and Jeff Haemer "explain" the Australian ballot, Mike Resnick reports on a trip to Slovakia, and Charles Williams writes about his family.

Con-Temporal, Vol. 7, #11, & Vol. 8, #s 1&3, 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, #7, published by Andrew Murdoch, 508 - 6800 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC, Canada V7C 1C5. Besides reviews, award listings, and loca, Murray

Moore reflects on names.

De Profundis #s 334-338, official newszine of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601. Edited by Marty Cantor. Club news, calendar, and meeting minutes. In #337, Bill Ellern discusses the purpose of the club and, by implication, all SF clubs.

Derogatory Reference #96, published by Arthur D. Hlavaty, 206 Valentine Street, Yonkers, NY 10704-1814. Available for \$1. Arthur reviews books by Garry Wills, Samuel R. Delany, Peter Straub, and others.

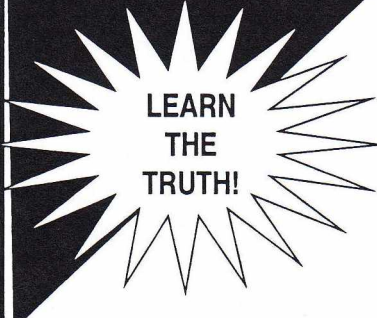
De Tijdlijn Goes International - Again!, published by Peter Motte, Abdijstraat 33, B-9500 Geraardsbergen, Belgium. This is an introzine for the Dutch Amateur People's Press Energetically Reproducing. In addition to mailing comments, Peter describes his life during the first few days of 2001 and the movie *The Bride of Frankenstein*.

Dropping the Shorts, #1, published by Marc Ortlieb, PO Box 215, Forest Hill, Vic 3131 Australia. Reviews of Australian Short Science Fiction and Fantasy.

Fantasy Commentator, #52, published by A. Langley Searles, 48 Highland Circle, Bronxville, NY 10708-5909. Available for \$5 per issue. This is one of the best sercon zines I receive. Besides book reviews and poetry, this issue has articles about Robert "Doc" Lowndes, Abraham Merritt, Sam Moskowitz, and Hugo Gernsback.

File 770, # 137, 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 it has an active letter column. Mike deduces that E. B. Frohvet is really Moshe Feder, and prints obituaries for Bill Donaho, Rick Shelley, and L. Sprague de Camp, Richard Foss contributes a poem in honor of Gordon Dickson, Chris Barkley reports on Rivercon, Mike and Elspeth Kovar report on Chicon 2000

FOSFAX, # 201, 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 Garrett. Subscription: \$3 per issue, or \$12 for 6 issues. #199 is 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. Linda Dunn describes her participation in Clarion, Leigh Kimmel and Joe Major report on the last Rivercon, Tim, Elizabeth, Joe, Leigh, James Dorr, and Lisa Major report on

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Chicon, and Leigh reports on Conclave.

Green Stuff, #s 14 & 15, published by Murray Moore, 1065 Henley Road, Mississauga, Ontario L4Y 1C8 Canada. Murray prints his diary for January to March 2000.

Instant Message, #s 674-680, newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Association, PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701-0809. Edited by Claire Anderson. Club and Boskone news.

It Goes on the Shelf #22, published by Ned Brooks, 4817 Dean Lane, Lilburn GA 30047-4720. Ned comments on books and zines.

Jackpot!, #s 1-5, published by Arnie Katz, 330 S. Decatur Blvd, PMB 152, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Arnie discusses Jean Shepherd, baseball cards, politics, unemployment woes, songs, the movie Eyes Wide Shut, New Year's resolutions, the XFL, spam, and a Las Vegas character. The letter column is lively. It's fun to read it.

Janice's Adventures in Down-Underland, published by Janice Gelb, 1070 Mercedes Ave #2, Los Altos, CA 94022. Not for trade, but available for a donation of \$5 plus postage to the Down Under Fan Fund (DUFF). This is Janice's DUFF report on her trip to Australia for the 1999 Worldcon..

The Knarley Knews, #s 84-86, published by Henry Welch, 1526 16th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024-2017. Available for \$1.50 per issue. In his editorials, Knarley discusses Michigan's northern peninsula, the experience of being an expert witness, and reports on a trip to Arizona and California. Gene Stewart comments on classic SF TV shows, reflects on intelligence, and reviews a show on the Sci-Fi channel. There are also letters, columns by Charlotte Proctor, Rodney Leighton, and Sue Welch (Knarley's mother), and a zine listing. Many of the letters in these issues respond to Gene's earlier article on his experience with the Trufen e-mail list and a rebuttal by Ted White.

Langford Meets Swamp Thing, published by Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK. Dave reports on Tropicon/Fanhistoricon.

Mimosa, #26, published by Richard and Nicki Lynch, P.O. Box 3120, Gaithersburg, MD 20885. Available for \$4. Rich and Nicki report on their trips to Rivercon and ChiCon: Dick, Nicki, and Kip Williams remember the late Joe Mayhew, David Williams and Bill Millardi remember the 1962 Chicon and Esther Cole and Roger Sims the one in 1952, Forrest Ackerman describes the Ackermansion, Mike Resnick discusses his career as a porn writer, Ron Bennett remembers Eastercons, Dave Kyle recounts his career as an artist, and John Hertz write about Regency dancing at cons. Rich and Nicki also reprint an article by Joe. Finally, there is an excellent letter column.

