

# ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST AT LASFS

Lee Smith became only the fourth member in the history of the LASFS (Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society) to have his membership terminated by 4/5 vote of the club, but was the second to be ousted in less than 2 years. Responding to a motion signed by the requisite number of club members, the LASFS Board of Directors recommended termination at their meeting April 15. On April 19 voting members at the next regular club meeting ended Smith's membership by a margin of 51-1 (2 abstentions). Club rules did not require a stated reason for the action, however from discussion at the meeting it was evident the vote was influenced equally by the bad checks Smith allegedly wrote to Owlswick Press, and claims by the Nivens, Pelzes and the club itself (as witnessed by the treasurer Elayne Pelz) that they have received a series of magazine subscriptions ordered by Smith, unpaid for, and subsequently billed to them. Some of the harassment was attributed to Loscon committee members' preventing Smith from crashing in the con suite last Thanksgiving weekend. Craig Miller testified that Smith admitted to a member ordering the subscriptions. (Among them was a sub to SOVIET LIFE for LASFS.)

Compared to the tribulations LASFS experienced before terminating David Klaus' membership in June 1982, the decision on Smith was quick and painless. No doubt this is a direct effect of the LASFS' debate over Klaus, which created a consensus on what standards prevailed in deciding whether to boot out a member. Besides Smith and Klaus, LASFSians removed from membership over the years were Peter Kranold and George Senda.



## NEBULAS

These are the Nebula Awards winners, presented April 28, 1984 at the Science Fiction Writers of America banquet in Los Angeles:

- BEST NOVEL:** STARTIDE RISING,  
David Brin
- BEST NOVELLA:** "Hardfought"  
Greg Bear
- BEST NOVELETTE:** "Blood Music"  
Greg-Bear
- BEST SHORT STORY:** "The Peacemaker",  
Gardner Dozois
- GRANDMASTER:** Andre Norton

## FILE 770 47

FILE 770:47 is edited and published by Mike Glycer of 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. This clipping service and gossip mongery (mongrel?) is published every few weeks and available in exchange for startling news, feverish rumors, and arranged trades. The best way to get F770, though, is to cough up \$4 for 5 issues -- US bucks please -- and it will be mailed to you first class in N.A., or printed matter overseas. Air overseas for \$1/per.



# HANSEN WINS TAFF

Britain's Rob Hansen has won this year's TRANS-ATLANTIC-FAN-FUND (TAFF) race, and will be dispatched to L.A.Con II. American Administrator Avedon Carol in her zine THE AMNESIA REPORT quoted her British counterpart Kev Smith that the TAFF voting in Europe was a decisive 41 for Rob Hansen and 41 for D. West, with one write-in for Paul Skelton. Avedon read the marginal notes on ballots sent her way, and declared, "We here at the offices of TAFF/US appreciate getting notes that say things like 'It's clear from D. West's platform that he is the British Alina Chu,' and 'I'm voting for West because I think it would be cruel to send a nice guy like Rob Hansen to LA.' Votes for 'Embezzle Funds' are a delight to TAFF administrators who would love to do just that." The final vote was:

	US	UK	TOTAL
ROB HANSEN	60	41	101
D. WEST	19	41	60
HOLD OVER FUNDS	1	0	1
PAUL SKELTON	0	1	1

EUREKACON! Irwin Hirsh, writing about the 23rd National Australian SF Convention, volunteers that "some of the hard news is:"

BEST AUSTRALIAN LONG SF OR F: *YESTERDAYS MEN*, by George Turner  
 BEST AUSTRALIAN SHORT SF OR F: *"Above Atlas His Shoulders"*, by Andrew Whitmore  
 BEST INTERNATIONAL SF OR F: No Award  
 BEST AUSTRALIAN FANZINE: *RATAPLAN/ORNITHOPTER*, ed. Leigh Edmonds  
 BEST AUSTRALIAN FANWRITER: Leigh Edmonds  
 BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR F ARTIST: Nick Stathopoulos  
 BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR F CARTOONIST: John Packer  
 BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR F EDITOR: Van Ikin

Hirsh continues, "The Auctions raised \$260 for DUFF, \$222 for GUFF, and \$89 for The Shaw Fund. (I paid \$10 for each of 2 issues of HYPHEN that Walt Willis donated to the fund. \$10 was the reserve on each, and two people hit themselves for having missed that auction.)

"The right to host the 1986 Australian Science Fiction Convention was won by a bid from Perth. Swancon 11 will be held over Easter of that year. GoH is A.E. Van Vogt. FGoH is Jack Herman. Membership rates are \$15 (attending) and \$10 (supporting until 6/30."

Our intrepid correspondent seems to have overslept the event at this convention of most impact on North American fandom: "There were a number of changes to the constitution of the Australia Science Fiction Society, including some changes to the Ditmar categories (again). Section 3.02 was amended by deleting 'except where the Site Selection Meeting determines otherwise.' As a result of Section 4.03, 'Changes to the Constitution take effect on the first day of office of the incoming Committee.' This means that the 1985 Convention has been taken away from Seattle and will be held in Adelaide. I'm not sure that I like these retrospective changes, but as I wasn't at the business meeting (I wasn't feeling the best) I guess I can't complain....A proposal to delete the whole constitution was defeated by, I understand, one vote, 13 to 12. I wish I had made it to the business meeting."



Readers should remember that last's year's DUFF delegate, Jerry Kaufman, and his accomplice, Clifford Wind, maneuvered the Australian National SF Convention's business meeting into awarding their 1985 con to Seattle, taking advantage of rules which had not provided for geographic limits. Based on Kaufman's fanzines, many American fans were looking forward to attending the 1985 Aussie national. Holding it in Seattle was certainly the only way I was assured to attending both the Aussie national and the Aussie worldcon. In fact, I would think it sets rather a poor example for Australians to pull such parliamentary shennanigans when there's a Worldcon business meeting in the offing, just down the coast from poor, victimized Seattle...

## MCFI

In a letter dated April 26, Leslie Turek urged the sf community to make donations to the "Constellation fund" of the Massachusetts Convention Fandom Inc. so that it might be combined with the \$10,000 MCFI has authorized to bail out ConStellation and applied in the immediate future as leverage to carry out their plan for satisfying the con's creditors.

MCFI, which put on the 1980 WorldCon (Noreascon II), having both expertise and undistributed profits, has been working damage control to minimize the impact of ConStellation's insolvency on future WorldCon operations.

Turek's letter asked: "Why should formal bankruptcy be avoided? (1) In a formal bankruptcy, the date of bankruptcy would likely be established as being during ConStellation or possibly even earlier. All funds paid out after the date could be subject to an attempt to recapture





them for general distribution to the creditors. For example, this could include monies paid to artists by the ConStellation Art Show and have other severe repercussions. (2) No WorldCon has formally gone bankrupt before and it would, of necessity, have negative effects on the dealings of future WorldCon committees with hotels, decorators, and other service suppliers. (3) At least one of ConStellation's major creditors, their printer, is generally acknowledged to have been a 'good guy' who went out of his way in providing services to help a WorldCon, did not ask for much payment in advance, has cooperated in ConStellation's efforts to stretch out its repayments, and is now hurting because of ConStellation's financial situation. The only advantage we have heard advanced for formal bankruptcy is that it might act as a lesson to others. We feel that, within fandom, any lessons are more likely to be learned either via informal personal channels or by formal inclusion in the WSFS Constitution. We believe that the negative consequences of formal bankruptcy far outweigh any positives."

While sharing the overall view of the MCFI appeal, I feel some of its premises are overstated. For one, it implicitly assumes that ConStellation's last resort is bankruptcy. In fact, most business entities that become defunct simply cease operation. Bankruptcy proceedings cost money, too, whether you look at it from the con's side, or the creditors' side. Creditors would find it uneconomical to pursue ConStellation's almost-empty shell. Connie could expend the last of its funds paying bills, file a final tax return, and vanish, secure in the knowledge that, even at that, they've done more than many in the same position. The letter further conjectures that bankruptcy court might try to retrieve payments to artists -- really? ConStellation essentially acted as a broker, and had no claim on the gross receipts aside from its fees and commissions. Bankruptcy court would have a weak claim on the artists, and therefore this suggestion by MCFI takes on the color of a scare tactic, despite the sincere concern of the writer.

MCFI's strategy, short of coming up with enough money to pay off all the legitimate debts, first hoped to settle those debts for so many cents on the dollar. Their advisors predicted most creditors would settle for 50%-7% of their claims. In April, the three largest creditors -- the printer, the decorator, and DiamondVision -- claimed around \$36,000. Smaller creditors accounted for the balance of \$38,000 total indebtedness. MCFI's \$10,000 could not swing the proposed settlement without further fannish assistance. MCFI doubted they could, alone, even buy out enough debts (at discount) to become the dominant creditor and retain control in a formal bankruptcy, MCFI hoped to cobble together enough other donations to have \$20,000 available for purposes of settling ConStellation's bills.

Since the letter was distributed, Rick Katze has contacted all of ConStellation's creditors, and 2 of the 8 largest have already agreed to a buyout of their debts (DiamondVision and Gestetner). Over the phone 6/11 Katze sounded confident that settlement will be reached with them all provided the necessary money becomes available. He said there remained \$38,000 in undisputed debt -- beyond which are claims for equipment unordered by ConStellation which was delivered and "disappeared," and wear/breakage in the facilities (partly insured) which the con regards as normal usage (and arguably included in the basic rental charges).

