

CONFUSION REIGNS

Within two months of successfully staging the 1983 edition of Confusion, a very popular Michigan regional con, Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association Inc., the con's corporate persona, has severed its traditional connection with Ann Arbor's Stilyagi Air Corps.

According to Leah Zeldes, AASFA Inc. Secretary, the corporation was established in 1978 to administer Confusion, and shield the Stilyagi Air Corps from liability for losses or financial mishaps stemming from their control of the annual sf convention. AASFA's current officers are Nancy J. Tucker, president, Lawrence K. Tucker, vice-president, Jean L. Barnard, Treasurer, and Leah Zeldes, secretary. Corporate officers are evidently selected by existing officers (in comparison, directors of LASFS, Inc., are elected by club members).

The Stilyagi Air Corps has existed around ten years, meeting on the University of Michigan campus, and maintaining a significant number of U of M students in membership. The club is highly informal --- membership is said to depend on having attended one meeting. Confusion being the club's best-known and largest activity, not surprisingly the administration of the con has also been its biggest source of strife. The past couple elections for Confusion chairman held by the Stilyagi have triggered remarkable controversy and attempts to manipulate the voting by taking advantage of the club's loose membership and voting requirements.

The present palace coup was doubtless inspired by the election of Tara Edwards as chair of Confusion, again,
(continued)



FILE 770:39 is edited and published by Mike Glyer within the confines of 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. This might seem like the most elementary sort of information, as I have lived at this address since April 1981, however even some officers of the two most recent worldcon committees who subscribe to this zine have yet to absorb the information.

For those of you ready for more advanced lore, the policy of this fanzine's availability is:

- (1) SUBSCRIPTIONS 5/\$3 US bucks. Sent first class in North America, printed matter rate elsewhere. \$1 per copy sent air printed matter overseas.
- (2) In reciprocation for news, hot rumors, leads, gossip (printable or not) and those ever-beloved, expensive noncollect long distance phone calls to the editor at (213) 787-5061. Love me, love my answering machine...
- (3) By arranged trade, primarily with other newzines and clubzines.

by a margin of 37-29 over nearest rival Nancy Tucker. This year saw a repetition, even a worsening, of last year's uproar over proxy voting. Attempts were made to modify the policy which allowed members to send proxies to the Stilyagi meeting with attendees, according to Leah Zeldes. Obviously, in a situation where anyone who ever attended a meeting is entitled to transmit a proxy and affect the outcome of votes, even I would be qualified to participate -- and I last attended (or for that matter, first attended) a Stilyagi meeting in 1975. This year, said Zeldes, a rule was set which required members to have attended 2 of the 4 previous meetings (or been proxied to them) in order to vote at a current meeting. Zeldes made the observation that certain people only came out of the woodwork to qualify for voting, and that any effort to create logical rules ran dead against Stilyagi's traditional absence of bylaws, the actual chaos of the meetings, and the inconsistent attendance which seemed to result in different factions attending different meetings and repudiating the actions of the previous meeting.

Ann Arbor is right over the line from Ypsilanti, home of Waldo & Magic Inc., the club known for staging Conclave, and home base of Steve Simmons, Dan Story, and other leading lights in the Southern Michigan Organization of Fans (SMOoFF) bidding for the NASFiC. Whatever their actual role in the Confusion chair election may be, their perceived influence on the affair came across in Zeldes' phone call as one factor in AASFA's attempt to divorce itself, Confusion, and its income, from the Stilyagi Air Corps. The other major factor cited in a public letter from AASFA to Stilyagi was "the Stilyagi Air Corps has made it very obvious that they wish to get away from traditions, one of which has been assisting the AASFA Inc. with running Confusion. /Therefore/ the Corporation is not asking for their assistance this year." The letter also included this interesting hook: "For several years, the AASFA has provided the Stilyagi Air Corps with funds upon request. As this will no longer be the case, the Corporation wishes to offer the Stilyagi Air Corps the sum of \$1,500 for its own use. Should the Stilyagi Air Corps decide to accept these funds, their designated financial officer should notify the Corporation in writing."

Coinciding with the reading of the above letter at March 16th's Stilyagi meeting, Jean Barnard resigned from the Southern Michigan Organization of Fans, saying: "I hereby cancel my membership in the Southern Michigan Organization of Fans and shall, of course, not serve as bookkeeper. I also withdraw my previous permission to use my name as a supporter of the Detention II bid in various publicity releases and flyers. I am no longer a supporter of either the SMOoFF or of its NASFiC bid, and my name is no longer to be used in connection with either of them, in writing or in any other form from now on."

MEADE FRIERSON ALMOST GAFIATES

Leading Southern fan Meade Frierson notifys me "that I am bowing out of organized fandom for the nonce. This entails ending my 12½ years administration of Southern Fandom Confederation abruptly. I plan to mail shortly refunds of dues sent on the assumption, I will presume, of my continued efforts -- if recipients wish to give them back to the next administration, whoever they may be, they will have that choice but I will not be turning any funds over to my successor. Additional consequences of my action are termination of my OE-ship of APA-VCR which I founded in June 1979 and, at a hundred pages every other month, has been a delight to members of video-subfandom. The habits of fandom are hard to break and I have great regret at this action. Since I am not giving up the SFPA I guess I am not really gafiating, maybe getting away from it mostly....By sheerest coincidence, a word of warning about some of your sources. I am in some secret small way 'showing them' because of their pettiness and lying, but the main reason is a shifting of priorities that comes with age." Frierson ended with the salutation "ATLANTA in '86."

NEBULA NOMINEES

The Nebula Award nominees for science fiction published in 1982 have been selected by the Science Fiction Writers of America. The awards will be presented at the SFWA's annual banquet in late April. The following list was furnished by Gavin Claypool. Note: "No Award" is a voter's option in each category.

NOVEL

HELLICONIA SPRING, Brian W. Aldiss (Atheneum)
FOUNDATION'S EDGE, Isaac Asimov (Doubleday)
NO ENEMY BUT TIME, Michael Bishop (Timescape)
THE TRANSMIGRATION OF TIMOTHY ARCHER, Philip K. Dick (Timescape)
FRIDAY, Robert A. Heinlein (Holt, Rinehart & Winston)
THE SWORD OF THE LICTOR, Gene Wolfe (Timescape)

NOVELLA

Another Orphan, John Kessel (F&SF, September)
Horrible Imaginings, Fritz Leiber (DEATH, Playboy)
Moon of Ice, Brad Linaweaver (Amazing, March)
Unsound Variations, George R. R. Martin (Amazing, January)
Souls, Joanna Russ (F&SF, January)

NOVELETTE

Myths of the Near Future, J. G. Ballard (F&SF, October)
Understanding Human Behavior, Thomas M. Disch (F&SF, February)
Burning Chrome, William Gibson (Omni, July)
The Mystery of the Young Gentleman, Joanna Russ (SPECULATIONS, Houghton-Mifflin)
Swarm, Bruce Sterling (F&SF, April)
Fire Watch, Connie Willis (IASFM, 15 Feb)

SHORT STORY

"Petra", Greg Bear (Omni, February)
"High Steel", Jack C. Haldeman II & Jack Dann (F&SF, February)
"Corridors", Barry N. Malzberg (ENGINES OF THE NIGHT, Doubleday)
"The Pope of the Chimps", Robert Silverberg (PERPETUAL LIGHT, Warner)
"A Letter from the Clearys", Connie Willis (IASFM, July)
"God's Hooks", Howard Waldrop (UNIVERSE 12, Doubleday)



TRIMBLES FOUND BATTLEFIELD EARTH CLUB

In a letter dated March 1, John and Bjo Trimble announced formation of a BATTLEFIELD EARTH fan club. They say, "We think there should be more to our new club than wanting to look like Johnnie Goodboy Tyler or dreaming of a part in a BATTLEFIELD EARTH movie." What does this translate to in action? "Every year science fiction fans give out the 'Hugo' awards for top achievement in the field. To nominate and later to vote, you have to be a member of the current World Science Fiction Convention....We're members, and we've nominated BATTLEFIELD EARTH for the Best Novel 'Hugo'."

It so happens that the nomination deadline was only one week after the date the Trimbles began circulating their letter. However, if the novel already had sufficient support to make the final cull for Best Novel, the Trimbles would be well organized to press their campaign. In a personal letter, Bjo added March 10 "While we aren't setting ourselves up as a 'Trimbles-against-the-fuggheads-of-the-world' we do feel Hubbard's book deserves to stand on its own without all the nonsense which has so far clouded the issue. We think BATTLEFIELD EARTH is a well-paced, good adventure story that not only entertains but has the additional merit of being based on ideals that we like and believe in."

The Trimbles' address is PO Box 36851, Los Angeles CA 90036-0851.