NASFA Shuttle, Vol. 20, #s 10-12, & Vol. 21, #s 1-3, 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, movie, and fanzine reviews, and locs. #10 has the final Hugo Awards vote tallies. In #11, Karen Hopkins and Carlo DeShouten report on Constellation. It was Karen's first convention. In #2, Jim Woosley reviews the Harry Potter books.

Nichevo, #1, published by Nic Farey, PO Box 178, St. Leonard, MD 20685. Subscription: \$3 per issue. Jae Leslie Adams reviews zines; Dale Speirs reflects the nature of fanzines; Nic, Lillian Edwards, Don Fitch, and Robert Lichtman discuss the Trans Atlantic Fan Fund (TAFF); Nic responds to an article by Gene Stewart in Knarley Knews on the Trufen e-mail list; and Martin Tudor is profiled.

Omegazine, #s 125 & 126, Journal of the Omega Society, 3415 Silverwood Drive, Pine Hills, Florida, 32808. Edited by John

Martello. #126 is a short issue announcing the demise of the club and this zine. I will miss it.

Opuntia, #46.5A, 46.5C, 46.5D, 47, & 47.1, published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Almost all issues contain letters. Dale reports on the lack of protests at the World Petroleum Congress meeting in Calgary in 46.5A and on the Canadian election in D. Also in D, he depicts a weekend at work. (Dale works usually works Friday through Sunday with occasional Mondays.) In C, he prints the accounts of various fans of their World Wide Party celebrations and describes the challenge of keeping his personal library organized. In #47, Dale describes odd items shipped by parcel post and reports on a lecture by Robert Sawyer, Garth Spencer surveys publications related to running cons, and Martha Shivvers describes The Rhymer Group, a poetry round robin. 47.1 contains zine reviews.

Smokin' Rockets, #1, published by Joyce Katz, 330 S Decatur Blvd., PMB 152, Las Vegas, NY 89107. Joyce discussed TAFF, privacy, and the Sexual Revolution; both she and husband Arnie Katz discuss Corflu; in a reprint, Fred Chappell both reviews and parodies Sam Moskowitz's *The Immortal Storm*, a history of early science fiction fandom; and John Berry reminiscences about a childhood experience.

Three Pipe Problem Plugs and Dottles, newsletter of the Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem (Sherlock Holmes), January and March 2001. Edited by Gael Stahl, 1763 Needmore Road, Old Hickory, TN 37138. Available for \$7 annually; no trades. Club news, reviews, and discussion of The Canon. Jim Hawkins and Billy Fields report on the Baskerville Bash in New York and Ron Ritter lists "The Twelve Steps of Sherlockians Anonymous" in the January issue. In March, Bill Mason writes about book collecting and the Bette Davis-Sherlock Holmes connection, Davice Sharpe defends football as a proper subject for a Holmes discussion, and Mia Stampe reports on the Danish Baker Street Irregular annual dinner.

Thyme, # 130, 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. Edward McCardle reports on Thylacon in Tasmania, Merv Binns remembers the Melbourne SF Club., and Shaany Bonner writes about writing.

Trash Barrel, published by Donald Franson, 6543 Babcock Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91606-23088. Fanzine reviews.

Twink, # 20, published by E. B. Frohvet, 4716 Dorsey Hall Drive, #506, Ellicott City, MD 21042. In the main articles, E.B. discusses "Religion in Science Fiction and Lyn McConchie expounds on ghost stories. There are also reviews of books and zines and an excellent letter column.

Vanamonde, #s 373-387, 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. #s 377, 382, & 387 include responses from people outside the apa. #378 includes a letter from Darrell Schweitzer about A. E. van Vogt and #381 discusses the deaths of Ken Cheslin and Robert Sacks.

Visions of Paradise, #s 86&87, published by Robert Sabella, 24 Cedar Manor Court, Budd Lake, NJ 07828-1023. Besides reviewing books, Robert prints his diary from July-December, 2000, and Fei Fei Li's diary from her visit to Tibet. In #87, Trinlay Khadro describes how her father introduced her to SF and how she later introduced her

daughter to the genre.

Western Romance, #3, published by Joyce Katz, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., PMB 152, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Joyce writes about the tragedies of Native Americans (she is part Cherokee) and some TV shows she enjoys.

Yngvi is a Louse, #'s 67-69, published by Toni Weisskopf, 3188 Atlanta Hwy, PMB Box 385, Athens, GA 30606. (This zine was originally intended for the Southern Fandom Press Alliance and includes her mailing comments to the other members.) Charlotte Proctor reviews books and movies in both issues. In #67, Hank Reinhardt argues against gun control. In #68, Terry Jeeves describes way-out ideas and Hank describes a police-state. Toni discusses the election in #69.

Electronic Zines

BALONEY #2, published by Tom Springer and Arnie Katz, tom-sprung@aol.com (Tom) and crossfire@lvcm.com (Arnie). (Requires Adobe Acrobat). Tom explains why he wants to become this year's Transatlantic Fan Fund (TAFF) delegate.

THE DISTRICT MESSENGER, #207, newsletter of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, edited by Roger Johnson, roger_johnson@hotmail.com. News about Sherlock Holmes fandom.

JACKPOT #'s 3-6, published by Arnie Katz, crossfire@lvcm.com. (Requires Adobe Acrobat.) Arnie discusses the Stanley Kubrick movie *Eyes Wide Shut*, Bob Tucker's electronic fanzine, *The Great Gildersleeve*, soft drink consumption, kitchen matches, superpowers, advertising, the XFL, spam, the Amazing Criswell, Ken Burns' Jazz, electronic gaming, junk television, and other subjects. The letter column is excellent.