Financial response to MCFI's letter has been very slow. PSFS, the Philadelphia club, tabled a motion to consider donation of \$1000 to MCFI in anticipation of June 22's Midwestcon where the Chicon 2 Board of Directors is scheduled to meet





**YES, BOYS AND GIRLS, NOW YOU TOO CAN HAVE  
YOUR VERY OWN TOY X-FIGHTER AND A  
SCALE-MODEL OF THE DEATHSTAR!!**

and determine its own response to MCFI's plea for funds..

**STRAY NEWSON PARTICLE:**  
NESFA has sent to press the Gordon Dickson book planned for sale at L.A.Con II.

**WSFS TRADEMARKING**  
Donald Eastlake III believes that the certificates of registration will be issued on all but one of the Worldcon-associated terms submitted for trademarking, such as WorldCon and Hugo. Only "Science Fiction Achievement Award", the formal name for the Hugo, has been shortstopped in the bureaucracy, due to

their view that it is a description virtually generic in nature. Eastlake, however, feels that caselaw in this area provides the basis for further consideration. The attorney he is working through says it would be useful to have letters from people stating that they recognize "Science Fiction Achievement Award" as a specific award, and that it is a term synonymous with Hugo. Naturally, this would have to be expressed in the writer's own words. Since the clock is running in this registration process, letters should be sent, soon, to WSFS, PO Box 1270, Cambridge MA 02142. If you are a prominent person, or have some expertise (other than the self-serving background of being a Worldcon honcho or Hugo-winner) that would lend authority to your views, don't be shy.

Otherwise, so far as Eastlake knows no opposition has been filed against any of the WSFS' requested trademarks during their publication phase.

**WORLDCON STANDING COMMITTEE:** The World Science Fiction Society's Standing Committee has been finalized with the addition of appointed members from each existing worldcon, and the past two worldcons. Added were: Ross Pavlac (Chicon 2), Peggy Rae Pavlat (ConStellation), Milton F. Stevens (L.A.Con II), and John Foyster (Aussiecon 2). The nine other members elected at ConStellation were Leslie Turek, George Flynn, Ben Yalow, Jim Gilpatrick, Kent Bloom, Craig Miller, Willie Siro, and Rick Katze. (Source: Donald Eastlake III)

**SCI FIC FAN MAKES GOOD:** Joel Rosenberg's "Writing Fantasy That Lives" is the cover article for 7/84's WRITER'S DIGEST. Rosenberg has promoted one of fandom's own to prominence in a sidebar to the article called, "Now, Really, What is Fantasy?" The item concludes, "...Which is why fantasy writer Darrell Schweitzer likes to say that to outline fantasy, you 'put a circle around all of fiction, then chop off what isn't fantasy.' And which is also why I like to say, 'I agree with Darrell.'" Heck, this is even better than the issue that quoted Joe Celko in two different places about word processors...



DAVE LANGFORD OUTRAGED: Which just goes to prove that not everything that appears in a newzine is "new"... Quoting Dave from THE BRIGHTON EARLY, Seacon's daily newsletter published Easter weekend in April: "What wallies photographers are. After finding the front row reserved for gophers /at Bob Shaw's 'serious scientific talk'/ Deaf Fandom ended up sitting some way back (and, incidentally, being vastly irritated at seeing the front row mostly filled with people who were patently not gophers). If you don't know what being deaf is like: it's necessary to concentrate furiously, watch mighty Bob Shaw's every lip movement, and so on. Imagine my delight when -- with the apparent connivance of jolly session chairman Ian Sorensen -- a number of wallies, many of them Keith Walker, pranced oafishly around taking photographs for a good period of the talk. They, but especially that famed member of the Illiterati K. Walker, constantly distracted attention from the speaker, got in audience members' line of sight, let off flashguns to help divert attention from Bob's jokes, and generally managed to drive me from the hall after half an hour's effort to concentrate on the talk. Deaf Fandom says, 'Shoot the buggers!'" What?

AUSSIECON II CHARTER INFORMATION: The official charter designated by Aussiecon 2 is being organized by Lee Smoire, Travel 100 Unlimited Inc., 100 W. Monument St., Baltimore MD 21201. Joyce Scrivner has circulated an information flyer discussing the merits of various agents, and of the official charter's handout in Aussie PR#1 she says, "there isn't very much hard information on the flyer, especially considering the fact that they have a few hundred questionnaires with data from people who plan to attend Aussiecon Two which they gathered at ConStellation. I have not heard a word from them other than the flyer...." Any info Lee wishes to direct to me will be relayed via F770 -- subject to editing for space, of course. Joyce recommended writing to: Rick Foss, Ladera Travel Service, 2041 Rosecrans Ave. #103, El Segundo CA 90245. Phone: (213)640-0527. Foss attended the Australian National SF Convention Easter weekend.

CINCINNATI IN 1988: Reads a flyer that came my way, listing as a contact address 1918 Ashbrook Dr., Cincinnati OH 45238. ((Yes, Jack, I know you wrote me a page of material to fill in under this heading, but I obviously misplaced it in the process of doing RATTAIL FILE #2...))

CREATIVE FINANCING: The Phoxphyre Project, announced by the Philadelphia in '86 Worldcon bid committee as a "subjective" history of early fandom from photos, interviews, and fanzine articles, has requested grant funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Committee seeks \$12,000 for use between January 1985 and June 1986 to duplicate photos, fanzines, other period material, and to transcribe interviews made at various times by fans from the period. The term "subjective" history is used because it will draw upon individual memories of the events of early fandom, and how it felt to be a fan.

As part of the grant application, the Committee forwarded excerpts of its material compiled about the first SF convention ever held (October 24, 1936 in Philadelphia). This included portions of an interview with Dave Kyle, written material by Pohl, Madle, Rothman, Train and Jack Agnew, and photographs by Herbert Goudket.

*Hm, thought the editor to himself, how is it two simultaneously-existing Worldcon bids for different years are campaigning on the premise that they will be commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the first sf convention? Britain in '87 boasts Leeds in 1937 as the site of "first organized sf convention ever", with attendance of 11. What was Philly in 1936 -- the world's first disorganized sf con? Anyway, the NEH is supposed to reply by the summer. The National Endowment for the Humanities is notoriously unsympathetic to anything smacking of popular culture, but since Phoxphyre is apparently fan-run, maybe they'll fund it as a slap in the face to pop culture academics?*



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## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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rich brown & Linda Blanchard 13404 Forest Glen, Woodbridge VA 22191  
Alan White, 139 S. St. Andrews Pl. #3, Los Angeles CA 90004  
StLSFS, PO Box 1058, St. Louis MO 63188  
David Klaus, PO Box 78232, St. Louis MO 63178-8232; (314)231-0439  
Claude Degler, PO Box 1547, Indianapolis IN 46206  
Gay & Joe Haldeman, 345 Grove St., Ormond Beach FL 32074  
Claire & Dave Anderson, 8 Alma Ave., Belmont MA 02178  
Cindy McAuliffe, 52 Keeler St., Rochester NY 14621  
John Sulak, #31-318 E. 6th St., NYC NY 10003  
Stephen M. St. Onge, 3500 Perry Ave. N, Crystal MN 55422  
Priscilla Pollner, 18 Learned St. Apt. B, Framingham MA 01701  
Linda Lounsbury 3741 1st Ave. S. #8, Minneapolis MN 55409  
Larry Gelfand, 16 Lakeview Ave., Arlington MA 02174

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ASSORTED PERSONALS: Elizabeth Jane Lerner was born to Fred and Sheryl Lerner last September 20, 1983. (Hey, news is where you find it...) // Yale Edeiken was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar, which should turn out handy now that he's practicing law in that state. Perhaps he can be enlisted in the custody battle between Boston and Philadelphia over the mantle of true NESFAhood. (Little Red NESFAhood?)

# MARITAL BLISS BEGINS

(The Midwestern nuptials of the year, described by our society analyst Marie Bartlett) Hillarie Oxman and Mark (formerly "Madman") Riley were united in marriage Sunday, May 6, 1984, at the home of Jon and Joni Stopa -- Wilmot Mountain, Wilmot, Wisconsin. Bridesmaid was Chicago fan Alexi Hebel. Groomsman was Brian Bjorgen.

Hillarie and Mark had asked me to help with the photography and video taping of the ceremony. "Get there early," they said, "so you can learn how to run the video tape camera." So I got there at 9AM (the wedding scheduled for 1 PM). The only persons up were Jon Stopa and the cats. But since I was there so early I was the only person to get shots of the setting up, cooking, etc., and Hillarie having breakfast.

Hillarie is a beautiful woman at any time. She even looks good without makeup the first thing in the morning. On her wedding day she was breathtaking. She wore an ivory suit and blouse, with a broad-brimmed hat and veil. She carried a bouquet of 6 long-stemmed roses tied with a red, trailing ribbon. And she glowed.

Mark wore a navy pinstriped suit and was chalk-white with nerves. ((According to Joni Stopa's WEDDINGS AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM, "He wanted to wear a cowboy hat as well, and Hillary /sic/ told him he could only if he could find one to match his suit, in grey pin stripes." Why a difference of opinion about the color of Riley's suit, Marie calling it navy, Joni calling it grey? F770's crack investigative reporters will pursue this hot news item with due intensity.))

