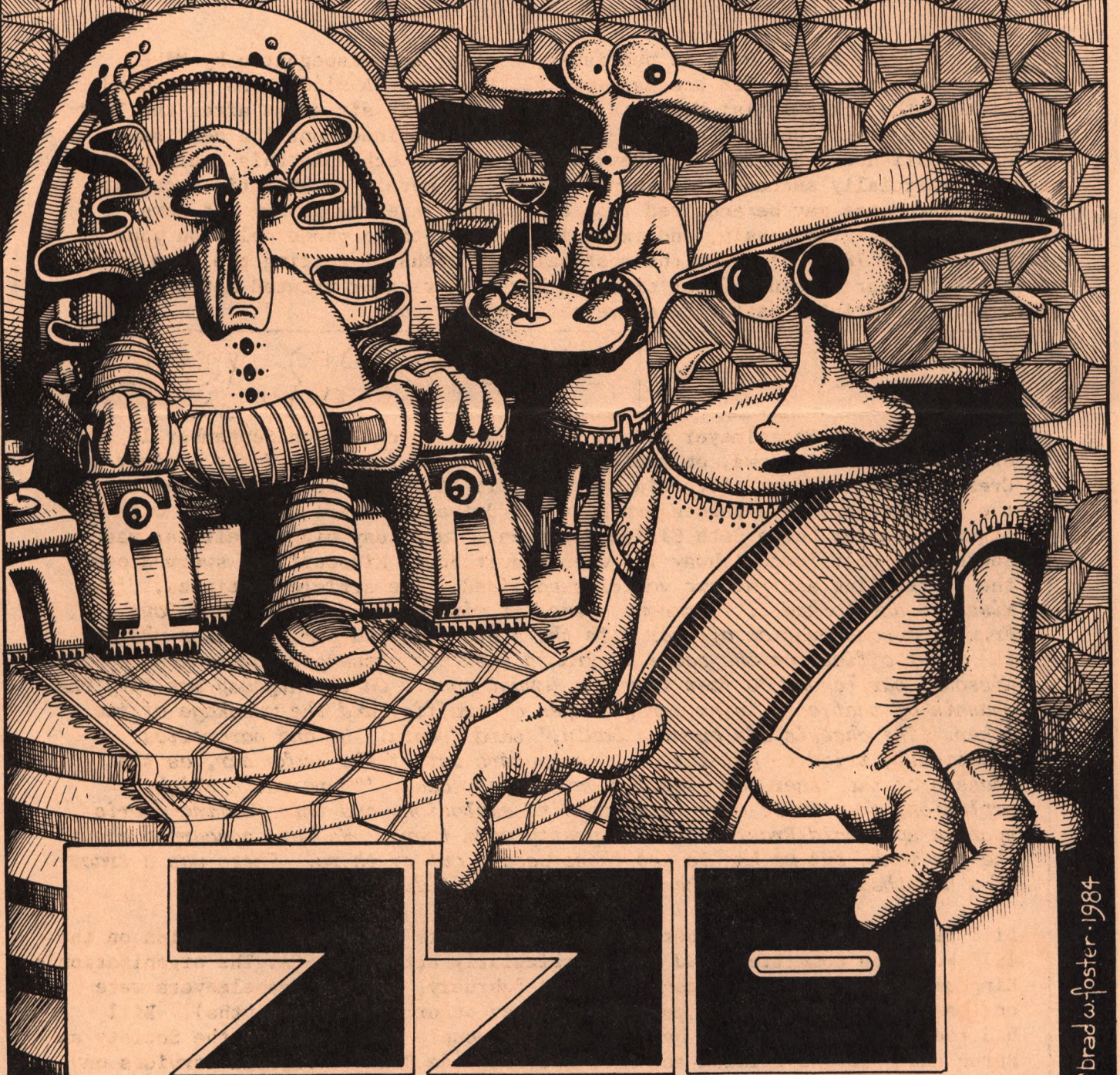


FILE



**FILE 770-Absolutely the
worst unmitigated rumors
in a totally biased format
of poor taste and maudlin
indiscretion! by M.Glyer**

YE OLDE COLOPHON: FILE 770:49 is published, edited, and misbegotten by Mike Glyer is the privacy of 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. As mentioned last issue, the schedule is: Mike starts feeling guilty six weeks after the last issue that he hasn't put one out lately, and this continues until a new issue has been published. Simple, eh? Hey, with a regular schedule this could have been a commercially successful fanzine by now, not merely an artistic success... Artistic successes may be acquired from the editor in exchange for hot news, arranged trades, glib gossip, and expensive long distance phone calls on your nickel to (818) 787-5061. But the most hallowed means of getting the zine is to subscribe, \$4 for 5 issues first class in North America or printed matter rate overseas. Air printed matter rate overseas: \$1 per copy.

