

SAPS at 50

"SAPS, the second oldest surviving fan apa, has just had its 200th mailing, marking the completion of 50 years of existence," reports Harry Warner, Jr. "The oldest current member of SAPS, Mrs. G.M. Carr, who is around 90, contributed 126 pages to it, unbelievably. Included in the mailing is a revelation from Joe Kennedy, one of the founding members. He tells how he and three other members of the founding group, Lloyd Alpaugh, George Fox and Ron Christensen, had staged some months earlier a get-together in Albuquerque to commemorate what they had done 50 years earlier, under the assumption that SAPS had long since folded, since none of them had been active in fandom for decades. Christensen produced a bogus 50th anniversary mailing, consisting of one SAPSzine from each of the four, all of which he wrote and published himself. Joe was flabbergasted to learn accidentally that SAPS survives, when he wrote me asking where he might find a copy of *All Our Yesterdays*."

Don't Forget FAPA

Robert Lichtman adds in a separate letter that the SAPS 50th anniversary mailing was "a 464-page assortment with all but two of the 25 members represented (128 of those pages were two volumes of G.M. Carr's collected poetry.)"

"FAPA's 60th anniversary mailing is due out [in mid-August]. FAPA currently has 5 open slots on its membership roll. Anyone interested should get in touch with the Secretary-Treasurer, namely me.

"Annual dues are \$15, minac is a very easy 8 pages a year. 'Credentials' are required to qualify for membership: either having published a fanzine within the past year (apazines count) or having had material (written, artistic and LoC's

count) in two separate fanzines not produced in the same 'metropolitan area'." Lichtman's address is P.O. Box 30, Glen Ellen, CA 95442.

Electric Blue Mars

On the basis of the portions of *DASFax* quoted in the last *File 770*, you might have thought Sourdough Jackson was America's most disgruntled viewer of the Pathfinder mission coverage.

But wait -- there's another nominee. Actor Charlie Sheen was quoted online saying, "The Mars research has advanced my life in no capacity. How has it helped your life? Looks like Arizona, tastes like chicken. Billions of dollars. I think we should blow it up and sniff it as it drifts past."

Got Fanthology?

Fanthology '92 has been reprinted by Robert Lichtman and is available for \$5 postpaid (P.O. Box 30, Glen Ellen, CA 95442) With covers by Dan Steffan and interior art by William Rotsler, this collection has material from Jae Leslie Adams, Michael Ashley, Greg Benford, Richard Brandt, William Breiding, Avedon Carol, Abigail Frost, Andrew Hooper, Gary Hubbard, Linda Krawecka, Luke McGuff, Nigel Richardson, Carrie Root, Steve Stiles, David Thayer, James White and Ted White.

Trimbles Westward Bound

As soon as Bjo and John Trimble find a buyer for their Houston house, they'll be coming back to Southern California. The reason? "John has an increasingly serious allergy to most of Texas." Fortunately, he can transfer from the Houston area Gallup Organization to the Orange County office.

File 770 119

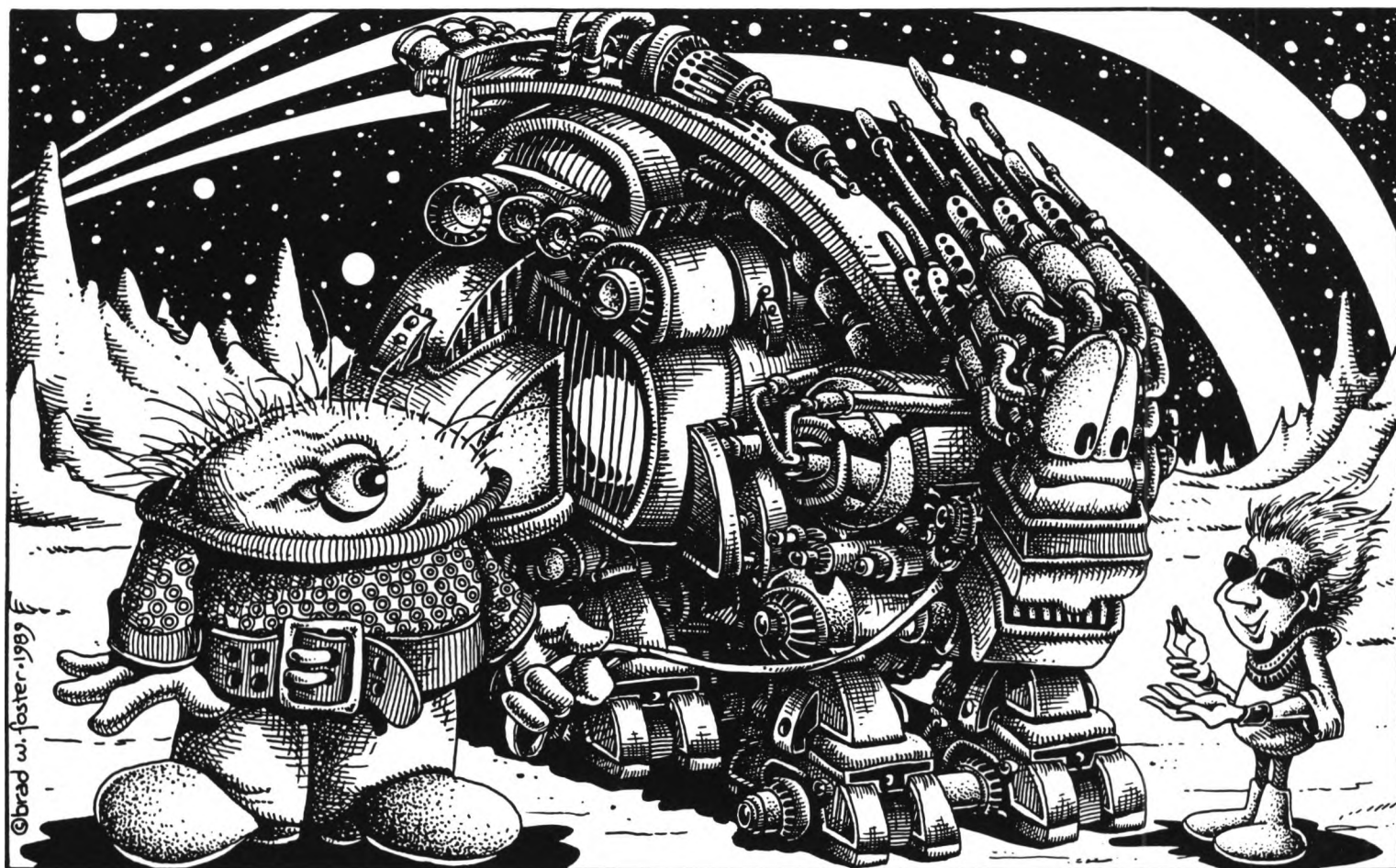
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News of Fandom

The Graeme Wins Canadian Trip Fund

Vancouver-area fan and former *BCSFazine* editor R. Graeme Cameron's *blitzkrieg* victory in the 1997 Canadian Unity Fan Fund race for 1997 came as a surprise -- even to him:

"On Wednesday, July 30, Cath Jackel phoned from Edmonton asking if I'd like to be nominated. I said, 'Sure. Why not?'

"On Friday, August 1, she phoned to say she'd lined up the required number of nominators. From Western Canada: herself, Steve Forty, and Karl Johanson. From Eastern Canada: Benoit Girard, Tommy Ferguson, and Lloyd & Yvonne Penney.

"And on Sunday, August 3, CUFF Administrator Rene Walking phoned me from Montreal to tell me I had won by default, as no one else had beat the deadline for nominations. Man! Talk about efficiency! A 5-day campaign/election! Must be some kind of record.

"Now I know why dictators are so fond of single candidate elections. It's so stress-free! A nice way to win.

"I will be attending Primedia/Convention 17 in Toronto on the Halloween weekend. Already have my hotel room and airflight booked. The catch is I'll be the administrator for next year. Rene tells me there is about \$1,100 in the fund. My projected costs are about \$600, so that gives me a \$500 head start on fundraising for the 1998 CUFF. In fact, I hope to raise some money even *before* I attend Primedia. For that matter, I want potential 1998 candidates to start thinking about nominators NOW! Never too early to start. I hate last-minute rushes."

Four Way TAFF-y Pull

Fans have until December 13 to choose between Victor Gonzalez, Ulrika O'Brien, Vicki Rosenzweig and Tom Sadler as TAFF's delegate at the 1998 British Eastercon. Voting is open to anyone who was active in fandom prior to September 1995, and who contributes at least \$2 to the

Fund. For those who have web access, the TAFF ballot is available online, as a link from <http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/-SF-Archives/TAFF/>

Just last December fund administrators Martin Tudor and Dan Steffan canceled the TAFF election when only one candidate filed (and for whatever reason, Luke McGuff did not re-enter the current race.) Apparently not wanting to lose their momentum, they have also opened nominations for the next westbound TAFF trip, to bring a European fan to Bucconeer, the 56th World SF Convention, in Baltimore August 5-9, 1998.

DUFF Report Mailed

Congratulations to Pat and Roger Sims who are winding up their terms as Down Under Fan Fund administrators impressively by publishing a financial report (\$6,896.23 in the till as of August 1), and a full list of the voters in the DUFF race that selected Janice Murray.

Never Mind the Cavalry

Sometimes the news in *Instant Message* reminds me more of *The Chronicles of Narnia* than the chronicles of NESFA. What other club has more fanac involving animals?

Years ago, there were reports about the NESFA Cavalry. I even wanted to join, until it turned out to be a group of people actually riding horses, and not a successor to the worldcon-saving Columbus Cavalry.

Later on came the famous NESFA Cat Census, filling whole issues of *Instant Message* with vital statistics about the members' kitties and descriptions of all their peculiar habits (the cats', that is.)

And today? When there's a crisis at the clubhouse NESFAns count on no human power to deliver them. Instead, it's -- send for Mr. Skunk!

In NESFA's corner of little Somerville, the baker's catering trucks have been hogging the parking spaces. Good neighbor diplomacy has gone nowhere. Even the *Somerville Journal* carries letters "decrying the traffic hazards and slowdowns caused by our neighbor's illegally-parked vans." About the same time, NESFA members became alarmed that a skunk has been frequently seen prowling the clubhouse grounds, until someone realized that the second problem might provide a solution to the first. Then they urged "Mr. Skunk to be more vigorous in his patrols."

Apparently, there's growing affection for Mr. Skunk at the club. Such affection among NESFAns is always recognized by bestowal of an official title, of course. For the first time

in *Instant Message* 612, Claire Anderson refers to it as "the NESFA Skunk."

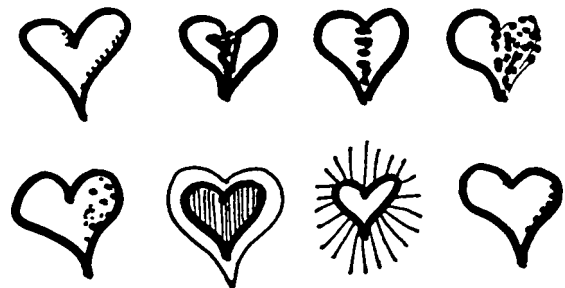
Now, only two questions remain. How long before "the NESFA Skunk" does his duty against one of these offending vans? And, who held this title before it was given to its new holder?

LoneStarCon 2 News

Early signs hint that San Antonio is shaping up to be a Winnipeg-sized Worldcon. From an attendee's standpoint this has some benefits: less crowding, and the possibility of smoother-running operations due to a higher ratio of workers to members. From the committee's standpoint this creates some headaches: lower membership means less money, which compels a tighter rein on the Worldcon's range of features.

