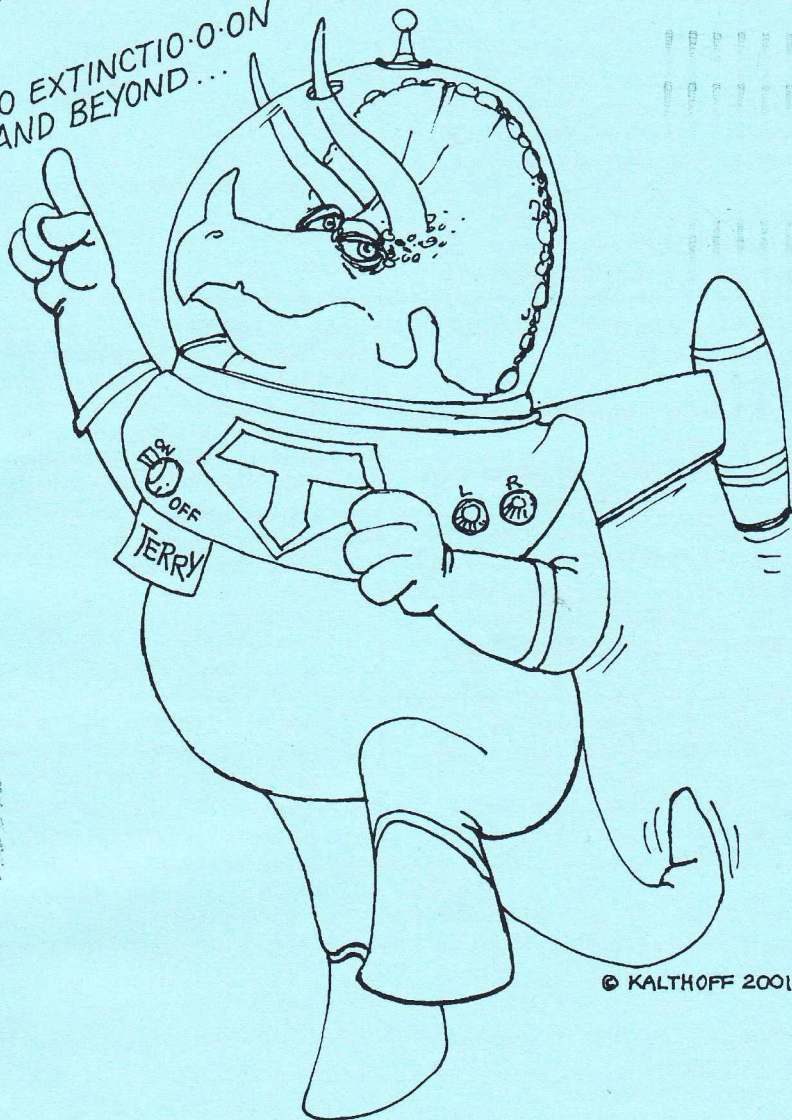


# TIME DOWN

TO EXTINCTION  
AND BEYOND...



© KALTHOFF 2001

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society  
February 2001 — Vol XXV, #1

**Timebound**, the monthly newsletter/clubzine of the Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society, a not-for-profit corporation. All material, save where otherwise noted, is ©2001 for the contributors, and all rights are hereby reassigned to them.

<p><b>EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS</b></p> <p>Director: Ken Keller 816/483-0477 solarwind1@aol.com</p> <p>Secretary: Cheryl Peugh 816/445-7465 gcpeugh@swbell.net</p> <p>Treasurer: Darice Schirber-Poovey 816/331-5369 darded@planetkc.com</p> <p>Editor: David Sooby 913/721-2106 lensman@planetkc.com</p> <p>Registered Agent: John Vaughan 816/767-8041 mdell326@aol.com</p>	<p><b>Contributions and address changes</b> for <i>Timebound</i> should be sent to:</p> <p>Editor David Sooby 12325 Pinehurst Dr. Kansas City, KS 66109 e-mail: lensman@planetkc.com</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> Fourth Saturday of the month.</p>																				
<p><b>AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBERS</b></p> <p>ConQuest 32 Con Chairs: Tim Keltner 913/385-8699 darkstr@mindspring.com Mike Smalley 913/788-8824 ironrip@sprintmail.com</p> <p>Webmaster: Keith Stokes 913/768-0779 sfreader@unicom.net</p> <p>Merchandise Director: William McCullough 816/483-1545 jbgovthug@planetkc.com</p> <p>Archivist: Harold McEldery 816/966-0984 harold@kcinter.net</p>	<p><b>Dues</b> of KaCSFFS, Inc. for General Members are \$15 per year for the first member of a given household, and \$12 for any additional adult member; payable at the Fiscal meeting in June. One newsletter is mailed to each household; additional members of that household can pick up copies at that month's meeting. Non-members paying on a monthly basis are charged \$2.00 per meeting. Send payments to: <b>KaCSFFS</b> PO Box 36212 K.C., MO 64171-6212</p>																				
<p><b>ADVERTISING RATES</b></p> <table><tr><td></td><td>per issue</td><td>3 mos</td><td>6 mos</td><td>1 year</td></tr><tr><td>full page</td><td>\$20</td><td>\$50</td><td>\$80</td><td>\$120</td></tr><tr><td>1/2 page</td><td>\$10</td><td>\$25</td><td>\$40</td><td>\$60</td></tr><tr><td>1/4 page</td><td>\$5</td><td>\$13</td><td>\$20</td><td>\$30</td></tr></table>		per issue	3 mos	6 mos	1 year	full page	\$20	\$50	\$80	\$120	1/2 page	\$10	\$25	\$40	\$60	1/4 page	\$5	\$13	\$20	\$30	<p><b>THE ELECTRONIC KaCSFFS</b></p> <p><i>Info Line &amp; Voice Mail:</i> 816/545-GROK (4765)</p> <p><i>Web Domain:</i> www.kcsciencefiction.org</p>
	per issue	3 mos	6 mos	1 year																	
full page	\$20	\$50	\$80	\$120																	
1/2 page	\$10	\$25	\$40	\$60																	
1/4 page	\$5	\$13	\$20	\$30																	

**February, 2001, Vol. XXV #1.** Contributors this issue include: John Taylor, Mike Williams, Robin Bailey, Keith Stokes, Paul Burns, Nancy "Cleopatra" Hathaway, and Ken Keller.

Cover: Robert Kalthoff depicts Terry Triceratops in an heroic pose.

Interior art: Carl Sherrell, page 2; Brad Foster, page 8; Grant Canfield, page 17; Bill Rotsler, page 21.

Photos: John Taylor

Interior clip art from CorelDraw 4, Key ClipMaster Pro, Corel WordPerfect Suite 7, and Masterclips Premium Art Collection.



## DEPARTMENTS

Meeting Info	3
Messages through Time	4
Letters & LoCs	4
KaCSFFS Meeting Minutes	5
News & Announcements	7
Calendars	11
Neo's Corner	16
Conventions	17
Borders Book Talks	18
Laser Rangers	20
KaCSFFS Birthdays	21
Solar Wind & Other Pretentions	21
Peering into the Future	22

## FEATURES

Czarkon Con Reports	9
Gordon R. Dickson — Obituary	14
with contributions from Robin Bailey and Keith Stokes	

---

*The Gulf and More in Zero Four!*

---

## NOTICE OF CHANGES

**Meeting Place:** Please note our new (and better!) meeting location at "The Writer's Place". This is a large converted house, with comfortable seating, a fully equipped kitchen, handicapped access, and conversation areas away from the main meeting place. Although smoking is not allowed inside, liquor is — so BYOB! We believe that this location (like the Fox Ridge Club-

house where we met some time ago) will be more pleasing for all club members, whether they want to participate in the business meeting or not. Please come and check out our new, improved meeting place!

