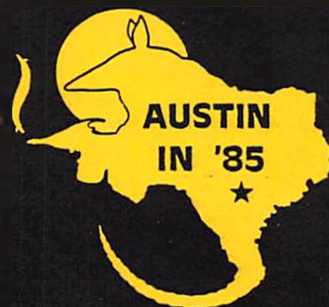


The Texas SF Inquirer

"THE BEST LITTLE NEWSZINE IN TEXAS"

FACT, P.O. Box 9612, Austin, Tx 78766

NO. 1/March '83



WELCOME

This is the first (but definitely not the last) issue of *The Texas SF Inquirer*. Its basic purpose is to let you know some of what's happening in Texas fandom. We'll be coming to you monthly (at least) until the '83 Worldcon — and afterwards, we hope. Have a question about Texas fandom, FACT, or the Austin in '85 bid? Or even just comments on the newszine? Let us hear from you at: The Texas SF Inquirer, P.O. Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766.

AUSTIN IN '85 MEETING HELD

Texas fans gathered Saturday, March 5 in Austin to discuss the Austin in '85 NASFiC bid plans and tour the central hotel site, the Austin Hyatt Regency. Despite the three-hour meeting, the gathering had the flavor of a Texas fan family reunion. The consensus was that the Austin bid was not just a one-city bid, but a Texas bid. Fans from various Texas cities and organizations have pledged to sponsor a bid party each night of the '83 Worldcon.

Willie Siros and Robert Taylor, Austin in '85 bid founders, directed the meeting and explained the Worldcon and NASFiC rules for everyone. Houston fan / APA enthusiast and ConStellation programming chief Johnny Lee provided data on the volunteer needs of the '83 Worldcon. Many Texas fans have already signed up to work at ConStellation, and others were encouraged to do so. Look for the throng of western hats at Baltimore. A statewide support of the Australian '85 Worldcon bid was also encouraged.

Several co-ordinator assignments were also made during the meeting, including: Parties: Marye Wexford of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex.

Publications: Austin's Pat Mueller.

Programming: Metroplex fan and two-time AggieCon Chairman (some people never learn) Becky Matthews.

Mailroom: Sven Knudson of Austin. Sven will also work with Austin's Mack Pitchford on integrated state-wide computer applications. Plans were also begun

to transport the vast quantities of Shiner beer and chili necessary for the nightly Worldcon parties. Among other topics discussed were the \$12 annual membership dues to FACT, Inc. (Fandom Association of Central Texas) and the \$2 pre-supporting membership price for the Austin in '85 membership bid. Both FACT and pre-supporting membership are open to fans world-wide.

The party began shortly after dinner, with much drinking and merry-making, and lasted until the early hours of Sunday. Crash space was provided for out-of-town folk. Several fans arose early Sunday and headed to San Marcos for MicroCon. Others staggered to a late morning brunch gathering. Some just slept. The next FACT meeting will be held Friday, March 25 at AggieCon.

LOCAL BOYS MAKE GOOD AND OTHER NEWS

Austin writers Bruce Sterling and Howard Waldrop have made the Nebula ballot. . . Bruce for his novelette, "Swarm," and Howard for his short story, "God's Hooks."

In other pro news: Lewis Shiner has sold "Deserted Cities of the Heart" to *Omni*. Another Shiner story, "Mystery Train," will be in the May *Oui*, and "Nine Hard Questions about the Nature of the Universe" will be in a summer issue of *Fantasy and Science Fiction*. Lisa Tuttle's novel, *Familiar Spirit*, a paperback original, is on the stands. Lisa and her husband Chris Priest will be back in Texas during April. Bruce Sterling and William Gibson sold their collaboration, "Red Star, Winter Orbit," to *Omni*. Look for it in a summer issue. Bruce's "Sunken Gardens" will appear in *Omni* later this year, as will Howard's "Man-Mountain Gentian." It seems Ellen Datlow, the fiction editor at *Omni*, did a great deal of buying when she attended last year's ArmadilloCon in Austin.

If you're reading this at AggieCon, definitely pick up a copy of *Modern Stories*. M.S., billed as "the magazine that

bites the hand that feeds it," contains fiction and art work by Bud Simons, William Gibson, Bruce Sterling, Howard Waldrop, Lewis & Edith Shiner, Doug Potter, Joe Lansdale, Marian Henley, and many others. This will certainly be a collector's item due to its uniqueness. Pick one up and enjoy. And while you're at it, grab a copy of *The Huggybunnies*. The art work and story line in this comic book are quite different from anything you've ever seen or read. Created by Steve Utley, *The Huggybunnies* are a refreshing change from the usual fare of superheroes. Another collector's item.

WRITE AT SPACE CITY

Houston SF writer Rory Harper, whose short story "Duty to the Empire" is scheduled for an upcoming issue of *Amazing*, sponsored another Space City Writer's Ranch on Saturday, March 5. Most of the ten attendees met Friday night at Rory's house for preliminary manuscript readings and partying. Among the published writers at the workshop were Joe Pumilia and Steven Gould. Readings and critiques continued through Saturday and ended with more festivity. Space City is an irregularly-held Clarion-style workshop based on Austin's famed "Turkey City" writers' workshops. For more information, write Rory Harper, 1914 W. Alabama, Houston, TX 77098.

AREA CONVENTIONS

TEXARKON. May 13-15, Texarkana, AR.
For information, write 1021 E. 29th St.,
Texarkana, Arkansas 75502.