JAMES HOGAN NEWSLETTER, published by James Hogan, newsletter@jamesphogan.com. Information about upcoming book releases and convention appearances.

KRONOS, former newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society, dah2@hotmail.com. Debbie Hussey, editor. Fannish news and calendar. In the October e-issue, Reece Morehead recalls meeting John W. Campbell. In April, Debbie eulogizes Nashville fan David Haynes.

NO AWARD #8, published by Marty Cantor, louishooah@netzero.net. (Requires Adobe Acrobat.) Marty explains his diet and exercise program, e.g. "Jumping to conclusions"; the late Joe Mayhew contributes a comic story; Milt Stevens discusses Samuel R. Delany's Dahlgren; Leslie Norris lists various specialty schools, including the "Karen Carpenter School of Nutrition"; overwhelmed by the Internet. Mike Glyer promises to write a program called "Search for Intelligent Fannish Text (SIFT)"; Joe Major reviews the fanzine *Baloney*; Len Moffat describes the Outlander Society, and Rick Sneary offers his own definitions of fannish terms, e.g. "Bheer: A fannish lubricating liquid".

THE PLANET PRESS, #'s 1-3, successor newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society, anitahwill@aol.com. Anita Feller, editor. Club news. Monthly.

THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY! and **THE FRANTIC FRIDAY FUNNIES!** c/o Tim "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo, tbolgeo@cdc.net. Fannish news, especially Libertycon, and jokes. Weekly. The January 31 e-issue eulogizes Rick Shelley, and the February 6 one has appreciations of Gordon Dickson by Paul Levinson and Lynn Abbey.

ROYAL SWISS NAVY GAZETTE #6, published by Garth Spencer hrothgar@vcn.vc.ca. Garth discusses death and the writings of James Hogan and H. Beam Piper. Conventions reports include Potlatch, Foolscap, Vcon, ConComCon, and Vikingcon.

SMOKIN' ROCKETS #'s 1 & 2, published by Joyce Katz, JoyWorley@aol.com. (Requires Adobe Acrobat.) In #1, Joyce discusses TAFF, privacy, and the Sexual Revolution; both she and husband Arnie Katz discuss Corflu; in a reprint, Fred Chappell both reviews and parodies Sam Moskowitz's *The Immortal Storm*, a history of early science fiction fandom; and John Berry reminiscences about a childhood experience. In #2, Joyce compares the abbreviations "SF" and "Sci-Fi" and fan feuds on the Internet and reprints an essay by the late Francis T. Laney. Bill Kunkel writes about a Las Vegas character. TAFF dominates the letter column in #2.

VIDEOVISTA #'s 23-25, published by Tony Lee, pigasus.press@virgin.net. Video reviews.

WOSSNAME, November through March, Newsletter of the Klatchian Foreign Legion, WOSSNAME-owner@egroups.com, Editor in Chief: Joe Schaumburger, JSCHAUM111@aol.com. Discworld and Terry Pratchett news. Monthly. The November e-issue includes an obituary for L. Sprague de Camp. In December, Pratchett himself discusses plans to hold a "DiscWorldCon".

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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

2001

ROC*KON 2001 May 18-20, Holiday Inn Airport, Little Rock, AR. Guests: Barbara Hambly, Nene Thomas, Richard Knaak. 6115 West Markham, Suite 9H, Little Rock, AR 72205; 501-776-1813, admin@rockon.org.

LIBERTYCON 15 May 25-27, Ramada Inn South, East Ridge, TN. Guests: David Drake, Gary Ruddell, Debbie Hughes, Eric Flint. POB 695, Hixson, TN 37343-0695, 423-842-4363, libcon@cdc.net, <http://www.libertycon.org>

OASIS 14 May 25-27, Radisson Plaza, Orlando, FL. Guests: Jack McDevitt, Jean Pierre Targete, Tom Smith. POB 940992, Maitland, FL 32794-0992, 407-263-5822, jcr@digital.net, oasfis.org/

CREATION Jun 26-27, Delta Orlando Resort, Orlando FL. Guests: tb[Xena Convention]. The Galleria Tower, 100 West Broadway #1200, Glendale CA 91210, 818-409-0960, www.creationent.com

A-KON Jun 1-3, Dallas TX. Guests: Tiffany Grant, NewTek, Steve Bennett, Studio IronCat, Ben Dunn, Joe Weltjens, Doug Dlin, Ted Nomura, Elin Winkler, Pat Duke, Dean Hsieh, Will Allison, Brandon Graham, Paul Wway, Eddie Perkins, Diana Sprinkle, Valkyrie Games, Rodney Caston, Lee W Madison, Newton Ewell

MOBICON IV June 1-3, Ramada Inn on the Bay, Mobile, AL. Mobicon, Box 161632, Mobile, AL 36616, president@mobicon.org, <http://www.mobicon.org/>

MIDWESTCON 52 June 21-24, Ramada Inn, Florence, KY. c/o Pat Sims, 34 Creekwood Square, Glendale, OH 45246, scottst@ix.netcom.com, <http://www.cfg.org/midwestcon/>

CONSORTIUM June 29-July 1, Hobby Airport Radisson, Houston, TX. Guests: David Weber, Michael Stackpole, Margaret Fincannon & Clif Davis, Tony Elam. PMB 367, 3118 Fm 528 Rd, Webster, TX 77598, info@con-sortium.org, <http://www.con-sortium.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

DRAGONCON Aug. 31- Sep. 3, Hyatt Regency Atlanta & Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA. Guests: Harlan Ellison, Anthony Daniels, 2001, PO Box 16459, Atlanta, GA 30361-9998, 770-623-6321, 770-909-0115, dragoncon@dragoncon.org, <http://www.dragoncon.org/>.