HUBBARD DEAD OR ALIVE OR SO WHAT?

The February 1983 issue of ANSIBLE, Dave Langford's British newzine, reported: "New readers begin here: /L. Ron/ Hubbard's son Ronald DeWolf is trying to have LRH declared dead or senile, presumably with a view to scooping up the royalties on Hubbard's doorstep skiffy blockbuster BATTLEFIELD EARTH, to which a 2,500,000 word sequel has already been announced. .. Nobody has seen Hubbard at the numerous Scientology-sponsored publicity binges for BE, though letters allegedly from him have been read at them; only the vilest of fans (Malcolm Edwards) have had the temerity to suggest that the contents of BE are prima-facie evidence of its author's death. Charles Platt has reportedly sworn an affidavit to the effect that his recent postal interview with Hubbard seemed to be the real thing. What next?"

The answer to "What next?" is kindly supplied in the interests of book publicity by Fred Harris of Authors' Services Ltd. Rocky Mountain News reporter Sue Lindsay released an extensive interview with Hubbard, conducted by mail, in the News' February 20 issue. A sidebar story described three letters written by Hubbard and released in mid-February, two to California courts litigating his financial matters, and one to reporter Lindsay. It said, in part:

"To dispel concerns about the authenticity of Hubbard's answers to the News' questions and his existence, Hubbard's Los Angeles attorneys had a national

BJO REPUDIATES STARBLAZE BOOK BLURB

ON THE GOOD SHIP ENTERPRISE, subtitled "My 15 Years With Star Trek" features a back cover blurb identifying Bjo Trimble as "the Erma Bombeck of Sci-Fi!"

Bjo trkked to the March 10 LASFS meeting to deny any complicity in this blurb. Starblaze Editions Editor Hank Stine appears to blame, demonstrating anew the expertise that served him so well at GALAXY.

forensics expert formulate a special ink Feb. 2 that was sent in a pen to Hubbard, who then wrote the three documents the following day. The expert, forensic chemist Richard L. Brunelle of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, said in a sworn affidavit that he tested the letters and determined that they were written in the same unique dark blue ballpoint ink he personally formulated.... Forensic document expert Howard C. Doulter said in a sworn affidavit that the handwriting and fingerprints on the letters belonged to Hubbard. Doulter, who is in private practice in Los Angeles, formerly worked for the US Department of Treasury and the Milwaukee Police Department. Howard Rile, documents verification expert with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, said he knows of both men and that Brunelle is one of the foremost document experts in the country. Brunelle and Doulter are not members of the Church of Scientology."

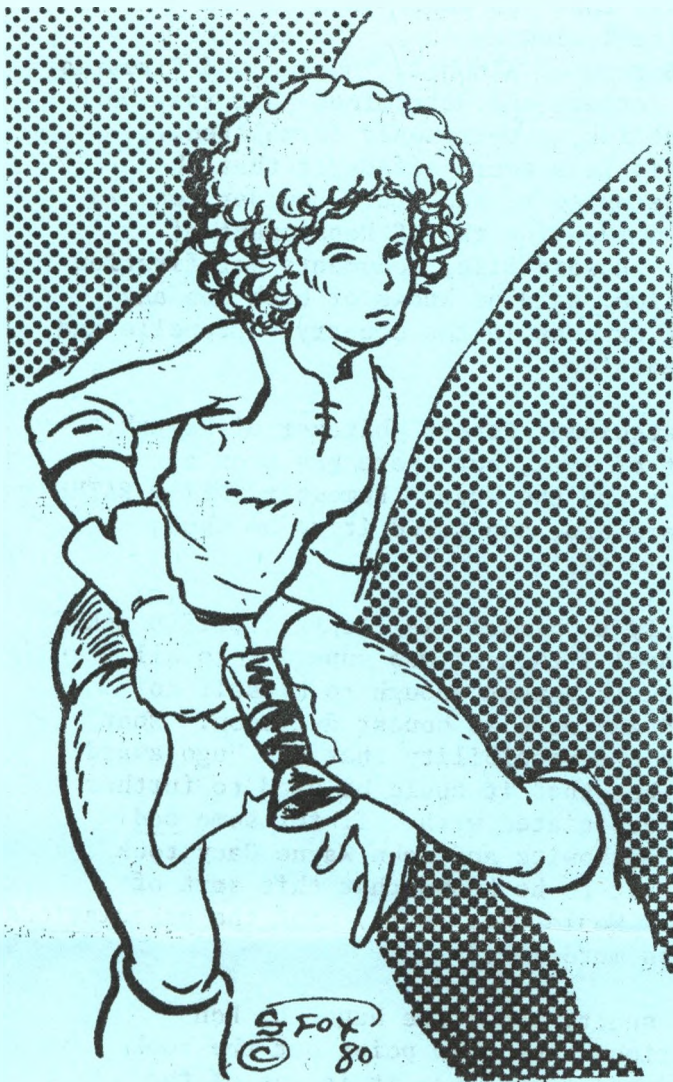
POLEMIC OF COMMENT: Contributing to the lettercolumn, Robert Whitaker of Newark, Delaware, wrote: "It might not be of interest of some, but there has been a Dianetics/Scientologist book which has already won the Hugo. Remember THEY'D RATHER BE RIGHT by Clifton and Riley? I read it years ago, and found it to be Ghod awful. I learned of its Dianetic background later.

"The question for John Hertz to answer properly to himself is 'Is BATTLEFIELD EARTH really the best novel of the year, the one novel I thought was superior to all the other novels I read this year?' I hope he is honest enough to himself to examine the other books that may be nominated and make an honest decision. What is causing concern among sf fans is not just the possibility that the Hugo award perhaps can be 'bought' and 'campaigned for', but that it could be used to further a cause that a lot of them do not want to be associated with. If for some odd reason, people like Charles Manson and David Berkowitz and John Wayne Gacy took up Scientology, would the Scientologists want it to be known that this sort of person was taking up with their organization? Would they really want the associations to be made between their Church and these mass murderers?

"....Actually, if someone wants to be really snotty about the Hugo, L. Ron Hubbard and the Dianetics/Scientology connections, let them point out the book that's already won a Hugo on the subject, and point out that it is one of the poorest novels to win such a prestigious award, and it doesn't deserve it at all when you consider that several of the best books of the 50s never won awards at all, but have grown in critical stature through the years because they deserve it, and that THEY'D RATHER BE RIGHT won only because it was serialized in ASTOUNDING, and because John W. Campbell was leaning heavily on the subject and it was on everyone's mind."

EDITORIAL REPLY: Robert, were you even born yet when THEY'D RATHER BE RIGHT won the Hugo? You strike me as rather too young to be speaking for the sf fan community of the early 1950s from anything like experience. On the other hand, Bjo Trimble reacted to my mentioning the contents of your letter by stating she knew Mark Clifton personally, and he was not a Scientologist, and she and John both knew of Frank Riley, who was once travel editor for the LA Times. They also had recently reread THEY'D RATHER BE RIGHT and disputed any Dianetics connection within the book. Meanwhile, I'd personally like to contest your simile, comparing Hubbard's re-entry to sf with infamous murderers joining Scientology. Snide bigotry isn't going to carry your point across to very many hearts.

While preparing this issue I contacted Bill Evans, Hugo voting tallyman for the 1983 Worldcon. Evans said that the nominations would not be released until the end of the month, giving time to count, and notify the nominees individually. Total ballots in categories, and voting ranges, will also be made public.



TED WHITE

THE
WAILING
WALL

INTRO: Although my policies and biases will become evident when you read the reviews which follow, there are a few things to explain this first time out. First, I shall try to review every fanzine I receive, although I will not guarantee a lengthy review where I don't think one is warranted. If I miss a fanzine you sent me, it will be due to sloppiness on my part -- I misfiled your zine (although I hope to avoid this error by putting all incoming fanzines in one place until after they've been reviewed) -- and not out of any desire on my part to slight you. Second, I am instituting a numerical rating system for both the content and the appearance of each fanzine, with 0 the lowest rating and 10 the highest -- but these ratings should be understood as a shorthand expression of my opinion, and nothing more. I do not anticipate many 10s, since I reserve that rating for my ideal, a perfect fanzine...and I think ideals, like perfection, are more often approached than achieved. Keep in mind that 5 means "average" and "average" does not mean "poor" but rather "perfectly adequate."