FESSELMEYER CRASH

Bill and Sherry Fesselmeyer died in a head-on auto collision September 14 south of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on their way to attend a function of the Society for Creative Anachronism. According to the 9/16/84 Des Moines Sunday Register, the Fesselmeyers were passengers in a car driven by Sheri Lee Zemke, with the other passenger being Beth Elaine Nugteren. On Friday night their car was southbound near Iowa highway 125 when a northbound Missouri car swerved over the center line and the two vehicles collided. The article continues, "'The Missouri car looked like someone opened it with a can opener,' said Doug Franta, a conservation officer with the state fish and game division who was the first officer on the scene... Franta said the passenger compartment of the Missouri car landed 60 feet from the impact spot. On the highway was only the chassis of that car, lying across lanes of traffic, and the wreckage of the other. 'The chassis was burning badly,' said Franta. He and paramedics frantically tried to get the four passengers out of the Zemke car, as the chassis of the other car blazed about 15 feet away. 'There was a slight explosion, then there were these popping explosions and this flaming debris sparked up,' said Franta. 'It was pretty warm there. We were concerned about the gas tank, but we had to get those people out of there. There was a trace of a heartbeat on one of them,' he said, but it didn't last."

Bill Fesselmeyer, perhaps better known to readers for his participation on the 1976 WorldCon committee, had been particularly active in SCA. The organization's Kingdom of Calontir was recognized last February, and the Fesselmeyers were on the way to its second coronation (they occur every six months). Bill had recently been knighted by SCA, and the couple were known in the Society as Baron and Baroness William and Rosamund Coeur de Boeuf. Funeral services on September 19 included an SCA honor guard. Interment was at Floral Hills Cemetary in Kansas City MO. (Valuable info from Dave Klaus, Steven Tait.)

LARGEST WORLDCON EVER

PRE-REGISTERED ATTENDEES:	5823
AT THE DOOR ATTENDEES:	2542
TOTAL ATTENDANCE:	<u>8365</u>

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP (includes
no-shows and corresponding memb.) 9282

L.A.CON 2

August 29 was Fan Day at Disneyland for members of L.A.con II. Passes were sold to fans at the same counter as yellow souvenir T-shirts captioned "The Rat Stuff", and hats with the convention logo. Many fans crossed the street to Disneyland in full regalia. Late Wednesday afternoon on Fan Day, says John Trimble, he was approached in Disneyland by a mindane. She asked, "I've seen hundreds of people in these yellow shirts all over the park today. Can you tell me what they're doing? Is it a fat people's convention?"

From the feedback I've received it seems that L.A.con II shall be remembered in terms that lend themselves to an analogy. Like a masquerade costume, it looks fantastic when viewed in the right light at the intended distance. Examined dispassionately in detail by a knowledgeable expert, one finds a combination of brilliance and glitches. "From almost any perspective it was just about a perfect worldcon," wrote Michael Grossberg for PROMETHEUS, a Rochester, NY, publication of the Libertarian Futurist Society. I actually heard similar statements by several other attendees during the con. As one of the committee who spent most of his time at L.A.con working (on the daily newzine), and whose time was mainly channeled into contact with ~~failed~~ experienced conrunners, I felt I was overexposed to the opposite extreme -- negativism rather than euphoria -- since the office of the daily newzine was on several occasions the first



stop for some complaints -- as though focusing the power of public opinion on their gripe was a better way to resolve it than to talk to the person in charge of a given department handling the function they were concerned about. During the con I wondered how could ever write a report about it later, when my view of affairs was about as narrow as your view would be of human health if you spent 20 hours a day in a hospital emergency room. I decided to take my own advice and fill in the blanks by talking to department heads...

DEPARTMENT OF LOOT

At the September 29 L.A.con II committee meeting, refund and reimbursement policies were set. Program participants, and gofers who worked at least eight hours will receive refunds of their memberships at whatever price they were purchased. Other convention workers were evaluated and rated A, B, C, or X. Individuals in the A category were equated with gofers who had worked the minimum number of hours, and they'll get a membership refund. The B-rated helpers in addition to membership refund will receive an honorarium towards their expenses in attending the con -- the amount will be fixed when bills have been cleared and the con's surplus funds are known precisely. C-rated helpers performed staff-level jobs (with or without the title) and will be given the same deal as department heads, which is reimbursement for membership, room and meals. Helpers rated X fell into the, "Oh, was he/she at the con?" category, and nothing will happen with them, although it would be logical in this scheme to send them a certificate entitling them to pay some part of ConStellation's debts from last year.

The decision was made to repay actual meal expenses at the C-level rather than pay a per diem, since it would probably cost the con less, taking into consideration how many staff had bellied up to the free lunch in the program green room, the committee suite, or the art show.

Speculation abounds among those trying to gauge the con's profit. Until official information is released, one can only toss out a few more pieces of the puzzle. The L.A.con II exec estimates the cost of refunds and reimbursements will be in the \$75,000 range -- if everyone doesn't go hog wild. It has pledged up to \$10,000 to heat and air condition the LASFS clubhouse. It has pledged \$500 each year for two years to the three fan funds (TAFF, DUFF, GUFF), conditional on two more trip reports being published by the funds' winners. These may be the reports of any winner who has not published previously. Reports in the form of a slide show don't count. The committee is also interested in encouraging the newzines of international fandom -- with AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS foremost in mind -- and is exploring an equitable way to use \$500 for that purpose.

A response to requests for bailout money from L.A.con II to help pay off ConStellation's debts from 1983 was discussed at length. Consensus was reached, but final action was postponed until the next meeting by which time some essential information ought to be in hand.

So how much did the con make? I don't know. Have I mentioned all the possible uses for L.A.con II money that were discussed at the meeting? No. Do they depend on the con's final profit figures? That's right.