**Executive Officers:** As most of you know, the officer elections in January resulted in Ken Keller becoming Director, and Cheryl Peugh becoming Secretary. The other officers are continuing.







## KaCSFFS (see map below)

The February KaCSFFS meeting is on the 17th at 7 PM. The meeting place is "The Writer's Place", 3607 Pennsylvania, K.C. MO 64111. This is in the Westport area, six blocks east of 36th & Main. (For more on The Writer's Place, see "Changes" on the previous page.)

**Agenda:** Director Ken Keller has asked that all members make an effort to attend this month's meeting, even if you usually do not. We'd like you to see our new meeting place, and also there are a number of important items on the meeting agenda, such as approval of this year's budget, and

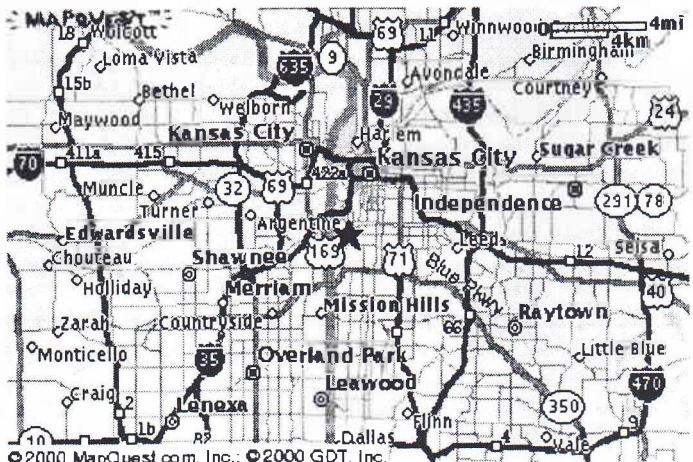
and plans for our Anniversary/Honors Banquet (see below).

**Parking:** We have been assured there is ample parking on the street. Robin Bailey reports "Parking is also allowed on the North side of Valentine, which is the street on the North side of The Writers' Place. And lots of people also use the parking lot at the Valentine Shopping Center."

## ConQuest

The Feb Meeting will be on the 17th, at 4:30 pm, at The Writer's Place (same location as the KaCSFFS meeting; see above.)

**The KaCSFFS 30th Anniversary Celebration** will be held on March 24 at Bishop Miege High School, 5041 Reinhardt Drive in Roeland Park, near Mission Road & Johnson Drive. The start time and Banquet ticket prices have not yet been set. There was talk of ordering Black Satin Propellor Beanies for this special occasion, but ye editor doesn't know if that plan has been finalized.



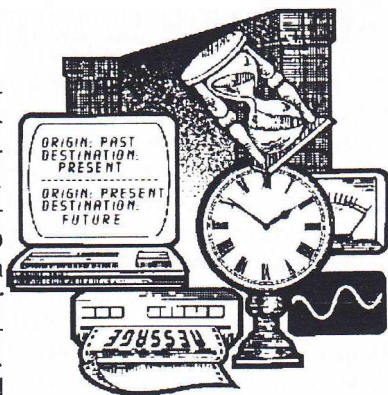
# MESSAGES THROUGH TIME

## Editor's Remarks

### Welcome to KaCSFFS!

We were quite gratified to see that a number of Kaxfen gathered around Debora Demeter, a visitor (thru Communiversity) to our meeting last month, and made her feel welcome. This is in marked contrast to a number of visitors we've had over the past 2-3 years who have been virtually ignored. If anything, Debora seemed to be a bit overwhelmed by all our attention. She says she is coming to our February meeting, and we hope she will join the club.

A Kaxfan has volunteered to be our official greeter, so hopefully our club will have a fully developed "welcome wagon" soon.



**Thish** — A nasty sinus infection left us without the time and energy to do that "special" issue we promised last time. Hopefully next month...

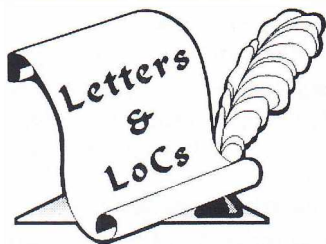
At Czarkon, Nancy "Cleo" Hathaway requested that we drop the cardstock covers in favor of more pages. For our one-ounce issues, at least, we are happy to oblige, as we really felt straight-jacketed last ish.

Paul Burns provides another satisfyingly lengthy con report on Czarkon, and we mercilessly badgered Nancy "Cleopatra" Hathaway into giving us a short "official" Czarkon report, too. See page 9.

---

*Be formally fashionable, and fannish too, with a black satin propellor beanie!*

---



**From: Michelle Zellich** <mzellich@csc.com>  
David —

Another great issue. I got to steal all kinds of information out of your 'zine this time. I only have one question — how do you get people to write LOCs? I know we have a lot of opinionated members, but no one ever bitches or comments on anything I put in the *Insider* (except for the time I ran the Jar-Jargonizer on parts of it). Are KC fans just more vocal (as such)? If you have any suggestions, I'd be happy to hear them.

And by the way — Congratulations to KaCSFFS for winning the 2002 Nebulas.

—Michelle

*Thank you for your words of praise, Michelle! Egoboo from a fellow fan editor is the highest honor a faned can receive... short of a silver rocketship trophy, anyway. KaCSFFS has over a hundred members, Michelle, so we have a much larger base of members to work with. And yes, Kaxfans are often a contentious bunch. Are you SURE you want to stir up controversy?? We don't think Sunny Day wants to get people ticked off at her!*

# JANUARY KaCSFFS MEETING MINUTES

The following are the minutes of the January 2001, KaCSFFS meeting, taken by Secretary John Taylor.

Director Ted Poovey called the meeting to order at 7:25 on January 20th, in a substitute room of the Communiversity. The first item on the agenda was a showing of "toys" by some of the members. John Taylor displayed a huge (4' long, 2' high) castle made of plastic canvas and yarn constructed by his mother. It was populated by some of the famous villains of the media, including an action figure from "V - the Visitors" with a protruding forked tongue. Then Ken Keller demonstrated some swords from his collection of edged weapons, including three "Galaxy Starfighter" daggers from Pakistan, and replicas of swords used in "The Mask of Zorro" and "Conan", and a Japanese katana from "Highlander — the Series".

The next order of business was selection of officers for 2001. The following people ran unopposed, and so became the 2001 Board:

Director: Ken Keller

Treasurer: Darice Schirber-Poovey

Secretary: Cheryl Peugh

Editor: David Sooby

After the "election", outgoing director Ted Poovey presented Ken with an envelope of uncounted chads. Kyrie eleison.

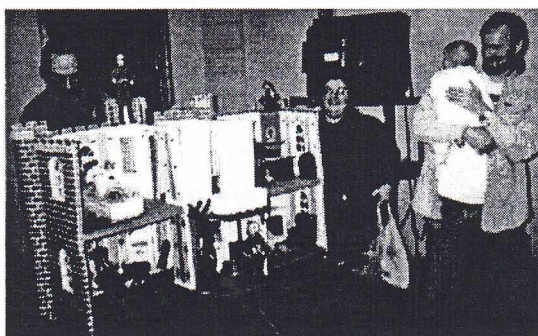
Ted then described the new KaCSFFS e-groups list, KaCSFFS- Official. It is moderated by the Board, and is intended for official club business such as minutes, official announcements, meeting information, etc. It is not for announcements of movie groups, book discussions, Fanivores, etc. The question of whether non-members could subscribe was left for the new board to decide.

Next Ted announced on behalf of Carol Doms that the Borders Book Discussion group would meet on January 22 to discuss *Centurion's Empire* by Sean McMullen. The February 26th discussion would be of *Inherit the Earth* by Brian Stableford.

