

NO LACON GOLDRUSH

Although the item headlined "LACON II Membership Bonanza For SFWA Coffers" in the September SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE is erroneous, convention co-chairman Craig Miller is concerned that its claim that SFWA members get in free to LACON II will result in strained relations between pros and the committee.

In his open letter of August 22, Miller says, "Mr. Porter /SFC editor/ admits that the information he erroneously published he received through rumors. He did not check with the L.A.con II committee nor with SFWA."

The claim printed in SFC was "Membership in LACON II for members of the Science Fiction Writers of America will be free, according to a new policy announced by the LACON II committee. The free membership will apply to affiliate members as well as active ones, SFC has learned." SFC's point was that anyone can join SFWA as an affiliate for \$25 -- a price already below the current \$40 LACON rate.

Miller requests, "Please be advised that SFWA members are not automatically entitled to a free membership, nor are members of any other group or society. Except in special cases, all people wishing to attend the 1984 World Science Fiction Convention will have to purchase a membership. Individuals who appear on the convention's program, whether or not they are SFWA members, will have their membership fee refunded."

He adds that SFWA "Affiliate Member status was intended for editors, publishers and others with a professional interest in the science fiction field and in the welfare of its authors."



FILE 770:43

COLOPHON

FILE 770:43, August 1983, is edited by Mike Glyer, 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. The zine of news, charge and countercharge, mongers and squelchers of rumor, and hot gossip, may be obtained in the following alternative ways: (1) by subscribing \$3(US) for 5 issues -- or \$1 per copy sent air printed matter rate; (2) by arranged trade with other club and newzines; (3) through contribution of news, hot rumors, or other text and artwork. Particularly appreciated are those expensive, long-distance phone calls (not collect!) to (213) 787-5061, where the editor or his electromagnetic minion will gratefully receive your information.

ESOTERIC ORDER OF DAGON WANTS FRESH BLOOD: YOURS Quoting Tom Collins: "About a decade ago Texas Bill Wallace came up with an idea, along with fellow Texan Joe Pumilia, that there should be an apa devoted to H.P. Lovecraft, and to the entire genre of weird fiction -- Arkham House books, Robert E. Howard, etc. Today this quarterly apa continues to have the leading HPL scholars. Over the years vast amounts of data on HPL's life and work has appeared in the pages of the ESOTERIC ORDER OF DAGON, and there have been numerous reprints of rare material by HPL and other writers in the genre. One member, David Drake, has become a famous professional writer in that period and (less happily) the one friend of HPL who was a member, the late J. Vernon Shea, went to join his old acquaintance.

"Wallace and Pumilia didn't actually get the EOD fully launched. That too the determination of Roger Bryant, our first Official Editor. But lots of important work has been done within the EOD's pages since then. Now, a rare opportunity comes to join the club. Fifty copies of six pages of your writing, accompanied by \$5 for the current mailing (other back mailings, perhaps as many as ten different, are available for \$5 each). Write: Mollie Burleson, 4 Deer Run, Merrimack NH 03054."

MIDWESTERN WORLDCON BID COALESCES: Donna Sutton is chairing a St. Louis in '88 Worldcon bid, seconded by Michelle Tenny and Amy Newell-Verseman. Source Rich Zellich adds, "Other St. Louis fans are, of course, involved, but have no official committee positions yet."

DARING TO EXPLAIN PHOENIX: Passing reference to the Phoenix in '87 worldcon bid was made in previous issues. Its flyer, handed out at Westercon, advertises as bid committee: Bruce Farr (Business Mgr./Chair), Kandy Fong (Treas.), Randy Rau (Sec.), Christi Simila (Vice-Chair), Ken St. Andre, Sue Thing, Mark Christensen, Mahala Steiner, Curt Stubbs, Patti Cook, Clifton Baird, Jim Webbert. Their contact address is PO Box 27201, Tempe AZ 85282.

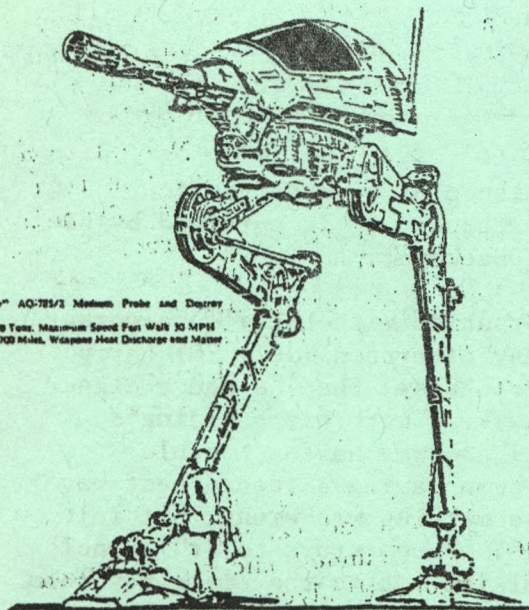
An undated letter co-signed by Terry Gish and Kandy Fong has been circulated in Phoenix, and assists in clarifying some aspects of the bid's formation: "Let's get the facts right! (1) Last year, two different groups of fans in Phoenix decided that it would really be fun to put on a Worldcon. Then, through friends and hotel negotiations they became aware of each other and talked. (2) There is one Phoenix 1987 Worldcon bid. It is headed by Bruce Farr, the committee includes Kandy Fong, Randy Rau, Christi Simula, and Ken St. Andre. (3) Terry Gish was asked to be on the Phoenix committee. She has also been asked to be on the San Diego Worldcon committee. (4) Terry has decided to wait until her Westercon bid is voted on before she decides which offer, if any, she accepts. (5) One glance at the current LepreCon committee will tell you that the rumored 'feuding' is just not happening. Terry is the chair, Kandy doing programming, Randy art show, Bruce - video, and Ken - special programming items. Some feud! Terry even asked Bruce & Kandy to do programming for Westercon if she gets the bid."

Since then, Phoenix lost its '85 Westercon bid. The Phoenix worldcon bid party held at the San Jose Westercon, which I reported in F770:42, was staged by Bruce Dane but he cautions that he is not a member of the bid. As a further footnote, Bruce Arthurs replied to a Gary Farber loc in F770:41, "Gary Farber should know better. I'll refer him back to that 12-page letter I wrote in 1980. While there are a few people in fandom whose presence on a bidding committee would make me automatically oppose such a bid, Gary isn't one of them."

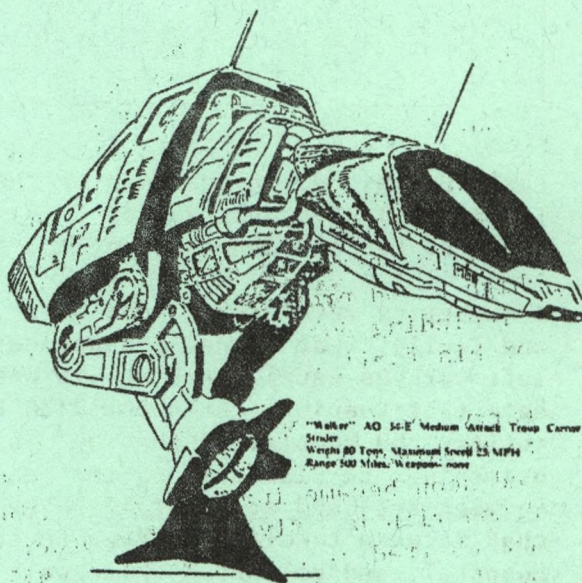
This is a Garthian Strider-
Sprinter (AO 785/2)

This is a Garthian Strider-
Walker (AO - 34E)

"Sprinter" AO-785/2 Medium Probe and Destroyer
Strider
Weight 10 Tons, Maximum Speed Fast Walk 30 MPH
Range 6-100 Miles, Weapons Heat Discharge and Matter



KUTA & SEILER VISUAL ARTS - Copyright © 1976



"Walker" AO 34-E Medium Attack Troop Carrier
Strider
Weight 80 Tons, Maximum Speed 25 MPH
Range 100 Miles, Weapons none

KUTA & SEILER VISUAL ARTS - Copyright © 1976

HM LOOKS FAMILIAR..

But they were designed and copyrighted in 1976 by SF fan Lee Seiler. Seiler has retained Science Fiction Consultants of Hollywood Inc. (Doug Crepeau and crew) to trace the use of his materials. They request, "If anyone purchased plans or received flyers regarding either of these machines from Lee Seiler at West Coast SF or Comic Conventions in the past seven years, please contact Science Fiction Consultants of Hollywood Inc. /at 6515 Sunset Blvd. Ste. 202, Hollywood CA 90028/. Please include the following information: your name, address, phone, the place (name and location of convention), the date, material acquired (titles of plans - not the originals) and special circumstances if any (such as building the model)... As a reward for your cooperation in assisting our search, any fan who comes forward with the above plans will receive FREE, a current set of STRIDER plans and a copy of THE GARTHIAN CULTURE: AN ALIEN PROFILE."