WARHOON 30 (Richard Bergeron, PO Box 5989, Old San Juan, PR 00905; available for The Usual or \$5.00 a copy; copies of #28 are still available for \$25.00.) This issue, the second of the post-WASH #28 incarnation, is considerably better than #29. Bergeron is an extraordinarily good fanzine editor and now he's rolling; this issue has all of the feeling of an event which was lacking in the last issue... but it's a shame it has taken a year to appear. Dave Langford has the fourth installment of his TAFF report, "TransAtlantic Hearing Aid," and Willis is represented by the second chapter of his book THE IMPROBABLE IRISH, while Patrick Nielsen Hayden debuts a new column "Rough Mix." Patrick has devoted his column to an examination of D. West's 1977 epic fanzine review article in WRINKLED SHREW #7, and Patrick's writing is the sharpest, cleanest and most incisive I've seen from him -- another sign of his continuing growth as a fan-writer. His column also serves to introduce the British West to WARHOON's audience, and is followed by "Out of the Blue", a long letter West had written in response

to my piece in the previous issue. That in turn is followed by an edited version of the letter I'd written to West after receiving a carbon of his letter, and Bergeron wraps up the entire 25 page section with five pages of his own commentary. I wish he had been content to make that his main editorial contribution, but unfortunately Bergeron devotes a lengthy section of a separate editorial to belaboring at tedious length some comments Chris Priest probably wishes he'd never written in DEADLOSS #3, more than a year ago. The issue is rounded out by more than thirty pages of letters. The letter column is tightly edited, but includes people like Chuck Harris, Vinç Clarke, Walt Willis, Bob Leman, Paul Williams, Chris Atkinson and Rick Sneary -- providing considerable time-binding and a lot of good reading in the process. A former professional graphics designer, Bergeron can usually be counted on for an excellent-looking fanzine, but this issue appears to be a transitional one in which he is developing a new graphic format, and some of the bugs need to be ironed out. Contents: 9 Appearance: 8

THE ZINE THAT HAS NO NAME #3 (Paul & Cas Skelton, 25 Bowland Close, Offerton, Stockport, Cheshire SK2 5NW United Kingdom; limited copies still available for \$1.00) Paul Skelton normally publishes SMALL FRIENDLY DOG, a personalzine, but has revived this title for a special project which might be called a commissioned fanthology. That is, he plotted out what he wanted in this volume, queried the prospective authors, and after dealing with a refusal or two, assembled this collection of new material. There is an overall theme, although I'm not sure it's nearly as obvious in the finished product as it was in the preliminary flow-charts. Eric Mayer writes about a proto-fanzine he put out in gradeschool, Marc Ortlieb revisits John Wyndham's THE MIDWICH CUCKOOS, Bob Shaw looks at the changes which have occurred in fandom over the years, Dave Langford provides the sixth installment of "TransAtlantic Hearing Aid," and I give my overview of contemporary fandom in a mere 16 pages. Obviously Skel has assembled a cast of first-rate fanwriters here, all of whom have turned out work to be proud of, and THE ZINE THAT HAS NO NAME is a fine volume. Why, then, did anyone refuse to participate in the project? The one fan with whom I've discussed that point felt that the one-shot nature of THE ZINE meant that there would be little feedback or egoboo for the contributors -- no letter column in any subsequent issue, for instance. In the brief time that THE ZINE has been in circulation, my piece has prompted mentions (both pro and con) in two fanzines, and brought me several direct letters of comment, so I can't agree with that fan's complaint. I suspect fans will be discussing THE ZINE for a good while. Contents: 8 Appearance: 5 (neat and functional)

ANSIBLE #31 (Dave Langford, 94 London Rd., Reading, Berks. RG1 5AU, United Kingdom; available for \$3.00 for eight issues, US subs to Mary and Bill Burns, 23 Kensington Ct., Hampstead NY 11550) ANSIBLE is a Brit newzine which offers double columns of tiny type full of pro news and con reports, with more fannish news in larger type in the letter pages. Sly, solid, and full of delightful surprises like Harry Harrison and John Brunner conducting silly feuds, to say nothing of the latest news about Ben Bova and whether he quit (he says) or was fired (they say) from OMNI. FILE 770 uses ANSIBLE as a source, so you know it's good. Contents: 6 Appearance: 5

HOLIER THAN THOU #15 (Marty & Robbie Cantor, 5263 Riverton Ave. #1, North Hollywood CA 91601; available for The Usual, \$1.50 a copy, or three issues for \$4.00) This issue Marty has added his new wife, Robbie, to the masthead, and she bodes well for HTT. Robbie contributes a sensible editorial and a number of sensible editorial comments in the letter column, and has stencilled half the issue (her half being noticeably less typoed) but it's early yet to see how she will influence the overall editorial policy and tone of HTT, although I hope for a gradual waning of Marty's emphasis on "putrid" humor. This issue lacks several features of past

issues -- notably the recycled discussion of New Wave SF by Nicholas and Schweitzer, Andruschak's column, and several other contributors noted mainly for "putridity" -- and pursues overall a more serious tone, evenly split between fannish and nonfannish topics. In response to Mike Glycer's call in his column for a modern letterzine like MYTHLOGIES, zEEn, or KIPPLE, Marty points to the 40-page lettercolumn in HTT (which occupies half the issue). Past HTTs have been notable for lettercolumns which sprawled in every direction, but Marty (and perhaps Robbie) is now editing the letters more tightly to HTT's advantage. Terry Carr points out that HTT is a lot like the old CRY (OF THE NAMELESS) and I agree. It's solidly in the mainstream of fandom but rarely offers anything outstanding in the way of writing or art. Still, the zine continues to develop and that's encouraging.
Contents: 5 Appearance: 5 (clean production marred by art of varying quality.)

MICROWAVE 4 (Terry Hill, 41 Western Rd., Maidstone, Kent ME 16 8NE United Kingdom; available for the usual) Terry Hill is a British collector and sf bibliophile who rediscovered Vinç Clarke for modern fandom and in the process was bitten by the fanzine bug. MICROWAVE is the curious result: a timebinding Brit fanzine in which contributions by old-time Britfen like Sid Birchby, Clarke, Harry Turner and Atom give it the feel and look of the 50s. This issue even has a piece by Lee Hoffman. This renaissance of 50s Britfen has caused some friction with modern Britfen, although nothing like the anti-Sixth Fandom outcry here. With each issue Hill learns a little more about editing a fanzine, with the result that MICROWAVE has improved steadily since its first issue. Content: 5 Appearance: 5

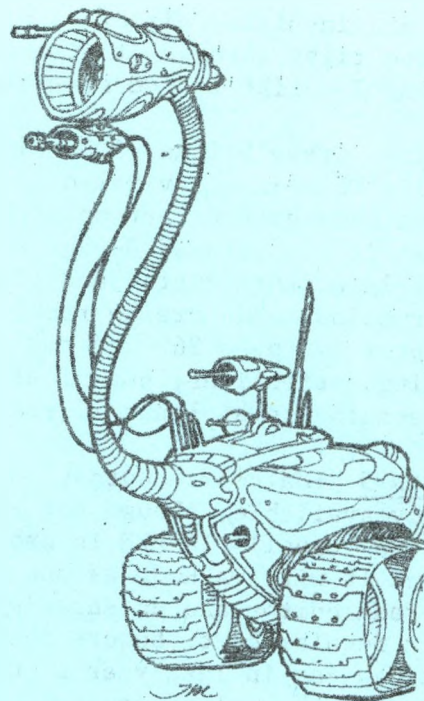
SHAMANA LIONESS 15 (Anne Laurie Logan, PO Box 191, East Lansing MI 48823; available to "those who deserve it") This is Anne Laurie's personalzine, and I don't know how widely available it may be, but since she sends it to me in trade for my zines I assume it's not tightly restricted. This issue is notable for, among other things, a lot of personal decorations with rubber stamps, a tipped-in card, and the news that HARLOT #5 will be the last joint Logan-Avedon fanzine. Logan's writing seems to have improved a lot with this issue and her layouts are both functional and attractive, making this an appealing and rewarding zine. Contents: 6 Appearance: 6

QUODLIBET 18 (Bill Patterson, 537 Jones St. #9943, San Francisco CA 94102; available for The Usual only) Here's a queer fanzine: usually six to twelve pages, but occasionally longer (this issue is 42 pages), printed offset from double-columned type produced by a word-processor, QUODLIBET is an idiosyncratic personalzine-cum-discussionzine in which editor Patterson talks about sf, politics, fandom, cooking, movies, and indeed, virtually any other topic which interests him, and argues with his readers -- and somehow the zine seems to come out monthly. Why hasn't Bill Patterson already taken over fandom? I think it's because it hasn't occurred to him yet. He seems to prefer erudite debate on esoteric points -- this issue includes a long discussion ranging over several letters with Malcolm Edwards (who provides Bill a good foil) -- and a quirky atmosphere strangely redolent of the FAPA braintrust of the 40s pervades this zine. Contents: 6 Appearance: 5 (mostly type, but more attractive than that provided by most word processors)