David Williams announced that he was selling Girl Scout Cookies for \$3.50.

Jason Gasper once again asked for donations to the Hall of Fame auction, and said that he now has storage space available if anyone wants to bring things to the meeting. He also asks that, if you plan to donate something, you please let him know (by e-mail, preferably) [at <unicorn98@home.com>; this has changed since the club directory was printed, and yes that's a double "n"—ed] so that he can have bidding slips, etc., ready in advance, and not have to take valuable time during the convention to register it.

Inger Myers described this month's "birthday cake." Since personal business will make it unfeasible for her to continue supplying cakes, this one was labeled "Happy 2001", and is intended to cover the year.



*John Taylor's castle was  
the hit of the meeting*





*Director-elect Ken Keller demands members swear loyalty (just joking, Ken. KEN! Aieeee!!)*

Dee Willis announced that the 30th Anniversary banquet will be on March 24th, the Saturday after Saint Patrick's Day, at Bishop Meige High School, where the 25th Anniversary celebration was held. She called for volunteers to join the committee and work on decorations, the program book, etc.

Ted then told us that the club is in receipt of a \$33+ check from Amazon.Com for books purchased through our website. This money is designated for the Super-Fund.

Ted sought out visitors to the meeting, and identified a young woman whose name I did not get recorded [*Debora Demeter —ed*].

Lyn Halama announced that she is looking for puppies.

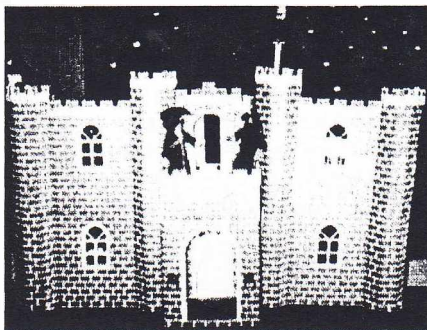
David Sooby apologized for a Post Office problem resulting in the arrival of this month's *Timebound* being delayed to many members, and apparently lost to a few.

Barbara Walley suggested that a "thank you" to outgoing board members Ted Poovey and John Taylor was appropriate, and a round of applause followed.

Dee Willis asked about the status of the club's copier, and David stated that it was not designed for the volume of the newsletter, and that he wants to return it.

Tim Keltner gave a ConQuest report, saying that they had a good meeting. The committee will be meeting at 4:30 on the day before each KaCSFFS meeting

from now until the convention. Progress Reports are finished. He asked that people doing articles for the program book get them in now; the deadline is May 1st. There will be a "teen programming" segment, with Barbara Walley serving as liaison. The teen-agers will be doing an instant masquerade. Volunteers for the situation room are requested to see Jeff Orth. Also, if you have interest in becoming a department head, you should see the current department head now for on-the-job training. Laura Barnes will be handling the Art Show. There are four dealers' tables left, and five inquiries. Ken Keller announced that there were 15 free screenings for the Film Cadets in 2000, and would have been 16 if not for the snowed-out one. He also said that the Nichols Lunch run after the meeting was 'on'.



David asked about business cards, and Ted handed out book marks. It was recommended that bookstores identified on the website would be good candidates.

Margene Bahm announced that the post office box was closed, and is now at the Westport Station [*but the address remains the same —ed*].

William McCullough pointed out the KaCSFFS merchandise was available, and

urged the members to buy stuff.

Marshall Willis moved to adjourn, it was seconded and passed, and the meeting ended at 8:12.

Becky Rickart came in late, and showed a sheaf of thank-you notes from the children at Western Missouri Mental Health, for whom we did a Christmas event.

Respectfully submitted, John Taylor, Secretary.



## News & Announcements

*Mike Williams <mikew@sound.net> made regular reports to KDL on the following story, which is distilled from his posts.*

### **Cancerous Tumor Removed from Rick Urdiales**

Rick was admitted to Truman Medical Center Monday, January 29. Subsequent tests revealed an intestinal mass which doctors did not biopsy because of Rick's severe anemia. Rick had surgery Thursday, Feb 1, which went as expected. They removed the tumor and about 30% of his large intestine — no colostomy. They discovered that the tumor had abscessed and that the abscess had ruptured prior to surgery. They also removed some lymph nodes and reported that the nodes were swollen.

Fortunately the tests on his lymph nodes have proved negative so far. However, doctors are recommending a six-month chemotherapy regimen (starting probably in April) as the cancer had penetrated the intestinal wall. Rick was released from the hospital on Tuesday, Feb 6, and returned home with the help of Jim Satterfield and Russ Kleinowski. He said that Mister (their dog) was very happy to see him. Rick remains in good spirits.

Mike and Julie Williams have been staying in close touch with both Rick and Terry. Mike reports "Rick and Terry appreciate the interest and concern of all the club members, and they continue to need everyone's good thoughts and best wishes during Rick's recovery and subsequent treatment."

### **Sharp Increase in KaAML Subscriptions**

Thanks to quite a bit of hard work by Ken Keller, subscriptions to KaAML, the KaCSFFS Announcement e-Mail List, have increased to include almost everyone in the club with e-mail. Now that *almost* everyone's on the same page regarding the purpose of KaAML (there remain a few die-hards; trying to get fen to agree is "like herding cats", as Barbara Walley says), we'd like to remind you that the purpose of that list is for posting of announcements, and news of interest to the club as a whole. Discussion (including responses to KaAML posts), excerpts copied from websites, jokes and stories should be directed to KDL.

### **Film Cadets at Englewood**

Film Cadets gatherings have been called for Tuesday, Feb 13, at 7:15 for "Things to Come", and Tuesday, March 6, at 7:15 for "King Kong" (1933) at the Englewood Theatre in Independence. Admission is \$2. Bring your beanies!

For "King Kong", Ruth Lichtwardt writes "Bill and I will also try to make it in time for dinner at the Englewood Cafe across the street before the movie, if anyone would like to join us."



## Czarkon 12 & 13

From: Keith Stokes <sfreader@unicom.net>

They aren't all labeled, but there are now 7 pages of photo from Czarcon 12 available at <<http://www.kcsciencefiction.org/01czar01.htm>>.

Mark your calendars for next year's Czarkon, renamed Con Patrol 13, at the Comfort Inn on February 23-25, 2002.

Keith

## Astronaut Alan Bean to Appear at Planet ComiCon IV ?

Bill Tienken reports that Alan Bean is tentatively scheduled to appear Saturday, March 24 only, at Planet Comicon IV. See convention listing, page 17.

*The following submission was inadvertently left out of last month's issue. —ed*

## The KaCSFFS Film Cadets at the Top of the World!

From: Ken Keller <solarwind1@aol.com>

Although 30 originally signed up for the free "Vertical Limit" screening, only 22 actually showed up at the AMC Ward Parkway 22 on Monday, December 11. Three elected to leave before the film started, no doubt because of the large mob that turned out to see it. As a result, only 19 of our group actually wound up inside the theater. By my count, there were 9 KaCSFFS no-shows, the largest number ever to blow off one of these free screenings. To be fair, though, others might've arrived late and could've been among the many dozens that were ultimately turned away from this sold-out performance. It was hard to tell it was so crowded.

After the movie, the general consensus was that you need to put your brain in neutral and just go along for the thrill-climb. Despite predictable, two-dimensional characters and the now standard over-the-top Hollywood scripting, everyone agreed that the well-staged action scenes were the real star of this relentless, snowbound epic. Just ignore the plot, which centers on a team's beat-the-clock rescue attempt to save 3 fellow climbers trapped in an avalanche-sealed chasm near the top of K-2, the world's most dangerous mountain. As if this wouldn't be excitement enough, only *the* most dangerous form of highly unstable nitroglycerine is available for the rescuers to haul up K-2 in order to unseal that chasm. (Can you say, "kiss your butt good-bye?" Yes, I knew you could.) It's up to you to decide which of the intrepid spear carriers meet a predictably spectacular end (Ka-Boom!) during that rescue climb.

