

W<sup>80</sup>

# YE OLDE COLOPHON

FILE 770 is edited by Mike Glycer, at 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. This newzine serving science fiction fandom is published less often than Charlie Brown recommends, and more often than Andrew Porter can keep count (see item elsewhere this issue), but to be more specific, shows up about every six weeks. While F770 can be obtained for hot news, sizzling rumors (printable or not), arranged trades with clubzines and newzines, and expensive long-distance phone calls (not collect), subscriptions are most highly prized. Rates: 5/\$3 (US) will get your issues sent first-class in North America, and printed matter overseas. \$1 per issue covers air printed matter mailing overseas. Direct those expensive, long-distance calls to (213) 787-5061. I'm never home Tuesday nights, so don't kill yourselves trying to reach me then. I do have a message machine, if it comes down to that... Want back issues? Send request for info. Thanks for production help last issue to: Anne Hansen, Fran Smith, Dean Bell, Debbie Ledesma.



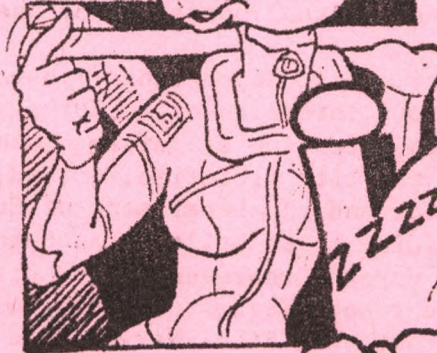
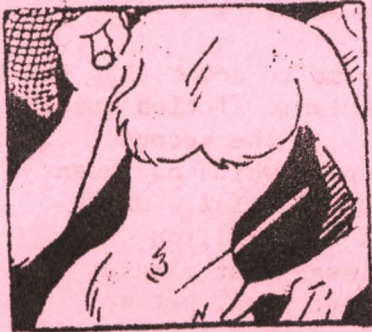
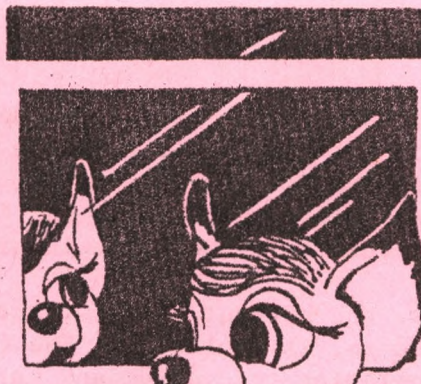
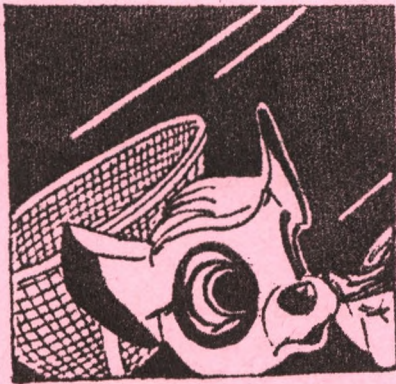
## ROUNDFILINGS MIKE GLYER

ORIENTATION FOR NEW READERS: Why is this fanzine titled FILE 770? Late in 1977, when I was nerving up to start

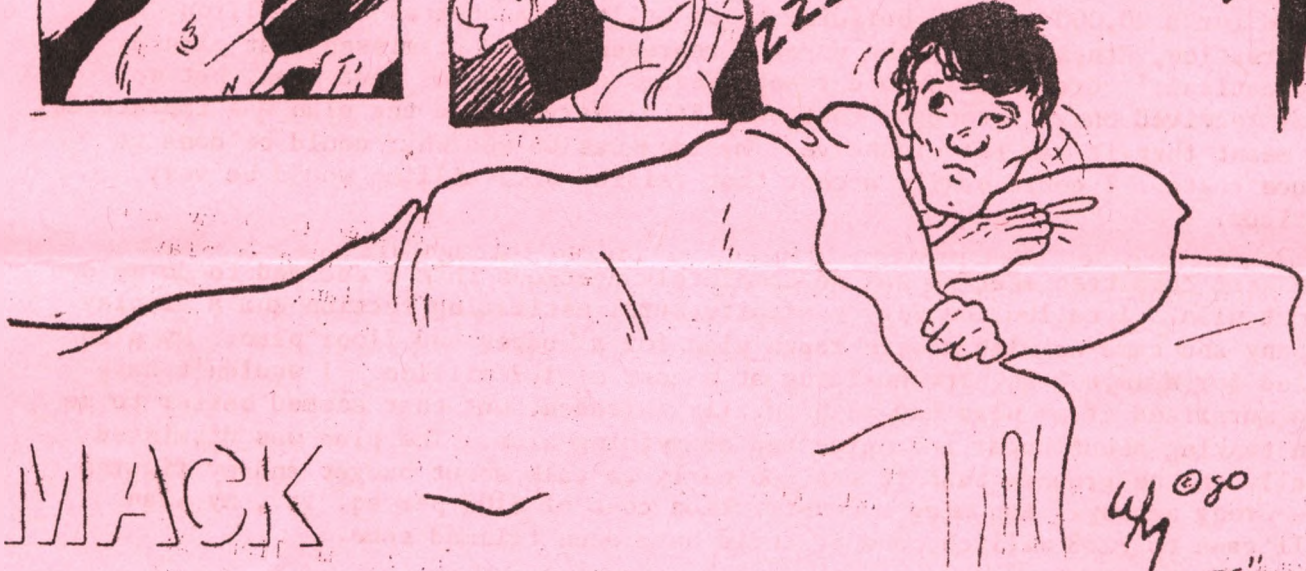
a fannish newzine to succeed KARASS, I found it difficult to find a title that had not been previously used. I looked through dictionaries, and the Thesaurus. I scanned Bruce Pelz' voluminous fanzine index. I declined offers to revive titles like FANAC and STARSPINKLE. It became my contention that all the good sf story references usable as newzine titles had been taken. Later Dave Langford would put the lie to that belief by starting ANSIBLE, whose title refers to a communications device in a Le Guin novel. However, Harry Warner's A WEALTH OF FABLE had been released by Joe Siclari at the 1977 Worldcon. It included a discussion on the most famous party in the history of sf fandom, the party in Room 770 at NoLaCon (1951 Worldcon). So in the tradition of cryptic titles, such as Malcolm X or HAWAII 5-0, I took the number 770, put a utilitarian information-related noun in front of it, and began publishing.

SAME OLD EDITORIAL POLICIES: FILE 770 has few fixed policies, those editorial guidelines which can be distinguished from whims of the management. Number One is: I don't do divorce work. This Marlowesque quip is shorthand for: I don't print material about people's romantic lives, who's living with who, or breaking up with who, unless it's sent to me by the people involved. Editorial policy Number Two: Publication of an individual's name does not entitle him/her to a copy of the issue. If anyone feels strongly enough about the possibility of being mentioned in F770, let him/her subscribe. If not, let them read over the shoulder of a friend who does. Editorial policy Number Three: News sources will virtually always be identified. They will not necessarily be identified in such a way that you don't have to read the item (ie, name in parentheses at the end of the paragraph). The editor recognizes the limitations on accuracy given that his sources are generally not journalists, and openly invites reply.

NEWS OF A PERSONAL NATURE: Effective January 19, Mike Glycer was promoted to manager of an IRS office examination group in Culver City, CA.