STILL IT MOVES 3 (Simon Ounsley, 21 The Village Street, Leeds LS4 2 PR, United Kingdom; available for The Usual) Simon Ounsley is one of the best of the as-yet-unsung Brit fanwriters and a good editor as well. SIM is a genzine which seems to avoid the controversial in favor of the solidly-written, and has developed solidly since its first issue, and if only Simon numbered the pages I'd be completely happy with it. Contents: 6½ Appearance: 5 (functional)

A FAN TYPOLOGY -or- WHAT I SEE ON THE ELEVATORS (Beth Lillian & Charlie Williams, 102 S. Mendenhall #13, Greensboro NC 27403; available for \$1.75) This is an offset

12-page (including covers) "anthropological study of fandom" written by Beth and illustrated by Charlie. Eighteen "types" of fan are satirically described and illustrated. Williams' illos are adequate if not great, but this collection offers little insight into the various species that now make up fandom, going mostly for the obvious and typical. I'm not sure that a 12-page publication is worth \$1.75, but it may have cost that much to produce. Contents: 4 Appearance: 7



VOICE IN THE DARK & FANZINE FANATIQUE (Keith Walker, 6 Vine St., Greaves, Lancaster LA1 4UF United Kingdom; apparently available by request or trade) Keith Walker is Britain's perennial neofaneditor. For years he's been putting out scrappy, sloppy, incoherent fanzines of dubious quality. FANZINE FANATIQUE is his regular zine, a British WoFan, in which he lists all the fanzines he gets with one-sentence descriptions. This issue (typically, it is unnumbered and equally typically has no colophon) in addition to the fanzine listings, has two reprinted articles. Vince Clarke's 1956 "Duplicating Without Tears" is photocopied from its original appearance, making it considerably more attractive than the rest of this 12-page zine; too bad Walker apparently didn't bother reading Clarke's advice. (Only the first part appears here. Additional parts are promised for future issues.) The second reprint is "Treatment and Prevention of Gafia," a slight piece of early 50s fan humor by Bill Venable, reprinted from Venable's TYRANN (typoed here as TYRRANY). If not for these two pieces this zine would earn a Contents rating of 1. (VOICES IN THE DARK is a half-size collection of poems from DARK HORIZONS, the journal of the British Fantasy Society, messily xeroxed and limited to 50 copies, of which mine was unnumbered. *Sigh*....) Contents: 3 Appearance: 1

THE DILLINGER RELIC 26 (Arthur Hlavaty, 819 W. Markham Ave., Durham NC 27701; available by editorial whim) This is what DIAGONAL RELATIONSHIP turned into, preserving intact both its numbering and initials. Like QUODLIBET, DR is produced on a word processor and double-columned, printed either by offset or xerox (it's hard to tell these days, especially with xeroxed offset mats...) and like Q, DR is a personalzine, reflecting its editor's preoccupations in a semi-diary format. Unfortunately, Hlavaty hasn't nearly as attractive a typeface for his word processor, and he writes less engagingly than Patterson, although I can't help wondering what would happen if the two met since they share some interests and both enjoy spirited discussions). My complaints of almost two years ago when I last reviewed DR no longer apply. This DR is less pretentious, more purely a personalzine, and has forsaken the pontificating of the earlier DR's formal articles in favor of journalistic observations. But I confess that I find it hard to accept Arthur as someone of my own age; he reads to me like someone in his fourth year of college. Contents: 5 Appearance: 4 (mostly unattractive type.)

LOVE'S PRURIENT INTEREST (Cathy Ball, 712 North Stewart, Norman OK 73071; "all fanzines welcome at this address;" no other means of availability given) This is a sixteen-page (plus covers) half-size pamphlet, each page a reduced full-size page, printed by offset and containing an eight-chapter story, "Love's Prurient Interest." Despite the title, it's fiction about fans, an allegory about a female fan named Fervent Hope attending her first convention. While not really

very distinguished either as fiction or as a fannish allegory, I found myself reading right through it with a smile on my face. I think most fans will enjoy it, and I'd like to see more from Cathy Bell. Contents: 5 Appearance: 5

SAM 15 (Steve Stiles, 3003 Ellerslie Ave., Baltimore MD 21218; available for the Usual) This is a revival of a 60s fanzine which Steve put out before he was a Famous Underground Cartoonist and a contributor to HEAVY METAL. In its current format it's a xeroxed 8-page personalzine vaguely in the format of the late PONG, entirely editor-written and illustrated. Stiles learned to write in SAM's first incarnation, and here he rambles amiably on a variety of topics, including "Chapter 37, page 268" of his never-completed TAFF report, "Harrison Country." Nothing pretentious, but nicely enjoyable, and very welcome -- being Stiles' first non-apazine in at least 10 years. Contents: 5 Appearance: 6

TAPPEN 5 (Malcolm Edwards, 28 Duckett Rd., London N4 1BN, United Kingdom; "mysteriously available, though not as frequently or widely as it might be," probably for the Usual) TAPPEN is probably the best fanzine coming out of the UK right now. I rank it with WARHOON as one of the two best coming from anywhere. Malcolm is a top-rank editor and an engaging commentator. His material ties each issue together. Other regular contributors include Chris Atkinson (who won both Best Fanwriter and Best New Fan in last year's PONG Poll) and Leroy Kettle (who contributes a humorous column of scandalous gossip), and both are in this issue along with semi-regular Chris Evans, but it is D. West who dominates the issue with his 35-page tour-de-force "Performance." I admit to a slight case of pique here: West totally upstaged my own piece in THE ZINE THAT HAS NO NAME (although the two pieces were reviewed as a "dialogue" in TYPERS 3). West's epic divides itself into sections of conreport (trenchantly reported) and sections of didactic fan philosophizing, usually in counterpoint. West looks upon fandom much as Barry Malzberg does science fiction: something at once fascinating and repelling and ultimately not to be left alone for very long. West's opinions are often off the wall, but he argues them with such brilliance that it often obscures the occasional dubiousness of his positions. This is obviously the piece of fanwriting of the year (although whether the year is 1982 or 1983 will depend on when you got your issue). Almost as lagniappe, Kettle skewers "fat American twerp Brian Earl Brown," in "Brian Transplant," the successor to "Open Flie." Contents: 9 Appearance: 6

What's this? Five pages and I've done less than half the stack? Let's just quickly mention CRAB DROPPINGS, Simon Ounsley's zippy li'l zine; ETERNITY ROAD, Larry Carmody's ditto; GRUNGE, a neozine from Sean Abley (who should stop double-spacing his lines); NOTHING LEFT TO THE IMAGINATION, Alina Chu and Teresa Minambres' gossypzine; SECOND-HAND WAVE from Jimmy Robertson (solid; deserves a review next time); Avedon's BLATANT, Rob Hansen's EPSILON; the fourth and long delayed FANHISTORICA; the new offset IZZARD; and much, much more. I can see how this could get out of hand!

-- Ted White

((EDITOR'S FOOTNOTE: "The Usual" is fanzine editors' shorthand notifying the initiated that a publication may be obtained in exchange for other fanzines, in return for a letter of comment on the previous issue, or for a contribution of written material or artwork.))

THE JERRY KAUFMAN BLURB: "New MAINSTREAM almost finished. Lots of BEST OF SUSAN WOODS left at \$2.00 each. (4326 Winslow Place N., Seattle WA 98103) Seattle still trying for Publishing Capital status with three new zines this year: INSCAPE, RHETORICAL DEVICE, SOME LUCK/IT FIGURES and plans for another FANTHOLOGY volume, this time by Shelly Dutton and Lucy Huntzinger. We've been asked to do THE ENCHANTED DUPLICATOR at Baltimore (yes, during the Worldcon). Richard Kearns, so far as we know, still has the video tape of last year's performance, and still won't send it back. It was sent to him by mistake, instead of a tape of his own reading."

CONVENTION LIST

DISCLAVE : (May 27-30) Twin Bridges Marriott Hotel, Washington DC 20024. (202)628-4200
GoHs: George R. R. Martin, Jack Gaughan, Rooms: \$48 sgl/dbl. Art show, huckster room, costume ball, and "The International Cookie Conspiracy," chaired by Alexis Gilliland who writes: "The enclosed /Disclave flyer/ is self-explanatory. Perhaps it will count as news. Certainly, Alan Huff, this year's con chairman has been very relaxed about getting the word out." Yeah, I guess so -- it wasn't even in the February LOCUS. Memberships: \$10 til 4/30, \$13 after. To: Ross Oliver, Disclave Registrar, 9408 Michael Drive, Clinton MD 20735.

QUESTICON 3: (May 28-30) Travelodge Central, El Paso TX
GoH: Andrew J. Offutt. Thieves' World format (to Andy's knowledge, the first time this has been tried). Memberships \$15. Dealer's tables \$25. To: Carol Smith, 903 Bellas Artes, El Paso TX 79912.