OUTSIDE CON 19 Sep 7-9, Camp Marymount, Fairview, TN. Contact Robert Embler, 1977 Mark Ave., Clarksville, TN 37043, outsidebob@cs.com

TRINOC*CON Oct 5-7, Regal University Inn, Durham NC. Guests: Vernor Vinge, Dru Blair. POB 10633, Raleigh NC 27605-0633, info@trinoc-con.org, <http://www.trinoc-con.org/>

CON*STELLATION XX: CAMELOPARDALIS Oct 19-21, Sheraton Four Points Airport Hotel, Huntsville, AL. Guests: Jack McDevitt, David Mattingly, Steve & Sue Francis. POB 4857, Huntsville, AL 35815-4857, constell@con-stellation.org, www.con-stellation.org/

ARMADILLOCON Nov 16-18, Hilton North, Austin TX. Guests: J. Gregory Keyes, Toni Weisskopf, John Jude Palencar. POB 27277, Austin TX 78755

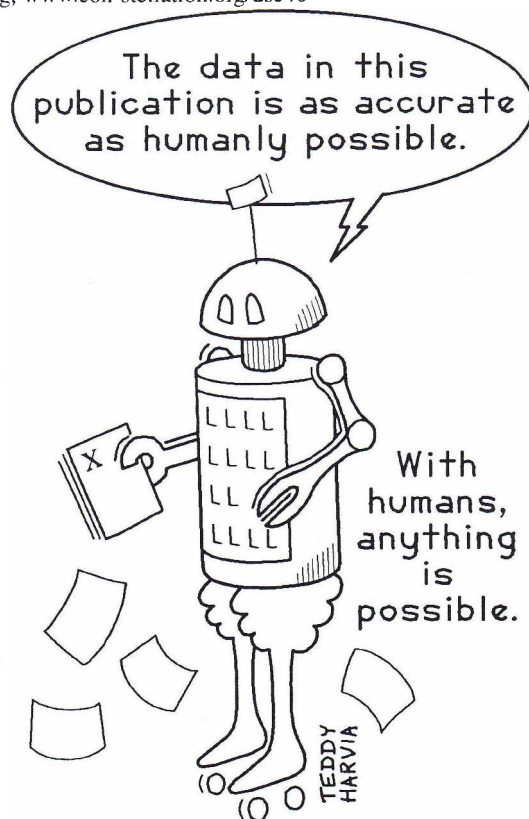
2002

GAFILK 2002 Jan 11-13, Hotel: TBA, GA. Guests: Echo's Children, Randy & Diane Walker. c/o Irv Koch, 3630 Salem Dr, Lithonia, GA 30038, registration@gafilk.org, <http://www.gafilk.org/>

CHATTACON XXVII Jan 18-20, Clarion Hotel, Chattanooga TN. Guests: Melanie Rawn, Robert Daniels., Jack McDevitt, Charles L. Grant, Robert Gerskin. PO Box 23908, Chattanooga TN 37422-3908, 770-578-8461, info@chattacon.org, <http://www.chattacon.org/>

MIDSOUTHCON 20 Mar 22-24, Holiday Inn Select, Memphis, TN. Guests: C.J. Cherryh, Tom Kidd, Cullen Johnson., PO Box 11446, Memphis, TN 38111, 901-664-6730, 901-664-4320 (fax), info@mid-southcon.org, <http://www.midsouthcon.org/>

DEEPSOUTHCON 40 Jun 14-16, Huntsville Hilton, Huntsville, AL. Guests: Allen Steele, Connie Willis, Bob Eggleton, Nicki & Rich Lynch. POB 4857, Huntsville, AL 35815-4857, dsc40@con-stellation.org, www.con-stellation.org/dsc40



CONJOSE/60TH WORLDCON Aug. 29-Sep. 2, 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.sfsfc.org/worldcon/Index.htm, ConJose@sfsfc.org

BOUCHERCON 2002 Oct 17-20, Austin TX. Guests: Mary Willis Walker, Sparkle Hayther, Bill Crider. POB 27277, Austin TX 78755, 877-607-7223.acs@crimeandspace.com

2003

TORCON 3/61ST WORLDCON Aug 28-Sep 1, Toronto ON. Guests: George R. R. Martin, Frank Kelly Freas, Mike Glyer, Spider Robinson, Robert Bloch. POB 3, Station A, Toronto ON M5W 1A2 Canada, info@torcon3.on.ca, www.torcon3.on.ca

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

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

2005 WORLDCON BIDS: UK05, Glasgow UK (379 Myrtle, Sheffield, S Yorks S2 3HQ England; kcampbell.cix.co.uk; www.uk2005.org.uk)

15 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/15in05.htm>).

