

# Timebound



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society  
July/August 2000 — Vol XXIV, #6

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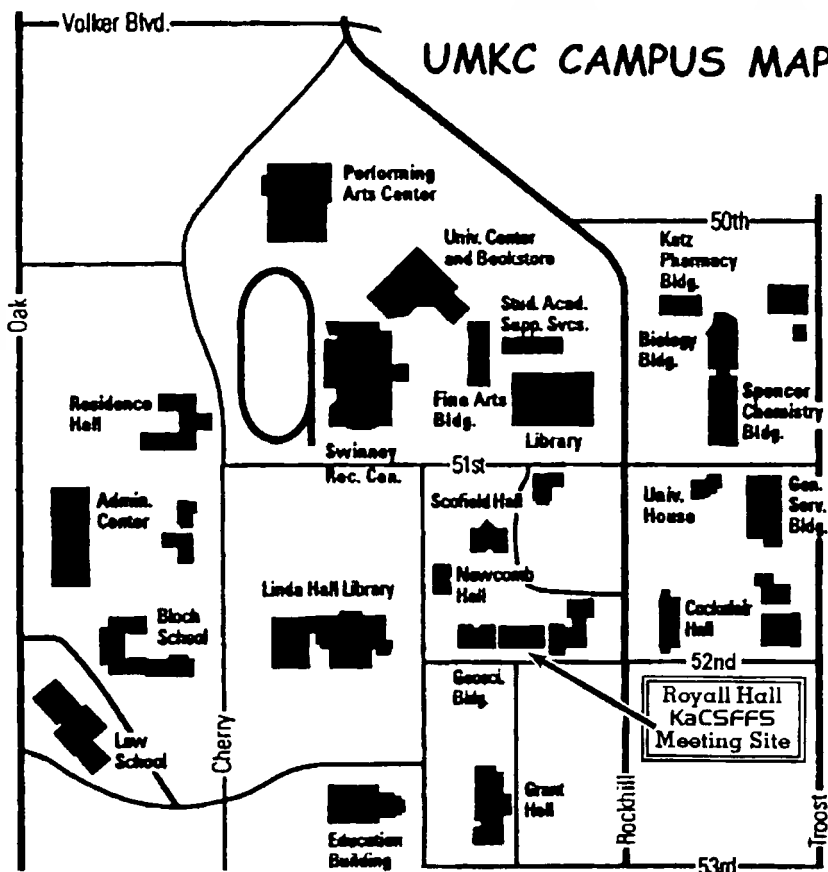
# KaCSFFS (see map below)

For the August KaCSFFS meeting, we return to Royall Hall, the site of the May meeting. This is immediately west of Haag Hall, where it was for a few months early this year. The August meeting is in room 111.

Royall Hall is on the campus of UMKC, west of the corner of 52nd & Rockhill, north side of the street.

**New parking area:** Please note the parking lot where we previously parked has been torn up. Park on the street if you can find a place. According to

Julie Hise, our Communiversity contact, the closest available parking lot is at the School of Education (marked "Education Building" on the map below) at 52nd & Holmes, where the meeting was last month.



# MESSAGES THROUGH TIME

## Editor's Remarks

It's an odd issue this time. Nothing came in we thought fit the "Letters and Locs" section, so that was dropped from this. KDL Klatch, however, runs rather long due to several important issues.

### Hot-Dog!

We have heard some concerns raised over the idea behind the KaCSFFS Raytown Roundup Days Hot Dog Stand. One, that it is a solution in search of a problem. That is, with \$15,000 in the bank why do we need a fund-raiser? Second, that when clubs start doing things solely for money, there is a danger that money-making may become the primary focus of the club.

We look at the Hot Dog Stand this year mainly as a "test run" to see how things work, and if there is sufficient interest within the club to operate it properly. We remember all the hard work performed in the past for the Lemonade Stand by Susan Satterfield, Becky Rickart, Jill Kleinowski, and Barbara Walley; and the support provided by Harold McEldery and the Murray-Bahm household. And there were others who contributed their time and effort. (We apologize to any left off this list: Please don't take it personally; our memory isn't that great.)

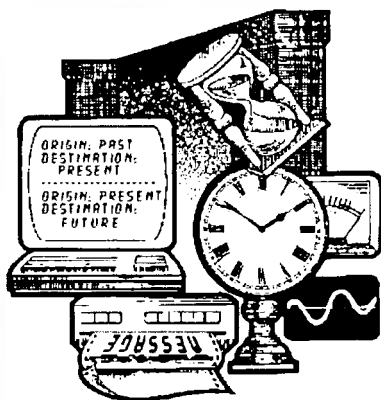
But despite all our hard work, that effort went essentially for naught, because we just didn't get the customers. We hope the Hot Dog stand will succeed, and if we can get the same dedication from hard-working Kacsfans we believe it *will* succeed, since it was successful last year when run by another group.

When gathering information for the club handbook, we were surprised to discover how many other area fan clubs have activities to raise money for charities. Aside from an occasional Charity Auction at ConQuest, KaCSFFS raises no money for charity. Charitable activities can lead to good comradeship by those involved, because everyone feels good about what they are doing.

As you will see in this month's KDL Klatch, there is a lot of support in our club for investigating the possibility of securing a permanent meeting place, probably by renting (at least at first). However, in order to make that a realistic possibility we will have to increase club revenues in some fashion. The Hot Dog stand may not provide the full answer, but we would like to see how much this kind of thing can bring in, and see if that makes the clubhouse a reasonable possibility.

So yes, the idea of raising money *for its own sake* is a bad idea for the club. The important thing is not how much money can be made, but rather what that money will allow us to do. The emphasis should be on what the money will allow the club and/or the Hall of Fame to *accomplish*.

There are plenty of things worth accomplishing with additional income. Charitable causes, the Hall of Fame, providing money to bring in a special guest for



ConQuest (the SuperFund)... or even starting a fund for getting ourselves a permanent meeting space. All these are worthy of effort. So for the Hot Dog stand, we say—Hot-Dog!

We hope that you will volunteer for helping run the KaCSFFS Raytown Roundup Days Hot Dog Stand, September 21-23 (Thur-Sat). We will be signing up volunteers at the next two KaCSFFS meetings. We will especially need volunteers for Thursday from 3-6pm, and Friday from 10am-6pm, as most people who work during the day can't help out during those hours.



## **JUNE KaCSFFS MEETING MINUTES**

The following is the minutes of the June, 2000, KaCSFFS meeting, taken by Secretary John Taylor.

Before the meeting started, a picnic lunch was enjoyed by the membership. Not scheduled to begin until 3:00, there was a sudden rush on the table at 2:30, but there was plenty on hand to provide for the "late-comers" who arrived on time.

Also before the meeting, Treasurer Darice Shirber-Poovey accepted dues from those members wise enough to remember that a new fiscal year had begun.

In addition, Ken Keller brought a selection of movie tie-in items from Vince Koehler, including X-Men buttons and bumper stickers, Rocky and Bullwinkle pins, and Titan AE CDs and T-shirt transfers.

The meeting was called to order at 4:26 by Director Ted Poovey.

Ted read a thank-you letter from Kathy Hedges, wife of ConQuest GOH Walter Jon Williams. She appreciated the considerations shown to her at the convention, including being driven to local places of interest.

Ted announced that the Executive Board had agreed on some changes for the next ConQuest, and that badges would be numbered, with the ability to tie a badge back to the member's name and address.

Ted introduced some new members, Jeff Rogers and Thomas Tandy.

Barbara Walley brought a request from Keith Stokes concerning the Campbell Conference and SF Hall of Fame Awards Banquet. We need three drivers to pick up guests at the airport at 12:40, 11:00 am, and 4:00 pm on Friday, July 7th. We're also looking for help (drivers) to get the guests to the banquet on Friday night, and for transportation after the banquet, and other rides as necessary. (Back to the airport comes to mind.) Keith Stokes is coordinating these efforts.

Barbara went on to say that Star Straf is holding an open house hosted by KaCSFFS after the banquet, with munchies and light refreshments. She asked that KaCSFFS contribute, since the money raised at ConQuest has already been spent on air fares, etc. Margene Bahm moved that KaCSFFS donate \$150 for the Campbell Conference; it was seconded and passed. John Vaughan moved that the club reimburse those who pick up guests and drive them around at 15 cents per mile; this was seconded and passed also.

Barbara then moved to another item of business: the teenagers involved with the club are organizing, and will have a representative approach the convention committee to have a Teen Committee for ConQuest. The group will have an adult sponsor, but otherwise will be on their own to organize activities. They are planning to have an on-line chat room for their committee.

John Vaughan announced an Exhibition Bowling event, a fund-raiser for the SuperFund (which brings special guests to ConQuest). KaCSFFS has two bowling groups, one at Loma Vista and one at Ward Parkway. Five members of each league will meet this Thursday (6/22) at the Loma Vista Lanes (87th and Blue Ridge, behind Gortman's) for a 3-frame 5 on 5 match. John had a Bowling Pool board, for \$1 a square. If the combination of last digits matches the square, the square's owner will split the pot with the SuperFund; if the square is unpurchased, then the SuperFund will get the whole pot.

Ted announced that nominees for KaCSFFS' SF Hall of Fame representative are needed; the spot currently held by Bill Tienken is up for renewal. Barbara nominated Bill Tienken again. The actual election will be held at the July meeting.

Ken Keller reminded us that next month's meeting (July 22nd, the *fourth* weekend) is the Film Program fund raiser for the SuperFund. The number one choice, "Curse of the Demon", will be shown, along with "Duck Dodgers" and selected others. He asked if there were any Three Stooges fans; response was lukewarm at best. Carol Doms will be running the concession stand and may need volunteers. The meeting will be in the Education Building, Room 115, at 52nd and Holmes. Ken would like to start at 6:00 for the Business Meeting, and by 7:00 have the 3-hour program going.

Ted then called for a vote on how proceeds from the Hot Dog Stand at Raytown Roundup would be split. Barbara nominated a 50/50 split between SF HoF and the KaCSFFS general fund; Margene nominated a 50/50 split between SF HoF and the SuperFund; and Darice Shirber-Poovey nominated a 1/3 split between the three. A vote was taken, and it was decided to go with the 50/50 SF HoF/Superfund.


Julie Hise said that Communiversity is scheduling its fall term. The KaCSFFS proposal is needed by July 14, and we need to specify "special" dates (such as the November and December meetings, which would not be held there.) She also solicited other Communiversity courses from KaCSFFS members who might be in a mood to teach. She also said that the Writer's Place (on Valentine Road) is now handicapped-accessible.

Ted announced that Laura Barnes was holding an after-picnic party at her house, and provided directions. He also said that she was volunteering to put up a storage facility (i.e., shed) in her back yard where KaCSFFS could store some of its paraphernalia. The club would have to have a fund raiser to purchase the building and erect it on a concrete slab.

THE BIGGER A FANZINE COMES...



THE HARDER IT IS TO FIT  
THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT.



David Sooby moved to adjourn at 5:03, it was seconded and passed, and the meeting ended.

Respectfully Submitted, John Taylor, Secretary.

## **JULY KaCSFFS MEETING MINUTES**

Following are the minutes of the July, 2000, KaCSFFS meeting, taken by Secretary John Taylor.

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 by Director Ted Poovey.

The first order of business was the election of KaCSFFS' representative on the board of the Science Fiction Hall of Fame. Bill Tienken, the previous representative, was the only candidate, and was elected to serve for another two years.

Ted then introduced Vince Koehler, who has helped with ConQuest's film program and was instrumental in putting together tonight's film program. Vince had 12 movie passes to "Replacements", as well as many freebies at the back of the hall. There was something about a drawing for passes to the Rio and Englewood Theaters; however, no drawing occurred during the meeting.

Susan Satterfield announced that planning for Conception 12 was beginning, and the first committee meeting would be at her house on Friday, August 18th at 7:30. Fliers would be ready for mailing. The convention (which is not a KaCSFFS function, although members participate), will be held November 10-11-12 at the Howard Johnson's in Independence. The theme will be The Wild Wild West, with a parade and rodeo.

Susan then changed subjects. She, Ann Donovan, and Dee Willis want the club to consider sponsoring the 2003 World Horror Convention. They have chosen a hotel. The World Horror Con would be a 1-shot convention for KC (like the Nebulas but somewhat more). It attracts mainly writers, editors and publishers, although there is a dealer's room. Dee joined Susan to say that the hotel would be the Airport Hilton, which is twice the size of ConQuest's hotel, although we would pay the same price. They would like to recommend April 17-20th. It usually attracts around 600 people, and there is a limit of 1000. The at-the-door cost is \$150, \$75 pre-registering. Profits from the convention must be donated to charity. (Convention workers would be admitted for \$15.) Members expressed concern about the date, because of its closeness to ConQuest. However, the WHC must be held within a certain range of dates, and other dates had problems. The subject was not up for vote at this meeting; Susan was introducing it for discussion and consideration.

John Vaughan and Laura Barnes want to invite to next month's meeting the local youth who, at age 15, has published his first novel. His name is Daniel Slayton. He lives in Raymore, Mo. The name of his book is *The Fallacy of a Thief*.

Also, Todor's visit to the United States has been postponed because of finances. However, the legal aspect has been accomplished.

Darice brought up club dues, which were due last month, anyone not paid is in arrears, and next month is the end of the grace period. She asked that anyone



paying at this month's meeting do so early, because she would not be available for the entire meeting.

Ted reminded us of our responsibility to clean up after the meeting.

Robin Bailey announced that 10% of the profits from his book sales for the night would go to KaCSFFS' Super-Fund, and the rest would go to the SFWA Emergency Medical Fund, which has been very helpful to him in the past year.

Inger Myers brought cupcakes, birthday cake, and gingerbread.

David Sooby announced that there was no *Timebound*, the club newsletter, this month.

