

LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 1 • Thursday, August 28, 1997

Masquerade Info

Peggy Kennedy

The Masquerade Registration and Check-In desk will be located near Registration and will be open 10 AM to 5 PM on Thursday and Friday and 9 AM to 10 AM on Saturday.

The Masquerade, as always, needs volunteers. We are taking names at the Masquerade Registration Desk until it closes at 10 AM Saturday. After that, you can find us in the Events Office. If we haven't found an assignment for you before Sunday, come to the Masquerade Volunteer Lounge behind the stage end of the Ballroom starting about 5 PM. You can sit there in comfort and we will come to you.

Hall costumers: we want you to have the chance to show your work to a wider audience. Come backstage after the presentations are over. The MC will take your name and announce your costume. No need for any bells and whistles - just go out and let us applaud you.

Special Interest Groups (Birds of a Feather)

Priscilla Olsen

Do we have a place for you! Sign up at Information for a space/time slot, and we'll try to get the word out about your meeting.

MFW & SFA, Inc.

Executive Committee breakfast meeting: 8 AM Friday, Garden Cafe, 2nd floor, Rivercenter.

WorldCon New York

Open Bid Meeting: 5 PM, Thursday, Rivercenter 2914.

Weird Fannish Stuff and Fan Program

Priscilla Olson

GRID

Here are the corrections that fix up the "Weird Fannish Stuff" which were left out (Legion, Zoo) or messed up (Trivia, Tackett Kaffeeklatsch). (All items in 101 unless noted otherwise.)

Some changes move things within room 101 to make space and fix a timing problem.

- Add "Long Live the Legion!—a Legion of Super Heroes Get-Together" (Sat. 16, cc104)
 - SF Trivia Bowl (Fri. 16, 101) (add Joe Siclari, Tim Illingworth if still left out)
 - Add "I Ran the Zoo-Con" (2 hours) (Sun. 14, 101); Move "Electronic Publishing"!!! to a larger space (may shift it by an hour or so, if necessary) (if that really can't be done, move Zoo to 104, or keep at 1 hour in 101????)
 - Add Tackett KK (Fri. 15, in 101) (if un-doable, leave "Hugo Fanzines" where it is—see below)
 - Deconstructing (Thurs. 15 to Mon. 11) This program item is designed to happen at the end of the convention.
 - Hugo Fanzines (Fri. 15 to Thurs. 15) (but see Tackett KK above)
 - Gafiation (Sun. 14 to Mon. 13)
- People's schedules will need fixing too.
[Note: I checked all people whose program items are moved: there are no *visible* conflicts.]

Newszine Staff

Get acquainted and get organized meeting, 10 AM Thursday, Rivercenter Conference Room 9 (3rd floor).

Filk Programming

Mall & Susan Pinsonneault

Concerts

The filk stage, which is on the south side of the exhibit hall by the concession area, will be open from 11:30 AM until 7:00 PM Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

If you are interested in performing during the open-mike periods, there will be a sign-up sheet next to the stage.

Friday

11:30 AM Lynn Gold
12:00 PM Randy Farran
12:30 PM Kathy Mar
1:30 PM Open Mike
5:00 PM Barry Gold
6:00 PM Leslie Fish

Saturday

11:30 AM Gary Ehrlich
12:00 PM Barry Gold
1:00 PM Randy Farran
1:30 PM Open Mike
5:00 PM Kathy Mar
5:30 PM Jordin Kare
6:00 PM Joe Bethancourt

Sunday

11:30 AM Harold Feld
12:30 PM Lynn Gold
1:00 PM Gary Ehrlich
1:30 PM Open Mike
5:00 PM Jordin Kare
5:30 PM Kathy Mar
6:00 PM Leslie Fish



Filk rooms

Evening filks take place in the Marriott RiverWalk second-floor meeting rooms (Bowie, Travis, Milam, Valero, and Bonham). The filk rooms open at 8:00 PM Thursday through Sunday. The two main rooms are scheduled as follows:

Thursday

Bowie — SCA/Fantasy Bardic Circle — Harold Feld
Travis — Chaos Circle — Lynn Gold

Friday

Bowie — Chaos Circle — Kathy Mar
Travis — Poker Chip Bardic — Lee Gold

Saturday

Bowie — Bardic Circle
Travis — Domino Chaos Circle — Lee Gold, Leslie Fish

Sunday

Bowie — Pagan Sing-Along
Travis — TBA

Note: Themes are subject to change without notice. They may last 5 hours, they may last 30 seconds. You know how it goes...

In addition, Milam, Valero, and Bonham are available for open filking every night. If themes evolve in these rooms they will be posted on the door. Crockett is available for tuning and warming up.

No smoking is allowed in any of the hotel meeting rooms, but Bowie and Travis have adjoining balconies where smoking is allowed. There is also a smoking lounge on the first floor.

Hot water and tea will be available in the alcove between Milam and Valero.

And now for our next performance: "Go Ask Alice, When She's 10 Point Tall." (*Shrink me—ed.*)

Weapons Policy

No real or real-looking projectile weapons. All edged weapons *must* be peace-bonded at Con Ops (River Center Conference Room 8, 3rd floor). Any threatening use of an ordinary object shall cause it to be considered a weapon and the object will be confiscated.

WSFS New Business Deadline Today

Kevin Standlee

The deadline for submitting new business to the WSFS Business Meeting is 4 PM Thursday. Submit 200 copies (signed by at least two LoneStarCon2 members) to the Con Office, Rivercenter C.R. 8, Attn: Kevin Standlee.



LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 1 • Thursday, August 28, 1997

Howdy!

Karen Meshke, Chair LSC2



Howdy, and welcome to LoneStarCon2—the first Texas WorldCon. If this is your first WorldCon experience, yes the world does appear to be going at warp speed. If you are a veteran of previous WorldCons please help those less fortunate learn how to juggle panels, parties, sleep, all in 5 days.

Thanks to all the folks who have helped us through the years and those who are volunteering this weekend. Your dedication and enthusiasm are greatly appreciated. Do good, avoid evil and have a great time.

Volunteers Needed!

No experience necessary! (But it's a fun way to learn.)

A WorldCon like LoneStarCon2 is a big operation, and needs a lot of volunteers for it to happen. LoneStarCon welcomes anyone who would like to volunteer to work on the convention. (We're all volunteers here, from the chairman on down.) Whether you just want to help out for a few minutes here and there during the convention, or if you want to put aside everything else in your life during the weekend and join the staff, we need your help. Volunteers will be compensated in many ways, including the knowledge that you were part of making it all happen.

If you'd like to help, drop by the Information Desk in the Convention Center.

"It's a lot of fun doing all that screwing and shoving." — Bob Eggleton on volunteering for Art Show setup.

Maitz Shirts Flying off the Rack

See that shirt Karen's wearing? LoneStarCon2 hucksters Scott and Jane Dennis say they've had record sales of these shirts, more than 80 before the first day of the convention.

Really, it's still Wednesday as long as we don't go to sleep first. Issue 1 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Tom Becker with sage consultation by Mike Glycer. Photography and digital production by James Daugherty. Thanks to Randy for the unconfirmed rumors and to David & Diana for the support. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorecock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Fold zine before reading.

Everything I Needed to Know I Learned By Throwing A Party

Mike Glycer

There are opposing schools of thought as to whether programming or parties are more important ingredients of a WorldCon. I'm not sure why. I've often heard fans at room parties bragging, "I've missed all the programming so far," but I've never heard anyone at a party bragging that he'd been to all the programming and gone home. This kind of statistical proof should speak for itself.

While it's fairly obvious how much literary and scientific wisdom comes out at programs, it's easy to overlook how much is learned by throwing parties.

Hosting parties leads to an insatiable desire for solving the physical mysteries of the universe. For example, where does all the ice in the hotel come from? Ross Pavlac (Chicon IV co-chair, and part of the Chicago in 2000 bid) would always make it his first priority to discover the "Mother Lode Ice Machine" in the back areas of the hotel. Then, like a pioneering bee he would return to the hive (the party suite) and communicate to other workers to follow him to gather ice for filling bathtubs (where beverages were cooled and stored). If the hotel had no "Mother Lode" machine, he would give us cardboard boxes to raid the smaller ice machines on every floor. I learned from this the importance of having the help of many "weak minds and strong bodies."

Hosting parties instills a sensitivity to ecological issues. I became aware of the "global warming" phenomenon as early as 1973, when I had to haul cases of beer to the Royal York Hotel in Toronto from the state licensed store in the railway station across the street, through summer humidity that made the walls sweat and worked on the wallpaper to produce a smell of vintage mold never since equaled by a convention hotel in North America.

There's no end to the personal growth that comes from throwing parties, particularly if a lot of chocolate is involved. They also expand the mind in every direction -- into topics as vital as world peace, or as gratifying as high fashion. For example, while party shopping during a con, I crossed the path of Keith Kato in a supermarket. Keith is famed for his chili parties, and especially the palate-melting "Silverberg grade" chili. Keith looked like he was

dressed for the beach, and tried to explain how hot it would be while cooking in his room. "You probably didn't know that I make chili in my swimming trunks," Keith explained. "How do you keep it from running out?" I asked.

Keith spent many years pursuing the grail of a chili hot enough to please Bob Silverberg's discriminating palate. And he succeeded, which taught me that a fan always needs a goal even beyond his wildest dreams, in case he attains them.

It may be an exaggeration to say that everything can be learned by throwing parties, and no one needs to know the things they can learn from attending the convention program. But I doubt it.

Poets of the Caribbean

Anonymous

*On these pages
Will oft' appear
Treasure teasers
From Bucconeer*

Bucconeer invites you to participate in its Treasure Hunt! Beginning Thursday, stop by the Bucconeer table, pick up your Treasure Map, and join in the fun! All participants who successfully complete the Treasure Hunt will receive a Bucconeer Pirate Ribbon and a chance in our daily prize drawings.

(And, for all of you who are here early, note that LoneStarCon2 volunteers that complete the Treasure Hunt get two chances in the drawings! Volunteer early, volunteer often!) Prizes include Bucconeer T-shirts, choice of books from our Treasure Chest, and dinner certificates from restaurants such as County Line Barbecue, Rio Rio Cantina on the Riverwalk, La Fogata, and Schilo's Delicatessen. Join the fun!

*Just before Lonestar
And we don't know
What this news sheet
Masthead will show.
So write it down
To prove *you* know.*



LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 2 • Nominal Thursday Afternoon, August 28, 1997

Kaffeeklatsches: An Important Announcement

Due to an unfortunate pre-con screwup, more people were accepted for some of the kaffeeklatsches than there's space to accommodate. Programming has been increasing the size of some of the groups, but some of the people who had been scheduled will still have to be turned away.

If you signed up before the convention, please check the kaffeeklatsch sign-up book at the Information Desk in the Convention Center Arcade to see if you are on the list. Only people who are on the list will be admitted.

If you signed up before the convention and *don't* plan to attend, please take your name off the list so someone else can have your place.

Programming will be trying to schedule additional kaffeeklatsches to accommodate those who were turned away. If you're one, please check at Information to see what new events have been scheduled.

Programming is sorry for any inconvenience this has caused.

Meanwhile, a kaffeeklatsch update: Lister Matheson, the director of Clarion writers' workshops, will have a kaffeeklatsch on Saturday at 2:00 PM in the Riverwalk's Bonham Room.

Friday Program Changes

Kevin J. Anderson has been added to **20 Years of Luke, Han, Leia, and the Force** (1 PM CC-River B)

Lenny Provenzano has been added to **Vampire Movies: The Continuing Tradition** (5 PM CC-206).

Joseph Sherman and Susan Shwartz will be autographing at 2 PM in CC-Exhibit Hall.

The Pocket Dragon Adventure Series Update will be held twice during the convention: Friday at noon and Sunday at 5 PM, both in CC-Mission.

What's Open When

Dealers' Room: Friday-Sunday, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM; Monday, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

Art Show: Thursday-Saturday, 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM; Sunday, 10:00 AM - (?), Monday, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Preliminary bidding closes Saturday, 7:00 PM; auction begins Sunday, 2:30 PM. The art show will be open during the auction.

Exhibits: Thursday-Sunday 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM.

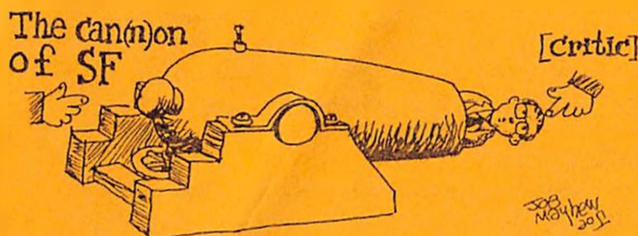
This convention has too much white space!

Crash the Artists Reception!

The Art Show is now officially open, with 350 panels' worth of art by more than 200 artists. Jean A. Sluntz, Art Show head, would like to thank Ted Alwood and the East Coast Floating Art Squad for making setup possible. "The Dorsal Irregulars are the official security of the Art Show. We love 'em to death."

ASFA, the Association of Science Fiction & Fantasy Artists, invites *everyone* to attend the Chesley Awards ceremony on Friday night, in the Centro room at the Convention Center. Fancy dress optional, 8 to 9 PM.

An artists reception will follow the awards ceremony, on Friday from 9 to 11 PM. Artists and their guests, as well as all other LoneStarCon2 members who have an art show bidder number are invited to attend. Free bid sheets will be available at the door.



Lost, Found, & Recycled

If you've lost or found something: During the day, go to the Info Desk in the Convention Center Arcade; at night, go to Conference Room #8 in the Rivercenter.

That is, unless you've lost your badge. There will be a \$25 charge for replacing lost badges. If you bought your badge at the convention—i.e., if you weren't pre-registered—you must be able to provide proof of purchase to get your lost badge replaced at all.

Replacing your lost idealism, horizons, or sense of wonder will cost slightly more. Rates vary; inquire.

Signage: How-tos and Don't-dos

In the Marriott Riverwalk: Easels are being provided for signs. It's probably okay to put up signs on glass or stone surfaces in the lobby area if you're using masking tape. Repeat: masking tape only, lobby area only, glass or stone surfaces only.