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

Los Angeles CA (www.scifiinc.org/)

2007 WORLDCON BID: Japan (www.nippon2007.org)

2008 WORLDCON BID: Los Angeles

2010 WORLDCON BID: Chicago, Xerps (<http://members.xoom.com/Xerps2010/>)

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@msoe.edu)

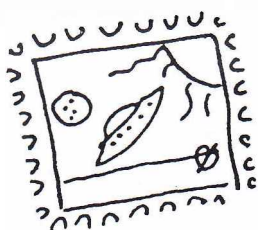
2259 WORLDCON BID: Babylon 5 (rastb5mod@aol.com)

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

23,309 WORLDCON BID: Trantor

1973 WORLDCON BID: Minneapolis in '73 ☘

Letters of Comment



{{I have to apologize to Paul Cardwell, because I completely overlooked and forgot to include last time a LoC he sent on the July issue of the SFC Bulletin. So, he gets to be first.}}

July 20, 2000: Paul Cardwell, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418

Tom Feller's con report: Egyptian mummy and cocaine. I wonder what test was used to determine this. If a standard contemporary drug screen was used, it screens for both cocaine and opiates (which is one reason it gets so many false positives). Since Papaver somniferum was widely cultivated in ancient Egypt [see Nunn, John F. (1966). *Ancient Egyptian Medicine*. Norman OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 153-156], this could be a point of confusion – or the source simply confused one predominate 20th century drug for another. While this doesn't exclude interhemispheric contact (after all, the Egyptians had circumnavigated Africa), there is no evidence of extensive ongoing trade across the Atlantic until the 15th century despite Norse attempts to colonize. Besides, Erythroxylon coca is not only across the Atlantic, but mostly across the Andes and definitely far inland from any likely point of contact. This is a much more serious barrier than an ocean, which we know they had the capability of crossing. However their circumnavigation was constantly in sight of

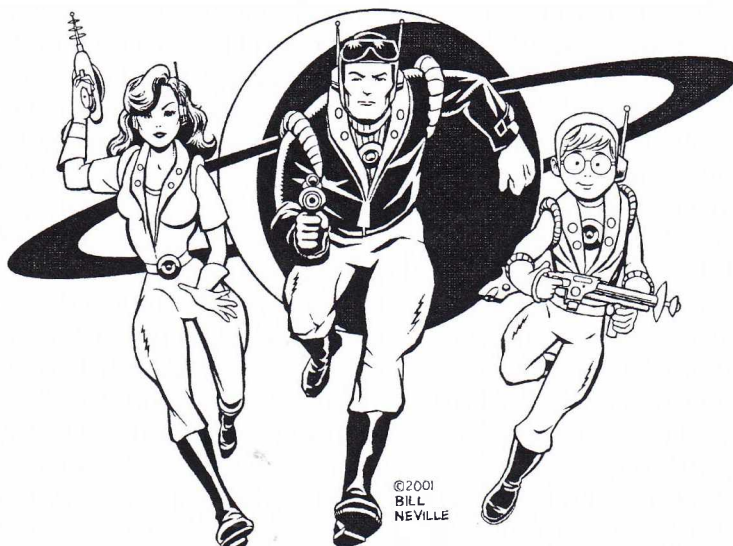
land and there is a tremendous jump from that to leaving the sight of land for weeks at a time. Pre-15th century, only the Polynesians did that on a regular basis as Norse were out of sight (of land) for less than a week at a time.

Harry Warner, Jr. on literacy: While your point about illiterates not wanting education has some validity (the woods between here and the Red River are full of them), there is far more to the picture. I recall a case a few years ago of a woman who signed up for adult literacy. She spoke acceptable English, had a masters degree, could read and quote appropriately from Cervantes, but she was just having trouble with an unphonetic language like written English. With a significant percentage of immigrants not just from non-anglophone cultures, but those not even using the Roman alphabet, the adult illiteracy rate is naturally going to be pushed up temporarily until they can get straight all those pronunciations of ough. Of course, even when these are discounted, we are still fifth in the Western Hemispheres in adult literacy – behind Costa Rica, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Canada. Obviously democracy or the lack thereof is of no relevance. You can be number one by abolishing the military and putting its budget into education, but if you are in third place, some fifth place bully is liable to start trying to kill all your teachers. You can make it to fourth place and still have two official languages. E.B. Frohvet's final comment in the same issue summed up the solution quite well.

Catherine Mintz; major US publishers: The problem today is that a publisher buys a book, serializes or condenses it in their magazine, publishes it in hard cover then paperback on

The Galactic Patrol:

protectors of fandom, fun, and flaming laser death.



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their presses, makes a movie of it in their studio, shows it on their TV network, records it on video cassette, and manufacturers toy tie-ins in their factories. On that basis of publishing, only one major company in the world is German (#2 Bertelsmann). Time-Warner is US and is the largest. Third is Hachette (part of the Matra munitions combine – Exocet cruise missile) and at least once was 1/8 owned by Saddam Hussein, but is nominally French. Fourth is World News owned by Rupert Murdoch and is Australian despite the 4 _ million bribe to Newt Gingrich and 20 million to the GOP to get US citizenship to buy Fox without giving up his Australian citizenship. Finally, there is Disney, also US. Random House is owned by Newhouse, which also owns a couple dozen mid-sized newspapers and the Condé Nast magazine empire, but doesn't show in the top list. Warnerbooks is larger than Random House and is nominally US.

Country of headquarters is irrelevant with multinational corporations. They not only make their own foreign policy (which the US generally obediently follows – witness the number of wars in Central America on orders of United Fruit Company), but enjoy the advantage of giving their citizens (employees) money while geographical governments take money from their citizens (taxes). Which gets the loyalty of these dual citizens? With interlocking directorates, they don't even have to conspire – what's good for one company is good for all. With mergers routinely rubber-stamped by those charged with preventing monopoly, the media giant data may be out of date by now. We are headed for one giant company. After all, it worked so well for the Soviet Union, didn't it? At least they could vote no on a candidate (even if it was replaced by another from the same single party), but we can't vote on the corporate directors who rule us.

February 1: **Paul Cardwell** on Number 8

Yuri A. Mironets' item should be sent to all the whiners in California. I am reminded of a couple of quotes from Ralph Nader back in the 1970s. "We will never have solar energy until the oil companies figure out a way to get a depletion allowance on the sun." "The problem with funding solar energy development is that the last time it was used as a weapon was Archimedes' defense of Syracuse against the Romans."