Laser Rangers will be the 2nd Saturday of the month, and would feature the 1950's *Jewels in the Crown of SF*, "Forbidden Planet" and "The Day the Earth Stood Still."

Tim Keltner announced that the first meeting of the ConQuest 32 committee would be in August at Mike Smalley's house. Ted added that the last meeting for the ConQuest 31 committee would be before the next meeting.

Ken Keller announced that he has talked to Wade Williams, theater and movie owner, and would like him to speak to us at the September meeting. Next year is the 50th anniversary of "The Day the Earth Stood Still", and Wade has a beautiful print of this movie. He would like to do an "Event" at the Englewood Theater, and would like KaCSFFS to co-sponsor it. More details would be announced in September, but Williams would like to bring in the director and two of the stars of the film for the event. This is all very tentative at this time.

Darice moved to adjourn at 6:55, it was seconded and passed, and the meeting ended.

Respectfully Submitted, John Taylor, Secretary.



## News & Announcements

### Great Turnout for KaCSFFS Film Fest

We saw many unfamiliar faces at the July meeting/Film Fest. Thanks to all those who invited friends and co-workers. The concession stand made our best profit ever!

For the record, the film program consisted of: Five classic previews; "Rollercoaster Rabbit," a Roger Rabbit cartoon; "Curse of the Demon" (1957), our feature film; "Mr. Bill's Amnesia Highlights," a Mr. Bill retrospective; "Goons from the Moon," a Mighty Mouse cartoon; "More Troubles, More Tribbles," a Star Trek animated episode; the classic cartoon "Duck Dodgers in the 24 1/2th Century"; "Enter Batgirl, Exit Penguin," from the '60's Batman TV series; "Single Gun Theory," a short "documentary" which "proved" the Three Stooges killed JFK; and the Stooges short "Three Pests in a Mess" (1945).

## **Contraception Meeting**

From: Susan Satterfield <ssatterfield@kc.rr.com>

It's that time of year again...time for the first of the three organizational meetings to get ready for Contraception. Everyone who is interested in helping out on Contraception 12, drop by the Satterklein residence on Friday, August 18th at 7:30 p.m. The address is 2209 N.W. Summerfield Dr., Lee's Summit, 816/524-4852. Come help us put together one rip-roaring good time.

Thanks, Susan

## **Authors of Liaden Series to Attend ConQuest Next Year**

Kacsfans are excited over the news that Sharon Lee and Steve Miller, the husband-wife writing team and authors of the *Liaden* science fiction series (Del Rey, Meisha Merlin), are going to attend ConQuest next year. Sharon Lee is also SFWA's Executive Director. The next *Liaden* book should be out in time for ConQuest.

## **Leftover Soda Cases for Sale, Cheap!**

Nancy Nutt reports that we overbought a little on the ConQuest con/cult suite soda this year. "Well, that's not true, people just weren't drinking like they did last year." So now you can have some genuine ConQuest leftovers. Real collector's items. Some or all of these could be yours for the low, low price of \$4.00 a case! E-mail Nancy at <nnutt@cerner.com>, or call her at 816/455-7608.

1 case Diet Mountain Dew

1/2 case Orange

3 cases Citra

1 1/2 cases A&W Cream Soda

1 1/2 cases Caffeine Free Coke

1 case 7-Up

## **ConQuest Con Suite: Lost & Found**

Nancy Nutt also reports she has a grocery bag full of lost and found items that surfaced in the con suite on Sunday and Monday. If you've lost something, contact her (see above) with a description of what you're looking for. If these things aren't claimed by ConQuest next year, the benefit auction gets a bag full o' stuff with a couple of nice items in it.

## **James Hollaman Art Gets Book Cover**

James "Jimmy" Hollaman writes that he has artwork on the cover of Selina Rosen's upcoming book *The Bubba Chronicles*. Congratulations, Jimmy!

## **Announcing a Blessed Event**

John Taylor is pleased (nay, ecstatic) to announce the advent of his personal website <www.thetws.com>, honoring his favorite comic strip, the *Teenie Weenies*. There's a personal bio page as well, but you all know me better than that already.

Best, John Taylor

## **Eat Your Heart Out, Jackie Chan!**

From: Robin Bailey

Having unwound and prepared myself mentally with a soap bubble party and the lilting strains of Lawrence Welk, I undertook my next karate belt test today [6/25].

I passed. I am now a blue belt. Yay!

Best, Robin

## **Website of the month: Protect your brain with AFDB**

<http://zapatopi.net/afdb.html>

Thanks to Nancy Hathaway, Czarkon chair and editor of the fan humor e-zine *Midnight Dusk Petrol*, for pointing out this website. Nancy rejoined KaCSFFS this June. Welcome back, Nancy!

The site shows the construction techniques, history, and importance of Aluminum Foil Deflector Beanies, "a type of head-wear that can shield your brain from most electromagnetic psychotronic mind-control carriers." If you think this could not happen here in America's heartland, beware! Kacsfan Jason Gasper recently asked on KDL for information on the frequency of the human brain. You have been warned!

This comprehensive site covers the subject so exhaustively that it even includes information on those who advocate the use of tin foil instead of aluminum, "the lunatic fringe of Foil Deflector Beanie science."

## **Another Great Film Cadets Turnout for "Chicken Run"**

Ken Keller and Vince Koehler once again got tickets for and organized another free screening for various KaCSFFS members and friends—the tenth, in fact, since last December! This time it was for the new Will Vinton Studios (*Wallace and Gromit*) feature production of "Chicken Run" which was screened at the AMC Ward Parkway 22 on Thursday evening June 15th. Thirty-nine eager fans showed up had a great time at one of the best summer films of 2000. Ye editor gives it 3 & 1/2 out of four omelettes.

## **Film Cadets See X-Men**

Inger and Joe Myers called another Film Cadets gathering for Tue, July 18th. Many had already seen the film, but if ye editor's memory serves over a dozen showed up. Ye editor gives it a "full price" rating.

## **Godzilla vs The Film Cadets**

From: Ken Keller <solarwind1@aol.com>

Thanks to dogged perseverance by Vince Koehler, 20 KaCSFFS members and several of their family/friends were able to attend a hastily organized, last minute free evening screening of "Godzilla 2000" at the AMC Ward Parkway on Monday, August 14. For the Millennium, Toho studios has returned ~~once again to the well~~ to its monster movie roots to show the world how a proper Godzilla movie should be made. (Take that, Hollywood!) The Big Green Japanese Guy returns to American movie screens August 18th. Remember, leave your brain parked at the door. "Godzilla 2000," which one KaCSFFS wag referred to as "Godzilla vs Independence Day," had much better (though still cheezy) special effects this time out. All the hammy acting and sometimes bizarre English dubbing that US audiences have come to expect was still there, though. Nobody really seemed to care and just went along with all the silliness as Japan's national hero kicked alien-spaceship-turned-monster butt while wreaking havoc (once again) all over downtown Tokyo. As the song lyric says "G-o-o-o, Go! Go, Go, Go Godzilla!"

*[Maybe the film was different from where Ken was sitting... I was hoping for better FX this time and was quite disappointed. "Godzilla 1985" was much better than this! —DS]*

## MidAmerican Fan Photo Archive: Project Update

From: Keith Stokes <sfreader@unicon.net>

After 2 months, the KaCSFFS MidAmerican Fan Photo Archive (<http://www.kcsciencefiction.org/mafpa.htm>) is starting to look like something. It is now defined as an index of hundreds of photographs of science fiction fans and professionals taken at conventions and events around North America. There are links to convention photo pages at other sites with thousands of additional photos. The onsite photos are nearly all indexed and we are slowly indexing those that are off site.

It is distinguished from the much larger Fanac site in two principle ways: 1) MaFPA is organized around events & Cons. In almost every instance having several photos from the event. In those instances where there is only one or two photos, they are special. For example the shot of Robert Heinlein in Butler, MO. 2) There are links to convention photos on other sites.

There are still photos from about 20 conventions to online and I am getting photos from a number of Oklahoma and Wichita fans this weekend. I should be ready for more photos in mid August. In the mean time, I appreciate being told about errors and being told about convention photos at sites that are not yet listed. If anyone in the club puts up their own photos, I would be delighted to provide links to those.

## File 770 Online

Keith Stokes writes that he recently discovered Mike Glycer's *File 770* has an online version at <<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/mglyer/f770/index.html>>.

Ken Keller provides details: For those who don't know, *File 770* is Glycer's multiple Hugo-winning newszine (centering on mainstream SF fandom, regionals, and Worldcon news) that he's published for many years now. Mike was the ConQuest Superfund guest several years ago. He was also the chairman of the L.A. Worldcon the following year. Ken highly recommends *File 770* to all. Now that a free e-version is available, see for yourself!

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*Protect Yourself with an Aluminum Foil Detector Beanie (AFDB)*

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## *Peering Into the Future*

Since ye editor seems to be having trouble producing a fat, full two-ounce issue every month, we are going to try alternating one- and two-ounce issues. So next month, expect another "Just the facts, ma'am" issue. But hey, we might squeeze in something fun anyway... like we did with "Norse of Course" a couple of issues ago. So stay tuned— and keep those cards and letters coming!

# NEO'S CORNER

*The following article is from Fancyclopedia II. The notes following serve as our "Fannish Terms" section this time. The spellings "tho" (though) and "thru" (through) are per the source. The existance of any similarities between the following and today's UFO mythology and beliefs are left as an exercise for the reader.*

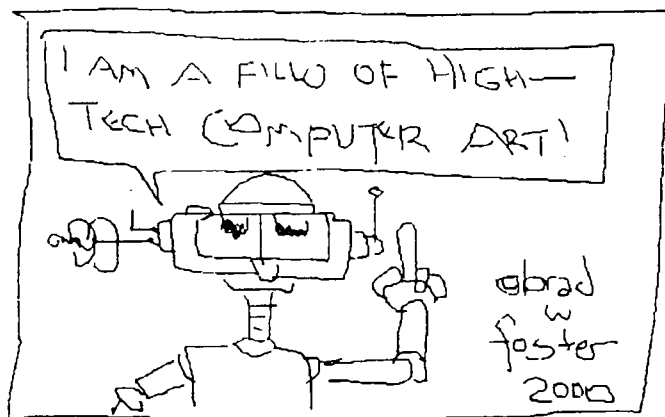
## RICHARD SHAVER AND THE SHAVER MYSTERIES

Richard S(harpe) Shaver: Fantasy author whose stories in *Amazing*, 1944-48, raised one of the most spectacular feuds ever to hit the world of sfandom<sup>1</sup>. The business actually began with a letter in a 1944 *Amazing* offering Shaver's Mantong alphabet, which allegedly assigned meanings to all the letters of the Roman alphabet that gave the secret Occult Meaning of all human words. (They never did explain how to use it on languages with different alphabets.)

In March 1945, with "I Remember Lemuria!", Shaverism really got under way. Tho (it's said) much of his stuff was re-written by RAP<sup>2</sup> or one of his stable, the general theme of the Shaver Mystery was Shaver's very own. This Mystery—an inaccurate word, since it was no mystery to those who'd seen other of Palmer's antics—related to existence of malignant deroes in caverns under the Earth, and was only a facet of the vaster Shaver Mythos. This latter, developed in later stories, proclaimed the existence of a race, the Elder Gods, who by avoiding Dis continue to develop thruout their immortal lives. (Dis, short for "disintegrant energy", was an insidious stuff which acted as you'd expect in a full-strength blast and even when attenuated saturated the neurons and caused unsane thought—very like Original Sin in some other mythological systems.) Once they inhabited Earth, but when Sol began to give off Dis they first built a giant cavern system under the surface (the "Caves") and, finding this ineffective as protection, evacuated the planet, leaving behind their radiation-contaminated super-machines ("Elder Mech") and a few hopeless cases of Dis-infection, the Abandondero. ("Dero" means "disintegrant energy robot": somebody whose mind has been destroyed by the Dis-saturation of neurons mentioned above.) These became the ancestors of surface humanity and the deroes of the caverns; the latter now use the abandoned Elder Mech to control the surface dwellers and make war on one another, at which point things stood when Shaver's electric welder began to talk to him. (A sane cave-dweller (Tero, or integrant energy robot) had decided to Reveal All to him.) Shaver entered the Caves—ten miles north of Amherst, Mass, according to a personal communication—checked, and brought back the information which he incorporated into his stories, guarded from Dero vengeance by the sane cavedweller, Nydia.

This might have been an amusing and ingenious piece of fantasy, but Palmer published it, and demanded that it be accepted, as fact. Fans, as might be expected, grotched<sup>3</sup> most acutely at such a claim, seeing in it the revolting nadir of Palmerism; the completion of his shift from fictionalized science to profitable superstition in the name of commercial appeal to the boob element. In February '46 Palmer wrote to *Fantasy News* claiming that fandom had missed a great opportunity by failing to deluge him with praise for the Lemurian stories: "Overnight a new fandom has sprung up, with a powerful organization which will get all the credit. All the fans can do now is sit helplessly back and watch the fireworks..." A sample of

the fireworks: June '46, Assistant Editor Hamling announced in a letter to Speer's weekly *Stefnews* that Palmer had cracked up and was confined in an asylum. A long-distance call to Ziff-Davis having confirmed that Palmer was "seriously ill" and Hamling was doing his job for the present, Speer broadcast the word. Palmer (no noticeable straitjacket) wrote an indignant denouncement to *Fantasy Times*, calling it all a vile hoax by the fans—but apparently got the signals mixed with Hamling, who wrote in the same issue of FT that it had all been a deliberate trick on his part. All to impress people he claimed to care nothing for. Ackerman was leader of the campaign to get fans to boycott and fight the Ziff-Davis mags with all available resources, but others contributed: a meeting of the QSFL<sup>4</sup> solemnly passed a resolution expressing the opinion that the Shaver "Cave" Stories actually endangered the sanity of their readers, and bringing the menace to the notice of the Society for the Suppression of Vice (for which adherence to an even worse enemy of sense and sanity they will undoubtedly spend several thousands of years in Hell). A PhilCo<sup>5</sup> discussed a proposal that a 1000-signature petition be organized to get *Amazing* and *Fantastic Adventures* banned by the Post Office, but this imbecility *Gott sei dankt* did not meet with approval. Palmer, who did not look for his readership among fans anyway, could afford to ignore such measures and, finding fans falling away, established the Club House, under Rog Phillips, in 1947, allegedly to seduce enough fans to split fandom's opposition. ... The move, if actually so intended, was successful in that fan sniping faded away—or, as one FAPA<sup>6</sup> member put it, whenever there was a showdown most fans refused to stand up for principle—but the cease-fire came about not so much thru the operations of the Club House as thru (1) the fact that fan protests' ineffectiveness led us to stop in disgust and (2) the rise of the Insurgent Attitude about this time, which found matter for ridicule in the concept of the Dignity of Science Fiction.