In the Marriott Rivercenter: Nothing but the Giant Post-It papers may be attached to the walls. Flyers and other materials may be attached to the Giant Post-Its.

In the Convention Center: Masking tape only, on doors or stone surfaces only.

Ice is Pricey, But Liquor is Quicker

Ice will be available at \$1.00 a pound for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Call extension 6101 in Marriott Rivercenter to order.

The closest liquor store can be found at 502 E. Houston. It's open 10 AM to 9 PM except for Sunday.

Yak butter is the principal export of Tibet



Review: Bob's Smokehouse

Moshe Feder

It takes temerity for a New Yorker to claim to be a barbecue expert at a Texas WorldCon, but I've eaten more than my share, both on previous trips to Texas, and at the best place back home (where they use Texas methods), so I'm not a barbecue neo.

Now, I really do like the County Line chain, with its all-you-can-eat option and Hollywood-roadhouse decor, but Texas *Monthly's* recent article on the 50 best barbecue places in Texas led me to a joint that, as *Le Guide Michelin* would put it, is worth a detour.

It's easy to drive right past Bob's Smokehouse, even if you have the address. Of course, we were in a buttoned-up compact rental with the a/c blasting. If we'd had the windows open we'd have found it even if we hadn't known it exists.

Bob's has three locations, the founding one can best be described as a shack. The food can best be described as superb, the decor as plain, the staff as friendly and the prices as low. Quoting *Texas Monthly*: "Bob's mesquite-smokes a little of everything (including lamb ribs [*yum* - MF]), but specializes in hulking beef ribs and beef sausage so well cooked that it crumbles out of its casing. The thickish sauce has a slight afterburn." My brunch group of four fans tasted the lamb, the chicken, the brisket sandwich, the beef ribs and the sausage. Everyone was very pleased. Those who for reasons known only to them prefer other kinds of food can consider the enchiladas ("heavy on the chili," says Bob's), fried oysters and shrimp available at a separate counter.

The original Bob's Smokehouse is about a ten-minute drive from the con. Take Interstate 37 south to Interstate 10, and then take 10 east to the Roland Ave. exit. The address is 3306 Roland (corner of Roland, Rigsby and Amanda). Open daily, cash only, BYOB if you want beer with your barbecue, phone 210-333-9338 if you're worried that we've emptied their pits. Seats about 30, but you can always do takeout. The other two locations are at 5145 S. St. Mary's Place (210-344-8401) and at 5145 Fredericksburg Road. Happy Eating!

Embargoed?

The River barge charter tickets are sold out for all four days. Check at Information for news of an extra charter boat.



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The Armadillo Has Landed Stuff Opens—Film at Eleven

If Karen Meschke, Chair of LoneStarCon2, had been a little less mobile, we'd have a recognizable picture of her officially cutting the ribbon for the Audie Audacious Trading Post (otherwise known as the Hucksters' Room) at twelve noon on Thursday.

The LoneStarCon2 newszine: collect both sides!

The Other Opening Ceremonies

Robt. Sacks

The Opening Ceremonies ran from about 7:07 PM to 8 PM sharp, to a full house.

After the introduction of the convention mascot, Chas the Armadillo, last year's WorldCon Chair Mike Glycer presented the gavel to this year's Chair Karen Meschke.

The professional entertainment followed: Dusty Britches (yodeling and sing along), Doug Whittaker (South Texas humor, gun tricks, accuracy with a bull whip), and Kevin FitzPatrick (rope tricks). Sue Francis was the sacrificial assistant for the roping and whipping demonstrations. Non-Texans were inducted as Honorary Texans. The Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Honored Guests were introduced, and the ceremony closed to "Deep in the Heart of Texas."

Contents of Fandom's Drawers Revealed

Continuing a venerable fannish tradition, on Saturday (2 PM, Patio A, Convention Center) cool and desirable fannish items—most notably old fanzines, autographed books, and miscellanea curiosa—will be auctioned for the benefit of TAFF (the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund) and DUFF (the Down Under Fan Fund). Auctioneers will be Stephen Boucher and Joe Siclari.

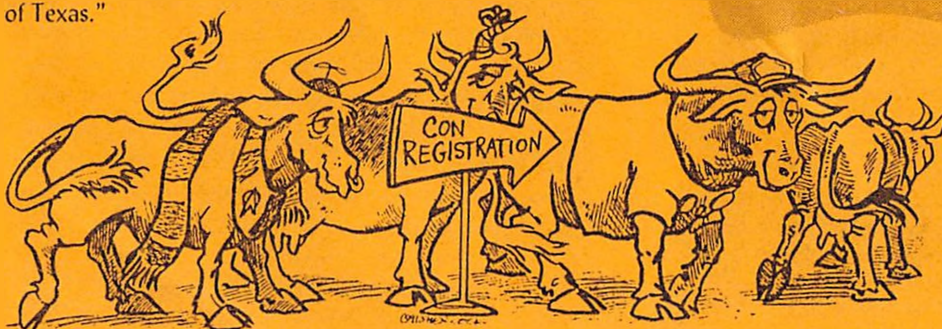
Any donations of materials for auction should be dropped off at the Aussiecon Three table in the Exhibits area or brought directly to the auction.

Fanzine Lounge

The Fanzine Lounge & Sales Area in the Convention Center is open daily from 10 AM. to 7 PM. Starting Friday, a cash bar will also be available each afternoon. Room 101.

There will be an evening Fanzine Lounge, but not tonight, Gracie. Details to follow in a later issue.

Issue 2 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Teresa Nielsen Hayden and Adina Adler. Art by Joe Mayhew, Alexis Gilliland and Sherlock. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Fold zine before reading.



Jo Clayton Update

Mark Bourne

In August, 1996, author Jo Clayton was hospitalized in Portland, OR with multiple myeloma, a form of cancer that attacks the bones from the marrow out. Since then, my wife Elizabeth and I—along with Mary Rosenblum—have been Jo Clayton's authorized medical and legal advocates. It has been our pleasure to get to know Jo during this difficult time and assist her through the labyrinth of medical procedures, personal adjustments, and the day-to-day ups and downs that are a part of any prolonged hospitalization. We have also tried to keep her fans and friends (both online and off) informed of her condition—typically a Good News/Bad News situation.

The current Good News: As of last Monday, Jo's mood and spirits continue to be "up." She long ago adjusted to being a long-term resident at the hospital, and remains pleased with her oncologist and other care providers who tend to her daily. She has also adjusted to the reality of her medical status—which includes the fact that her myeloma is very stubborn, her bones are in poor condition, and she is unlikely to return to what most of us take for granted as a "normal" life. While under radiation treatment and chemotherapy, she has continued writing—completing the second and third books in her Drum series and turning in short stories to magazines and anthologies.

She has not been entirely bedridden. Her motorized wheelchair allows her to get around the hospital and the neighborhood, where she is becoming a connoisseur of the numerous restaurants and bakeries within wheeling distance. She also paints and sketches, reads, researches story ideas, pops up online in her Genie Science Fiction Round Table topic, and is now hooking up to the Internet.

Though her condition was near fatal when she entered hospitalization, she has called this situation her "fortunate fall" because of the surprisingly generous flood of support offered by fans and friends she had not previously been aware of. Because of this, she has over the past year become more social and outgoing, and enjoys the frequent visitors who drop by. She has also developed a remarkable fondness for bacon cheeseburgers, but that's another story all by itself.

The Bad News: At the moment, Jo is in an isolation room because of a staph infection that has caused troubles before. The source of the infection is currently unknown, and it may come from a "reserve" somewhere within her body. This and other possibilities are being explored and the staph is being treated as thoroughly as possible. The chemotherapy has slowed the advance of the myeloma considerably, but has not stopped it. Steroid treatment has done wonders for her stamina, overall body strength, and (a pleasant side effect) lifts her joie de vivre to enviable heights. Nevertheless, Jo's bones remain porous and easily breakable, and therefore cannot support weight for very long. She has a cracked sternum as well as the staph infection, so will be in bed and in iso for at least the next five weeks. Her oncologist tells us that a detailed long-term prognosis is still

impossible. A great deal depends on factors that remain changeable and therefore unpredictable. Jo has made enormous, surprising progress during the past twelve months—but her myeloma was advanced and remains a stubborn adversary.

So, all things considered, Jo is doing better than anyone—even Jo—thought she would or could be at this point. She is writing. She is enjoying friends and fans. And she is emotionally and "spiritually" healthier than many people who are in far better physical condition. After all, she's a former nun who has taught inner city street youth in New Orleans and Los Angeles. So she's tough.

A Web site for previous Jo reports and ongoing updates can be found at <http://www.sfwaweb.org>

Her mailing address is:

Good Samaritan Hospital
Room 636
1015 NW 22nd Street
Portland, OR 97210

Donations can be made to:

Oregon Science Fiction Emergency Fund
PO Box 5703
Portland, OR 97228

So far, the donation fund has purchased art supplies, a CD player, in-room shelving units, and a wide variety of personal items. It has paid Jo's personal bills, provided pet care and surgery for her cats, maintained her apartment and now provides a long-term storage unit for her belongings.

Dead Pirates Society

Without this newszine

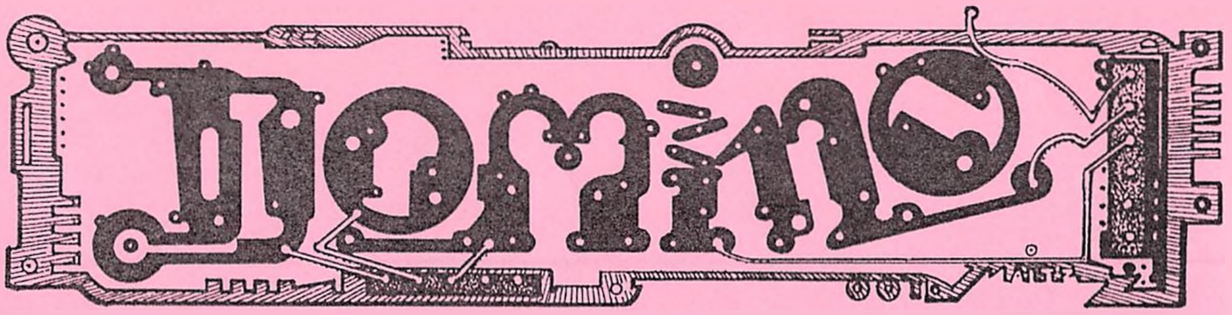
We couldn't put

These lines to say

The game's afoot!

Bucconeer proudly presents its second annual Treasure Hunt! Stop by the Bucconeer table, pick up your Treasure Map, and join the fun! Everyone who successfully completes the Treasure Hunt will receive a Bucconeer Pirate Ribbon and a chance in our daily prize drawings (LoneStarCon2 volunteers get 2 chances). Winners will be announced in future issues. Prizes include Bucconeer T-Shirts, choice of books from our Treasure Chest, and dinner certificates from County Line Barbecue, Rio Rio Cantina on the Riverwalk, Schilo's Delicatessen, and La Fogata. Join the fun!

*You've got the clue, so now take heed
Write down the title on this issue's lead.*



LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 3 • Friday, August 29, 1997

Babylon 5 Announcement Our Last Best Hope for Seating

Rick Kalze, Program Ops

The Babylon 5 Previews will be held Saturday at noon in the Grand Ballroom at the Marriott Rivercenter.

There are about 3000 seats in the room.

Jeff Walker will be doing his Film Preview at 11 AM Saturday in this room. So as not to disturb his program, access to the room may be restricted after his program begins.

We will not clear the room after the 11 AM program. Please feel free to come early, claim your seat, and enjoy Jeff's film previews. Sorry, no seats can be reserved for either program.

Autography

These authors will be signing books at the Del Rey booth in the Exhibit Hall.

Friday

- 1 - 2 Jack Chalker
- 3 - 4 Greg Keyes
- 5 - 6 Harry Turtledove

Saturday

- 11 - Noon David Gemmell
- 1 - 2 James Halpern
- 3 - 4 Harry Turtledove
- 5 - 6 Margarel Weis

Sunday

- 11 - Noon Allan Cole
- 1 - 2 Katie Wailman
- 3 - 4 Mary Doria Russell
- 5 - 6 Scott Gier

Program Updates

Friday

Regency Dancing will take place at 8 PM, Alamo Ballroom A-C, Riverwalk. Come in costume or come as you are. Instruction is not only available; it's part of the fun.

Saturday

Brad Lyau has been added to **SF/F Baseball Underground** (5 PM CC-River A).

John Stopa has been added to **Famous Femmefans of the 1960s** (3 PM CC-101).

Vince Creisler has been added to the **National Space Society Forum** (1 PM CC-River A).

Daryl Mallett has been added to **State of the Genre: North American SF/F** (2 PM CC-206).

Daryl Mallett has been added to **The Editorial Slushpile** (11 AM, CC-Fiesta B)

Daryl Mallett has been added to **Stories that Stay in the Slushpile** (1 PM CC-Fiesta A)

(Who's Daryl Mallett?)

Sunday

William Barlon will not appear on the **Writers' Workshop 18** (4 PM Rivercenter 14)

The Jack McDevitt Meeting has been moved from 3 PM to 10 AM in CC Patio B)

(Daryl Mallett has entered the building. Repeat, he has entered the building.)

Monday

Daryl Mallett has been added to **Jacking In: Direct Neural Interfaces, the joy.** (Monday, 10 AM CC-Fiesta A)

Chase the Paper Trail, Pardner!

We recommend the work of the Paper Chase copyshop, within hiking distance (0.6 mile), at 425 N.St.Mary's St. near Pecan. For big jobs the shop will pick up and deliver. Call 229-9223 for more information. Sales Manager David Dick has been a great help—we love him to death!

*"I really can't afford to take a nap.
I may not wake up." — Robt Sacks*

Shalom, Y'all!

Janice Gelb

Jewish Sabbath services will be held on Friday at 7 PM and Saturday at 9 AM, in the Rivercenter, Conference Room 11 (third floor).