Just to further pique your curiosity, the editor of FILE 770 requests pulp magazine collectors (or anyone else) to report any instances of artwork known to them that is similar to the illos produced above -- AND was printed before 1976. I know of at least one plagiarism suit that was quashed because the idea was proven to be in public domain through a work published in the 19th century. Perhaps a little research now will save everyone involved wasted legal fees down the line. (What reward? Your name and fame in F770, showing your virtuosity as a researcher of sf -- what could mean more than that...?)

LARRY PROPP

AN APPRECIATION BY ROSS PAVLAC

Larry Propp, 38, co-chairman of the 1982 World Science Fiction Convention (Chicon IV) died July 28, in Chicago, of a heart attack. He is survived by his parents, Leo and Janet Propp, and his sister Gail Heckmyer.

A number of rumors have gone out. Based on conversation with Larry's co-workers and family, what actually happened was: On Thursday afternoon (July 28) Larry left work as usual, telling his boss (local fan Bob Beesy) that he had a dinner date that evening. At about 7:30 PM, Larry was talking with his building's janitor and complained that he wasn't feeling well and was having trouble breathing: he blamed it on the heat (Chicago had been having a record heat wave). He went out, and at about 10 PM he realized that something was wrong, but felt that it wasn't serious enough to call an ambulance. Propp drove to St. Francis Hospital, and collapsed while walking from the parking lot to the emergency room. He was found on the sidewalk and pronounced DOA. Note: although it has been rumored that Larry had a history of heart trouble and high blood pressure, that is untrue per se. While Larry told at least one friend that he had high blood pressure, he was not known to be under the care of any doctor (including Bob Passovoy) and never mentioned heart trouble to Bob Passovoy or his family.

Larry was born March 25, 1945 in Peoria IL. He grew up in Peoria and went to Michigan State and the University of Illinois. He entered fandom in 1969 and soon became involved in running sf conventions. He founded the short-lived PeCon with Don Blyly. With other Chicago fans he founded Windycon in 1974, and chaired or co-chaired the 1977, 1978 and 1981 Windycons. He was also one of the convention-working Dorsai Irregulars, and worked the infamous "Riotcon" Star Trek Convention in New York in 1976.

His first prominent national activity was at MidAmeriCon, the 1976 Worldcon, where he worked in a number of areas, notably the security team. He also helped with the 1974, 1977 and 1978 worldcons.

Larry worked as an attorney. The deteriorating Peoria economy and time demands from Chicon caused Larry to move to Chicago in 1982 where he found a job with Beil & Howell doing real estate work.

Rather than sending flowers, the Propp family requests that donations be sent to the Heart Fund in Larry's name.

So much for the statistics and bio. How about the man? It's difficult to express the life and personality of a complex individual in just a page or so of typed text.

What drives a grown man to spend most of his hobby time running sf conventions?

In Larry's case, a combination of things. The desire to make his mark on fandom. An obsession to help improve the state of the art. For the sporadic but sometimes intense egoboo. Maybe most of all the pleasure of interacting with other con-runners, and seeing the smoothly functioning purr of a well-run con. His conrunning desire is perhaps expressed best in the job that he loved the most -- auctioneering. I think he loved auctioning because he loved to get up in front of people and get attention, while at the same time providing entertainment for the fans and income for artists and fan funds.

In an apazine written a few months ago Larry referred somewhat cynically to Chicon as "The perfect existential quest -- of ultimate meaning while it is being accomplished, meaningless once it is over." I think Larry was letting postcon depression grip him briefly then -- despite the cynicism, Larry considered Chicon the high point of his life. True, Chicon did not accomplish all that Larry dreamed of. That evening at Conclave in 1977, when, over dinner in the hotel restaurant, Larry leaned over to me with what has become an all-too-familiar gleam in his eye and said, "Ross, Chicago could be one of the classic worldcons! Let's do it!" But Larry grew a lot, and was in the end pleased that overall, Chicon was a fun party for our family.

Larry and I varied from being the best of friends to deadliest of enemies, sometimes switching back and forth several times in an evening. When he was hot, he was one of the finest minds I've ever worked with, coming up with concise insights and detailed plans and dreams.

His "rising young warrior" persona, while sometimes annoying, often provided a touch of class to cons he was at. He reveled in wearing finely tailored 3-piece suits and dining in fine restaurants. After Chicon he was getting more and more into gourmet cooking.

Sense of humor? It is said SMOFs have none but I will always remember how he kept a poker face while he tied a Chicon balloon around Rusty Hevelin's wrist at the Midwestcon banquet while we were bidding -- all the time knowing that the 82nd Chicon commandos were stuffing Rusty's room full of hundreds more of the balloons. I'd love to tell you about the first drafts he wrote of some of the letters he wrote to various SMOFs and VIPs during Chicon -- truly wondrous and sometimes bearing little resemblance to the neutrally phrased ones that actually got sent. He had a hearty laugh, one I last heard at Wilcon this year when he informed me that the reason my panakes tasted so awful was that I'd accidentally used syrup containing maple liqueur.

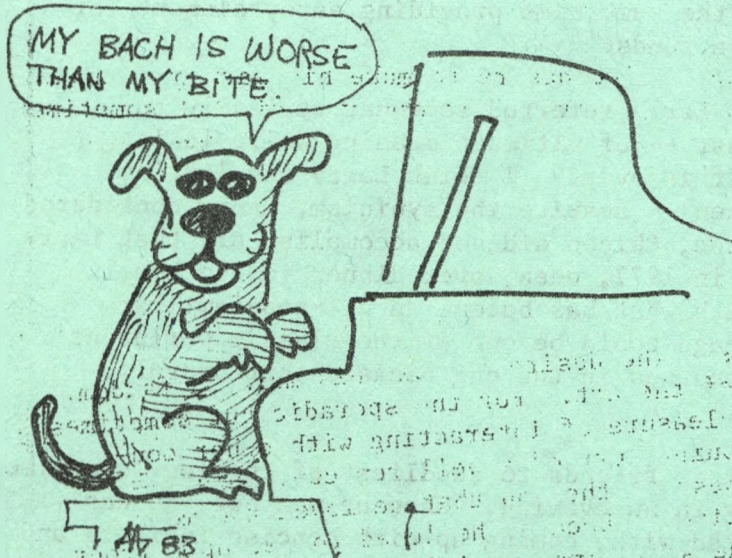
He loved old radio shows. Thanks to him I discovered THE GOON SHOW.

He was adjusting to Life After Chicon. He had been involved with Windycon this year and was becoming involved with fanzine publishing via the Cult. He made it out of Chicon with surprisingly few feuds and was to some extent beginning to adjust to Elder Ghodhood. His life was just starting to take some new directions when it ended.

Larry loved classical music, and provided my wife, Diana, with her first serious exposure to it. In the vein of the last M*A*S*H episode, I don't think I'll ever be able to hear classical music again without thinking at least briefly of Larry. A lot of people, including myself, are missing him more than we ever thought we would.

Rest in peace, Larry. We did it.

BACKFLASH ON F770:42



DOWN UNDER FAN FUND: The last entry in FILE 770:42 raised the spectre of voting irregularities in the selection of the winning delegate. The ballot deadline was March 31, and the administrators Joyce Scrivner (US) and Peter Toluzzi (Australia) were both present at Minicon where the votes were counted. Each has written to defend their actions. The term "voting irregularities" does not mean the same thing to everyone, therefore let it be defined here as a series of questions pertaining to DUFF specifically. (1) Were votes solicited, accepted, and counted past the announced deadline? (2) Did people engaged in vote-counting make representations

to other fans about the approximate standing of the DUFF candidates, while the polls were still open? (3) Was the result of the voting swayed? These are reasonable and objective questions which the editor suggests you bear in mind while reading these letters:

JOYCE SCRIVNER 2732 14th Ave. S. Lower, Minneapolis MN 55404: Please print this letter. At the request of Jack Herman, the DUFF deadline was extended both in Australia and the US. (Three days for Australia, two days for the US). I felt it was unfair that the deadline be extended only for Australia. This extension permitted not only people at Minicon to vote (and at the Australia convention that weekend) but also ballots still in the mail to be counted. (I picked several up at my house on Saturday).

I had done some preliminary ballot counting early Thursday with the expectation that Peter Toluzzi and I would need totals to call Australia that night. This was a long way from a final count since Peter had some ballots with him. I received ballots by mail that day and I also distributed and received ballots at the Minicon party that night. None of these were counted by me until Saturday when all ballots were counted by Peter, David Stever and I.

Any information that Jan Howard Finder was 'ahead' must be no more than a rumor at best since totals were unavailable before final counting.I don't know what campaigning was done at Minicon, as I was not at the convention until the ballots were counted Saturday.