A big note of thanks, once again, goes to Vince Koehler for securing 20 two-person passes from Columbia Picture's local reps for KaCSFFS. Next time, I hope we'll be able to use them all.



# Czarkon Con Reports

***Note next year this con will be renamed "Con Patrol"***

*The following was solicited from Nancy "Cleopatra" Hathaway:*

I hate writing a review of my own con but here goes...

I had a great time at Czarkon this year. There were a lot of people that I wished could have attended but there were equally good reasons why they were not there. Those that did show up seemed to have a very good time, lots of good conversation and lots of silliness. It is a good con to me if I get to know somebody better. Thanks should go out to Allison, Jim and Chere, Robin and all our guests, and Margene, for saving the day!

My favorite event was the Czarkon version of Whose Line. Performing with Paul, David and Tim was great fun. Looking forward to an expanded event next year.

Our attendance was around 100, way under what we needed. But I think this was better in the long run as the hotel was not ready for a larger group. The hotel staff (Vicki and Diane) understood this and really worked with us on Monday morning, thus we will be back there next year.

For those of you who did not attend Czarkon because of the condition of the hotel in December be assured that the hotel is well on the way to being fixed. The mold is gone, and they plan on keeping it gone. They are replacing carpeting in the atrium and painting everything. So I sure hope you all will be there in February 2002!

**From: Paul Burns** *[edited for length]*

The turnout for Czarkon was a tad light this year, which the consensus of those who attended attribute to several factors: the change of venue to KC from St Louis; the threat of inclement weather; and health concerns about the Atrium of the hotel. (If you'd attended the KaCSFFS Christmas Party, you'll know of what I speak — mold colonies on the walls, contributing spores to the already-high humidity in the chamber; unsanitary leaks causing unsightly green slime to be dripping from the support beams, ad nauseam). The hotel is under new management now, and they have taken heroic measures to correct those problems, so those who stayed away due to anticipated health concerns missed a fine time. It's now a Comfort Inn, and the new management is making capital improvements to the Atrium, including a very cute tropical paint job for those rooms adjoining the pool area. It should be in fine shape by Contraception.

Because the con did not have the numbers to book the entire hotel, we had to share the Atrium with the mundanes — but since most programming was scheduled in the Lewis & Clark room, that should not have been much of an issue. More on that later.

[Arriving late at the con] I encountered Doc Paisley [aka Jim Murray] and Jimmy Hollaman heading in the opposite direction. Apparently Opening Ceremonies were happening on Con Time, and I hadn't missed them after all. I managed to get down to the Lewis & Clark Room, where Pinky, Nancy, Ross and the Guests of Honor were already assembled. The convened fans did not completely fill the room, but

there were many familiar faces and the schmoozing immediately commenced. It was good to see my friend Angst, aka Jon Durrett, whom I had met at ConQuest last year. At last the Opening Ceremonies commenced, complete with introductions, announcements and general mirth-making. The welcoming gifts were bestowed (including the most iridescent pink baseball caps I think I've ever seen). Then it was time for the Ritual Smooth, in honor of He Whose Title Shall Not Be Spoken. Nancy also admonished us to please be nice to the hotel staff, since they were under new management.

After much storytelling, the festivities unfurled with a "Happy Birthday" wish to Jimmy Hollaman. Robin Bailey then proceeded to whip out "the Substance" (aka Silly String) and was promptly joined by all GoHs in inundating the hapless Jimmy under the pink, foamy strands. (That's what you get for sitting in the front row, Jimmy!) Within seconds, he was covered head to foot in Silly String, resembling a very pink Cousin Itt from the Addams Family. Diana Bailey then presented Robin's Longtime Lover, Keith Stokes, with a bottle of mucho-caliente hot sauce from New Orleans, since they ran off and left him alone in the cold, cold midwest in December.

After Opening Ceremonies, I wandered back to Robin's room to peruse some of his dealer's books, which he was unloading cheap (\$3 Hardbacks!). We hung out there for a bit with Ken Keller and (I think) the Doms, and then realized we were sequestering ourselves from the rest of the con — and it was getting rather thirsty out.

So we repaired to the Con Suite, which was quite wonderfully stocked, including some really fine smoked salmon, and the partying and conversing ensued in earnest and didn't stop until the wee hours. Amidst the chips and M&Ms were a number of aviation-themed cakes, and cupcakes with miniature fighter jets adorning them.

It was nice meeting Jack Doremus, whose name I've read frequently in the Chronicles.

After consuming several Budweisers, Doc Paisley showed up with some mercifully-welcome import brew, and shared a round of these with some of us who had wandered to one of the smoking tables. Got to catch up a bit on news and phannish concerns with Angst and Pooch and Star (and their adorable Sheltie, Teddy.) Then I wandered near the hot tub, where several attendees were soaking and cavorting. I regret not getting in the hot tub that night. Had I the clairvoyance to peer into the subsequent 15 hours...

I'm only sorry I didn't make it to any of the programming Saturday afternoon, as I had errands to run. Much of the partying seemed split between the DP suite and the Con Suite, and since the Con Suite was more spacious, I hung out there for awhile. After all, I had to peruse the wonderful Czarkon program book/National Star Enquirer of the Dusk Petrol, lovingly put together by Nancy Hathaway. All sorts of illicit photos from Czarkons and Contraceptions Past filled its pages, and I have never seen a more lurid and entertaining program book.

I got back to the hotel around 3ish Saturday afternoon, and found the Atrium very quiet and sedate. Some DPer's were working puzzles down by the DP Room, and several dealers' booths were operational. I picked up 3 out-of-print hardbacks from Mr. Bailey. Then it was over to hang with Margene Bahm, who was still stalwartly staffing the Registration. Doc Paisley was melting under the skilled ministrations of Rosie the masseuse, who had a sign on her room which read "Will Work for Food." "They get mad at me if I don't bring my table," she explained. Margene gave a ringing endorsement, claiming to be pain-free for the past three hours, "And I'm never pain free." Soon Ted & Darice Poovey and their latest addition to



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>MARCH</b>				1	2	3
4	5	6 Film Cadets: "King Kong"	7	8	9 Name-That- Con	10 NTC Laser Rangers
11 NTC	12 Fantasy Book Talk	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 <b>KaCSFFS</b> <b>30th Anniv.</b> <b>Celebration</b> Planet Comicon
25 Planet Comicon IV	26 SF&F Literati	27	28	29	30	31

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Fantasy Book Talk	13 Film Cadets: "Things to Come"	14	15	16	17 ConQuest Meeting <b>KaCSFFS Meeting</b>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Laser Rangers
25	26 SF&F Literati Book Talk	27	28			

the household arrived. She's quite a gregarious little creature, and was grinning widely at all who paid her attention.

I busied myself with some recreational reading (of which I get to do far too little these days), and visited with several DPer's. Then Robin Bailey handed me a manuscript of a forthcoming story, titled "Doing Time," which was a wonderful twist on time travel. I felt privileged to be allowed a glimpse. Of course, this pre-empted me from joining the Arthur Bryant's posse. So I sent my regrets and kept on greedily reading.

We had been told to expect to share the Atrium with a Mundane birthday party, which was supposed to be done by 8PM. Well, between 7 & 8PM, the Mundanes just started to arrive — the worst kind of Mundanes, too. Soon the tranquility of the Atrium was shattered by pubescent shrieks and excessive splashes.