## NOTES

1) "stf," short for scientifiction, is an older term for SF. "Stf" was used as the root for such words as "stfnal," meaning science-fictional, and "stfandom" which of course means SF fandom.

2) Raymond A. Palmer

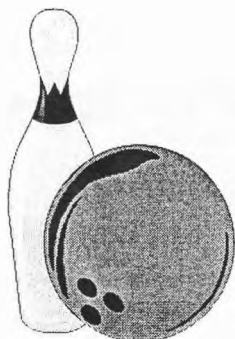
3) The *Fan-cyclopedia II* defines

"grotch" as "Acutely irritate. Usually passive." Possibly from the word "grouch."

4) Queens (New York) Science Fiction League

5) A long-established con in Philadelphia

6) Fantasy Amateur Press Association



# Superfund Exhibition Bowling Match

by John Vaughan

22 June 00—In a closely-matched battle of handicap-league bowlers, The Blind Squirrels defeated Bubba's Barsoomians by a total of 33 pins after three hard-fought games in a match game that also gathered \$35 for the

KaCSFFS SuperFund.

The match, for the bowling bragging rights in KaCSFFS, was extremely close. The first game, won by Bubba's team, 788-754. The Blind Squirrels won the second one, 763-739, then came roaring back in the third game to take the series, 830-777.

The Blind Squirrels, representing the Ward Parkway Lane Fandom Thursday Night Mixer, consisted of Russ Kleinowski, Susan Satterfield, Jim Murray, Marcia Dell and Team Captain David Williams. Bubba's Barsoomians, representing the Loma Vista Kansas City Turner's League, consisted of Dave Truesdale, John Vaughan and John Drozda. The women positions were vacant and were put at a blind score of 130 each.

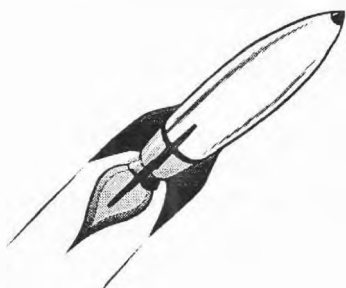
The box score follows:

## The Blind Squirrels

<i>Bowler</i>	<i>Game 1</i>	<i>Game 2</i>	<i>Game 3</i>	<i>Total</i>
Russ Kleinowski	143	152	167	462
Susan Satterfield	99	144	126	369
Jim Murray	165	156	163	484
Marcia Dell	130	113	125	368
David Williams	194	175	226	595
Subtotal	731	740	807	2278
Handicap pins	23	23	23	69
Total	754	763	830	2347

## Bubba's Barsoomians

<i>Bowler</i>	<i>Game 1</i>	<i>Game 2</i>	<i>Game 3</i>	<i>Total</i>
Female - B	130	130	130	390
Female - B	130	130	130	390
David Truesdale	164	150	196	510
John	185	184	170	539
John Vaughan	179	145	151	475
Subtotal	788	739	777	2304
Handicap pins	0	0	0	0
Total	788	739	777	2304



# KACSEFF'S SPACE OPERA

By David Sooby

## SYNOPSIS

*Lensman Gadfly, commanding the superdreadnought Sopwith Camel, attacks the Solar Wind, believing its commander, Col. M. Julep, is a member of Boskone, scourge of Civilization. Unable to damage the Solar Wind and seriously damaged, the Sopwith Camel beats a retreat. Aboard both vessels, crews struggle to make sense of their enemy's strange and foreign technologies.*

## Part III

On board the *Sopwith Camel*, Lensman Gadfly called his council of war. "All right, gentlemen, before we try to re-engage the enemy, I need some answers! First of all, what kind of screens are they using? Anybody have any ideas?"

"Yessir," replied Engineering Chief Technonerd. "I believe so. If I may?" Holding up a wire spool, he waved his arm towards the viewer and looked a question at the gray lensman, who nodded assent. Technonerd quickly set the spool of wire recording into the viewer and activated it.

"This is a close-up of one of the missiles in flight. Note there is no observable drive jet or flame. Note also that the star background behind the missile is distorted in a rectangular pattern. Our computers," he said nodding towards the mathematicians, lieutenants Hewlett and Packard, "have analyzed the distortion. They believe it indicates an extremely powerful artificial gravity field, or actually two separate planes of intense gravity, which are angled towards each other in a wedge pattern. The interaction of these gravity fields produces tremendous acceleration, and we've named it the 'gravity planes' drive.

Technonerd manipulated the viewer to show images of the Solar Wind taken during the brief battle. "The enemy ship apparently has the same type of artificial gravity fields around it. Note the distortion of the starfield as we circled around the ship, here. Of course their gravity planes can't match the instantaneous velocity attainable with our inertialess drive, but if we were limited to inert maneuvering they could—well to say they could run rings around us would be a vast understatement. I'm not sure I believe the numbers myself, Lensman, but lieutenants Hewlett and Packard have checked my figures. This suggests the Solar Wind can accelerate at over 500 gravities."



Expressions of disbelief and shock ran quickly around the conference table. "But how?" cried Lt. Trufan. "They'd be crushed, flattened like a pancake!"

"Their drive propels everything within the field. The ship, contents, crew, cargo, and everything are dragged along with the field. You'd feel no acceleration at all.

"But worse, our equations show the field strength is sufficient to distort space enough to bend lightwaves and other directed radiation. This would account for the visible effect of our war beams bending aside from the enemy ship."

"So you're saying they are invulnerable to our present weapons," said Lensman Gadfly heavily.

"Well, yes and no, sir. The good news is that analysis of the starfield distortion of the ship, which we got a pretty good view of, showed that it doesn't cover all sides of the ship. As I said, basically it's two flat planes. They do seem to have some secondary, weaker fields covering the sides of the ship, but the bow and stern are open. Completely unprotected. So if we can dart up to them quickly, we can give them a shot up the kilt." The engineer showed his teeth in a fierce grin. "In other words, sir, we run up behind them and kick them in the ass before they can turn around!"

"Very good," said the gray lensman. "But what about those missiles? Just what hit us?"

"If I may, sir," said Lieutenant Trufan diffidently, "those appeared to be beams of x-ray radiation, produced by some sort of super-atomic bomb. I don't know how they do it, sir, but our analysis shows that their warheads are orders of magnitude more powerful than our atomics. Our analysis of the radiations released suggests they use a solar phoenix reaction, or a 'fusion' reaction, rather than the fission reaction we've always used in our atomic bombs. Of course with our Bergenholms running we're just as invulnerable to that sort of explosion as to the ones we're used to, but they obviously use the bomb to power a long-range war beam. A one-shot beam weapon, just like our primary shells. Frankly we don't understand how they do it, sir. The spread on the beam at that range should reduce it to something so weak it wouldn't light a match. But somehow they stop the beam from spreading."

One of the engineering officers spoke up. "Son, you just tried to repeal the inverse-square law. That's flat-out impossible."

"Not so fast," put in Captain Gadfly. "Remember that inertialessness, ultrawave communications, the negasphere, and the hyperspatial tube were all quote impossible unquote until scientists like Bergenholm and Cardynge worked out the math. The hyperspatial tube gets around the inverse-square distance limit, and apparently this does too." He nodded for Trufan to continue.

"Thank you, sir. We also noticed the beam seems to be a pure, single wavelength in the x-ray spectrum. We're not sure, but perhaps that has something to do with making and keeping the radiation beam coherent, or non-spreading. Anyway, we're calling it a coherent beam weapon. Frankly, sir, we don't see how to stop it, or how anybody could stop it, any more than you can stop our war beams with anything other than a good strong set of screens."

Lensman Gadfly nodded. "So they have a range advantage on us and there's nothing we can do about it. All right, we'll just have to work around it. Speaking of beams, what was that ship-mounted beam weapon? Was it my imagination or was it spiraling as it hit us?"

Engineering Chief Technonerd spoke up. "Well, yes sir, that's what the

photographs show too. Frankly we can't get a handle on it. It defies analysis. Just as a completely wild guess, perhaps it's based on a hyperdimensional or nth dimensional effect," the engineer concluded lamely, acutely embarrassed at having to engage in pure speculation.

Lensman Gadfly stroked his chin. "Multiple technologies we've never seen before, and they show no signs of using inertialessness. I'm beginning to wonder if they are boskonians."

"I'm pretty sure they are not, sir." Lt. Letterhack spoke up firmly. "They don't appear to use ultrawave at all. Certainly not for detection or communications. All we detected was radio signals. That also explains, sir, why they apparently didn't notice us coming, or pursue us when we left. They are limited to light-speed detection and communications. Also, they don't seem to use the same communication patterns and protocols as the boskonian fleets that have been encountered before.

"However, they do seem to have extremely sophisticated forms of radar. For example, their missiles carry independent radar systems. Apparently this allows the missiles to be independently operating; self-controlled."

Engineering Chief Technonerd stared at the young lieutenant openmouthed. "You're daft, youngster! How could you possibly fit a pilot into the missile? You've got a super-atomic bomb, that coherent beam weapon projector, the gravity planes propulsion system, power storage for the drive, a radar system... your pilot would have to be the size of a mouse! Besides, even the boskonians might have a hard time coming up with too many suicide pilots."

Lt. Letterhack was unperturbed. "Given light-speed delay in communications, there wasn't enough time for the second group of missiles to be given our precise position after we were pushed away by the first coherent beam weapon attacks. Therefore the missiles have the ability to locate targets without help. If they don't use living pilots or gunners, then perhaps they are on automatics."

The gray lensman shook his head. "The patrol has tried that. Sure you can hook a radio or ultrawave detector up to an automatic firing control, but the problem is you can't aim it accurately enough at any appreciable distance, especially not at the long range you're talking about. Robotic controls have never equaled the mark one eyeball, and never will. Besides, automatics couldn't tell friend from foe. You'd be as likely to shoot yourself as your enemy, with your own weapon."

"Yessir," replied Lt. Letterhack. "But couldn't a sophisticated enough analog computing machine be designed to do an optical search, approximating that mark one eyeball?"

Lieutenants Hewlett and Packard burst into gales of laughter. Finally Hewlett calmed down enough to say, "Lt. Letterhack, I'm sorry for laughing at you, but you have no idea of the size of the machine you're talking about. It would fill a large building. A very large building. And with that many computations required before a firing solution was achieved, it would probably be slower than the light-speed delay you're talking about."

Letterhack ventured, "Well, couldn't you shrink the parts down somehow? Build smaller tubes, use smaller wires?"

Packard shook his head. "Sorry, no. We've tried that too. A tube has to be a certain minimum size to do its job properly, and a minimum voltage is required to power the tubes. If you try to squeeze everything into a smaller space, the waste

heat builds up so much that the machine quits working properly... or even melts."

The gray lensman smiled indulgently. "That's QX, youngster. We need fresh ideas. But some things simply are impossible. And a sophisticated computing machine small enough to fit into one of those warheads is one of those things that will always be impossible."

"No, there's only one possible answer. That self-styled 'Colonel' Julep, or whoever he works for, is using children from some midget race. They are old enough to be trained to aim the coherent beam weapon on the missile, but are not old enough to understand they are on a suicide mission. Imagine, using children for that! Even the boskonians we've fought before are not that depraved!" The gray lensman's nostrils flared with anger. Gritting his teeth, he vowed "I'll wipe that scum Julep out of the ether if it's the last thing I do!"

\* \* \* \* \*

Captain Julep tried to conceal his distaste. The tac officer brought before him was a "Space: 1999" fan! Well at least that wasn't as bad as the UFO-freak engineer.

"Well, if you have something to say, out with it!" growled Julep. His hand absently petted the head of his beagle, whose eyes were glazed and whose tongue occasionally oozed a drop of blood through cuts from broken glass.

"Colonel, we detected absolutely no ECM from the enemy..."

"Dammit I'm tired of all this technobabble!" Julep roared. The beagle slunk away from the rocker. "Say it without any alphabet soup, Lt. Femmefan."

"Um, there were no electronic countermeasures... no jamming from the enemy, sir. None whatsoever. All six missiles from the first salvo hit the target."

"Then how the hell was he able to run away if we hit him so hard?"

"Well, Colonel, this is just speculation..."

"Go on."

"We detected strong emissions of what appear to be secondary radiation from the enemy's various ship systems, Colonel. The only way we can account for that is if they are using extremely high voltage systems. If their ship is rigged to deal with that kind of voltage, the systems will tend to be very robust, and very hard to overload. Assuming they have secondary and backup systems, sir, that means we'd practically have to vaporize the entire ship before it would lose the ability to fight."

"Um," Julep frowned. "I don't suppose you have any *good* news for me?"

"Possibly, Colonel," continued the tac officer. "Twice the enemy moved into firing position—not a good position since our shield walls were up, and apparently they didn't realize that, since they kept firing—but after moving into position they did not instantly fire. And when they did, it was ragged, unpatterned firing. As though each hardpoint was controlled separately, by a living operator. No tactical firing patterns. No suggestion of computer control."