The wedding was a small affair, with a little over 30 guests at dinner. Guests were immediate family members from both sides and a few close friends including a coworker of Mark's who, although not fannish, was certainly not normal. Fannish guests were Alexi's husband Bill, Benji Lieberman, Mike Glicksohn, and of course,



the Stopas. Glicksohn's girl friend (choose one) (a) Donna, (b) Doris, (c) Marie, did not attend.

Joni Stopa catered the dinner herself. It featured rock cornish game hen, wild rice, stuffing, glazed carrots, homemade cream of mushroom soup, tossed salad with Joni's special dressing. Outstanding job.

For the chocolate lovers in your readership, I must describe the cake. It was made by Chocolate Unlimited of Chicago. The cake itself was rich chocolate with three layers of mocha creme per tier. Rather than being frosted, the cake was dipped in the finest quality chocolate and ended with 1/8 inch of chocolate all over it. Then it was decorated with white whipped cream piping and red sugar roses. Instant diabetes.

Mike Azaritti (I hope I spelled that right), Midwestern fan, did the work of professional photographer, and director of video taping. He had two video cameras going during the ceremony and following hugs I ran the stationary one from the top of a four foot, wobbly ladder with Joni bracing me. Mike's assistant ran the roving camera. The final edited tape ought to be really nice.

The happy couple spent their wedding night at the Hyatt-O'Hare, then traveled the next day to exotic Bolingbrook, IL, with a side trip to Romeoville. They will be living in Bolingbrook. And as if this weren't all wonderful enough, to cap it all, Mark's cat, Tata, approves of this all. So there.

RACHEL HOLMEN OUT, OR AT LEAST NOT IN, AT LOCUS : In her letter dated April 9 Rachel offered for publication the statement, "On March 30, Charlie fired me from LOCUS as of the end of May. My chief fear now is that he'll try to unfire me (especially when I ask for a better severance agreement than he's offering) and try to make it seem that I've left him in the lurch or left of my own accord."

Rachel, the Managing Editor of LOCUS, has been to the dais at a few Worldcons to collect the well-known newzine's Hugos. The announcement of her separation from LOCUS finally penetrated the pages of LOCUS itself, on page 44 of the June 1984 issue, although Rachel Holmen's name adorned the LOCUS masthead again. The LOCUS announcement was brief, and from my point of view did not put any misleading connotations into its wording of the item.

SETH BREIDBART DENIES EVERYTHING: "For FILE 770 (and the record)," begins New York fan Seth Breidbart, "It has come to my attention that there exist rumors that the NY 86 bid is insolvent, or nearly so. To my certain knowledge, this is not so. Assets exceed Liabilities, and Assets plus Projected Income exceeds Liabilities plus Projected Expenses. (Projections up to the voting at L.A.Con 'II.) The income projections include only committee dues; such items as t-shirts, pre-whatever memberships, etc., which cannot be counted on, were not considered." *This has been a free left-handed ad for the cause of your choice.*

LITERACY REWARDED: Says the press release -- and why ad lib when I can simply copy? -- The Baltimore Science Fiction Society Inc. each year awards \$500 to the best first novel in the science fiction/fantasy field. The preliminary selection is made by a dedicated crew of omnivorous readers, and the final voting is made by the general membership of the organization. This year's winner, judged the best first novel of 1983, was THE WAR FOR ETERNITY by Christopher Rowley, published by Del Rey Books. The plaque and check were presented to Rowley April 21. (Well, I did edit a bit, for example, reinserting omitted prepositions.)



A. BERTRAM CHANDLER DIES: Australian science fiction writer A. Bertram Chandler died June 6, two days after being hospitalized for a heart attack, according to Carey Handfield. Chandler had a strong fannish following in the US, and the most avid fan of his I knew was Ross Pavlac. Although the 1976 SF EXPO was a dud, it did pay Chandler's way to the US, and Pavlac had entertained him in Ross' Columbus apartment. When I visited Ross there in March 1977, he still had an ashtray full of Chandler's burned-up tobacco...which lasted until I accidentally knocked it over...

LARRY NIELSEN: According to Dwain Kaiser, Larry Nielsen recently died as the result of falling in the bathtub, possibly after a seizure. Larry was found by a real estate salesman showing the house. Nielsen's fannish accomplishments were highlighted by his origination of SOUTH OF THE MOON, the apa index, and his role as second editor of APA H (for hoaxes).

SILLY SEASON IN THE WESTERN REGION: With July 4th fast approaching Westercon bidders are moving into a last-minute round of heavy politicking. The San Diego in '86 bid, featuring Scott Norton, Gail and James Hanrahan, among others, has been putting in appearances at LASFS to drum up support. After Vancouver abandoned its bid they thought the coast was clear, but Terry Gish of Phoenix is seeking write-in support on the mail ballot. Assessing my phone conversation with Terry, when she visited Conquistador in San Diego, she felt the San Diego worldcon bidding crew was exerting more effort on behalf of Conquistador than the Westercon bidders until they found out Phoenix had taken the field against them.

WHO WILL CHAIR THE 1987 WESTERCON? It won't be Dan Deckert of Los Angeles, who announced in the May 3 APA L, "As much as I would like to chair a Westercon, the time and circumstances just aren't right for me now." His work schedule, and duties as the L.A.Con II mailman, have prevented him from attending this year's Portland (OR) Westercon to actively publicize his bid. At the time he wrote he expected two other LASFS members to take up the cause -- and he emphatically did not endorse the other LA Bid (run by "Random Realities") announced by Keith Williams. Besides citing philosophical differences with Keith, Dan criticized Williams' proposed facility, the Los Angeles Airport Hilton, as being inadequately designed to contain something as large as Westercon."

Danny Low writes to remind us about two Bay Area rivals also bidding for Westercon. Danny repeatedly calls them 1986 bids, but Marty Massoglia and Terry Gish tell me they're 1987 bids, and majority rules. Mike Siladi's bid has signed a letter of intent with the San Jose Red Lion Inn. Rival bidders Lisa Deutsch Harrigan and Karen Savitsky hope to hold the 1986 Westercon in the Oakland Hyatt and adjoining convention center. Low advises, "If this sounds familiar, it is because the 1983 Westercon bids were both Bay Area bids using the same two hotels. The 1986 bids are by two different groups but with large overlaps of people in the two old bid groups." The 1983 Westercon was held in San Jose, and fans felt its Red Lion Inn facility was highly successful, aside from its lack of a room sufficiently large to hold all the potential attendees of the Masquerade.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Baycon will move its date, adds Danny Low, to Memorial Day weekend. The next one will be in 1985. The change removes a conflict with Loscon now held annually over Thanksgiving Day weekend -- always a silly conflict considering the dearth of traditional sf cons in California.

NORTHEAST ENTREPRENEURS: Instant Message #361 shows that the NESFA Exec gave Jim Mann permission to call the NASFiC committee and offer to do a book for them, on terms essentially the same as previous Worldcons. But, "Texas may have cash flow problems currently -- Kurt /Baty/ has reportedly gotten them to invest all their funds in certificates of deposit."





HARRY A. HOPKINS  
PO Box 4278  
San Bernardino CA 92409

I take great exception to your comments in FILE 770:46 concerning the FANDOM DIRECTORY (published by me) and OTHERGATES (published by Millea Kenin). How you can make conclusions on the 13,000+ entries in the FANDOM DIRECTORY based solely upon a single "hoax" club at your address is beyond me. If the club was a hoax, which you claim died in 1974, how come you submitted the club to us for publication in the FANDOM DIRECTORY in 1980? Also, how come you have continued to accept mail for the defunct club at your address? Finally, why did you not contact me to inform me of the alleged mistake instead of practicing the restraint common of junior high school newspaper editors by blurting out accusations without consulting the source?

((Since the only update I have ever sent anywhere regarding FRIENDS OF KLINGON was to write upon a flyer, soliciting updates in your name, that FOK had been defunct for years, I marvel at how your data entry system managed to turn that



1980 feedback into a renewal of the club's listing. Why have I continued to accept mail for the defunct club? (At my parents' address, incidentally.) I didn't think that the three or four neos per year who were peculiar enough to send SASEs, usually with witty notes, were undeserving of an explanation. For about five years I had a supply of flyers telling how the hoax originated. In the early days, paperback Trekkie-oriented books perpetuated FOK's listing. They were one-shots I could do nothing about. In your case, having furnished you with information which you failed to deal with correctly, I went on to more pressing chores.))

Even worse than the unrestrained verbiage you used on me and my efforts, is the similarly well-researched piece you wrote concerning Millea Kenin and her fine publication. Millea and I are providing FREE listings to fans, clubs, cons and publications in the FANDOM DIRECTORY and OTHERGATES. These are services to Fandom-at-large and as such rely upon Fandom a great deal to keep the information current. I personally send out two mailings per year to keep the data current in the Directoy and offer a "double your money back" guarantee for any incorrect addresses returned by the Post Office to anyone renting my mailing lists. I know Millea makes at least one such mailing herself each year. She and I also share our information.