# File 776



## MACK REYNOLDS DIES

"BAMBIIDS"  
© JERRY COLLINS

Science fiction writer Mack Reynolds died of cancer January 31, according to Rick Katze. Katze called on behalf of Boskone (to be held President's Day Weekend) where Reynolds had been made guest of honor. Reynolds will remain the conventions GoH, and Fred Pohl will appear to deliver a eulogy.

The thing I will always recall about Mack Reynolds is that I met him only once. That was at a time when he was the second most prolific writer for Campbell's ANALOG, my favorite prozine. It was the opening day of LACon in 1972. My friend Richard Wadholm and I had just checked into our room, attending the first Worldcon for either of us. Having no idea what was done at worldcons, I left the room door open as I was used to leaving my dorm room door open—as a sign of welcome. And none other than Mack Reynolds came strolling through the door in search of somebody who could direct him to the registration area. He was loaded down with camera cases, and had just arrived from Mexico. He lived there, he said, and swore happily that he hadn't paid US taxes in years. (I'll keep your secret, Mack.)

# 4SJ ACKERMAN MUSEUM

A great deal of publicity was generated when Forry Ackerman donated his science fiction collection to the City of Los Angeles to create a science fiction museum. A support committee was formed of people interested in sf, city personnel, and prospective fundraisers. LASFSians Milton F. Stevens and Craig Miller participate in the committee, and Stevens has furnished the following report:

"After several committee meetings, the current plan for the Ackerman Museum is to raise \$5 million to build a 40,000 sq. ft. building. The City of Los Angeles is not providing matching funds or offering to provide any part of the \$5 million. They do say they will pay for the eventual operation of the museum.

"After attending several of these committee meetings I have come to doubt that the City of Los Angeles has any serious intention of building a science fiction museum. However, they do have the serious intention of raising money. At the second committee meeting, Wyman Jones, the city librarian, quoted a plan which had been prepared by the Library Department and the Department of Cultural Affairs which called for a 20,000 sq. ft. building to be built at a cost of \$2.2 million. In conversation, Ethel Narvid, the mayor's representative, dismissed that plan as 'impractical.' Craig Miller and I both requested a copy of that plan, but we never received one. I thought that when Ethel Narvid said the plan was impractical she meant that it was too expensive. My idea was to see what could be done to reduce costs. I could easily accept that raising \$2.2 million would be very difficult.

"The next committee meeting was so completely nebulous that I decided to do my own budget plan. I called the City's architectural estimating section and a display company and came up with a very rough plan for a budget and floor plan. My plan called for a 19,800 sq. ft. building at a cost of 1.7 million. I wouldn't have been surprised if my plan had been totally shredded, but that seemed better to me than talking about sugar and spice and everything nice. The plan was dismissed totally on the grounds that it was too early to talk about budget and my figures were wrong anyway. Assuming a construction cost of \$100 per sq. ft., my plan still came to \$2.3 million, and it could have been trimmed some.

"Following the dismissal of my budget plan, the 40,000 sq. ft./\$5 million plan was accepted out of empty air without a whimper. At the same meeting, a draft of a fundraising letter was read, but Ethel Narvid said that she didn't want copies of it circulated within the committee."

Craig Miller observes that the committee includes Robert Ross and one other individual who raised money for the LA Contemporary Arts Museum, and Jaqueline Kronberg, who raised funds for the LA Children's Museum -- both going concerns. Stevens' information is that Ackerman has given the City a three-year option to take his collection contingent on creating the museum.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...DAVE KLAUS? Dave Klaus informs me that he is on the Membership Committee of the local L5 Society chapter. // Klaus also wrote to request copies of all LASFS Board of Directors minutes pertaining to his expulsion from membership, SASE enclosed. The envelope arrived postage due. The SASE's return address, the upper left corner, was that of the Nick Harris Detective Agency. // There will be a brief intermission while the readers putrefy.

# TAFF

Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund administrator for North America, Stu Shiffman, revealed that candidate Avedon Carol swept the field in a first-ballot victory gaining her the opportunity to be TAFF delegate to Britain's Albacon 2 (1983 Eastercon).

December 18, 1982, was the voting deadline for TAFF. The date coincided with the LASFS Xmas Gift Exchange on one coast, and a New York fan function on the opposite coast. Last-minute votes were solicited by phone, including a plea from Moshe Feder that more people vote for Taral, in response to Avedon Carol's overwhelming vote total. At least one, and perhaps as many as two, LASFSians actually took advantage of this opportunity to phone their vote to Shiffman in New York... A Taral promotional cartoon is run below -- and would have appeared in time to do the candidate some good had any issues of F770 come out during the race. F770 doesn't endorse candidates for fan funds, but it does like to run quality fan art from all sides. (Time out while editor faunches for a Canfield, and for one of Stiles' pro-Carol cartoons).

Candidate	Europe	North America	Total
AVEDON CAROL	34	35	69
LARRY CARMODY	4	28	32
GRANT CANFIELD	7	10	17
TARAL	2	12	14



CHRONOSYNCLASTIC INFANDIBULUM: Leading faneditors who have been doing the time Warp again include Andrew Porter and Arthur Hlavaty. Porter's 2/83 issue of SF CHRONICLE reviews Q36, the July '82 issue of an Australian fanzine which Porter received in December. He also refers to FILE 770 #35 (an issue number handed out at Chicon IV) remarking "I see the winter doldrums have hit again." In the same week's mail came Hlavaty's DILLINGER RELIC #26, with the puzzling remark: "I talked about how much good writing is coming from Australian fandom despite the apparent demise of Bruce Gillespie's SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE, one of the best strictly sf fanzines ever." Linos, typos and bears, oh my!



## DAMN IT, JANET--ER, JANICE!

Janice Gelb will wed Neil Weiss this coming August, in Miami, Florida. Neil, presently studying dentistry in New Jersey, courtesy of the Israeli Army, originally met Janice when she formed Israel's first sf club in 1979.

Janice, whose peregrinations brought her to Los Angeles late in 1980, conspired with Neil to personally increase the profit margin of the SPRINT telephone service during 1982. Marriage plans were settled on during Neil's visit to LA at the end of 1982, and involve timing the ceremony between Neil's completion of school, and their move to Israel around Labor Day weekend. Neil Weiss must serve two years in the Israeli Army to fulfill the agreement through which his education was financed.

Janice Gelb will move back to the Miami area approximately February 20, and live with her parents until the wedding. (See COAs.)

ALTERNATE THEME: Al Sirois, whose change of address is published elsewhere in this issue, reports that having been separated from his wife, he will now be getting a divorce.

FUGUE: Bringing to fruition a romance which began at Chicon IV, Robbie Bourget married Marty Cantor January 30. Their wedding took place within Freehafer Hall, the LASFS Clubhouse. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the clubhouse, and later, a High Tea hosted by Lee Ann Goldstein and Janice Gelb. The wedding date had twice been changed due to delays in finalizing Robbie's divorce.

Robbie, who moved to LA from Ottawa in late 1982, was originally attracted to Cantor when she saw him descending the escalator at the Hyatt (during Chicon) in all the majesty of his Prince Valiant haircut. ....Not even Patrick Nielsen Hayden on his best day could describe a more amazing image than that.

Robbie, whose enthusiasm for the media side of sf suggested that she and Marty were contemplating a mixed marriage, has by now demonstrated just as much facility as a fanzine editor. Yes, she promised that "while" would not magically change into "whilst" every time I used it in a column for HOLIER THAN THOU, and has committed herself to rooting out vague or ungrammatical sentences. The next issue of HTT should prove the benefits of this alliance between Robbie and Marty.