SWAMPCON 4: (May 27-29) Sheraton Hotel, Baton Rouge LA.
GoH: Jo Clayton, George Alec Effinger. Fan GoH: John Newman & his pet Dalek. Rooms: \$55/sgl, \$65/dbl. Membership: \$17 including banquet, \$10 not including banquet, \$6 daily. Dealer's tables: \$6 first, \$4 others. Prices til May 1, then \$20 membership & banquet, \$12 for dieters... To: BRSFL SWAMPCON, PO Box 14238, Baton Rouge LA 70898

CONQUEST IV+10: (May 27-29) Howard Johnson's Central, Kansas City MO
Pro: Kate Wilhelm. Fan: Ken Moore. Rooms: \$27/sgl, \$37/dbl. TM: John Kessel. Dealer tables including 1 membership: \$20. To: ConQuest IV+10, PO Box 36212, KC MO 64111

ULTRACON '83: (May 27-29) Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles CA
Media con. Info: 8306 Wilshire Blvd. Ste. 1035, Beverly Hills CA 90211.

DEEPSOUTHCON 21 (SATYRICON II): (June 3-5) Hyatt Regency, 500 Hill Ave SE, Knoxville TN
GoHs: Stephen King, Karl Edward Wagner, Guy Lillian III, Doug Chaffee, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro. TM: Barb Wagner. Rooms: \$48 sgl/dbl. Stephen King film festival, Art Show and auction, con suite. Artists contact Charlie Williams, 4314 Hayes Ave., Knoxville TN 37912. Hucksters contact Dick Lynch, 4207 Davis Lane, Chattanooga TN 37416. (\$25 first table, \$20 etc.) Memberships: \$15 til May 1, \$18 after. To: Satyricon II, PO Box 16140 UT Station, Knoxville TN 37996.

STAR TREK HOUSTON '83: (June 2-5) Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dallas TX.
GoH: James Doohan. Rooms: \$50/sgl, \$60/dbl. Memberships \$20 (3-day). To: Syndicate Inc., PO Box 31309, Dallas TX 75231.

WINDYCON: (June 3-6) Waterloo Hotel, Wellington N.Z. 1983 New Zealand Nation SF Convention. Memberships: NZ\$20 attending. To: Windycon, Box 6655, Te Aro, Wellington NZ

X-CON 7: (June 10-12) Olympia Resort & Spa, Oconomowoc WI
Pro: Poul Anderson. Fan: David Egge. Rooms: \$58/sgl, \$62/dbl. Memberships: \$10 til 5/10, \$15 after. Hucksters: \$15/table. To: X-Con, PO Box 7, Milwaukee WI 53201.

MILLENIUM: (June 10-12) Skyline Hotel, 655 Dixon Road, Toronto ONT M9W 1J4 Canada.
GoHs: Gordon R. Dickson, Kerry O'Quinn. Memberships: \$10 til 5/15, \$15 at door. Dealer's tables: \$20 til 5/1, \$30 at door. To: 1369 York Mills Rd., Ste. 304, Don Mills ONT M3A 2A2 Canada.

SYNCON '83: (June 10-13) Shore Motel, Artarmon (near Sydney) Australia.
22nd Australian National SF Convention. GoHs: Harlan Ellison, Van Ikin. Info: Syncon '83, PO Box A491, Sydney South 2000 NSW Australia.

VALCON 1: (June 10-12) Valparaiso University, Indiana.
Rooms: (dorm) \$20. Memberships: \$12 til 5/1, \$15 at the door. Dealer tables: \$15. To: Valcon 1, c/o Norman Doering, 190 NW Hills Dr., Valparaiso IN 46383.

WESTERCON (Westerchron) 36: (July 1-4) Red Lion Inn, San Jose CA.
Pro: Phil Klass. Artist: Alicia Austin. Fan: Tom Whitmore. TM: Damon Knight. Rooms: \$40/sgl, \$44/dbl. Info: Westerchron, 2000 Center St. #1051, Berkeley CA 94704.

INCONJUNCTION III: (July 1-3) Airport Hilton Inn, Indianapolis IN
GoHs: L. Sprague & Catherine Crook de Camp, Gordon Dickson, BJ & Beth Willinger, TM: Buck Coulson. Rooms: \$34/sgl, \$40/dbl. Program includes musical wherei n Conan meets the Dorsai, by Arlan Keith Andrews Sr. Memberships: \$9 til 4/1, \$12 til 6/15, \$15 at the door. Hucksters: \$22.50 first table (incl memb.), \$15 second, \$20

third. (There will be a quiz.) To: Circle of Janus SF Club, PO Box 224403, Indianapolis IN 46224.

EMPIRICON 4: (July 1-4) Milford Plaza Hotel, NYC NY.

GoH: Isaac Asimov. Fan: Art Saha. Rooms \$50 and up. Memberships: \$13 til 5/31, \$17 after. Dealers tables: \$45 til 3/31, \$60 (incl memb.) after. To: Empiricon 4, PO Box 682 Church St. Sta., NYC NY 10008.

ARCHON 7: (July 8-10) Chase Park Plaza Hotel, 212 N. Kingshighway, St. Louis MO

Pro: Gene Wolfe. Fan: Fred Haskell. TM: Howard Waldrop. Rooms: \$48/sgl, \$52/dbl. Memberships: \$12 til 6/1, \$18 after. Huckster tables: \$20 first, \$25 second. (no memb.) To: Archon 7, PO Box 15852, Overland MO 63114.

RIVERCON 8: (Jul 15-17) Galt House Hotel, Louisville KY

Info: Rivercon 8, PO Box 8251, Louisville KY 40208.

UNICON: (July 15-17) Washington DC.

GoH: Joan Vinge, Teana Lee Byerts, Jim Frenkel. Fan: Mike Walsh. Memberships: \$9 til 6/30, \$15 at the door. To: Unicon, PO Box 263, College Park MD 29740.

OKon '83: (July 15-17) The Excelsior, Tulsa, OK.

GoHs: Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle. TM: Gordon Dickson. Artists: Dell Harris, Real Musgrave. Fan: Marty Burke. Held in conjunction with Filkcon East '83, special guest Bill Maraschiello. Memberships: \$8.50 (3-day rate) til 6/30. To: OKon '83, PO Box 4229, Tulsa OK 74104.

MAPLECON 5: (July 15-17) Carleton University, Ottawa ONT Canada

SF & comics con. Rooms: FRI - \$24.85/sgl, \$18.45/dbl. SAT - \$29.50/sgl, \$22.75/dbl. Includes 5 meals, but not the tax... Memberships: \$12 til 4/15, \$15 after. To: Maplecon 5, PO Box 3156, Stn D, Ottawa ONT K1P 6H7 Canada.

SPOKON '83: (July 15-17) Sheraton Spokane Hotel, WA

GoH: David Eddings. Fan: Jon Gustafson. TM: F.M. Busby. Memberships: \$12 til 6/1, \$15 after. Make checks payable to S.A.I.F. To: 11210 E. Broadway, Spokane WA 99206.

PARACON VI: (July 29-31) Sheraton Penn State, State College PA.

GoHs: Ben Bova, Virginia Kidd. Memberships: \$10 til 6/30, \$13 at door. Hucksters tables \$25. To: PO Box 1156, State College PA 16801.

ATLANTA FANTASY FAIR: (August 5-7) Omni Hotel & World Congress Center, Atlanta GA

Guests: Chuck Jones, Wendy & Richard Pini, Forrest J. Ackerman. Memberships: \$16 til 6/30, \$19 at door. SASE. To: PO Box 566, Marietta GA 30061.

STARCALL: (August 5-7) Rosslyn Westpark Hotel, Arlington VA.

Guests: Dickson, Clement, Freas, Gilliland, Gunn, Chalker, Sucharitkul. Memberships: \$15 til 5/1, \$20 til 8/1, \$25 at door. Dealer's tables: \$25. To: Int'l Star Foundation, 225 Church St. NE, Vienna VA 22180.

MYSTICON 2.5: (August 12-14) Jefferson Inn, Roanoke VA.

Info: PO Box 1367, Salem VA 24153.

MYTHOPOEIC CONFERENCE: (August 12-15) Scripps College, Claremont CA.

Theme: "Mythic Structures in Tolkien, Lewis & Williams." GoHs: Stephen R. Donaldson, C.S. Kilby (Tolkien & Lewis scholar). Memberships: \$15 til 4/30, then \$20. Room & board package: \$79 (includes Medieval Feast, ook ook). To: Mythopoeic Conference XIV, PO Box 711, Seal Beach CA 90740.