((Why don't you just admit that your methods have obvious holes in them, though they may be adequate to trim a considerable amount of deadwood? Measured by the mailings of yours I have received, besides that defunct club, you show me at duplicate addresses, and you show my fanzine at duplicate addresses. Perhaps you have fixed that by now? My Woodman address took effect April 1981, with no little amount of publicity considering my LOCUS ads and F770 itself. Basically you're telling me that you make virtually no use of major published sources to verify your list. If that's the way you want to do business, proceed. But it is a business, isn't it. Please spare us the righteousness about "providing FREE listings" -- I count it no great service to receive multiple mailers attempting to sell me plastic bags. I don't object to it, but don't expect it to fill me with gratitude.))

If there is any fault in Millea's and my systems, it is in our belief in people. We agree in our assessment that people want their information current and accurate and are willing to make an effort to keep it so. Personally, we do not go out of our way to deliberately publish inaccurate information. It seems to me, however, that you prefer manufacturing controversy to accurate reporting. I do not plan to cancel my subscription to FILE 770 because I eagerly await your written retraction. If you had stated that I suffered from "terminal laziness" like you said of Millea, I would do much more than simply wait for a retraction.

((I'm sure Millea will be glad when you take your foot out of her mouth. As for your empty threats, Hopkins, I challenge you to raise your standards in updating your lists. For example, when I prepare an sf clubs list, I circularize all past-listed clubs, and drop all those who do not respond unless I have solid evidence of their continued existence. After all, many people who once hosted sf clubs may have dropped the club without moving.))

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DICK SPELMAN  
PO Box 2079  
Chicago IL 60690

Your comments on last year's Windycon involve two different people, not one as indicated. The overall loss was less than the seed money for the convention and the error might well have been

discovered prior to the convention but for the untimely death of our original



## Hotel Liaison.

The income statement from ConStellation only adds to the confusion about the true deficit of the Worldcon. The figure for Huckster fees shown is \$10,120... ((Dick uses a few computations to prove what I should have mentioned in the first place -- the revenue figures published represented only 1983, not the total income since the first day Connie went into business.))

TOM VEAL  
112 Roberts Ct.  
Alexandria VA 22314

I noticed in #46 a snippet of a phone message from my good friend and fellow gossip monger John Mitchell, who, on this particular occasion, is spreading unrumors. Windycon X in fact broke even

(or came within a very few dollars of doing so). That it did not enjoy the customary obscene profits was largely due to the hotel's charging us for the con suite, but our hotel liaison, Ross Pavlac, is in no way responsible for this misfortune. Ross took over as liaison when Larry Propp died, long after the hotel contract had been negotiated and signed.

John's apparent belief that Ross profited personally from his position is also erroneous. Quite the contrary, as the Pavlacs wound up the convention considerably out of pocket as the result of voluntary expenditures on the con's behalf.

((I apologize to Ross and Diana Pavlac for publishing such stupid misinformation. Any number of things might have gone right to drop that item from issue 46, but they didn't. John Mitchell has a good track record with me as sources go, but he did not name, nor was I aware of the identity of, the hotel liaison connected with the statement. Had I pursued that information, I would have made the connection with information in hand about Windycon's program and sought an accurate explanation. Speaking of phone messages, John Mitchell left another recording to the effect that his written retraction was on its way, but it has not yet been received as I type this.))

SETH BREIDBART  
1623-42B Third Ave.  
NYC NY 10128

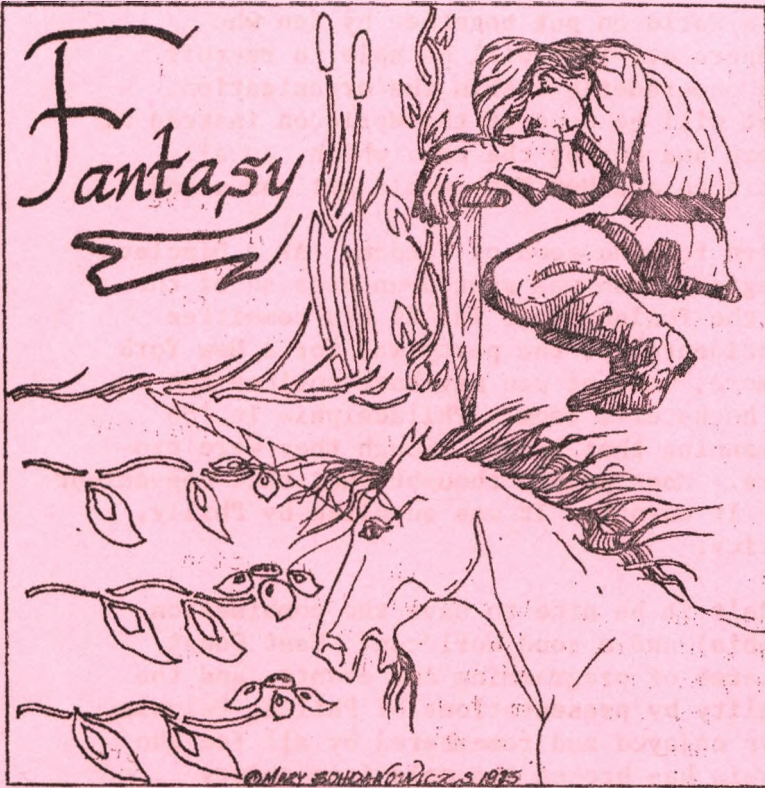
Now, the figures I promised you at Minicon, but didn't get a chance to give you there. (Do you accept sleazy rumors and volatile innuendo about yourself for subscription extensions?)

The raw crime data is taken from the FBI Uniform Crime Report, for the period January to June, 1983, released Sunday, October 23, 1983 (the most recent period for which I could get data.) The population figures are taken from the FBI Uniform Crime Report for 1982, entitled "Crime in the United States

RAW DATA	<u>Murder</u>	<u>Forcible Rape</u>	<u>Robbery</u>	<u>Agr. Assault</u>	<u>Burglary</u>	<u>Larceny</u>	<u>Mtr. Veh. Theft</u>
ATLANTA	77	291	1720	2477	6397	11569	1495
NEW YORK	758	1807	40686	20648	72204	119314	44684
PHILADELPHIA	142	369	5674	2586	11271	18826	6937
Per 1,000,000 population (population							
ATLANTA	175	660	3899	5615	14502	26227	3389
NEW YORK	107	255	5733	2910	10175	16813	6297
PHILADELPHIA	84	219	3362	1532	6697	11156	4111

Needless to say, none of these figures is directly applicable to a Worldcon,





since a Worldcon occurs only in parts of a city; in New York, the district containing our hotels is the major tourist area (aka Broadway), and is very well policed, compared with (say) Harlem or the South Bronx, neither of which is on our recommended list of places to visit. I am sure that similar situations apply to both of our competitors. (I am on the NY bid, which you know but some of your readers may not.)

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SUSAN AMY ROTHMAN  
6212 La Mirada Ave. #224  
Hollywood CA 90068

---

I would like to say some words in favor of the Philadelphia in '86 Worldcon bid. Philadelphia is a quiet bid, but very active indeed. It is a quiet bid because within, and surrounding it, there are no conflicts. It is a controversial

bid which so often gains attention, and the Philly bid is anything but that.

Some things to consider: To have a good Worldcon, it is important to have enough people running it, and this must also be a group of people who are harmonious in their dealings with one another.

ATLANTA does not seem to have this capability. Guy Lillian claims that there is now unity in Southern Fandom. I know from human experience that such overnight changes cannot occur. Referring to F770:42 where Angela Howell is quoted as saying "If nothing nice can be said about someone it will not go in print." (Emphasis added by this commentator.) I can only interpret this to mean that they will give a concerted effort to toning down the publicity of their feuds, in essence a sweeping under the carpet, which in turn could place an appearance of unity, for the express purpose of gaining support for the Worldcon bid. What will happen after the bid is won? I do not believe in the miracle of instant harmony, and I certainly wouldn't want to take that gamble with my Worldcon.

NEW YORK is so split up between factions of this and that as to be analogous to a shattered window. To describe the goings-on there, where power is king and power-plays the style, I would need the rest of this page, at least. I was a New York fan for seven years before moving to the West Coast, and I know that they will not be able to smoothly run a Worldcon. If they win the bid, the window will not automatically repair itself. Has anyone noticed that the same city is running two bids?

PHILADELPHIA, on the other hand, is a very unified group whose proximity defies the disunity of New York. Philly, a very charming city in its own right, is



but a stone's throw away from NY so that anyone wishing to visit the Big Apple may do so with ease, while they attend a Worldcon put together by fen who respect one another and know how to cooperate. They will be able to recruit people with ease, and maintain a stable camaraderie within the organization. They will be able to concentrate on what will be done at the Worldcon instead of how to put up with each other both before and during the con, which, as all indications seem to point out, both Atlanta and New York would get ensnarled.

Philadelphia has demonstrated its concern for the good of Fandom. At a Disclave several years ago when a party for a regional con was shut down because of the cooking device being used in the room, the Philadelphia in '86 bid committee donated food which saved the party. Incidentally, the party was for a New York con. At this year's Worldcon in Baltimore, many of you may have noticed the shipping materials at the front of the huckster's room. Philadelphia in '86 supplied the materials and the people manning that table, though they were prohibited from advertising their bid there. Most people thought that this convenient service was supplied by ConStellation. It wasn't. It was supplied by Philly, and they did it for Fandom -- not politics.