PETER TOLUZZI 2849 W. Jarvis, Chicago IL 60645: ...You went to print anyway, without hearing my side of the story, and I think the less of you and FILE 770:42 for it. Especially as you were one of my DUFF nominators. I think both I and DUFF deserved better. /continued/

Fact: On Wednesday night ((March 30)), Thursday afternoon Sydney time, I rang Jack Herman. He gave me the tally of the votes he had to hand thus far, and asked me to hold open the voting long enough for him to collect some more votes at Funcon. I agreed. Theory: I should not have agreed. I welcome debate.

Fact: I spoke with Joyce at Minicon Friday morning. She agreed with my actions thus far (holding open the Australian voting), and we decided to hold open voting at Minicon too. I was due to ring Jack Herman, at Justin Ackroyd's place in Melbourne, at 12:30 PM Sunday Melbourne time, being 4:30 Saturday Mpls time. Therefore we decided we would extend the voting until 2:30 Saturday Mpls time. And at that exact time, Joyce and I sat down to count the votes -- for the first time! -- with an independent witness. I repeat: this was the first time the Aussie votes (which I had collected on my Wednesday night phone call) had been handed to Joyce; also, I believe it had been at least a week since Joyce last counted the votes she had. ((Not so; see above.))

Fact: by 4 PM Saturday, after careful counting of votes and tentative distribution of preference (assuming that third and fourth places would not change), we determined that the race was currently tied. Everything depended on the votes being collected at Funcon. We spent 30 nail-biting minutes waiting for time to call Australia.

Fact: I fucked up my arithmetic. 12:30 PM Sunday Melbourne equals 8:30 PM Saturday Mpls...so we had four more nail-biting hours to wait. During this period, information about the tie was not "leaked"; it was freely given. After all, we weren't accepting any more votes from Minicon. I suppose some zealous Kaufman supporter could have rung Australia and hustled up some votes there, but that hardly seems likely.

Fact: at 8:30 PM Saturday Mpls time, we established contact with Jack. He relayed details of the votes he had collected at Funcon; a fairly quick tally and distribution of preferences gave the race to Jerry. This was immediately announced in Mpls and Melbourne.

So: if anyone believes that they "rounded up more ballots", they may well be right; in fact, I know of several such campaigners. However, they did so with no knowledge of where the voting stood. As I said, Joyce and I did not have that knowledge until after the voting was finally closed at 2:30 PM Saturday. Sure, we both knew it was going to be close, and when I went around Friday and Saturday morning collecting last-minutes votes, I freely said so. Amongst those final ballots I collected were votes for all four of the candidates.

EDITORIAL COMMENT: Reviewing the questions I posed earlier, what do we learn from Scrivner and Toluzzi? Although each DUFF ballot stated in caps "ALL VOTES MUST REACH AN ADMINISTRATOR BY MARCH 31 1983" (underlined in the original), the deadline was waived for Australian attendees of Funcon and American attendees of Minicon. Obviously, this extension could not be enjoyed by anyone else, although Joyce points to some mail ballots, whose senders ignored the voting rules. Was data about the candidates' standings leaked while the polls were open? Reading the letters above, the answer is clearly yes. Scrivner and Toluzzi attempt to qualify that yes by showing that the results were incomplete when Toluzzi did his canvassing for more ballots. I will leave the reader to decide if their statements should be taken at face value, either as a factual description or as an evaluation of the impact of their actions. Toluzzi must have thought he had grounds for telling people the race was close: wouldn't an objective

listener automatically draw the conclusion that a ballot-counter's remark about the closeness of the race was based on privileged information?

In law, there is a principle stating not only must justice be done, it must appear to be done. The origin of this DUFF voting controversy was a New York fan who returned from Minicon claiming the results had been swayed by last-minute balloting at the convention. (The rumor has been improved to where the fan now claims he/she led organized canvassing for Kaufman at Minicon -- either the fan has become more daring, or the rumor has passed through too many hands.) Here, the DUFF administrators, ignoring their own rules, have dealt the fund a black eye by creating the conditions where such a rumor is plausible. Fact: (to borrow Toluzzi's imperative) very few DUFF races have been anything but runaways. In the spring of 1982 Toluzzi beat the rest of the field by a total of 39-28; in winter of 1981 Scrivner beat Singer 80-40. Most times the DUFF breakdown has not been released to spare the feelings of the also-rans. News of a "close" race is significant news to DUFF voters. Somebody is promoting the idea that this year's DUFF race was decided by last-minute voting -- and in fact it was so close (see stats in F770:41) this is likely true. Both Scrivner and Toluzzi have mentioned several interim counts: they ought to be able to show which candidate benefitted most from votes cast after the deadline, and determine whether a ballot-stuffing charge applies. It would be a good beginning if either would at least express some interest in dispelling this rumor.

Meanwhile, DUFF staggers on... THYME 27, edited by Aussie Roger Weddall, reports John Packer and Jack Herman are the first candidates out in the open for the Australia-US leg of the trip. Marc Ortlieb (PO Box 46, Marden 5070, AUSTRALIA) has assumed the duties of DUFF Administrator.

GET UP FROM UNDER FAN FUND: Just to clean out the clipping file, THYME also reports "details are to hand of what form the race to send an Australian fan to England/Europe for 1984 will take." From 7/23 to 9/17 nominations will be open. Voting will open shortly thereafter and close December 17. John Foyster and Joseph Nicholas are co-administrators.

BACKFLASH+PLUS

L. RON HUBBARD IS ALIVE, ALIVE!: (A rather ingroup reference not to be understood by anyone who did not listen to KHJ radio in the early 1960s). Fred Harris at Author Services Inc. did not want us to miss that "the charges that LRH was dead were thrown out of court this week /late June/ by the Riverside Superior Court Judge. After this ruling, attorneys for the son, DeWolf, were served with complaints for both costs and contempt of court. As someone put it, so much for the 'cries of "DeWolf"'. Meanwhile, LRH's judgement of refusing to compromise with his rights or get unduly involved with the matter has paid off...."

COLUMBUS NASFIC BID IS ALIVE, ALIVE!: (A less ingroupish reference that will only be missed by those who skipped the above headline.) Laurence C. Smith writes to advise us that "The Columbus bid for the 1985 Northamericon continues on its merry way, with a somewhat different cast of characters, it's true, but ongoing nonetheless. We ran bid parties or information tables at Panopticon West 83 and Rivercon (and will certainly be at Constellation in some force) and placed ads or sent flyers to quite a few other cons. So much for "the Columbus Bid is dead, Jim!" Smith sends con listings on behalf of OSFS Inc., pubbed elsewhere.

BUT FIRST, THESE WORDS FROM BRIAN EARL BROWN: "It's sad to see Ted White continuing these attacks on me but it's not so surprising coming from the man who wrote in WARHOON #30: '...if American fandom is bland and dull, it is because too many American fans are bland and dull. Most of them cannot be changed; fandom can be changed only by either driving them out or swamping them with new recruits....' Indeed what I printed of Ted's four-and-a-half page letter didn't show him in a good light, but then none of the rest of the letter did either. I will send a copy of the letter to anybody who mails me a self-addressed stamped envelope asking to see it." (20101 W. Chicago #201, Detroit MI 48228)

EDITORIAL SOLILOQUOY: I'm glad I didn't have the copy of Ted's letter (which Brian provided) when I went to press last issue, since it would have merely underscored my feelings of being a fool, without relieving me of the obligation to take exception to certain remarks in Ted's column. Ted's letter, received about the same time STICKY QUARTERS 5 and 6 came in the mail, contains many points which these two new issues of Brian's zine only serve to validate.

But it was not an opinion about a fanzine that required my comment last issue. What was I to do about Ted's derisive, personal comment about Brown? My alternatives were to censor, pretend I didn't mind printing these statements, or include some form of rebuttal. The middle option, doing nothing, could have worked very well if I didn't mind effectively selling out Brian in order to keep my revived relationship with Ted undisturbed. Censorship isn't viable -- no fanzine editor should invite material from people he is unwilling to trust to speak their mind; nor do fanwriters usually persist in contributing to editors who delete their more pungent remarks. Forgetting to print a few lines is the gutless way to go. So the only alternative I seriously considered was rebuttal. Despite all this measured intent, I haven't heard one word from Ted since last issue. It would be a damned shame to alienate Ted over this, for in every other respect his columns have been precisely as advertised (to me) and very well done.

OOH AAH, BACK ON THE CHAIN GANG

TRANS-ATLANTIC FAN FUND: US Administrator Avedon Carol has churned out 16 pages of the first draft of her TAFF Report. "I didn't realize it would be this long, but it is, so I've been falling back and regrouping, trying to get up some more energy to face another session at the typer. Which is another way of saying that I've been stuck for awhile."