By the time I finished the story, more revelers were arriving, the Con Suite was bustling, the salmon and cream cheese and Ritz crackers were beckoning, and soon I was munching. Then shot the bull with Pooch, Star and Jimmy, and lo, the hour of the Tucker Awards and Sunny Day show arrived, so we migrated back to the Lewis & Clark Room.

Alas, the commencement of festivities was on Con Time Plus. So Roger drafted Susan Satterfield and Robin Bailey to vamp the crowd. I was ordered to the front row. It felt like being at a Gallagher performance with no protective plastic-wear. Nancy finally arrived, with Sassy in tow (Ross had custody of Murphy at the moment) thus letting Robin and Susan off the hook. And the Tucker Awards commenced. And there was much imbibing (yea...). Of course, the Birthday Boy was the beneficiary of synchronicity, as two Jim Beam bottles came at him from opposite directions on at least two occasions. There was an in-absentia award given to Rick McCallister, who was unable to get to KC, and awards to Barbara Walley, Robin Bailey, Susan Satterfield, (and I know I'm forgetting the other two) and once we were properly lubricated, the Sunny Day Show began. Sunny did a couple of filksongs, then David Means read a Robert Burns poem, "Ode to a Haggis". Jenny Overkamp and her daughter then serenaded us with several ribald filksongs (why couldn't I have had parents that cool?) Then it was time for "Whose Line Is It Anyway? — CzarkonStyle," and the victims — er, panelists, were myself, Tim Frayser, David Means, and Nancy Hathaway. Roger did an admirable job structuring the improv games, so we weren't too at sea. My favorite game was "Unfortunate Things Spoken By Neos in the Con Suite." Then there was a game where two of us were to be Will Smith and Jeff Goldblum from "Independence Day" flying the alien marauder against the mothership, with two backseat drivers. The only stipulation was that each sentence spoken had to begin with the next consecutive letter of the alphabet. But the crowd's favorite game had to be "Theatrical Styles," in which 3 fanboys try to hit on a Con Babe, played by Nancy. One of the styles was "Porno," and when Nancy bent over, well....you had to be there. Then her dog Sassy got up on stage, and she grabbed the dog in a torrid embrace, so I, being no slave to good taste, took up a provocative pose near Sassy's nether regions. The resulting tableau gave a new meaning to the phrase "Stupid Pet Tricks." And these tricks were *not* for kids! I understand Keith Stokes has incriminating photos probably posted on the website by now.... All this would not have been possible without the prior consumption of the Tucker Awards.

Then it was back to the Atrium and to the art auction, which went on for a good couple of hours. I actually had discretionary cash available, which made it possible to successfully bid on a Keith Berdak print, a Robin Bailey manuscript (not "Doing



Time"), and a classic *Trek* fanzine from the 70s, called *Grup*, which is where all that trashy K/S fiction got started. After storing my spoils, I eagerly got into my swimwear for a much-anticipated soak in the jacuzzi — but it was not to be. The little [creeps] had poured shampoo into the jacuzzi, rendering it useless for the evening. (Bloody Mundanes!)

I zoned out about 4AM, but I distinctly heard the sound of splashing and giggling in the hot tub in the Con Suite, so at least two people were having a grand ol' time. I awoke to the Weather Channel giving winter storm advisories, and to see a quarter-inch glaze of ice coating the cars and pavement in the parking lot. And this is where a bizarre phenomenon occurred — no matter which room I ventured to, all TVs were tuned to the Weather Channel. Had breakfast with Diana Bailey, Dennis and Carol Doms, and Paula Helm-Murray, and then gathered my spoils before the obligatory ice-scraping. Roger and Jack headed out early that morning, and many of the revelers were either checked out or sleeping in, so Sunday was a very quiet, informal dissolution to a delightful weekend. I had another commitment, so I missed the first-ever Dead Dog / Superbowl party. Thanx to Nancy & Ross (and pets) for their hospitality, to the Concom and to Roger and the Dawn Patrol. The feeling of *deja vu* was prevalent throughout the weekend, due to the venue and many familiar faces, but this was far less bawdy than Contraception. This is a relaxaçon which should not be missed.

---

*Have a sip of Tullimore Dew to honor a bright star, too soon extinguished*

---

## **Gordon R. Dickson**

### **1923 - 2001**

*Adapted from the obit at the Locus Online website, [www.locusmag.com](http://www.locusmag.com)*

SF writer Gordon R. Dickson died early on the morning of January 31, 2001.

Canadian-born and long-time resident of Minnesota, Dickson published over 100 stories and 55 novels, including several in collaboration. His first story was a collaboration with Poul Anderson, "Trespass!", published in *Fantastic Story Quarterly* in 1950, and his first novel was *Alien from Arcturus* in 1956. His most noted works were a series of novels known as the "Childe Cycle" or "Dorsai" series, describing mankind's expansion into the Galaxy.

These included *The Genetic General* (1960, also titled *Dorsai!*, 1976, and a Hugo nominee in its 1959 magazine form), *Necromancer* (1962), *Soldier, Ask Not* (1967), *The Final Encyclopedia* (1984), and *The Chantry Guild* (1988). The novelette version of "Soldier, Ask Not" (1964) won the Hugo Award; Dickson also won double Hugos in 1981 for novelette "The Cloak and the Staff" and novella "Lost Dorsai". He won the Nebula Award for the 1966 novelette "Call Him Lord". Other notable short works included "Steel Brother" (1952), "Black Charlie" (1954), "Dolphin's Way" (1964), "Computers Don't Argue" (1965), and a series of "Hoka" stories (and novels) written with Poul Anderson from 1951 through 1983. Dickson

won the British Fantasy Award in 1977 for *The Dragon and the George*, the first of a series of "Dragon Knight" novels, including Dickson's last-published book, *The Dragon and the Fair Maid of Kent*, published in December 2000. He also won a Jupiter Award for the novelette version of "Time Storm" (1978). He served as President of the SFWA from 1969 to 1971.

"Gordy" Dickson was Guest of Honor here in Kansas City at the first ConQuest, "ConQuest 1980."

Services were Saturday, February 3, 2001, in Richfield MN. The 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.

#### **From Robin Bailey:**

I used to see Gordy a lot when he was a regular on the midwest convention "circuit." He was a fan, as well as a writer, and loved the sf community. He loved to filk and played guitar enthusiastically, if not too well. He had some trouble with steel strings, so he showed up at a con one weekend with nylon strings on his guitar exclaiming what a wonderful discovery it was. He loved to sing in that fake-Scottish brogue that drives me nuts, but he had a good voice and always told funny stories with his songs.

When his asthma and health problems increased, he cut his traveling back and I only saw him occasionally at Minicon. He'd take a suite at the hotel there and have just a few people up at a time, sort of a series of small parties. He was always gracious and jovial.

He loved good food and good wine. At a Kansas City Conquest some years ago, a "big fan" of his arranged to take Gordy to the American Restaurant, one of the most expensive and up-scale places in the city. As fans sometimes do, this had gotten in over his head, because Gordy loved his food and drink. It didn't matter, though, and Gordy picked up the checque and thanked the kid for introducing him to the restaurant.

At some point, Minicon stopped being fun, and I stopped going. I haven't seen Gordy for some years, and I'd basically lost contact with him. He was one of the inductees for the SF Hall of Fame 2000, and I know Keith Stokes spoke with him. His health didn't allow him to travel to KU for the inductions, but he expressed some wish to consider it this year, health allowing. He had, at one time, been a regular at James Gunn's Campbell Conference at KU.

#### **From: Keith Stokes**

It has been reported that Gordy Dickson's funeral was well attended, sixty or seventy people. The Episcopalian minister who presided had an English accent, which Gordy would have appreciated. Several of the Dorsai Irregulars showed up, with a Dorsai flag to put in the coffin, along with a vial of Tullamore Dew.)