For the 50th year of conventions, wouldn't it be nice to have the combination of the city where it started (Philadelphia) and a good Worldcon? East Coast Fandom is proud of its innovations in terms of programming and events, and the Philly bid has demonstrated its originality by presentations of Phil A. Delphia, Secret Agent 86, a series of radio plays enjoyed and remembered by all fen who have been an audience to it. Philadelphia has broken the mold from celery sticks and potato chips by offering some originality, entertainment, and hard work. Isn't that what a Worldcon is all about?

I support the Philadelphia in '86 Worldcon bid because it makes sense to do so, and I urge others to do the same.

---

HARRY WARNER, JR.  
423 Summit Ave.  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

I had already seen the sad news about Olon Wiggins in the Denver clubzine. Unfortunately, the obituary note you used contained an error: Olon's fanzine was THE SCIENCE FICTION FAN,

not THE ALCHEMIST. I suppose it's inevitable that the death notice would emphasize his relationship to cons, in today's fandom where cons are so important. But Olon was mainly a very important figure in fanzine fandom. I doubt if statistics exist on the matter, but I suspect that the SFFan held a record for number of pages published under one fanzine title for quite a few years. Another clue to his prominence in early fandom is the fact that the index of THE IMMORTAL STORM gives references to him on 30 of the volume's 252 pages of text.

The League of Women Voters will be furious with me, but I must fail my duty to participate in the Hogu and Blackhole balloting. I can only pleade ignorance: I don't know enough about conventions or video games or professional misdeeds to enable me to intelligently engage in making people feel bad.

The cover is magnificent this time. I say that in spite of the way it stirs up memories I'd just as soon forget, about the three years I spent struggling with computer terminals at the office. Sometimes they behaved as if they were hooked up just like the one in Brad Foster's drawing. More than a year after retirement, I still can't enjoy watching my little twelve-inch black and white video set when



I want to use it to pick up a station not carried on the cable which serves my color set. I keep expecting the small screen to shove a keyboard out from its underpart and put a flashing cursor on the screen and to type out messages objecting to everything I do to its controls.

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DONALD FRANSON  
6543 Babcock Ave.  
North Hollywood CA 91606

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I think Ted White is wrong to want to let "them" go bankrupt. Consider the effect on future Worldcons. Will any Worldcon get easy credit again? (On second thought, why do Worldcons need credit, with all that up-front membership money?) And consider the effect on WSFS, unincorporated. Won't bankruptcy of any of its member conventions taint WSFS, even if uninc? It's a good thing

I'm not a lawyer, nor a judge (though I've been on juries) or I might think that the parent organization, which chooses and regulates convention committees, would be liable for their debts, regardless of the escape clause in Article I, Section 5. See also Section 7, which provides for surpluses going to WSFS as a whole -- couldn't this be construed as meaning the opposite too (deficits)?

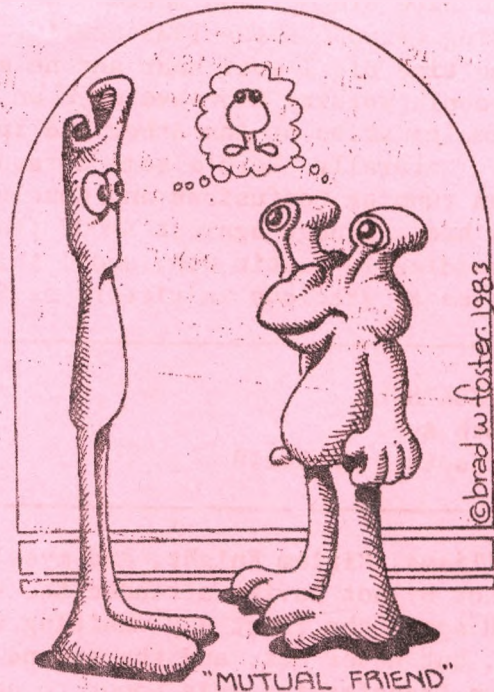
I think it is imperative to bail out ConStellation regardless of fault, and do it quick. Negative statements of blame don't help solve the immediate problem, nor encourage contributions. Let "Diamond Vision" be a symbol of unnecessary waste and a warning to future con committees. I know, the US and all other governments are far worse debtors, but fans are more responsible than mundanes, aren't they? ((Not so I've noticed...))

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BRIAN EARL BROWN  
20101 W. Chicago #201  
Detroit MI 48228

I was quite amazed by the item on the back page of F770:45 from Dick Smith. In fact I was so amazed that my jaw plopped straight down, dislodging my foot from its usual resting place,

allowing me to walk normally for the first time in months. Conclave had a nice hotel in terms of physical plant -- the huckster's room was a little small but the hotel was laid out on a pentagonal pattern so nothing was further than a short walk (in either direction) from anywhere else. In interior decor of the public areas was a friendly, bookish sort, utterly appropriate for science fiction conventions. It's just a pity that the management easily set new standards in incompetency. I heard that they completely double-booked the hotel and were giving out rooms to walk-ins well before the 6PM deadline for reservations to be claimed. The concon insisted, I'm told, that the manager attend the Sunday "bitch" session to hear people's complaints about how unprofessionally he conducted his business. But...I don't see how /Smith/ can hold the concon responsible for all that, as /he/ seems to with his crack about "this is the con run by the people





who would have brought you Detroit in '85." Moreover, Conclave was not run by SMOOF, the bidding group for the 1985 NASFiC. I am a member of SMOOF (SE Mich. Org. of Fans) and at no time did I ever hear anyone say, "Hey, we're running Conclave." Now many of the people working Conclave were on the SMOOF committee but why not, SMOOF was an amalgamation of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti fans (and Detroiters like Denice and myself). Naturally there's some cossrover. Moreover, these are the same people who have been running Confusions and Conclaves successfully for several years now. Dick has had a grudge against SMOOF from the beginning. But the bidding is over, Dick's buddies in Austin won, and I think it would be ever so nice if Dick could learn to be as gracious in victory as SMOOF has been in defeat.

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MIKE DECKINGER  
649 16th Ave.  
San Francisco CA 94118

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Marty Cantor's CORFLU report in #46 was incomplete -- I'd hate to have him run my con. For the record, a few other relics of the 50s and 60s who attended included: Mike McInerney,

Paul Williams, Miriam Knight, and myself. The Guest-of-Honor, who qualified for that honor by not having attended the selection process, turned out to be myself. Said GoH spent the first day chatting with some folks he had known for two-and-a-half decades, but never met, and the second day recovering from a lingering illness, thereupon transferring this honor to another unprepared soul.

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ROBERT K. ROSE  
PO Box 213  
Lakewood CA 90712

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Like many other fans, it was with great interest that I read over the list of Hugo nominees in the last F770. However, unlike many other fans, when it came to the nominations for Best Fanzine, I

did not utter in tones of disbelief: "The Philk WHAT? Paul J. WHO!?" For it was I, along with Eric Gerds and Gary Anderson, who spearheaded the "Put the PHILK FEE-NOM EE NON on the 1984 Hugo ballot" stuffing campaign. We did this for several reasons. First off, in all honesty, it IS one of the five best fanzines I read regularly. (How many do I read regularly? Oh, let's see...um, well, more than five, I think...) and definitely the most often referred to, as it contains primarily filksongs which we sing regularly at the monthly Filker's Anonymous gatherings in the LA area; it is the ONLY fanzine I know that in 30 issues has been late only ONCE on a monthly (approximately) schedule. Also, we figured that with the confusion about putting LOCUS and all those in another category and the con in LA (a huge percentage of the zine's 100+ readership is in Southern California) we'd never have a better shot at getting a filkzine on the ballot.

The MAIN reason, though, is that Paul, though disavowing any direct involvement with the PHEN ballot-stuffing, promises that if nominated he and his wife Janet would appear at the Hugo banquet resplendent in formal evening wear made from khaki and camouflage materials. This will probably set them back at least 300 bucks, so it is certainly well worth it.

Incidentally, you might mention that if people want to see what the zine is like before voting (and frankly I don't expect it to come anywhere close to winning and don't plan to put it in first place myself) that it is \$1.50 a copy by mail from Philk Press, PO Box 599, Midway City CA 92655 -- free to contributors of songs, filk-related articles, and the occasional LoCs (about one every five issues). I recommend the zine to people who filk; to all others it's pretty pointless.



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JOHN MITCHELL  
341 Custer  
Evanston IL 60202

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My phoned comments in #46 led to some questions. Here are the answers as checked with the people involved. Windycon's hotel contract was arranged by Larry Propp last summer before his

untimely death. His replacement as hotel liaison was fully involved with an alternate program track when he was tapped to take over at two and a half months and counting.

Larry's replacement assumed that the chair and treasurer knew that the contract called for payment for the con suite; they apparently assumed he knew that the budget didn't provide for a payment for the suite. That someone goofed is evident, but I was remiss in putting all the blame on the hotel liaison to whom I have apologized.

I also apologized to him privately, and wish to do so publicly, for stating that he had not paid his hotel bill. His bill wound up on the master account through a misunderstanding, and was paid when he was billed by the hotel. ....That's all for now, Mike. I have a crow to prepare for dinner. I'm just glad that I have Amy Thompson's recipe for same.