LSC2's financial squeeze caused some fans to appeal to Intersection to pass on its surplus in time to help 1997 con make budget decisions. Martin Easterbrook and company responded by sending \$2,000. (Any share that L.A.con III would receive has been released instead to LSC2 and Bucconeer.)

The convention schedule has been available online for a couple of weeks -- or may be in your hand by the time you see this, although I as I write the con's still a week away. I've been admiring Laurie Mann's e-mail press release, which reveals that although the con opens Thursday at noon, Opening Ceremonies take place at 7 p.m., and "kick off the convention Texas-style with a quick draw artist, a trick roper and whip specialist, and a local cowboy singer." This is the touch of a true journalist: note the professional technique of using colorful job descriptions that will connect with the imaginations of mundane readers, who unlike fans would not be drawn by a mere list of names like Bill Rotsler, Pat Cadigan, and Howard Waldrop....



TIME HEALS

John Hertz's Westercon Notebook

Westercon 50, July 3-6, 1997



Seattle again! Westercon 46 had been the first here in 30 years; we didn't often go northwest. Now since 1990 we have had Portland, Vancouver (Canada), Phoenix, Seattle, Los Angeles, Portland, El Paso, Seattle, and after San Diego next year, Spokane. Geographically this is good, possibly better had Colorado Springs won 1999. Westercon should move around.

Attendance was about 2,100. The downtown Sheraton was luxurious, and good coffee was everywhere. The hotel corridors had fine Northwestern photos of sticks and snow, texture and composition our artists could learn from. Here was the first concon I'd seen put up a Voodoo Message Board without Filthy Pierre to do it for them; that man should have a medal for best low-tech small-scale ingenuity. There was a big friendly Fanzine Lounge, with inspiring *Karasses* and *Warhoons* on display. Guests of Honor were an embarrassment of riches: Writer, Martin H. Greenberg "Westercon Past", J. Michael Straczynski "Westercon Present", and Amy Thomson "Westercon Future"; Artist, Victoria Lisi; Science, Jack Cohen; Fan, Walt Daugherty; Music, Jeanne and Spider Robinson.

Once more the con had been kind to me personally. For months Keith Johnson, head of what we now call Extravaganzas -- thank you, Janet Wilson Anderson -- with ceremonies opening and closing on his mind, the Masquerade, a *Babylon 5* presentation, and herds of rock 'n' rollers to stable, had nonetheless kept in touch with me by phone, made sure Regency Dancing got what few things it needed, and personally polished a glitch or two. Karen Rall of panel programming worked out my schedule in good time, and sent me names and addresses of co-panelists. After the Masquerade, Peggy Stewart gave me copious notes. Taking down the Art Show, Jo Ellen Seaver, head of Static Programming, and Sally Woehrle the con chair, talked freely with me while phoning for trucks and sweating to meet a stiff hotel deadline. I can only wish such attention had been paid more widely. Once more this was a con beclouded with needless bungling; as Dean Gahlon says, not just re-inventing the wheel, but re-inventing the *square* wheel. I told Johnson, when by Roscoe he phoned again after the con, it was like a dirty stained-glass window. This year's joke badge was "Clueless in Seattle".

On the plane north with me were Fred Patten and Mitch Beiro. The Department of Fantasy in Daily Life sent me a can of Talking Rain mineral water. What does the rain say? We landed, and Patten sought what the transit authorities said, easy to follow in his L.A.con II jacket. We knew the truth when it corresponded to each source but was much simpler. In the hotel, up one flight of escalators was a big hall off which opened ballrooms and meeting rooms, grand for a ConCourse. Here was the Dealers' Room, panels, con bidders, the Masquerade, dances, the Joe Straczynski show, the Voodoo Message Board, Registration, Information, chairs and tables, Jane and Scott Dennis with con T-shirts and trinkets. Here I found Lenny Bailes with Ulrika and Hal O'Brien. Like Tom Whitmore and me, she has no television. Take that, Ginjer Buchanan. Bailes attacked a Nazi quality in *Beverly Hills 90210*: everyone is pretty. No one looks

He sees objections more clearly than truths.

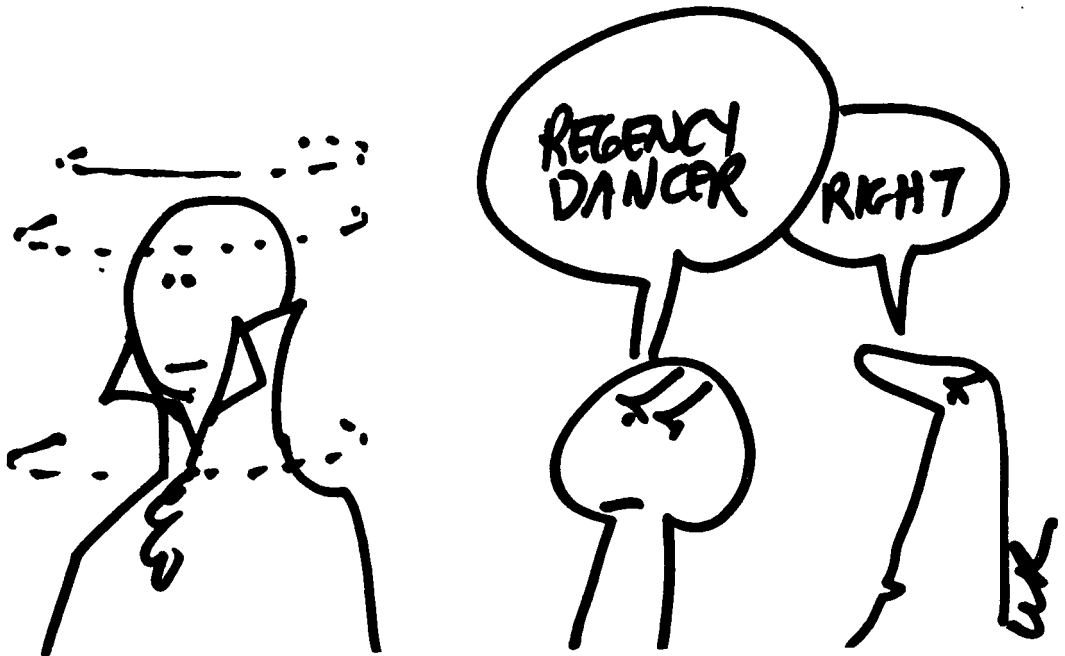
Cardinal Newman

like an s-f fan. I had seen the pre-1941 Nazi propaganda magazine in the U.S., *Signal* -- the title itself is interesting, not for instance *Might*, not "Join us and crush people", but "We're communications experts", the very twisting that is the mark of your true squasher. Andy Hooper said Bailes was the resident member of the Ted White Groupmind.

I went to the Green Room. The Program Book actually did explain things, and for history reproduced the program of Westercon 1. My name badge was a handsome plastic card: obverse, in four colors, one of Lisi's Greek maidens caressing a dragon; reverse, in green lines, a stylized emerald with the Space Needle -- Seattle being the Emerald City, courtesy the Dep't of Fantasy in Daily Life. Waitwait, you ask, how an obverse and a reverse? Aren't name badges pinned on? No; these, with a hole in one corner, were handed out with a strand of ribbon floss to hang round your neck. For anybody thoughtless enough to wear one that way, the badge dangled helplessly, the name impossible to make out from across the room, from hailing distance, from anywhere but one-step-closer-and-I'll-slap--you. The type size led to a second, subtler, joke badge, "...for sufficiently small values of 24" (By-laws, Section 1.8).

Seattle beer was better. Cheered by a Redhook, I found Walt Daugherty. Eight years before heading the second Westercon in 1949 he won the World Ballroom Dance championship at Madison Square Garden. He was not about to miss Regency Dancing. Around then he could also draw and fire a pistol in 0.23 second, this too champion quality or I miss my guess, and he was a motoring companion of the Heinleins. No one has caught up with him since, so the Program Book reprinted Forry Ackerman's biography from the 1968 combined Westercon - Worldcon, when Daugherty was Fan Guest of Honor. At eighty years old, he said, nothing's wrong with my memory, but the recall's busted. As Larry Niven might have answered, that proved not to be the case. Where *were* the Nivens? Karen and Poul Anderson? Astrid and Greg Bear? You might better ask, where was Pathfinder? These science-loving pros weren't on Mars -- no such luck for them, but the Pathfinder spacecraft was, while we were at an s-f con. What could have been more appropriate than a tie-in? Bridget Landry, a wacky costumer with the grace to sport a badge "Yes, I *am* a rocket scientist", volunteered a live video feed from Jet Propulsion Laboratory. No answer. Not even a NASA display in the ConCourse. Subversives managed to sneak in a connection through the video room.

Off to "Visionaries: Valuable Dreamers or Annoying Madmen?" Framed like that, what fan would take the negative? Equally hopeless to point out that *visionary* is pejorative, a pipe-dreamer; or that such connotation makes



English delicious. We talked of prophets. Tammy Tripp, working for a conservation district, knew an inch of topsoil took centuries; she had preached ecology, and changed people; was that prophecy? Maybe, I said, as with science fiction, predicting isn't the most important. If, as religions teach,

We need men round us who can think, who can talk.

Maupassant

a prophet hears God by being ethical, prediction is a side effect; prophets preach reform, and false prophets are revealed by their urging against ethics. Scientists also try to reform, said a fan in the audience; said another, prophets and scientists who get no results, disappear.

The schedule grid in the Pocket Program was misaligned odd-even instead of even-odd so I couldn't see a whole day on two facing pages, but had to keep flipping back and forth. The participant index numbers weren't alphabetical, chronological or topical. I made a delivery to the Los Angeles suite, where I found Ken Porter. I apologized for quitting the diversity panel, which was across from the Masquerade. He said, not enough of us blacks read, and when I say that no one dares call me a racist. I said, the cause of crime isn't hunger, but lack of imagination.

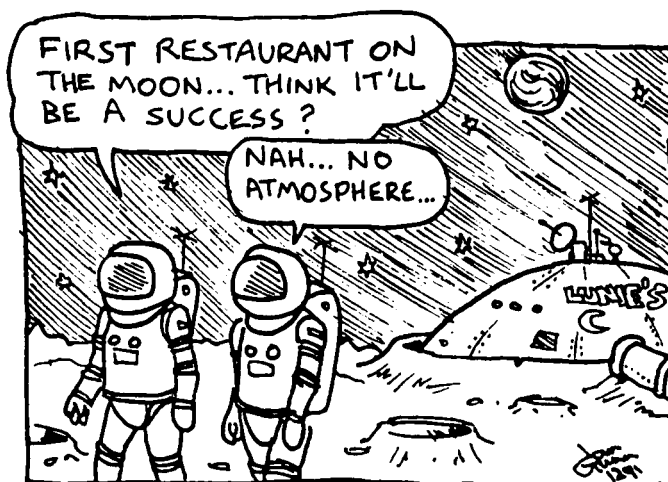
On "The Nature of Fandom", Wally Weber cracked "What's the Society for Creative Anachronism?" Mary Kay Kare said, we're Balkanized. Vicki Mitchell said, fandom is now big enough for special interests to spin off and sustain themselves. So, I said from the audience, a general-interest con, like this one, is a nexus. Roger Wells, next to me, said

when we were smaller we knew everyone; we knew whom to trust with what. Mitchell said we can't assume people have read Gordy Dickson -- or *Pogo*, I added, and Weber laughed -- but are we here to go into our favorite topics? A fan in the audience asked, *is* it definable what we like, and how we differ from others? I quoted Bill Rotsler -- Westercon being his birthday party -- "We're more willing to engage", and offered, we're the people who what-if. Weber said, I always accepted fandom as a microcosm, only more intense.