I understand that the Dorssai Irregulars went to the MNSTF\* meeting later that day and Gordie was toasted from the same bottle that the Tully in the vial came from.

*\*The Minneapolis-based Minnesota Science Fiction Society. Unlike most sf/f clubs, they have no standard abbreviation; other abbreviations include Minn-Stf and MN-Stf. —ed.*

# NEO'S CORNER

We've been giving our "Fannish Terms" section short shrift for awhile now, in favor of "Fannish Legends". To redress this imbalance, we're devoting this entire column to Fannish Terms. "Neo's Corner: It's not just for neos anymore!" — Ken Keller asked us what "LNF" means (see below).

**INITIALESE:** Words compounded from the first letter(s) of each word of a phrase. It became popular in fandom from the government of the New Deal period. Initialese expressions may be contractions of names; bynames; simple or complex catchphrases; etc. Fan clubs are commonly referred to by their initialese designations [such as KaCSFFS]. Practically all prozines have initialese designations: AS may mean *Amazing*, *Astounding* or *Astonishing Stories* (wherefore preferred contraction for the former is Amz); ASF is *Astounding Science-Fiction* (and it's sometimes aSF, after 1948 when JWC began to de-emphasize the first word); AmQ, *Amazing Quarterly*; FA, *Fantastic Adventures*; FFM, *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*; FN, *Fantastic Novels*; F&SF (or MoF&SF) *Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*; GSF(N) are *Galaxy Science Fiction (Novels)* tho use of initials for Gold's stuff isn't frequent for some reason. OOTWA was *Out Of This World Adventures* (with color fantasy section) (Two issues this abomination lasted, proving that it is too possible to lose money underestimating public taste); OW, *Other Worlds*; PS, *Planet Stories*; SF+, *Science Fiction Plus*; SS, *Startling Stories*, sister to TWS *Thrilling Wonder Stories*; ToW *Tales of Wonder*; WT *Weird Tales*. The old Gernsback WS (*Wonder Stories*) had a lot of relatives; WSA, *Wonder Stories Annual*; AWS *Air Wonder Stories*; SWS *Science Wonder Stories*; SWQ ditto *Quarterly*. Besides ekenames of other sorts, some fans and pros have initialese monikers properly so called: EKB Earle K Bergey; de Dave English; V2 AE vanVogt; 3E, E Everett Evans; RAP Raymond A Palmer; FTL Francis Towner Laney; and two that you find almost everywhere in fandom, WR William Rotsler and DAG Dean A Grennell. Some Initialese contractions or catchphrases, like Gafia and Mafia, are words in their own right, now; some that haven't yet made the grade include KYHOOYA Keep Your Head Out Of Your Ampit; FLEAC Fandom's Leading Expert And Critic (Walt Willis); LNF Little Name Fan; LMJ Loudmouthed Jackass; SCF Serious Constructive Fan; XOE Ex-Official Editor; GH&CBNF Good Humored and Condescending BNF (Lee Hoffman); FB Fine Business (from radio ham slang); FIJAGH Fandom is Just a [Goshdarn] Hobby; TA Thanks Awf'ly and QBA Quite Bloody Awful (both of these from Anglofandom); w/dj of a book with dustjacket and better yet JAM (with dust-) jacket and (in) mint (condition); not to mention FPWESFC [First PostWar Eastern SF Conference]. As suggested above, organizations and institutions were the original victims of this sort of thing, almost universal in fandom. Some fan groups are NFFF or N3F; PSFS Portland SF Society; ORT *Official Round Table* (a chain-letter thru which the N3F directorate conducts business); Z-D, Ziff-Davis Publishing Company. A sort of initialese are things like QX, "All right", from EE Smith's use of these letters to mean that in the futuristic slang of the *Lensman* series; and Øred, Fred Pohl from his use of Greek alphabets on the covers of *Mind of Man*.

—edited from the entry in *Fancylopedia II*





# CONVENTIONS

*We try to cover all general SF and literary SF cons in the four-state region, as well as cons outside this region in which club members have expressed an interest. If you are interested in a con not on this list, or think one doesn't belong here, please notify the editor. Sources for this info: Roger Tener's Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol newsletter; SF Lovers Convention List <[sfrovers.rutgers.edu](mailto:sfrovers.rutgers.edu)> and conventions listings by Jenga <[www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/4677/mainpage.html](http://www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/4677/mainpage.html)>.*

**Name-That-Con 14** (Mar 9-11 '01) General SF con. Ramada Inn at Six Flags, I-44 & Allentown Rd, Eureka, MO (St. Louis area), 636/938-6661. Theme: Formaldicon—The Preservation of Fandom! Guests: **Note new GoH** James P. Hogan, AGoH Kelly & Laura Freas, TM Mickey Zuckert Reichert, FGoH Paula Helm-Murray, Jim Murray, Margene Bahm, UFO Guest Kevin Randle. Memb \$20 til 11/30, \$25 12/1 to 2/1, \$30 thereafter & at the door. Info: NTC 14, PO Box 575, St Charles, MO 63302; e-mail [ntc@stlf.org](mailto:ntc@stlf.org); website [www.scsffs.org/ntc](http://www.scsffs.org/ntc)

**ConCoction: 01** (Apr 20-22 '01) General SF con. Moberly Area Community College, Moberly, MO. GoH: Jack Chalker; AGoH: David Deen; FGoH: Louise Watson-Carver. Memb: \$9 pre-reg, \$10 at the door; student discount. Info: ConConction 2001, MACC Activity Center, 101 College Ave, Moberly, MO 65270-1304; 660/263-1045; website: [concoction.freeyellow.com](http://concoction.freeyellow.com)

**ConQuest 32** (May 25-27 '01) General SF con with emphasis on literature. Park Place Hotel, Kansas City, MO; (800) 821-8532. GoH: James Morrow; AGoH: Bill Hodgson; TM: Stephen Pagel; FGoH: Roger Tener. Many authors, artists and editors. Auction to benefit the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame. Memb: \$20 til 2/1/01, \$25 til 4/30/01, \$30 thereafter; ages 6-12 1/2 of adult rate. Info: ConQuest, PO Box 36212, Kansas City, MO 64171; e-mail: [SFreader@unicom.net](mailto:SFreader@unicom.net); website: [www.kcsiencefiction.org/conquest.htm](http://www.kcsiencefiction.org/conquest.htm)

**WisCon 25** (May 25-28 '01) Lit SF con. Concourse Hotel, 1 W Dayton St, Madison, WI 53703, 800/356-8293. GoH: Nancy Kress, Elisabeth Vonarburg. Memb \$30 til 3/14/01, \$40 3/15/01 til 4/30/01, \$50 at the door. Info: WisCon, SF<sup>3</sup>, Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701; e-mail: [wiscon\\_concom@egroups.com](mailto:wiscon_concom@egroups.com); website: [www.sf3.org/wiscon](http://www.sf3.org/wiscon)

**Conjuration 2001** (Jun 15-17 '01) Theme: F&SF. Columbia Inn Best Western, Columbia, MO. GoH: Jody Lynn Nye; AGoH: TBA; FGoHs: Chris & Laurie Felknor; MC: Keith Berdak. Memb: \$15 until 01/01/01; \$20 until 4/01/01; \$25 at the door. Info: Conjuration, PO Box 874, Columbia, MO 65205; 573-875-0401; e-mail: [conjure@gte.net](mailto:conjure@gte.net); website: [home1.gte.net/conjure](http://home1.gte.net/conjure)