CHERCHEZ LA FEMME?: Periodically LASFS meetings include a program of Bruce Pelz' slides taken at long-past parties and conventions. One evening the darkened meeting room was illuminated by a picture of a pretty young woman in fannish trappings standing next to Dave Fox. Fox is a long-time club member with a reputation for having lived through, and forgotten, more fanhistory than any other fan alive. This slide dated back to about 1968, so Fox asked "Who's the girl standing next to me?" It was his daughter, Ellen, known in fandom as Vixen.

No one ever expected that hysterical moment would be surpassed, until the very same slide was shown again at a December program. This time Dave was kidded about the circumstances of its previous showing. Narration over a couple of other slides proceeded. Then Dave up and asked Pelz, "Yes, but who was the man standing next to my daughter in that picture?" It took five minutes to restore order.

POYSER EXHIBITION SCHEDULED: Victoria Poyser, consecutive-year winner of the Best Fanartist Hugo, will have a one-person show of her SF/fantasy art at New York City's Edward Fimbres Fine Arts gallery. The show will run from February 25 through March 16. On display will be cover paintings for books published by DAW, TOR Books, Doubleday and Timescape. Posters and signed limited edition prints will be available. The opening day of the exhibition will include a champagne reception beginning at 5 p.m., with the artist present.

NORWESCON PROGRAM BOOK WINS AWARD: Few Worldcons have boasted program books with the quality of art, design and reproduction characteristic of the Norwescon 5 program book. Kennedy Poyser provided me with a copy some months ago, and I was very impressed by the entire work -- beginning with full color Michael Whelan covers, and going through such photo illustrated features as an extensive rogues gallery (with mini-biographies) of pros expected to be in attendance.

The quality of the publication has now been recognized by the Society for Technical Communication, who gave its editors a Distinguished Award for design and editing in the Northwest division of the Society's annual competition. The book, using a format established by Kennedy Poyser for the Norwescon 4 program, won first place over a score of entries from the University of Washington, Honeywell, Boeing and other major corporations. The editors, Michael Brocha, Steve Bard, Jeff Levin, William Warren and Steve Gallacci, received their award January 12 at a banquet in Seattle. The book is automatically entered in STC's international contest conducted in the spring.

GOOD CLEAN  
ENTERTAINMENT.



★  
THE THING  
FROM THE  
LAUNDROMAT  
STARRING  
THE BLEACH  
BOYS ★

AUTO ACCIDENT CLAIMS FAN:

Stacy Hepperle was killed in an automobile accident while returning home from an office party early in the morning December 18. Stacy was Treasurer of the New Jersey Science Fiction Society.

WINNER: Robert A.

Newsom announces that his story "In Phoenixfly Firelight" has won the 1982 National Fantasy Fan Federation Short Story Contest.

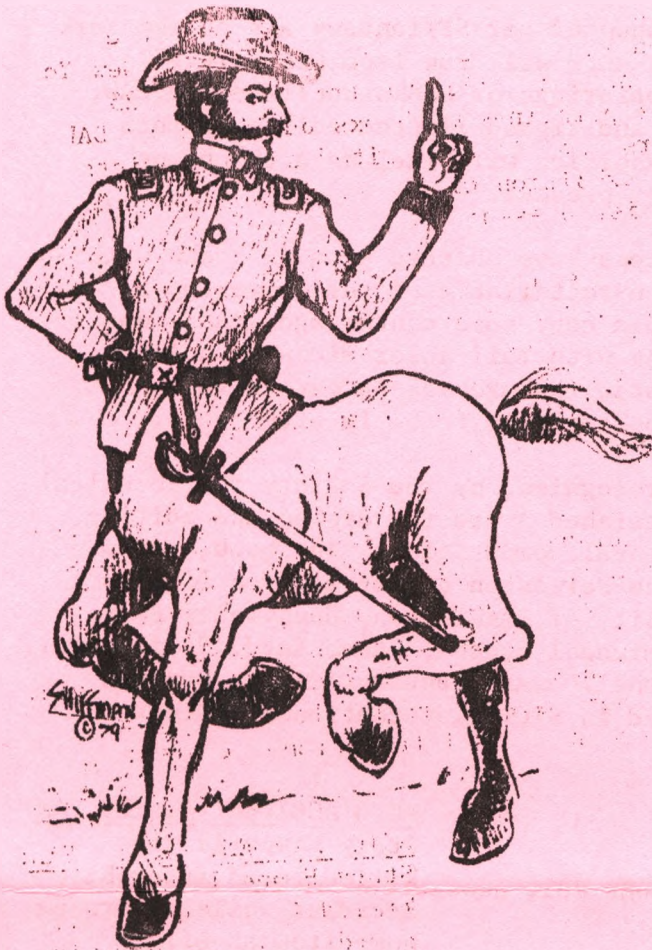
OTHER NEFFER NEWS: Out-

going President of the N3F, Don Franson, reports the following election results. Owen K. Laurion, of Albuquerque NM, has been elected President for 1983. Directors are Lola Andrew, John Wayne Burt, Howard DeVore, Donald Franson and Sally Ann Syrjala. Sally is Secretary, and Joanne Burger is Treasurer.

N3F dues are now \$8 per year. Membership info may be obtained from Don by writing to 6543 Babcock Ave., North Hollywood CA 91606.

ONE MORE CHANGE OFF ADDRESS, MAESTRO: George R. Paczolt and Sally C. Fink are relocating to 326 Westgate Drive, Johnstown PA 15905.

# FAN CLUBS GO ESTABLISHMENT



Two sf clubs recently created opportunities to take part in civic events of their home towns.

Alpha Centaura entered the 36th Annual (Albuquerque) Downtown Christmas Parade and won first place in the mobil unit/community sponsor division. Though the club's newzine leaves unclear whether the following awards were given by the city or by the club, 12 fans were awarded Certificates of Merit, and 24 members received Parade Pins.

The Baton Rouge Science Fiction League participated in the fund-raising drive for their local public television station during December. BRSFL members manned the call-in lines on Saturday afternoon, December 11, the next-to-last day of the drive. J. R. "Mad Dog" Madden continues, "The special attraction was four episodes of Dr. Who, the Destiny of the Daleks. The club members were in costume, for the most part. During our two hour stint by the phones, about

\$5300 in pledges came in; this was more than the entire previous Friday evening which was figured to be the last big night for pledges! The scheduling people in charge of the fund drive had originally scheduled a full Saturday afternoon and evening of sf and fantasy shows but backed away from the idea because they did not know if it would work. After the Dr. Who episode, they are planning such a day for the annual fund drive in March! At least, that's what I'm told."

After digesting these two news items it's tempting to view them as the culmination of a long historic trend -- in which fans are transformed from pariahs to Pillars of the Establishment.

RPM IN FOREST LAWN: Perhaps all this newfound respectability can be offset by raising the spectre of H. L. Mencken. Steve Miller and Sharon Lee, in their fanzine THREE BEERS, explain how they came into possession of a table which was once part of the furniture in Mencken's Baltimore home. Mencken left his home and papers to the University of Maryland. Minor use was made of the house until recently. Said Miller, "Given the way States manage to take the most advantage of their citizens in death as well as life, the University of Maryland decided to inventory the house. Anyone familiar with State service understands that an Inventory is a prelude to redistribution. In this case, it was decided that the free furniture had better uses elsewhere.