Jan 3: **Tom Feller**, P.O. Box 68203, Nashville, TN 37206, TomFeller@aol.com

I spotted two grammatical errors in my own con reports. It's too late to change them for the *Bulletin*, but I fixed them for my web site.

We have a Rainforest Cafe at the mall that replaced Opryland. Anita and I have eaten there at least twice and probably will in the future when we have guests from out of town. The cuteness wears off after a few visits.

I forgot to list Murray Moore's *Green Stuff* and Robert Sabella's *Visions of Paradise*, which I received through FAPA.

I'll try to do better in the future.

Speaking of hockey, I was working at home when a friend of ours, Doug, called to say he had four free tickets to see the Predators that night. Anita could not go, because that was the night of her final exam at Nashville Tech. However, I accepted, and Doug eventually gave the other tickets to a neighbor and his son.

Anita had been having car trouble and her knee was bothering her so I followed her to Nashville Tech and walked her to her classroom. Then I proceeded to Doug's house, which is on the same side of Nashville. Doug is not a fan in the sense that he attends conventions or publishes zines, but I noticed a *Star Wars* poster and a portrait of Kirk and Spock in his living room.

We took my car to the Gaylord Entertainment Center, formerly known as the Nashville Arena, where Doug paid the \$10 for us to park. (I returned the favor by paying for our refreshments at the game.) When we found our seats, we discovered that we were only 11 rows up from the ice. This was close enough that the puck could hit us. Although the puck got into the crowd at least twice that night, it never got close to us. The only disappointment was that we were on one end and all the scoring, as it turned out, was on the other one. There were plenty of seats. Official attendance was 13,673, and I think the place holds 16,000 for hockey.

Dinner consisted of Papa John's pizza and beer. There was also someone going around and giving away samples of funnel cake. The game itself was a rout. The Predators tied a franchise record by scoring four goals in the first period. I don't know if he'll ever become famous, but rookie Martin Cisar scored the first goal of his NHL career. The opposition, the Calgary Flames, scored one goal in the second period, but the Predators responded with two more in the third.

By the way, Anita got an "A" on her final.

Otherwise, it was an excellent issue. Keep up the good work!

February 22: **Henry Welch**, 1525 16th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024, welch@msoe.edu

Thanks for the latest *SFC Bulletin*. My response is a bit delayed since the issue was buried for an indeterminate length of time on my desk. Not much caught my attention since I tend to skim over convention reports for conventions I'm never likely to attend. I'm sure I miss the occasional good nugget, but that is the price of prioritizing my time. I did note that Tom Feller has my wife attending the E.B. Frohvet thing – which she did not. I also notice that he has "Dianne" rather than "Diana" Thayer, but these are all minor stuff.

January 19: **Lloyd Penney**, 1706-24 Eva Road, Etobicoke, ON, CANADA M9C 2B2, penneys@attcanada.ca

Another *SFC Bulletin* has arrived, Volume 7, Number 8. It looks like another big issue, so I'll crack the cover (nice

Cleary on the front) and see what I can say about it.

Congratulations on your honoured position at FanGoH at Con*stellation. Being a FanGoH is a lot of fun, isn't it? Yvonne and I have held that position a few times, and it feels great to be a convention guest of honour. Sure, you get to do more programming than you really wanted to, and you come under the con microscope a little bit, but it can be quite enjoyable. We were FanGoHs at our own local con last year, and our GoH panel became an interview, to our relief. We were interviewed by Robert J. Sawyer, who we've known for over 15 years. Lots of fun, and we'd like to do it again...FanGoHs for rent? Cheap?

The Last Rivercon...Mike Glicksohn was able to relay some stories about his experiences there, and it was indeed a fine party. Dick Spelman says that Dragon*Con will make Worldcon more literary...true, it will reduce Worldcon's numbers down to about 4-5000 at most. It will also make Worldcon more worldly, so to speak...few people outside of the United States know about Dragon*Con, so the high percentage of Americans in the Worldcon population will go down. I am afraid that Dragon*Con will take away a large percentage of well-known artists and dealers. A question for discussion...will Worldcon and Dragon*Con being on the

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same weekend divide the media and literary fans just when it looked like the two groups could finally live together?

Laura Haywood-Cory's had the initial convention jitters with Trinoc*coN. I wish it was as easy as, "If you hold it, they will come..." People may or may not come, depends on what you offer, and where and when you offer it. I wonder for each convention held, how many are planned but cancelled? Her experiences with the press are fairly typical, too. I've worn my old press card to a few conventions, and I know what the average reporter is looking for...freaks and weirdos in costume, and eventually an article that will laugh at the space cadets. I love to disappoint them. In the past, I have written stories for publication about conventions and fandom, only to have them rejected because they weren't about the expected space cadets and Trekkies.

(Had a great time in Chicago chatting with Dan Caldwell about Torcon and just about anything else under the sun. Our only regret about our parties there was having to shut them down around 3AM...we wanted to see some of the con, too! Unfortunately, we didn't even do that...we intend to see a whole lot of Millennium Philcon.)

Naomi Fisher relates how she introduced some neofans to the joys of con suites, free autographs and evening parties. I've done the same myself, for it's the best way to ease neo uncertainties and make a few new friends along the way. The local anime convention here, Anime North, took a similar tack some years ago...it introduced the average anime convention attendee to such innovative ideas as programming, a con suite, a green room for the guests, and many of the usual things the organizers would find at an SF convention. I gather that other anime conventions are simple viewing sessions and guest workshop hours, and the SF con format of Anime North was very welcome. Its attendance has climbed to over 1000 people in just three years.