Yalow Backs 2 & 5 Rule

According to top SMOF Ben Yalow, the food court in the Rivercenter Mall will stay open until 2:30 AM, and the coffee shop in the Marriott Rivercenter will run 24 hours, but *only if we do enough business*. Ben is throwing his weight behind a modified interpretation of the 2 & 5 rule: "Get two hours of sleep and eat five meals a day, as long as you eat them after two in the morning in the Rivercenter coffee shop." After a late-night publishing session, our newszine fact checkers descended upon the restaurant and verified that the food there is indeed excellent. Ask for the tortilla soup.

Fire and Ice

The newszine has been informed that the \$1.00 a pound rate for ice *is actually the hotel's cost*. Yikes! The Marriott Rivercenter has a truckful down at the loading dock, and they've set up an ice hotline at extension 6101 for you to call.

The Dead Pirate's Ketch

*Tonight there's parties
Large and small
But for now we follow
Treasure's call!*

Bucconeer would like to thank Gail E. Mathews-Bailey for her donation of the ceramic pirate skeleton. Stop by the Bucconeer table and have a look! While you're there, pick up a Treasure Map and join our Treasure Hunt. You too can get a pirate ribbon and a chance in our prize drawings if you complete the hunt! Prizes include dinner certificates from La Fogata, Schilo's Delicatessen, Rio Rio Cantina on the Riverwalk and County Line Barbecue. Join the fun! B.A. Pirate says:

*I am the Pirate King
Where can I go this evening
For some fun and frolicking?*

Bridge Publications Sponsors Event

Bridge Publications and the L. Ron Hubbard Writers of the Future Contest are sponsoring a panel discussion on how to launch a writing career. Speakers will include contest judges Algis Budrys, Fred Pohl, and Tim Powers. (Friday, 4 PM, CC-VIP).

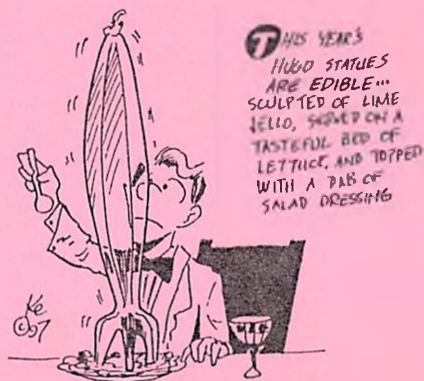
On Your Mark

Robt Sacks

Twelve of the fourteen voting members of the WSFS Mark Protection Committee were in attendance at the brief meeting on Thursday.

The Committee authorized another \$100 to register the domain "hugo.org" if it is available. Don Eastlake will investigate the cost of trademark watches, and report on it at a second meeting later this weekend. Randall Shepherd will investigate legally protecting the shape of the Hugo Award and report next year. Mark registration is in process in Canada and Australia. The Continental Science Fiction Association sent a letter asking to initiate negotiations to obtain the NASFiC mark from WSFS. The Chair ruled the matter outside the Committee's powers; it will be reported to the WSFS Business Meeting. The Committee has an account balance of approximately \$1400.

The next Mark Committee meeting will be held after the final adjournment of the WSFS Business Meeting, at the earliest possible time on Sunday or Monday (11 AM or noon, either day, and at least 15 minutes after the final adjournment). Officers will be elected. The current Chair will not be standing for reelection; the Secretary and Treasurer will. Dick Smith has indicated his willingness to serve as Chair.





LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 3 • Friday, August 29, 1997

Medical Advice

Drink lots of water—in this weather it's easy to get dehydrated, which can be a very serious medical problem. Also remember that caffeinated and alcoholic beverages can dehydrate you: a net loss of fluid. For every coke or beer you drink, have a glass of water as well.

Secret Fannish Recognition Strikes Again!

Sarah E. Goodman

So there you are (okay, so there I was) standing in the airport waiting for your flight to board, looking around and wham!, you realize other people on your flight must be fans. How can you tell? Well, the fannish T-shirts are a dead giveaway, but not everybody's wearing one. With some it's the SF/F paperback pulled out as soon as a wait seems imminent. Fellow costumers I recognize by the fuzzy little fabric bits and the dazed, what-do-you-mean-sleep-I-have-a-costume-to-complete look. But not me. I was innocently standing there, not fannishly garbed, completely (for once) fuzz- and book-free; so how come a bunch of fans walked up to me, took one look and said, "WorldCon?"

I want to know why. Maybe pheromones...?



Parties - Friday

Marriott Rivercenter

| | | |
|--------|---|--------------|
| 3436 | Gaylaxians | 9 PM - |
| 3430 | Chicago in 2000 | 9 PM - |
| 3346 | GreatAmeriCon Nasfic bid | 9 PM - 2 AM |
| 3332 | Conucopia Nasfic bid | 9 PM - |
| 3326 | CoyoteCon | 9 PM |
| 3316 | Pern Compuserve SFLIT Section 8, | 9 PM - 2 AM |
| 3312 | DragonCon/ConTour Magazine (rated PG-13) | 9 PM - |
| 3140 | EmpireCon - Westercon | 9 PM - 1 AM |
| 3126 | San Francisco in 2002 | 9 PM - |
| 3050 | Costumers' Suite / CostumeCon 1S | 8 PM - |
| 3040 | Perry Rhodan Magazine | 9 PM - 1 AM |
| 3031 | Babylon 5 Video Party | noon - |
| 3026 | Wedding Reception for Bob & Sunshine Weissinger | 7 - 9 PM |
| 3018 | Z'ha'dum in 2260 InterWorldCon | 9:30 PM - |
| 3012 | I-Con (Long Island) | 9 PM - |
| 2938 | Writers of Edge Magazine | 9 - 11 PM |
| 2932 | Skynet End-of-World Irish WorldCon | 10 PM |
| 2923 | Sime-Gen (Meet Lichtenberg & Lorrach) | 8 PM |
| 2631 | Frefan Party | 10 PM - dawn |
| 1951-2 | Boston in 2001 | 9 PM - |
| 1912 | National Space Society | 8 PM - |
| 1905-6 | Philadelphia in 2001 | 9 PM - |
| 612 | Forever Knight Party | 9 PM - |
| | 3rd floor, Con Suite | 5 PM - 1 AM |
| | 3rd floor, Con Suite | |
| | Odyssey Writing Workshop | 9 - 11 PM |
| Atrium | Alt Callahans get-together | 6 PM |

Issue 3 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Chris O'Shea, Teresa Nielsen Hayden and Tom Becker. Art by Kurt Erichsen. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Fold zine before reading. <http://www.io.com/~lsc2/newszine/>

Thursday Parties

Kurt Baty and Scott Bobo

Howdy, y'all! Welcome to LoneStarCon2. Your fearless party reporters Kurt Baty and Scott Bobo reporting live (usually) from San Antonio, Texas, home of the Alamo. Shaking off the last of our California dreamin' and L.A. Con III (what a trip!), we're excited by the promise of Texas-size parties here at LoneStarCon2 (and occasional chili cookoff).

Wednesday whetted our appetites for WorldCon parties with two fine gatherings, one hosted by Seattle, bidding for the 2002 WorldCon, and the other by Lise Eisenberg and Moshe Feder. Thursday night saw us warming up and gathering forces (and our "entourage") at the Chicago 2000 bid party. Already, this party was as packed as one of their famous deep dish pizzas, only this pizza was chocolate! And what goes with chocolate?—Yes, beer. Our hosts cleverly had the beer line winding by the chocolate pizza and the pastry table. No calories here.... Our Gaylaxian friends continued our low-cal chocolate fix by offering us a pan of M&M's as big as Texas.

Winding along, we stopped in to say hello to the folks at Fosfax, who offered us pork rinds and thread (we think they were preparing for the Masquerade). This culinary opportunity confused our Russian friend Anton, who wondered "What's thread?" We explained the concept to him, and he quipped "It might be a bit stringy."

We missed Anaheim's presentation of the chocolate cake at their 1999 NasFic bid party. We're assured they'll do it again tonight. Don't stand in our way.... We found the folks at the Phoenix 1999 NasFic bid party best exemplified the spirit of the Alamo with their Tex-Mex buffet. Lisa Ketter, enthusiastic about their cookies, insisted they MUST be homemade.

SffNet heralded our arrival with balloons festooning their doorway. We couldn't help but feel like royalty from their hospitality. Cruising along, we sailed into ConCancun's 2003 WorldCon bid party and noticed right away the signs touting their Sangria. Scott helped himself to a sample (a "small" sample) and declared it the drink of the night. We admired the Caribbean spirited decor and left with a Calypso rhythm in our step (Night time come, and me want to go party!).

Minutes later but geographically (two elevator rides)

far away, we stopped in at Philadelphia's 2001 bid party. Frankly (Ben, that is), we found their venue the best for offering an expansive view of San Antonio. We liked their use of costumes as party props, and especially enjoyed the home brewed beer our hosts offered. This was the place to be to cool off on the terrace after our frenzied partying pace.

After midnight, Chicago still packed 'em in like pepperonis on a pizza. And the folks at Cancun were on the verge of doing the limbo. With our steel drum band providing the drumroll, we declare Thursday night's Party of the Night Award to belong to our hosts of ConCancun in 2003. See y'all tonight!

Meet the Pros/VIPs Party Review

Leslie Mann

It's not just the Pros/VIPs who are here; all sorts of people come to these parties. Me, for instance. I barely know where to begin. Food is served in buffet style: colored chips, and (among other things) cheese with jalapeños to put on top. Tables and chairs have been provided, but many people elect to stand, crowding the room and making it hard to get around in. It gets worse when the real flood of people starts, just after eight, and the noise level rises dramatically. Kids with their parents struggle to keep from getting lost. Some lone people just sit on the platform, away from the crowd, watching. Lines form for the food and at the bars. It's getting to be so hard to hear over the tumult and confusion that it must be a party. Where are the Pros/VIPs anyway? And anyway, does it matter? This party would be the same if you couldn't see them at all.

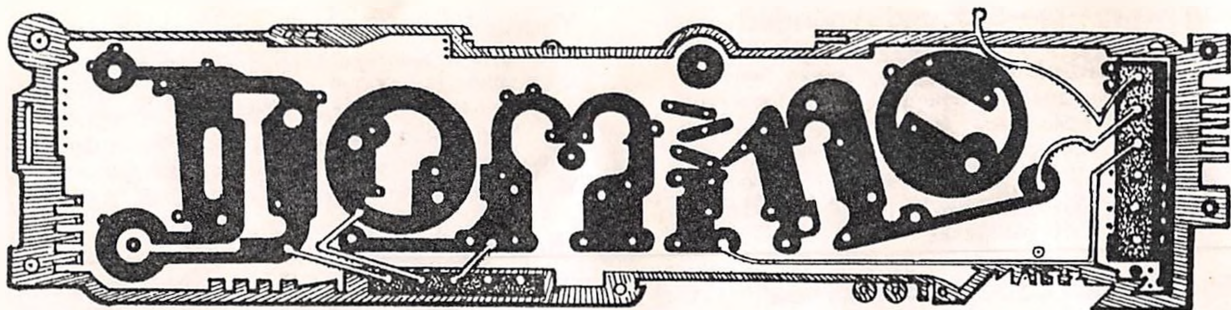
Con Suite Review

Neil Rest

It isn't open during the day, and it isn't open late at night, so I don't know.

In Memoriam

Arkham House author Carl Jacobi (*Revelations in Black*, *Smoke of the Snake*) died 12:30 AM, Tuesday, August 26th. Services were held today in Minneapolis. He was 89 years old.



LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 4 • Saturday, August 30, 1997

Program Changes

The Michael Moorcock autographing was rescheduled for Saturday at 1 due to a scheduling conflict caused by the Convention. We regret the inconvenience caused to Mr. Moorcock and his fans.

Sliders Presentation

4 PM Saturday CC-203, presented by writer-producer Marc Scott Zirc. This is your chance to affect the course of *Sliders*.

Autography Redux

Sunday Noon-1 Patricia Anthony (Dealers Room, *Aboriginal SF Table*)

Hugo-Winning Dramatic Presentation

The winner of the Hugo award for Best Dramatic Presentation will be shown in the MRC Grand Ballroom on Saturday night. Showtime is roughly 30 minutes after the end of the Hugo Awards Ceremony, which is also being held in the Grand Ballroom.

Evening Dances

Contrary to previous announcements in PR6 and the Pocket program book, the Saturday/Sunday evening dances will start at 9 o'clock. The location is still the Alamo Ballroom of the Marriott Riverwalk.

Happy 13th birthday, Alison!

Parched?

The Fanzine Lounge & Sales area, CC-101, will have a cash bar on offer Saturday and Sunday, from 1:30 to 5:30 PM.

Auld Phartz

First Fandom Old-timers Reunion will be Sunday, 8-10 PM, at RC 2926. See Dave Kyle for details.
Second Fandom Get-together: 2 PM Sunday near the Voodoo message board in the CC-Exhibit Hall.

An Elevating Announcement

It's not a Worldcon if the elevators don't start to crack under the strain. Friday night a familiar voice could be heard in the Marriott Rivercenter saying, "My purr elevators!" and "Och, they canna take much more strain!" Tonight at about 9:30, millions of Hugo-sated fans will be pouring out of the Grand Ballroom and heading for the parties. Please be kind to Scotty's poor elevators, please, *please*. (Did we say please?) Do not pile in to the elevators in densities exceeding that of the average neutron star. The parties will still be there when you arrive. And please do not ride through an entire down-up-down cycle just to go up two floors. That's the kind of strain that makes elevators break down, and then *nobody* can get to the parties. If you take the stairs, you'll have more appetite for munchies and bheer when you arrive. Please? Thank you.

Urgent Request for Elevator Hosts

Operations (Ops) needs volunteers to train for Elevator Hosts. Drop by their office, room 8 on the 3rd floor of the Marriott Rivercenter. We need as many stable, calm volunteers as possible so we can keep the in-car time down to 30 minutes at a time.

It's not the Anvil of God, but it'll do

Writers on Tape

Audio Tape Sales (in the Arcade outside the Dealers Room) is taping many author readings, for sale. Some authors doing readings don't know this. Anyone doing a reading but who does not want (or cannot allow) them to tape the reading should notify Audio Tape Sales, or turn off the microphone at the reading, or both.