**Gateway 3** (Jul 6-8 '01). Theme: SF&F literary, media, gaming. Airport Hilton, 10330 Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO; 314-426-5500; rms: \$85 sngl-quad. Guests: Timothy Zahn, Bruce Campbell, Ted Raimi, Jack Stauffer, Marjorie Monaghan, J.R. Daniels, Brett Bass, Jon Stadter. Memb: \$45 until 2/2/01; \$60 at the door. Info: Gateway, PO Box 3064, Florissant, MO 63032; 314-524-3014; e-mail: [mstadter@stlf.org](mailto:mstadter@stlf.org); website: [stlf.org/gateway](http://stlf.org/gateway)

**Conestoga 2001** (Jul 27-29 '01). Theme: SF&F. Sheraton Tulsa, Hwy 169 at E. 41st St., Tulsa, OK 74146; 918-627-5000. GoH: Joe Haldeman; AGoH: TBA; TM: Tim Powers; FGoH: Mike & Karla Weaver. Memb: \$20 until 6/1/01; \$30 at the door. Info: Conestoga 2001, PO Box 54037, Tulsa, OK 74155-4037; 918-836-5463; e-mail [wentworth@sff.net](mailto:wentworth@sff.net); website: [sff.net/people/sfreader/conestoga.htm](http://sff.net/people/sfreader/conestoga.htm)

**Archon 25** (Oct 5-7 '01). Theme: SF&F, media, gaming. Holiday Inn and Gateway Center, 1000 Eastport Plaza Dr., Collinsville, IL 62234-6103 (St. Louis, MO area); 800-

551-5133. GoH: TBA; Artist GoH: David Cherry; Masquerade GoH: Katherine Adaire; Gaming GoH: Steve Jackson; Media Guest: Jack "BoJay" Stauffer; FGoHs: Genie Yaffe, Amy & David Verseman; TM: George R.R. Martin; Masquerade MC: Vic Milán. Info: Archon 25, PO Box 8387, St. Louis, MO 63132-8387; 314-326-3026; e-mail: zellich@i1.net. website: [www.stlf.org/archon](http://www.stlf.org/archon)

**DittoCon 14 & FanHistoriCon 11** (Oct 12-14 '01). Theme: fanzines and fanhistory. Jumer's Chateau, 1601 Jumer Drive, Bloomington, IL 61702-0902; 309/662-2020; rms \$79 to 9/20/01. Hosts: Dick Smith, Leah Zeldes Smith, Wilson "Bob" Tucker, Fern Tucker, Henry Welch, Letha Welch. Memb: \$40 to 5/31/01. Info: ditto 14, c/o Richard Smith, PO Box 266, Prospect Heights, IL 60070-0266; 847/394-1950; e-mail: rhes@enteract.com; website: [www.enteract.com/~rhes/ditto14.html](http://www.enteract.com/~rhes/ditto14.html)

## LOCAL MEDIA CONS & OTHER EVENTS

*A primary source for this information is one of the web pages associated with the KaCSFFS website: <[home.unicom.net/~sfreader/sflinks.htm](http://home.unicom.net/~sfreader/sflinks.htm)>. Thanks again to our Webmaster, Keith Stokes.*

**Call to Arms 2000** (May 5-7 '01) A weekend of war games by Heart Of America Historical Miniature Gaming Society. 13030 Shawnee Mission Parkway Shawnee, KS.

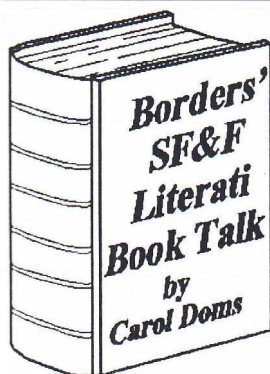
**Planet Comicon IV** (Mar 24-25 '01) Theme: Comics & media. Overland Park Internat'l Trade Center, 115th & Metcalf, Overland Park, KS. Guests: Lou Ferrigno, Julie Newmar, Corrina Harney, many others. Memb: \$10 until 3/20, at the door \$12; \$10/day; \$5 age 6-14. Info: Atlas Comics & Collectibles, P.O. Box 25095, Overland Park, KS 66225; 913/345-1069; e-mail: [chris@atlascomics.com](mailto:chris@atlascomics.com); website: [www.planetcomicon.com](http://www.planetcomicon.com)

**ThunderCon** (Jun 4-7 '01) Theme: Gaming. E-mail: [rpgkc@aol.com](mailto:rpgkc@aol.com) Website not yet updated, but some info available at: [www.mackom.com/rpgkc/who.html](http://www.mackom.com/rpgkc/who.html)

---

*Tim Keltner claims to be an LNF*

---



Borders Books, 119th & Metcalf  
January 22, 2001, 7 PM

### **Centurian's Empire by Sean McCullen**

Attendance: 11

#### **How many...**

started the book: 10  
finished it: 8  
will finish it: 2

liked the book: 6  
disliked it: ?  
liked it with reservations: 3

#### **Comments: (Spoilers below)**

I found it difficult to accept Vitellan's (the main character) adaption from the middle ages (1500s) to the 21st century. Where as the first couple of times Vitellan was thawed out, he has people on the outside to feed information to him to help him adapt... What did you think of the his (author's) concept of the future?... I found his concept of the future very vague... A lot of things seem to be thrown in there, but not explained very well... For example he (the author) throws away the government for

more or less a corporate feudal system... there were lapses in logic in this world... Yes, but I don't think 21st century was anything more than a backdrop for the long chase scene with Vitellan and Lucel... From the moment he woke up in the 21st century he was on the run...

I also had difficulties that an immortal, Vitellan keep telling everyone about himself as a time traveler... He didn't tell everyone, but when asked he did not lie about his unique existence... Yes, but shouldn't people in the middle ages have burn him as a witch?... Well he was saving folks, kind of hard to burn a saviour... Alfred the Great an ancestor of Vitellan, I thought that was neat piece of writing... I'd like to know why Jacques Bonhomme killed himself?... I think Jacques started believing in his own press, that he like God can rise again in three days... I did like the ice keeper(s), all of them trying to keep the Centurion in the ice and when he was unfrozen to get him back in as quickly as possible...

This is a first novel for the author and it feels like a first novel... some of the transitions are not smooth... the rhythm is not there... This is really a romance story... It is a time travel story, just one way — forward in time... There was a bit of problem with the dates in this book... A really good editor could have cleared this up... I kept thinking that parts of the story here and there where the 'gaps' were intentional... This book seems like it was suppose to be a trilogy, but end up being thrown into one novel...

What motivated Vitellian to keep going to the future?...I thought it was interesting that his first thawing was for less than noble purposes... to get revenge on the woman who married someone else while he was in military service... But afterwards, his goal was to seek a civilization that was equivalent to his own (most of the time he woke up in what was known as the dark ages)... that and waking up to see what he can find on what would technically be his 1000 year...

I did like the concept of the Temporians... the originators of the cryogenic concept that created a society that pulled the strings of power behind the thrones during the Roman empire... Their concept that brilliant minds should not be lost to the ages were interesting... Also, not everyone could be frozen, there were certain attributes needed for potential candidates. I also enjoyed finding out that the Temporians left at the fall of the Roman empire to seek out Antarctica and to freeze themselves again... Their journals were interesting...