---

A. JOSEPH ROSS  
30 Winchester St.  
Brookline MA 02146

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/I have been/ procrastinating a response to your item in #46 about fannish information services who don't update their data bases well. I still get mail addressed to "The Other Club", although

that group has been dormant for over five years. More amusing: before the 1980 Worldcon, Fred Lerner and I talked about having a Friday evening Jewish service at the con. Since I was local to the con I agreed to make the arrangements with the Noreascon II Committee and borrow prayer books from a local synagogue. On the con committee's form was a place for "name of group." I whimsically wrote "Jewish Fandom," and that's how the listing appeared in the convention literature. And so, to this day, I occasionally get mail for "Jewish fandom," including one year a Passover greeting card from Christian Fandom!

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#### MORE CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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Mel White, 1621 Nueces, Garland TX 75040  
Tom Veal, 112 Roberts Ct., Alexandria VA 22314  
Jim Meadows III, 1605 W. Main St. #4, Peoria IL 61606  
Gail & Jamie Hanrahan, 7685 Acama Pl., San Diego CA 92126

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SACKS SETS NEW RECORD: Writing about a New York sf club, Larry Carmody says, "Lunarians held their June meeting on the 16th at the Vanderbilt YMCA on Manhattan's East Side. Recently the club has expanded its active membership limit from 50 to 75. This has opened quite a few slots and there has been a slew of applicants. Five applications came up for vote. Four (Velma Bowen, Dennis Casey, Robert Gerber and Gary Tesser -- the latter having let his membership lapse years ago) became Lunarians. Once again, Robert Sacks was denied membership, despite being sponsored this time by club president Art Saha (many members viewed this as a 'three strikes and you're out' metaphor on Art's part, being he lives in Cooperstown nowadays.) The vote was close, 14 for, 14 against, 3 abstaining, as much of the club's old guard was away at conventions (Hatcon, Lexicon, etc.) or parties...Sacks continues to forge new territory. No other person has ever been denied membership two times, let alone thrice. He intends to apply again."



# CONVENTION UPSHOTS

*COSTUME-CON II: (April 13-15)*

(As a preamble to a longer narrative, Gail and Jamie Hanrahan's report begins in italics:)



*Costume-Con II, at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, was a great success despite the removal to the Bay area and resignation from the committee -- not necessarily in that order -- of its original chair and masquerade coordinator, Kelly and Karen Turner. The committee, headed by Astrid Anderson Bear, agreed to let a committee led by Drew Sanders host Costume-Con IV (1986) in Los Angeles at the Pasadena Hilton. Marty Gear's group, the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumer's Guild will be running Costume-Con III in Maryland in '85.*

*A hilarious capstone to the con was a presentation by Kathy and Drew Sanders, "The Attack of the Masters' Cliches." Kathy's costume featured a Sally Fink headdress, a Marjii Ellers mask, Kathy Sanders wings, and "a little gratuitous nudity," backed up by a Karen Turner cast of "thousands" (Marty Gear, Drew Sanders, and half a dozen other draftees running as fast as they could on and off*

*stage). A Costume-APA cover by Sally Fink was the inspiration. This was a finale to the con's historical masquerade. Right. Well, fantasy it wasn't...*

JOHN HERTZ' conreport follows: "Let a thousand subfandoms bloom," say I, and so I went to Costume-Con II. After some commotion when the Turners moved out-of-area in a job change, the con was chaired single-handedly by Astrid Anderson Bear. The hotel, the Town & Country, could have been designed by a Moorish prince: clusters of two-story buildings stretched for blocks around private avenues, lawns, restaurants and a swimming pool, and a couple of higher (late added?) buildings that towered by contrast. In a San Diego April it was a perfect ground-plan to parade around.

I taught Regency dancing, of course, and sat on panels about historical recreation groups with people from the Renaissance Faire, the Dickens Fair, Bye-Gone Eras,



and the SCA. Of more general interest was a free-for-all discussion Astrid asked me to lead on Masquerades and related matters at sf cons. Various luminaries attended, including Astrid, Marty Gear, Drew Sanders, two or three Trimble, Julian May, Pat Kennedy, and Bill Rotsler. I managed to get most of them and everyone else in the room into the act.

Costuming seems to have emerged as yet another form of fanac. I've never made a costume in my life, but I must know as many costumers as fanwriters. Some have been fans for years and occasionally turn their hands to costumers, like the Kennelys and Bruce Pelz. Some have been drawn into fandom through the costuming interface, like Victoria Ridenour and Adrian Butterfield. Marty Gear reports that the Masquerade at ConStellation was attended by more people than any other event. No one has estimated how many fans spent some of their con time hanging around in clothing extraordinary enough to be considered costumes by the wearer or the viewers, but I'd guess hundreds. Unquestionably some of these outfits were dull, but the best were very good indeed. All this may mean that the Masquerade in particular and costuming (whatever it is) in general are a Dangerous Menace, but not by me.

The best news about Costume Con 2 was the number and quality of workshops on making things. I don't know if you can teach art, but you can strengthen artists by teaching them craft. As a spectator, I was impressed by the good questions participants asked and the information and demonstrations workshop leaders gave. The one that sticks in my mind was about building corsets. While antique garments were reverse-engineered and an innocent woman was fitted before my eyes, I felt the stretching of imaginations that had previously only compassed flowing robes.

Judging by the only two instances, Costume Cons bode well for the future level of costuming. "What about the ignorant know-everythings who don't show up to learn?" asked Bjo in my talk session. "Well," said Nan Earnheart of the southern Ren Faire, "stupid people will be stupid."

There was a consensus that L.A.Con II's theory of hall costumes was worth a solid try: recognize that they are a separate medium from stage costumes and treat them accordingly. Hall costumes that simply can't be appreciated in a big theater make Masquerades seem longer than they are. Judge them in the halls, as done unofficially at ConStellation. Another agreement was that Good Theater -- imagination thoughtfully executed -- is more important to Masquerade costumes than Big Money. War stories were told in illustration. It was suggested that costumers could help cons run Masquerades even more, so that experience could be employed and the burden of the work would fall on those to whom it was most important.

No con report would be complete without a list of prizes. There were 2½ Masquerades. The 1st was a fashion show in which con members made and modeled the winning designs from a competition for drawings that had been judged by mail. This was probably more difficult than when the design and making were in the same hands. Experienced designers Bjo Trimble and Karen Turner took most of the fashion prizes, but newcomer Christine Mansfield (children's programming for L.A.Con II) showed very well, as did Diane Daw (1st place Stagewear for "The Four Seasons"), Fran Evans and Alan Michaels. In the SF AND FANTASY MASQUERADE: 1st place MASTER CLASS: Drew Sanders for "Odalisque II"; 2nd place: Barb Schofield and Caroline Julian for "The Summons"; Honorable Mention: Patricia Hammer and Kathryn Mayer for "Goddesses of Darkover"; BEST JOURNEYMAN (media inspired): Paula Crist for "Old Republic Jedi Knight"; (1960s Inspired): Kevin Roche for "Mandala"; Honor-



able Mention: Aimee and Jay Hartlove for "Sedonna and Cedrick"; BEST NOVICE(sf): Jodi Poole for "Labia Majora", BEST NOVICE(fantasy): Eve and Andrea Fontaine for "The Unicorn's Rescue"; Honorable Mention: Deborah Lengal and Carol Ruskey for "Courtship of Badger and Fox."

In the HISTORICAL MASQUERADE: Best in MASTER CLASS and MOST AUTHENTIC was Rosemary Bonner for "Dress of 1876." Honorable Mention: Will Bonner for "Japanese Nobleman"; BEST JOURNEYMAN: Mary Jane Hertz for "Elizabethan Lady"; BEST NOVICE and BEST PRESENTATION: Jodi Poole for "Late One Night at Versailles"; Honorable Mention: Robin Gillian for "American Colonial"; BEST COURT FESTIVAL COSTUME: Barb Schofield for "Winter Wedding Dress"; BEST MEDIA-INSPIRED: Adrienne Martine-Barnes and Roseanne Reynolds for "Lily and Poppy"; WORKMANSHIP AWARDS to Julia Ann Hyll for "Erte Evening Dress", plus Martine-Barnes and Reynolds, Hertz, R. Bonner, Gillian, Schofield; and a SPECIAL CECIL B. DeMILLE AWARD to Kathy Sanders, Drew Sanders, Marty Gear, Marjii Ellers, Kathryn Meyer, and Philip Mercier for "Attack of the Master's Cliches." ((In the absence of any way to verify spelling, variant name spellings have been retained from the text.))

MINICON: (April 20-22) Report by Mike Glycer. As a fan from California I wouldn't have called it warm, but Minneapolis was unexpectedly not-cold over Easter as the temperature hovered in the mid-50s. The charitable weather erased memories of a blizzard that struck around Minicon-time in 1983, and was just one of several contrasts between Minicon past and present. A first-time attendee of Minicon, all my knowledge of the con was based upon reports of other LA fans, some having attended this upper Midwest regional year after year. Minicon's reputation revolves around the unique ceremonies they have devised to greet their guests of honor, premeditatedly zany programming, mellow fans communing with one another, and fans scarfing and guzzling at ethnic dining establishments. While some of these elements remain, I was surprised to find how similar Minicon was to many other local cons around the country. I wondered if too many people had come upon a good thing and driven out the uniqueness of the con. Perhaps Outer Fandom had descended on Minicon, like anthropologists on an isolated New Guinea tribe, resulting in culture shock, with t-shirts and transistor radios undercutting an ancient culture.