Collatio

The Worldcon Order of Faneditors (WOOFF) will be collating at Noon Sunday in the Fan Lounge (CC-101). Please drop off your tribs (copy count 100) by 6 PM Saturday in the Fan Lounge if you want to be listed in the Table of Contents!

Fan News—or—Sick and Wounded

Mark Rogers suffered a heart attack last week and will not be at the convention. Last word was, his heart bypass surgery was successful, and he is on the road to recovery. For more information, contact Randy Shepherd or Bill Child.

Artist John Berkey's daughter died recently. In the aftermath of the funeral and such, John suffered a heart attack and underwent surgery. He is on the mend and hopes to be back at work soon.

Ævil Feminist Cabal Business Meeting and Feeding Frenzy

6:30 PM Sunday in Rivercenter main lobby, FEM-SF members and invited guests only will meet and seek supper.

Hogu: The Gathering

The Hogu Ranquet for the selection of the Hogu Awards will be held on Sunday, August 31st at the McDonalds located in the northeast corner of Commerce Street and Lasoya. The gathering for the Ranquet will begin at about 11:45 AM in the information Arcade outside the Dealers Room, with the Ranquet run to take place at about 12:15 PM. Or, just be at the McDonalds at about 12:30 PM. The Ranquet will be in the second floor dining area, which is *not* wheelchair-accessible.

Where's Jack?

The CyberCity radio show host Jack Lendman will be *calling* LoneStarCon 2 on Saturday night, he will not be broadcasting *from* the con. If Jack spoke to you at the Meet the VIPs event, please see Wally Ross or Laurie Mann for contact information.

Lost & Found

Found at autographing table: book by Timothy Zahn. Contact Bill Jones, MRW 2406.

W(h)edding Bells

Bill and Kelley (Mathews) Higgins invite friends to celebrate their recent marriage at a receptionette (sic) to be held Sunday 2-4 PM in MRC 1530.

Music Things!

Heather Alexander, the main entertainment at the Masquerade, will also perform on the filk stage from 4-5 PM on Saturday and Sunday.

Blues/rock fandom still lives at Worldcon! The theme this year is "The Beatles." Erwin S. (Filthy Pierre) Strauss on keyboards. Gather outside the Rivercenter Grand Ballroom, right after the Hugo Awards Ceremony.

Young Fen!

Looking for something fun to do while your parents are talking about boring stuff and you're trapped at a party? The Jurassic Park Room at the Philly in 2001 Party Suite, Room 1906, Marriott Rivercenter, features small plastic dinosaurs to play with and art supplies to create some primitive art of your own which we will use as party decorations!

Chesley Awards

The categories and winners of The Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists 12th Annual Chesley Awards (for individual works and achievements in January 1 through December 31, 1996) are:

Best Art Director: Jamie Warren Youll for Bantam Spectra Books. **Best Three-Dimensional Art:** Clayburn Moore and Frank Frazetta for *Princess* (bronze). **Best Monochrome Work, Unpublished:** Davelle Shands for *Waiting for Antony*. **Best Color Work, Unpublished:** Rob Alexander for *Sinja's World*. **Best Interior Illustration:** Todd Lockwood for *Death Loves Me* by Tanith Lee (*Realms of Fantasy*, August 1996, pages 40-41). **Best Cover Illustration, Magazine:** Bob Eggleton for *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, May 1996. **Best Cover Illustration, Hardback Book:** Michael Whelan for *The Golden Key* (by Melanie Rawn, Jennifer Roberson and Kate Elliot, DAW Books). **Best Cover Illustration, Paperback Book:** Donato Giancola for *Eggheads* (by Emily Davenport, Roc Books). **Award for Contribution to ASFA:** Don Maitz for "Art Director Interviews," published in the *ASFA Quarterly*, Volume 14, No. 2/3. **Award for Artistic Achievement:** Don Maitz

The Chesley, named for the great astronomical artist, Chesley Bonestell, was started by ASFA in 1985 as a means for the SF and Fantasy art community to recognize individual works and achievements during a given year. The Awards Ceremony was held Friday night.

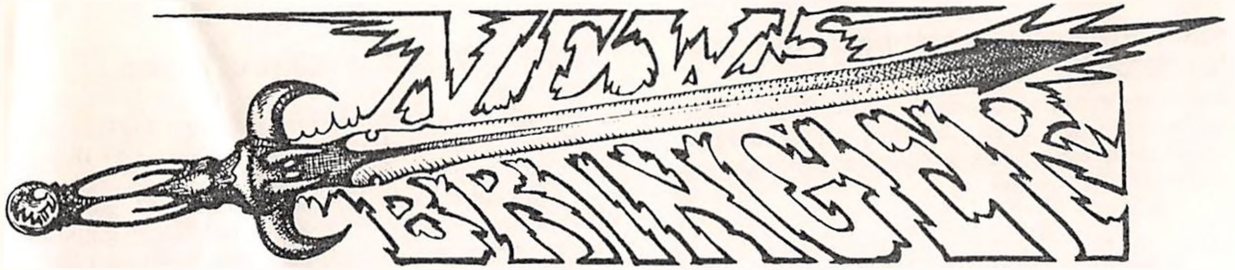
Short Story Contest

"On the Dangers of Heeding the Tarot" by Jay Lake was selected as the winner of the LoneStarCon short story contest, and "Spirit Dwelling" by L. A. Curlee was the runner-up. The judges were Bill Fawcett, Jody Lynn Nye, William R. Forstchen, and Brian Thomsen.

Jay has been part of the Slug Tribe writers' group in Austin for several years. Lu Ann is from Woodbury, Tennessee. Thanks to Shirley Crossland for supplying us with the names of finalists and judges.

Bats aren't bugs!

The Continental Science Fiction Association meeting on Sunday will start at 9 AM. Confused? Ask Robert Sacks.



A Word to Restaurant Diners

(three words, actually)

1) The Marriot Rivercenter coffee shop will stay open from 6 AM to 2 AM instead of closing at 11. Since we had only 30 diners overnight, the convention is not asking them to stay open 24 hours. The Marriot Riverwalk restaurant is closing at its regular time of 11 PM. The food court hours are extended to 2 AM.

2) There's a very large, all-day music concert going on in the nearby Alamodome today, culminating in a performance by George Strait this evening. Diners and drivers should be aware that it'll get very crowded in San Antonio tonight. We suggest that dinner expeditions whether large or small be prepared to go either early or late.

3) Some local restaurants have very early closing times and not all listings in the pocket program book give hours. Before committing to a long walk, check with the establishment first. As a rule, dining is an early affair in San Antonio. Do not expect all restaurants to be open after midnight, though there are exceptions. Many may be closed on Sunday as well.

Animals Rave About Jailhouse Cafe

Ross Pavlac

AACES (the Avenging Aardvark's Chicago Eating Society) has hit town and highly recommends the Jailhouse Cafe (202 W. Commerce, 224-5001). It's too far to walk, but San Antonio cab prices are low and the ride is about \$4. Jailhouse (named because it's across the street from the local hoosegow) specializes in chicken fried steak—if you like it or have never tried it, this is the place to get it! Their fajitas (\$8.99 and \$13.99) are wonderful; the large portion easily serves two. The menu contains a number of Southwest cuisine items aimed at casual dining. They even have chicken fried chicken.

Warning: portions here are HUGE and many can be shared. In particular, nothing human can eat an entire Police Chief Special (\$11.99) in one sitting—the quantity of food defies description. On the unlikely possibility that there is room for dessert, Jailhouse has cinnamon rolls the size of the average fan's head.

Beware! For those of you who have an option on your hotel television to show you local restaurants and such, the restaurant known as Big Buck's Barbecue no longer exists. It's under new ownership, and when AACES finally found the place (at about 6:30 PM), there were NO customers in the place! This is a very bad sign for a Texas barbecue restaurant.

Parties—Saturday

Marriott Rivercenter

| | | |
|--------|---|---------------|
| 3430 | Toronto in 2003 | 9 PM |
| 3332 | Eurofandom | 10 PM–2:30 AM |
| 3312 | DragonCon/ConTour Magazine (rated PG-13) | 9 PM– |
| 3140 | Seattle in 2002 | 9 PM |
| 3132 | LACon Thank You | 9:30 |
| 3126 | San Francisco in 2002 | 9 PM– |
| 3120 | Swancon 2000/NOSFA | 9 PM–boredom |
| 3118 | Russian Fans | 9:30– |
| 3040 | Perry Rhodan Magazine | 9 PM–1 AM |
| 3031 | Babylon 5 Video Party | noon– |
| 3030 | CostumeCon 18 | 8 PM– |
| 3018 | Worldcon on B5 in 2259 | After Hugos |
| 2002 | San Francisco in 2002 | 9 PM– |
| 1951-2 | Boston in 2001 | 9 PM– |
| 1912 | National Space Society | 8 PM– |
| 1905-6 | Philadelphia in 2001 | 9 PM– |

Good Bheer: Brew Pubs in San Antonio

Ed Rush

We've found the best brew pub in the Alamo city. (For those not imbued with this knowledge, those are establishments that make their bheer right on the premises. It's within walking distance, if you like invigorating walks. It's the Blue Star, at 1414 S. Alamo. Head for the Convention Center's far west side, turn left (south) on Alamo, and walk through several rustic blocks. It's on your left, with a small, oval, blue-and-white sign. If you find yourself staring at the Blue Star arts and crafts shops, you've gone a tiny skosh too far. Our international sampling party agreed that the bheers are excellent, the food is tasty but not really outstanding, and the service is prompt and very friendly.

Issue 4 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by David Bratman, with technical support by Adina Adler. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Fold zine before reading.
<http://www.io.com/~lsc2/newszine/>

On seeking far-flung restaurants seen from the riverboat

There's a tiny little map of downtown San Antonio at the back of your Pocket Program. Try consulting it periodically while on a riverboat tour so that, later on, you'll have an idea of where you were (besides on a riverboat).

Friday Party Report

Scott Bobo and Kurt Baty

Still searching for the mother of all chilis, we began Friday night's party binge visiting our friends hosting Chicago in 2000. As usual, the party was hopping early; we're talking packed like jalapenos in a 3-alarm chili. We then checked out the third official NASFiC bid, the GreatAmeriCon (Santa Clara) bid party, featuring strawberries and cream. We got our chocolate fix at Conucopia's NASFiC 1999 bid party, savoring their richly decorated chocolate cake. We found our entertainment with CoyoteCon's four-piece band featuring the skillful strumming of folk banjo.

We caught DragonCon's slide show and continuing the dragon theme, enjoyed the display of stuffed dragons at the Pern party, which is where all good stuffed dragons go. By this time, some of us were pretty thirsty, which is a good thing, when toga-draped folks from the Empirecon Westercon bid provide thirsty partyhoppers with a *Wading Pool* full of the Texas national beer, Shiner. Our San Francisco in 2002 fans again outdid themselves in hospitality with a delightful gathering of friends who stopped by to pay respects to the Shrine of Rice-A-Roni.

Z'ha'dum in 2260 provided the night's biggest surprise. This mock bid party shattered our preconceptions of media fandom parties by offering a bid pastiche of party stickers, interstellar cuisine and costumed hosts. They featured Shadow Chili, Kosh Lorraine, Vorlon Sweetmeat, Breen-du Vorlon and Narn toes. Whew! We had to quench our thirst with Shadow Bock, they had so much food!

We encountered Philly-Chili ice cream at Philadelphia's bid party. We cannot describe the conflicting sensations of ice cream *burning* our mouths. This party was child friendly, offering plastic dinos for the youngsters. (Great ideal)

How far can you count? We stopped at 1,000 blue balloons which lined the ceiling in Boston's bid party, themed "20,000 Leagues Under Texas." They festooned the terrace with strung lights and their signature silver and gold star ornaments, causing Kurt to remark, "This must have taken forever!" to which Kelly Persons replied, "All afternoon." Did we mention balloons?

So we were in a quandary. Who hosted the best party? We figured Boston offered an impressive space, classically themed and impeccably hosted (but of course). Z'ha'dum dazzled our senses (alien influence? Were we missing 8 minutes here?) with originality and panache. But there can be only one, and we're awarding it to Z'ha'dum. We understand, however, that Boston is "popping the cork" tonight. Hm....

Friday's Parties: In praise of Boston

Hope Kiefer

I'll admit it: I didn't get to every party last night. But I went to Boston in 2001's, so why bother going anywhere else? They had it all: Ambiance, good food, and location.

The Philadelphia in 2001 party was the kind I would throw: kitschy dinosaurs everywhere, veggies, jelly beans, chocolate kisses, and of course, that great party-room-balcony and view. Later someone asked what was going on in the Philly party. I had to answer honestly: They were trying to get people to eat Habanero ice cream. Others were clearly braver than I.

The closed Tor party had a very fancy suite full of well-dressed writers, writer wanna-bes, and their friends. The food was largely depleted by the time I arrived, but had clearly been of a good quality.

The WesterCon party had excellent chocolate fondue. They were also serving Pan-galactic gargle blasters. In a curious turn of events they were actually carding people. Since many people do not carry wallets or purses around to parties, this proved a bit of a problem. We place part of the blame on the shoulders of LoneStarCon, since the badges do not have any indicator of age.

But Boston gets an A+. They had excellently decorated their suite with a ceiling full of blue and green helium-filled balloons. A few trios of balloons sported dangling fish. The lamps were covered in a light blue gauze rounding out their under-the-sea theme. And since all sea creatures gotta eat, there was real shrimp with cocktail sauce. But the highlight: the candy sushi. The idea is not new, but it is one I've never seen at a con, and was carried off spectacularly. They turned marshmallows into rice, green frosting into wasabi, and fruit roll-ups into seaweed. The amazing part was that it tasted as good as it looked. Well done, Boston.