"We cannot chronicle the complete damage done by the U of M. Probably somewhere

there's a Mencken file box, and a Mencken flower pot, and a Mencken desk still being used by someone in State service, blissfully unaware of the vitriol that was poured out in the vicinity of these objects."

The particular table now owned by Sharon Lee languished in the office of the Dean of Social Work under a leaky Cool Whip container serving its afterlife as a planter. Whatever water the plants failed to immediately absorb made its way onto the tabletop. Our reporters continue, "Had it not been H.L. Mencken's table it probably would not at all have been about to withstand its constant ablutions. It had, however, been well kept in its early days. Its finish was oiled, preserved. It was steadfast and strong. It began, however, to look like hell. It looked like a leper. The constant watering made the surface layers of the preserving shellac or varnish peel, in spots. The wax turned white." The table's neglect was so complete that it fell off the U of M inventory along the line, and when the Dean's office was refurbished, the brave little table was discarded in the direction of Sharon Lee. It seems very appropriate to have fanzines being typed on a Mencken table, and would be a second step in the right direction if they had a Mark Twain typewriter to cut their stencils. *And Nicholas to write the copy.*

LATE ADD, RESPECTABILITY FILE: The Portland (OR) Science Fiction Society (PorSFis) is scheduled to answer phones for Oregon Public Broadcasting during their fund-raising telethon March 5. The club's newzine PULSAR adds that the day coincides with PorSFis' usual meeting, and OPB's showing of Dr. Who (assuming funding continues).

While these outbursts of public spirit don't exactly form the human rights marching society Ellison wished to move fandom towards in 1978, it's remarkable to see the needle move off the pin at all...

VERY LATE ADD, RESPECTABILITY FILE: THE INSIDER #81, newsletter of the St. Louis Science Fiction Society published in October 1982, reassures us that somewhere the guttering candle of fannish pariahdom is being kept alight -- "Nobody likes a talletale," begins an unsigned editorial. "And whoever complained to the people at Town & Four after Susan and Rich /Zellich/'s party September 11, should be ashamed of themselves. If you didn't want to go skinnydipping, fine, if you weren't thrilled with the other things going on at the party, you should have left. Nobody made you come and nobody held a gun to your head to stay. We don't need this kind of aggravation." That's standing up for yourself, whoever you are!

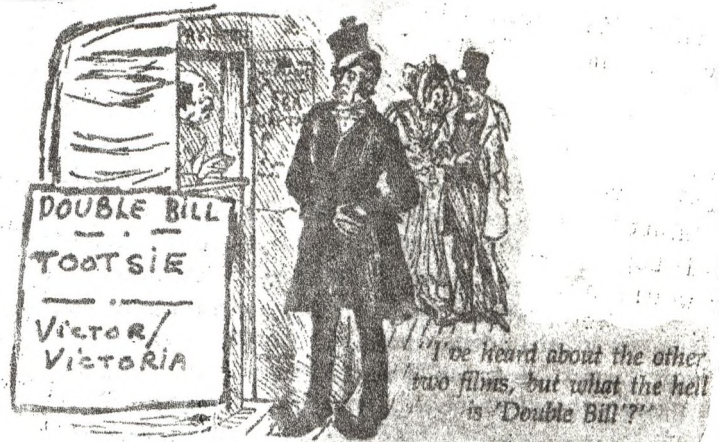
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CHANGES OF ADDRESS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS

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Dave & Hazel Langford 94 London Road, READING, Berkshire RG1 5AU ENGLAND  
Dana B. Siegel 28129 Franklin Rd. #112, Southfield MI 48034  
Lawrence W. Propp Apt. #1-South, 7035 N. Greenview, Chicago IL 60626  
Al Sirois Box J12, 258 Park St., New Haven CT 06511  
Stephen St. Onge 7500 Whitsett Ave. #136, North Hollywood CA 91605  
Steve Berry PO Box 1641, Beaverton OR 97075  
Peter Toluzzi c/o PO Box 177, Wilmot WI 53192  
Dave Locke & Jackie Causgrove 6828 Alpine Ave. #4, Cincinnati OH 45236  
Galen Tripp 18550 Vincennes St. Apt. 310, Northridge CA 91324  
Andrew Dyer 22446 Burbank Bl., Woodland Hills CA 91367  
Lee Smoire 3903 Greenmount Ave., Baltimore MD 21218  
Greg Bridges 3711 Poplar, Memphis TN 38111  
Mike Farinelli 2218 Brady Lane, Mishawaka IN 46544  
Craig Newmark 2875 Troy Center Dr. Apt. P16, Troy MI 48084  
John Hall 32 Knollbrook Rd. Apt. #23, Rochester NY 14610  
Janice Gelb /effective 2/21/83/ 7513 Mutiny Ave., North Bay Village FL 33141  
(305) 865-2231

OUTWORLDS REMATERIALIZES: That most unexpected event, publication of a new issue of Bill Bowers' venerable fanzine OUTWORLDS, recently occurred. I might have guessed it was coming, had I read the omen aright, for the cartoon printed here arrived in a flyer from a gourmet cheese store days before. Many of you will recall that at one time Bowers coedited a fanzine named DOUBLE:BILL with Bill Mallardi.



## COSTUMECON

CostumeCon took place in San Diego the weekend of January 14-16. Marjii Ellers and Drew Sanders have both provided reports on this unique convention.

MARJII ELLERS: "The world's first Costume Con ...is in the black, with 225 paid memberships. Two Costume Contests were held, for Fantasy and Historical. Three full days of solid programming kept everyone running around taking notes and pictures, with a Fashion Show and banquet on Sunday. Not one 'weapon' incident occurred; you may draw your own conclusions as to who is responsible for tack behavior. There were no insufficiently clad hall costumes, either, nor any rings around collars. Real Costumers don't need Wisk.

"Brian Mix staged the Fantasy Masquerade, with adorable David Gerrold, in space Dr. Dentons, as MC. I /received/ honorable mention for a ghastly makeup job by Fran Evans and the dagger-through-the-ribs costume I made in honor of Robert Bloch, An Unknown Victim, from American Gothic. Drew Sanders as The Joker from Batman was one of the winners. Kathy and Ev Turner did Salome and John the Baptist in a beautifully stylized black and white, not Beardsley, but something even better.

"The display room attracted some really elegant costumes which should be seen close up, by Julian May & Barb Ditzky, Karen (Schraubelt) Turner, Barb Schofield, Jodi Woodard, Judy Moore, Jean Harshman, Karen Kuykendahl, Marie McKnight and Sherii Butterfield and Victoria Ridenour, who had a historical lace display. Alice Davies showed part of her fan collection. Marty Gear, who will be running this year's worldcon masquerade, was one of the panelists... Bjo Trimble was there to tell us about fabrics. Sally Fink came from Pennsylvania to talk design and how-to. Kathy Lear and Louise Pass talked Tudor. Adrienne Martine-Barnes staged and MC-ed the Historical Contest and won Honorable Mention in the Fantasy contest for her group of Four of the Virtuous Animals from Chinese mythology. She had a panel for the fainthearted, Fear of Sewing. Dr. Peggy Kennedy came all the way from New York to be a judge at the Historical contest, along with Marty Gear and Janet Bigglestone... jan howard finder and the incredible Barb Schofield from Canada (in a 1920s evening dress) were top winners, but all the other winners were from the Regency Dancing group of costumers who do their research...