Breakfast with Amy Thomson and Edd Vick; true omelettes in the buffet, golden-raspberry preserves on the tables. Since she was Guest of Honor from Westercon Future, she just downloaded the books she will have written. In the tiny Dealers' Room I discovered this was true. Margaret Organ-Kean and Jon Gustafson were with me on "Art Shows, Shall We Jury Them?" Mundane art shows do, all the time: you submit work to a jury, and if rejected you aren't shown, but this seems unfannish. Organ-Kean, among other things ASFA regional director, said a Worldcon juries *de facto*: it's expensive. Gustafson said he had invited artists to MosCon. I said the danger was the inexplicit use of power. Gustafson said, so is "He's a pain, put him on the B-list." We digressed to managing Art Shows, lighting, traffic patterns, auction, where to put prints. Organ-Kean said ASFA model guidelines should be published soon. Gustafson said Tim Kirk used to do well with \$1 minimum bids that threw his work to auction.

Moderating "Whither NASA?" was strange without NASA people. Randy Rumley was a local officer of the National Space Society. Bryce Walden had done the NASA Moonbase project using Eastern Oregon as analogue for Mars and the Moon. We were ready to say whither *ought* NASA, research and development for others to make commercial; and were no better than anyone about quarrelling over launching people or instruments. I said, we need people for judgment. A fan in the audience said, politics is relevant; another, we let ourselves be cowed by *Challenger*, people will die exploring, which includes space. Walden said, let's not be too materialistic, we should go into space because it's there. I said, who will lead us to that?

A concom wins my praise by getting sandwiches and fruit sold in or near the Concourse. That can be just what there's time for, even when tempted by the restaurants in the hotel. It wasn't done. Off to "Do Comics Do S-F Justice?" with Patten, Steve Gallacci, and Antonia Levi, a Ph.D. in Japanese. Gallacci called the s-f aspect marginal: comics are a superhero and monster show. A fan in the audience said Batman has a computer now, in the Bob Kane days he had test tubes. Patten said comics need action and adventure -- but isn't that much broader than comics? Levi said pictures have meant kid stuff in the Occident since the 1800's, which is why comics range wider in Japan. I said, big comics pleased themselves at the expense of the customer, who voted against dark and dirty with his feet. Curiously,



the Chicago in 2000 trading card for Westercon, Julie Schwartz, shows him with the new Angry Superman.

Religion is our new hot topic, but without someone like Tim Powers the talk can be dismal. Everyone is some kind of psychologist, under the name of sociology, or

Because Democritus believes native genius is worth any amount of piddling art, a good many will not take the trouble to trim their nails.

Horace

anthropology, and religion is delusory, or oppressive, or healthy if pagan. In fact Judaism, Christianity, and Islam were all revolutionary, each hailed by converted pagans as a relief; that doesn't validate any of them, but let's not deal seconds and bottoms, shall we? I moderated "Creating Religion for Fun and Prophet", and hoped to stick with the more interesting question of how to treat religion so as to make good science fiction and fantasy. I quoted Powers: a religion must work for the people you portray as believing in it. A fan in the audience asked, for a story I'm writing is it better to use religions I know, like Hinduism and Islam? Another answered, that saves research to invent one, but brings in their baggage; another cracked, how could *Dune* look so much like Sunni Islam and not mention Allah once? Another asked, what about alien emotions? I said, we have to reach them somehow. Mary Jane Engh said, I wrote a uniform culture, small planet, most adhere to one religion, main character is a non-theistic space visitor; then I simplified more, left out ritual. Louise Marley said, I'm Amerind, for us religion responds to the environment.

I had to go dress for dancing, and arrived at the *Locus* dinner just in time for the awards. Charlie Brown announced that Gardner Dozois would produce a radio

Westercon 50 Masquerade

Peggy Stewart, Director

Workmanship Judges

Greg Sardo
Lisa Satterlund
Crystal Smith

Presentation Judges

Paula Crist-Pickett
Wombat
Julie Zetterberg

William Sodus & Michelle Norris
Masters of Ceremonies

Best of Show

"Wrath of Ra" (Master, Re-Creation), Laurel Parshall, Margaret Richardson, Deb & Bernie Strub, Dave Tackett

Master

Best in Class (entered as Journeyman), "Gaea", Sue Lyn Torgerson-Taylor

Journeyman

Best in Class, "Canted Eagle Herald", Joseph Hill

Novices

Best in Class, "Kosh" (Re-Creation), Amy Wood
Most Horrific, "Baby Cthulhu", Julie Andrien & Andrew Brechin

Most Dramatic, "Masque of the Red Death" (Re-Creation), Matt de Mille

Most Promising, "Watch Dragon", Ginger & Larry Stratton

Not, "Best of Show", Erika Kaumeyer

Best Interpretation, "Belldandy" (Re-Creation), Melissa Quinn

Best Characterization, "Leeloo" (Re-Creation), Raven O'Neill

Best Historical, "Victorian Lady's Night Out", Teresa Fears

Workmanship

Best of Show, "Wrath of Ra"

Best Re-Creation (Journeyman), "Classic Star Trek", Daniel Van Patten

Best Re-Creation (Novice), "Kosh"

Embroidery, "Canted Eagle Herald"

Foam Latex, "Watch Dragon"

Recycling, "Victorian Lady's Night Out"

Soft Sculpture, "Baby Cthulhu"

Stage Props, "Wrath of Ra"

Videotape from R-Electronics, \$27 (includes \$2 shipping & handling), 8916 Salty Dr. W., Olympia, WA 98502, expect 90-day delivery

drama of *The Island of Dr. Moreau*. Dozois leapt to his feet and flung up his arm. "Not to read *S-F Chronicle*, that is the law! Are we not men?" Ursula Le Guin sent a letter: Brown had discovered the reason she wrote s-f, *Locus* Awards carry a year's subscription; this year he sent a renewal notice just before the voting. George R.R. Martin said he didn't win any until Brown got a life subscription out of him, now he'll receive *Locus* for five years after his death. Stan Robinson, also off watching Pathfinder, sent "Thank you, *Locus* voters. You know s-f -- and you read it anyway." Martin said, having to announce the Best Short Story was "Gone" made him feel like an Abbott & Costello movie. I was struck by how few fans were in the room.

The Spokaneers thinking of a 1999 Westercon bid had asked Gustafson, should we do this? He said, you're a bunch of maroons if you do. They exulted with recognition. Yes! We're maroons! We're Team Maroon! So they made maroon T-shirts, and straw boaters to decorate with "Team Maroon" hatbands, upside down. Ann "Sparky" Peters came to Regency Dancing in a belly-dance costume with a badge "Kiss me, I'm a maroon". And so on, all weekend. I couldn't put up signs about dancing; no one could put up signs about anything. People did find us. Organ-Kean showed up, and Daugherty, and Hooper. The San Francisco in '02 Worldcon party served Tullamore Dew. The Colorado Springs party countered Spokane by serving peanut butter and jelly. The Santa Clara in '99 Westercon-NASFiC party served gingerbread so dark they needed signs, "These are the brownies", "This is the gingerbread". I argued with Judy Morman, and Lisa Deutsch Herrigan who had chaired Westercon 40, about "media fans", which Santa Clara proposed to attract. Leaving out that print is a medium, I said, let's not exclude them, but why seek them? We'll lead them into fandom, said Morman, with this carrot. That very approach, I said, draws the overly single-minded.

The Art Show had not opened until lunchtime Friday. It was on the 35th floor, huge windows pouring in natural light. Lisi showed generously, indeed the Program Book was full of her work, some from her days as Poyser, some recent. Rob Alexander showed, and Mark Roland's gleaming vistas where light holds the detail of cities, forests, clouds. Most original was Jim Petite's walking sticks, almost plaited, driftwood from the Alaskan tundra, bidless. Best in the room, and it could well have been entered in our show, was a Dale Chilhuly glass fantasy plant in vibrant blues and reds; *USA Today* featured him on July 7. Organ-Kean showed a pen-and-ink "Loki's Wife", deft, canny, a woman capable of jest that could be painful. She said, "Of course she has my hands, I'm the hands model for most of my work." No awards were given; two bids would send a piece to auction, scheduled for Saturday night. By Saturday afternoon, big placards announced, thank ghu, that the auction was postponed until after the Masquerade; this was repeated at halftime. The Masquerade was scheduled for 6:30. There were no Den Moms for backstage until 1 p.m.

when Carole Parker and others volunteered, even then no hospitality support, water, trash bins, chairs. The photo area was at last set up, with muslin, not paper, harder on shadows and colors. The con did not offer photos the next day. There was no costume exhibit. All weekend good hall costumes walked by unrewarded; I saw few rosettes.

The thought that someone else is looking after it tends to make them careless.

Aristotle

The two Masquerade MC's took pains to keep up a volley of chitchat. Norris was Sodus' colleague in public television; they played endlessly at conducting a pledge drive, inventing premiums, calling out a toll-free phone number. With the able Worldcon-class MC's at the con, we could have been spared. Novices and Journeymen were spectacular. Amy Wood's stunning "Kosh" from *Babylon 5*, a show I rarely see and indeed dislike, glittered gold and green, gliding eerily. Julie Andrien's chartreuse "Baby Cthulhu" flawlessly sent up *Barney*, smiling and waving to a happy Cthulhu song; if a dinosaur can be cute, why not immeasurable evil? Erika Kaumeyer was "Best of Show"; here's Abbott & Costello again, that was the name of her entry, with a big medallion to prove it; this won a special award, "Not". Raven O'Neill's Leeloo from *The Fifth Element* was lithe, all in white, but to me didn't hold its own if one hadn't seen the source, unlike Wood's Kosh. Sue Lyn Torgerson-Taylor, entering as a Journeyman, was adjudged a Master for "Gaea", a huge tree-shaped portrayal of Earth herself, in painted surfaces that changed to a story of ecology, the words a little preachy alas, but the picture, the timing, very fine. This was beaten by Deb Strub's "Wrath of Ra", loosely based on *Stargate*, with a red-fleshed electronic-voiced Ra who was Not Amused, marvelous cloth of copper robes that were even more breathtaking up close at half-time, a tinselly Gate, and a painful failure to leave well enough alone: the built-up atmosphere exploded with a joke pizza delivery, and at the end, lest anyone miss the comedy, the Gate parted to show Beavis and Butt-Head. This was hardly the sole offender. Teresa Fears' "Victorian Lady" was all the Sexually Correct could wish, Kosh was followed by a human being with a sign "Will Manipulate Societies for Food" -- but I haven't the heart.

This year there certainly was Talisker in the bar, and a local jazz band played, so I did find Marilyn Holt and Clifford Wind. I had called Art Shows idolatrous; he said, why don't we openly treat these faces as icons? At the Tor party I found David Hartwell and Spanish Peaks perry. Jon Singer said "Smell this", opening a box of brown powder; it was Van Leer cocoa. He has been making porcelain, and showed round a bowl of pure white English clay that rang nicely, glazed with brick melted at 1300°. Party floors were

26 through 28. Elevators were crammed; one broke down; at last the concom put on monitors. At the Honolulu in 2000 Westercon party, Amy Falkowitz Bradley said 50-60 pieces had gone to Art Auction, all over in an hour and a half. I listened carefully, munching macadamia nuts. Jubilant Spokane maroons filled the Seattle in '02 Worldcon party, having won 174 votes of 304 (Colorado Springs confirmed on Sunday at the business meeting.) The Fanzine Lounge was full of balloons, which I batted at Hooper, U. O'Brien, and Anna Vargo. Filking was in the 3rd floor Metro Ballroom; why not put the Art Show there, where it wouldn't crowd the elevators, wouldn't need a Saturday night auction or hauling out by 6 p.m. Sunday sharp? Karen Rall had printed an *Introduction to Filk*. Barry Gold sang, I write the laws you obey, the news you follow, the plans you build; I am the pen: "Heed well what I have written; is it time to write again?"