John Hertz Scours the Convention Center

Friday afternoon. Aiee, I failed to show up for a panel. Rubbing in the irony, it was "Making Connections". My back-badge schedule said FR 1300, which I misread as FRI 300, and when I looked for my panel at 3 PM it was Too Late. When David Feintuch, reported to be ill, didn't show up for the Fantasy Debate, "Resolved, that Tolkien inhibited the development of modern fantasy," Lynn Abbey, who had thought she was the moderator, and Tim Powers, who wasn't sure which side he was on, had to share three roles between them. Powers said Tolkien was too good; people tend to jump on bandwagons anyway, and a well-built one with bright paint was blamefully attractive. Abbey said Tolkien made the field. After twenty minutes, they switched sides. A fan in the audience said "Do you really believe Tolkien corrupted modern fantasy?" Powers said "No, that was the first half. Now ~~she~~ believes..." Afterwards, in the Fanzine Lounge, I had the pleasure of introducing Laura Resnick to Ed Meskys. Laura's father Mike used to write for Ed's fanzine *Niekas*. Benoit Girard comforted me about the panel I missed by saying how well it went without me. Thanks a lot.

Dominion

LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 5 • Saturday, August 30, 1997

The 1997 Hugo Awards

Best Novel

Blue Mars by Kim Stanley Robinson (HarperCollins Voyager; Bantam Spectra)

Best Novella

"Blood of The Dragon" by George R. R. Martin (*Asimov's* 7/96)

Best Novelette

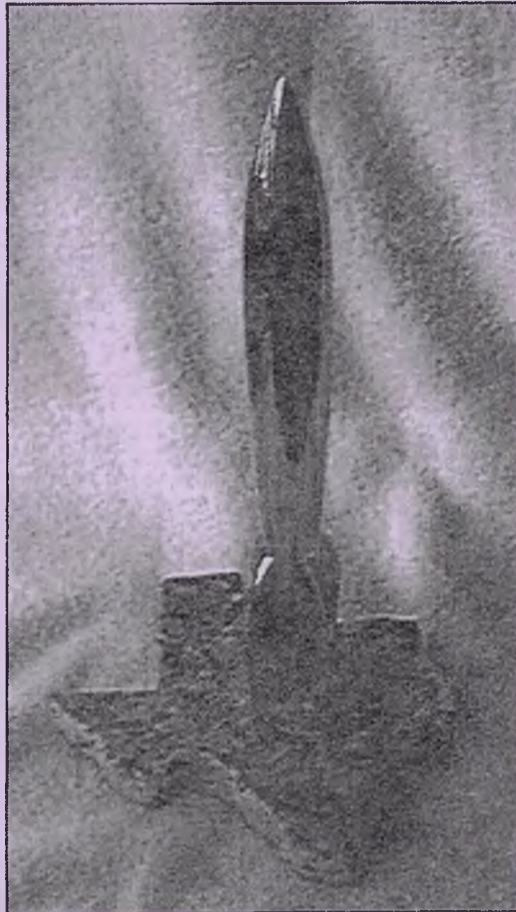
"Bicycle Repairman" by Bruce Sterling (*Intersections; Asimov's* 10-11/96)

Best Short Story

"The Soul Selects Her Own Society..." by Connie Willis (*Asimov's* 4/96; *War of the Worlds: Global Dispatches*)

Best Non-Fiction Book

Time & Chance by L. Sprague de Camp (Grant)



Best Dramatic Presentation

Babylon 5 "Severed Dreams" (Warner Bros.)
Directed by David J. Eagle,
Written by J. Michael Straczynski, Produced by John Copeland

Best Professional Editor

Gardner Dozois (*Asimov's*)

Best Professional Artist

Bob Eggleton

Best Semiprozine

Locus edited
by Charles N. Brown

Best Fanzine

Mimosa edited
by Dick & Nicki Lynch

Best Fan Writer

Dave Langford

Best Fan Artist

William Rotzler

The Hugo Administrator, Nina Siros, wishes to thank Scott Cupp, who was also on the subcommittee, and Willie Siros, Debbie Hodgkinson, and the many other people who helped provide nominee information and contacts, Jeffrey Copeland, who provided the software, Clayburn Moore, who constructed the bases, Lori Wolf and staff for running the Hugo Ceremonies, David Thayer and Bill Child for laying out the Hugo ballots, and the nominees and their families, for making the job so much fun.

Hugo Statistics

Best Novel — 584 ballots

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <i>Blue Mars</i> | 135 | 136 | 175 | 223 | 271 |
| <i>Memory</i> | 115 | 116 | 129 | 156 | |
| <i>Remnant Population</i> | 115 | 116 | 140 | 158 | 226 |
| <i>Starplex</i> | 109 | 109 | 120 | | |
| <i>Holy Fire</i> | 96 | 97 | | | |
| No Award | 14 | | | | |

Best Novella — 476 ballots

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| "Blood of the Dragon" | 106 | 107 | 116 | 135 | 162 | 198 |
| "Time Travelers Never Die" | 77 | 77 | 86 | 112 | 143 | 192 |
| "Immersion" | 64 | 64 | 78 | 89 | | |
| "Abandon in Place" | 99 | 99 | 106 | 109 | 122 | |
| "Gas Fish" | 52 | 52 | | | | |
| "The Cost to Be Wise" | 68 | 68 | 77 | | | |
| No Award | 10 | | | | | |

Best Novelette — 460 ballots

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| "Bicycle Repairman" | 132 | 132 | 152 | 177 | 220 |
| "The Land of Nod" | 99 | 100 | 111 | 136 | 176 |
| "Mountain Ways" | 82 | 82 | 99 | 123 | |
| "Beauty and the Opera or the Phantom Beast" | 75 | 75 | 83 | | |
| "Age of Aquarius" | 56 | 57 | | | |
| No Award | 16 | | | | |

Best Short Story — 472 ballots

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| "The Soul Selects Her Own Society..." | 142 | 143 | 156 | 180 | 213 |
| "Un-Birthday Boy" | 126 | 128 | 132 | 153 | 192 |
| "The Dead" | 76 | 78 | 87 | 110 | |
| "Decency" | 67 | 67 | 73 | | |
| "Gone" | 42 | 42 | | | |
| No Award | 19 | | | | |

Best Non-Fiction Book — 388 ballots

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| "Time & Chance" | 109 | 109 | 125 | 141 | 179 |
| "The Tough Guide to Fantasyland" | 63 | 63 | 80 | 105 | 128 |
| "Look at the Evidence" | 67 | 69 | 77 | 91 | |
| "The Silence of the Langford" | 68 | 68 | 75 | | |
| "The Faces of Fantasy" | 62 | 63 | | | |
| No Award | 19 | | | | |

Best Dramatic Presentation — 641 ballots

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| <i>Babylon 5</i> | | | | | |
| "Severed Dreams" | 319 | 326 | | | |
| <i>Star Trek: First Contact</i> | 85 | 92 | | | |
| <i>Star Trek: Deep Space 9</i> | | | | | |
| "Trials and Tribble-ations" | 76 | 83 | | | |
| <i>Independence Day</i> | 55 | 73 | | | |
| <i>Mars Attacks</i> | 51 | | | | |
| No Award | 55 | 56 | | | |

Best Professional Editor — 514 ballots

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Gardner Dozois | 146 | 147 | 166 | 200 | 258 |
| Kristine Kalhryn Rusch | 109 | 109 | 118 | 143 | 183 |
| Stanley Schmidt | 103 | 103 | 119 | 139 | |
| Scott Edelman | 61 | 61 | | | |
| Patrick Nielsen Hayden | 85 | 85 | 90 | | |
| No Award | 10 | | | | |

Best Professional Artist — 507 ballots

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Bob Eggleton | 144 | 144 | 164 | 189 | 258 |
| Michael Whelan | 125 | 126 | 134 | 158 | 205 |
| David Cherry | 91 | 91 | 106 | 138 | |
| Don Maitz | 51 | 51 | | | |
| Thomas Canty | 84 | 84 | 90 | | |
| No Award | 12 | | | | |

Best Semiprozine — 483 ballots

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <i>Locus</i> | 157 | 157 | 170 | 203 | 250 |
| <i>Interzone</i> | 79 | 84 | 95 | 133 | 174 |
| <i>The New York Review of Science Fiction</i> | 77 | 77 | 94 | | |
| <i>Science Fiction Chronicle</i> | 82 | 83 | 97 | 111 | |
| <i>Speculations</i> | 70 | 70 | | | |
| No Award | 18 | | | | |

Best Fanzine — 345 ballots

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| <i>Mimosa</i> | 72 | 72 | 77 | 92 | 142 |
| <i>File 770</i> | 59 | 59 | 61 | 78 | |
| <i>Ansible</i> | 51 | 51 | 58 | | |
| <i>Tangent</i> | 88 | 88 | 115 | 123 | 135 |
| <i>Nova Express</i> | 50 | 51 | | | |
| No Award | 25 | | | | |

Best Fan Writer — 321 ballots

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Dave Langford | 86 | 96 | 96 | 121 | 151 |
| Mike Glyer | 49 | 53 | 54 | | |
| Evelyn C. Leeper | 62 | 66 | 67 | 75 | 95 |
| Sharon Farber | 54 | 59 | 59 | 71 | |
| Andy Hooper | 32 | | | | |
| No Award | 38 | 39 | | | |

Best Fan Artist — 346 ballots

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| William Rotsler | 75 | 75 | 82 | 95 | 130 |
| Peggy Ranson | 58 | 58 | 71 | 94 | |
| Joe Mayhew | 69 | 69 | 93 | 99 | 125 |
| Ian Gunn | 47 | 47 | | | |
| Sherlock | 67 | 67 | 69 | | |
| No Award | 30 | | | | |

John W. Campbell Award (not a Hugo) — 355 ballots

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Michael A. Burstein | 127 | 128 | 133 | 145 | 159 |
| Sharon Shinn | 89 | 89 | 99 | 110 | 125 |
| Richard Garfinkle | 34 | 34 | 34 | | |
| Raphael Carter | 44 | 44 | 48 | 58 | |
| Kalya Reimann | 32 | 32 | | | |
| No Award | 29 | | | | |



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Other Awards

John W. Campbell Award

Michael A. Burstein (second year of eligibility)

Big Heart Award

John L. Coker III

First Fandom Award

Hal Clement

Seiun Awards

Best Translated Novel

End of an Era by Robert Sawyer

Best Translated Short Story

Heads by Greg Bear

Best Japanese Novel

Seikai no Monsho [Emblem of the Stars] by Hiroyuki Morioka

Best Japanese Story

"Daietto no Hoteishiki" [The Diet Version of 'The Cold Equations'"] by Jin Kusakami



Issue 5 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Tom Becker and Moshe Feder. Rocket photography by James Daugherty. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Fold zine before reading.
<http://www.io.com/~lsc2/newszine/>

Out To Launch

The Origin Story of the Hugo Rocket

Mike Glyer

A few months before the 1953 WorldCon, Hal Lynch made a simple suggestion that the convention give an award to the best writer. His idea became the Hugo Awards, science fiction's most recognizable award, by now given in five different decades. Although they say "no army is so powerful as an idea whose time has come," it took a small army to bring the first Hugo rockets into existence and even then the campaign to create annual Hugo awards almost failed.

Milton Rothman chaired *three* WorldCons, including the one in Philadelphia which presented the first Hugos. His record is not only unequalled, it's virtually unimaginable. (He'll be the 1998 WorldCon's fan guest of honor, by the way.) Rothman's 1953 Philadelphia committee conceived of a set of annual science fiction achievement awards, and adopted Jim Williams's suggestion to nickname them "Hugos," after the man who had edited the first all-SF prozine, Hugo Gernsback.

The committee decided on rocket-shaped trophies (copied from Willy Ley), and asked a member who was a silversmith to make them. This was the first of a series of false starts. The silversmith discovered he couldn't produce what was wanted using his equipment. Trophy companies didn't make rockets. Another silversmith agreed to take brass stock, turn it on a lathe, add fins and silverplate the whole thing -- but when the committee checked in on him three days before the start of the convention, he had done nothing. As Milton Rothman remembered in his article for the *Noreascon Program Book*, "It was Jack McKnight who came to the rescue. An expert machinist, he turned the little rockets out of stainless steel in his own shop, learning to his dismay that soldering stainless steel fins was a new art. While doing this, poor Jack missed the whole convention, but turned up just in time for the banquet and the presentation."

Instead of disaster, there was triumph. Toastmaster Isaac Asimov handed out the awards. Teenager Robert Silverberg watched from the balcony as Forry Ackerman was given the first Hugo. (Silverberg sat in the balcony because he couldn't afford \$4.00 for a ticket to the banquet, little expecting that just three years later he

would be on stage receiving his own Hugo, as "Most Promising New Author.")

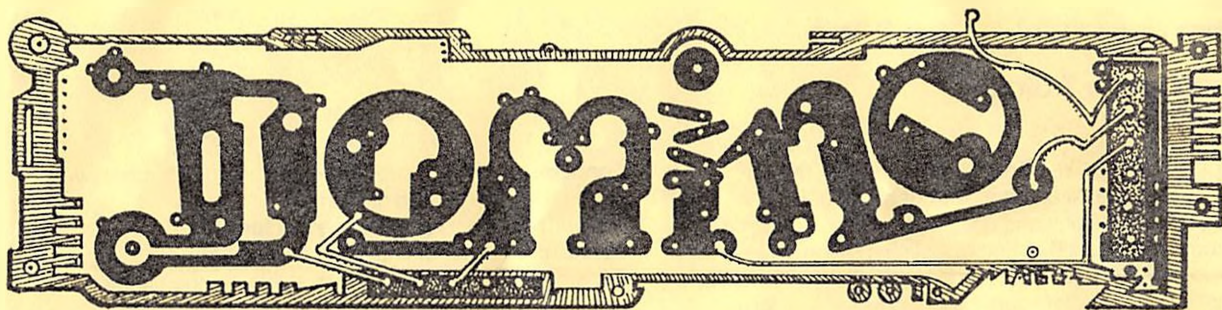
Disaster averted, the popular new awards seemed well and truly launched. Except that the next year's committee, hosts of the 1954 San Francisco WorldCon, did not give any Hugos. Despite the "annual" component of the award's official name, Chair Esther Cole explained at a panel many years later, "We thought it [1953] would be a one-time presentation."