"Katherine Kurtz narrated the Fashion Show, put on by Pam May, with designs by Sally Fink, Christine Mansfield, Fran Evans, Jim Pillsbury, Kathy Pillsbury, Mel Henshaw, Katherine Mayer, Karen Kuykendall, Astrid Anderson, Kimberly Bethel, Amy Falkowitz and Karen Turner...."

DREW SANDERS: "Both of the masquerades, the science fictional one Saturday and the (continued p.18)

# SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTIONS

CAPRICON 3 (Feb 18-20) Radisson Hotel, Chicago IL.

Rooms: \$35 sgl/dbl. Memberships: \$10 until 2/1/83, then more. Brunch: \$4.50. Dealer tables: \$15. To: Capricon 3, c/o Bestler, 101 W. Harrison, Oak Park IL 60304

BOSKONE XX: (Feb 18-20) Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston MA.

GoH: Mack Reynolds. Official Artist: Wendy Pini. Science Speaker: George Wald.

Rooms: \$52/sgl, \$62/dbl. Memberships: \$13, \$19 at door. Art Show, Masquerade, doo-dah. Too late to join in advance, so why run the address?

AQUACON II: (Feb 18-21) Red Lion Inn, Ontario CA.

GoHs: Spider and Jeanne Robinson, Karen Willson, George Barr. Rooms: \$46/sgl, \$54/dbl. Memberships: \$22.50. Send SASE for Dealers and Art Show info. To: Aquacon II, PO Box 2011, Reseda CA 91335. Membership allegedly limited to 1000.

CONSTELLATION CON '83: (Feb 18-21) The Empress and Harbour Towers Hotels, Vancouver BC. GoHs: Damon Knight, Kate Wilhelm, Bjo Trimble, Jerry Pournelle, Larry Niven, Syd Mead, David Gerrold. Memberships: \$25(Can). Dealers Tables: \$40(Can). Banquet: \$15(Can). To: Constellation Con '83, Box 15-805 Cecil Blogg Dr., Victoria BC V9C 3H8 Canada.

RAIN CINQ: (Feb 25-27) Sands Motor Hotel, 1755 Davie St., Vancouver BC.

GoHs: Avram Davidson, Joyce Rubin, Crawford Kilian. Rooms: \$37(Can/sgl, \$45(Can)/dbl. Memberships: \$10(Can). Relaxicon. To: Rain Cinq, PO Box 48478 Bentall Centre, Vancouver BC V7X 1A2 Canada.

MICROCON '83: (Mar 4-6) LBJ Student Center, SW TEXAS ST UNIVERSITY.

GoHs: Steve Jackson, Chad Oliver. Info: Microcon '83, 601 River Rd., San Marcos TX 78666

COASTCON '83: (Mar 4-6) Royal D'Iberville Hotel, Biloxi MS

GoH: Jo Clayton. TM: Andrew J. Offutt. Guests: Jodie Offutt, Robert Adams, George Alec Effinger. Info: Coastcon '83, PO Box 1423, Biloxi MS 39533.

WISCON 7: (Mar 4-6) Inn on the Park, Madison WI.

GoHs: Marta Randall, Lee Killough. Rooms: \$41/sgl, \$49/dbl. Memberships: \$10 attending til 2/25, \$15 after and at door. \$5 supporting. To: SF<sup>3</sup> PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701.

UPPERSOUTHCLAVE XIII: (Mar 4-6) Park Mammoth Resort, Bowling Green KY.

GoH: Dalvan Coger. Rooms: \$29.40/sgl, \$35.70/dbl. Relaxacon. Hucksters \$15/table, limit 3. Art show info: Patrick Shaw, 2336 Bellevue Dr., Bowling Green KY 42101. Memberships: \$6.50 til 2/14. To: ConCave, Morgan Bldg, 512 E. 12th St., Bowling Green KY 42101.

HALCON 6: (Mar 4-6) St. Mary's University, Halifax NS Canada.

GoH: Robert Asprin. FGoH: Bob Atkinson. TM: Galad Elflandsson. Special Guest: Lynn Abbey. Memberships: \$15(Can). Banquet, art show, program, gaming, Masquerade, films. To: Halcon 6, PO Box 295, Halifax NS B3J 2N7 Canada.

KING KON \$: (Mar 11-13) Holiday Inn North (Fillmore & I-25)

Pro: Howard Waldrop (tentative). Artist GoH: Real Musgrave (Tentative); Fan GoH: Dana Cain. TM: Connie Willis. Membership: \$15 til 3/83, \$20 at the door. Supporting: \$5. To: SFACS/King Kon, PO Box 1284, Colorado Springs CO 80901.

FILKCON 5: (Mar 11-13) Griswold's Inn, Fullerton CA.

GoHs: Bob & Anne Passovoy. Rooms: \$40. "Con-Chord", the annual Western filksinging con. Memberships: \$18 before, higher at door. To: DAG Design, 1810 14th #101, Santa Monica CA 90404.

WICHAON 2: (Mar 11-13) Holiday Inn Plaza, Wichita KS.

GoH: Wilson Tucker. Science GoH: Stan Nevins. Agoh: Nelson Schmidt. TM: Gordon Garb. Rooms: \$48. "A Science Fiction/Science Fact Event." Memberships: \$10. Masquerade (including Carl Sagan lookalike contest). To: Wichaon 2, 211 N. Oliver, Wichita KS 67208

NORWESCON 6: (Mar 17-20) Seattle Hyatt Hotel, 17001 Pacific Highway South,

Seattle WA 98124. (206) 244-6000. GoH: Jack Williamson. Art GoH: Richard Powers. Fan GoH: Art Widner. TM: Algis Budrys. Rooms: \$49. Snazziest West Coast Convention, 3 track programming, 3-channel 24-hour video, masquerade, 100+ attending pros, art show etc. Memberships: \$20 til 3/1/83, \$25 at door. Hucksters \$40/\$55/\$75. To: Norwescon 6, PO Box 24207, Seattle WA 723-2101.

LUNACON '83: (Mar 18-20) Sheraton Hts. Hotel, Hasbrouk Heights NJ.  
 GoHs: Anne McCaffrey, Barbi Johnson. Fan: Don & Elsie Wollheim. Memberships:  
 \$14 til 2/28, \$17 at the door. To: Lunacon '83, PO Box 149, Brooklyn NY 11204.

FANTASY WORLDS FESTIVAL: (Mar 18-20) Oakland Airport Hyatt Hotel, Oakland CA.  
 GoH: Octavia Butler. Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Katherine Kurtz, Ray Nelson,  
 Paul Edwin Zimmer, Sydney J. Van Scyoc, Diana Paxson. Membership: \$15. Masquerade.  
 To: Lisa Waters, PO Box 72, Berkeley CA 94701.

GEMINI:CON\*STELLATION II: (Mar 25-27) Sheraton Inn - Huntsville AL 35805.  
 GoH: Jack and Joe Haldeman. MC: Kelly Freas. Fan: Charlie Williams. Artist: Kevin Ward.  
 Rooms: \$36/sgl, \$41/dbl. Masquerade, art show, 24-hr Video Room, "The Knave of  
 Hearts Memorial Hearts Tourney." Hucksters: \$10 first table \$15 each additional.  
 Memberships: \$12 til 2/28, \$15 after and at door. To: Nelda Kathleen Kennedy,  
 7907 Charlotte Dr. SW, Huntsville AL 35802.