Julep eyed his tac officer as though she'd crawled out from under a rock. "First my *former* chief engineer thinks they have some kind of magical inertia-less space drive. Now you're trying to tell me that whoever built Lensman's ship is advanced enough to have technology we can't understand, yet they don't use computers?!?! Has my entire staff gone crazy?"

"Perhaps, Colonel," Lt. Femmefan replied stubbornly. "But what if I'm right? Our ancestors quit using high-voltage systems when transistors came in."

Sophisticated electronics will do the same operations with far less power than brute-force electrical equipment. Less power and less space needed, and less heat generated. If Lensman and his crowd are still using high-voltage equipment for everything, then perhaps they don't use computers, perhaps not even any transistors, for anything. Any sort of ECM—electronic countermeasures—beyond simple jamming requires fairly sophisticated electronics. If they have no advanced electronics, then that explains the lack of ECM."

Captain Julep sighed. "Very well. Let's say for the moment you're right. Does that help us any?"

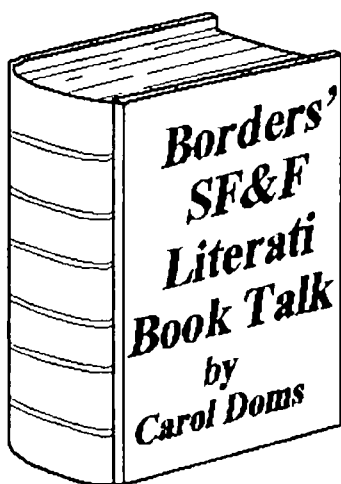
Her eyes sparkled. "Yes, Colonel, I believe it does." She called up an image on the veranda monitor. "Please observe that our ACME Tactical Particle Smasher, which was set to Autoscan, fired before the enemy vessel did, even though they took us totally by surprise. I recommend we slave our secondary energy weapons into the Autoscan program, too. If we fire everything at once, hopefully we can overload those strange defensive shields of theirs and riddle that ship before it can fire at all!"

*To be continued...*

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*Beware the Deros!*

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Borders Books, 119th & Metcalf

June 26, 2000, 7 PM

*Childhood's End*  
by Arthur C. Clarke

Attendance: 16

**How many...**

finished the book: 12	liked the book: 5
will finish it: 2	disliked it: 1
read it before: 6	neutral/don't know: 6
liked it when read the first time: 6	

\*perhaps long ago, as in High School

**Comments:**

I was curious if I would like *Childhood's End* (CE) still, after all these years... it is not an adventure story... I usually don't like books without tension in them... "What do the aliens look like?" is not what I call tension... There was some very innovative thinking on Clarke's part... This book was published in 1953 and it had such predictions as universal oral contraceptives, television with 500 channels, an easy way to determine paternity via the analysis of the blood. They are not exactly how we do

things to day, but very progressive to put them in a 1950s novel... Also Jan, a black protagonist, something of a rarity in '50s as well...

I did like this book a lot, it is very imaginative, it is a message book, but I don't think it is an optimistic book... The concept of merging with the universal Overmind, that earth's children evolve to a higher consciousness... Some of the writing itself is rather poetic, you don't find that much in SF... He (Clarke) was the first person to write about huge spaceships hanging over cities (shades of "Independence Day")... In fact, I am sure that is where someone got the idea for ID.

The message of this book is not really for today's audience... People looking for salvation beyond earth... aliens coming down to save us from ourselves... Most books do not have the Messianic aliens concept... He (Clarke) was very naive in what he wrote for CE... The aliens bring peace on earth, there is no real conflict in this book... The only realistic element is that once the aliens brought Utopia to earth, that mankind stopped creating (music, art, etc.)...

I disliked this book mainly because I was frustrated with it... aliens come and within fifty years all major problems of the world are solved?... I think Clarke ignored basic human nature... would we change for the good if aliens showed superior power?... for awhile maybe, in 50 years?... I don't buy that, but I think we tend to fall back on old patterns... Take the stories of Moses and Israelites freed from slavery... They supposed to have seen miracles and followed a pillar of fire... and when they disobeyed God killed of several thousands of them in the 40 years, but that did not change human nature... Now using CE's aliens who also meted out swift punishment and in 50 years make all humans into model citizens... I just don't buy it... Agreed, the demonstration of power they showed South Africa in one day changed apartheid was rather weak...

I did see 'kernels' of "2001" in this story with the Universal Overlord... That is another odd thing about this... he (Clarke) states that religion became nonexistent in this world when the aliens became established... Yet he (Clarke) put a lot of stock into pseudo science (ESP, etc)... I thought Clarke was known for being one of the "hard SF" writers... Clark himself said that 99% was bunk, but it can't be all bunk... Well, yes it can!

I was struck by his science vs. religion philosophy... He is expressing that with enough science, religion will be shown as primitive, obsolete... I think it is a given that majority of [SF] writers were or are agnostic or atheist... Yes, but I get the feeling Clarke has an axe to grind with religion... He has taken the ideal that intellectual mature people do not need religion... Yet, here's a book where there are higher powers... The Universal Overlord, where humans could evolve into a higher form... Kind of ironic an anti-religion book, yet there is a 'higher power'... I don't see signs today that religion has lost its appeal to the highly educated...

Religion in SF... why is SF so hostile to religion?... Why is there not a reconciliation between the two?... Are there any SF books that integrate religion... I remember reading *Doomsday Book* by Connie Willis, it had the first genuine Christian character in Father Rock... Rock actually extolled Christian virtues, not hypocrisy... Katherine Kurtz's *Deryni* series is favorable to religion... There was an interesting book about mankind deciding that God did exist and went out to actually kill God... what book is that... I can't remember the title or author on it, just the premise...

I also found this book to be depressing... the most interesting character is Jan...

which isn't saying much since the characters are not very memorable in this book... It is Jan who sneaks aboard the ship to go to the alien's home world, in wanting to go to the stars... That is disappointing, we don't get to go the stars and children evolve to a higher plane and the human race is "screwed"...

Wait a minute the first chapter has mankind getting ready to go on a Mars mission from the Moon, when the aliens land.... Yet Jan's letter to his sister, explains his frustration of humanity never leaving the earth... Oops! That was a bad error on Clarke's part... Wait a minute, you are telling me he updated the novel?... He rewrote the first chapter in 1990 to modernize it and jumped the time period from 1950's to 1990's... But he only did the first chapter, the rest he kept the same... That is a bizarre juxtaposition, I don't think that was a good idea on his (Clarke's) part...

How much time do you think has elapsed in this entire book? The aliens show up, then we have a gap of five years, then 50 and then about 80 when Jan comes back to earth? About 135 years for mankind to change that dramatically? I don't think so... But we have rapid change going on right now... yes, but that is technology... I still think that in thousands of years humans are still by nature going to act like humans...

This was another problem I had with Clarke's book... he tended to gloss over how all these problems were solved in a few pages and then made jumps into the future... I would have liked more information or more written about those sections... the book basically talks about highly civilized humans, living in major cities... what about primitives or aborigines?... what did they think about this?... I also found it amazing that the one universal earth language became English... So you are saying that they suffered the *Star Trek* syndrome?... "everyone including aliens always speak English?"... Also, the book indicates there would be no more professional sports... No more sports!... Let's kill the aliens!... How dare they interfere with our most sacred of religious pastime — Sunday football games!

**Following book talk:** July 24, 7 pm. *Stardust* by Neil Gaiman

**August book talk:** Aug 28, 7 pm. *Link* by Walt Becker

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## Borders Fantasy Book Group

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

**August 14 book:** *The Broken Time* by Walt Becker



Our patriarch, the great Solarwind.  
His knowledge of SF will defend  
When fans even the score  
he'll cry out for more  
Widowers Fine Tobacco Blend



# Book Review

by Cheryl Peugh

**Title:** *Pegasus in Flight*

**Author:** Anne McCaffrey

**Market:** Adult

When I was a teenager, I read *To Ride Pegasus* and loved that book. The ideas in it seemed fresh and new, and the stories were pretty good, too. I felt that McCaffrey had come up with some solid, enjoyable novelettes based on the recurring theme of Talent, and by Talent she basically meant anyone with extrasensory perception, or ESP. In these novelettes, these people struggled to make a place for themselves in a hostile world by founding the Center for Parapsychological Activity. McCaffrey also had some short stories in *Get Off the Unicorn* which dealt with the same theme. I picked up *Pegasus in Flight* hoping against hope. I'll explain.

Recently, McCaffrey has put out a rash of novels in what I consider her three major story lines—the Dragon Riders, the Brain and Brawn ships, and the Talented. All the novels which were not co-written with another author suffer, in my opinion, from the same failing—lack of imagination. All seem very familiar, as if you've read the story somewhere before, and, in some cases, the novelette which McCaffrey was expanding to novel form is there in the new book with only a few minor changes. And that same lack of imagination pervades *Pegasus in Flight*.

Unfortunately, there was nothing exciting here. It was the same ideas reshaped. Major Talent finds the Center and/or other Talents by accident and the Center has to hunt them down and rescue them from danger. Talent finds he/she can do extraordinary things under duress. Only the names have been changed to protect the innocent—you get the picture.

I didn't actively dislike the book. There was enough new stuff to sufficiently hold my interest to the end. Peter Reidinger was a likable character and I enjoyed reading about how he had come to be involved with the Center for Parapsychological Activity. If she had concentrated on Peter and his story, I think she would have had a stronger book. The other characters seemed perfunctory, as if they needed to be there to drive the plot along, even the second major child character, Tirla. McCaffrey's stock female villain was there in the form of Barchenka, an engineer building a new space station and harassing the Talents.

My opinion has always been that if you are going to write another book based on material you've written before, there should be a reason to write it; i.e. you've decided you can take your idea one step further, or you haven't used all the stories the idea suggests. This does not mean taking the ideas you've already used and changing them a little, or adding a little filler material to make them longer and calling them a new book.

Once again I was disappointed in McCaffrey. Out of respect and love for her stories written at the beginning of her career, I keep going back... hoping against hope.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>AUGUST</b>		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Laser Rangers
13	14 Fantasy Book Talk	15	16	17	18 Contra Meeting  ArmadilloCon	19 <b>KaCSFFS Meeting</b>  ArmadilloCon
20 ArmadilloCon	21	22	23	24	25 Laser Rangers	26 Baby Shower Darice Schirber- Poovey
27	28 Literati Book Talk	29	30	31 Chicon 2000/ WorldCon		



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					<sup>1</sup> Chicon 2000/ WorldCon	<sup>2</sup> Chicon 2000/ WorldCon
<sup>3</sup> Chicon 2000/ WorldCon	<sup>4</sup> Chicon 2000/ WorldCon	<sup>5</sup>	<sup>6</sup>	<sup>7</sup>	<sup>8</sup>	<sup>9</sup> Laser Rangers
<sup>10</sup>	<sup>11</sup> Fantasy Book Talk	<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup>	<sup>14</sup>	<sup>15</sup>	<sup>16</sup> <b>KaCSFFS Meeting</b>
<sup>17</sup>	<sup>18</sup>	<sup>19</sup>	<sup>20</sup>	<sup>21</sup> Raytown Roundup	<sup>22</sup> Raytown Roundup	<sup>23</sup> Raytown Roundup
<sup>24</sup>	<sup>25</sup> Literati Book Talk	<sup>26</sup>	<sup>27</sup>	<sup>28</sup>	<sup>29</sup> Archon  Laser Rangers	<sup>30</sup> Archon

# OBITUARIES

*Thanks to Keith Stokes for forwarding these.*

## **David R. Bunch**

David R. Bunch, poet and short story author, died at 1:43AM on May in north St. Louis County, Missouri, following a series of strokes.

Mr. Bunch published nearly 80 short science fiction stories. Over half of them were collected in *Moderan* which was published by Avon in 1971. A chapbook of his poetry, *We Have a Nervous Job*, was published in 1983, a second collection *Bunch!* was published in 1993 and a second poetry collection *The Heartacher and the Warehouseman* was published by Anamnesis Press in April of this year.

Mr. Bunch had a Bachelor of Science degree from Central Missouri State University and a MA in English from Washington University in St. Louis. He retired from civilian work as a cartographer for the Defense Mapping Agency in St. Louis in 1973.

## **Joe Mayhew: An Appreciation by Mike Glyer**

Fans learned that Ian Gunn's fight with cancer had taken a serious turn for the worse when Joe Mayhew announced the news as part of his emotional speech accepting the 1998 Best Fan Artist Hugo. Both men had been nominated, and Joe almost seemed impatient that Ian hadn't been the first of them to win. Gunn died soon afterward, leaving Mayhew a passionate executor of his legacy until Gunn received his own Hugo, posthumously, in 1999. Now, Joe Mayhew has unexpectedly passed away, and fans are mourning his loss.

Joe Mayhew died at 9 a.m. on June 10, at the end of a month-long struggle against a disease his doctors never definitely diagnosed but suspect was Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, a relative of "Mad Cow Disease," extremely rare in the U.S. He was only 57. Mayhew's brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Maren, are making arrangements for a Catholic funeral at Joe's local parish.

A teen-aged Joe Mayhew was part of the Washington Science Fiction Association that Jack Chalker discovered in 1959. "WSFA was quite active during that period and had a number of members around my age," Chalker wrote in *Mimosa 20*. "The teen clique became basically Tom Haughey, Joe Mayhew, Don Studebaker, and myself. Meetings were held at the home of a retired elderly railroad lobbyist named Elizabeth Cullen and were being run by George Scithers, who was stationed in D.C. at the time. It was a golden time for the club." WSFA inspired some Baltimore fans, Chalker among them, to start BSFS. Chalker writes, tongue-in-cheek, that although a friend his tried to recruit newcomers, "The trouble was, there wasn't anything there to recruit folks to. When you included Mayhew, Studebaker, and Haughey, we were more of a kind of gang of nerds than a real club."