The Hugos were called back from the edge of extinction by Nick and Noreen Falasca and the committee of the 1955 WorldCon in Cleveland. Ben Jason was a member of that committee, and this article follows his account of how the Hugos were created and then re-created, which was published in the Winter 1994 issue of *ScientiFiction*.

The Cleveland committee hoped Jack McKnight would make their Hugo rockets, too, but their letters brought no replies. Nick Falasca asked, couldn't they simply use Oldsmobile "Rocket 88" model hood ornaments? They ordered one of the ornaments from the local dealer. Unfortunately, the rocket had a hollow underside; hood ornaments did not prove to be a cheap and easy solution after all.

Ben Jason made the rounds of machine shops looking for an affordable way to manufacture the Hugos. Finally, someone advised him to take a drawing of what he wanted to a pattern-maker and have a mold made. The Hoffman Bronze Co. prepared a pattern rocket from Jason's design, and he commissioned them to make six chrome-plated replicas. The first batch was too flawed to be presented as awards, and members of the committee volunteered to buy the discards to help fund a second batch which was lathed after casting to remove surface pits and fissures. The second batch of Hugos proved satisfactory and were presented to winners at the 1955 WorldCon.

Today's Hugo rockets are based on the original design. However, for many years they have been manufactured by Peter Weston's firm in England, which also makes the body hardware for Jaguar autos.



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Ye Olde Masquerade Photos

If you signed up for the Masquerade Photo Area, show up at the bank of pay phones across from ballroom Salon I ("eye") between 6:00 and 6:30 PM on Sunday to get your sticker.

If you do not pick up your sticker by 6:30 PM you will not be permitted in the Photo Area. Your place will be given to the people on the Alternate list.

We expect to have two stations of Available Light which will be Daylight Balanced. Due to space considerations, we will not be having a Flash Area.

Saturday WSFS Business Meeting

Robt Sacks

Business to be taken up Sunday:

- Report of site selection; presentation by winners.
- Report on Resolutions and Rulings of Continuing Effect, and additional reference to report on the Customs and Usages of WSFS.
- Written Reports: the Mark Protection Committee.
- Written Financial Report: MagiCon.
- New Constitutional Amendments (5 min. each): Rewriting the Hugo provisions, Rewriting Site Selection Eligibility, Rewriting Powers of the Business Meeting, Changing Best Related Book to Best Related Work.
- Establishing a committee to review the non-fiction/related book/related work Hugo.
- Question Time: Buccaneer and Aussiecon Three.
- Presentations by Boston and Philadelphia in 2001 bidders (time available)

Run a WorldCon (Ask Me How)

Ross Pavlac has published the 166 page 1997 edition of *The WorldCon Runners' Guide*. Copies are available from him in person at the con for \$15, or by mail (PO Box 816, Evanston, IL 60204-0816) for \$18.

Program Changes

Sunday (mostly additions):

- 10 AM CC-River B History of the Soviet Space Program
 - 11 AM CC-104 Sime-Gen Gathering
 - Noon CC-104 Tarot Workshop
 - 1 PM CC-105 Prometheus Awards
 - 1:30 PM CC Babylon 5 booth Straczynski autographs
 - 2 PM CC-105 Golden Duck Awards (see below)
 - 2 PM CC-209 Kids Art Class Drawing (moved)
 - 3 PM CC-105 Mr. Destruction
 - 4 PM CC-105 Physics & Starship Tech
 - 4 PM CC-210 Philip K. Dick: Life and Works
 - 5 PM CC-210 A discussion on PKD
 - 5 PM CC-105 KT Boundary Room
 - 5 PM MRW-Milam Andrew Duncan Reading
 - 5 PM CC-104 Long Live the Legion-the Party Continues
 - 6 PM MRW-Milam Paul Pence Reading
- Monday: Betsy Mitchell Autographing (deleted)

Truman Defeats Dewey!

1997 Golden Duck Winners

The awards, for best books in children's science fiction, are being given to:

Picture Book Award, Awarded to Illustrator:

Grandpa Takes Me to the Moon, written by Timothy R. Gaffney, Illustrated by Barry Root, Tambourine Books

Middle Grades Award:

The Message, by K. A. Applegate, Scholastic

Hal Clement Young Adult Award:

Wildside, by Steven Gould; *Tor*, a Tom Doherty Book

Site Selection Cliff-Hanger Continues

Official site selection voting results are embargoed until the business meeting at 10:30 on Sunday. However, scrawlings on a sticky Shiner Bock label slid under the door of our newsroom indicate a tie — between Highmore and Minneapolis. Whether it's for the WorldCon or the NASFiC we cannot tell.

Talking Like a Trufan

Leah Zeldes Smilh

The panel "Talking Like a Trufan: SF Slang from the Hectograph to the Web" Thursday afternoon offered insights into the origins and uses of fanspeak. Speaking to a full room, panelists Dick Eney (publisher of the seminal *Fancylopedia II*), John Hertz, Nicki Lynch, Richard Lynch, Ed Meskys and moderator yours truly concluded that fan jargon, mostly developed in fanzines in the 1950s, has changed in meaning and frequency of use but is still alive and well, with new words arising out of conventions and fandom on the Internet.

For those who missed the panel, here's a brief guide to some of the argot discussed:

Apa: Amateur press association. A group of **faneds** who send their **fanzines** to a central editor, who collates them and distributes a complete set to each. (In electronic terms, a kind of paper-based listserv.)

Annish: Anniversary issue of a **fanzine**.

Ackermanese: The neologisms of Forrest J. ("45J") Ackerman, who coined **sci-fi**, and advocated simplified spelling and many other elements of fan jargon.

Bems: Bug-eyed monsters.

BNF: Big-name fan, a **fannish** celebrity.

Con: Convention.

Corflu: Correction fluid.

Croggle: React with awed wonder.

Distim: What the **gostak** does to the **doshes**.

Doshes: What are **distimmed** by the **gostak**.

Fan: A member of **fandom**.

Fandom: Our happy subculture, the world of SF lovers who do more than just read or watch.

Faned: Fan editor, one who edits a **fanzine**.

Fannish: Of or pertaining to fans or **fandom**.

Fansmanship: From "Gamesmanship" — the art of convincing others you're a better fan than they are.

Fanzine: Now a popular term for any kind of amateur magazine, the term was coined by SF fan Louis Russell Chauvinet specifically for those produced by **fen**.

Fen: Alternate plural of fan.

Gostak: What **distims** the **doshes**.

Neofan: Someone new to **fandom**.

Propeller beanie: An item of **fannish** head gear. Ray Faraday Nelson identified fan characters in his cartoons with these toppers.

Sci-fi: Science fiction. **Trufen** now consider the diminutive rather derogatory, and apply it to grade B movies and such. It is often pronounced "skiffy."

Slan: Superintelligent mutant, from the eponymous A.E. van Vogt novel. "Fans are slans."

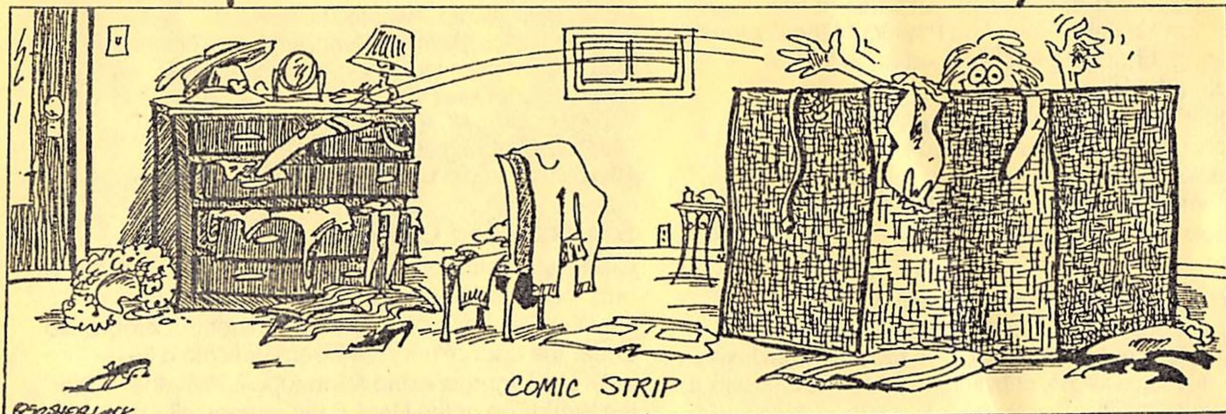
Trufan: In general, an especially dedicated fan, but the word has a lot of controversial connotations.

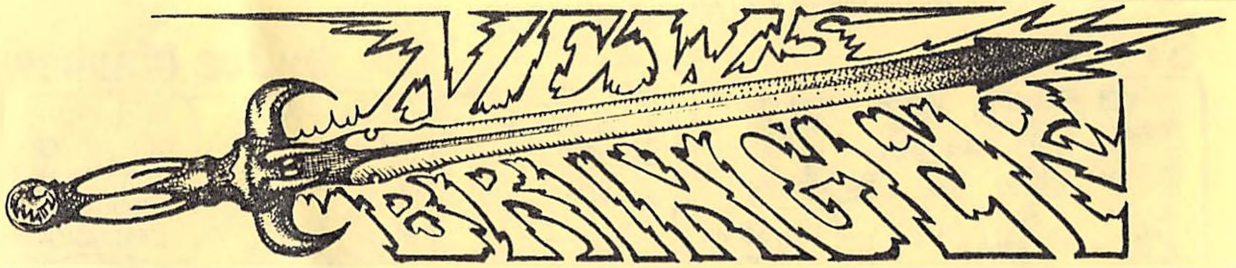
WKF: Well-known fan.

For more information on the lore and culture of fandom, visit the Fan Lounge (CC-101) and see the following panels: "Welcome to the SF Community: Enjoying the Worldcon" (noon Sunday CC-101), "Welcome to the SF Community: Making Connections" (1 p.m. Sunday CC-101), "Fandom Online" (noon Monday CC-101)

Comic Strip

by Sherlock





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Roy Tackett Roast

Bob Webber

Friday afternoon a group of 30 or so old and brand new friends got together to try to roast our fan GoH, "Horrible Old Roy Tackett" (HORT). The roast should have provided grounds for conversation at the subsequent Kaffeeklatsch, but the roasting process was not entirely successful: almost no one could find a HORT attribute more horrible than driving legally and being a BNF.

Roy's oldest and nearest tried hard to come up with stories of scurrility and meanness, but repeatedly failed to hit the mark: even the HORT-awarded Green Slime awards never targeted the innocent, and the rambling, punning jokes his friends made him the butt of ("The sheep lies!" Richard Brandt; "Charged with transporting gulls over staid lions for immoral porpoises" — Art Widner) were more horrid than any true reports about Roy Tackett.

Roy is horribly hard to roast, but wonderfully easy to like. In spite of some astoundingly difficult times in his life, as a U.S. Marine on Guadalcanal ("I just imagined that I was the hero of an sf magazine serial, so I knew I had to survive for next month's episode."), the victim of a car theft at Amigocon, and in the face of recent medical emergencies (including three strokes last year), Roy Tackett has managed to do as he advises us, "You always have to keep your sense of humor."

For a better view of the life, times, and opinions of Roy Tackett, a remarkable fan whom we honor at LSC2, pick up a copy of *The Least Horrible of Roy Tackett* in the Fanzine Lounge (CC-101A) for \$10.

4820 Fans from All Over the World —Howdy!

Registration maven John Lorenz provided the following information late Saturday: Number of people at the con: 3937. One-day memberships sold today: 381. Total one- or two-day memberships: 538. Total full attending memberships sold: 4820.

Sidewise Award for Alternate History

Evelyn C. Leeper

Long Form Alternate History (best novel or series): Stephen Baxter, *Voyage* (HarperPrism)

Short Form Alternate History (best work under 60,000 words): Walter Jon Williams, "Foreign Devils" (*War of the Worlds: Global Dispatches*, Asimov's, January 1996)

Honorable Mentions:

Long Form: Orson Scott Card, *Pastwatch* (Tor); Harry Harrison, *The Hammer and the Cross Trilogy: The Hammer and the Cross, One King's Way, King and Emperor* (Tor); Harry Turtledove, *The Worldwar Series: Worldwar: In the Balance, Worldwar: Tilting the Balance, Worldwar: Upsetting the Balance, Worldwar: Striking the Balance* (Del Rey, Hodder & Stoughton)

Short Form: William Barton, "Age of Aquarius," *Asimov's*, May 1996; John Kessel, "The Miracle of Ivar Avenue," *Intersections*, Tor, *Asimov's*, September 1996; Kim Newman & Eugene Byrne, "Abdication Street," *Interzone 105*; Mark W. Tiedeman, "Resurrection," *War of the Worlds: Global Dispatches*, Bantam Spectra

Nominations for next year are open until March 31, 1998. The jury is Moshe Feder, Evelyn Leeper, Robert Schmunk and Steven Silver. Address questions regarding the Awards to Steven H Silver, 3084 Antelope Springs Road, Northbrook, IL 60062-3343, <<http://www.skatecity.com/ah/sidewise/>>.

jms@b5fc 13:30 97.08.31

Joe Straczynski will be at the Babylon 5 Fan Club booth at 1:30 PM Sunday for autographs.

Issue 6 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Lise T. Eisenberg and Tom Becker. Comics by Kurt Erichsen, Joe Mayhew and Sherlock. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Fold zine before reading. <http://www.io.com/~lsc2/newszine/>

ST-AN

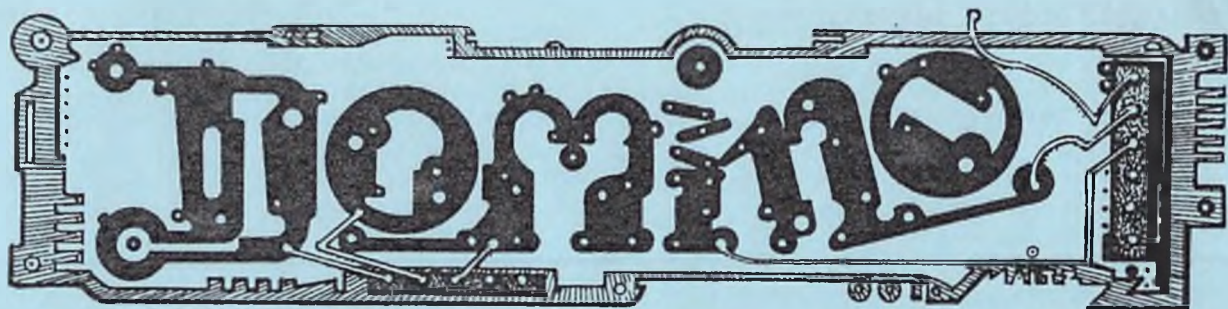
by Joe Mayhew



MURPHY ROBINSON, Q.I.