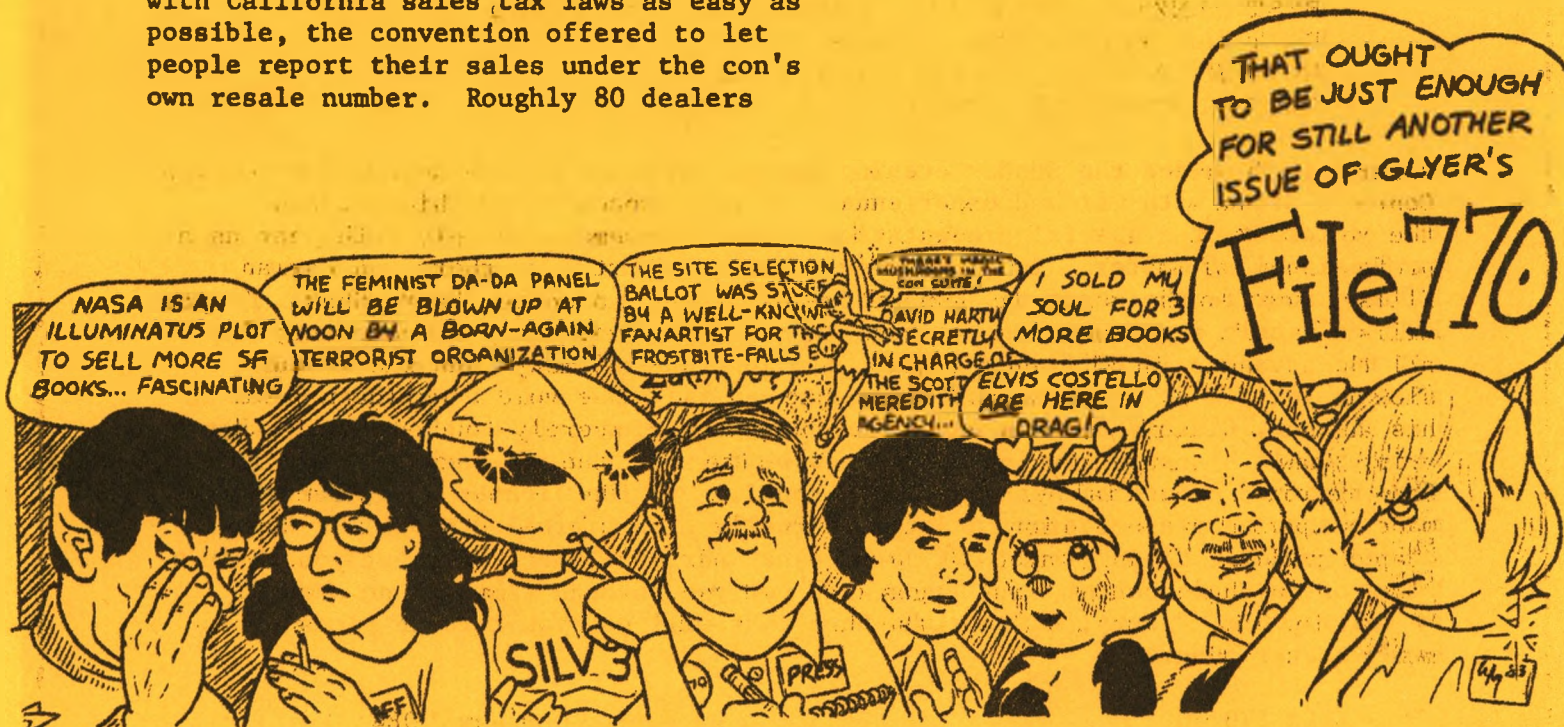
LET US NOW return to those thrilling days of yesteryear, and review this year's worldcon on an area-by-area basis.

OPENING CEREMONIES: Thursday morning, August 30, almost 900 fans surged into the Anaheim Convention Center's California Room and were rewarded with the opportunity to wait until rehearsals and electrical problems -- not to mention the heavily applauded entrance of Filthy Pierre -- permitted the con to open 25 minutes late. Both the center, and the Anaheim Hilton (the con's main hotel) had large "California" rooms, which led to initial confusion, and the center's California Room could not be reached by the corridors linking other con areas, which compounded confusion. Finally co-chairman Craig Miller mounted the rostrum. In explaining why there was no band, no marchers, and no balloons (like the Olympics had) -- Craig explained that they'd planned to have absolutely nothing at the opening ceremonies, but, "Nothing is too good for the fans." So there was an anthem, "There's No Worldcon Like Our Worldcon", performed by Elyse Cook and Danise Deckert. The Mayors of Los Angeles and Anaheim had each declared "Science Fiction Week" during the Worldcon. The Governor of California's welcoming letter was read from the Program Book. Pro guest of honor Gordon Dickson, Fan guest of honor Dick Eney, MC's Robert Bloch and Jerry Pournelle were introduced. In finale, Bruce Pelz entered in a rat suit while Filthy Pierre wheezed the theme from "Chariots of Fire" on his (Tom) Swiftian keyboard. Pelz confessed, to those looking for the Olympic torch, that he got hungry and ate it.

HUCKSTERS CASH IN

Dealer's Room department head George Jumper opened for business as hucksters set up, and when the weekend was over he found that 171 of 173 persons with reserved tables had shown up (not including sublets). They were dispersed over 300 tables set up in islands of 10, with wide aisles. I felt that the illumination, space to move in, and access to concession stands made it the best combination of the things I'd liked about the Discon 2 and Iguanacon 2 huckster rooms. But as George said, you can't avoid the fact that "Concrete is very hard when you stand on it 8 hours a day."