Mayhew grew as a WSFA leader over the next four decades, an officer, a conrunner, and occasional editor of the WSFA Journal. Evan Phillips remembers Joe as "an active fan who did some of his best work as the unseen hand that encouraged people to try things such as run a con or be an officer in a club when they didn't realize on their own that they could. Joe was constantly striking up a conversation with folks at cons, and always fitting them into fandom—this one would

be good on a panel, that one could run a con suite. Joe was my lunchtime buddy most Saturdays and loved conversation, ideas, and Chinese all-you-can-eat."

Mayhew more recently forged an international reputation as a fan artist.

I ran a bid party at an early-90's Disclave where Joe came in and parked for the evening, showing off the collected "Spaceman Tad" comics he'd drawn for the clubzine. They were fabulously funny, cleverly drawn and deserved much wider circulation. Mayhew spent the evening taking care of that in his own way, lending his copies to a series of fascinated readers. It was just in the past five years that Joe became a prolific cartoonist and a fixture in every printed fanzine.

Mayhew worked at the Library of Congress until his retirement. As its Recommending Officer for Science Fiction, he developed the LoC's official definition of science fiction.

Retirement gave Mayhew more time to pursue his ambitions as a writer of fiction and as a critic. His stories appeared in *Tomorrow*, *Aberrations*, and *Aboriginal SF*. He reviewed science fiction, most notably for the *Washington Post*. Mayhew told fans at a 1998 Boskone panel how difficult it was for him to review the work of friends like Jack Chalker and Gene Wolfe. (The WSFA website includes a wonderful picture of Mayhew and Wolfe posed beside "Dragon Growly," the comical monster head Joe created for the 1989 Disclave.) It was well-known that Joe disliked saying anything negative about a book, with the exception of *Battlefield Earth*—and Bridge Publications retaliated against that review by pulling advertising from the publisher.

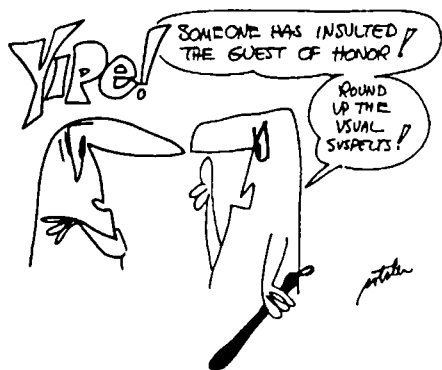
One of Mayhew's most traumatic experiences came as the chair of the never-held 1998 Disclave. The con's annual difficulties in booking a hotel, for economic reasons, had been made infinitely greater by the notoriety Disclave gained by being flooded out by a broken fire sprinkler in 1997. Mayhew reversed another committee member's amazing decision to invite the "ASB" group back and give it an entire floor, but Disclave's economic and image problems doomed hotel negotiations. He described winding down his Disclave as "a bit like building a casket. Perhaps for a child."

Mayhew was beset by medical problems during the last five years. He was a diabetic. He underwent a quadruple bypass heart operation in 1996. He needed treatment for tachycardia the weekend after officially announcing the cancellation of his 1998 Disclave at WSFA. Despite all of these trials, Mayhew was blossoming as one of the best fanartists ever.

Elsbeth Kovar wrote online that people noticed Mayhew's latest problem because "for the first time in anyone's memory Joe left Balticon and did not return, saying that he was overwhelmed by all the people—and things came to a head about two weeks later and he was admitted to the hospital."

Michael Nelson saw Mayhew in the hospital on May 31 and wrote, "Joe is trapped inside himself. I think he recognizes people most of the time, but either he can't understand us or can't communicate, not even by blinking or other movement. Last night, he was drifting in and out of sleep every few minutes. Sometimes he would appear to recognize someone and give one of his big grins and other times he acted like a startled deer caught in a car's headlights."

Sad as it was that Mayhew slipped away over the past few weeks, I'm comforted to know he went in the company of the friends he made in fandom. And through his artwork he'll remain a lively presence among us for some time to come.



# CONVENTIONS

*With the exception of specific cons in which KaCSFFS members have shown an interest, such as Gateway, those which the editor could identify as media cons were removed from the following list. If you think a con should be added or removed from this list, please notify the editor. Sources for this info: Roger Tener's *Chronicles of the Dawn Patrol* newsletter; *Convention Listings* by Jenga*

<[www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/4677/mainpage.html](http://www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/4677/mainpage.html)>, and *Locus Online* <[www.locusmag.com/index.html](http://www.locusmag.com/index.html)>

**ArmadilloCon 22** (Aug 18-20 '00) Omni Southpark, Austin TX. Lit SF con. GoH: Catherine Asaro. AGoH: Adam "Mojo" Lebowitz. Editor GoH: Betsy Mitchell. TM: Mary Doria Russell. FGoH: Robert Taylor. Memb: \$20. Info: Armadillo-Con, Box 27277, Austin TX 78755.

**ChiCon 2000/WorldCon 58** (Aug 31-Sep 4 '00) Hyatt Regency, Chicago IL. GoH: Ben Bova. AGoH: Bob Eggleton. Ed. GoH: Jim Baen. FGoHs: Bob & Ann Passovoy. TM: Harry Turtledove. Memb: \$135; \$40 supp. Info: Chicon 2000, Box 642057, Chicago IL 60664; e-mail: [chi2000@chicon.org](mailto:chi2000@chicon.org); website: [www.chicon.org](http://www.chicon.org)

**Twilight Terrors** (Sept 28-Oct 1 '00) [horror con] Ramada Plaza, Rosemont, IL. Guests: Nancy Kilpatrick, Amarantha Knight, Sephera Giron, Caro Soles, Kyle Stone, Alan Clark Memb: \$35 to 7/31/00, \$50 at the door. Info: Twilight Terrors, P.O.Box 1582, North Riverside, IL 60546; e-mail: [rich@twilight-terrors.com](mailto:rich@twilight-terrors.com); website: [www.twilight-terrors.com](http://www.twilight-terrors.com)

**Archon 24** (Sep 29-Oct 1 '00) Holiday Inn & Gateway Ctr., Collinsville IL. Gaming & SF con. GoH: Larry Niven. AGoH: Larry Elmore. FGoHs: Genie Yaffe, Amy & Dave Verseman. Memb: \$25 to 3/31/00, \$30 to 8/31/00, \$35 at door. Info: Archon 24, Box 8387, St. Louis MO 63132; 314/326-3026; e-mail: [archon\\_info@zellich.net](mailto:archon_info@zellich.net); website: [www.stlf.org/archon/24](http://www.stlf.org/archon/24)

**ICON 25** (Oct 13-15, '00) Ramada Westfield Hotel, Coralville, IA. SF con. GoH: Harry Turtledove, FGoH: Mike Lowery. Memb: \$35 to 9/4/00. Info: ICON 25, Box 525, Iowa City, IA 52244; e-mail [penfold@inav.net](mailto:penfold@inav.net); website: [www.mindbridge.org/icon](http://www.mindbridge.org/icon)

**World Fantasy Convention** (Oct 26-29 '00) Omni Bayfront, Corpus Christi TX; \$94 sng/dbl, \$104 tpl/quad. GoHs: K.W. Jeter, John Crowley. TM: Joe R. Lansdale. Memb: \$105 to 10/15/00, then more; payable to FACT/World Fantasy Convention. Info: WFC 2000, Box 27277, Austin TX 78755; (512)835-9304; e-mail: [fduartejr@aol.com](mailto:fduartejr@aol.com); website: [2000.worldfantasy.org](http://2000.worldfantasy.org)

**Contraception 12** (Nov 10-12) Independence, MO; Howard Johnson East, I-70 & Noland Rd., (816) 373-8856. Relaxa-con with minimal programing. This year's theme is Western; special rodeo and parade Friday nite. No attendees under 21 years of age. Contraception, PO Box 2000, Lee's Summit, MO 64081; e-mail: [suesatterfield@sprintmail.com](mailto:suesatterfield@sprintmail.com)

# 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.*

**Kansas City Renaissance Festival** (Labor Day weekend to mid-Oct) Bonner Springs, KSI. Theme park sized festival with lots of great food and entertainment. Weekends. Info: 800/373-0357; e-mail <[koncom@cjnetworks.com](mailto:koncom@cjnetworks.com)>

**ShaunCon 18** (Nov 16-19, 00) Gaming con from the Role-Players Guild of KC. Radisson Hotel, Overland Park, KS; 913/888-8440. Memb: \$23, \$25 at the door. Info: RPGKC, PO Box 7457, Kansas City MO 64116-0157; hotline 816/455-5020; website <[hometown.aol.com/rpgkc/shaun.html](http://hometown.aol.com/rpgkc/shaun.html)>; e-mail <[rpgkc@aol.com](mailto:rpgkc@aol.com)>.

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*Do you remember Lemuria?*

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*Whew! There have been a lot of important topics discussed in the last couple of months. We're still trying to get the (for us) new requirement for getting permission for posts to be re-produced here integrated with how this zine is produced. If we've missed ask-*

*ing your permission we hope you aren't offended. We think by next month this will be straightened out.*

**From: R. Kelly Cutler** <[cutler@swbell.net](mailto:cutler@swbell.net)>

Date: Friday, June 09, 2000 6:55 AM

I suppose someone has proposed something like this before, but let me run it by you folks and see what you think. I've taken some rough guesstimates, so I'm willing to be corrected on the actual figures. Actually, I hope those who know the actual figures do chime in. But the idea is what I'm trying to get across:

Let's suppose that attendance at ConQuest this year was 450 people. Ken Keller thinks the majority of attendees were from out of town. If that is the case, let's give them 60% of the attendance, which takes us down to 180 local registrants. If we had a 100% attendance by KaCSFFS members (in the neighborhood of 120 people, based on an old club directory) that leaves us roughly 60 people. I don't know how many kids ineligible for KaCSFFS membership were there, but let me subtract another 30 to keep us in round figures. So we have 30 local people who are eligible for KaCSFFS.

At registration, each of these potential members had to fill out a card with their address and birth date (I think) which we can now use to see if they are old enough to join KaCSFFS. I've been told that Lynn Halama and Jim Satterfield use the cards to crunch the data, update where necessary, and this is compared to the cost totals as part of the accounting procedures which takes the treasurer a while to wade through.

This year I got a very nice letter from Carol Doms wherein she thanked me for my participation, hoped that I had a good time, and encouraged me to attend again

next year. Why don't we do the same with these potential members?

Before we get too far into this, let me cover a couple of basic facts about direct mail advertising (which is really what we are talking about here). When a business sends out a blanket mailing to households, the national average for response is about 1 to 2 %. This response ratio increases dramatically if the same household has recently received a similar mailing at least twice before and if members of that household are predisposed to buy the kind of merchandise that the merchant is offering.

If we sent out three mailings, once per month, inviting them to the next KaCSFFS activity, that would perhaps come to about \$11.00 per month (\$0.33 for the stamp and .03 for letter and envelope as a rough guesstimate on the cost. Dropping a post card would be cheaper, but not nearly as classy.)

Statistically speaking, we may not get any responses from the mailing. 1% of 30 people means we might get one person after three mailings, which puts us in the hole by about \$18.00 after they pay their \$15.00 membership fee. And that's only if we do a good job of welcoming new folks at the meeting, like noticing that they are there, introducing them around, and actually inviting them to join the club.

On the other hand, you might get a couple of folks like me who can't attend the club meetings, but buy a membership every year and attend the con every year. (OK, that might be a bad example for some of you. I'm not sure y'all want to be awash in sports coats at the next ConQuest.)

We may get zero response, but it doesn't appear to be an exorbitant expense in the first place. Aside from that, it certainly presents a positive and inviting image for the club. Even if they do not personally respond, they would be predisposed to attend ConQuest again, and may even engage in a bit of "word-of-mouth" advertising, bringing a friend or two along the following year.

RKC

**From: Tina Black <TiBlack@aol.com>**

**Date: Monday, June 12, 2000 9:18 PM**

Kelly, this proposal is pretty good, provided we do one thing along with the mailing—we *have* to pay attention to the folks that mailings bring out.

As usual, the newcomers to ConQuest found me—I spoke to one woman at length who had just moved to KC within the last three months.

Unfortunately, KaCSFFS has the picnic in June at a spot that is not something I usually pay attention to since I tend not to go—so I did not suggest that she come to KaCSFFS in June. If we send a mailing to everyone with a KC address that we don't know, maybe she will find us. Wish we could do the same with all those who have paid for WorldCon with KC locations—those folks are *serious* since WorldCon was never under \$125.00 for Chicago.

I'm going to propose that if we can't get the bookmarks underway, we should at least get business cards with the KaCSFFS PO Box, web site and phone number on them so that members can carry cards to give to people when inviting them to meetings. Does anyone know what happened to the bookmarks? It has been almost a year since we last saw them (when we met at the mall, remember??).

I will be missing for the next two meeting as usual—summer is just like that. I hope that y'all have fun at the picnic.

Tina

*The KaCSFFS Bookmarks debuted at the Campbell Conference last month, and hopefully will be available at this month's KaCSFFS meeting. Delays on this project were due to the necessity of correcting mistakes in the originals, which required getting the original artwork, and there were some technical problems with that. This was yet another project dumped into Jim Murray's lap; he didn't volunteer for it, and don't blame him for the delays. He finished the master months ago, so if blame for the delay needs to be assigned it belongs to us board members. —DS*

**From: R. Kelly Cutler <cutler@swbell.net>**

Date: Monday, June 12, 2000 11:59 PM

Well, I've had a couple of positive remarks made about this idea. No negatives. I cannot attend KaCSFFS meetings, so I can come up with the idea, but I can't propose it. Would anyone be willing to propose this to the club? How about if I wrote it up with all the whereas and resolveds and put it over my name?