#### **Future book talks:**

Feb 26th, *Inherit the Earth* by Brian Stableford

Mar 26, *Practical Demonkeeping* by Christopher Moore

Apr 23, *Waiting* by Frank N. Robinson

May 28, *City of Truth* by James Morrow (ConQuest's GoH)

---

## **Borders Fantasy Book Group**

**Time: 2nd Monday of the month, 7 PM. Place: Borders Books, 119th & Metcalf**

**Feb 12 books:** *Manifold Time* by Stephen Baxter, and *Teek* by Steven Krane.

**Mar 12 books:** *Murphy's Gambit* by Syne Mitchell, and *On Basilisk Station* (Honor Harrington #1) by David Weber.





## December Report

The first LR session at a location other than David Sooby's home had a surprisingly good turnout for December; 6 as I recall. Tracy's apartment comfortably held us all for our "Power Armor" Anime theme. A time squeeze resulting from a 7PM start time resulted in aborting the planned 3 episodes of "Bubblegum Crisis" about halfway thru, and after wasting a few minutes on a so-called "comedy" short on the "Mission

Impossible: 2" DVD, we jumped into our feature "Patlabor 1: The Movie", which none of us had seen. This held up quite well *almost* to the very end. (You see, one of the fighting 'bots was using a giant-sized revolver as its weapon, and when the 'bot's operator had to strain to reload the giant bullets *by hand* they kinda lost me...). After our Lawrence contingent (Adam, Kerri & Crispin) left, we die-hard Rangers stayed and watched another feature Anime that Ty brought whose title was "Blue Angel" or something similar. It started out as an apparent "chick flick", but as it developed became a Hitchcockian psychological suspense thriller which, by the end, I found thoroughly involving and intriguing.

## January Report

Back at David's place, our attendance was an amazing even dozen for "DC Superheroes", which means a couple of Rangers were relegated to sitting or lying on the floor. Cynthia and Katy (spelling?) McCullough attended for the first time, and Katy fought with Capt. Laser Ty Gephardt over possession of the "throne". Ty had a long list, from an online movie chat group, of "errors" in our features "Superman" and "Batman", but many of those so-called errors weren't. The group consensus was that both these films have held up very well despite the intervening years. Tracy was the only Ranger brave enough to come in costume (a generic superhero with red cape and silver trunks), and also won most clever food tie-in with jelly beans sold as "Pac-Man Energy Pellets". Our intermission shorts, Max Fleischer "Superman" cartoons in amazingly well-restored condition on DVD, provided by Bill, and Ken's tape of a "making of" special on "Batman", fueled much discussion on the evolution of both characters over the decades.

**Note:** Our Jan session ran until 1 AM! We Are Taking Steps, including moving our regular Sat start time from 4 PM to 3:30 PM, and limiting Intermission Shorts.

## Future Sessions: (*Note: Titles subject to change*)

Feb 24: Bill Ostrander hosts "Boys and Their Robots", featuring "Tobor the Great" (1954) and "Iron Giant" (1999).

Mar 10: "Aliens from the Deep" — "The Atomic Submarine", "The Abyss"

Apr 14: Ken Keller hosts our very special "2001: A Space Odyssey" session.

May 12: "Time's Up!"; featuring "Time After Time" (1979) and "Timecop" (1994)

June 9: "Love Is Strange, Very Strange!" — "Harold and Maude", "Raising Arizona".

July 14: "Not Your Father's WWII"; — "The Americanization of Emily", "Kelly's Heroes".

Aug 11: "It Came from the Desert"; featuring "Them!", "Tremors" (1990).

Sep 8: "College Daze" — "National Lampoon's Animal House", "Real Genius".

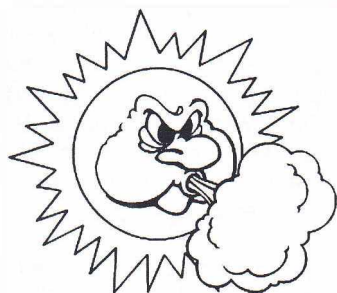
Oct 13: Crispin Burnham hosts "Hammer House of Horror", titles TBA.

Nov 10: "What Were They Thinking???" or, Modern Turkeys — "Cutthroat Island", "Battlefield Earth".



# KaCSFFS Birthdays

Allison Stein	Feb 4	Mike Williams	Feb 27
David Williams	Feb 5	Nick Allen	Mar 2
Dennis Doms	Feb 6	Darice Schirber-Poovey	Mar 15
Robin Bailey	Feb 8	Paula Helm Murray	Mar 16
Margene Bahm	Feb 14	Don Mull	Mar 19
Cynthia McCullough	Feb 15	Adam Reuter	Mar 23
William McCullough	Feb 16	Marcia Dell	Mar 26
Jill Kleinowski	Feb 25	Candi Huff	Mar 31
		Cheryl Peugh	Mar 31



## Solar Wind & Other Pretensions

by Ken Keller

### What Goes Around Comes Around

The winter doldrums often breed introspection. Exactly thirty years ago this month, during one of these periods, I was feeling isolated. I wanted — no I *needed* — to be around my own kind: Fandom. At that point, I'd been involved in fandom since the early 60s, including several newer branches that had sprouted from sf fandom's main trunk. The whole idea of fandom was certainly one that was very comfortable to me. I knew that fen came in all ages and shapes and sizes and dispositions. At least theoretically I did. You see, I hadn't really met too many fans up close at that point, only through the pages of fanzines — many, many fanzines. I'd missed a prime opportunity to meet a whole hoard of fen when I was forced to pass up attending St. Louiscon, the '69 World SF Convention. You see, I'd just moved to the KC area (Independence actually) very early in '69, was just starting

my new life here, and really couldn't afford such an extravagance. To this day, I still regret not making it over to that tantalizingly close Worldcon just on the other side of the state. It would've changed my life in many ways, I'm certain. But the fannish fates, I now realize, had other plans for me.

By this month in 1971, St. Louiscon had become a legendary, almost mythic Worldcon (mostly for the wrong reasons, unfortunately). Regional SF conventions, though long established in fandom, still weren't very numerous, especially in the "great fly over" of mid-America. Neither were SF clubs, and there were none in the Kansas City area. For quite a while, I'd thought a lot about SF clubs: how they should function; what they could provide to the local fans I felt sure were here, somewhere, waiting; how they could be structured along fannish lines, etc. I did research on the great and not so great SF clubs to pick up pointers. Thirty years ago this spring, when I ran across a questionnaire by a Gary Mattingly in Clint's Books — the original one run by Clint Murray himself — about the possibility of a local fan group forming, I knew the time was right. By now, if you've read my "KaCSFFS: Foundation (and Empire!)" fan history article, you know what happened next. (If not, you can still read the article in the club handbook *KaCSFFS For Dummies*.) But what no one knows is that one well known fan, not from KC, was the real reason for their being fandom in KC at all. His impact would prove to be profound and far-reaching. That story has never been told, but I'm now finally writing it. It'll appear next month in the program book for the club's 30th Anniversary/Honors celebration under the title "KaCSFFS: Prelude To Foundation." Then my chronicle on the origins of KaCSFFS will be complete.

So now, thirty years later (in this most science fictional of years, which had so much symbolic import in our early days), here I am the Director of KaCSFFS. I am very thankful for the chance to serve the club once again. Sandwiched between me and now myself again, 11 others have served in this position, faithfully guiding our little starship, carrying the dream forward and finally bringing KaCSFFS to that often written about future time: the shores of the 21st Century. Nor have I forgotten about all the many talented and dedicated fans who've contributed in so many ways over three decades to the building of KaCSFFS. In 30 years, what we've all done is establish more than just a club, we've established a viable, sustainable community. That's the most important thing of all. It's the one thing I knew back in '71 that would be absolutely essential for KaCSFFS to survive and succeed. And survive and succeed we have! For me, to serve once again as Director is also a personal delight during this most important anniversary year. I can't begin to tell you how much pride I feel for all that we've accomplished *together* during this time. I now know the past is but prologue.

---

KYHOOWA!

---

## *Peering Into the Future*



Once again, we will try to get out that "special issue" we talked about last time. And who knows? Maybe sometime this year we'll manage to start that serialization of "The Enchanted Duplicator" we mentioned awhile back.



---

# Timebound

% KaCSFFS

PO Box 36212

Kansas City, MO 64171-6212

---



NICKI & RICHARD LYNCH  
(exchange)  
PO BOX 3120  
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20885-3120

20885-3120