In an effort to make hucksters' compliance with California sales tax laws as easy as possible, the convention offered to let people report their sales under the con's own resale number. Roughly 80 dealers



participated in the plan, and turned in \$6200 of sales taxes. This supposed sales in excess of \$100,000 and obviously represents some portion of the business these dealers actually did... The general feeling among dealers was that L.A.con II was the most lucrative con they'd ever worked. I personally hope the makers of Imperial Fudge made a mint (surely I contributed my share) -- the fudge was excellent, and having something homemade was a psychological lift after four days of hotel fare.

Jumper felt the immense hall, with its good ventilation, made a prohibition against smoking unnecessary, so he ignored smoking, and kept tearing down hand-made no-smoking signs when he discovered them. Jumper felt that his operation would have been improved if he'd been able to generate a hucksters' directory earlier, to help locate people in the hall. He did not feel there was much any con could do for people who insisted on showing up at the last minute looking for a table, as Majel Barrett did. Barrett, also known as Mrs. Gene Roddenberry (or Nurse Chapel) arrived with an armload of Star Trek material to huckster, and when told the tables had been sold out for months she bitterly complained, "If it weren't for Gene Roddenberry you people would have stopped having your cons years ago. I've never been so shabbily treated at a con run by John and Bjo Trimble!"

HUGO WINNERS

BEST NOVEL: STARTIDE RISING by David Brin
BEST NOVELLA: Cascade Point by Timothy Zahn
BEST NOVELETTE: "Blood Music" by Greg Bear
BEST SHORT STORY: "Speech Sounds" by Octavia Butler
BEST NONFICTION BOOK: ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY, volume 3 MISCELLANEOUS, compiled by Donald Tuck
BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: RETURN OF THE JEDI
BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR: Shawna McCarthy (ISAAC ASIMOV'S SFM)
BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST: Michael Whelan
BEST SEMIPROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE: LOCUS, edited by Charles N. Brown
BEST FANZINE: FILE 770, edited by Mike Glycer
BEST FANWRITER: Mike Glycer
BEST FANARTIST: Alexis Gilliland
JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD: R. A. MacAvoy

Robert Bloch guided the Sunday evening awards ceremony in the Anaheim Convention Center's arena with wit and experience. In the process Bloch himself was the recipient of a special presentation plaque commemorating his 50th year as a professional sf writer. In a touching moment, Robert Silverberg and Harlan Ellison took to the stage to acknowledge sf's debt to editor Larry Shaw. It was Ellison's only appearance at the con, to my knowledge, but a welcome one; for all the advances in Ellison's career, I'm just one of many fans who is quite slow to let him go away from sf -- no one can fill the void a worldcon feels in his absence. Clearly Ellison and Silverberg were sincerely touched by the chance to bring Shaw's historic development of new writers in the 50s back into the limelight. Shaw received a Special Award from L.A.con II. On the lighter side, Larry Niven made a special presentation to Jerry Pournelle of a tinfoiled chocolate Hugo-shaped rocket. Niven played off Jerry's pet phrase ("Money will get you through times of no Hugos better than Hugos will get you through times of no money") by telling him, "Jerry, this is the Hugo that will get you through times of no money better than..."

	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE	FOURTH	FIFTH
BEST NOVEL (137-52) (1363 ballots)					
STARTIDE RISING, David Brin	448 453 498 579 747				
TEA WITH THE BLACK DRAGON, MacAvoy	221 228 265 411	406 416 521 677	393 429 626	547 592	965
MILLENIUM, Varley	164 168	255 268	430 442 587	534 590	283
MORETA, DRAGONLADY OF PERN McCaff'y	278 282 302 411 505	333 339 384 563	364 380	216	
THE ROBOTS OF DAWN, Asimov	200 204 252	283	136		
NO AWARD	52	74			
BEST NOVELLA (80-42) (1082 ballots)					
"Cascade Point" Zahn	210 230 240 328 476	316 360 371 454	356 368 488	450 481	631
"Hardfought" Greg Bear	271 304 310 335 428	267 295 307 442	277 294 359	333 349	302
"In the Face of My Enemy" Delaney	194 208 215 276	222 242 252	220 228	210	
"Seeking" Palmer	174 184 190	121			
"Hurricane Claude" Schenck	103	143 155	179		
No Award	130 141				
BEST NOVELETTE (46-33) (1075 ballots)					
"Blood Music" Greg Bear	258 299 306 363 471	250 258 337 467	315 325 452	390 427	666
"The Monkey Treatment" GRR Martin	182 216 223 389 409	238 245 301 416	281 305 425	373 393	277
"The Sidon In The Mirror" Willis	189 215 223 283	206 227 280	256 271	220	
"Slow Birds" Ian Watson	159 186 202	194 203	182		
"Black Air" Kim Robinson	142	168			
No Award	145 151				
SHORT STORY (37-28) (1097 ballots)					
"Speech Sounds" Octavia Butler	245 252 302 372 467	258 264 348 511	290 306 444	423 452	705
"Servant of the People" Pohl	212 217 261 328 453	215 229 282	289 301	411 435	254
"The Geometry of Narrative" Schenck	157 168 198	208 214	324 340 439	191	
"The Peacemaker" Dozois	151 154	260 272 314 398	157		
"Yong's Lost and Found Emporium" Wu	207 215 229 266	138			
No Award	125				
BEST NONFICTION BOOK (45-19) (1091 ballots)					
Tuck, ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SF & FANT.3	206 212 266 340 470	315 320 362 472	317 327 484	425 453	672
Chant, THE HIGH KINGS	287 290 311 377 449	238 244 337 442	273 286	429 450	276
Platt, DREAM MAKERS v.11	154 155	195 203	323 335 417	167	
STAYING ALIVE, Spinrad	163 169 219 259	226 234 275	137		
Morrill, THE FANTASTIC ART OF ROW.	191 194 211	117			
NO AWARD	102				