Also regarding bookmarks, I like David's idea of putting them into the books. I also think adding the KaCSFFS brochure to the first mailing and a bookmark to the second might be a good idea, too. As to the timing, it wouldn't be in time for the picnic since it has to be voted upon by the club and the next meeting is the picnic.

RKC

*The Board thinks the Direct Mail proposal is a Good Thing. However, the timing would be best for the 3 months immediately following ConQuest, as the following two meetings—Picnic and Film Fest—are Special Events which provide a good atmosphere to introduce someone to the club. The Board would like this to start in June, 2001. But the composition of the Board will change before then, so the current Board can do no more than recommend it. Ye editor thinks formalizing this with a club vote might be a good idea. —DS*

**From: Dave Truesdale <davet@worldinter.net>**

Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2000 2:20 AM

[Keith's MidAmerican Fan Photo Archive project is] Very impressive, Keith. The club owes you one yet again for this marvelous undertaking.

I guess now I'll have to show you the album I have with nothing but con photos from the 70s. You only whizzed through the grocery sack full at ConQuest from the recent cons.

Also, I'm wondering if Robin might let you go through those extremely rare photos that Tucker gave him, and which Murray and I used extensively in a couple of the last print Tangents. We ran pages full of them. Many were from the 30s-50s and included Henry Kuttner, Theodore Sturgeon, Harlan Ellison, John W. Campbell, Bill Rotsler, E.E. "Doc" Smith, E.E. Evans, (group shot of...)...Jack Williamson, Edmond Hamilton, Julie Schwartz, and others, and a photo circa 1941-42 of Alden Ackerman, Forry's brother, who was killed at the Battle of the Bulge, January 1st, 1945. How rare can *this* photo be!

Robin, what sayest thou? Wanna let Keith look through that shoebox of b&w's?

Best, Dave

**From: Robin Bailey <rbailey@ix.netcom.com>**

I've already told Keith he's welcome to post the Tucker collection online. Whenever his schedule and enthusiasm allow for it.

best, Robin

**From: Dave Truesdale** <davet@worldinter.net>

Date: Thursday, July 13, 2000 4:25 AM

Terrific, Robin. Many sincere thanks, of course. There is a lot of wonderful fannish/pro history in these photos. A story behind each one. Maybe after seeing some of them, someone could write a short piece about some of them for the club newsletter (and then have it reprinted online, as a link to the particular photo, with credit given to the club newsletter)? Not just the Tucker's, but about any of the photos on the MidAmerican Fan Photo Archive site. A textual remembrance to attach to the visual image, as it were.

This overall theme of capturing fan history is a most worthy and valuable one, and is what the fanzine *Mimosa* has been doing for years in print form, with many excellent articles from major folks (fan and pro). Dick and Nicki Lynch are to be commended for their efforts, and are deserving of their Hugos (even if they *did* beat *Tangent* for the Hugo by a mere 7 votes in San Antonio a few years ago <g>).

But my point is, that what Keith is attempting to do, or build, is a visual historical counterpart to what *Mimosa* has been doing in print. This is a very good thing.

It is my feeling that we should applaud Keith for this wonderful beginning, and help him in whatever way we possibly can.

Best, Dave

**From: Stanley M. Sutton** <smsutton@iwon.com>

A \$600 or so barrier to voting seems a bit excessive. Even when I was in Kansas City, it was difficult to attend meetings. I definitely would like the ability to vote by proxy.

**From: R. Kelly Cutler** <cutler@swbell.net>

Yeeeps, that's two lifetime memberships! You'd belong in this incarnation and the next! Are you planning on something we don't know about?

It does occur to me that one solution might be to charge extra for having a proxy-vote membership, say perhaps another \$15.00. If the objection is that proxies reduce attendance, I suspect most folks would probably go for the cheaper membership. I'd certainly be willing to pay extra to have a proxy, especially since it would have no affect on my attendance.

**From: Jason Gasper** <unicorn98@primary.net>

[...] I suspect that our venerated Texan [Stanley] was referring to the *travel cost* of making it to a meeting from his current location. Or something like that... [...]

Seriously, I can see both sides of the issue. For those who are genuinely unable to attend regularly such as yourself (I assume it's not by choice <g>) and Stanley an argument can be made for the "need" for a proxy vote. I can also see the fear of it being mis-used by the lazy or irresponsible.

While I don't go in for the "class envy" rich vs. poor argument, I do feel it's unfair to abridge the rights of a paid voting member who has a legitimate reason for being unable to be present (such as yourself, R.Kelly; or Texas Stan, or a hospitalized member, or homebound member, etc.). Then to make them pay more to get the privilege *back* seems kind of—I don't know—morally wrong.

If we do choose to allow "proxy" voting it should be on a case by case basis only, not a blanket "this person speaks for me permanently" coverage. Usually the important votes are announced far enuf in advance thru the Fanzine, KDL/ KaAML,



etc to allow those who honestly are incapable of being there (*not* those who just want to skip the vote for a Con, party, dinner, etc. If it's not important enuf for you to attend when you can, and choose not to, then it's not important enuf to need your vote! Life's full of tough choices, people.) to make their proxy decision, and any conditional provisions for changes via amendments, etc, known.

The simplest and most elegant solution would be as a vote looms on the (figurative) horizon that the person who feels that they have a legitimate reason for not attending but who still wants their opinion and/or vote known on the issue to contact a board member and discuss the situation. If the board member feels that the person's reason for not being able to attend was a good one [...] then they could have the member send, via e- or snail mail as appropriate, written permission for that board member to vote on their behalf on this issue. Any desired opinions that the member wanted expressed could be included if the board member was willing. The board member would bring the written permission to the meeting as proof of proxy for that vote and then would vote for himself and again for each proxy, separately. The proof and proxy would be noted in the Minutes for oversight and future record. Once proven, cast, and noted, the proxy letter is no longer needed and can be discarded. [...]

Jason Gasper

*We think it's not a good idea to put a board member in the position of deciding if a member's "excuse" is good enough. That would very likely lead to disagreements and perhaps charges of favoritism and/or conflict of interest.*

**From: Tina Black** <tiblack@aol.com>

I'm not sure that I like schemes that give "rich" citizens more privileges than "poor" ones even generally... it rings off graveyard votes and tiered memberships.

In some years I have attended meetings more than others. Right now I attend about 8 meetings a year, a pattern that has been true for awhile. I have to say, however, that some interesting things came up for a vote during some of those....

The only vote that has a really fixed time is the vote for KaCSFFS officers. Con guests, HoF board members, and con chair votes have migrated around from mid-winter to late summer. I agree with voting only on fixed-slate items. I didn't intend to suggest a proxy for voice votes or for nickels and dimes. Even our country allows absentee ballots. When shall we follow suit?

Tina

**From: John Vaughan** <mdell326@aol.com>

Dear Tina,

Here I am again. Here is the other reason why I am against proxies. It puts another administrative burden on the club (The by-laws do not allow for it). It also, if adopted, would task the secretary to keep track of those proxies.

We already have the quorum clause in the by-laws that prevents any vote if one is not present. A quorum can easily had from local members. And. If adopted, how would you include/exclude out of town members?

Lots of problems here. Let's not go there.

Best, John T V

*Ye editor likes the idea of absentee ballots for individual announced-in-advance votes much better than blanket proxy votes. This would require a by-laws change, though. Perhaps this should be brought up for discussion in a meeting. Be advised, however, that the board is generally opposed to any changes which might reduce attendance at meetings.*

**From: David Sooby** <lensman@planetkc.com>

[...] I anticipate some will say the club account has \$15,000 in it, so doesn't need any more. But if we're thinking of the future, when at least some of us are thinking big and want to rent or buy a clubhouse of our own, then that \$15,000 is gonna look mighty small. Harold McEldery mentioned to me that he thinks KaCSFFS should have a 10-year plan to get the clubhouse. Socking money away regularly in the club account and allowing it to grow would be a good start on that 10-year plan.

**From: Keith Stokes** <sfreader@unicom.net>

I love many of you folks dearly, but I don't wish to own real estate with you.  
Keith

**From: Ken Keller**

I think Harold was actually thinking about renting a place—at least first— rather than trying to buy a facility outright. That plan is at least doable. One current SF group—the South Florida Science Fiction Society (SFSFS)—has done so for almost a decade now. (They rent an old movie theater.) And they're a much newer group than KaCSFFS! The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS) has owned their clubhouse outright for more than two decades, but were renting a full time store front space as far back as the 40s! They raised money by various means over a couple of decades to buy their clubhouse, thanks largely to the efforts of the building committee chair, Bruce Pelz. So it's doable, if we have the *will* to do so and act on such a decision. We've proved we can do anything we set out to do. Ah, but wanting to, that's the rub! As we approach our 30th year as an active fan organization, I think the time is right. Opinions?  
—Ken

**From: R. Kelly Cutler** <cutler@swbell.net>

No opinions yet, but a few questions:

What sort of things do they do to raise money for repairs, utilities, insurance and taxes? Does any of it have to come out of their own pockets? Did they pay cash or did they take out a loan for the place? How much money has to be raised every year? Do they rent out the space to other groups?

Also, please remind us of the compelling reasons why we should want a semi-permanent (renting) or permanent clubhouse.

Apologies to all of KDL—I just asked Keller to pontificate.

RKC

**From: Tina Black** <tiblack@aol.com>

What size were these groups?

What was the population base of their area (potential future members, if you will)?

Have we considered an interim measure of rental subsidy—aiding a member to move to a complex where there is a *good, handicap-accessible* clubhouse we can rent/use and pay their rent differential (within a pre-set limit) from their present abode?

Have we looked at renting abandoned commercial properties (dead fast-food places, for example)?

OK. No firm opinion until the numbers are in and the options explored.

Tina

**From: Dave Truesdale <davet@worldinter.net>**

What Ken said, on every point. It's just getting used to this new idea that may be hard for some. Sure, it's new and a bit daring from what we're used to, but it would prove, in the long run, an eminently workable idea.

It would also be a terrific place to go for our yearly ConQuest Monday dead dog parties. We could hold author readings there (publicized), and over time, it would be a true KC watering hole for private and occasional public gatherings alike. We've always been good at promoting ourselves; we just take it to another level if/when our permanent clubhouse becomes a reality. We could also (as Ken has promoted to me a long time ago) have a donated reading library there, as well as other neat stuff.

And with readings, etc., it would draw an interested public to *us*, and hopefully new members/revenue. It would take time, yes, but the long-term bennies would be well worth the investment to be able to rent a stable venue. We need this, friends.

There will, of course, be all sorts of details to be worked through. But the fundamental *idea* is a sound one and I am all for it.

Best, Dave

PS—FLASH! Just tonight I got the news that I am the new Managing Editor of a new, fully professional, nationally distributed fantasy magazine named BLACK GATE. Premiere issue will debut at World Fantasy Con in late October in Corpus Christi. I can now *almost* quit my day job! :-)

**From: John Taylor <jdtaylor00@aol.com>**

At the meeting Laura Barnes volunteered to put up a shed in her back yard to house KaCSFFS paraphernalia when not in use. This met with lukewarm (IMO) response, because of concerns about climate and security. But it does bring up some interesting considerations.

On the one hand, maybe KaCSFFS should use some of its current surplus to rent a really-truly storage locker in one of the commercial facilities available all over the place. There is a new one only two blocks from my home that is completely indoors. I don't know about costs, but I rented one myself several years ago when we were selling our previous house, so it can't be exorbitant. (I know that David Sooby has one, too.)

On the other hand .... I'm really diffident about bringing this up, but the spectre of a permanent meeting place has been raised before. Although I have a knee-jerk reaction to Ken Keller suggesting that we spend money (although the suggestion may have originated with Harold), this one is interesting... I envision a four-room facility, with a large meeting room, socializing area, kitchen facility, and—storage room! (Oh, yeah, bathrooms too.) I would want to rent, because that way maintenance, taxes, etc., would be the landlord's problem. Cost of the facility could be

somewhat offset by renting it to other small groups with the same problem—the kind of groups that rent shelter houses, for example. (Of course, that presents security problems, too, especially if we maintain a library in the socializing area. But security is a problem in 2000 no matter where you go. When I was a boy <a shot rings out>). We would need a unified consensus on the smoking problem, too. (Although a smoker myself, I acknowledge that sending us outdoors is appropriate.)

Location would be a consideration, and of course handicapped accessibility. (No stairs, please. But the Taylor's have an odd device, a framework that makes any bathroom usable by the disabled.) And finding a place that fits my description would be a real challenge. (Although, again, something like Tim's previous dance studio would be just about perfect.) It's probably a dream, but I invite KDL to dream along for a while. What would you like to see in a permanent meeting room?

Best, John Taylor

**From: Inger Myers <bimboart@earthlink.net>**

*[Note this was sent to KDL by Tim Keltner, with Inger's permission. —DS]*

I have an idea for Saturday night at ConQuest next year. What if we turn the Children's programming room over to the teens from post Masquerade to curfew. I'll pack up as much of the kid stuff as possible, arrange a time and materials for them to decorate the place and provide a boombox for their CD's. I would also try to get some of the kids involved ahead of time to decide on needed munch ies, soda and possible decorating ideas. I'm also hoping we can get several related (to the teens) adults to help monitor the room in shifts.

I'm hoping this will do several things. 1) get the kids more involved in the con. 2) provide them a place to "hangout" on Sat. eve. [...] And 4) Reward the kids [...] by looking out for their needs as a family friendly con.

And yes, this means I am willing to coordinate and implement this idea and that I am willing to run Children's Programming again.

Run the idea by Mike and one else you think would have a constructive opinion and let me know. You have my permission to put this up on KDL if you think the general populous needs to comment.

Inger :)

**From: Cheryl Peugh <gcpeugh@swbell.net>**

I like it. It's not a gripe, it's not a growl, it's just a quiet offer [...]. Inger has put her money where her mouth is. If Inger will contact me [...] and tell me what she would like to have in the way of materials for this effort, I will help her acquire them. I can find (and buy) a lot of stuff in a year's time. Thank you, Inger.