Because of our activities at Chicon, we really didn't get to see much of the convention. We knew that E.B. Frohvet had organized a get-together at some point at the con, but we never knew when it was until after it had happened. We spent a lot of time at Fay Curr's in the underground...not only did we have a few quick meals there, but we also shopped there for about half of the supplies we needed for the three parties we held. We spent \$300 at one time for deli meats; we put a sizable dent in their well-stocked deli cooler. (Thanks for mentioning the Toronto parties, Julie! And wonderful to finally meet you there. Perhaps we'll have the time to sit and chat in Philadelphia.)

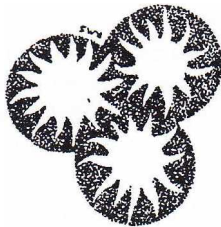
Through one of the fannish listservs, I was able to ask Janice Stinson for a copy of the N3F's *Tightbeam*. I've yet to respond to it, but I will. After all the jokes and abuse the N3F has had to withstand from general fandom over the years, it's good to see that there is a rapprochement, a willingness to check out the clubzine again.

I see a mention of the Krispy Kreme donut chain...they've decided to move into Canada to take a bit of the local market. I've heard all about the near addictive qualities of the KK

donuts, but they should know that we've got our own equivalent chain...the Tim Horton's donut chain, partially purchased by Wendy's a few years ago, and now spreading into selected parts of the US; I know they're all over Ohio, where Wendy's head office is. I doubt Krispy Kreme will make an impact...Dunkin' Donuts tried the same thing a few years ago, and now they're gone. *{{Having seen the ads for Tim Horton's on the boards at Canadian hockey arenas on TV, I actually got to try a Tim Horton's doughnut when I visited Canada for the first time back in November. Krispy Kremes are better.}}*

My letter...and now, Sprague deCamp is gone. We lose more and more of the important people in SF and fandom. I had such high hopes for the Maple Leafs...they keep dropping in the standings, losing recently to the Kings and Rangers. They've gone back to their old habits, when we used to call them the Maple Leafs. And finally, because of Torcon commitments, some of which were thrust upon us, as soon as we got to Chicon, we weren't able to have our Slightly Higher in Canada Party. (Besides, the committee let us know of their disapproval of us having an additional party. Go figure.)

Yuri Mironets may be suffering from the regular lack of electricity in Vladivostok...there may be some comfort to know that California is now suffering similar blackouts. The greatest concern there is not keeping warm in the winter, but in making sure that the myriad computer centres in the state have enough power to keep their worldwide databases and backups up and running.



January 6: **Pamela Boal**, 4 Westfield Way, Charlton Heights, Wantage, OXON, OX12 7EW, UK

...arrived over the festive season when I was otherwise engaged, first with grandchildren and then with a gastric upset. As to the latter, at my age I should know better than to tell myself just a little won't harm. My digestive system simply will no longer cope with rich food.

I was just getting down to writing LoCs when my computer threw an almighty tantrum and became sick beyond the help of my local gaurs. I have left it to the tender care of PC World in Swindon and such is the rush of work that it will not be ready for at least two weeks when I have a whole mess of medical appointments.

I am sending this (I hope) on my husband's (via my son, it's a long story) computer which will not let me install my normal ISP. I shouldn't bother noting this address because if I don't get my own computer back after two weeks I will get help to install my own ISP on this.

Between being away on the boat, illness and family disas-

ters I don't seem to have written any decent LoCs for years, I wouldn't blame you if you gave up on me. Mind I would be bitterly disappointed, I do promise to try to do better.

January 26: **Joy V. Smith**, 8925 Selph Road, Lakeland, FL 33810, Pagadan@aol.com

Congratulations on being Fan Guest of Honor at Con*stellation XIX! You were certainly busy there, among other places and things. The programming (The Newlywed Game – following last year's The Dating Game with you as Honor Harrington, etc.) sounds like a lot of fun.

The last Rivercon, Trinoc*coN (an underused con suite – what a shame!), Tropicon, and Chicon/Worldcon reports by everyone were most enjoyable. So many great anecdotes, including the one about the reporter who asked for (and got) his money back because he couldn't find any funny looking SF people. And all those food descriptions, restaurant reviews, and menus were wonderful!

The Annotated Fanzine Listings column by Tom Feller covers a lot of territory. I'm trying to cut back on fanzines, but *Wossname* (Terry Pratchett newsletter) was especially tempting. Thanks too for the SF Clubs in the South and southern convention listings.

As always, the LOCs and artwork are interesting and fun too. Loved Scott Patri's cartoon on p 18 and the Millennium Philcon ad/poster artwork. Nice cover too. (I like octopi.)

January 24: **E.B. Frohvet**, 4716 Dorsey Hall Dr. #506, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Evidently I failed to LOC the last *Bulletin*, a deficiency I will now try to correct to the best of my limited ability.

Congratulations on being FanGOH at the Huntsville con! Well deserved. I could not quite figure the reference to "The Newlywed Game" but fannish parodies of mainstream kitsch are frequent enough that I got the gist.

Is it just me, or does it seem like food is a more important item in con reports written by Southerners than those written by the rest of us? *{{Could be. We like our vittles here.}}*

Laura Haywood-Cory's account of the reporter whose planned trashing of the con wouldn't work: Anyone who's had the misfortune of working Media Relations at a con could have told you so, Laura. What you'll get is "See the freaks." If very lucky, "See the harmless freaks." Simpler, on the whole, to keep the mundanes out.