As Avedon fortifies herself for the next siege at the typewriter, the next TAFF race is about to begin. The nominating season will open in September for a delegate to take the Europe-to-America (LACon 2) leg of the trip. Says Avedon, "So far, Rob Hansen and Harry Bell seem to be talking about running. Jimmy Robertson is also running a 'write-in D. West for TAFF' campaign, although D. himself says he doesn't want to go to America and instead is offering The D. West Fan Fund to send a fan to Bingley. The terms of this seem to be you can vote as often as you like as long as you send D. West money every time. You must also send your picture so that D. can approve you." (4409 Woodfield Rd., Kensington MD 20895)

LAST ADD DOWN UNDER FAN FUND: According to Joni Stopa, she and Mike Glicksohn are entering the DUFF race for the 1985 trip. Rusty Hevelin and Bob Tucker are supposed to wind up being among their nominators, but it slips my mind who is nominating whom, and it's also about that important... Marty and Robbie Cantor have already thrown their chapeaus in the ring. Anyone else running?

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(* = see footnotes)

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 PORSFIS PO Box 4602, Portland OR 97208
 Neil Rest 5309 N. Clark, Chicago IL 60640*
 Mike Glicksohn 508 Windermere Ave., Toronto ONT M6S 3L6 CANADA (416)766-9975 (9/20)
 Charles A. Belov 2269 Market St. #134, San Francisco CA 94114
 Deb Hammer Johnson 506 N. Longview Rd., Knoxville TN 37919
 SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION Box 1402, Main Post Office, Knoxville TN 37901*
 Joe Pearson 7438 Jamieson Ave., Reseda CA 91335
 Maureen Leshendok 2898 Waterfield, Sparks NV 89431
 Richard Gilliam 512-D Chateau Dr., Huntsville AL 35801
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 Victoria BC V8T 2W4 CANADA
 John Leichel 993 Helen Ave. #4, Sunnyvale CA 94086
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 Terry Floyd 2739 Folsom St., San Francisco CA 94110
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 Lucy Huntzinger 854 Haight St., San Francisco CA 94117
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 Nora Hendrickson 2620 N. Walnut #135, Bloomington IN 47401
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 West Sussex PO18 8UH ENGLAND
 Harry F. Leonard 11F Woodland Ave., Bloomfield CT 06002

FOOTNOTES: (1) Neil Rest has separated from his wife, Susan, according to his cover letter. (2) Deb Hammer Johnson, of the Souther Fandom Confederation, announces, "Dues are being upped to \$5 per year, and possibly higher in a few months. A bulletin put out by the new administration is in the works, and will be sent to everyone listed on the roster regardless of whether they pay dues or not. We are also seeking donations by kind-hearted individuals to help us get the show on the road, since the first bulletin and subsequent postage costs are being paid out of our pockets, and none of us are well off enough to compete with Meade Frierson III's income and philanthropic proclivities..."

UNLISTED CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Joe and Gay Haldeman have moved to ~~Bedford~~ the Boston area so that Joe can take up a visiting professorship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He'll be teaching two classes per semester, science fiction writing, and short story writing. His appointment will keep the pair up north through June 1, 1984.

WEDDING VOWS: Frank Catalano, member SFWA, married Cynthia Anne Dyer last July 2 by the Pacific Science Center Arches in Seattle. The couple honeymooned in Florida. Source John McLaughlin quotes Frank as saying in a recent letter, "Cindy and I spent a total of three days at Disney World Complex: one day at the Disneyland look-alike Magic Kingdom, and two days at EPCOT. ...I don't care what the critics may say about its not being 'predictive' enough of the future. EPCOT is informative and fun, and a lot more oriented to adults than the Magic Kingdom could ever be."

500 LB. CANARY WANTS HOME: Jan Howard Finder (PO Box 428, Latham NY 12110) will send about 450 pounds of accumulated fanzines, many overseas zines, to the fan submitting the highest bid (including the cost of SHIPPING). Jan plans to move.

ULTRACON 83 (May 27-29): Report by Milt Stevens: For the second straight year someone tried to hold the "Ultimate" SF convention in Los Angeles, and for the second straight year, the results were disastrous. This year's attempt, Ultracon 83, was held at the Bonaventure Hotel. It was billed as "The Ultimate in Sci-Fi Adventure" which would feature an "Incredible Line Up of Stars," and "The World's Largest Dealer's Room." The chairman of this extravaganza was a local huckster named John Riley, who wisely neglected to identify himself in any of the convention publications.

The first thing one noticed about Ultracon was that it was held Friday through Sunday on a holiday weekend that ran Saturday through Monday. The convention had almost all the function space in the Bonaventure at a reputed cost of \$30,000. (The Bonaventure is expensive, so that price is not unlikely.) The INcredible Line Up of Stars turned out to be Anthony Daniels (the guy in the C3PO suit), Judson Scott (Phoenix), and a couple of the kids from ET. All of them had to be paid. The film program featured hot prints of STAR WARS and EMPIRE STRIKES BACK. The dealers' room was actually fairly large with as many as two dozen books in evidence in the

entire place. Aside from other expenses, Ultracon apparently did a fair amount of TV advertising. With all these various expenses, the claim that Ultracon's break-even point was at 2000 attendees per day seems entirely possible. They told at least one studio that they expected 7000 people. They actually got 100 on Friday, 700 on Saturday, and 400 on Sunday. The estimated loss would have to be at least twenty to thirty thousand dollars and possibly more.

Almost exactly a year before (May 15-16, 1982), a thing called Idcon was held at the Pasadena Center. It was billed as "The Ultimate Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention." Idcon was chaired by a young woman named Morgan O'Gorman, who had attended one Loscon and decided that obviously any idiot could run a science fiction convention. Her plans were more modest than Ultracon's, but the results were more modest yet. Idcon attracted 200 people on Saturday and only 60 on Sunday. Ms. O'Gorman reputedly lost \$9000 on the effort. Had she not been in an obvious state of bankruptcy, a number of pros would have been legally looking for her hide. She had attracted a number of local writers to show up for one day for a \$100 speakers fee. Half a dozen writers showed up; however, all of the checks bounced.

DEEPSOUTHCON 21: (June 3-5). Report by Guy H. Lillian III: The 21st DeepSouthCon, subtitled Satyricon II, was held in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Knoxville TN



CONREPORT

over the June 3-5 weekend. Attracting over 800 paid attendees, it ranked as the largest DSC ever, and was certainly the most successful. The nine-story atrium of the con hotel, and the excellent facilities, were all mentioned as unique qualities for this bash, which featured Stephen King as GoH, me as Fan GoH, Doug Chaffee as Artist Guest of Honor, and Barb Wagner as Toastmistress. Poor King was often swamped by autograph seekers, but vice chairman Dave Pettus managed to keep control over the situation, and no fatalities were reported. (As Chelsea Quinn Yarbro's spiritual son, I must report with great pride that she won the hearts and souls of the South with her kindness, friendliness, and warm intelligence.)

On the fan front, I was elected to the presidency of the Southern Fandom Confederation by acclamation, to my great surprise and delight. Deb Hammer-Johnson took the secretary's spot the same way. In a close race for the important 2nd veep's job, Birminghamster and Atlanta in '86 honchess Charlotte Proctor won out over Joe Celko. In a fascinating competition for the 1984 DSC, Irvin Koch's Chattanooga bid beat Birmingham by a score of about 120-70; ballots showing high registration numbers, indicating local walkins, who would be expected to vote for the closest city, made up much of the difference, although there was a strong sentiment that Irvin deserved the chance to put on the DSC he'd so long desired.

The Rebel Awards for achievement in Southern fandom went to Lynn Hickman, whose efforts to inspire Southern fandom in the 50s through such clubs as the Little Monsters of America won Chairman Vern Clark's nod. Also, for sheer love of the man, New Orleans fan and former DSC chairman John Guidry was awarded a Rebel, a prize I was delighted to announce. For professional efforts in the South, author Joe Haldeman, who was not, alas, present, and artist Doug Chaffee, who was, were awarded Phoenixes.

The Atlanta bid you so detest was mentioned by Toastmisstress Barb Wagner twice during festivities, each time to loud applause. No nasty fan politicking was noted; Southern fandom is feeling good about itself, it seems, and the dire feuds given such play in the vile, biased, yankee press were nowhere in evidence. I'm a strong supporter of the bid, though independent of it (I intend for my SFC presidency to run beyond '86); I've made both positions clear. My election should show the general sentiments of the con-going South, but I made it also clear that my SFC policies would not badmouth anyone who could not support the bid as I do. Thus my unity platform, Glyer, despite your sneers of last issue.