AGGIECON XLV: (Mar 24-27) Memorial Student Center, Texas A&M University, College  
 Station TX. GoHs: Harry Harrison, Michael Whelan. TM: Wilson Tucker. Special  
 Guest: Stephen R. Donaldson. Membership: \$7.50 til 2/28, \$10 after. To: MSC  
 Cepheid Variable, Aggiecon XIV, PO Box J-1, College Station TX 77844.

SWANNCON 4: (Mar 24-27) Boca Raton FL. The 4th International Conference on  
 the Fantastic in the Arts. Readings, films, art show, academic papers, teachers'  
 workshop. Associated with a workshop for fantasy & sf writers with Ellison, Wolfe,  
 Aldiss, Wilhelm, Knight and Gunn. To: 500 NW 20th St., Boca Raton FL 33431.  
 Workshop info: (305)393-3839.

BALTICON XVII: (April 1-3) Hyatt Regency Hotel near the Inner Harbor, Baltimore MD.  
 PRO: Catherine Crook & L. Sprague DeCamp. FAN: Eva Whitley & Jack Chalker. Art GoH:  
 Anna Trembley. Rooms: \$50 sgl/dbl. Attendance limit 1500. Mail membership only, no  
 sales at the door. Memberships \$12. Huckster Tables \$35 for first \$50 for second.  
 Limit 2. One membership per table. Sold out. (So why did I type this?) To: Balticon  
 17, PO Box 686, Baltimore MD 21203.

ASFICON 4: (April 1-3) Northlake Hilton Inn, Tucker GA.  
 PRO: Gregory Benford. FAN: Brian Earl Brown. Guest: Doug Chaffee. Video & film  
 program. Memberships: \$12 advance, \$15 at door. To: 6045 Summit Wood Dr.,  
 Kennesaw GA 30144.

SCIENCE FICTION WEEKEND 5: (Mar 31-Apr 3) Griswold's Inn, Fullerton CA.  
 Rooms: \$40. Membership: \$12 til 3/20, \$17.50 at door. \$7.50 daily. Info: FPCI,  
 1855 W. Main St., Alhambra CA 91801.

ALBACON II: (April 1-4) Central Hotel, Glasgow, Scotland.  
 GoH: James White. Special Guest: Tanith Lee. FAN: Avedon Carol (Taff winner).  
 34th Annual British sf convention. Memberships: \$9 til 3/20. To: Albacon II,  
 c/o B/L 8 Highburgh Rd., Glasgow G12 9YD Scotland.

FOOLCON VI: (Apr. 1-3) Johnson County Community College, Overland Park KS.  
 GoH: Ben Bova. Guests: Pat Cadigan, Arnold Fenner, Tim Kirk, Real Musgrave, etc.  
 Memberships: \$7.50 til 3/15, \$10 after. Dealer tables: \$35 til 3/1, then \$40.  
 Balrog Awards. Info: Martin Wood or Mark Waugh, Sword & Shield, Johnson County  
 Comm. Coll., 12345 College at Quivira, Overland Park KS 66210.

INVENTION II: (Apr. 1-3) Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island MI.  
 Relaxacon for Friends of Bob. Membership: \$15 at door. To: Dana Siegel, 28129  
 Franklin Rd. #112, Southfield MI 48034. (313)354-6111.

MINICON 19: (Apr 1-3) Radisson St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul MN.  
 PRO: Larry Niven. FAN: Pamela Dean, David Dyer-Bennett. Theme: "Backward Into the  
 Future." Info: Minicon 19, PO Box 2128 Loop Stn., Minneapolis MN 55402.

EATONCON 5: (Apr 9-10) UC Riverside CA. Fifth J. Lloyd Eaton conference on SF &  
 fantasy literature. Academic conference. GoHs: Brian Aldiss, Greg Benford, Robert  
 Forward, James Gunn. Membership: \$10 student, \$20 nonstudent, til 2/28. \$25 af door.  
 To: George Slusser, UCR, University Library, PO Box 5900, Riverside CA 92517.

MUNCHCON III: (Apr 15-16) Marshall University, Huntington WV.  
 GoH: Nancy Springer. Membership: free. Films, art show, hucksters. Info: Marshall

University SF Society, Memorial Student Center, Marshall U., Huntington WV 25701.

FANTASTICON IV: (Apr 16-17) Holiday Inn convention center, Chico CA.

Guests: Mike Jittlov. Advance 2-day membership \$11.50. More after 3/25.

Info: North California SF Association, PO Box 781, Red Bluff CA 96080.

FESTIVAL DE LA SF ET DEL L'IMAGINAIRE: (Apr 20-26) Metz, France.

Info: Metz Festival '83, B.P. 4046, Metz, Cedex 57040 France.

CON\*TRETEMPS 2: (Apr 22-24) New Tower Inn, 78th \* Dodge St., Omaha NE.

"Friend of the Convention" Dan Patterson. GoH; Joe Haldeman, Gay Haldeman, Gordon Cikson. Info: PO Box 12437, Omaha NE 68112.

HUMANICON I: (Apr 23) Salem Inn, Route 93, Salem NH

GoH; Frederik Pohl. (You have to wonder about a con who spells its GoH's name

"Frederick" on the flyer). Info: Carol Morrison, 20A Gordon Dr., Londonderry NH 03053.

PENDULUM: (Apr 22-24) Holiday Inn, Ottawa Center, Ottawa Canada.

Guests: Cherryh, Abbey, Poyser, Robert Holmes. Memberships: \$13 til 4/16, \$15 at door.

To: Pendulum, PO Box 4097, Station C, Ottawa ONT K1Y 4P3, Canada.

KUBLA KHANVALESCENCE: (Apr. 29-May 1) Executive Inn, 823 Murfreesboro Rd.,

Nashville TN. GoH: Peter Straub. Frank R. Paul Award Winner; Richard Powers,

MC: Andrew Offutt. Khansuite, film & video, minite maskeraid, and parties til

you fall over. Rooms: \$40/sgl, \$44/dbl. Call (615)367-1234 to reserve. Memberships:

\$12 advance, \$17 at door. To: Ken Moore, 647 Devon Dr., Nashville TN 37220.

Huckster Info, Larry Wolfe: (813)988-6934. Art show info: Mel Clark, (615) 298-2325.

TREASURE-CON: (Apr 29-May 1) War Bonnet Inn, South 27th & I-90, Billings MT.

PRO: C.J. Cherryh. FAN: Robert Asprin. Gaming GoH: Steve Jackson. Hotel info:

(406)248-7761. Memberships: \$20. To: Treasurecon I, c/o Barjon's Books, 2516 First Avenue North, Billings MT 59101.

PSEUDOCON 4: (May 6-8) Ramada Inn, Hartford CT. In connection with Wesleyan U.

GoH: Somtow Suchar-tkul. Rooms: \$35. Memberships \$7 til 2/25, \$11 after. Dealers

tables: \$20 includes membership. To: ESCO, PO Box 400, Bronx NY 10471.

CAMPCON III: (May 6-8) Wichita Falls TX.

GoHs: Robert Asprin, Lynn Abbey, Yang the Nauseating. Membership limit 40.

Re-laxacon, room & board in bunkhouse. Membership \$50. Send SASE to: Campcon,

c/o S.D. Poe, PO Box 26543, Ft. Worth TX 76116.