SWAMPCON. May 27-29, Baton Rouge, LA.
For information, write P.O. Box 14238,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898.

QUESTICON. May 28-30, El Paso, TX.
For information, write 903 Belas Artes,
El Paso, Texas 79912.

NEBULA NOMINEES

NOVELS

Heliconia Spring, Brian Aldiss
Foundation's Edge, Isaac Asimov
No Enemy but Time, Michael Bishop
The Transmigration of Timothy Archer, Philip K. Dick
Friday, Robert Heinlein
The Sword of the Lictor, Gene Wolfe

NOVELLAS

"Another Orphan," John Kessel
"Horrible Imaginings," Fritz Leiber
"Moon of Ice," Brad Linaweaver
"Unsound Variations," George R. R. Martin
"Souls," Joanna Russ

NOVELETTES

"Myths of the Near Future," J. G. Ballard
"Understanding Human Behavior," Thomas Disch
"Burning Chrome," William Gibson
"Mystery of the Young Gentleman," Joanna Russ
"Swarm," Bruce Sterling
"Fire Watch," Connie Willis

SHORT STORIES

"Petra," Greg Bear
"High Steel," Joe Haldeman & Jack Dann
"Corridors," Barry Malzberg
"Pope of the Chimps," Robert Silverberg
"A Letter from the Clearys," Connie Willis
"God's Hooks," Howard Waldrop

TEXZINE NOTES

The Texas Chainzine, created and coordinated by **Kim Ball**, is a great way to catch the news and views of Texas. The zine is a compilation of other fan and club zines that grows through an infinite loop of contributions. It is printed by individual copying of the previous material, thus costing you only the stamps to mail it on. For details contact Kim Ball, Odd Infinitum Times, 2702 Lebanon, Wichita Falls, TX 76302.

Susan M. Garrett offers two zines: *Wynter Times* (general SF, fantasy, media) and *Time Winds* (Dr. Who oriented). Issues 1 & 2 are available for both, at only \$2 per issue. For more information contact Susan M. Garrett, 2925-A Soledad, Irving, TX 75062.

Also out of Irving (Home Stadium of the Dallas Cowboys) comes *Miscellaneous Unlimited*, an illustrated general SF/fantasy zine offered by **Edd Vick**. Issues 1-3 are out for \$2 each. Write Edd Vick, 1601 Darr No. 106, Irving, TX 77062.

EXPEDITIONS TO THE NORTH

Texas fans **Robert Taylor** and **Willie Siros** have crossed the Red River twice this winter to promote the Austin in '85 NASFiC bid. In late January they attended **ConFusion** in Detroit, one of the cities competing for the bid. Dressed in cowboy outfits, they served chili and jalapenos at their party, along with Shiner beer. "Of course, we passed out lots of flyers and buttons, along with hundreds of cookies in the shape of Texas," said Siros.

"The chili and peppers really wowed them," added Taylor. "Mike Glicksohn, a big name Canadian fan, had a real tough

fight with one of the little green monsters. The pepper had him on the ropes a few times, but Glicksohn finally won, with the help of a couple of beers."

The traveling Texans left their mark at the ConFusion banquet, too. Each table sported its own Texas flag! "It was a low-key prank," said Siros, "but it let them know we had been there."

"The flags took them by surprise," amplified Taylor. "It was a tactful sort of joke — after all, we *could* have stampeded a herd of longhorns through the banquet hall. But they took us more seriously after that."

"Right," added Siros. "We were just a couple of nice, friendly fellows when we got there — no real challenge to Detroit — but after the bit with the flags they realized that Texans know how the bidding game is played."

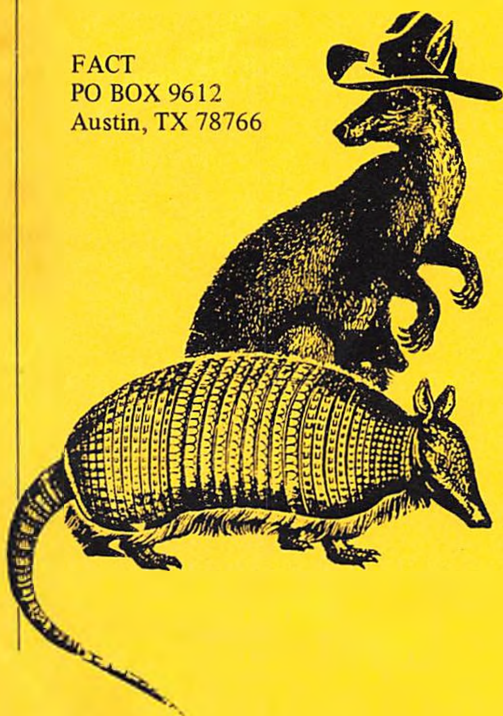
Both fans said that ConFusion was a lot of fun, very fannish; and that win, lose, or draw, they wanted to go back there next year.

Next issue: Boston's **Boskone**.

The Texas SF Inquirer is published monthly or oftener, as the case may be, by the Fandom Association of Central Texas (FACT). Subscriptions are available for \$2, which is, not coincidentally, the price of a pre-supporting membership for the Austin in '85 NASFiC bid. If you want to pay more, join FACT for \$12 per year; that gets you a subscription too. Either way, send your check to Austin in '85, P.O. Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766.

Editor Pat Mueller
Assistant Editor Carolyn Cooper
Typesetting Steve Jackson
Roving Reporter Robert Taylor

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