EDITORIAL INSERTION OF FOOT INTO MOUTH: Or maybe not. I have not endorsed any '86 bid, nor necessarily ruled any one out. If Atlanta wins it will have the offer of my services in some useful capacity. So where am I coming from? Beginning in the mid-70s I established fast friendships with a number of Southern fans through MYRIAD, and to our mutual pleasure was brought to the 1980 DSC as Fan GoH. This was, to boot, an Atlanta DSC. Several of these close friends helped initiate the Atlanta in '86 bid. They were (and remain) intelligent persons of proven conrunning ability. Why didn't I enthusiastically embrace their bid? It was my personal opinion that there was nowhere near enough of them to create the essential on-site steering committee even if they farmed out functions like mad. I also felt that the bidding process would rip apart many of the friendships that made the bid feasible, based on my observation of Atlanta fanpolitics via apas and fanzines. The fool's gold of a Worldcon in Atlanta was not worth the price I predicted they would have to pay. Fact: (what an addictive attention-getting device Peter has taught me!) all my close friends have been fired or alienated from the bid -- even though I personally like everybody else still on



the committee, everywhere I look I see proof of my second prediction. Should Atlanta win, I will join in the general effort to see that my first prediction does not come to pass. But as an analytical tool, it has yet to be discredited.

Additional proof of the second prediction arrived recently from -- of all the unexpected places -- Australia. Charlotte Proctor, newly elected SFC 2nd veep according to Guy's report, wrote a letter to THYME 27 making detailed accusations against Rich Howell that are so incredibly libelous even I can't print them. Each of her twelve sentences individually may or may not be a factual statement, but the statements are juxtaposed to lead

the reader to an immediate conclusion which would definitely contradict Lillian's previous assurance to Howell in a letter that "No one has said to me that they believe you embezzled the money, publically or privately."

CONVENTIONS SWOOPING DOWN THE KAMIKAZE SMOKESTACK: This is a great year to be a newzine editor, and not such a great year to be a fan -- which is roughly what the well known Chinese curse says: "May you live in interesting times." Two other conventions, besides Ultracon, suffered different financial setbacks. THYME 27 quotes Jerry Patton in a letter to members of CoastCon '84 (a Biloxi annual): "As the majority of you are aware, COASTCON Inc. lost over \$1700 of it- funds to embezzlement. The Governing Committee of Coastcon '83 swore out a compalint against the treasurer, Mr. Steve Carnahan, at the Biloxi Police Office. In April of this year Mr. Carnahan was arrested by the Texas Police. Since that time I have spoken with Mr. Carnahan, his attorney and the District Attorney. Mr. Carnahan denies any knowledge of the missing funds, but he has offered to make restitution of these funds. After much discussion, several meetings and much soul searching, the Governing Committee of Coastcon '84 has elected to press for prosecution....we are now awaiting the legal process involved in returning Mr. Carnahan to Mississippi and a trial date to be set."

Paula Johanson, in ATRAZINE, devotes 9 pages to her chronicle of the ill-fated ConstellationCon '83, staged with accompanying feuds and losses in Victoria PC, 2/83. Her account was mailed July 7, and is the first coherent explanation of events I've read, although Garth Spencer tried to explain it to me in a letter last May. Paula, in addition to her narrative, neatly outlines the errors which led to the con's downfall: "(1) Booking hotels and guests for a large event before talking about it with friends and clubs. (2) Confirming six guests verbally before being able to pay the phone bill let alone airfare. (3) Assuming fans will be gofers for a con on which they have no input. (4) Misrepresenting business commi tments and giving different people different representations of business commitments. In one day, in my own hearing, a Constellation worker said that the hotel was (a) booked, (b) tentatively booked, (c) given a deposit, and (d) waiving the need for a deposit. He may not have known, but he kept on talking." Paula concludes, "Constellation left behind it a sense of overwhelming fatigue, an angry hotel, several angry local businesses, about \$10,000 in unpaid bills, and 300 paid-up members who want refunds of \$20 each."

convention listings

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

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

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

GoH: Fritz Leiber; AGoH: Frank Kelly Freas; FAN: Georges Giguere. Membership: \$15. Limited edition print for the first 150 members. Panels, Sunday brunch, Lensman Awards, art show/auction, masquerade & dance. To: Moscon V, PO Box 8521, Moscow ID 83843.

SPYCON I: (Sept. 23-25) Sheraton-Naperville Hotel, 1801 N. Naperville IL 60566.

The first convention devoted to secret agents, spies, special agents... Dealer room, film room (lots of UNCLE), art show, display room, lectures, come as your favorite spy party. Membership: \$15 til 9/10, \$18 at the door. To: Susan Cole, 2710 Rohlwing Rd., Rolling Meadows IL 60008.

TRI*CON: (Oct. 1 & 2) Sheraton Pittsburgh South. "Special Guest Star" Thom "Hawk" Christopher. Media sf-oriented programming. Memberships: \$25 til 9/1, \$35 til 9/30, no at-the-door memberships. Sunday Breakfast Banquet. Info and loot to: Trinetta L. Kern, 1037 Francis Rd., Castle Shannon PA 15234.

EUROCON 1983: (Sept. 16-18) Cankarjev Dom, Ljubljana, Yugoslavia.

Memberships: US\$10 attending, US\$5 supporting, to: Elizabetha Bobnar, UI. Ivanke-Ovijac 4, YU-61215 Medvode YUGOSLAVIA.

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

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

ARMADILLOCON 5: (Oct. 7-9) Villa Capri Hotel, Austin TX.

PRO: Howard Waldrop. FAN: Becky Matthews. Info: Robert Taylor, PO Box 9612, Austin TX 78766.

NONCON 6: (Oct. 7-9) Palliser Hotel, Calgary ALTA Canada.

PRO: Orson Scott Card. Info: Noncon 6, Box 475 Stn. G, Calgary ALTA T3A 2G4 Canada.

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

GoH: George R.R. Martin, AGoH: Victoria Poyser; SMOFGoH: Ben Yalow; TM: Wilson Tucker. Moebius Theater production, films, brown paper bag masquerade, art show, dealers. Membership: \$12 til 9/15, then mysteriously more. To: Windycon X, PO Box 432, Chicago IL 60690. (Remember: "Parents whose children are left unattended in the con suite will lose their memberships and will be disinvited to future Windycons") Rooms: \$44/sgl, \$52/dbl.

EARTHCON 3: (Oct. 7-10) Charter House Inn, Euclid (near Cleveland) OH.

GoH: Jacqueline Lichtenberg. Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Katherine Kurtz, Jean Lorrah. Rooms: \$30. Memberships: \$20. Banquet \$11 adult, \$7.50 child. Medievalists, pool party. To: Earthcon 3, PO Box 22041, Beachwood OH 44122.

ROC-KON 8: (Oct. 7-9) Hilton Inn, Little Rock AR.

PRO: Poul Anderson. FAN: Charlie Williams. TM: Warren Norwood. Memberships: \$12 til 9/23, \$15 at door. To: Roc-Kon 8, PO Box 9911, Little Rock AR 72219.

CONTRADICTION 3: (Oct. 14-16) John's Niagara Hotel, Niagara Falls NY.

GoH: Judith Merrill; AGoHs: Sean Spacher, Steve Scherer; FAN: Roger Reynolds; FANARTIST: Heather Bruton. Rooms: \$35/sgl, \$40/dbl. Memberships: \$8 til 9/15, \$12 after. Dealer tables \$15(+ membership) til 10/1. To: Linda Michaels, 27 Argosy Dr., Amherst NY 14226.

NOVACON '83: (Oct. 14-16) Treadway Resort Inn, Lancaster PA.

GoH: David Gerrold; AGoH: Teanna Byerts. Rooms: \$40/sgl, \$47/dbl.

Panels, art show/auction, banquet, SCA demo, costume ball. Memberships: \$8 til 9/30, \$10 at the door. Dealer's tables: \$25 (includes membership). To: Novacon '83, PO Box 41, Marietta PA 17547.

ROVACON 8: (Oct. 14-16) Hotel Roanoke, Salem VA. GoHs: L. Sprague & Catherine Crook De Camp; Guests: George Takei, Jean Rogers, Frank Kelly Freas, M.A. Foster. Memberships: \$9.50 til 9/15 (children \$5, students \$7.75). Dealers: \$35/table til 9/15, \$50 at the door (5 table limit. 1 memb. incl. with first).

To: RoVaCon, PO Box 117, Salem VA 24153. (703)389-9400

BOUCHERCON XIV: (Oct. 21-23) GoH: John D. MacDonald. Registration: \$30 til 10/15, \$40 at the door. To: Bouchercon XIV, The Mysterious Bookshop, 129 W. 56th St., New York NY 10019.

NECRONOMI-CON 1983: (Oct. 28-30) Holiday Inn, Tampa FL.

GoHs: Piers Anthony, Robert Adams; FGOHs: Bill Ritch, Kenny Mitchrone. Rooms: \$38/sgl, \$42/dbl. Memberships: \$10 til 10/15, \$15 at the door. Costume contest, panels, Dr. Who episodes, trivia, gaming, dealers. To: Necronomi-con, PO Box 2076, Riverview FL 33569. Art show info: Terry Crabb, 1522 Lovers Lane, Riverview FL 33569.

WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION 1983: (Oct. 28-30) Marriott O'Hare Hotel, Chicago IL. GoHs: Gene Wolfe, Manly Wade Wellman; AGOH: Rowena Morrill; TM: Robert Bloch. Rooms: \$65/sgl, \$75/dbl. Memberships: \$35 attending, \$12 supporting. Purported membership limit of 750. Dealer's tables: \$50. To: 1983 World Fantasy Convention, PO Box 423, Oak Forest IL 60452.

SCI-CON 5: (Nov. 4-6) Sheraton Beach Inn, Virginia Beach VA.

GoH: Alan Dean Foster; AGOH: Ron Miller; FGOH: Curt Harpold. Rooms: \$32/sgl, \$38/dbl. Memberships: \$10 til 10/15, \$13 afterwards. Huckster room, films, costume contest, art show. To: SciCon 5, PO Box 9434, Hampton VA 23670.

CONCLAVE VIII: (Nov. 11-13) Sheraton Hotel, Ann Arbor MI.

GoH: Spider Robinson. Memberships: \$12 til 10/15, \$15 at the door. Info: Waldo & Magic Inc., PO Box 2915, Ann Arbor MI 48106.

INCOGNICON: (Nov. 11-13) Ottawa, ONT Canada. GoH: Andrew J. Offutt; FGOH: M.K. Longcor. Membership: US\$10 in advance, higher at the door. Info: Incognikon, Box 15776 Stn. F, Ottawa ONT K2C 3S7 Canada.

ORYCON 5: (Nov. 11-13) Portland OR. Goh: Octavia Butler. Rooms: \$45/sgl, \$50/dbl., Portland Hilton. Art show, dealers, panels, gaming, films. Memberships: \$15 til 10/31. Champagne brunch \$12. To: Orycon 5, PO Box 14727, Portland OR 97214. (503)761-8768

APRICON 6: (Nov. 12) Ferris Booth Hall, Columbia University NY NY.

Lecturers, films, trivia contest, dealers, Japanese animation. Memberships: \$3 til 10/31, \$4 at the door. Info: Barnard-Columbia SF Society, 317 Ferris Booth Hall, Columbia University NY NY 10027.

PHILCON 1983: (Nov. 18-20) Franklin Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia PA

Info: Philcon, PO Box 8303, Philadelphia PA 19101.

OUTRE-VENTION: (Nov. 18-20) Salt Lake City UT. GoH: Poul Anderson;

AGOHs: Lynnanne & Michael Goodwin. Panels, dealers, masquerade, films, art show, gaming. Memberships: \$14 til 11/83, \$15 the door. To: 2246 Windsor, SLC UT 84106.

CON-TEX: (Nov. 25-27) Southwest Hilton, Houston TX.

GoH: Anne McCaffrey; FGOH: Joanne Burger. Membership: \$12 til 10/31, \$15 at the door. Send SASE to: Friends of Fandom Inc., PO Box 772473, Houston TX 77215.

LOSCON 10: (Nov. 25-27) The Pasadena Hilton, 150 S. Los Robles, Pasadena CA.

PRO: Chelsea Quinn Yarbro; FAN: Fuzzy Pink Niven; Guest of Honor in Absentia: John Myers Myers. Rooms: \$45 sgl/dbl. Memberships: \$15 til 10/31, \$17 after. Ice Cream Social, Regency Dancing, Masquerade. Huckster's tables: \$35. To: Loscon 10, c/o LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood CA 91601.

BAYCON '83: (Nov. 25-27) San Jose Red Lion Inn. GoHs: James P. Hogan, Don Maitz. Rooms: \$46/sgl, \$48/dbl. Memberships: \$20; \$25 at the door; \$13 daily. Dealer tables: \$50 (\$60 each additional) til 11/1, then add \$10 to price. Masquerade, films, BCTV, blood drive. Info: BayCon '83, PO Box 70393, Sunnyvale CA 94086

FANTASY FESTIVAL: (Nov. 25-27) Sheraton Park Central Hotel, Dallas TX. Guests: Zelazny, Pini, Cherryh, GRR Martin, Foster, Waldrop, etc. Rooms: \$45 sgl/sbl. "Bad film fest", banquet, Costume Contest, art show. Memberships: \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Onedays for \$5. Banquet \$13.50. Dealers tables \$75 first, \$60 second, \$50 thereafter. To: Dallas Fantasy Festival, 1017 Birchwood, Garland TX 75043.

DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING 6: (Nov. 25-27) Radisson Hotel, Wilmington, Del. GoH: Nancy Springer. Guests: Katherine Kurtz, Hal Clement, Don & Elsie Wollheim, Diana Paxson, Paul Edwin Zimmer. "Oriented to the works of Marion Zimmer Bradley and related authors." To: DGCM6 c/o Himmelsbach, 308 W. Duval (1st Fl.) Phila PA 19101

INSTACON: (Dec. 2-4) College Station, TX. A seminar on how to put on conventions. Attending will be speakers and panelists who have produced successful conventions on the local, regional and worldcon level. Info: InstaCon, Cepheid Variable Committee, Memorial Student Center, Texas A&M University, Box J-1, College Station TX 77844.

CZARKON 1: (Dec. 9-11) Henry VII Inn, St. Louis MO. GoH: Glen Cook; TM: Wilson Tucker; AGoH & FGoH TBA. Rooms: Every room has a kitchen; \$36 sgl/dbl, \$38 minisuite sgl/dbl, rooms on the con floor \$5/night more. The first St. Louis relaxacon. Art show, dealers, deprogramming, pool party. Memberships: \$10 til 11/1, \$15 at the door. Info: Nancy Edwards, 1040 S. McKnight Rd., St. Louis MO 63117.

BRAVE NEW CON: (Jan 13-15, 1984) Sheraton International, Reston VA. Rooms: \$46. Theme: Orwell's 1984. Art show, dealer's room, masquerade. Memberships: \$10 til 12/15/83. Dealer's tables: \$25 (includes 1 membership). To: W.A.C.O. PO Box 5818, Bethesda MD 21012.

CHATTACON 9: (Jan 13-15) Read House Hotel, Chattanooga TN. Info: Chattacon 9, PO Box 921, Hixson TN 37343.

ESOTERICON: (Jan. 13-15) The Sheraton Heights, 650 Terrace Ave., Hasbrouck Hts., NJ 07604. GoH: Jacqueline Lichtenberg; FGoH: Marion Zimmer Bradley; Special Guest: Katherine Kurtz. Seminars and panels by writers and practitioners of the esoteric arts; preregistered workshops (taot, yoga, Kabbalah, numerology, etc etc); feature films, masqued ball. Membership: \$25 til 11/1, \$30 at the door. Dealers: Fan \$50, Pro \$75 (includes 1 membership). Info: SASE to Esotericon, c/o Roberta Mendelson PO Box 290, Monsey NY 10952-0290.

RUSTYCON: (Jan. 20-22) SeaTac Hyatt House, WA. GoH: Robert Asprin; AGoH: William R. Warren Jr.; FGoH: Jerry Kaufman. Memberships: \$16 til 12/31, \$18 at the door; Sunday morning banquet (buffet) \$8.50 til 12/31, \$9 after. To: Rustycon, PO Box 47132, Seattle WA 98146.

CORFLU: (Jan. 27-29) Claremont Hotel, Oakland CA. GOH: To be chosen by lottery the first night of the con. This is "a convention exclusively for fanzine fans". TM: Terry Carr. Memberships: \$24.31, which includes the cost of the mandatory banquet. OGhu Awards presentation. To: Corflu, 263 8th Ave., San Francisco CA 94118.

GENUINE CONFUSION: (Jan. 27-29) Plymouth Hilton, Plymouth MI. GoH: Mike Resnick; FGoH: Martha Beck; TM: Dick Smith. Fri. night speaker: Wilson Tucker. Rooms: \$46/sgl, \$49/dbl. Memberships: \$10 til 11/24, \$12 til 1/15/84, \$15 at the door. To: AASFA Inc., PO Box 2144, Ann Arbor MI 48106. (315) 485-4824.

BOSKONE XXI: (Feb. 17-19) Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston MA. GoH: Gene Wolfe; AGoH: Vincent DiFate; SGOW: David G. Hartwell. Rooms: \$52/sgl, \$62/dbl. Programming, art show, dealers, etc. Memberships: \$14 til 7/15 (yeah, I know, but even the latest IM doesn't seem to say.) Info: NESFA, Box G MIT Branch PO, Cambridge MA 02139-0910.

CLIPPERCON: (Feb. 17-19) Hunt Valley Inn, Cockeysville MD. GoHs: Nichelle Nichols, Alen Asherman, Howard Weinstein. Charity auction,

masquerade. Rooms: \$56. Memberships: \$20 til 10/1, \$25 after. Banquet \$20. Dealer's tables: \$30 fan, \$75 pro (include membership). To: Clippercon, c/o Marion McChesney, 3429 Chestnut Ave., Baltimore MD 21211.