Cheryl Peugh

**From: Jason Gasper <unicorn98@primary.net>**

Not only do I think this is a decent idea, I'd be willing to donate time or resources (as possible) to assist. You might think about having it staffed by some of the younger (but trusted) Membership. Read: 20-30ish, young enuf to relate but old enuf to be responsible. That way it's not like having your parents or friend's parents babysitting the party, if you see what I mean...(I'm sure all who can still remember their own childhood remember how much that could suck; even "cool" parents were *still* parents to that mentality) I'm not much of a party animal, so once

I've made my "rounds" I'm usually at loose ends, so sitting in the "Teen room" (for want of a better term) and playing room monitor (before or after my own socializing, either way) would give me something to do for a couple of hours. So that's my two cents.

Jason Gasper

**From: John Taylor <jdtaylor00@aol.com>**

It's an interesting idea, and... I wonder if it would be possible to set up a Teen Committee, potentially consisting of JayLi, Miranda, Heather, the Dell kids, etc., to organize it. I mean, make them a real committee, not just ask them to decorate. It might stimulate their interest in the con, and it might get them to work together. An adult should probably oversee, to make sure disagreements are settled and feelings don't get too ruffled, but... I think there could be some real possibilities here.

John Taylor

**From: R. Kelly Cutler <cutler@swbell.net>**

I like the idea, especially the part about getting the teens involved in it now. It could be like having their own ConSuite. I'll bet 99% of them have access to the net. Would setting up a ConQueTeen list get them talking about what they would like to have there, perhaps even get them planning stuff for it? Would they be interested in talking to each other?

Inger—I'm not on the ConComm, but thanks for stepping forward and volunteering. It folks like you that make this a great club and a great con.

RKC

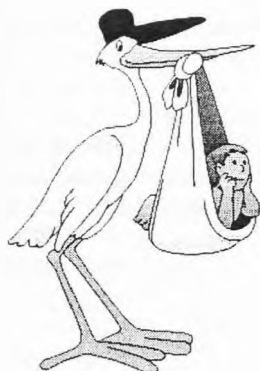
**From: Inger Myers <bimboart@earthlink.net>**

John: You hit the nail on the head. I want the kids to do as much of the planning etc. themselves. I would be the consultant/mediator.

Jason: If this all goes through I will gladly accept your help. Thanks.

To all: I hope these replies help clarify my intentions. I want the teens to be the driving force behind this idea, if the teen room gets the A-OK from Concom.

Inger :)



Let's celebrate with a baby shower

Honoring Darice Schirber-Poovey

Date: Saturday, August 26, 2000

Time: 3:00 pm — 5:00 pm

Given by Laura Barnes

RSVP at 816/468-8317 by Aug 22

Darice is Registered at

Burlington Coat Factory

# Laser Rangers



## Fanboys Watch Fanboys

"Free Enterprise" at our August Saturday session (attendance: 6) was quite possibly our most popular feature ever. Most had not seen this film, a comedy concerning about-to-turn-30 media fanboys forced to confront the dread possibility that finding a good woman or paying the utility bills just *might* be more important than getting the latest *Sandman* graphic novel. The film references dropped into conversation

came so thick and fast one could hardly count them. William Shatner plays a feet-of-clay parody version of himself, to the chagrin of the film's die-hard Trekker characters. This direct-to-video release is likely the first professional film with fans as its central characters, and is highly recommended for all fans. It *will* be appearing in the next ConQuest film schedule.

The other feature of this "Great Bird of the Galaxy Gets Roasted" theme was "Galaxy Quest," the very popular and very funny *Star Trek* parody. Corey Barber had the most clever food tie-in with ice cream drumsticks. Ty Gephardt had the best costume tie-in, with various and numerous *Star Trek* badges.

Rumor has it that at the August KaCSFFS meeting, Ty will become the third Laser Ranger to join KaCSFFS. Ty is the son of Jan Gephardt, who long-time club members will remember was a Kacsfan many years ago. Laser Rangers *still* rule!

## September Saturday Session

Sep 9, Capt. Laser Corey Barber will host "Jewels of the Crown of '50s SF," featuring "The Day the Earth Stood Still" (1951) and "Forbidden Planet" (1956). Apparently the Laser Rangers own more than one laserdisc of each, so there will be a wide variety of supplementary material to watch, especially for FP. As usual, the session starts at 4 PM. For directions, call or e-mail David Sooby (see contact info on page 1).

## Future Saturday Sessions

Oct 14: Crispin Burnham hosts "I See Dead People," featuring "Carnival of Souls" and "The Sixth Sense."

Nov 11: David Sooby hosts "Don't Call 'em Chick Flicks," with "Steel Magnolias" and "Shakespeare in Love."

Dec: No firm plans, but Ken Keller is considering doing a session at his place, by invitation only due to limited seating area.

## Friday Sessions

We've run out of "The Prisoner" episodes on laserdisc. This series is being released on DVD starting in late October (see page 42 for details), but at least until then we'll do something else. Tracy Majkol is taking up the slack with Anime series; we particularly like "Bubblegum Crisis."

Remember, Friday Laser Rangers sessions are the 4th Friday, starting at 7:15 PM. The next session is Aug 25.

# CON REPORTS

## Campbell Conference by Don Mull

I had a great time in Lawrence. All the guests/winners were really cool. The party at Star and Pooch's (BTW—Thanks again, y'all did a great job! I especially enjoyed the fruit trays) house was very well attended and enjoyed by all. If you haven't seen it you should see Star's badge collection from all the cons she has been to. David Marusek's story "The Wedding Album" if you haven't gotten to read it yet is in *Asimov's Science Fiction*, June 1999. If you are looking for a copy you might see if Ruth has any left out at the Oread. I thought it was really good, and I don't like short stuff that much with very few exceptions. I haven't finished Vernor Vinge's *A Deepness in the Sky* yet, but it is good so far. I enjoyed his *A Fire Upon The Deep*. The people at the Oread did a great job of having lots of books by all the writers at the signing. I also read every title in the Oread SF section (was looking for a book that I forgot the name and author of) and am happy to report that not only do they have a large quantity of SF they also have almost all quality SF. What I mean by Quality SF is not just books that are good by my tastes but by what I have heard y'all recommending to myself and others in the club. The talk that Hal Clement gave on thursday night, the topic being "Hard Science Is Easier", was not only entertaining but informative. A side note on Hal Clement: He is not only a writer but a fan who goes to lots of cons, I think he said the most he did in a year was 26, he was very accessible and nice to talk to. I also really had a great time sat night at the Mafia vs Villager game. I think we should try to get together some party games like this for ConQuest, maybe we could play it at a meeting sometime? I guess to sum it all up, it wasn't a con but it was still lots of fun!

Don M.

## DemiCon by Ted Poovey

Demi-Con was wonderful as always. The hotel was a problem on Friday but on Saturday was OK. However, there still were several problems with night staff not understanding that we party all night. I talked with the Con-Com and they are going to be working on some of the problems like the noise making waterfall in the central atrium being turned off at 1:30 AM. We all had to be 'quiet' after that. Also, the manager on Friday did not even know we were coming let alone who we were and not only created a situation but lied, deceived and called in extra security—an off-duty police officer. There were several of us that believe our rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States were definitely being violated in a big way. Room checks were threatened! Five people maximum in a room. Naturally some creative counting was done. No groups of more than two standing on the balcony. So we wandered around in groups of four or five pausing for a while here and there. Also, due to early room party doors closing except for a small opening on the door the general party traffic was non-existent.

Overall, the hotel food was OK and the hotel nice. The staff needed some tips on being friendly.

Regardless of the hotel problems Demi-Con was an excellent con, as usual—good dealers room with a good mix, good art show and fun programming. There was a electronic dog in the dealers room that used Chaos theory based

artificial intelligence that had learned many new tricks from those preprogrammed and interacted with the audience fairly well. (It could "see.") I would still recommend that everyone attempt to attend the convention.

### **ConQuest by Robin Bailey**

To the ConQuest committee, staff, and organizers, and to all my fellow KaCSFFS members:

I want to say a deeply felt thank-you for a wonderful convention and weekend. Diana and I both had a terrific time. You made us feel, not just honored, but special. We are blessed to have so many good friends. Special thanks to Ted and Margene for a well-run event, and also to Susan Satterfield for the special beverages awaiting us upon check-in.

Also special thanks to Jason and Jenna Gaspar and to Cheryl Peugh for all their work on the Hall of Fame auction and in the display room. The same thanks to everyone who donated auction items or who reached into their pockets to purchase items.

Special thanks again to Nancy Nutt and the con suite volunteers. I spent more time in that area than usual, primarily I think owing to the huge industrial-sized fan that kept the air a little more breathable. Even Diana was out partying Saturday night!

I can't adequately put into words just how much the weekend meant to me and how good it was to see so many friends and people from around the region. I missed last year terribly, and this was an incredible "homecoming."

Thank you all again.

Best wishes always, Robin ... Bob to some of you ... and Diana Bailey <g>

### **ConQuest by Paul Burns**

ConQuest 31 was a blast! It was my first official visit to the con, although I've known about it for some years. I always seem to have some other commitment that weekend, so this was a real treat.

Managed to evade the brewing thunderstorm just in time for Opening Ceremonies, and I must say the Committee out-did themselves. The parade of choir-robed "End of the World" prophets wielding picket signs to the tune of REM's "It's the End of the World As We Know It," was a stroke of loony genius. Among the more memorable signs was the "Sacrificial Virgins for Rent" placard, and the gentleman with a sandwich-board bringing up the rear of the procession which read "Eat at Joe's."

The Fans Over 40 Party was a blast. My biggest treat was finally putting faces to the names of the readership who regularly submit articles or items of interest. Looking forward to seeing more of them as I have the ability to get to more cons. We missed Codger, but Pinky ably served as "The Designated Bob Tucker." The DP Suite was quite spacious and well-appointed, and of course, well-provisioned. It was great seeing Robin Bailey, looking more robust and healthy by the day. Also got to schmooze with the incorrigible Selina Rosen, whose energy and good humor are a tonic in and of themselves. Selina, you're the greatest! I also was one of the lucky few to snag "Queen of Denial," her latest novel, whose dwindling availability Selina cheerfully announced semi-hourly until all copies were sold. And it was heartening to hear how successful an endeavour the "Fake ID" fundraiser was. There was a funeral party for "Mystie," and I know I missed the champagne, which in hindsight was a very good thing! Don't remember much of the rest of Friday



evening, so I must have been having fun.

Many of the panel sessions on Saturday were fascinating, especially the "You've been Tuckerized & Other Petty Thieves" panel on Saturday afternoon. Ably moderated by the inestimable Mr. Bailey, it also featured Lee Killough and Jim Stark. Seems some writers Tuckerize as a kind of incidental veneration, but others Tuckerize enemies to dispatch in horrific and humiliating ways. Depending upon the personality of the person in question, of course. I had the honor of babysitting the DP Suite while Pinky and several others went to the Genghis Khan Mongolian Barbeque—and if you're ever in KC, check it out. While minding the Suite, I renewed acquaintance with Joan Moffitt (since re-married) from 20-some years back, who of course chastised me for not recognizing her sooner. Much catching up on old times and gossip was shared, and then it was time to make ready for the costume contest. The costume entries were quite varied and ingenious, and then there was the Annual Readership Meeting, after which time the partying commenced and didn't stop until the wee hours. I recall Bailey in black leather trousers and a triple-X tank top, looking quite dangerous, and the smoothing of at least one virgin, (there had to be more), and then was fortunate enough to crash in the room of "Angst," AKA Jon Durett, another DP reader whose acquaintance I'd just made that day. That was exceedingly generous, as I could not afford a room at the hotel, and was in no condition to take myself home after the protracted revelry. Thanx, Jon. (I look forward to reading your upcoming fanzine.) My one regret was not being able to hang out for the third day, and that I didn't get to spend as much time with friends who were present as I had wished, but since many of them were on the Con Committee, they had their hands full.

Alas, I had prior commitments on Sunday, and was unable to attend the benefit auction, or the closing ceremonies. I had hoped to get back for the Dead Dog Party, but was detained by my other engagement. I found the hotel to be wonderfully accomodating, and from an attendee's perspective, it was one of the best cons I've attended. Thanx to Ted & Margene and the Concom, the DP, and the guests for making my visit to ConQuest unforgettable. I look forward to next year's con with breathless anticipation. (Sorry I missed the silly string.)

### **Tim Keltner on World Horror Con**

Here's my report on World Horror Con 2000. Upon arriving in Denver Thursday afternoon I discovered I had stumbled on a real rarity. There was no one there at 1 PM on the day of a Convention. I went down to the Concierge and asked about a movie theatre and was pointed to one only a block away.

So, I went to see "Battlefield Earth." Truly, one of the worst films ever made. If we had seen this as a free screener, we would have demanded our time back. Enough said. This one is rated Don't Bother.

I arrived back at the Adam's Mark at about 4:30 PM and went to registration. There was a line but it moved swiftly enough and I met an aspiring writer who introduced herself to me and we chatted to make the wait go quicker. She was volunteering for the con as I was.

Now, WHC is a kind of strange animal as the location and staff change every year. Most of the staff was from Mile High Con and they did a great job with a not-so-con-friendly hotel. One thing they lacked was enough volunteers. Being one to take my duties in the Con Suite seriously, I worked from 5:30 PM to 2:30 AM except for going to opening ceremonies.

The next morning I got up at 6:30 AM and cleaned and vacuumed the room,

made coffee and a fruit tray and even carved a watermelon whale for decoration. I worked till 10:30 and then attended the convention till 7:30 PM repeating the closing and re-opening Saturday morning. By then I was really dragging. I did get to go to a few panels, watched the International Horror Guild award presentations and spent an hour listening to Harlan Ellison (about all I can take) on Saturday. By 1:30 PM Saturday I was headed for the airport to get home for Mother's Day. I said my good-byes and spent some time talking to Ed Bryant, giving him congrats for a well run Con. The membership was around 600 and I found this Con to be a very manageable size.