Breakfast with Kathryn and James Daugherty. If challenged for Hawaiians on the bid, they can now show a driver's license. But they know of no local fandom, and they

What her conduct would be under the strain of trivial inconvenience.

Dorothy L. Sayers

live on the wrong island. Naturally I asked, why not fanzines? If the bid wins, it could draw from Australia, New Zealand, even Japan -- hotel and shop folk speak Japanese as a matter of course. On "Where Are the Fans?" Jerry Kaufman, Suzle, and I told how we drifted in. Barbara DuFault told Goth stories. Kaufman said Clarion brings in a dozen or two every year who know not fandom. Hooper, in the audience, said if parents read, children read. I said one can learn to find friends, and told Antioch stories. In the bar, Peggy Rae Pavlat had some Buccaneer business. In the Fanzine Lounge, I finally met Mark Manning, who had contributed Rick Sneary's last published letters to *Button-Tack*. We talked about commercialization and folk art. In the Art Show, Seaver said her display panels wouldn't have fit in the Metro Ballroom; she opened late because she ran out of hooks and crosspipes. Her Sunday hours, announced as 9 to noon, proved to be check-out only; this was at least a correct estimate of resources, since we loaded the last elevator, with Woehrle on our heels, at the stroke of six. The con held no Dead Dog party, but the L.A. in '99 NASFiC bid had lots of extra food and drink, which attracted a crowd.





Editor's Notes

by Mike Glycer

Visit to a Small Planet: British fan and professional astronomer Dave Clements ping-ponged from Chile to Miami to L.A. in June so he could present a paper at a meeting at Cal-Tech/JPL in Pasadena. That gave me a chance to take him to a LASFS meeting, and let Diana and I guide him to the destination he wanted to visit more than any other place in Southern California.

The 770 Dwarves: Dave had me pick him up in front of a building at Cal-Tech -- a numerologically significant beginning, since the street address turned out to be 770 S. Wilson. On the way to LASFS I drove him past the Warner Brothers water tower, home of the Animaniacs, and through the gates of Disney Studios for a close-up view of the main office building, a Romanesque satire whose supporting columns are immense statues of the Seven Dwarves.

Dave proved he was a trufan by immediately trying to convince me there originally had been 14 dwarves, and reciting the offensive nicknames of the 7 who wound up on the cutting room floor.

LASFS itself was uneventful; not until the following week did Sam Frank make his Uzi threat and get kicked out of the club.

To make the trip back a little more interesting, I drove to the freeway on Cahuenga Blvd. and broke out my only piece

of local Indian lore, which is that any place name ending in -nga is a word in the language of the San Gabrielino Indians. (The tribe's own name regrettably has not survived, they are simply remembered as the tribe associated with the San Gabriel Mission.) California place names in their language include Cahuenga, Tujunga, Topanga, Cucamonga....

But it's dangerous to teach a fan a rule. Dave immediately began checking new possibilities with me, asking, "Cowabunga?"

The 50-ft. Tall Set Decorator: Diana and I went to dinner with Dave a couple of days later, then drove him to the place in Southern California he most wanted to visit. Not Disneyland. Not Universal Studios. Not even Forry Ackerman's house. He said he wanted to shop at Fry's Electronics, a computer superstore. Dave didn't realize it, but his choice would give him all four experiences rolled into one.

Dave had shopped before at Fry's huge store in Long Beach, and liked its prices enough to visit again and buy more discount software. Since then, Fry's opened an equally huge store in Burbank, literally across the street from the hotel where Loscon is held. The Burbank store has been decorated as a nightmarish diner, filled with life-

sized tableaus from 50s sci-fi movies.

The instant the store came in view, Dave saw that half of a crashed flying saucer appeared to have embedded itself in the broken and scorched outer wall. We walked through the entrance and sure enough, the other half of the saucer pierced through. Worse yet, irate alien crewmen had invaded the store. In the aisle we discovered soldiers in olive drab spilling out of the seared halves of a jeep, and another bracing to fire his M-1 above and behind us at a midget alien in a silvery spacesuit perched over the doorway, whose orange face stared with malevolent satisfaction through his fishbowl helmet and whose hand held the ray-gun that had just killed the jeep.

We couldn't be sure whether the aliens were just angry at having wrapped their ride around the front door, or were interstellar tv critics who planned to follow their first ranging shot by blasting the nearby 50-inch "theatre-TV" that was airing a James Caan action movie.

Fry's east wall was being torn apart by the tentacles of a giant, radioactive squid, whose vicious beak was poised above the computer section, eager to feed on the creator of Windows '95.

Hurrying to the rescue, a flight of three jet fighters (maybe old F-100's) streaked over the refreshment stand in the far corner of the building. Beside the serving stand, tables for diners were set inside three big convertibles. I thought it might be evocative of a drive-in-movie fantasy. It reminded Dave of the restaurant in *Pulp Fiction*.

For a brief and shining moment, Fry's restores the Southern California tradition of architectural oddities that once filled the landscape with historical revivals like B.F. Goodrich's Assyrian castle, and foodstands that looked like what they sold, big doughnuts, giant ice cream cones, and huge hot dogs.

I'm no shopping enthusiast, and tend to hate crowded megastores, but I'll make an exception for Fry's anytime.

Mythcon: Orson Scott Card rarely appears at conventions anymore. He made an exception for the recent Mythcon at Pepperdine University (in Malibu) because of the positive things he heard about Mythcons from his biographer, Dr. Michael Collings. Card gave a provocative, mildly controversial speech on Friday night against America's "established state religion" as illustrated in *Contact*, and the dangerous lie at the center of the movie *Hook* (that the culture will not do what is necessary to protect its children). His ideas set people to talking all weekend, as he intended.

Card was also tremendous fun to be around. He not only allowed the conference to present his readers theater version of *The Lord of the Rings*, he cast, directed and performed in the six-hour cycle himself. Rounding up college friends, family members and others (Card's son, Geoff, played Frodo), Card recruited most cast members before arriving at the con, then filled in the other parts with volunteers on the day of the performance. I got to participate with about 15 other people, and there being no time for rehearsal, we charged gloriously into a 6-hour-long cold reading (divided into three sections corresponding to the novels of the trilogy).

Card was pleasantly surprised by the goldmine of local talent. David Bratman sounded convincing as faithless Boromir, and infinitely untrustworthy as Theoden's counselor, Wormtongue. Sherwood Smith seemed wholly believable whether as Galadriel or Lobelia Sackville-Baggins. Scholar Dwayne Thorpe, with a mature, booming voice, won roles as both Theoden and an orc commander. Bill Welden played miscellaneous nazguls and orcs.

I served as Butterbur, the bartender in Bree, as Gimli the dwarf and as the

Black King of the Nazgul. Listeners not only praised Card's condensation of Tolkien's epic for maintaining the suspense and emotion of the original, but for giving new insights into these familiar characters. For example, I realized that my three characters, at first glance comically disparate, shared a common trait of drawing rash conclusions from incomplete data, whether in the form of Butterbur's simple foolishness, Gimli's hasty belligerence, or the Nazgul King's boastful violence ("I am protected by a prophecy that no man shall kill me").

It was a wonderful day, the most fun I've had at a convention in years.

Be On The Lookout: George Flynn writes that his copy of *F770:117* was stolen from his fanzine/small-press exhibit at Readercon, which I am only too happy to replace. (A book was also taken.) I'll be keeping an eye peeled for that new sercon subscriber from the East Coast.

In Memoriam: Robert Lichtman's loc on *F770:118* mused: "In the lettercol this issue, the mood of some of the letter writers was well summed up by Henry Welch: 'I tend to find the number of obituaries depressing....because it reminds me of my own mortality.' Unfortunately, that's the news."

Mike Kennedy's review of *F770:117* (in *NASFA Shuttle*) included a similar comment that the number of obituaries and reports of illness unpleasantly reminded him of his own mortality.

It only takes a couple of lines to deliver the bare facts of someone's death, and that is the length usually devoted by other leading newzines. I intend no criticism of those other zines when I say that in contrast to such a newspaper approach, my vision for *File 770* has always been more of a magazine approach, where I strive to place the news in fuller context, analyze why things are happening, and explain why issues deserve our attention.

Reading that a well-known fan has passed away predictably triggers a sense of loss. I'm trying to understand whether the response people have to *File 770*'s recent obituaries, including longer appreciations of Lou Stathis and Joni Stopa, is different than they have had to the same reports in other zines. Then, if it is different, why?

I might have expected readers to find their sadness tempered by the very existence of longer articles honoring these fans. Or if the fuller commentaries affected readers more deeply, that's not a bad thing.

Then again, the reactions may instinctively protest the proportion of an issue devoted to obituaries, compared to all other news. Our fanac is not preoccupied with death, however, we classify deaths as "news" in a way we do not classify most of our fannish activities, which is why it would be hard to find all the news it would take to meet an artificial goal of balancing out the wordcount devoted to obituaries. Anyway, I'm hoping you will tell me what you think about the function of obituaries and appreciations in *File 770*.



Wire Service

Gary Anderson Hospitalized

On August 6, one of the hottest days of the year in LA, Gary Anderson was exercising by walking up 3 flights of stairs on the outside of his building at mid-day. Part-way up, he started feeling *really* lousy and sat down. Co-workers called a ambulance. Cat Devereaux, who's been handling the online traffic and relaying news from Janet Wilson Anderson, said the "incident" was originally diagnosed as a stroke affecting Gary's left side, followed a few hours later by a *gran mal* seizure. But Gary made such rapid progress the doctors decided to review the original test results for something more. Gary had a craniotomy on August 19 to biopsy a brain lesion; the neurosurgeon took most of the lesion/mass but wasn't sure quite what it was, so he sent it for testing and the results haven't come back as of this writing. The good news is that Gary was able to home on August 23.

Gary Anderson is an active part of costuming fandom, for example, he was one of Kimball Kinnison's groomsmen in the Lensman wedding entry in the L.A.con III masquerade. He is also known for creating the scale-model suspension bridge seen onstage at ConFrancisco.

A recent post from Cat promised, "Gary is continuing to improve every day. There are really only two remnants of the 'incident.' His left side does not "map" to his brain quite the way it use to, so the he's in the process of retraining it to recognize where it is. That's why the staff had him doing things like the grapevine and all kinds of dexterity games. It's not too bad anymore. He can close his eyes and go to touch his nose... and almost make it. He's certainly closer than her was a week ago. The brain reroutes and relearns. The other item is there is

a 'hole' in his vision on the left side, this is not improving at the same speed... but remember, Gary is healing at the speed of light right now. Who knows how much his brain will reroute in the coming months?"

As Cat wrote, "Ya, the jokes were flying, but that is how Gary wants it." After the biopsy Gary was up walking around, and he complained of being a little tired. "Nurse said, 'Dah, you've just had brain surgery!' Oh, well... same old Gary, were all glad to say... except he has a funny hair cut now. (They just shaved a bit behind the ear.)"