CONSTELLATION - 41st WorldCon: (September 1-5) Baltimore Convention Ctr., MD

Pro: John Brunner. Fan: Dave Kyle. TM: Jack Chalker. Info: PO Box 1046, Baltimore MD 21203.

MOSCON V: (Sept. 23-25) Cavanaugh's Motor Inn, Moscow ID

Pros: Fritz Leiber, Kelly Freas. Fan: Georges Giguere. Sunday brunch, Lensman awards, Jacuzzi Party. Memberships: \$12 til 7/1, \$15 after and at the door. To: MosCon V, PO Box 8521, Moscow ID 83843.

AD ASTRA III: (Sept. 23-25) Cara Inn, Airport Rd., Toronto ONT Canada

Pro: Ben Bova. Fan: Ken Fletcher. Memberships: C\$12 til 9/1, \$15 at the door. To: Ad Astra III, PO Box 7276 Stn A, Toronto ONT M5W 1X9 Canada.

SPYCON I: (Sept. 23-25) Sheraton-Naperville Hotel, 1801 N. Naper Blvd., Naperville IL.

The first convention devoted to secret agents, spies, special agents. Dealer

room, film room (lots of UNCLE), art show, come as your favorite spy party. Memberships: \$10 til 4/30, \$15 til 9/10, \$18 at door. Dealer's tables, \$25 (incl memb.) To: Susan Cole, 2710 Rohlwing Rd., Rolling Meadows IL 60008.

QUESTCON: (Oct. 1-2) Gainesville Hilton Hotel, Gainesville FL.

Guests: David Palmer, Joe Haldeman, Kay Reynolds, Richard & Wendy Pini. Elfquest slide show, pointy ear competition, art show. Memberships: \$5. Dealer's tables: \$42. To: Questcon, PO Box 1150, Gainesville FL 32602.

NONCON 5: (Oct. 7-9) Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Pro: Orson Scott Card. Info: Noncon 5, Box 475 Stn. G, Calgary ALTA T3A 2G4 Canada.

WINDYCON X: (Oct. 7-9) Arlington Park Hilton, outside Chicago IL.

GoHs: George R.R. Martin, Victoria Poyser. SMOF GoH: Ben Yalow. TM: Wilson Tucker. Two tracks of programming, new production by Chicago Moebius Theater, famous brown paper bag masquerade. Memberships: \$12 til 9/15, then higher. To: Windycon X, PO Box 432, Chicago IL 60690.

WORLD FANTASY CON: (Oct. 28-30) Marriott O'Hare Hotel, Chicago IL.

GoHs: Gene Wolfe, Manley Wade Wellman, Rowena Morrill. TM: Robert Bloch. Rooms: \$65/sgl, \$75/dbl. Memberships (limited to 750, sort of): \$30 til 5/31, \$35 later. Dealers tables: \$50. To: PO Box 423, Oak Forest IL 60452.

ORYCON 5: (Nov. 11-13) Portland Hilton Hotel, Portland OR.

GoH: Octavia Butler. Memberships: \$12 til 5/31, \$15 til 10/31. To: PO Box 14727, Portland OR 97214.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Ed Glaser 1040 S. Fairfax Ave. #142, Los Angeles CA 90035

Joe Marek 2320 E Street, Omaha, NE 68107

David Singer & Diane Goldman 3271 NW 28th Terrace, Boca Raton FL 33432

Sally Fink & George Paczolt 326 Westgate Drive, Johnstown PA 15905

Mike Rogers PO Box 19933, Atlanta GA 30325

Cynthia & David Manship 615 ACWS Box 5282, APO NY 09305

Dan Goodman PO Box 809, Minneapolis MN 55440

Terry Garey 2528 15th Ave. South, Minneapolis MN 55404 (April 30 per D. Goodman)

MINN-STF PUBLISHING EMPIRE SPLITS: "I am the new editor of EINBLATT, the Minn-Stf newszine," announces Dan Goodman. "The schedule is being changed from irregular to monthly." Goodman reports that Erik Biever and M.K. Digre are the new editors of RUNE, and will be EINBLATT's publishers, because, explains Dan, "they have several mimeos each and I have none." (Visions of Kali cranking...)

DOWN UNDER FAN FUND administrator Joyce Scrivner alters me that the race will conclude at the end of the month. Of the 70 ballots she'd receive in late February, about 10 were sent in on forms provided by FILE 770. Presumably HOGU Nominations will reflect a higher percentage of forms provided by F770 since I print most of the ones extant... (Yes, thank you, INSTANT MESSAGE, for copying them last year.)

FRIENDS OF BOB, PLEASE SKIP: "Remember the fake Robert Heinlein party at worldcon Chicago?" reminisces Dana Siegel. "Well, Andy Porter has decided to 'punish' me (he said, in the hope that I would learn my lesson) -- vain hope! So the con you printed for April Fool's weekend with my telephone number and address is a hoax. Of course, as long as you're in on the secret, you don't have to let anyone else know I won't be there." Jeeves -- unpack my bags!

THE FAN FUND OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (FFANZ) has been launched, to initially send a New Zealander to Australia. The winner's destination, and voting deadline, were undisclosed by THYME 22, but candidates are Nigel Rowe, Michelle Muysert, Graham Ferner and Tom Cardy. \$200, Australia, has reportedly raised already.

GEORGE FLYNN'S BOSKONE DIARY

UNEXPURGATED!!?

((EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION: Boskone is the regional science fiction convention staged by NESFA, the New England Science Fiction Association, over President's Day Weekend. The following is a Flynn's-eye view of how one convention committeeman spent the week -- a report that's rare in its skillful reconstruction of the problem-handling atmosphere that permeates a big con. ~~Also at \$1 con.~~))

TUESDAY: Word reaches us that the Star Wars Fan Club has sent out 2000 or 3000 (I heard both figures) notices to all their members in New England, telling them about the RETURN OF THE JEDI presentation at Boskone and giving the misinformation that one-day "tickets" will be available for \$10.

Subdued panic ensues, and all attendance projections are rethought. (I found out about this when the mother of one of the recipients managed to get my phone number through a chain of referrals. The conversation was a rather confused one, especially in that she read the words "SF convention" to me as "Star Wars convention". I always suspected these people couldn't read, but I didn't know it was hereditary.)

WEDNESDAY: I was at an Art Show meeting at the Clerk's when word came that Logistics had introduced an 11-foot-high truck to a 10-foot-high tree branch: the truck was now a convertible. (Even after they spent three hours bending the roof back down, it was still an awesome sight. As it happened, I spent an hour or two inside that truck the next afternoon, as we rushed to load it before the rain ruined things.) At this point the GoH was dead, the Chairman had laryngitis, and 2000 media fans might be showing up; I was prepared to hear next that the hotel had been struck by a meteorite.

THURSDAY: I may have been the first of the committee to show up; at least I sat around the lobby for some time before anyone else was visible. In the course of the day I worked an hour or two on the aforesaid truck, over an hour assembling Art Show hangings, about three hours helping out in Operations, etc. Various things were late: Program Books arrived Friday morning, Boskone Book dust jackets Saturday (I think) - and the committee mailboxes for HQ were a magnificent construction job, but unfortunately didn't show up until late Saturday. *Sigh*

FRIDAY: Got back to the hotel about 9AM and checked in. I was on the Art Show staff, and spent most of the day helping to get it organized. (Oh, yes, the list of disasters above omitted the artwork demolished by UPS.) As usual some artists showed up hours too late (as usual this had been allowed for) and some not at all. Heard that preregistration was about 100 higher than previously indicated, apparently due to the late addition of freebies; up go the projections again. Statistics: 1746 prereg (HELMUTH #1), 1882 arrivals by Friday night (HELMUTH #3). Fear spreads that over 700 will show up Saturday (I strongly doubted this but didn't have data



to disprove it), while we had only 2600 badges and Program Books. Proposal to cut-off on registration is beaten back, but Operations gleefully made contingency plans to have committee members turn in their badges (with committee ribbons defined as equivalent to badges). As it turned out, only 2408 showed up by Saturday night (HELMUTH #5); total attendance couldn't have been much over this (I have a note that there were 869 paid at-the-door registrations), though there is still much confusion on the subject -- hard numbers later I hope. (My prediction a week and a half earlier was 2430 attendance; should have stuck by it.) Oh yes, parties: we'd arranged for the con suite and the major bidding parties to be in function rooms on the fourth floor (which we totally occupied, so nobody could be disturbed). On Friday night there were parties for Austin, Detroit, and NY in '89. (The only other party I found that night was the private one in Dave Hartwell's room, but that was more interesting anyway.)