I-CON II: (May 6-8) SUNY/Stony Brook, Long Island NY.

GoHs: Isaac Asimov and Janet Jeppson. Write: Stony Brook SF Forum, PO Box 461,

Stony Brook NY 11790.

COLORADO MOUNTAIN CON: (May 6-8) Colorado Mountain College, Timberline Campus,

Leadville CO. GoH: Stephen Donaldson, Ed Bryant. Memberships: \$6 til 4/1, \$10 after.

Limit 250. To: Stan Gardner, Colorado Mountain Con etc as above 80461.

MARCON XVIII: (May 13-15) The Quality Inn, 4900 Sinclair Rd., Columbus OH.

PRO: James Hogan. FAN: George "Lan" Laskowski. Rooms; \$40/sgl, \$46/dbl.

Memberships: \$12.50 til 4/15, \$15 at door. Hucksters: \$27.50 first table (includes membership), \$20 additional tables (no memberships). Masquerade, art show, films.

To: Marcon XVIII: PO Box 2583, Columbus OH 43216.

EUCON 1: (May 13-15) Eugene Hilton, Eugene OR.

GoHs: Spider & Jeanne Robinson, Charles Brown, John Varley. TM: Dean Ing.

Memberships: \$15 til 4/30, \$17 after, To: Eucon PO Box 1804, Eugene OR 97440.

TEXARKON 1983: (May 13-15) Texarkana AR.

GoHs: Andrew Offutt, Richard & Wendy Pini, Bob Asprin. Memberships: \$10 advance,

\$15 at door. To: Texarkon, 1021 E. 29th St., Texarkana AR 75502.

LEPRECON 9: (May 20-22) Ramada Townhouse, Phoenix AZ.

GoHs: Kelly Freas, Jack Williamson, Elayne Pelz. Rooms: \$34 sgl/dbl. Memberships: \$12.50

To: Leprecon 9, PO Box 16815, Phoenix AZ 85011.

FUTUREFEST '83: (May 28-30) Seattle Trade Center, Seattle WA.

Memberships: \$10 til 3/1, \$12.50 advance, \$15 at door. Media and space exploration appeal. Info: 215 130th Ave. NE, Bellevue WA 98005.

YOU ARE EXHIBITING  
TWO OF THE FANNISH  
DANGER SIGNS OF  
SERCONISM



#82

# LETTERS OF COMMENT

GIGI DANE -- 3433 W. Sierra Vista Drive, Phoenix AZ 85017

((The following is a copy of Gigi's letter to Bruce Arthurs in reply to his LoC published in F770:37.))

After reading your letter in FILE 770 I was at first shocked and then I felt acute embarrassment for you. After the brief exchange of angry words between you and Bruce M. Dane at the December 3 CASFS meeting you left in a rage, totally ignoring Bruce's verbal, but sincere, apology for losing his temper. When you sent in your hand written resignations to the procedural president it was noted that he could not accept your resignation from membership in CASFS as that should have been addressed to the Chairman of the Board. Everyone realized you were acting in anger. Everyone also regretted your angry departure. Bruce wrote a note of apology and sent it to you via your wife. At the Board Meeting of December 5 Bruce announced that since you had misaddressed your resignation from CASFS and since it was offered under conditions of extreme anger that you might, in time, like to reconsider your actions. Weeks went by and we had no contact with you until we read your letter, obviously written in haste and anger, in FILE 770.

The facts of the incident coupled with your letter in FILE 770 should assure you of immediate acceptance of any and all resignations from fannish obligations. ((The "you-sent-your-resignation-to-the-wrong-person" ploy also forms part of the peculiar tradition of the LASFS, having been used to preserve the memberships of Phil Castora and Dave Klaus in 1981 (for Klaus, a sunnier time in the club.) ))

DAVE LOCKE 6828 Alpine Ave. #4, Cincinnati OH 45236

...I thought you might be interested or at least amused by something I said recently in my FLAPzine. It concerns Hugo recognition for fanzines. Arthur Hlavaty had said "I've never been able to come up with a coherent opinion on this subject," and that's what kicked off this comment:

"Once you get past the rhetoric you'll see that the controversy is an inevitable consequence when a fandom builds its own societal construct, independent but adjacent to the field where it was created. Within that construct is a fanzine factory whose output bears only a slim connection to the field of science fiction. However, over in the field of science fiction are fanzines about science fiction produced by fans whose fandom is built there in that field. So, at the World Science Fiction Convention there is balloting for the Best Fanzine, and some of those folk over in Fanzine Fandom (us) don't usually have the voting pull of the folks who publish fanzines devoted to the subject of science fiction. Obviously, this presents a problem to some. They don't care who Hugo Gernsback was, or why the Hugo was named after him, or that we're talking about awards given within the field of science fiction. They want Hugo award recognition for fanzines which deal with such things as discussions of feminism, partying, buying a home computer, the posturings of cats, getting boils, strange encounters while at work, libertarianism, mechanical breakdowns, and occasionally a book review and sometimes the book is science fiction. There's nothing wrong with this -- I've been at it for close to 22 years and look how I turned out -- but this kind of fanzine has a very tenuous claim for a Hugo award. There are very few science fiction fanzines (you see most all of them on the ballot each year), which is either a shame or maybe that's all the traffic will bear, but I see them as being the only ones which can legitimately lay claim to an award which obviously purports to be reflective of the science fiction field.

"Let's give this the Martian Test. A Martian lands on Earth, ambles into a hotel over the Labor Day weekend, and asks what the hell is going on. Someone explains science fiction to him. He sees people handing out little rocketships, and is told that these are given to honor superior performance within the field. He watches rocketships being given out to honor a science fiction novel, sf short story, sf editor, sf drama, sf nonfiction book, sf etc., sf etc. When it comes time to honor a fanzine someone tells him the nominations include four publications which dealt with articles, reviews, critiques and discussions concerning science fiction; and one publication which dealt with articles, stories, reviews and discussions on almost everything but. The Martian asks how come. The resulting discussion amazes him so much that he returns to his ship and has a stiff drink."

Arthur responded: "Good point about the fanzine Hugo. I could put it in a zine and have Ted White and the Brits tell me once again how I don't understand fandom."

He's probably right. In STRICTLY SPEAKING Edwin Newman said: "If you are a member of a group that has been rejected, or at any rate not favored, it is natural to respond by insisting that the group is good, and then you take pride in it, and then you make a virtue of necessity and argue that clannishness is a good thing in itself." Newman is probably right, too.

JOHN HERTZ 236 S. Coronado St., Los Angeles CA 90057

I don't know what that giant mockup of BATTLEFIELD:EARTH was doing on the stage (at Chicon), but I'm glad to see that Hubbard is writing science fiction again. Never a writer of literary sf, he was a master of the pulp style, which I think many of us have overlooked in our haste to feel our genre has Grown Up and we're in The



Big Time Now. EARTH is a great pulp story, full of bad guys and good guys and lots of action, and most importantly I think its evident from the story and Hubbard's introduction that he wrote EARTH for the hell of it and had a good time. As a Scientologist I've always wondered whether sf meant to him what it meant to me. In the old days he wrote commercial stories in every part of the pulp market as a way of raising money for what he thought was his serious work. When no more sf showed up over his name I was afraid he felt he had "outgrown" it. If you were an English Conservative in WW II you wouldn't write to Churchill to tell him to paint more water colors. Now Hubbard has not only brought out a new work, but it's a giant novel, a thing he'd never done before, and he made a point of releasing it at a Worldcon, a month before it went on sale in the mundane world. It has always gotten my

dander up when some fuggheaded mundane tries to attack Scientology by calling Hubbard a science fiction writer. It's never L. Ron Hubbard the mystery writer, L. Ron Hubbard the Hollywood scriptwriter, L. Ron Hubbard the camera hound, it's always L. Ron Hubbard the science fiction writer, meaning visionary crackpot. My favorite part of the introduction is where Hubbard says, alluding to this but not mentioning Scientology, "Look, folks, 'science fiction writer' is no insult."