Gary is collecting "brain jokes" -- everyone is asked to participate. An early entry was this quote from Monty Python: "He's got a small piece of brain lodged in his skull. Once that's removed, he'll be perfectly fine."

Send cards care of Alter Years at 3749 E. Colorado Bl., Pasadena, CA 91107.

Arrivederci, LASFS

LASFS voted to revoke Sam Frank's club membership at its August 14 meeting. Although Sam occasionally enriched the club by sharing his interests in sf/fantasy on old-time radio, and Ronald Coleman (Sam's biography of the actor was just published), Sam was rather better known throughout the club for his anger and a string of explosive confrontations. The latest one occurred July 3, when Sam found someone had taken the seat he left while making an announcement in front of the meeting. During the angry exchange that followed, Sam repeatedly threatened to punch the other member, and ended up saying something to the effect of "I'll just bring an Uzi and spray bullets."

The July 13th meeting of the LASFS Board of Directors received a petition

to revoke Sam Frank's membership from Robbie Cantor, Christian McGuire, Marty Cantor, Michael Mason, Bob Null and Liz Mortensen, and approved it. As provided in the club by-laws, the membership was notified that a specially designated Thursday meeting would take up the question. Not only were many members disturbed by the "Uzi incident," they were catalyzed into action by the following e-mail from Larry Niven:

"Two weeks and a few hours ago, Sam Frank announced that he intended to bring a concealed Uzi to a LASFS meeting and spray the audience. The provocation was trivial. While Sam Frank was speaking from up front on a subject of little interest, someone took the seat Sam had been occupying. The man instantly offered to return the seat. Sam's response was the death threat."

"Marilyn and I do not intend to return to LASFS until Sam Frank is gone."

"We're betting pot odds. It would take a mathematical illiterate to miss the point here. We lose little if we give up LASFS; most of our friends can meet us in some other way. If Sam goes postal, we lose a great deal. You and many of the people you know are in the same position."

"I don't have a suggestion. We're on call to testify if any attempt is made to imprison Sam; the same goes for any attempt to withdraw his membership in LASFS."

At the meeting, Mike Donahue, Glenn Glazer, Ed Green, Christian McGuire, Beth O'Brien, Mike Stern, Joe Zeff talked about past incidents involving Sam they'd experienced or witnessed.

A few members presented Sam in a more sympathetic light, and argued for lesser action than membership termina-

tion. Leigh Strother-Vien thought Sam didn't mean the Uzi remark, because when she heard about it she thought, "Sam's terrified of guns. Besides, he wouldn't be able to afford one." Leigh said we all occasionally lose our tempers and say things we shouldn't. She didn't think Sam ought to be kicked out of the club for that. Sandy Cohen wondered whether Sam can change, and thought by expelling him we didn't give him that chance. He said Sam had never been formally disciplined by the club before; he thought the club could take a lesser disciplinary step which should be a wake-up call for Sam.

In his own defense, Sam Frank said his Uzi remark was intended as a sarcasm, and he thought a few people chuckled. Sam apologized to Beth O'Brien and others who took his remark seriously. He felt that what is seen as bullying behavior is him standing up for himself. He apologized for crossing the line. Sam denied a long string of meeting interruptions, saying he had attended only four meetings during Christian McGuire's presidency because Christian would not recognize him to speak. One of the incidents, Sam said, was when he interrupted the minutes because he considered its reference to the Fugghhead of the Year Contest a slur on himself. On another occasion he was mad because Jerry Pournelle was allowed to speak for 40 minutes while others didn't get to speak. Sam said that the time he blocked the doorway to prevent Christian McGuire from leaving the room, he did it because he felt that Christian was "puffed up with self-importance."

The members responded to everything they'd heard by voting to terminate Sam's membership. The final tally was -- Yes: 70; No: 9; Abstain: 3; Dead ballot: 1. As the "yes" votes constituted more than 4/5ths of those voting, Sam Frank's membership was revoked.

The first fan ever to be kicked out of LASFS was Claude Degler, that Trav-

eling Jiant Imposition of the 1930s. Since I joined the club in 1970, 3 other members have been kicked out of the LASFS: George Senda, David Klaus and Lee Smith.

Rotsler Update

Bill Rotsler is recovering from surgery to remove lymph nodes under his jaw and put in a tracheal tube. He's lost 59 pounds in the process.

Since leaving the hospital, Bill has been staying with Paul Turner in Altadena, about 20 miles from his home in Reseda. On August 12, he felt well enough to drive home and pick up mail, but Bill said he "discovered my house had not only been burgled, but trashed. Every cupboard, drawer opened and emptied, boxes just thrown. Only things of value not taken: My computer and my Hawaiian shirt collection. Some books gone, all video, most of my clothes, and items you'd think were of no value to anyone in the world. Rotsler sighs."

According to Bill, the 1994 earthquake was neater. "Snow shovels are what is needed. I think I'm just going to throw stuff away, after I cry, of course."

Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow

Ian Gunn has raised everyone's spirits with the news that his cancer seems to be responding to chemotherapy treatment. He reports his progress in an e-mail diary sent to friends all over the net. The well-known Aussie cartoonist's reports are unexpectedly permeated by humor, for as he explains:

"Yes, it can be depressing at times. I've cried once or twice for no good reason. Mostly though, it's just bloody annoying doing inconvenient things like getting loose hairs everywhere -- and I really DO mean everywhere -- and having no appetite.

"I guess the upbeat manner is just me - that's my way of dealing with things,

it's the cartoonist/comedian in me. Laugh to keep from crying, that sort of thing.

"The support of good people around the world is a major factor in my recovery, of this I'm convinced. A positive attitude kicks ass, as they say in the States."

Fans wanting to show their support can e-mail Ian Gunn and Karen Pender-Gunn a request to be added to their "chemo update mailing list" at: fiawol-@ozramp.net.au

The titles of past reports are: (1) Oh dear, I'm not well..., (2) Ian Gunn's Fun Filled Tumour Update, (3) Gunny's Land o' Cancer, (4) Ian's Progress, (5) Gunny's Chemo Fun Page, (6) Latest Update, and (7) Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow.

Ian revealed in his August 13 post, "Well, I've finally cropped my top. It was getting ridiculous with the hair falling out all over the place -- whiskers and hairs getting in my food, all over the floors, the computer keyboard, my tongue... You know it's gone too far when the fresh pillowslip you put on last night requires two minutes with the dustbuster to get clean."

Ian had better news on August 24, when his doctor was pleased to find, "Lumps have disappeared to the touch. One more chemo session and I get a CAT scan to see if they've gone completely."

If his white cell count tested high enough, Ian was going back into the hospital on August 26 for another course of chemo. "I wouldn't mind an extra week to get feeling tiptop before they Do It To Me again. I just get so sick of feeling sick. Sigh. It's the side effects that get you down, but it sure beats the alternative.

He adds, "I'm getting used to having very little hair - I'm not completely shiny headed, there's a sparse land-

scape of fluff. The disturbing thing is that Dr. Joe says it'll probably grow back curly. Yipes!

"I've taken to wearing a bright red night-cap around the house. It's warm and comfy. Karen says I look like a pixie. I wear a baseball hat outside, but the only one I could find that feels comfortable is from Independence Day."

Ian's frank discussion of his cancer is a gift for the rest of us who will sometime have friends or family members fighting this disease. Between the lines of his humorous monologue, Ian shows step-by-step the ways people can support a cancer victim and why their support means so much.

Spam's Day in Court

James Macdonald and Jeffry Dwight have today filed suit on August 13 against Carlos V. "Pesach" Lattin, for deliberately sending mass unsolicited e-mail -- "spam" -- under their online names. Macdonald, who goes by the handle "yog" on the net, and Dwight operate SFF Net, a commercial online Internet service, for use by science fiction and fantasy literature professionals and fans. Lattin operates "Sphere Online Publications," also an online service aimed at the fantasy literature community.

According to a press release issued by Macdonald and Dwight, Lattin began early in 1997 to post via the Internet, both in public and in private, that he found SFF Net "offensive." In April, a writer promoting her work via both SFF Net and Sphere reported that Lattin asked her to stop using SFF Net. She declined. The next day, on April 13, SFF Net began receiving hundreds of e-mail messages that had been "bounced" from invalid Internet addresses. It became immediately clear that a large transmission of unsolicited commercial e-mail had been sent bearing Macdonald's Internet address as its return address.

The spam letters recommended Sphere as a fantasy site. Those messages also stated that they had been sent by Macdonald under his "yog" identity. At the same time the bounced messages began arriving at SFF Net, a large number of other e-mail messages, ranging from angry to obscene, began to arrive from people who had received copies of the spam transmission and, under the mistaken belief that "yog" had sent them, were upset with Macdonald and with SFF Net for having "spammed" them. Macdonald and Dwight insist they nothing to do with the messages.

Since April, Macdonald and Dwight have labored to undo the damage done to their online, commercial, and personal reputations by the forged spam transmission. They also sought to uncover the true identity of the sender. The headers on the returned e-mail showed the Internet Service Provider of the actual originator. When that ISP refused to reveal the name of the author of the forged spam without a court order, Macdonald and Dwight hired an attorney, obtained a court order, and the ISP's records were released. Based on those records, and upon related investigations, Macdonald and Dwight have brought their suit against Lattin, naming him as the sender of the spam transmission of April 13, 1997.

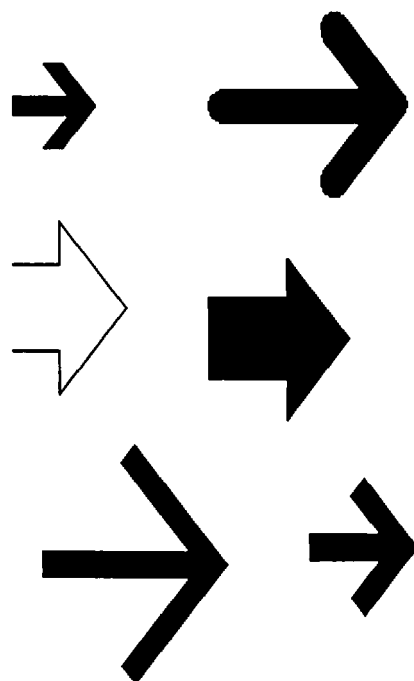
Macdonald and Dwight's suit alleges trademark infringement, unfair competition, defamation, deceptive trade practices, false designation of origin, and, possibly of greatest significance to the online world, violation of a New York statute that prevents misappropriation of a person's name for a business purpose. James Macdonald is known all over the world by his Internet name of "yog," and the suit seeks to bring that name within the same legal protection as is given by New York law to any other person's name. The suit asks for compensation for unlawfully earned profits, actual damages to Macdonald and Dwight, attorney's fees, and punitive damages of \$250,000.

Salute to Bids-at-a-Glance

Several years have passed since the last appearance of *Jane's Fighting Smofs*, Scott and Jane Dennis's superb "Magazine of SF Convention Bidding," filled with tantalizing gossip as well as sound technical advice.

Jane's best-remembered feature was "Bids-at-a-Glance," a summary of the essential information about Worldcon, NASFiC, DeepSouthCon and Westercon bids in a single two-page spread. The issue I'm looking at, Winter 1987, listed a total of 9 bids.

Fans online have been mentioning how they missed this useful feature, and I thought I would experiment in *File 770* with a similar compilation of bid information that will appear from time to time. Though it will probably be called by another name in future issues, and though the present version is confined to NASFiC and Worldcon bids (and puts information on a separate page for each target year), this feature is in the most important respect a homage to Scott and Jane Dennis.