By Kurt Erichsen





LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 7 • Late Sunday, August 31, 1997

WorldCon Voting Surprise Result!

In a voting result fully as shocking as the Babylon 5 Hugo for Best Dramatic Presentation, Chicago won their site-selection race on the first ballot, and will host the 2000 WorldCon. Though an early rumor credited Chicago with 8,570 of the 1,469 votes cast, the actual first-round numbers were: Chicago 1293, None of the Above 37, No Preference 98, Write-ins 39, Spoiled 2. Not counting the ballots that did not express a preference for a particular location, Highmore and Minneapolis tied for third place with six votes each.

The WorldCon will be called Chicon 2000, and will be held from 31 August to 04 September 2000 in the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Honorees will include:

Author Guest of Honor: Ben Bova

Editor Guest of Honor: Bob Eggleton

Fan Guests of Honor: Bob and Anne Passevov

Toastmaster: Harry Turtledove

For further information about Chicon 2000, contact them at:

Chicon 2000, P.O. Box 642057, Chicago, IL 60664

chi2000@chicon.org

<http://www.chicon.org>

NASFiC

Conucopia will be the 1999 NASFiC. It will be held August 26-29 at the Anaheim Marriott. We don't have full breakdowns, but the first-round ballot results were as follows: Conucopia 188, Coyotecon 178, Great American 66, None of the Above 36, No Preference 18, Write-ins 5. When Coyotecon was eliminated in the third round it had 192 votes to Conucopia's 241, and in the showdown None of the Above went down with 56 votes to Conucopia's 287. So there.

"Damn, I've typed a zed, where's the zee key on this keyboard?" - Chris O'Shea

Last Dangerous Program Changes!

Rod Serling

You have entered a convention not of space or time but of the mind. You stand at the cross-roads between reality and the pocket program...

There are NO further changes to the Monday grid!

Fannish Lounge Lizards Toast

Sunday night, join us for a fond farewell to the Evening Fan Lounge: Marriott Rivercenter, third floor, Conference Room 7. A cash bar, refreshments and fannish ephemera may well be provided.

During the day, we continue to present the Day Fan Lounge (CC-101), with a wide selection of fanzines and fannish ephemera on sale, including last night's Hugo-winner, Mimosas.

Top Ten Obstacles To Nova Express' Plans to Take Over the World

10. World domination plan needs \$20 billion. Currently in account: \$1.98
9. Nova Express is an all-Mac operation, but WorldConquest Planner only runs under Windows
8. William S. Burroughs' death means no more secret funding from the insect minds of Minurad
7. Connie Willis refuses to put subliminal (novaexpress) messages in her short fiction
6. Those damn lab mice used up all the good ideas
5. Plan to make millions off Mike Tyson licensing deal hits unforeseen obstacle
4. Editor spent all the money earmarked for plutonium on hardback books
3. Bill Gates already bought up all the black market Russian ICBCMs
2. ACME Corp. refuses to extend credit after Wile E. Coyote stiffed them
1. David Langford

Alternate Realities

Chris O'Shea

I'm from the UK, and the US has always seemed like a place where the barriers between reality and fantasy are thinner than in my home country. Last night, when I was eating Chinese food near a version of the canals of Venice in an American city, the barrier seemed very thin. I returned to the party hotel, and as I was wandering past the bar I noticed a surprisingly large number of people watching the two TVs, with the volume on both turned so far up that it made a strange echoing phasy sound. And on the screen it said, "Princess Diana is dead".

I stared unbelievably at the screen and once I had stopped trying to find a different meaning to those four words, I had this sudden overwhelming feeling of cognitive dissonance. It was like there were two parallel universes and I'd suddenly jumped from the one I knew into a parallel one where Di was dead and I was hit by this feeling of temporal whiplash.

Going from party to party, some people had heard, some hadn't, and when I told them the reaction was always the same, first they wanted to know what the punchline was, then their eyes would open wide and they would stand there staring for half a second or so and you could see them going through the same thoughts: *What happened? Who did it? What happens to the boys? How does this affect me?*

In England there are many people who think that royalty is somewhere between useless and parasitic. There are many others who *love* the royal family and have stood behind Diana over the years. However they feel, the death of a person who has put herself so much in the public eye somehow affects us all. My first thoughts, after the ones above, was that she is...was...only two years older than me and yet she had such an effect on the world. Only a short while ago I had watched a Larry King which had spent forever talking about the auction of her dresses, and more recently all the newspapers in the UK had been talking about her campaign against land mines.

And yet, when I came out of breakfast this morning and saw a friend with tears in her eyes and heard that she had just found out her stepmother had died, *that* was when I actually cried. I had never met Diana, and my interaction with her was always through the TV or newspapers. But when my friend's stepmother died, it mattered. Our families matter, our friends matter. At

Intersection when John Brunner passed away, I saw so many of my friends wandering around stunned and with tears in their eyes. Some of us make an impact on the world through large events and grand gestures, but the ones that matter most to each of us are the ones that have touched us in a personal way. The death of Princess Diana changes the world, but the death of a friend (or the friend of a friend) matters.



Pieces of Nine? –Parrot Error

*What's piracy without
A Treasure Chest
That's your first clue —
Come get the rest.*

Bucconeer hopes you saw our piratical musical, *The Pirates of Fenzance!* There are still plenty of prizes to be won. Every person completing the Hunt will receive a Pirate ribbon and a chance in our daily prize drawings (2 chances for LoneStarCon 2 volunteers). Join the fun.

*Here's a little pirate quiz.
Can you write down who the editor is?*



Distant Relative of Restaurant Review

Juliebata Humphries

After arriving from California on Thursday, I wandered aimlessly for a bit. I was in search of convention facilities and people I knew. Once I finally connected, I was too tired to dine anything but the food court in the Rivercenter. A large group of us sampled the steak place, the chicken place, the Mediterranean place—and I myself had an exquisite foot-long hot dog from the Dairy Queen.

A tejano band was playing just outside. We were sitting a bit too close for quiet conversation, but hey—we were in a food court, what do you expect? It was quick and convenient, so I'm not complaining, and the band was pretty good.

On a lark, we decided to take the riverboat tour. It cost \$4.31, and we had to buy a ticket in advance, at the ticket kiosk next to the dock outside the Rivercenter. We had to wait a while to fill up a boat, but eventually we were under way. I enjoyed the silly banter of the gondolier. He had obviously been saying the same thing every day for years on end, but he seemed to be having a good time. He provided informative commentary on the history of the River Walk, and a few dumb jokes as well. The whole area was pleasant, well-lit and felt pretty safe. We passed by a number of restaurants I'd like to try, but have no idea how to find them again. The whole tour took about 45 minutes. I definitely recommend taking the tour in the evening, as there is a nice breeze and it is much cooler.

Issue 7 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Chris O'Shea, Teresa Nielsen Hayden. Art by Jim Groat. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Spike is the Dominatrix. Fold zine before reading. <http://www.io.com/~lsc2/newszine/>

Parties – Sunday

Marriott Rivercenter

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 3430 Chicago in 2000 | 9 PM - |
| 3422 Buccaneer | 9 PM - 2 AM |
| 3316 SF Forums (Compuserve) | 9 PM - |
| 3312 DragonCon | 9 PM - |
| 3140 Seattle in 2002, Z'ha'dum in 2260, Empirecon | 9 PM -2 AM |
| 3126 San Francisco in 2002 | 9 PM - |
| 3118 ConCancun 2003 | 9 PM - |
| 3040 Perry Rhodan Magazine | 9 PM - |
| 3031 Babylon 5 Videos | Noon-midnight |
| 3030 Costumer's Suite | After masq. |
| 3026 Mpls in '73 | 9 PM - |
| 2933 Readercon | 9 PM - |
| 2918 Babylon 5 Promo Team | 8 - 11 PM |
| 1905 Philly in 2001 | 11 PM - 1 PM |
| Christian Fandom | 9 PM - |
| 3rd floor, Con Suite | 5 PM - 1 AM |

Restaurants - to go

A word to the wise: The Siam restaurant listed in the pocket program does not exist! Wednesday night a party of 12 attempted to find it at the published address and sadly failed. The location listed in the pocket program is now—horrors—a Taco Bell. Rumor has it that Siam has relocated to somewhere in the North of San Antonio. A check with locals may be necessary to confirm this. Hope Kiefer

Bob's Smokehouse, at 5145 Fredericksburg Road, is closed for vacation Monday September 2 - 8. The other two "Bob's" will be open. (See *Domino* #2 for a review.)

Saturday Night Parties— Chili and Stars

Kurt Baty and Scott Bobo

We found the chili, but more on that later.

So we began our Saturday night party tour visiting our Russian friends, who were hosting a “quiet” get-together, complete with dill pickles washed down with shots of vodka. Scott thought the lemon Stoli was a nice touch. After a few shots, he was led to Swancon, and the gang scooped up a few marshmallow swans and slipped down to San Francisco in 2002, parting the love beads at the door and grooving to the light of the lava lamp while sampling the potstickers. Peace, baby.

The Oriental theme carried over into LACon III's thank-you party via their eggrolls. Thanks, guys, for some way cool parties! And now for the chili. What do you get when you combine Seattle fans and chili? Why, salmon chili, of course. Richard Wright told us they taste-tested many recipes before settling on last night's offering. So far, it's the chili to beat.

The Eurocon party provided an excellent opportunity for placing accents. This party was always crowded, and we noticed many fans planted themselves here for the night. Toronto's party was an auspicious kick-off for their 2003 WorldCon bid, hosting an always-crowded suite. We enjoyed their “Fen in Black” theme. B5 in 2259 offered us exotic “ice cream of the future.”

Fantasy filled the halls on the 19th floor, covering such exotic places and themes as the Middle East—and Philadelphia. Down the hall, following the trail of kites, we came upon Philadelphia's suite party. Admiring their elegant tea service, we noticed a large “4 *” at the window across the hotel. Hm, we wondered, what does that mean? Later, Deb Geisler explained the story.

“Scherazade” serenaded us on the way to Boston's “Night in the Seraglio” as we passed silver and gold medallions. Veils festooned the ceiling in the suite fit for a Sultan while strings of lights graced the terrace. So how do you top shrimp and candy sushi? Why, shower us in champagne and strawberry shortcake! And 72 bottles of champagne later, the Boston party was STILL lively. Heck, with all that champagne, who wouldn't be dancing on the ceiling? Why, we even caught a glimpse of Gay Ellen Dennett performing terpsichorean steps....

Sweeping those parties that were still going late in the evening, we found ourselves relaxing (yes, we'll do that occasionally) on Boston's terrace, taking in the view of San Antonio, where the stars at night are big and bright—paper stars, that is. We knew by this time, that we were visiting with the folks who were hosting the—drum roll—Saturday's Party Of The Night. Congrats, gang, your efforts (and champagne) were appreciated. See y'all tonight.

Human Veg-O-Matic™

Lorraine Anderson

Just thought I'd let y'all know that I'm having a ball—slicing, dicing, cutting, running, and panicking in the Consuite—and I'm glad I volunteered! It's fun! I encourage y'all to stop by for the healthy spread between 5 PM and Midnight every night.

Gordon van Gelder Kept Me Up 'til 3 AM

Marcia Sherman

...and he wasn't even in the room!

This started with Friday's panel “Goodbye Kris! Hello Gordon,” where the editorial philosophies and intentions of Kristine Kathryn Rusch and Gordon van Gelder at *Fantasy and Science Fiction* magazine. During a discussion of possible story themes least likely to catch Gordon's attention, the phrase “vampire chickens” floated out. It provoked the expected laughter and the conversation moved on. But an idea spoken aloud always has a life span in someone's mind, and this took root in mind. It sat in the back until that still, dark moment when sleep has almost arrived and a quick review of the day clears the brain. Suddenly, there was the vivid picture of a vampire chicken, keeping me from that drowsy relaxation I really craved. I had to figure out the mechanics of a blood-sucking chicken. So...no teeth, one stiletto-pointed beak. Forget neck-biting—chickens seldom make knee-height. That makes the ankles the primary targets and rules out cowboys and motorcyclists as prime victims. Socks would certainly be deterrents, too.

Imagine this blood-sucking fowl fastened around a bare leg. A good strong kick would be the life-saving maneuver. This is not going to be a successful adaptation for the barnyard.

I finally fell asleep with the image of screaming, unfed fowl clinging to the nets of Bucconeer's flagship.

Con Gossip

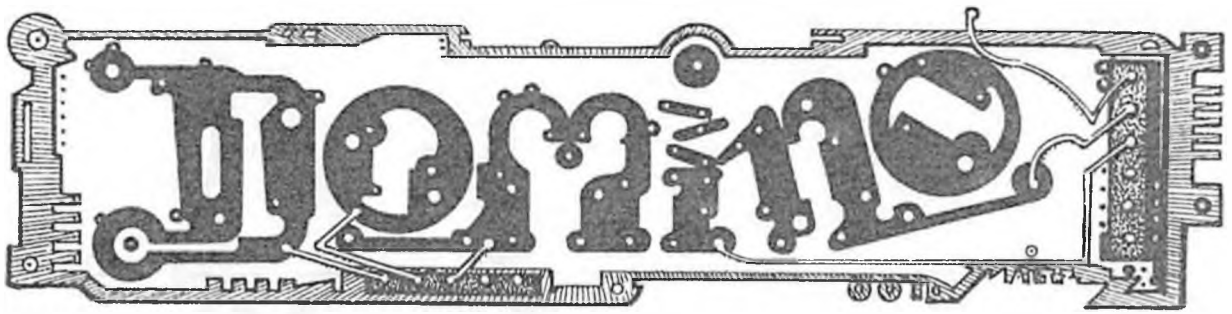
Our theory is that all the conrunners working on this convention have been engaged in unspeakable activities since the moment they arrived.