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION (226-51) (1412 ballots)					FIRST PLACE SECOND PLACE THIRD PLACE FOURTH FIFTH				
RETURN OF THE JEDI					554	560	584	638	801
THE RIGHT STUFF					388	394	428	455	552
NARGAMES					199	206	239	283	
BRAINSTORM					116	118	133		
SOMETHING WICKED THIS...					109	112			
NO AWARD					46				
PROFESSIONAL EDITOR (129-82) (1216 ballots)					260	265	302	423	555
Shawna McCarthy					276	277	308	354	504
David Hartwell					223	224	272	335	
Terry Carr					154	159			
Edward L. Ferman					229	230	260		
Stanley Schmidt					74				
No Award									
BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST (123-31) (1211 ballots)					470	481	522	570	
Michael Whelan					246	253	272	305	
Rowena Morrill					175	179	202	259	
Don Maltz					98	101			
Barclay Shaw					139	141	156		
Val Lakey Lindahn					83				
No Award									
BEST SEMI-PROZINE (185-23) (1179 ballots)					537	588			
LOCUS					193	218			
SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE					111	130			
SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW					110				
FANTASY NEWSLETTER/REVIEW					118	147			
WHISPERS					110				
NO AWARD									
BEST FANZINE (84-15) (956 ballots)					209	237	268	356	396
Mike Glycer					199	212	235	298	312
Richard F. Geis					95	105			
Dave Langford					151	165	198		
Teresa Nielsen Hayden					79				
Arthur Hlavaty					229	235	239	273	
No Award									
BEST FANZINE: (84-15) (956 ballots)					303	332	372	451	586
FILE 770					177	180	186	216	
THE PHILK FEE-NOM-EE-NON					61				
ANSIBLE					104	116	137		
IZZARD					65	71			
HOLIER THAN THOU					246	250	252	269	311
NO AWARD									
SECOND					214	230	261		
THIRD					172	214	334	467	
FOURTH					131	168			
FIFTH					121				
282					296	304	363		
228					452				
186						262	441		
186						246		451	
303					404	344	382	382	

No Award finished dead last in every category after runoffs, but in raw first place votes ran somewhere above last in six of the award categories, including every fan category.

	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE	FOURTH	FIFTH
BEST FAN ARTIST (58-19) (1030 ballots)					
Alexis Gilliland	223 249 291 302 <u>437</u>	328 372 385 <u>454</u>	295 373 <u>397</u>	345 <u>362</u>	<u>578</u>
William Rotsler	234 261 299 312 <u>391</u>	222 247 257 <u>371</u>	221 288 <u>308</u>	296 <u>319</u>	<u>287</u>
Joan Hanke-Woods	182 194 249 258	167 193 202	221 288 <u>308</u>	345 <u>362</u>	
Brad Foster	134 154				
Stu Shiffman	96	115	195	296 <u>319</u>	
No Award	160 164 172	170 176	225 246	257	
JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD (123-17) (1220 ballots)					
R.A. MacAvoy	487 497 514 554 <u>560</u>	428 443 485 <u>537</u>	425 467 <u>563</u>	316 395 <u>416</u>	<u>FIFTH</u>
Joseph H. Delaney	299 310 328 346 <u>352</u>	243 259 283 <u>350</u>	176 197 <u>234</u>	281 325 <u>349</u>	<u>SIXTH</u>
Lisa Goldstein	142 150 159 178 181	114 128	175 185	354 <u>387</u>	
Warren Norwood	66 72	140 143 162		157	
Sheri Tepper	77 78 88			328 <u>341</u>	
Joel Rosenberg	48	62	96	557	
No Award	101 108 112 117	149 157 167 186	206 218 244	255 275	<u>368</u>

IT'S ATLANTA

The 1986 World Science Fiction Convention will be held August 28 through September 1, in Atlanta. *Confederation* to its friends, the 44th worldcon selected Pro Guest of Honor Ray Bradbury, Fan Guest of Honor Terry Carr, and Toastmaster Bob Shaw. Since Bradbury has always been at the top of my list of pros overdue for this honor, I am very pleased with his selection. (A strong attempt was made to have Bradbury chosen by all three bids for 1986; he was definitely slated for at least two of them.) (If the person responsible wants to accept credit, just say the word and your name will be revealed.)

Confederation membership rates through December 31 are \$35 attending, \$25 supporting (entitling one to all publications and the right to vote for the Hugos). Later rates will be announced. A \$5 discount from these rates is available to any Pre-Supporting member of the Atlanta bid who did NOT vote in Site Selection, but for those who DID vote a full attending membership has already been entered. No attempt will be made to verify that you actually voted for Atlanta. Contact address for the con is: 2500 N. Atlanta St. #1986, Smyrna GA 30080. There is a phone number: (404) 438-3943. The deadline for Progress Report #1 copy is 12/1, with predicted mailing to members around 2/1/85. Dealer's Room tables may be reserved for \$50 per table deposit up to 4 tables. (I interpret that as promising a higher final price.)