Survey Questions	L.A. IN 1999	PHOENIX IN '99	SANTA CLARA IN 1999
1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?	Christian McGuire, Robbie Cantor, Bobbie Armbruster, Mike Glyer, Shaun Lyon, Craig Miller, Genny Dazzo, Ben Yalow, Gary Louie, Cric-kett Fox, Kim Marks, Fuzzy Pink Niven, Liz Mortensen, John & Linda Ross Mansfield, Noel Wolfman, John Harold, Mike Donahue, Ed Green	Co-Coordinator: Eileen Phil-lips; Co-Coordinator: Ste-phen Burroughs; Banker: Kim L Martin; e-Mail Liaison: Mike Willmoth; Hotel Liai-son: Jo Webber. Others: Jean-ne Hilary-Burroughs; David Hungerford; Angel Trinkle; Tasha Cady; Chuck Cady.	Chair: Mike Morman; Trea-surer: Judy Morman; Publica-tions: Kathy Leichel.
2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other ho-tels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space avail-able (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?	Anaheim Marriott 92,000 sq. ft. of function space.	Pointe Hilton South Moun-tain: a five star resort, with 100,000+ sq.ft. off function space, spread thr-ough two sub-divide-able ballrooms, 3 subdividable conference rooms, two gar-dens, and an air conditioned pavilion. We also have use of several large suites for hospitality rooms, etc.	Santa Clara Marriott Santa Clara Convention Center
3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact ad-dress? Your web page address (if any)?	SCIFI P.O. Box 8442 Van Nuys, CA 91409 E-mail: christian.c.m.mcguire- @nsls01.x400.gc.ca Web site: locate from http://bids-list@wsfs.org	CoyoteCon - NASFiC in '99 P.O. Box 82303 Phoenix, AZ 85071-2303 E-Mail contacts: Mike Willmoth mwillmoth@bix.com Web Site: http://worldcon.org/~bids/bid99az.html	Michael Morman 6802 Garden Court Gilroy, CA 95020 E-mail: mjmorman@salinas.net Web Site: locate from http://bids-list@wsfs.org
4. How many hotel rooms are av-ailable for con members within the following distances of your main facility? (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km) (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-4 km.) (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-8 km.) (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)	(A) 1033 rooms at the Anaheim Marriott. (Everything will be under one roof.)	(A) 635 rooms at the Pointe Hilton (B) 200 at a couple of small hotels, (negotiations are ongoing) (C)(D) 800 - 1000+ (negotiations for special rates are in progress)	(No information provided.)
5. Do you offer presupporting mem-berships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bids policy for re-deeming presupporting member-ships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending member-ship)?	Presupport: \$10 Preoppose: \$15 Bid Patron: \$25	Pre-supporting memberships are \$10.00 A pre-support + voting fee for NASFiC at LoneStarCon = CoyoteCon membership for \$30.00 A pre-support alone + \$25.00 = CoyoteCon Membership for \$35.00	(No information provided.)
6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)? If not, please define how your bid is orga-nized (unincorporated group, for-profit corporation, whatever)	SCIFI is a 501(c)(3) organi-zation. It organized the 1984 and 1996 Worldcons, and the 1989 and 1994 Wes-tercons.	The CoyoteCon, Phoenix NASF-ic in '99, is officially sponsored by the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society, Inc., a 501(c)(3) corporation. It has been involved in two Westercons and a NASFiC in Phoenix.	(No information provided.)
7. What is your bids policy on the handling and distribution of any post-convention surplus (have you committed to pass-on 50% of profits to future Worldcons that have made a similar pledge?)	The bid chair says, "Though there is no set rule binding NASFiCs, in the spirit of fannishness this would be our foremost consideration."	At least 60% of the profits will be either passed on to future WorldCons/NASFiCs, distributed as grants to qualifying organizations to promote speculative fiction, etc. The remainder will be used by CASFS to promote specula-tive fiction activities in Arizona and surrounding ar-eas.	(No information provided.)

Survey Questions

1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?

2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other hotels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space available (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?

3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact address? Your web page address (if any)?

4. How many hotel rooms are available for con members within the following distances of your main facility?

- (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km)
- (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-4 km.)
- (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-.8 km.)
- (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)

5. Do you offer presupporting memberships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bids policy for redeeming presupporting memberships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending membership)?

6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)? If not, please define how your bid is organized (unincorporated group, for-profit corporation, whatever)

7. What is your bid's policy on the handling and distribution of any post-convention surplus (have you committed to pass-on 50% of profits to future Worldcons that have made a similar pledge?)

8. What else do voters need to know about your bid?

BOSTON IN 2001

President: Sharon Sbarksky; Secretary: Ann Broomhead; Treasurer: Deborah King. Others: Claire Anderson, Dave Anderson, Bonnie Atwood, Ted Atwood, Seth Breidbart, Dave Cantor, Elisabeth Carey, Christine (Ivey) Carpenito, Gay Ellen Dennett, Ed Dooley, George Flynn, Pam Fremon, Deb Geisler, Lisa Hertel, Chip Hitchcock, Saul Jaffe, Rick Katze, Allan Kent, Kenneth Knabbe, Alexis Layton, Suford Lewis, Tony Lewis, Paula Lieberman, John Lorientz, Jim Mann, Rich Maynard, Mark L. Olson, Priscilla Olson, Kelly Persons, Tim Roberge, Ruth Sachter, Davey Snyder, Tim Szczesuil, Greg Thokar, Peggy Thokar, Leslie Turek, Patricia Ann Vandenberg, Monty Wells, and Ben Yalow. The officers of the convention, by tradition, are elected April Fool's Day of the voting year.

The Hynes Auditorium and Convention Center, we will also be using the Sheraton Boston, the Boston Hilton and other hotels. The Hynes has 218,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space, 41 meeting rooms (the largest is 4000 people), the Sheraton as 50,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space and 44 meeting rooms.

Boston in 2001
PO Box 1010
Framingham, MA 01701-1010

E-mail: info@mcfi.org

web page: <http://world.std.com/~sbarksky/b2001.html>

(A)
Boston Sheraton, Boston Back Bay Hilton (total 1525 rooms)

(B)
Boston Marriott Copley Place, The Colonade, Westin Hotel Copley Place, Midtown Hotel (total 2491 rooms)

(C)
Copley Plaza Hotel, Copley Square Hotel, Lenox Hotel (total 730 rooms)

(D)
Boston: approximately 4600 rooms. Cambridge: approximately 1800 rooms

Presupporting memberships: \$8.00
Preopposing memberships: \$20.01
Preambivalent memberships: \$50.00
Friend of Boston in 2001: \$48.00

We have not yet set a policy for redeeming presupporting or other memberships.

Massachusetts Convention Fandom, Inc. (MCFI) is a 501 (c) (3) organization.

As the originator of the current pass-on pledge, we will participate in the pass-on funds. Some surplus may be used to produce a memory book such as the ones distributed to all members of Noreascon Two and Noreascon Three. Other surpluses will be distributed to the benefit of fandom, TAFF, DUFF, etc.

MCFI is the organizing committee responsible for Noreascon Two, 1980, and Noreascon Three in 1989. Active in our current committee are the chairs of all three previous Noreascons.

PHILADELPHIA IN 2001

Chair: Todd Dashoff; Vice Chair: Gary Feldbaum; Secretary: Bridget Boyle; Treasurer: John Syms. Others: Yoel Attiya, Barbara Attiya, Bridget Boyle, Joni Brill Dashoff, Ira Donewitz, Mike Fisher, Rosemarie Freeman, Larry Gelfand, Terry Sisk Graybill, Joyce Carroll Grace, Barbara Higgins, Ira Kaplowitz, Rebecca Kaplowitz, Lynn Cohen Koehler, Danny Leiber, Wilma Meier, Warren Mayer, Anne Norton, Cathy Olanich, Gene Olmstead, Sara Paul, Pete Radatti, Mark Roth, Hank Smith, Laura Paskman Syms, Mark Trebing, Margaret Trebing, Bob Schwier, Winona Whyte-Schwier, Tess Wade, Lew Wolkoff. Overseas Representatives: Martin Hoare, Kees Van Toorn

Pennsylvania Convention Center Exhibit Halls (A-D) 430,000 sq. ft.
Grand Hall 55,000 sq. ft.
Ballrooms/Meeting Rooms 117,000 sq. ft.

Marriott: 41 meeting rooms with 88,000 sq. ft.

Philadelphia in 2001
Suite 2001, 402 Huntingdon Pike
Rockledge, PA 19046

E-mail:
phil2001@netaxs.com

Web page:
www.netaxs.com/~phil2001

While we do not have a breakdown yet by distance, there are currently 6600 rooms within walking distance, with new hotels being built across from the Marriott and one block east of the Center. They are scheduled to be open by 2000, although we are not yet counting these hotels in our plans. When they are opened, we will pick up rooms there and drop some of the hotels further away from the Center. There are 1200 rooms in the Marriott, with 200 more to be added.

Presupporting memberships: \$10. While we cannot guarantee a fixed discount for presupporters at this time, due to the fact that prices (conversion and function space rental costs) are still too far in the future, it is a reasonably safe bet that we will give some benefit to those people who have presupported the bid, although not necessarily the entire amount of their presupporting membership.

Yes, we are a 501(c)(3) organization

We will participate in pass-along funding.

We'll be on the 19th floor of the Marriott Rivercenter -- come by any evening and say hello, ask us questions, and/or enjoy our parties.

Survey Questions

1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?

2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other hotels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space available (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?

3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact address? Your web page address (if any)?

4. How many hotel rooms are available for con members within the following distances of your main facility?

- (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km.)
- (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-.4 km.)
- (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-.8 km.)
- (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)

5. Do you offer presupposing memberships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bids policy for redeeming presupposing memberships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending membership)?

6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)? If not, please define how your bid is organized (unincorporated group, for-profit corporation, whatever)

7. What is your bids policy on the handling and distribution of any post-convention surplus (have you committed to pass-on 50% of profits to future Worldcons that have made a similar pledge?)

SEATTLE IN 2002

Chair: Pat Porter; Vice-chair: Dick O'Shea; Secretary-Treasurer: Linda Deneroff. Others: Jack and Fran Beslanwitch, Rick Bligh, Vickie Bligh, Keith Johnson, William Sadorus, Ben Schreiber, Jody Franzen, Lou Anna Valentine, Eric Weber, Sally Woehrle, and Richard Wright.

Our main facility will be the Washington State Convention Center (250,000 square feet). We will also use the function space in the Sheraton Hotel (50,000 square feet).

Group of Friends/Seattle in 2002
P.O. Box 1066
Seattle, WA 98111-1066.

E-mail address:
seattle2002@isomedia.com

Web page is www.halcyon.com/top/Seattle02/

(A) currently 1800 rooms within this distance, expected to expand to 2300 by 2001.

(B) There are an additional 1750 rooms at this distance.

(C) And still another 1500 at this distance.

(D) None worth mentioning, unless you want to stay at the airport and travel into the city.

Presupport: \$10.01, Preoppose \$20.02; Friend of the Bid \$100.00 (payable in quarterly installments)

At a minimum we will discount an attending convention membership by the price of the presupport paid. An exact schedule will be determined at a later date.

Yes. Group of Friends is a committee of SWOC, which is a 501(c)(3) organization.

We plan to follow the current standard of passing funds to the qualified, i.e., 501(c)(3), bids eligible at the time of our convention.