UPPERSOUTHCLAVE XIV: (March 2-4) Park Mammoth Resort, Park City KY 42160
GoH: Mike Lalor. Relaxicon. Rooms: \$28/sgl, \$34/dbl. Memberships: \$7 til 2/14/84, \$9 after and at the door. Huckster tables: \$15 (limit 3). To: ConCave, PO Box 116, Park City KY 42160-0116.

MIDSOUTHCON 3: (March 16-18) Hotel TBA, Memphis TN
PRO: C.J. Cherryh; FAN: Margaret Middleton; TM: Dalvin Coger. Memberships: \$10 til 2/1/84, \$15 after. One days \$8. Huckster tables \$30 (includes membership). To: MidSouthCon 3, c/o Richard Moore, 1229 Fallwood, Memphis TN 38122.

LUNACON: (March 16-18) Sheraton Heights Hotel, Hasbrouck Heights NJ
GoH: Terry Carr; AGoH: Tom Kidd; FGoH: Cy Chauvin. Memberships: \$16, \$19 at the door. Info: Lunacon, PO Box 149, Brooklyn NY 11204.

SWANNCON 5: (March 22-25) Sheraton Inn, Boca Raton FL.
GoH: Stephen King. Fifth International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts. Third Annual writers' workshop, 8th annual teachers' workshop. Info: Conference on the Fantastic, College of Humanities, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton FL 33431.

ISTACON: (March 31-April 2) Riviera Motel, Atlanta GA.
GoHs: Anne McCaffrey, Michael Whelan, Kelly Freas, Bob Maurus. Info: c/o Howell, 959-A Waverly Ct., Norcross GA 30071.

COSTUME CON 2: (April 13-15) Town & Country Hotel, San Diego CA
A convention for sf, fantasy and historical costumers presented by the Fantasy Costumers Guild. Workshops, dealer's room, two masquerades. Memberships: \$15 til 9/6, \$20 til 1/1/84, \$25 til 4/1, \$30 at door. To: Fantasy Costumers Guild, PO Box 1947, Spring Valley CA 92077. Send SASE for more info.

ONOCN '84: (May 4-6) Syracuse NY. GoHs: L. Sprague DeCamp, Frederik Pohl, Carl Lundgren, Jay Kay Klein, Randy Elliott; TM: Graham Diamond. Memberships: \$12 til 3/31/84, \$15 at door. To: PO Box 305, Syracuse NY 13208.

MARCON XIX: (May 18-20) Quality Inn Columbus, 4900 Sinclair Rd., Columbus OH 43229
GoH: C.J. Cherryh. Memberships: \$10 til 9/5, \$12.50 til 4/15/84, \$15 after. Dealer's tables: \$30 (w/memb.), \$20 next (no memb.) Dealers write: Van Siegling, 222 Andalus Dr., Gahanna OH 43230. Art show info: Celia Smith, 875 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus OH 43224. Saturday morning brunch, \$7.50. Info: PO Box 14078 Columbus OH 43214-0078.

V-CON 12: (May 25-27) UBC Conference Centre, Vancouver B C Canada.
PRO: TBA. Special Guest: Elizabeth Lynn; FGoH: Debbie Notkin. Rooms: \$24. Membership: \$13 in Oct, and add \$1 pr month; \$25 at the door. To: V-Con 12, PO Box 48478 Bentall Centre, Vancouver BC V7X 1A5 Canada.

DEEPSOUTHCON 22: (June 21-24) Read House, Chattanooga TN (1-800-572-7304)
GoH: Joan Vinge; TM: Karl Edward Wagner; FGoH: Jerry Page. Filksinging, editors' bookline displays, SCA programming etc. Banquet \$10. Memberships: \$15 til 6/1/84. \$20 thereafter. Hucksters: \$20 first, \$30 second, \$50 others. To: CDSC, c/o Irvin Koch, 835 Chattanooga Bank Bldg., Chattanooga TN 37402.

WESTERCON 37: (June 30-July 3) Marriott Hotel, Portland OR
PRO: Harlan Ellison; FAN: FM & Elinor Busby; TM: Ed Bryant. Memberships: \$20 til 7/1/83 (what now?) \$9 supporting. Rooms: \$37/sgl, \$42/dbl. To: Westercon 37, PO Box 16155, Portland OR 97216.

L.A.CON II: (August 30-September 3) Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim CA.
PRO: Gordon R. Dickson; FAN: Dick Eney; MCs: Robert Bloch, Jerry Pournelle. World Science Fiction Convention. Hugos & Campbell Award. Memberships: \$40 til 12/31, \$50 after; \$20 corresponding membership. To: L.A.Con II, PO Box 8442, Van Nuys CA 91409.

ROUND FILINGS

MIKE GLYER

But Not: Mike's Adventures
in Wonderland (only because
I didn't attend the dog races
which are accessible from
the Wonderland station of
Boston's Orange Line).

From July 17 through August
3 I attended a Management
Practices Course in the IRS'

Boston District Training Center -- located in the Park Square Building, across
the street from the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, site of next spring's Boskone.

This happens to be up the street from Boston Commons. My first morning in
Boston was free -- class began at 12:30. Therefore I did a little exploring.
A lot less than I intended to do, admittedly. Taking the subway from Kenmore
Square (the vicinity of Fenway Park) to Arlington station consumed about
eight minutes; the simple feat of selecting the right exit from the station
deposited me virtually in front of my destination. What to do for the next
four hours?

The park down the street turned out to be Boston Common, and I strolled past
reclining derelicts resting contentedly on their knapsacks. The swan boats were
in action (so that's the explanation for Noreascon II's Program Book cover art).
The weather was oppressively humid -- the air was heavy. I made it to the
knoll in the Commons featuring a Civil War monument, glanced around, and turned
back. Random exploration appealed to me -- what if I just got on the subway,
went ahead a couple of stops, and surfaced wherever I wound up? Two stops up
from the Arlington station was the Park Square Station. I exited the station
-- and was looking at the back side of the Civil War monument from the vantage
of the other side of Boston Commons. This was my object lesson in the reduced
scale of things in Boston compared to LA. Given my sense of misdirection, I had
to love Boston -- no matter how lost I got, I was never more than a mile from
where I belonged.

Loaded amongst my baggage was the raw material for an issue of FILE 770. I
modestly hoped somebody in town would let me run it off on their mimeo -- but
they went me one better. Claire Anderson ran the whole thing off, and a task

force of NESFAns, having discovered to their horror that someone had failed to schedule any work for a Wednesday night, assembled the issue for mailing in record time. Rather than the editor's customary endless supply of diet cola (yech!) this band of collators was treated by Claire to red velvet cake and strawberries dipped in sour cream and brown sugar. Finally, President Jill Eastlake announced to me that the executive had voted to forgive the \$60 worth of printing involved in running the issue. I hope it wasn't an ungracious way to accept the gift, when I immediately donated the amount to the NESFA Building Fund.

The FILE 770 Death Commandos' Roll of Honor for issue #42 includes: Dave Anderson, Monty Wells, Bob Knowlden, Claire Anderson, Jill Eastlake, Donny Eastlake, Debra Spencer, Cookie Monster, Jim Mann, Paula Lieberman, George Flynn, Karl Johnson, Donald Eastlake III, Greg Thokar, Sharon Sbarsky, Mark L. Olson, and Ann A. Broomhead /McCutchen/.

While in Boston I was able to attend three fannish functions. The others beside my collation was an Instant Message Collation and the Other Meeting. But let me stress that at no time did I see any NESFAns having fun. That's very important, as Rick Katze tried to persuade me to swear a mighty oath to report none of what I had seen. However I have done the next best thing, which is to print the truth in a fanzine, where nobody expects to find it, and will therefore not believe it...

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Behind the manicured hills rimming Rte. 2, in the wild country of Arlington, Massachusetts, up near the end of a two-lane paved supercowpath, lives Debbie King. On the last day of the hottest July in the history of Boston she hosted the Other Meeting of the New England Science Fiction Association.

The Other Meeting; not a Business Meeting. "Have you ever been to a Business Meeting?" asked Davida. "No," I replied. "Keep it that way!" Indeed, the mere synopsis of Business Meetings featured in IM is sufficient deterrent to attending them.

Jim Mann was at the wheel; Davida, Selina Lovett and Leslie Mann occupied the back seat. Selina wore her Captain's hat, to subtly remind people she had vacationed in Maine; Davida was trying not to wear the marinated meat she had balanced in a bowl on her lap. Selina was concerned that we weren't being noisy enough, although we did give a raspberry salute to the Belmont Lions Club as we passed the site of NESFA meetings. Davida also insisted on a raspberry as we went by the Andersons' -- although only a small one, and restricted to their landlord's part (whatever that meant).

Nearing Debbie King's neighborhood, Jim observed Chip Hitchcock's car in the rear view mirror. A moment later, we nearly sped past what appeared to be the turnoff. Chip helpfully waved that Jim should keep on going. He did so; Chip no doubt appreciated the way Jim had made room for Chip to execute a right-hand turn up that very road, while Jim had to recover with a 270-degree turn.