???: Can't recall if it was Friday or Saturday night that Bob Hillis (no, there wasn't a Columbus party) caught up with me and delivered the painting I won in the Chicon raffle. You may recall that they raffled off two Freas paintings, one for attendees at large, and the other for staff. Apparently the winning ticket for the latter belonged to somebody at so high a level that they shouldn't have been eligible, so at a meeting in January they held another drawing -- and I got a phone call from Larry Propp that I'd won. It's the finished artwork for the Chandler half of the Chicon book.

SATURDAY: Being one of those insane people who get up early even at a con, I had the morning shift on the Art Show desk. Got off at noon and attended the opening ceremonies, where I learned I'd won an honorable mention in the filksong contest ("Cthulhu, the Great Old One", to the tune of "Puff, the Magic Dragon"; I understand all NESFA Anthems were disqualified), and Fred Pohl's eulogy of Mack Reynolds. Later helped carry the Wendy Pini Retrospective (an exhibit of her earlier work assembled from mostly-local owners) to the room where she was supposed to talk about it but mostly discussed other things (like how she flunked painting in college). For the next several hours I actually managed to spend my time socializing with people. Back to the Art Show at 9:00, though; the Art Show staff generally took a rather dim view of the official judges' choices, so we spent the next three hours (interrupted by a fire alarm that turned out to be false) arguing about our choices for Best in Show. This night the bidding party space was assigned to New York, Philadelphia, and Atlanta in '86; NY and Atlanta had halves of the same very long room, with a "Mason-Dixon Line" in masking tape drawn down the middle. (Many attendees seemed to have been confused by this.)

SUNDAY: The day got off to a good start when it took me 40 minutes to get breakfast in McDonald's. Potential crises seem to have been generally averted: in particular the clustering of parties helped produce a very quiet night. (After the fire alarm, that is.) I spent most of the day working on the Art Show again. In the afternoon worked the charge desk (phoning to see whether credit cards were good for the amount purchased) at Art Show sales; this was very slow ("It's too quiet; I don't like it"), and we speculated that sales were down because of the recession; no firm figures yet, though. Went to the gripe session, where, as usual, there were more convention staff than ordinary attendees. No outrageous complaints come to mind. (At least this year somebody complained that the huckster's room didn't have enough books, rather than vice-versa.) Made it to MITSFS meeting (one man said it was the first he'd been to since 1956, and they hadn't changed a bit) where a ritual motion to condemn NESFA was passed. Settled down in the committee den and helped Rick Katze assemble his list of things to do differently next year. (My own suggestion was to abolish films and non-book dealers.)

MONDAY: We relaxed too soon: in mid-morning hotel security started knocking on



My story - predictable!?
Impossible! Even I didn't
know the ending till I got
to the last page!

room doors (in the committee block, yet), asking how many people were in the room and sending those with crashers to the desk to pay more. Ben Yalow diverted them by pointing out they'd "just disturbed the President of our corporation" (true), and we kept them talking for the half hour needed to reach a responsible person in Convention Services. Things smoothed over -- for this year. Otherwise we spent the day winding down as usual.... I think it was this day that Paul Schauble (who brought the Phoenix in '87 flyers) asked for my advice on the proper distribution of Worldcon profits: it seems that the other Phoenix in '87 committee are bidding to get money for a clubhouse... (Don't ask me for details of all this: I said I already knew more than I wanted to about Phoenix fanpolitics.) Eventually the Chairman took a band of survivors out to dinner, we returned for a film program in

the den (including the "Dr. Who" commercials Prime Computer made in Australia, a big hit at the con.) I went home.

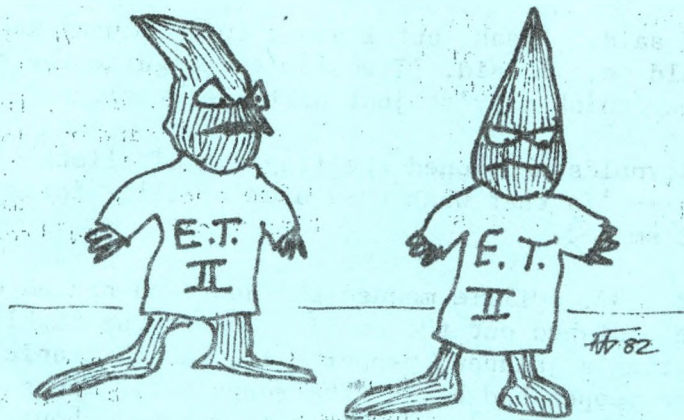
TUESDAY: One of the problems with being unemployed is that you have no good excuse not to keep showing up as long as a con is still functioning. So I returned to the hotel again (for the sixth straight day) and helped to clean up the office, count the tips for the hotel staff, etc. (By the way, since at-the-door registration was \$19, we gave change using Eisenhower dollars, so the hotel could see our people were spending money there -- last year it was \$18 and we used \$2 bills). The remainder of the supply went into the tip envelopes) The few of us left finally dispersed in front of the hotel at about 5:30 PM (last year it was 4:20). Went home and collapsed.

CONFUSION THROUGH THE EYES OF TEXAS: (January 28-30) Robert Taylor and Willie Siros of the Austin in '85 NASFiC bid attended Confusion 101 in Plymouth, Michigan, to participate in a panel with rival bids Detroit and Columbus. Robert Taylor files this con report:

"Confusion 101 drew an estimated 750 people to the Plymouth Hilton Inn. The convention, ably chaired by Tara Edwards, was presented by the Ann Arbor Science Fiction Association in cooperation with the University of Michigan's Stilyagi Air Corps. C. J. Cherryh was Guest of Honor, Bill Cavin was Fan Guest of Honor and Ted Reynolds was Toastmaster. Other pros in attendance included Stephen Leigh, Phyllis and Alex Eisenstein, and Mike Resnick. Bob Tucker was still nursing a broken foot and didn't make it to the convention.

"The convention staff was without exception efficient, friendly and helpful. The programming, in general, started on time and covered a number of interesting subjects from 'Computerized SF' to a seminar on 'Ice Hauling'. There was -- filksinging, a computer room, a very nice hucksters' room (any dealers' room with Howard DeVore, Rusty Hevelin and Dick Spelman is always nice), a well-run art show, a snow creature contest that suffered from a lack of material; lots of parties, and many other enjoyable events.

IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO MAKE SENSE...
IT'S A DISGUISE!



Willie and I were rather nervous about attending a convention where we wouldn't really know anyone. And since we were taking our bid into the backyard of a competing city we were afraid that no one would come to our bidding party, that our buttons and flyers would be ignored or rejected and that we would be just left out in the cold. All our nervous fears were quite groundless. For us, the special and remarkable qualities of fandom were reaffirmed by ConFusion. We felt like neofans again being overwhelmed by the wonder of everything, especially the warmth of the people, the sense of community and the fun atmosphere. The hugs and smiles helped a lot, too.

"After the opening ceremonies, Willie Siros headed for the international premiere of 'FAANS', a Spare Chaynge Production by Larry Tucker. The premiere had spot-lights, an MC and the cast and crew were decked out in tuxedos and evening gowns. The plot concerns a hotel detective, aided by Uncle Albert, attempting to solve a bizarre mystery during a science fiction convention. Willie found the film quite enjoyable with the proper amount of fannish silliness like lime jello, various puns and sight gags. There were walk-throughs by Bob Tucker, Howard DeVore and Mike Glicksohn. A good time was had by all, both on the screen and in the audience.

"I visited the Detroit in '85 party and met some very fine folks, Dan Story, Carol Lynn and Steve Simmons. We talked about various aspects of the NASFiC: attendance, eliminating supporting memberships, size of the masquerade, etc. The Columbus people, Mark Evans, Larry Smith, Bob Hillis, and Liz Gross, dropped in a little later and the SMOFing began in earnest. Actually the Detroit and Columbus folks were SMOFing, Willie and I don't even come close to SMOFdom. /SMOF = Secret Master of Fandom: ed./ It was a very informative talk for me.... I felt it would be quite easy to keep the bidding good-natured and friendly, which is something we feel very strongly about in Texas and I got the same impressions from the other bids.

"Saturday afternoon was a blur. I remember making a food run for supplies, starting the chili, putting out the usual Chamber of Commerce propaganda material, scattering hotel brochures along with chips and dips around the room, placing the Holy Floor Plans of the Hyatt Regency in a place of honor, taking a quick shower and running to the banquet in time for the salad.

"The banquet was great for several reasons. The food (roast duckling) was excellent. Ted Reynolds was most entertaining. C.J. Cherryh's speech, although

a bit rambling, was a good talk on how we get from here to there in space colonization and every table plus the podium and the cash bar had a Texas flag on it.

"'You've been busy' I said. 'Yeah, but I don't think anyone knows what they are,' Willie replied. 'Could be,' I said. 'I wouldn't recognize the state flag of Michigan.' 'Maybe they think they're just party decorations.'"