At left is an artist's conception of the site selection ballot counting process. In my zeal to help the con I wound up locked in the Mimeo Room with Elan Jane Litt, Wilma Fisher, Jim Gilpatrick, Seth Breidbart, and another fan whose name I've had the bad taste to forget, and the amazing thing was we took longer to finish than the Masquerade did.

	<u>MAIL</u>	<u>At CON</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ATLANTA	298	491	789
PHILADELPHIA	116	185	301
NEW YORK	96	146	242
NO PREF.	9	20	29
NONE/ABOVE	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
SUBTOTAL	520	848	1368
INVALID	14	12	<u>26</u>
			1394

Invalid votes were of two primary types: duplicate votes (the same person by mail and on site), or a voter who was disqualified for inability to verify membership in L.A.con II (same membership number cited by two fans.)



CONFESSIONS OF A WORLDCON VIRGIN

ANNE HANSEN

Armed with one suitcase, \$20 and a head full of WorldCon fantasies, I pointed my Caprice in the direction of Anaheim. After a close encounter of the worst kind with a strange maze known to mundanes as a "parking structure", I moved valiantly ahead to the elevator, which I had been told would never come ...but it was there! Oh, well, it must be the inside elevator I had heard about. I wandered in and pushed that button, I heard two dings and saw a green arrow pointing up. Now I was worried -- had I taken a wrong turn? WorldCons don't HAVE elevators that come when you press the button! But super monsters with yellow rat badges appeared to quell my fears -- one fantasy shot to hell.

Onward and upward...and downward...and across WOW! I was really rolling. This was much too easy...ZAP. Security guard. "Badges? Well, where do I get my stinking badges?" "You have to register. Go to registration over there. (Of course, it is after you register that you receive the map which tells you where to do so.) I wandered around the arena for awhile, talking to many locked doors, trying different passwords, etc., but only the little yellow rat would do. Somehow I stumbled into information and found some friendly bodies. They had rats and pointed better than security guards. I knew I had come to the right place when a bleary-eyed worker had a little trouble trying to read the letters on the different tables. I helped -- I found my own table. I got my yellow rat, a map, a program, and a "pocket program" in this cute little bag. Rebelling against rejection, I returned to the door that I had originally tried to enter, pointed proudly at

my rat, and entered what resembled a shopping mall in a room. I caught my breath, and clutched my meager funds -- I could see them sliding away. "No, wait," I said to myself wisely.. "Come back when you've seen everything." Little did I know that I would never see the front of that room again. I must have wandered out in a state of hypnosis. A few more things had landed in my cute little bag. I looked at my watch. It was going on six. A moment ago it had been 2:30. That was my first clue that something weird was happening to time. Twenty-four hours later I didn't know what day it was. I thought I had been born there.

- I saw traditional WorldCon things such as the Masquerade and the Hugo Award Ceremonies.
- I saw a fan from Florida who had been looking for the tenth floor of the Anaheim Hilton for days.
- I saw a T-shirt get outdated in the time it took the wearer to slip it over his head.
- I saw the illustrious Mike Glycer crash the "Hugo Losers" party with a Hugo in each fist (the nerve!)
- I saw wide-eyed Mexican cleaning ladies giggling, pointing and squealing CRAZEEE...
- I saw Elst make out like a bandit at the Hugu Ranquet because Brian Burley's lunch date didn't show...by the way, Elst, how much did you pay Paulette?
- I saw fans. Lots of fans. Fans with canes, fans with clubs, fans with rattles, fans of all shapes and sizes, old-timers and neos like me, doing just what I was doing -- having a great time.

Describe a WorldCon? Not on your life. You had to have been there. All my fantasies are mere bits of dust. I could not have created this in my mind. Now I have but one question -- why do they call it "WorldCon" when it is so obviously OUT OF THIS WORLD?!

THE HOGU AWARDS

In 1972 Elst Weinstein and I started the Hogu Awards Ranquet to protest the high cost of the WorldCon (L.A.con I) banquet -- \$8. We went to McDonald's and ate hamburgers for under \$2 apiece. Sunday at L.A.con II it was 12 years later. We convened the Ranquet in a restaurant, were waited on, we paid \$5 to \$7 for hamburgers -- and the WorldCon didn't even have a banquet. The Ranquet united every important segment of fandom: the APA L crowd, the APA NYU crowd, Ross and Diana Pavlac, Mr. Bicoastal Matthew Tepper declaring this "Hogu the 13th." Elst reminded attendees of the awards voting system: we distribute and collect ballots, carefully count them, and then let Ranquet attendees ignore the results if they outbribe other interested parties. Brian Burley unlimbered his wallet to bolster a number of his preferred candidates, inspiring Ed Green to declare, "One dollar defeats fifty votes -- the Libertarian dream!"