SF IN 2002

Chair: Kevin Standlee; Debuty Chair: Eric Larson; Vice Chair for International Operations: Cheryl Morgan; Facilities Liaison: Crickett Fox; Secretary: Greg Dougherty. Others: Jeff Canfield, Raymond Chuang, David W. Clark, Tony Cratz, James Daugherty, Kathryn Daugherty, Greg Dougherty, David Galaher, John David Galt, Lynn Gold, Lisa Hayes, Craig K. Howlett, Barbara L. Johnson-Haddad, Mary Kay Kare, Cheryl Morgan, Julie Porter, Jan Price, Shirley Roth, Ed Rush, Teri Sears, Michael Siladi, Brent Wahl, Michael Wallis.

Moscone Center:
Hall D (138,684 sq. ft.)
Hall E (37,360 sq. ft.)
(Moscone Center room dimensions are available on the [www](http://www.moscone.com/roomcapa.htm) at <http://www.moscone.com/roomcapa.htm>.)

Marriott Hotel: includes Yerba Buena Ballroom, 40,852 sq. ft.; Golden Gate Hall, 23,400 sq. ft. Yhe plans are available on line at <http://www.mtonline.com/hotels/h66f.htm>.)

San Francisco in 2002
PO Box 61363
Sunnyvale CA 94088-1363

E-mail address:
info@sfsfc.org

Web page: <http://www.sfsfc.org/worldcon/index.html>

(A)(B) Marriott: 1500 rooms, 133 suites. At least 1200 sleeping rooms will be available to convention members (we're negotiating for more).

ANA: 667 rooms (including suites). We are still negotiating a specific room block allocation.

(C)(D) Although there are a large number of hotel rooms in downtown San Francisco in a variety of price ranges within these distances (not to mention an RV park about a mile away), we are not negotiating for additional rooms.

	US\$	AUS\$	CAN\$	GBP
Pre-Supp.	20.02	25	25	12
Pre-Opp.	49.00	60	60	30
Friend	100.00	125	125	60

All classes receive brass cable car pin. Friends receive a custom-imprinted Lands' End item. Pre-Supporting and Friend members receive low membership numbers, Pre-Opposing receive high membership numbers.

Pre-supporters receive a discount toward their membership of at least as much as they paid in as pre-supporters.

Yes. SF in 2002 is a committee of San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization. Note that San Francisco in 2002 is a bid committee only. Should we win, we anticipate handing off to a Worldcon Operating Committee whose composition has not yet been determined, but will be a different standing committee of SFSFC Inc.

We are committed to participating in the "pass-along funds" program which has been in place since 1989. ConFrancisco, the 1993 Worldcon, which was also an SFSFC Committee, passed along approximately \$12,000 in surplus funds to its three successors.

Survey Questions	BERLIN IN 2003	CANCUN IN 2003	TORONTO IN 2003
1. Committee members: Who are the officers of the bid? Who are other members of your committee?	The core committee includes: Eckhard D. Marwitz, Christoph Luhr, of Luebeck; Hardy Kettlitz, Marcus Luther, Ralf Neukirchen, of Berlin; J. Lippmann, of Schwerin; Juergen Marzi, of Koblenz; Wilko Mueller, Jr., of Halle; Beluga Post; Thomas Recktenwald, and Dieter Steiseifer.	Co-Chair: David Thayer; Co-Chair: Randy Shepherd; Treasurer: Diana Thayer; Facilities: Dennis Virzi; Publications: Bill Child; Website Administrator: Sharon Sbarsky; Programming: Laurie D.T. Mann; Advisor: Mike Glyer; Advisor: Mark Olson.	Co-chairs: Larry Hancock, Mike Glicksohn, Secretary: Yvonne Penney; Treasurer: Raymond Alexander; Co-Legal Counsels: Ken Smookler, David Warren. Others: John Millard, Lloyd Penney, Randy Barnhart, Alex von Thorn, Athena Jarvis, Geoffrey Toop, Marah Searle, Warren Huska.
2. Meeting Facilities: What is your main facility? What other hotels/facilities will you use? What is the size of the exhibit space available (for art show, dealers room, etc.)?	(No information provided.)	Centro de Convenciones, Cancun, Mexico; 54,000 sq. ft. total; (Cancun Ball Room, 29,000 sq. ft.; Cozumel Mtg. Room, 14,000 sq. ft.) Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Cancun, 30,000 sq. ft. total. Hyatt Regency Cancun 7,200 sq. ft. Camino Real Cancun 6000 sq. ft.	Considering two locations. (1) Sheraton-Hilton-Metropolitan-Marriott area, and the (2) Royal York-Crown Plaza-Convention Centre area. Both are in downtown Toronto.
3. What is your official mail contact address? Your e-mail contact address? Your web page address (if any)?	Eckhard D. Marwitz Postfach 1524 Ahrensburg 2070 Germany Web page: (Temporarily unavailable)	Cancun in 2003 c/o David Thayer P.O. Box 905 Eulless, TX 76039-0905 USA E-mail: artemis@cyberramp.net Web page: world.std.com/~sbarsky/concancun.html	Toronto in '03 P.O. Box 3 Station A Toronto, ONT M5W 1A2 Canada E-mail: hancock@inforamp.net Web page: http://worldhouse.com/worldcon-2003/committee.html
4. How many hotel rooms are available for con members within the following distances of your main facility? (A) Within 1/8th of a mile (.2 km) (B) Within 1/8th and 1/4th of a mile (.2-.4 km.) (C) Within 1/4th and 1/2 of a mile (.4-.8 km.) (D) Over 1/2 mile (over .8 km.)	(No information provided.)	(A) Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Cancun, 602 rm., (across the street from the convention center.); Hyatt Regency Cancun, 300 rm. (one block away) (B) Camino Real Cancun, 381 rm. (D) 17,000 additional hotel rooms on the island of Cancun	(No information available)
5. Do you offer presupporting memberships in your bid? At what rates? What is your bid policy for redeeming presupporting memberships, if any (for example, a fixed discount from an attending membership)?	At Intervention (British Eastercon), the bid sold presupports for UKP 6.	\$7 US (to US address) UKP 5 to: Kim Campbell, 69 Lincoln St., Leeman Rd., York YO2 4YP U.K. A\$10 to: Ian Gunn & Karen Pender-Gunn, P.O. Box 567, Blackburn, Victoria 3130 Australia \$10 Canadian to: Ron Gillies, 5416 48 Street, Lloydminster, Alberta T9V 0J7 Canada Probable \$3-5 discount on attending memberships to presupporters, who vote in site selection in 2000.	Presupporting: CDN \$20.03 or US \$15.00; benefit, 10% discount on all bid merchandise. Preopposing: CDN \$20.04 or US \$15.01. No benefits. "Eager Beaver" (friend of Toronto in 2003) CDN \$125, US \$100
6. Is your bid part of a tax-exempt entity (for example, in the U.S., an IRC 501(c)(3) organization)? If not, please define how your bid is organized (unincorporated group, for-profit corporation, whatever)	(No information provided.)	We are currently an unincorporated literary group, Sociedad de Ciencia Ficción, but are applying for 501(c)(3) status.	(No information provided, but web page states one of bid's project is to "complete incorporation", suggesting the organization is unincorporated)
7. What is your bid's policy for any post-convention surplus?	(No information provided.)	We are committed to passing on 50% of our profits to WorldCons who have made a similar pledge.	(No information provided.)

The Fanivore

Joseph T. Major

Warnie Lewis spent his time in the Army Service Corps -- he was a boss of supply clerks. According to military legend he should have retired rich. So much for legend. Whereas his brother, Jack, Ronald, and several of the other Inklings spent the Great War in combat units. Just think, if some typhus organisms had been more powerful, that signals officer in the Lancashire Fusiliers might not have survived, and Michael Moorcock and Harlan Ellison would have been immeasurably happier.

Media Massacre on the High Frontier: Maybe the CNN coverage of the Pathfinder/Sojourner mission being so inept is the reason that the rumor about it all being faked came about. The problem with the *X-Files* is that there are people out there would believe it is a documentary, and worse yet, people who believe that it is being perpetrated to lull people into disbelieving the real truth!

Of all the people complaining about hearing problems, Ed Meskys would seem to be the one with the most right to be concerned. My cousin Herbert lost most of his hearing to scarlet fever when he was a little boy, and now, thanks to neglecting treatment for glaucoma, is blind. The last time I saw him he looked dreadfully sad.

Franz Zrilich

I have *File 770:117* -- sad to see so many deaths. Let's start a new fandom with 18-year-olds and create a new literary subgenre, or revitalize an extinct one, such as Late Victorian/early Edwardian action-adventure utopian novels! That way, it'll be 25 years before people start dying off again.

[[I like that plan better than Andy Porter's prediction in a recent SFC: "I'm still wondering what happens when we're all reduced to grumpy, elderly fans, confined to nursing homes and keeping in touch by e-mail.... [I think] fandom is like the elven folk at the end of Tolkien's Lord of the Rings, who were either doomed to pass on into the uttermost West, or stay and dwindle in power until ultimately forgotten."]]

Re: your hearing disorder. Welcome to the club! I am not as far gone yet, as thee, but I have noticed that people around me and both the TV and radio say the strangest things. My mother, one sister, and late Granny have/had the same problem. I did a study of hearing aids and found them to be overpriced and ineffective. In the most common forms of gradual, age-onset deafness, the ear actually loses certain frequencies in the third quartile of audible frequencies.

A logical inference would be that hearing specialists would then rebroadcast those missed frequencies in the remaining frequencies in which we do hear, thus condensing our hearing spectrum, which presumably has some redundancy built into it, to contain all that we need to know.

Elizabeth Osborne

I loved the last two covers for *File 770* [issues 116, 117]. I guess it's because I'm a big fan of funny animal comics. I especially like the interspace subway system. If only space travel were so easy! I noticed on the subway picture two fannish look-alikes on board the train. Very interesting, as the old Laugh-In show used to say.

I was shocked (but not surprised) by the death of Sam Moskowitz. As a trained historian, I was naturally inter-

ested in fanhistory and I read Sam's account of early fandom with great interest. I got my first copy from a public library but I waited for years to bring out *The Immortal Storm* was still have my personal copy. It was a great joy to meet Mr. Moskowitz at the 1988 Worldcon in Atlanta and at many Worldcons after that. I was always interested in his stories of early fandom and, like you, very impressed with the skill he had in using his electronic voicebox. He will be missed by those who sought the history of fandom.

With all the negative news about the high price worldcons, it was pleasant to hear about all the opening bids on the Worldcon. A Worldcon in Mexico sounds like an idea whose time has come. It would be very interesting to me to see what Spanish-speaking fans would react to this and if any support can come from them. Spanish fiction, especially South American, has a strong fantastic element in it which would be an interesting contrast to the top-heavy tech writing of much English SF. Cancun is a great spot and is one place my mother would go to see a Worldcon.

TAFF is in trouble again. I remember that TAFF was going through a major rough time when I started getting *File 770* way back in 1983. I hope that the fund bounces back with increased vigor.

Fandom is going Straczynski-mad. He is becoming as popular and as omnipresent as some long-time SF writers.

The story about the interior rainfall at Disclave -- "Ski DC" was a great heading! Having a SF convention sharing a hotel has resulted in more than one conflict. I was unhappy to hear that the con will not be releasing the names of the couple who started the waterfall. A

little public embarrassment and humiliation might be called for after causing people to be wakened in the early morning by water falling on their heads, having to leave the hotel, and losing personal property. Plus inflicting \$100,000 of damage to the building. In a social group where a person can be "flamed" or launch a fan feud by giving a speech, running a bad convention or writing a letter, that doesn't seem like much.