I read Tom Feller's account of Worldcon with a certain air of puzzlement, because the "Frohvet" he met didn't really sound like me. You were there, Julie: Did I really come off as a babbling idiot? *{{Not that I noticed, but, too, I didn't think Tom made you sound like one.}}* Truly, I was not intoxicated. I had one glass of wine. I was very tired (limited sleep the preceding night) and trying to juggle conversations in two languages. (Much to my surprise my schoolboy German was comprehensible to Franz Miklis, the Austrian fan.)

Apropos of nothing: Someone must really want people to vote on DUFF this election. This is, by actual count, the sixth ballot I've received. Vote early, vote often. Reminds me of the *Married With Children* episode where the Bundys go to vote. Poor dumb bimbo Kelly (actress Christina Applegate) gets so confused, the election judges take pity on her and give her a ballot anyway: "Hell, this is Chicago! Take two!" Maybe an element of truth-stranger-than-fiction in that; but Florida election jokes have used up their 15 minutes.

Like several of your correspondents, I have not been to New York City in years. Unlike most, I feel no distress over that. I used to be able to take about three days of New York before the walls started closing in on me; I suspect a day and a half would be about my limit now. New York would be a nice place if they threw out about three-fourths of the people.

Odd that both you and Tom mention meeting Fred Lerner at my little gathering. I do not recall meeting Mr. Lerner and he is not on my mailing list. *{{I suspect he came with someone else...he was there and I was happy to meet him.}}*

January 27: **Catherine Mintz**, 1810 South Rittenhouse Square, 1708, Philadelphia, PA 19103-5837

Thank you for the last issue of the millennium. However, I feel this one may be running too fast. Time is awry, things are aging and wasting away.

Faced with a free evening, something rather rare these days, I got Greg Benford's *The Martian Race*, and took it home. After dinner I settled in for a good read. As I turned the pages they began popping from the binding, almost as if they could feel my eyeball tracks.

Then they began anticipating my coming to the bottom of each left-hand page. Racing against total binding failure, I managed to finish the book, minus the ads at the back, just before it dissolved into a stack of crisp pages plus a cover in perfect condition.

Just to prove the world is not always against us, I found I had saved the receipt for cash, something I would normally never do: maybe some paranormal phenomenon was at work. So the store took my heap of pages and cover back for what it had cost. I went and checked their other copies of the book, and they, too, seemed predisposed to the same problem.

As for the text itself, it is a pleasant read and I recommend it to those of you with a taste for hard science fiction. The characters are not remarkable, but neither are they annoyingly flat. The science is impeccable; the extrapolations from it believable. But do check the binding.

Like a number of other people, I got a packet from Ken Cheslin that was mailed the day he died. Hearing that he was dead was not nearly as poignant a moment as when I held that last envelope, addressed in bright green marker. It is some consolation – not much – that death surprised him.

The World Wide Fan Party page has some work by him for those of you who haven't had a chance to enjoy his writing. Probably the quickest route to it – the actual address is

long and nonsensical – is through the front page of my web site, <http://catherinemintz.com>. The WWFP link is near the bottom of the one screen page. Ken decided to write about the perfect place for a fannish party and he may indeed have found it.

January 25: **Ruth M. Shields**, 1410 McDowell Road, Jackson, MS 39204-5147

I've been doing a bit of doodling, and have noted in the latest *Bulletin* that you want some illos. I'm enclosing a few. If there are any of these fillos that you don't want to use, please return them so I can send them elsewhere. You don't need to return the pieces that you do use, since I have made a copy for my files. (I don't send the same piece to multiple zines, although I may use them in an APA.) If you seen anything by me that you particularly like and you want more in a similar vein, please let me know and I'll try to send more of that sort of work in the future. *{{I liked and will use them all. A cover-sized piece would be most welcome!}}*

I've been enjoying your "Off the Wall" column, by the way, as well as the other features of the *Bulletin*. You've been doing a great job as editor (not to mention as Prez) and I hope you will stay with us for a while. *{{Blush. Thanks!!}}*

January 23: **Trinlay Khadro**, P.O. Box 240934, Brown Deer, WI, 53224-0934

The plea for art has been heard. *{{Many thanks!!}}* Since my last LoC to y'all we acquired "Shan Yu," the runt brother of the other three rats. They're pretty much grown now and very friendly.

Well, let's see; back around October my S.O. of 3+ years dumped me suddenly, saying "We just don't belong together." By Thanksgiving he had a Chinese Mail Order Bride. Gee, what a blow to the ego, eh? *{{What a jerk!!}}*

Y'know – you should publish a recipe for Horta Salad. *{{Afraid it died with the Rocket City Cafe.}}* Tom: I need a more detailed description of "Kitty Hawk" stuffed animals. Are these cats with wings? (A common fannish motif.) *{{Yes, they are.}}*

My daughter wants a kitten, but we live in a teeny apartment and already have a ferret and 4 ratties.

Psst, Laura, d'ya think we can get some first hand haunted house inspector stories from Mr. Watkins? It's the sorta thing I get a kick out of.

Having now read further; I realized I'd like to have one of those Kitty Hawk stuffies... oh, all right! I desire a black one with green eyes, BADLY!

WAHF: Linda Zielke, who says, "We got the SFC Bulletin. I gained six pounds from reading it!" Sheryl Birkhead, Scott Thomas, Teddy Harvia, & Julia Morgan-Scott, who all sent art – THANK YOU, wonderful artists! And, Sam Smith and Tim Marion. 🐾

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