Question: How can you tell?

Answer: Because every time we ask, “Any good stories?” they infallibly say, “Nothing I can talk about.” Every one of them. Every time.

One person I was talking to swore that when she arrived at the convention, the first person she saw when she walked in was Ben Yalow. “Ben!” she said, “how are you?”

“Nothing I can talk about,” he replied.



Sunday WSFS Business Meeting

The WSFS Business Meeting completed its business on Sunday. There will be no Monday Business Meeting. The Mark Protection Committee will meet Monday, 11 AM, in CC-111.

Business Adopted or Completed

Chicago won the 2000 Worldcon election; Anaheim won the 1999 NASFiC election.

The Committee on Nitpicking & Flyspecking was extended to cover customs and usages, and Don Eastlake III, as Chairman, added Tim Illingworth and Kevin Standlee to the committee.

(Note: the Business Meeting is in the middle of a three- or four-year effort to clean up its Constitution. Tim Illingworth, on his own initiative, is submitting rewritten articles or groups of sections; with a few exceptions, the amendments are flying through.)

Constitutional Amendments adopted for ratification at Bucconeer: Rewriting the Hugo Awards, Rewriting Site Selection Eligibility, and Rewriting Powers of the Business Meeting—all merely rewordings for clarity. A more serious amendment adopted was to Change Best Non-Fiction Book to Best Related Work, to match what people actually nominate. However, a Committee was appointed, chaired by Tim Illingworth, to clarify the wording of the Hugo Awards and Best Related Book amendments.

Amending the standing rules to have the presiding officer set debate times for business submitted in advance, with a five-minute default for anything else.

Business Defeated or Otherwise Disposed Of

Amending the standing rules to eliminate all time limits on debate.

Constitutional Amendments to extend Best Professional Editor to (electronic) circulation of 100,000 and to create a Best e-mail Zine Hugo.

Programming Apologizes

LoneStarCon2 apologizes to Patrick Nielsen Hayden and Tor Books for the mix-up at noon Sunday at the Tor panel. The convention failed to inform Mr. Nielsen Hayden of the panel's existence, and is fully responsible for his absence.

E.T. Ship Home?

Since the Marriott's business center isn't open over the weekend, the Rivercenter will be setting up a shipping desk on their third floor for people who want to ship stuff home after the convention. Its hours will be 10 AM - 7 PM on Monday, and 9 AM - 1 PM on Tuesday. Packages will be shipped via the usual services, at those services' usual rates plus a small surcharge. Shipping forms should be available; packing materials may be available as well.

Convention Signs Are For Sale

The clever, entertaining, and helpful convention signs by Sherlock (local artist Sherry Watson) are available for sale in the art show, where photos of each sign, along with bid sheets, are on display. The minimum bid on each of the fourteen signs is \$30; the most popular (naturally, this was the art show sign itself) was scheduled to be auctioned on Sunday. The quick sale closed at 7pm Saturday, so you'll have to rely on your bidding prowess or auction savvy to capture one of the signs.

Issue 8 of the LoneStarCon2 newszine was edited by Tom Becker and Rachel Holmen, with contributions by George Flynn, Teresa Nielsen Hayden and Moshe Feder. Photos by James Daugherty. Art by Sherlock. Logos by Don Maitz. Titles in honor of Michael Moorcock and Algis Budrys. Zine in honor of Roy Tackett. Web site by Bill Humphries. Fold zine before reading. <http://www.io.com/~lsc2/newszine/>

Hogu and BlackHole Award Winners

The 25th Anniversary Hogu and Black Hole Award presentation was conducted Sunday morning at a black-tie Ranquel, before an audience of dozens in the local McDonald's, and produced the following distinguished winners:

- *The DeRoach Award for Putridity in Everyday Life: Paparazzi*
- *The Aristotle Award for Grand-Master Lifetime Achievement in Putridity: Mike Tyson*
- *Best New Feud (Starling 1996 or later): Jesse Helms vs. William Weld*
- *Best Traumatic Presentation (e.g., Gary Hart in "Lust Weekend"): bill.gales@macworld.org*
- *Fandom's Biggest Turkey: Roland Castle*
- *Best Hoax Award (other than the Hogus): LoneStarCon2 Chili Cook-Off*
- *Best Typeface: Alamo MicroCondensed Timid*
- *Best Religious Hoax (the Kool-Aid Award): Heaven's Gate*
- *Best Professional Hoax (hoaxing as a profession): John Norman as a writer*
- *Best Fan Hoax: 2nd Occasional LoneStarCon Con Suite*
- *Worst Fanzine Title (the Aard Daze Award): (tie) Newsbringer and Domino**
- *Best Dead Writer (must be living to qualify; the Battlecrock Glacklica Award): William Shatner*
- *Best Hoax Convention: Z'ha'dum in 2260*
- *Best Pseudonym: Michael "Moo"cock*
- *Special Bagelbash Award for Outstanding Putridity: π + ☞ (pi Alamo'd)*
- *Devo Award for Most Harm Done to Science Fiction: Nichelle Nichols for hucking Psychic Network*
- *Best Has-Been (Deposed Dictator's Award): Fidel Castro*
- *Free For All (best bumper sticker): Velcromicon — The Book of Binding Spells*
- *Most Desired Galiation (Winner to get Mid-Atlantic Fan Fund): Stu Hellingar*
- *Best New Disease (e.g., Ted Turner's Syndrome — colorization): Virulent Paparazzi*
- *Banger Award for Least Appropriate Featured Personality at a Worldcon: Dusty Britches (for opening ceremonies act)*
- *Traffic Jams, Jellies, and Preserves Award for Most Vapid Transit System: Boat Tours on the Dilch*
- *Best Alien Music Video: Will Smith's "Men in Black" video*
- *Mixed Media: Custom carpet art of the Alamo in the McDonald's*
- *Closest Encounter of the Fourth Kind: Mir and its docking vessel (Oy is Mir!)*
- *Cuisinart Award for Notably Bad Editing: Hugo movie clip-job*
- *Special Grand Bastard Award: Special Persecutor Kenneth Starr*

- *Space Geek of the Year: Hucksler King Tommy Bartlett of Wisconsin (who charges tourists admission to walk through a Mir command module mockup)*
- *Most Bizarre Hall Costume: Neal Barrell, Jr. at the Hugos*
- *Most Erotic Line from Star Trek: Deep Six Nine: "Hey Quark — stick it in your ear!"*

The Hogus were named for Hogu Chabsnery, founder of modern Sinus Friction. Given out almost simultaneously were the companion BlackHole Awards for Extraordinary Putridity, which do not appear to have been named for anybody who's willing to admit to it:

- *Standard BlackHole (four awarded, usually without comment being necessary): Paula Jones, the Kennedy men, Kenneth Starr, Jesse Helms*
- *Invisibility Award (conspicuous absence): Elst Weinslein (horrible mention: Mike Glycer)*
- *Incompetence Award for Political Refuse: Richard Arney vs. Newt Gingrich*
- *Publisher's Award: Pesach Lattin's "Sphere Publishing" (sic)*
- *Greed Award: Aulumn Jackson*
- *Half-Assed Con Officiousness (the "Connie"): CoyoteCon*
- *Brown Hole Award for Outstanding Professionalism: NYPD Brown*

Categories are determined, nominations are collated, voting is conducted, and votes are sold, singly or *en bloc*, by the Hogu and BlackHole Commission, 2717 San Angelo Drive., Claremont CA 91711, fax 909-621-2117, <elst@cyberg81.com>. (John Novak, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary.)

*The publisher and staff of *Domino* and *Newsbringer* express their gratitude and appreciation to the commission for this honor. Sorry our Brink's courier didn't arrive in time.

Videos of LoneStarCon2

Sign up at Information to order videos of: the major events, the complete masquerade, and the complete major events. Bill Parker is arranging for the videos to be produced.

SF ♥ ???

San Francisco in 2002 would like the person who purchased pre-supporting membership #0385 on August 28, 1997 to please stop by the bid table or party with your receipt. We really, really need to confirm your name and address —Dave Clark

Fan Funds on a Roll

The TAFF & DUFF auction sold a Hot Wheels Pathfinder/Sojourner™ toy signed by the Pathfinder staff for \$250.

By the Way,

In the previous issue, the column "Top Ten Obstacles To Nova Express' Plans to Take Over the World" was written by Lawrence Person.



LoneStarCon2 • The 55th World Science Fiction Convention • Issue 8 • Monday Morning, September 1, 1997

LoneStarCon2 Masquerade



Best in Show: The Tlokiriquluyal: The Lords of Chaos

Master Class

Best of Class: Samurai from Mars
 Best Re-Creation: My Favorite Martian
 Best Presentation: Shadows of the Empire
 Judges' Choice (Most Bodacious Documentation): Samurai ...
 Workmanship
 Shaping & Construction: My Favorite Martian
 Working with Unusual Materials: Shadows of the Empire
 Best Master Workmanship: Fire Dance
 Tie for Best Workmanship
 Best Workmanship with Unusual Materials: Samurai from Mars
 Best Workmanship with Traditional Materials: The Tlokiriquluyal:
 The Lords of Chaos

Journeyman Class

Best of Class: In the Enchanted Garden
 Most Beautiful: The Ambassadors from Sarquaan
 Best Presentation: A Klingon Quiet Night- A Warrior's Softer Side
 Most Humorous: Klingon Horror
 Judges' Choice: Mel Gibson Girl
 Workmanship
 Applique & Handwork: In the Enchanted Garden
 Best Journeyman Workmanship: The Ambassadors from Sarquaan

Novice

Best of Class: Aurora
 Most Beautiful - Original: The Messengers of Heaven
 Most Beautiful - Recreation: Suma, from Eros Ascending
 Best Baad Pun: Men in Blackwatch
 Most Dramatic Presentation: Delenn of Minbar
 Most Humorous: The Cities of Science Fiction
 Judges' Choice Award: Bounty Rider
 Workmanship
 Construction: Klingon Horror
 Woven Beadwork: The Queen of the Night
 3-D Beadwork: Queen of Wands/Element of Fire
 Handworked Details: Suma, from Eros Ascending
 Modeling & Computer Work: The Cities of Science Fiction
 Best Novice Workmanship: The Messengers of Heaven

Young Fans (adult-made)

Most Humorous: A Young Jedi
 Most Beautiful: Idyll at the End of Time

Popular Favorite (and "Sick Puppy Award")

A Klingon Quiet Night- A Warrior's Softer Side



A Klingon Quiet Night



Samurai from Mars

Atomic Fireballs on the Stilagumish

Andy Hooper

I'd like to reassure Texas fen who may have feared that their adopted favorite son, Howard Waldrop, had disappeared forever into the wild forests of Washington state. Carrie Root and I had occasion to visit the Living National Treasure at his new home just three weeks ago, following a hot Saturday hike along the nearby Sauk river. We promised ourselves cold sodas at the general store where Howard lives, and set off to find him.

The Oso General Store features all the essentials for life in a small river town—bait and licenses, food and feed caps, video rentals and lotto tickets. And naturally they had an espresso machine. We had toyed with the idea of telling the owner that we were on a pilgrimage to see the famous writer, but he didn't look like the kind of fellow who would suffer pretension gladly, so we just asked if Howard was around. The owner said he wasn't sure, but sent us to the back of the building.

When we got to the back of the store, there was an attractive little hut crammed right up against the side of the building. There was a simple wooden arch above the tiny fence which separated an equally tiny front garden from the parking lot, and suspended from the gateway arch was a sign that read "Little Reata." On the front door was another sign, this one hand-written, which read, as I recall, "NO, this is NOT the bathroom, you moron. How many bathrooms do you know that have doorbells? Keep going around back."

"This is the place," I said, and rang the bell. "Hey, H'ard, you in there?" The door opened and there he stood. He was shocked for a moment, then said "You got my letter."

I'm happy to reassure anyone who may have worried about Howard's self-imposed exile to the wilds of Washington that his surroundings are actually pretty nice. The whole place is only slightly larger than the average dorm room, but he has some comforts—a small electric stove discarded by the Forest Service, a rope-frame bed for his futon, a VCR, and a TV (although there's no broadcast signal that he can pull in that far up in the mountains). His tiny office is decorated with prints of cover illustrations from his recent collections, several toy Zeppelins, and a model of the Oscar Meyer Weinermobile.

As we stepped inside he admonished me to watch out for his fly rods, and offered us each an Atomic Fireball candy from his stash. "I was happy to discover that they're just as hot as they used to be—you'd think that they'd have toned them down for contemporary tastes." I had a sudden flash of a novel I was reading, Tim Powers' *Expiration Date*, in which one of the characters subsists entirely on tea brewed from Eat-em-and-Weeps, and found that Howard was right about the Atomic Fireballs—they're still just about as hot as one can stand. I kept taking pulls from my Coke to keep my tongue from catching fire. He pointed to a cardboard box on the counter top in the kitchen. "People keep sending me care packages of stuff from Texas that they don't think we have here, spices, like paprika."

When we stopped laughing at that, he proceeded to narrate, with pictures, the entire history of the refurbishing and reconstruction of his cabin. Howard's little hut has been part of a larger remodeling project on the store, but much of the labor was his own. He can be justifiably proud of the work he's done; the place was a spider-farm when he moved in.

Of course, the real problem confronting Howard is the fishing. There were some bad slides during the winter, opening a lot of dust and soil to the air, and this gets washed into the river every time it rains or snows on top of the mountains. But the good news for the week was that he may have an American buyer for his latest collection, *Going Home Again*, which was published in a tiny-run edition by Eidolon Press of Australia this past spring. When I asked him if he might be coming down to Seattle for the Labor Day party, he said "I'll come back into town when I get rich." So, do us a favor, and go buy a couple of his books, so we can see him without having to drive up to Oso.