In winter this is probably the sort of road that Robert Frost found inspiring; even in late summer it's sufficiently rustic to keep you wondering if you're going the right direction. But we noted two landmarks on the way -- George Flynn and Mike DiGenio. Mike declined our offer to ride on the hood, though we thought it would help us tell when we had arrived if he jumped frantically off.

Debbie King's pool was filling rapidly with NESFAns, as quickly as they could

don swimsuits behind the clotheslined blankets inside the garage (remember "It Happened One Night"?) Swimmers read this ominous warning posted by the pool -- "CAUTION -- LOCH NESFA MONSTER. P.S. Monster takes a special delight in eating people who play 'Dunk Debbie!' This means you." Debbie's pool was a large above-ground type (plastic lining inside a corrugated steel frame) that adapted to a water polo session. For awhile Tony Lewis and Rick Katze anchored their respective teams, but NESFA's insidious need to work together soon broke down teams and led to a communal effort to keep the ball in play. "Outfielders" were called on -- at first to chase down errant volleys, and soon to attempt to deflect misplays back into the pool without breaking rhythm, if possible. I played outfield, since I had no swimsuit. (Ben Yalow did have a suit, and those present discovered he did not have a bowtie tattooed to his neck.) The water volleyball continued throughout the afternoon, with fewer and fewer players. Alyson Abramowitz saw to it that I was as soaked as the people still in the pool. Play was only interrupted during sightings of the Loch Nesfa monster -- dry ice suspended by net into the pool.

Plenty of food was available -- beginning with a fruit-filled watermelon carved as a viking longboat, a Nesfa shield on its sail, cresting a glassy sea of lime jello. Sharon Sbarsky, deputy Cookie Monster, brought cookies shaped as zeros and sevens (twice as many of the latter). Sue Hammond, the one true Cookie Monster, also put in an unexpected appearance, and proved her cookie-making prowess by serving me little flaky-pastry cookies filled with raspberry preserves. And just in case I didn't get the point, Mike DiGenio had baked an immense pair of chocolate chip cookies (pizza-sized). He presented them to Rick Katze and me, on the premise that our diets restricted us to just one cookie.

Boston fandom was incredibly generous to me during my stay -- and I had tremendous fun there. The trip was also fascinating in the purely tourist sense, and I may prepare something from my notes to deal with that some other time.

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I learned of Larry Propp's death while still in Boston. Returning to LA I found -- of all things -- a subscription renewal Propp had mailed me on July 16 with this note: "Dear Mike: Boy, that's gratitude for you. Ross and I go out of our way to honor you at Chicon, and the next thing I get from you of a personal nature is an 'X' on the back page of your magazine telling me my subscription has expired. Well, since I must, I must. Since I want to keep up on all the gosh-wow-oh-boy-oh-boy feuds circulating around fandom, start this re-sub with #42, even if it's already been published." Sorry, Larry, but I'm still waiting for my copies of the blackmail photos we took (you, me, Ross) backstage after I got the award... But I do hope I learn the lesson painfully inflicted by Propp's passing: enjoy your friends while they're here, don't learn their value after they've departed.

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Appropos of that sentiment, I flew to Miami (as did David Schlosser and Lee Ann Goldstein) And attended Janice Gelb's wedding to Neil Weiss on August 14. The temple which hosted the ceremonies was impressive, and the rituals, vows, reception and dinner were carried off in the intended serious fashion (if only because Neil's sister had searched her husband's baggage to make sure he didn't pack along his gorilla suit.) The temple was two blocks from where I stayed on Collins Ave. -- a street much like Sunset Blvd., with the same answer to female unemployment.

Dave Locke: 6828 Alpine Ave. #4,
Cincinnati OH 45236:

I like Susan Rothman's proposed "malifan" label. For a specific definition of malifan let's turn to Jack Vance and his novel THE STAR KING: "Those who ensconce themselves on a thunderous crag of omniscience and, with protestations of humility which are either inconvincing or totally absent, assume the obligation of appraisal, commendation, derogation or denunciation of their contemporaries."



Jackie Causgrove: 6828 Alpine Ave. #4, Cincinnati OH 45236

Mike, have you had any comments come in about Stu Shiffman's plumping for votes for Taral in the past TAFF race (or, should I say Moshe Feder's -- although since Stu was Administrator, I don't see how Moshe could've gotten the vote tally without Stu's assistance)? From this viewpoint, such actions seem more than somewhat suspect. Is "evening the count" a responsibility of the Administrators? Is it ethical to give away information about who is winning or losing before the deadline? And is it seemly to have an Administrator connected with -- even if not actually doing it -- soliciting votes for a particular candidate? I'm mildly amazed that the report of transcontinental phone calls on Taral's behalf didn't draw any reaction at all.

Garth Spencer: 1296 Richardson St., Victoria BC V8V 3E1 CANADA

Ian McKeer obviously has a problem. Anyway, he was just a Brit passing through Edmonton who got roped into editing one issue. Why he came out with all his screaming incoherent hate-screeds I neither know nor care. I think this is what punk rock does to people. If Ian had been in the States instead of Canada, he might just as likely have insulted Britain, or Albania, or Papua-New Guinea. I think he just wanted to get a reaction out of whoever saw the zine. Sure, it's crass, but it's also pathetic. Like a schoolyard bully who never grows up.

I keep running into occasional loccol sniper-fire between American and Canadian fen, triggered by trivia like this incident. American fen may have noticed a neurotic, or even paranoid anxiety on the part of Canadian fen about maintaining their identity with the Great American Media Octopus on the loose, but I perceive an anxiety on the part of American fen every time that tired old issue is raised. As if a few people down there don't feel loved. It is really very interesting and one day I must write an essay about it.

Dave Langford, 94 London Rd., READING, Berkshire RG1 5AU UNITED KINGDOM

Fascinating letter from John Hertz in issue 41. He says I've been sniping at Scientology, which is surely a foul libel, unless you count it sniping to mention (a) Charles Platt's wicked scheme to promote BATTLEFIELD EARTH through doubtless unwilling Scientologists; (b) Andy Prter's report that "members of the Church of Scientology...are actively promoting BATTLEFIELD EARTH far beyond any effort that the publisher, St. Martin's Press, is putting into it... 30,000 copies of the hardcover were acquired by individuals and organizations associated with the Church of Scientology (SFC Jan 83); (c) that the only practising Scientologist and sf fan I happen to know personally, George Hay, was coincidentally chucked out of the Church for reasons he doesn't disclose.

Er, which of these items of reportage is the unfair sniping?

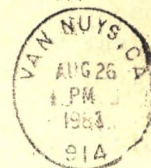
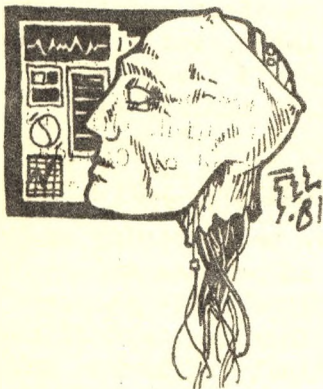
((continued))

((LANGFORD:)) John Hertz also implies the yet more monstrous untruth that I've claimed BATTLEFIELD EARTH to have Scientology in it. Actually I've made no personal comment on the book content, not having read the blasted thing: my usual review copy was expected from New English Library here, but they've now cancelled the book and contract. They say they bought it in an auction conducted by St. Martin's Press but later discovered they had to deal with Author Services Inc., whereupon they cancelled: "Very shady people," said an NEL informant of ASI, but were I to print such an interesting snippet it would of course count as 'sniping' under the inflexible John Hertz Rules of Conduct.

Best of all, JH observes that "Langford's pot shots aren't even 'man bites dog'." I see. All the confusion and controversy surrounding BE is mere normal 'dog bites man' news, and I should instead give maximal coverage to rare and bizarre events such as the publication of books whose mysteriously nonreclusive authors are strangely never rumored to be dead or senile, which are curiously unpublicized by Scientologists, and whose UK editions are unprecedentedly published according to contract.

ART CREDITS: Since the credits for issue #42 were inadvertently forgotten, let's start there: Tim Marion (calligraphy) 1. Al White, 9. Joan Hanke Woods, 11. Alexis Gilliland, 12. Mel White, 15. Bill Kunkel, 19. Mike McGann, 22. ISSUE #43: Al Sirois, 1. Lee Seiler, 3. Alexis Gilliland, 6. Pat Mueller, 11. Jim McLeod, 13. Charles Lee Jackson II, 18. Bill Kunkel, 21. Al White, 22.

EXPLANATION: Both Harlan Ellison and Jerry Kaufman have inquired about the dropped lines between pages 5 and 22 in last issue's Australian conreport. Although the transition was botched -- I did not have access (or record of) to page 5 when it came time to do 22 -- the anecdote on 22 about Jerry winning the joke con bid is precisely what the last lines on page 5 were intended to introduce.



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