BEST HOAX AWARD: Democrat Presidential Nominee

BEST TYPEFACE: Macwrite's San Francisco

THE DEROACH AWARD: Lyndon LaRoche

THE ARISTOTLE AWARD: Arthur Hlavaty

BEST NEW FEUD: Godless Commies vs. Olympics

BEST TRAUMATIC PRESENTATION: Ignited Negro College Fund

FANDOM'S BIGGEST TURKEY: Dick Smith

BEST RELIGIOUS HOAX: BATTLEFIELD EARTH Fan Clubs (One wag claimed this was also known as "The Trouble With Trimble.")

BEST PROFESSIONAL HOAX: "Eat It!" video by "Weird Al" Yankovic

BEST FAN HOAX: The ConStellation Bailout

WORST FANZINE TITLE: THE PHILK FEE-NOM-EE-NON

BEST DEAD WRITER: David Gerrold

BEST HOAX CONVENTION: Lake Wobegon in '91

BEST PSEUDONYM: Gary Hart

SPECIAL BAGELBASH AWARD: Cabbage Patch Salad Dressing

DEVO AWARD: "v" (the movie)

BEST HAS-BEEN: James Watt

FREE FOR ALL: "I break small animals"

MOST DESIRED GAIFIATION (tie) Richard H.E. Smith II, Smtih, Dick Smith, M. Basil Funds, Thing Attached to Uncle Dick's Little, Dikbul ak-Smithi, Sheik

MOST DISGUSTING SMURF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE: (tie) Battlefield Smurf, Smurf Defects, Smurfosis of the Liver, Blue-Bonic Plague.

MOST PUTRID SCENE FROM "REVENGETURN OF THE JEDI": The Get Hi Knights

MOST BIZARRE NEW VIEDO GAME: G-Spot

STAR TREK III: GIVE IT AN APPROPRIATE SUBTITLE: "You Klingon sons, you killed my bastard!"

MIXXED MEDIA: Campaign movies: Glenn "The Right Stuff", McGovern: "The Left Stuff", Jackson "The Soul Stuff", Mondale "The Same Old Stuff", Hart "Stuff It"

CLOSEST ENCOUNTER OF THE FOURTH KIND: Nancy Reagan and Mr. T

MOST AVAILABLE FOR PERSONALITY TRANSPLANT: Robert Sacks

BLACKHOLE AWARDS: STANDARD BLACKHOLE: Edwin Meese, Jesse Jackson, L.Ron Hubbard, Khadafy

INVISIBILITY AWARD: ConStellation Profits

INCOMPETENCE AWARD: Sen. Proxmire

PUBLISHER'S AWARD: Mike Glyer

GREED AWARD: Frank Herbert (DOLLARS OF DUNE)

HALFASSED CON OFFICIOUSNESS: Rats

BROWN HOLE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONALISM: jon Estren

BEST INVISIBLE DATE: Paulette Schainer



Newly ratified changes to the WSFS Constitution administering selection of future World SF Convention sites primarily intend to give committees greater lead time in contracting for hotels and convention centers. There will now be a three-year advanced selection of the Worldcon site, rather than the current two-year time. (I'm not one of them, but there must be many fans who can remember when Worldcons were selected just one year in advance.) The actual way this will be accomplished is as follows:

YEAR OF WORLDCON:	1985 (Aussiecon 2)	1986 (Atlanta)	1987	1988	1989
SITE/YEAR VOTED ON:	1987 (UK/Phx)	1988 & 1989	1990	1991	1992
ZONE	Western	Central, East	West*	?	?

The asterisk (*) refers to a proposal to redraw the rotation zones, which we'll look at later in this report.

George Flynn, secretary of the L.A.con II business meeting describes some consequences of this change that will affect filing of worldcon bids. "The worldcon required to publish the deadline for bids is no longer the one administering the bidding in question. For example, 1988 and 1989 bids must now...be filed by the end of Aussiecon, with the administering convention, Confederation ((Atlanta)). However, the deadline and other information must be published four months earlier (April 1985) by the then-current Worldcon (Aussiecon). I believe this requirement would now be satisfied simply by publishing the Constitution..."

Other finally ratified amendments (1) prevent a bid for a site within 60 miles of the place where site selection occurs (except a bid for NY in 1989); (2) make NASFiC selection governed by the same rules as Worldcon selection with the exception that (a) selection will be after Worldcon selection, on written votes, (b) restricted to sites in the appropriate zone, and (c) the voting fee may be set by unanimous agreement of the bidders; and (3) if a Worldcon committee cannot perform its duties, the decision on what to do will be administered by the nearest extant Worldcon committee.

Six items survived the L.A.con II Business Meeting, motions that were passed amending the WSFS Constitution. They will be given consideration at the Aussiecon 2 business meeting next year and if accepted will become part of the constitution.

(1) Allows write-in votes for bidders who present the documentation required of bidders who were in time to be on the mail ballot. (2) Boosts the default voting fee to \$20. (3) Provides for NASFiC site selection to take place the year after selection of an overseas Worldcon site. The worldcon would be picked three years in advance, the NASFiC two years in advance. In a year where there are both a Worldcon and NASFiC, the NASFiC would be the location of site selection voting for another NASFiC. (4) Allows cons outside the US to run the Business Meeting under some other set of rules than Robert's Rules of Order. The change must be specified when the bid is originally filed. (5) Housekeeping to standardize use of the term NASFiC (North American Science Fiction Convention) and arrange for its registration as a service mark. (6) Diverts 5% of the default voting fees each year to fund the WSFS Standing Committee.