Minicon even attracted its own baboon troop of young males in paramilitary garb carrying plastic Uzis, brandishing aluminum copies of submachine guns, and wearing plastic helmets. Why would I expect the con film program to feature YOJIMBO, a Toshiro Mifune samurai flick, or that it would inspire so many fans to spend the rest of the con carrying around pairs of oriental blades in bamboo scabbards? (And why were none of them around when I needed protection from Dana Siegel?)

The instant one filed into the registration line it was clear the committee's 1984 joke had been carried too far; there were signs there, and again on doors to all major con functions, stridently warning fans to wear their name badges in plain sight at all times. Was this a joke? No, off to one side "badgers" were heavily recruited to cover the doors. None other than Bob Tucker served long shifts as the recruiting sargent. The level of "necessary harassment" of attendees was precisely the same as at a very large Westercon, a Worldcon, or a huckstercon. (Leah Zeldes' report in SFC echos the same sentiments).

Of course, no experienced fan wastes too much of his time running the gauntlet set up by the committee, and I managed to fall in with both charming and interest-



ing fans (interesting as used in the familiar Chinese curse?) The fannish outing which highlighted my weekend was the journey to St. Paul's Orpheum Theater to attend, in person, the radio production of A PRARIE HOME COMPANION. Among those in the carload I rode out with were Richard Russell, Candice Massey, Jeanne Gomoll and Peter Rowe. Joyce Scrivner had secured a bloc of tickets including the front row left, and kindly sold me a prime seat.

A PRARIE HOME COMPANION is produced by Minnesota Public Radio and distributed to public radio stations on a rival network to NPR. Its fare consists of eclectic music (primarily country and folk) mixed with takeoffs of down-home commercials, folk anecdotes, greetings by mail, and above all, the brilliantly-delivered stories of Garrison Keillor. The choreography of live radio impressed me, as performers were ushered on and off stage, their equipment and instruments redistributed, all flawlessly and silently. Part of the show featured a performer with his collection of steel guitars -- manufactured back in the 1920s. This will sound like a silly comparison, but honestly, I could only compare the spectrum of musical styles they feature to what Dr. Demento plays. COMPANION does virtually no novelty music (eg, "Weird Al" Yankovic) but the jazz/string/country/skiffle taste in music comes out of a geography where Nashville is just around the corner from vaudeville. Since they do it straight, they're continuing a tradition rather than pulling random bits out of context.

Well, maybe they don't play it fanatically straight when it comes to music -- whatever's fun. We saw four musicians perform "Inna Gadda Da Vedda"(sp?) by Iron Butterfly a capella -- all instrumentals done by voice!

Returning from St. Paul we cruised to a Thai restaurant and ate not enough of eight different dishes. Then as dessert, we set out to see what stores in Minneapolis at 9PM Saturday night would sell insulin to a fan who was cut off from his supply. The answer is K MART, if you ever have this problem in Minneapolis. In fact, if you have this problem in Los Angeles, that may still be the cloest plave you could get it at that time of night... Which is only a joke.

Joni Stopa began to churn out peach daquiris when her party opened that night. By 4AM the following morning I had been cured by Martha Beck, Candice Massey, Phyllis Eisenstein and Joyce Scrivner of any further compulsion to play Trivial Pursuits. If the game possessed any justice, which it doesn't, Phyllis Eisenstein would have blown us away in forty-five minutes. But due to the structure of the game, and some fierce exploitation of the home-court advantage by Martha Beck (who owed the game) we managed to delay the inevitable for another three hours.

It is assumed that fans will entertain themselves if the convention committee gets out of hand, or even if the convention committee performs brilliantly. Since the 1984 Minicon crew doubtless fell in between, their con was more what I expected than what I'd been hyped to assume. Certainly the staff of the Hotel Leamington were more helpful and courteous than the average con hotel. But no con report would be complete without something derogatory to say, and I look to Dana Siegel for expertise in that field. Dana told me the hotel had just undergone a \$20 million remodeling job. She added, "I can't see it -- You still can't open the bathroom door and the room door at the same time." Clearly this is no hotel to go to if you want to watch who passes in the hall while you're responding to nature's call.



DISCLAVE 1984 (Memorial Day Weekend) Report by Darrell Schweitzer:

The convention was a notable success, with a very enjoyable air of silliness about it. The usual Friday night opening ceremonies were rendered unusual by such things as a soap-bubble-blowing contest. Prizes were awarded: least round, most sensual, best group effort, etc. I won "most prolific," making up in quantity what I lacked in quality. Actually, I had never tried to blow bubbles before. (I had a deprived childhood.) This was the most profound educational experience I've had at a convention since I learned how to play the kazoo at an Empiricon a few years back... The popular musical group Clam Chowder gave a concert. Late night entertainment in the bar (which had a stage) included an uproarious "To Tell The Truth" panel presided over by Gardner Dozois, and "SF Impressions," featuring some of the funniest people in East Coast fandom, including Timothy (Robot) Sullivan (in everyday life a mild-mannered Nebula nominee and looney-bin attendant), Ray Ridenour, Bob Walters (the pro artist), another fellow whose name I forget, and the ineffable Somtow Sucharitkul, who, wearing a bizarre crown and carrying a sceptre, presented himself as the editor of *INDIRA GHANDI'S SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE*, and, taking a request from the audience for a country-western song, proceeded to sing "Country Roads" in a thick Indian accent. I was called up from the audience to tell a leper joke. This was the convention's one dip into the nadir of taste. (The joke, about a leper in a Mexican restaurant, involves dipping taco chips, and is thoroughly revolting.)

There was serious programming, too. Marvin Kaye was particularly impressive as he performed standard "mentalist" tricks in one session, and then explained how he did them in another. (Take that, Uri Geller!) GoH Connie Willis began in a silly fashion, explaining how her deep devotion to Harrison Ford has made her realize that he is a greater actor than Lawrence Olivier, and answering the usual "How did you get to be a writer?" question in a remarkably pithy way: "It's like asking 'How did you get to be an Iranian hostage?'" But then she quite seriously addressed the meaning and purpose of storytelling.

The convention hotel was a semi-motel, really, with most of the party rooms arranged around a central court and swimming pool. This caused a great deal of flow between parties and tended to fuse them altogether, giving the convention a feel similar to Midwestcon. Attendees included a lot of prominent fans (Disclave is the most fannish of eastern conventions) and professionals relaxing after long workouts at the ABA, which was in nearby Washington that weekend. Credit for much of this must go to Peggy Rae Pavlat, chairperson, who seems to have designed the programming quite carefully for the desired effect. She is not responsible for the leper joke, however.

BRITAIN IS HEAVEN IN '87, IF YOU DON'T WANT A POACHED EGG: The Easter issue of *ANSIBLE* carried *WORLDCON UK BIDDING NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE*, and revealed that the bid's "steering committee" includes chairman Malcolm Edwards, Chris Atkinson, Dave Langford, Colin Fine, Hugh Mascetti and Martin Tudor. Presumably this is the same Martin Tudor referred to in Roelof Goudriaan's *SHARDS OF BABEL*, saying about the Easter weekend SEACON "Security was in the hands of a bunch with a bad reputation: not only did one of them manage to grab Martin Tudor three times, bruising him pretty bad in the process, because he thought Martin didn't wear a badge -- and that while Martin's badge was clearly visible all the time.... They also let people pass who greeted them with a less timid 'Fuck off! you,' or similar phrases, without a badge." Whether it's a get well card, or a presupsupporting membership for Britain in '87, contact address for the bid is: 28 Duckett Road, London, N4 1BN UK. Presupsupporting memberships at \$2 per copy may be obtained more locally -- they have a flock of agents. I'll recommend Marty Cantor at



11565 Archwood St., North Hollywood CA 91606-1703. Who did you think I was going to recommend? Other agents are Roger Weddall (Australia), Jean-Daniel Breque (France), Roelof Goudriaan (Netherlands), Ahnold Engholm (Sweden), Gary Farher, Bryan Barrett, Jan Howard Finder and Pascal Thomas (USA/roving).

SEACON 84 combined Britain's annual Easter convention with the Eurocon, drawing 1700 people to Brighton's Metropole Hotel. Goudriaan's colorful con report describes the hotel as another source of annoyance (having already cited security, bar closing schedules, the program book and dealer's room closure when the GoH speeches went on). "Regular staff had left the hotel right at the beginning of the convention, and service, which had been high at the World SF meeting before Eastercon, dropped immediately. Breakfasts being served were below any decent level, as were the quick snacks being sold at evening. My favorite remark from the hotel staff was a cold 'We can't do poached eggs!' at breakfast Easter Sunday; the hamburgers, sold for £3.40 apiece at the buttery restaurant, made one fan remark, 'If you buy twenty hamburgers, you get a free coffin!' To keep silent about the sugar found in the salt-sprinkler or the five minutes spent waiting by one fan as only customer at the bar, with two members of the hotel staff ignoring him. /sic/ I can only guess at the amount of damage this convention has done to the Britain in '87 Worldcon bid; I do know that several Continental fans have remarked that if Britain in '87 decides to make use of the Brighton Metropole they'll no longer actively support the Worldcon bid."