"I nodded, then Ted Reynolds mentioned the flags in his lists of announcements, and we heard someone gasp -- 'Is that what they are?' Willie folded his arms in satisfaction and just smiled.

"Our party started at 9:30. Willie manned the door and handed out pins in the shape of Texas, while I dished out the chili. One of the highlights of the party was Mike Glicksohn eating a jalapeno pepper. It was a titanic struggle, which Glicksohn won, but the pepper had him on the ropes a few times. It was an educational experience to talk with Ben Yalow, a fascinating person, about the facts and figures of running a large convention. I especially remember the warm feelings that Bill Bowers and Rusty Hevelin brought with them to the party or wherever they go. Within hours the chili was gone, the bath tub was empty, the chips and dips decimated. We had passed out hundred of buttons and pins along with the munchies and drinks. The party felt good and hearing favorable comments about it made us feel even better. We went to bed, exhausted but pleased."

COLUMBUS DISCOVERS NORTH AMERICAN

Stung by Seth Breidbart's synopsis of their bid in the F770:38 lettercolumn (so I assume), Chairman Cecilia Smith of the non-hoax Columbus in 1985 NASFiC bid (CAT-5) has written to "set the record straight." Her committee includes Mark Evans, Liz Gross, Bob Hillis, Larry Smith, Jean Airey, Barb Alexander, John Ayotte, Tom Huff, Sally Kobee-Ludwig, Van Siegling and Tom Van Horne. They're bidding for the Hyatt Regency Columbus, the Ohio Center and The Sheraton Columbus Plaza, providing 950 committed sleeping rooms, 43 small meeting rooms, 2 ballrooms, 1 exhibit center of 94,000 sq. ft.

Explains chairman Smith: "The hoax bid for Columbus (produced by Genny Dazzo, Seth Bredibart and Craig Miller) surfaced a couple of years ago at Octocon (the one in Sandusky); at the same time, there were some rumblings about bidding from the Columbus smof circle. The rumblings were kept under control because of our current involvement in EChicon IV and also because some of our members were still a little 'green'. Also, being a Worldcon widow can foster a lot of bad vibes about bidding for large conventions. After Chicon, the smoke and dust started to settle and, for the most part, our people looked good and worked well with the rest of fandom. The fateful day came while Larry was in Chicago for the first post-Chicon Board meeting (and the third consecutive wedding anniversary that Chicon had interrupted!) While he was away, I weighed all of our information on people, facilities, time, stability and money and made a few phone calls."

"The final 'go for it' decision was made at Octocon 1982 and finalized at ConClave in November. By then, we had made firm contacts with and gotten commitments from the primary and secondary hotel and the convention center. We realize that we entered the race late, but we wanted to be very sure that we had the ability to make this commitment to fandom."

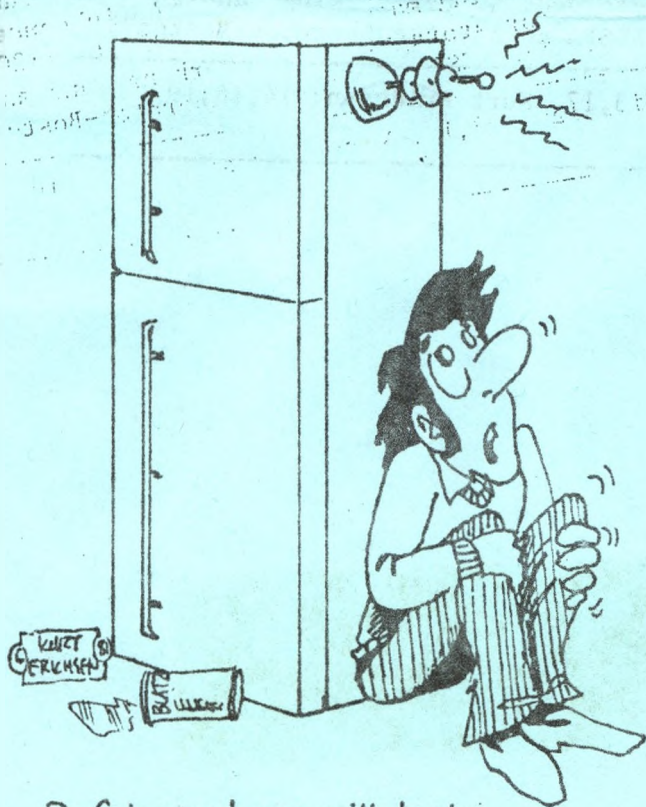
Chairman Smith explains, "Since we aren't made out of money, C-85 isn't throwing large bidding parties -- we also don't care to ask fandom for small sums of money that wouldn't count towards a membership in C-85 if we win. So, instead of large

parties we have been holding friendly open houses at various cons where fans can grab a few munchies and rest and read our information and talk to us." The Columbus in '85 bid is bucking the recent track record of successful worldcon bidders who have found throwing a large number of parties at regional conventions to be (1) an expectation imposed on them by fandom, and (2) a trial by ordeal effective in proving to fandom a committee's seriousness/competence. Naturally, the principal members of the Columbus bid are already well-known worldcon staffers, and may be taking a smaller risk than it appears.

MEANWHILE, BACK IN MICHIGAN: The Southeastern Michigan NASFiC bidders who created the Southern Michigan Organization of Fans (SMOoFF) have been keeping me posted with copies of their monthly meeting minutes. January's meeting featured "considerable discussion of whether we are the 'Detroit' or 'Dearborn' bid." They turned out to be neither, as the opening line implied. "Southeastern Michigan" bid or "Detention II" are interchangeable. GoH prospects were discussed. Nothing on that page implied any sort of restriction on printing the list -- fortunately somebody thought to postscript that SMOoFF really didn't want this laundry aired publicly after all. (Shucks).

Now, summing up the foregoing updates of three NASFiC contenders, we offer:

LIQUOR CONTROL IN THE FUTURE:



Refrigerators will lock automatically to prevent beer drinking after hours.

AVENGING AARDVARK HANDICAPS THE NASFiC — BY ROSS PAVLAC —

DETROIT: Appears to be in the lead, despite an embarrassing error in the full-page ad in the ConFusion Program Book that blared "BIDING PARTY" /sic/ in large letters. They are still playing the Dearborn Hyatt off against the Ren Cen, but it looks like the Hyatt is the only real option. An interesting note is that the Sales Manager for the Hyatt is David Casey, who was the sales manager we dealt with in Chicago during the months leading up to Chicon -- this news is of course both good and bad -- Good: he knows what an sf con is. Bad: he knows what an sf con is.

COLUMBUS: Seems to have learned from its bloody defeats over the years. Much more open door-rattling and glad-handing than was done in 1974 when Columbus last bit the dust. Bid party was good at ConFusion -- featured home-made cookies. They haven't quite corrected everything yet -- sloppy flyers (reminiscent of the low points of the ChiCon bid). Assets include: only bid with learge-scale con exper-

ience, very stable local group, and (for the first time in many years) what appears to be the best facilities! They're trailing Detroit, but closing fast.

AUSTIN. Although definitely in third place in the competition, and by far the least experienced, they put on the most polished showing at ConFusion. Willie Siros and Robert Taylor flew up from Texas, and were very visible in their stetsors and gave out lots of pins and buttons containing their very pretty Texas/armadillo logo. Their bid party featured Texas bheer (which went quickly) and three flavors of authentic Texas chili -- warm, hot, and you've-got-to-be-kidding! Their flyer was easily the best looking of the three bids, and was actually fun to read (unlike most bidding flyers I've seen). If Austin storms the con circuit this spring, they stand an outside chance of being an Iguanacon-like "sleeper" bid."

FINAL ADD, PLAGUE OF RESIGNATIONS: Rich and Angela Howell of Norcross, Georgia, resigned from the Atlanta in '86 bid some time ago, although it appears from Angela's recent apazine MASSACHUSETTS YANKEE IN KING RICHARD'S COURT #1 that their separation from the bid was effective February 1. She published her version of several incidents which take up two pages, but which may be characterized as the effects of poor communication and strife within the committee. (It is not immediately known what connection, if any, these incidents had to Frierson's semi-gafiation announced on page 2, given that he still appears to support the bid.)

QUICKIE DELIGHTS: A flyer has appeared stating "The universe listens! when Phoenix announces 1987 Worldcon. Terry Gish D.C. Dedon." // INSTANT MESSAGE #332 announces a potential offer of immediate loan financing for purchæ of a NESFA clubhouse, and that a search for an appropriate building is being made. Cost \$70,000 to \$120,000, 2000 sq. ft. for meeting room, 500 sq. ft. for storage, 50 car parking, and an office space. (Hm, does this cancel plans for NESFA to buy the Sheraton-Boston?)

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