I've noticed in the last few years the amount of leather gear being sold in con dealers' rooms, but happily, mid-west cons have avoided the S&M crowd.

The *Other People in Black* article will have to add another group to the list. This is the *Men in Black* fans who, even before the movie opened, were showing up at conventions.

The rage for "black" seems to be a bit of teenage *angst* more than anything. Working with teenagers in the SCA and at cons, I find quite a bit of "wanting to be seen as cool." While working on a persona for a 15-year-old, I was puzzled when she told me she wanted to be all in black. When I asked more questions she said, "I want people to stop and stare and say, 'Who is this person?'" As anyone who was 15 can say, when you're that age, few adults are really paying any attention unless you do something really bad. Of course, that's why so many people got involved in fandom in the first place. In place of being a needy, foot-tripping, frivolous teenager, one becomes an elegant, sophisticated, sexually-attractive adult. To see this, one might watch one of the Sherlock Holmes episodes, "The Last Vampire." At Context in Columbus last fall, a whole panel was arranged around the topic. Complaints have come out about Vampires at SCA events, but they aren't a major presence. The "Celtic Punk" look is more popular and tends to do the same thing. It makes some events look like the set from *Braveheart*.

Cheryl Morgan

I'm not going to rise to the temptation of Eric's letter. I think our differences on Worldcon running have been aired quite enough. Besides, it would be a shame if Eric resigned. He's actually doing something.

I see that Marty Cantor wants all zines with an electronic presence banned from the Hugos. I guess that would solve the Nova Express problem as they have a web page. It would stop Langford winning too. However, Marty doesn't seem to have thought things through very well.

For starters he complains both that people who cannot afford computers are unable to see e-zines, and that "millions" of people are able to see e-zines. This seems like having it both ways. Besides, I don't buy this millions lark. I don't bother to count how many people visit my web site, but I doubt that more than a few hundred have done so, and most of those won't stop long enough to read Emerald City, let alone consider voting for it in the Hugos.

In any case, any attempt to re-draft the Hugo rules to separate e-zines would have to take into account the varying and mixed nature of the beasts. For example, we might have to consider the differences between zines on paper, zines distributed by e-mail, and zines posted on the web. Not to mention zines (such as *Ansible* and my own) which are available in a combination of those formats. There are also zines such as *Plotka* which advertise via the web using sample articles but do not post the entire zine.

Next we'd need to consider the difference between amateur web sites such as *Apparatchik's* and professional or semi-pro ones such as *SF Weekly*. It hardly seems fair that they should be judged in the same category when paper zines are separated.

Finally, as the substance of Marty's complaint seems to be that e-zines have unfair access to cheap distribution, we might consider whether fan writers and fan artists whose work appears in e-zines should also have new categories created for them separate from those poor souls who only have paper distribution.

Personally I think that the method of distribution is irrelevant to the Hugos. For example, I could, if I wished, produce a paper zine and send it to everyone who is eligible to nominate or vote in the Hugos. By doing so I would have made it impossible for any e-zine to reach more of the voters than mine. Where's the inequality then?

In conclusion, I'd just like to point out that anyone receiving an e-zine can turn it into a paper zine simply by pressing the print button on whatever software they are choosing to read it.

I was delighted to see your praise for Paul Ewins. He's a nice guy and has produced some great stuff. Here's hoping he produces AMD fairly regularly.

Mind you, I am reminded of the time not so many years ago when mimeo and photocopying first became affordable for faneds. At that time, people moaned endlessly that these new production techniques would cause people to focus on layout and graphics rather than the words. Sometimes it seems that they were right.

Harry Warner, Jr.

Your 118th *File 770* arrived with your description of the Tolkien dream just hours after I experienced a rarity, a dream about fandom. I rarely dream about it, for some reason. But during the night I thought I was at a convention's general session with 800 fans closely packed around me (and I don't know how I knew the exact number) and we were all standing while someone reviewed the deaths of several

local fans during the past year and then he asked us to remain standing while he talked about the closing of two local drinking places fans had liked and I sat down because I was a teetotaler and immediately those around me started to mutter and glare at me and before I could suffer harm I wakened. Maybe it's just as well that I stay away from cons in waking life.

It's good to know that a newspaper actually got something right about fandom. Almost right, anyway, because the *Washington Post Magazine* article about Bob Madle apparently misidentified the title of his old fanzine, which was *Fantascience Digest*.

Maybe there is a reason other than inability to pay expenses that persuades some fans not to put their fanzines onto the web. If I understand procedures correctly, anyone who has a computer and is connected to the web can look at a fanzine in this manner. I would be uncomfortable putting my apazines on the web because of some of the strange people who infest it and the things they sometimes do when they get angry at something they've read on their monitors. When I publish apazines, I know where most copies are going and when I write for genzines, I don't worry too much about the wrong sort of people getting on their mailing lists.

As I told Sourdough when I wrote a loc about that issue of *DASFax*, I thought the Mars exploration coverage was very good on MSNBC. That channel mostly allowed the scientists to talk without interruptions at the press conference and didn't ask stupid questions of nonentities in West Podunk about whether they thought it was a good idea to inspect rocks on Mars.

The Retro Hugos dissatisfied me only with respect to their fan awards. It is much easier for a person to become acquainted with a great deal of the professional fiction and art published a half-century ago than to find enough

fanzines from the same period to form reasoned judgments on which were the best and who did the best writing for them.

Buck Coulson is right about Sam Moskowitz and Don Wollheim burying the hatchet and becoming civil to one another late in life. However, in his final years, Sam had begun to write a sort of sequel to *The Immortal Storm*, two or three installments of which were published in *Fantasy Commentator*, and in them he resumed his chewing over the old disputes with Wollheim and the other New York Futurians in much the same manner as he'd done in the book. I don't know if Langley Searles has on hand any unpublished sections of this project for *FC*.

Martin Morse Wooster's letter was very educational for me. I hadn't known about the identity of four fan groups in the District of Columbia area or about their different orientations.

Robert Lichtman

It was very interesting to read that NESFA had received that letter from the Office of Chief Engineer, etc., Nigeria, offering to let them launder money. One of my sidelines for the past few years has been collecting, processing and forwarding mail for Paul Williams from his old post office box here in Glen Ellen. (As you may know, Paul's lived in Encinitas the past few years -- and as you may not know, he and Cindy Lee Berryhill married on July 20.) Paul's publishing house, Entwhistle Books, also received one of those letters. Apparently someone got hold of a small press mailing list and is trying to find a sucker, any sucker.

George Flynn

I'm afraid that Marty Cantor's recollection of the origin of the Semiprozine Hugo rule is faulty. At that 1982 Business Meeting there were 7 differ-

ent proposals dealing with the Fanzine Hugo (so that, as Secretary, I had to prepare a chart explaining the difference); but none of them came from Richard Harter, who wasn't even there. It was Richard *Russell* (seconded by four other Madison fans) who introduced the motion that eventually passed. Three different motions for separate Fanzine and Semiprozine Hugo categories made it to the debate stage. The Russell *et al* motion, in its final form, included the 5 criteria that we would up with. The motion by Mart and Mike Glicksohn had just the two criteria involving money. And the one by Gary Farber and Craig Miller had only a size-of-print-run criterion. Contrary to Marty's account, none of these was withdrawn, but all three went to a (preferential) vote. His came in last, while Richard Russell's won and eventually made it into the WSFS Constitution, after also defeating the one-category and no-category motions. (Well, mostly: it had gotten sufficiently mutated in the course of debate that I had to redraft the final version myself.)

Brad Foster

My Taral collection is growing by leaps and bounds with these nifty covers he's been sending for *File 770*. Got to see if I can lay my hands on his comic book. I've not dared set foot in the local comic shop for several months, for fear of having to actually spend a few bucks -- and once you start, it's hard to stop! Still, I haven't had an ACME comics fix in awhile, so maybe it's time to make that dangerous trip again.

Thanks for the mention of the "Real Coffee Pot Project." I'm in charge of getting the artwork, and it seems I'm in charge of other parts, but then you know how conventions work. We might end up with around two dozen pieces, which would be nice, though I've no idea what might show up at the last minute.

Thanks, too, for the kind words directed toward Teddy and I for turning down our Hugo nominations this year. (I love how Teddy came up with that "Denominations" tagline for us in announcing it!) I guess, in our cases for sure this year, it really is an honor just to be nominated! And hey, I'm gonna get to do a cartoon for the cover of the awards ceremony program, so I still get to do fun drawings, which is, after all, the main reason I do all this in the first place. Where else but fandom?

Buck Coulson

It seems that I don't have arthritis after all. Possibly sciatica, possibly not. The doctor said it could be that I just don't have enough padding in my ass anymore and recommended that Juanita fatten me up. (But no guarantees that work, either.)

It would be nice if *All Our Yesterdays* was back in print, although I wouldn't buy a copy, since I still have the Advent edition.

I wasn't too surprised to hear of Roger Reynolds' death: he looked terrible the last time I saw him at a con, and didn't even try to impress anyone.

I like the idea of fandom as a swamp cypress grove. Some of the "knees", such as conventions, arrived very early, although they remained rare until the 1950s or so, when they began a rapid growth which saw them end up as a larger tree than the parent.

A separate category for online fanzines might be the best answer. Semiprozines were split from fanzines for essentially the same reason; the readership was much larger than that of the so-called "true" fanzines. (And while the demarcation between fanzine and semiprozine is somewhat fluid, it's pretty sharp between print zines and online zines.)

Charles Platt never needed a legitimate

reason for being disgruntled.... As far as I know, he'd never been grunted.

Actually, stamp collecting is a pretty big business in this country, Harry. However, I agree that the post office emphasis on oddities and pretty new issues may well backfire. The dinosaur issue, with only 15 stamps to a sheet, is ridiculous, and I suspect that eventually those stamps will be worth more "on cover" (that is, after being used on letters) than they will be if still in the sheet.

I don't know anything about Disclave, but Wiscon, while majoring in serious discussions about science fiction, is also aggressively (a) academic, and (b) feminist. Feminism I have no objections to, but when I'm scheduled for a panel and can't figure out what it's supposed to be about until the other panelists begin talking, it bothers me a little....

You didn't put your address on this issue, forcing me to dig through a pile of old fmz to locate the previous issue. For shame.

R. Graeme Cameron

Concerning the WCSFA being deregistered. This is not quite true. Rather, the British Columbia Ministry of Finance & Corporate Relations Registrar of Companies *threatened* to deregister us unless we immediately refiled several back years of financial statements. Fortunately, I had recently organized the financial section of the WCSFA archive and was able to provide copies of the appropriate annual statements to Treasurer Doe Poirier. The ministry was happy with the result, despite the fact that done of the statements jibed with each other. (I guess they just wanted to clutch the paperwork to their bosom, or something.)

[[Corporate regulators are like completist collectors: their obsession is to possess the texts, not to read them.]]

On the other hand, our bank was under the impression we *had* been deregistered, and this caused us no end of expenses trouble -- forcing us to close old accounts and open new ones, and do it again when it was confirmed we were still official. Believe me, we're switching banks.

Henry Welch

Thanks for *File 770:118*. As usual it is full of interesting news items. I still don't understand why anyone would take the Hogs all that seriously. For a few years I read over the award list and frankly most of the awards were lost on me. They were not humorous or otherwise because I simply did not understand the context of who/what/why for many of them. I suppose it could be a big in joke, but not to most. I don't even bother with them anymore, as a result.

Contributors Addresses

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