EUROCON DATES SET: At Seacon, locations for two future Eurocons were determined. The 1985 edition will be held in Moscow. The 1986 Eurocon will be held in Yugoslavia -- city not named in SHARDS OF BABEL's report.

DE PROFUNDIS PLEASE COPY: Goudriaan announces that Kees van Toorn and Angelique van der Werff will wed this August, "after years of living in sin."

EUROPEAN SF SOCIETY (EUROCON) AWARDS: In the fanzine category, only -- the only one out of ten Goudriaan cared much about: EPSILON (UK, ANDROMEDA NACHRICHTEN (W. Germany), HELION (Rumania).

WORLDCON JOB HUNTERS: L.A.Con II co-chair Craig Miller described the typical "gofer" application letter. The applicant says "I can donate two hours a day in a senior security position -- but please don't schedule me opposite the Masquerade, or Hugos, or any programming that has something to do with sf -- or any programming that doesn't have anything to do with sf; or during the parties, either."

LEW WOLKOFF DENIES IT ALL: Lew Wolkoff says somebody is spreading a rumor that the Philadelphia in '86 bid is in danger of losing its hotel. Whoever it is isn't doing a very respectable job of rumor-mongering, since I never heard it, but to proceed with the defusing job... The bid plans to use the Franklin Plaza as one of its hotels. The Franklin Plaza's ownership and management staff changed. Wyndam Hotels replaced the management team and bought into Franklin Plaza Associates. The Philadelphia SF Society (PSFS) scheduled the 1984 Philcon for the Franklin Plaza, but soon got a letter from the hotel talking about boosting the facilities rental to something the ABA or AMA is used to paying for non-holiday weekends. Panic ensued at the club, and spilled over to the worldcon bid. Philcon will now not be using the Franklin Plaza. But, Wolkoff continues, "The Philly in '86 bid talked to the Franklin Plaza. They want us. The rental fee for the entire duration of the Worldcon will be exceedingly low. And the salesperson we'll be dealing with is an ex-Trekker, so he knows what cons are like. And they still



ART CREDITS: Jim McLeod: 1. Michael McGann: 3. Jason Keehn & Darrell Schweitzer:  
5. Ray Capella: 10. Mary Bondanowicz: 13, 18. Brad Foster: 15.  
Amy Thompson: 24

(WOLKOFF: continued)// want us." He encloses a letter from the Director of Sales of Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel dated May 29 stating that the hotel is putting together a proposal for the bid's representatives Wilma Fisher and Theresa Renner.

THE EDUCATION OF SHERRY KATZ has expanded. She completed another graduate degree -- this one in public health. Sherry claims it was all worth it because this time she had an "extremely lucrative job in her field" waiting for her.

OTHER NEWS OF GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT: The last I heard from Patrick Nielsen Hayden was that he now served as assistant to two editors at the Doubleday Book Clubs division, working on the same floor as SF Book Club Assistant Moshe Feder.

FRAP, a fanzine that appeared six times between 1963 and 1964 has been winnowed for its best material. Bob Lichtman's WEST OF FRAP is available for \$8.50 postpaid, and runs 76 pages, with stiff front and back covers. The reproduction was by means of photocopying the original mimeographed pages. Principal contributors are Lichtman, Greg Benford, Ray Nelson, Elmer Perdue, Calvin Demmon and Norm Clarke. Those inclined may send their orders to PO Box 30, Glen Ellen CA 95442.

RUBBER STAMP EXCUSES HERE: It seems like every year the IRS finds something for me to do which ruins my schedule of publication for F770. This year I have been doing extensive training, beginning in March, mostly in LA, though there were three weeks spent on the road to exotic Reno, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Tucson and Fresno. Then, in my copious spare time, I've been doing RATTAIL FILE, falling behind on my Fancyclopedia duties, preparing material for HOLIER THAN THOU and half-assed finishing a promised article for Joe Sanders' book about fanzines. Help!



MARK L. OLSEN (49)  
1000 Lexington St. #22  
Waltham MA 02154

FILE 770:47 (finally)  
Mike Glyer  
5828 Woodman Ave. #2  
Van Nuys CA 91401

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# HOGU and BLACKHOLE

## 1985 Hogu & Blackhole Nomination Ballot OOKfishal 1985

This is the OOKfishal ballot for nominations for the HOGU & Blackhole awards, fandom's prestigious recognition to the dottering wimp(y), nerd fuggheads that ruin your life. This is your chance to get back at them ALL! The HOGU is named for Hogu Chabsnerg, founder of modern Sinus Friction (never call it "Si Fri"), publisher of ANALFOG, Amuzing and Thrilling Chunder Stories. The awards are sponsored by APA-H, the APA for Hoaxes and Humor, and awarded at the Yearly Hogu Ranquet.

VOTING: Send this ballot, or copy thereof to: HOGU & BLACKHOLE Commission  
c/o Elst Weinstein 859 N. Mountain Ave.#18-G Upland,CA 91786

Deadline for Nominations: May 15,1984(Categories explained on other side.)

- 1.The DeRoach Award for Putridity in Everyday Life\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.The Aristotle Award for Grand-Master Lifetime Achievement in Putridity\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3.Best New Feud(Starting 1984 or later)\_\_\_\_\_
- 4.Best Traumatic Presentation\_\_\_\_\_
- 5.Fandom's Biggest Turkey\_\_\_\_\_
- 6.Best Hoax Award(other than the Hogus)\_\_\_\_\_
- 7.Best Typeface\_\_\_\_\_
- 8.Best Religious Hoax(The Flavor-Aid Award)\_\_\_\_\_
- 9.Best Professional Hoax(Hoaxing as a profession)\_\_\_\_\_
- 10.Best Fan Hoax\_\_\_\_\_
- 11.Worst Fanzine Title(the AARD DAZE Award)\_\_\_\_\_
- 12.Best Dead Writer(Must be living to Quality: The Battlecrock Glacktica  
Award)\_\_\_\_\_
- 13.Best Hoax Convention\_\_\_\_\_
- 14.Best Pseudonym\_\_\_\_\_
- 15.Special Bagelbash Award\_\_\_\_\_
- 16.DEVO Award\_\_\_\_\_
- 17.Best Has Been(Deposed Dictator's Award)\_\_\_\_\_
- 18.Free For All\_\_\_\_\_
- 19.Most Desired Gafiation (Winner to get Mid Atlantic Fan Fund-MAFF)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 20.Most Disgusting Children's Cereal(eg: Mr.T's)\_\_\_\_\_
- 21.Most Putrid Scene from STAR WARS #4\_\_\_\_\_



1985 HOGU AND BLACKHOLE NOMINATION BALLOT: OOKfishul 1985

22. Most Bizarre New Video Game (real or imagined) \_\_\_\_\_  
23. DUNE: bigger disaster on screen or off (please give examples): \_\_\_\_\_  
24. MIXED MEDIA \_\_\_\_\_  
25. Closest Encounter of the Fourth Kind \_\_\_\_\_

BLACKHOLE AWARDS: Special Recognition of extraordinary putridity.

1. Standard Blackhole (4 given, so nominate more than once) \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Invisibility Award (Conspicuous Absence) \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Incompetence Award (political Refuse Award) \_\_\_\_\_  
4. Publisher's Award \_\_\_\_\_  
5. Greed Award \_\_\_\_\_  
6. Half Assed Con Officialousness (The "Connie" Award) \_\_\_\_\_  
7. Brown Hole Award for Outstanding Professionalism (Past Winners:  
Norman Spinrad, Roger Elwood, Alexander Haig, James Watt, E.  
Gary Gygax, Phyllis Schlafly, Jon Estrin) \_\_\_\_\_

EXPLANATIONS: "Best Traumatic": Some major national or world event.  
"Bagelbash": Nominate a putrid item or idea. "Free For All": Nominate a putrid bumper sticker slogan. "DEVO": Nominate whoever has done the most harm to science fiction. "Mixed Media": Amusing tidbits of film, TV or radio etc.

These are peer group awards: if you don't qualify to nominate then just peer over another's shoulder and copy. Ballot stuffing is encouraged, so stuff it! The vote is scrupulously tallied under the Austrian Ballot System. Vote as often as you like, but we decide the vote in secret so as not to be unduly influenced by the actual results.

If you or your group would like either to place a new category or have a special award given at the Ranquet, please use the space below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(briefly describe the award/category)  
\_\_\_\_\_

WEINSTEIN AND GLYER'S HOAXARAMA will be out soon, over 90 pages of good stuff, like old Hogu ballots, hoaxes, articles, etc. It is a very good deal at only \$3. Please send requests to Elst (see address on other side).

Note to Fanzine Editors/Convention Fans: Please copy this ballot and distribute it with your fanzine or at cons. Those awards are fandom's last chance to laugh at itself. A Hogu or Blackhole Certificate will be sent to those who help distribute these ballots. (Suitable for framing, training puppies, wrapping fish, crudsheets, or liek a Sear's Catalog...)

*EXPLANATION: The second side of this ballot is not handsomely word-processed because the electrostencil containing that version of the text was destroyed in the process or running it on the mimeo. Excessive thick underlinings on a thin graphite electrostencil act like perforations, and the stencil can disintegrate, as it did in this case. The Management extends its sincere regrets.*