I particularly enjoyed seeing Bill a few times and spending time with Dee and Ann in the Con Suite discussing convention logistics. Seeing people from home is a great feeling when you are away. I think KC made a good showing at the con although I'm not sure why that is so important to me. But there it is. The bad news is that next year in Seattle it has been moved to Memorial Day weekend. I'd love to go.... but I'm going to be busy.

Oh, well. Maybe we'll bring it to KC sometime....

Tim Keltner, LNF

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*Use an AFDB to stop Dis-infection*

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## 1999 BRAM STOKER AWARD WINNERS

Presented May 13, 2000



Novel: *Mr. X*, by Peter Straub

First Novel: *Wither*, by J.G. Passarella

Long Fiction (Tie):

"Five Days in April," by Brian A. Hopkins

"Mad Dog Summer" by Joe R. Lansdale

Short Fiction: "Aftershock," by F. Paul Wilson

Fiction Collection: *The Nightmare Chronicles*, by Douglas Clegg

Anthology: *999: New Stories of Horror and Suspense*, edited by Al Sarrantonio

Nonfiction: *DarkEcho Newsletter*, written and edited by Paula Guran

Illustrated Narrative: *Sandman: The Dream Hunters*, by Neil Gaiman

Screenplay: *Sixth Sense*, by M. Night Shyamalan

Work for Young Readers: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, by J.K. Rowling

Other Media: "I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream," (Audio) by Harlan Ellison

Lifetime Achievement Award: Edward Gorey  
Charles L. Grant



# Media Watch

By Crispin Burnham

## ***The Prisoner Series Coming to DVD***

The classic British TV series "The Prisoner" is in DVD production from A&E, which is also producing "The Avengers," another classic British series, on DVD. The 18 episodes of "The Prisoner," a fringe-SF series concerning a man's struggle for individuality, are so filled with philosophical, intellectual, and psychological themes and allegory that it is astonishing it ever was produced for television. DVD Details are not yet available at A&E's website, but a few can be seen at Ken Crane's website <[www.kencranes.com](http://www.kencranes.com)>, a commercial site highly recommended by the Laser Rangers. The first 2-disc set will feature 3 episodes plus an unknown amount of supplemental material; the 2nd set will feature 4 episodes. According to Ken Crane's, Vol. 1 is due 10/31 and Vol. 2 on 10/26. (Don't ask us; that's what it says! To search there, use "prisoner" and not "the prisoner" as your key word.)

## **"Akira", "Cardcaptors" DVDs Due**

The popular anime "Akira" and the children's animated series "Cardcaptors" will both appear on DVDs in the United States, Pioneer announced. The "Akira" DVD will come out in 2001 and will feature multilingual tracks and as-yet undetermined special features. "Cardcaptors" (also known as Card Captor Sakura), now airing on The WB, will appear on DVD in September in both edited broadcast form and unedited, subtitled form. Pioneer also announced the release of the entire "Fushigi Yuugi" series, complete with the original video animation series, music videos and Omake specials.

## **Yoda To Go CGI?**

Animators at Lucasfilm have been testing a computer-generated version of Yoda for Star Wars: Episode II, according to TheForce.net Web site. The animated Yoda is being tested to see how it compares with the puppet character operated in all previous Star Wars films by Frank Oz. Animators at Lucasfilm's Industrial Light and Magic special effects house have reportedly taken footage of Yoda close-ups from "The Empire Strikes Back" to match the puppet's movements, TheForce.net reported. Previous rumors have said that Yoda will be more active in Episode II than in previous films, even taking part in a light-saber fight. Such action would require an animated Yoda.

## **Lee To Appear In Star Wars Episode II?**

Veteran British actor Christopher Lee, who plays Saruman in the upcoming "Lord of the Rings" film trilogy, has supposedly won a part in Star Wars: Episode II,

according to the Ain't It Cool News Website. Citing unnamed sources, the site reported that Lee will appear in the next installment of George Lucas' space saga. AICN provided no details of Lee's casting, nor did it say what role he will play. Lee first won fame for portraying Dracula in Hammer Films' 1970s series of vampire films, and has appeared in dozens of movies since. (This has just been confirmed by Lucasfilms)

### **ILM To Create Animated Movies**

George Lucas' special effects house, Industrial Light & Magic, plans to expand into the animation business, creating computer-generated films and television shows, according to *Variety*. ILM has a staff of 80 and created effects for the upcoming films "The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle" and "Space Cowboys." ILM had planned to step into the animation arena about three years ago with *Frankenstein*, a computer-generated co-venture with Universal, but that project fell through due to creative differences, *Variety* reported.

### **SF&F Films Among AFI's Funniest**

Science fiction films made it into the American Film Institute's list of the 100 funniest American films, as chosen by a panel of 1,800 industry representatives. Stanley Kubrick's nuclear-war satire, "Dr. Strangelove, Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" (1964) ranked highest among genre films, coming in at No. 3. Among the other genre films in the list: "Young Frankenstein" (1974), "Ghostbusters" (1984), "Groundhog Day" (1993), "Harvey" (1950), "Big" (1988), "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" (1948), "Topper" (1937), "Sleeper" (1973), "Beetlejuice" (1988) and "The Nutty Professor" (1963).

### **Expect Freddy Vs. Jason**

Robert Englund, who played Freddy Krueger in seven *Nightmare on Elm Street* movies, confirms a project that would pit Freddy against *Friday the 13th* villain Jason. Englund told the Popcorn U.K. Web site that Freddy vs. Jason is "still a go. [New Line president] Michael De Luca just wants to get it perfect. This is a movie with a lot of fans and seven prequels, and he wants to get it right." Englund added that Guillermo Del Toro is no longer on board to direct the film. "Blade" director Stephen Norrington will write the script and helm the proposed movie, Englund said. "I'm really hoping... that they have a dream sequence in Jason's mind—a Jason nightmare—because that's the only way Freddy could ever vanquish him anyway," he added. "It would be a great Freudian, psycho, sicko dreamscape to go inside Jason's head and see what goes on when he's dreaming and maybe show what led Jason to become the evil that he is."

### **Arnold Will Be Back In "T3"**

He'll be back: Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed on the dotted line to return as the killer cyborg in "Terminator 3," according to the Hollywood trade papers. The third installment in the Terminator franchise is slated to go before cameras in Los Angeles in the spring of 2001, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. *Variety* reported that the film is aimed at a summer 2002 release. Schwarzenegger has previously said he wouldn't do another "Terminator" film without Cameron, and he repeated his desire to work with Cameron on "T3" during an interview on Access Hollywood this week. The film will have a budget of \$100 million. No studio has

agreed to distribute the film yet.

James Cameron, who created "The Terminator," won't be back to direct "Terminator 3," according to a report by Entertainment Weekly Online. Cameron's production company told EW that he preferred to develop a sequel to "True Lies," the 1994 movie that starred "Terminator" lead Arnold Schwarzenegger. EW reported that "T3" would document the wars between humans and machines, and is slated for a 2002 release.

### **"Hitchhiker" Draft Done**

Douglas Adams told fans that he has finished a new draft of a screenplay for the movie version of his comic SF novel *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. "I finished an all-new draft of the screenplay last week, and [director] Jay [Roach] loves it," Adams said in a post on his official Web site. Adams added, "It's the first time in all these years that we've had a screenplay which clearly works and seems to solve all the problems of it needing to be both a real version of *Hitchhiker* and also a proper movie. It's been a very hard circle to square." The film version of Adams' popular book has been in development for years. "Please be patient," Adams asked his fans. "I have to be discreet. Don't believe anything you read here that doesn't come directly from me, especially anything from so-called 'informed, insider sources,' most of which belongs in the Half-Witted Crap Forum."

### **"Battlefield Earth II" Possible**

Cinescape Online reported that *Battlefield Earth* director Roger Christian believes a sequel is still possible, despite the movie's dismal box-office performance. Christian told a panel at Dragon Con in Atlanta that he and producer/star John Travolta continue to discuss a sequel, which would cover the events in the second half of the L. Ron Hubbard novel on which the first film was based.

[Hey, why not? Ed Wood didn't let critics calling "Plan 9" the "worst film of all time" stop him from making a semi-sequel, "Revenge of the Dead." However, that did sit unreleased for 23 years—that's twenty-three years—before being released, as Wood couldn't pay the lab bill for processing the film. Dare we hope for a similar fate for BE II? —DSJ]

### **Stainless Steel Rat Goes Hollywood**

Jan de Bont ("Twister") will direct a Fox feature film based on the *Adventures of the Stainless Steel Rat* series of SF novels by Harry Harrison, according to *Variety*. Harrison is perhaps best known for his classic *Deathworld* novels, as well as the recent *West of Eden* and sequels. Media fans may be more aware of "Soylent Green" (1973), which was a poor filming of Harrison's novel *Make Room! Make Room!* starring Charlton Heston. *The Stainless Steel Rat* tells the story of a con man in the future, who gets caught and avoids a prison sentence by agreeing to work as an undercover cop. He is paired with a femme-fatale officer. *Rat* is being adapted for the screen by Eric Blakeney ("Gunshy").

### **Mulgrew: Bring It Home**

Kate Mulgrew (Capt. Janeway on *Star Trek: Voyager*) told the British *TV Zone* magazine that she wants *Voyager* to return to Earth early in its last season, according to the *TrekToday* website. "And I would say the sooner, the better,"

Mulgrew said. "I would try and do a full season in Federation space, as there are so many problems," Mulgrew added. "The Maquis are criminals. Tom Paris is supposed to be in jail. Seven-of-Nine is a Borg. It's an endless thing. What happens?" Mulgrew herself will head back to the legitimate stage once the show is over at the end of next season.

### **Scully To Get New Partner**

With David Duchovny (Fox Mulder) paring down his appearances on *The X-Files* next year, expect co-star Gillian Anderson (Dana Scully) to get a new partner, *X-Files* creator Chris Carter told the Entertainment Weekly website. "Certainly Scully's character has evolved to this point now where she is a believer of sorts," Carter said. "I think that the partner would probably be a skeptic. And more likely than not, it will be a man." Duchovny recently agreed to return for the *X-Files*' eighth season, but in a limited capacity. It's unclear whether next season will be the show's last.

### **New Time Slot for *Farscape***

*Farscape* will switch time slots on June 16 to Fridays at 9 p.m., following the SciFi Channel's new original series, *The Invisible Man*, at 8 P.M. *Farscape*'s viewership jumped 16 percent in its second season, the network announced.

### ***The Tick* Has Camp Edge**

Ben Edlund, creator of *The Tick*, said he had another superhero television series in mind when adapting his comic book and animated series into a live-action half-hour pilot for Fox. "I'd say the most superficial comparison would be with the '60s Batman show," Edlund told the New England Comics fan Web site. Edlund added, "It's got an edge of camp in it. We didn't want to go entirely to camp; we wanted to 'de-camp,' you know. [But] it's got some real absurd moments, ...whatever I stole from Monty Python to do *The Tick* in the comic book, or whatever, there are moments there that reflect that kind of influence." ...We get to do what other series don't, because we just refuse to do it." *The Tick* is under consideration by Fox as a mid-season replacement series in 2001.

### **Cage Passes On Superman**

Nicolas Cage told the Mr. Showbiz Web site that he's going to pass on the starring role in the long-delayed "Superman Lives" movie. "Superman, I've decided that I'm not going to do," Cage told the Web site while promoting his new film, "Gone in 60 Seconds." Warner Bros. has been taking a long time developing the next installment in the superhero saga, based on the DC Comics series *Superman*. "It's just been too long," Cage told Mr. Showbiz.

*[Several Kacsfans on KDL expressed joy that the too-thin, edgy Cage would not portray the Man of Steel after all. —DS]*

### **Logan To Pen Trek X**

John Logan ("Bats") will be the primary screenwriter on the upcoming 10th Star Trek film, according to the official Star Trek Web site. Logan worked on the screenplays for "Any Given Sunday" and "Gladiator," as well as the original HBO movie "RKO 281". Star Trek X is tentatively scheduled for a Thanksgiving 2001

release. Star Trek executive producer Rick Berman told the official Star Trek Communicator magazine that the new movie will feature "a very action-oriented story that revolves around a remarkable villain. A higher percentage of this film will take place in outer space than in our previous films."

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*The Tero will Reveal All*

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## KaCSFFS Birthdays

Keith Russell	Aug 2
Rick Elleman	Aug 6
John Lehotsky	Aug 8
Julie Williams	Aug 12
Judy Moore	Aug 17
Laura Barnes	Aug 23
Sharon Beeler	Aug 26

Susan Satterfield	Aug 29
Ken Keller	Aug 30
Richard Lipp	Sep 6
Robin Crawford	Sep 15
Christina Dance	Sep 15
Harold McEldery	Sep 15
Michael N. Williams	Sep 16
Julie Hise	Sep 18

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*The Mantong alphabet gives the occult meaning of all human words*

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## DIRECTOR'S TWO CENTS

Well, thank you to all that made movie night a big success.

Please everyone remember that the club made a commitment to have a hot dog stand a Raytown Roundup and volunteers are needed.

Please contact David Sooby if you are willing.

I know that everyone is thinking about ConQuest for 2001 right? We need to vote on the chairs for the ConQuest in 2002 in September. Please volunteer at this meeting and think up a theme, etc. We already have our Guest of Honor lined up, but we will need to vote on the rest of the Guests. So, everyone think about who you want to see and would be a good guest for 2002. Nominations will be accepted next meeting.

Sounds like a lot of business for this next meeting. Remember we also have the featured speaker of the young, local science fiction author. So, please show up early and show our support.

Best wishes.

Ted Poovey

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# Timebound

c/o KaCSFFS

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