WILLIAM TROJAN 1225 Elkay Drive, Eugene OR 97404

A few random observations on the fan artist Hugo, prompted by Vicki Poyser's withdrawal from the category: The award was established in 1967. Jack Gaughan, who had been nominated in the pro art category in 1963, 1965 and 1966 was nominated in both categories in 1967 and won both awards. In 1968 Gaughan was again nominated in both categories but withdrew in fan and won again in pro. Fanartist went to George Barr. In 1969 Vaughn Bode was nominated in both categories and won in fan. Tim Kirk who won the fan art Hugo in 1970, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1976 was nominated in the pro art category in 1975. With this sole exception, no one who has won the fan art Hugo since 1970 has ever been nominated in the pro art category. So it seems that despite a considerable amount of miscegenation between the awards initially, an inviolable barrier has since been erected between them. Hmmm.

SETH BREIDBART PO Box 1526 Wall Street Station, New York NY 10268

World Fantasycon, according to the rumors at the con, decided that the 750 limit applied only to Pre-registration, and they permitted all who showed up at the door to join. Thus, well over 750 memberships were sold. (I believe that the "almost 1000" does not include 1-days). I also wonder what OTHER New Haven hotel could possibly host a con. (Admittedly I was only there for 1.5 years, but I can't think, offhand, of any other local hotel with sufficient function space to even attempt it.)

I believe you have the full story of the Columbus in '85 hoax bid (as opposed to the Columbus in '85 joke bid) so how dare you say they "equalled" the hoax bid:

They didn't cause anyone to bounce off the ceiling; they haven't even thrown a great bidding party (as far as I know). And on the chance they win, and if I can get back from Australia in time, something very interesting might happen. By the way, don't count out the Columbus in '85 Worldcon bid until at least the day after the filing deadline. (If a typo can win, why not a hoax?)

Constellation's Hugo Award Crab Feast should be fun. (Especially watching the formally-dressed pros attempting ~~not~~ to mess their clothing.) I suggested that they insert a clause into the contract with the caterer that if they run out of crab, half of everybody's money gets refunded; I don't know if it will (or can) but I hope so, having seen how much more fans eat than mundanes will believe.

HARRY WARNER JR. 423 Summit Avenue, Hagerstown MD 21740

I received two identical letters from someone who used a terribly aristocratic-looking envelope, enclosing the first few pages of BATTLEFIELD:EARTH and asking my opinions about the book. But I'm too baffled by the general circumstances to respond. Somewhere I have read that L. Ron Hubbard is dead and somewhere I have read that he is alive and now I see that he has achieved the none-too-difficult feat of becoming the subject for a Hugo controversy. Without taking any stand on the merits of the arguments for or against a Hugo for Hubbard, I find myself inadvertently wishing he'd win one just to see what would happen at the ceremonies. Would hundred of thousands of Scientologists, members of Battlefield Earth subfandoms, tabloid readers and various other people swarm to the awards ceremony in the hope that the author would attend to claim his award? Maybe I'd be able to watch a live Hugo ceremony on network television from the comfort of my home for the first time.

Bruce Arthurs shouldn't feel too bad about not being permitted to quit a local fan club. It took me two years to lose my membership in one of the small, semi-secret apas, despite the fact that I failed to meet the activity requirements during the entire two-year span, and I asked several times to be dropped. It was gratifying to my ego to be wanted but very hard on my conscience to continue to receive the mailings.

I appreciate your running the note on my retirement; it might save a fan or two the time and money involved in trying to call me long distance at the office. As things turned out, the only other fully active employee with a longer employment record than mine decided to retire at the same time I did, so I came closer to outlasting everyone than expected. (I had to make a couple of trips and phone calls involved in tidying up job matters after the first of the year and he probably didn't.) Retirement is going well so far, with fewer problems for my nerves and psyche than I'd feared. The main difficulty is convincing the people of Hagerstown that I'm retired. I left word at the office that I didn't want any big splash published about my leaving and they took me so literally that they didn't even publish a very small splash. Meanwhile there was a backlog of columns unpublished at the end of the year which have continued to trickle into print at the rate of about twice a week, six weeks after I spent my last full day at the office. Someone will stop me on the street and want me to do something connected with the newspaper or will suggest a column topic to me, I'll explain that I've retired, and he will as much as accuse me of lying by pointing out that my byline is still appearing over newspaper columns so I can't possibly be retired. I'm tempted to have a thousand copies of that page of FILE 770 run off at a local instant printer firm and stand each day for a week on a downtown street corner, handing them out to passersby, in an effort to spread the word locally. ((It seems that the biggest source of resistance to BATTLEFIELD:EARTH's publicity campaign is fandom's expectation that the next step is to try and convert us.))

ERRATA: One is more likely to check the accuracy of an item when one isn't convinced he has the story straight. Page 6 erroneously reports that Neil Weiss is studying dentistry as a quid pro quo for service in the Israeli Army. Janice Gelb, reading that page, straightened me out. Neil's studies are unrelated to Army service, and not financed by the army. He is already a qualified dentist.

ART CREDITS: Taral: Cover, 3,5. Mel White: 2. Bill Kunkel: 6. Alexis Gilliland: 7. Stu Shiffman: 8. Rotsler & Gilliland: 14. Charles Lee Jackson II: 16. Al Sirois: 18

COSTUMECON REPORT (continued from page 10): historical one Sunday night, were small but full of high quality work, and each boasted as many members in the audience in costume but not in competition as were backstage. Brian Mix is to be given credit for coming up with some new solutions to some old problems. The first problem is getting the judges backstage and then finding that they can't remember which was the Ambassador from Aldebaran that they all gave fairly high scores to at the time, or that there were two different treatments of the same costume, with varying degrees of success -- which was which? The solution was that as each costume checked in, a polaroid picture was taken and attached to the judge's form. These were later returned to the contestants at the critique session the next day (also providing incentive for the contestants to get up at -- ugh -- 9 o'clock in the morning to see what the judges had to say about why each individual costume did or didn't win a prize.) The second problem was that of freeing the costumed people of having to carry their paperwork around with them all night until they were ready to go on stage. The solution was the keyword: a word chosen by the contestant which the contestant was sure to remember. They then have their word to the attendant at the foot of the stage, and the proper form was pulled for the announcer. // Overall the response to the convention was so enthusiastic that there is a general agreement to try it again sometime in the spring of 1984."

ENCLOSURE: The File 770 Poll ballot will come out next issue. In the meantime, you can warm up for it with the enclosed PONG Poll ballot. That gets mailed to the address on the ballot. My only recommendation for the PONG Poll is in the category of Fugghead: leave it blank.



Mark L. Olson (49)  
1000 Lexington St. #22  
Waltham MA 02154

FILE 770:38  
Mike Glyer  
5828 Woodman Ave. #2  
Van Nuys CA 91401

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