Another motion was referred to committee which would redraw the bidding zones and take effect in 1987 for the selection of the 1990 Worldcon. The two zones would be:

<u>WESTERN:</u> Manitoba, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mexico, Central America, and all territories west to 60° East of Greenwich.	<u>EASTERN:</u> Ontario, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, the West Indies, South America and all territories East to 60° East of Greenwich.
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If ratified, this amendment would for the first time limit the years in which overseas bids could compete. The working committee on worldcon site selection and rotation is chaired by Ross Pavlac, with members Craig Miller, Bob Hillis, Jack Herman, Ben Yalow, Tony Lewis, and Malcolm Edwards (pro tem, he may nominate a replacement). The committee can be contacted c/o Ross Pavlac at PO Box A3120, Chicago IL 60690.

The WSFS Standing Committee through Aussiecon 2 is: Kent Bloom, Jim Gilpatrick, Ben Yalow (terms expire at Aussiecon), Don Eastlake (chair), Leslie Turek, George Flynn (terms expire at Confederation), Rick Katze, Willie Siros, Ross Pavlac, (terms expire at 1987 Worldcon). Appointed to the committee by their respective worldcons are Peggy Rae Pavlat (ConStellation), Craig Miller (L.A.con II), Jack Herman (assiecon 2), Penny Frierson (Confederation). Mailing address: PO Box 1270, Kendall Sq. Stn., Cambridge MA 02142 USA.

Donald Eastlake III was able to report to the Worldcon the successful trademarking of five out of six worldcon-associated terms. All five were registered as of June 26, 1984 as service marks by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Worldcon (#1,283,680); World Science Fiction Convention (#1,283,681); World Science Fiction Society (#1,284,719); WSFS (#1,286,562); the Hugo Award (#1,287,322). Yet to be approved is the application to register "Science Fiction Achievement Award" which is the legal name of the Hugos (TM).

Incidental to the motion drawing new boundaries for the bidding zones was a report that Ben Yalow favored the idea because it was a solution to the problem of "wimpy zones" which, like the present Central Zone, have only one proven site. Leah Zeldes was overheard discussing a new organization of Wimpy Fandom.

JOHN HERTZ' REPORT

With the Program Book and Pocket Program necessarily done before the WorldCon opened, I was ready to be a customer all weekend. I deserved it. Ghod, those were a lot of work. People seemed to like the Pocket Program, which actually fit in a pocket.

If the Concom generated the Registration delays, the lines in the Ice Cream Social were a puzzle. I had thought we should spend the evening milling around socially, now and then wandering over to the ice cream servers one or two at a time. That's what Mary Jane and I did. I never dreamed fans would queue up endlessly for one free scoop. It was easier for us to find our friends that way, though. Giving Mickey Mouse Club ears to all the notables was a fine idea, even if Kelly Freas wouldn't wear his. Mr. Silverberg looked especially dapper.

Quality and variety keep improving in the hucksters' room and the art show. The new art show plague is too many items with high tickets or not for sale. The Reproduction and Fine Print shops helped, and I noticed a number of art demonstrations and workshops, which portends well. Since the show is not prejudged, redressing the balance is up to exhibitors. Art show lieutenant Lex Nakashima failed to exhibit, but at least thought up the Showcase Wall, and contributed a T-shirt for overworked Elayne Pelz reading, "LEX, GODDAMMIT, WHERE ARE YOU?"

The Masquerade was still too long. I was drained. But it suffered from an embarrassment of riches. This year's mediocre costumes would have been superior ten or maybe even five years ago. There were experiments with backdrops, major props, and even puppetry. Presentations, once rare, dominated the evening. Unfortunately, many of these entrants seemed to feel that Drew Sanders' set maximum of 90 seconds (except as specially arranged) was an allotment they had better consume. I heard costumers talking seriously about time for the rest of the Con; Masquerades will now probably try cutting the basic time unit to 60 or even 30 seconds, and may also print credits in a handout so that the Master of Ceremonies need only identify the entry. Those of us who stayed the course Saturday saw some brilliant work. In another concom experiment, Al Gillen's photographs were quick-printed Sunday morning and posted in the huckster's room, where the LASFS table took orders for copies.

Parties were undaunted by California's daily 4-hour liquor shutdown, and even by a water pipe breaking Sunday night. The ferocious Alcoholic Beverage Control Board could have taken away the hotel's liquor license for so much as one drink between 2 AM and 6 AM that was not served in a hotel room by a person registered in that room, to another person registered in that room. The hotel in fact merely began asking people after 2 AM to withdraw into whatever rooms were holding parties and close the doors. This occasionally started rumors that the hotel was closing parties, but that was hard to believe when one had just seen hotel security nudge a hallful of people into one's current party and go away. On the fifth floor, the Con suite, the Atlanta bidding party, and a number of other orgies found that they adjoined a common moon deck, which acquired nucleic properties.

The Fanzine Lounge was a cozy place for fanzine fans. Neil Kaden and I held the TAPS party there, attended even by Len Bailes. I met Mel White and Clifford Wind, in the latter case neither of us realizing he had been mailing me RHETOCIAL DEVICE until well into venison and Zinfandel at dinner. (continued)

Regency dancing Sunday afternoon was thronged, to the bemusement of Japanese fan ambassador Takumi Shibano. At one point we counted a hundred fifty joining in, with watchers in droves. Dr. Pournelle was resplendent in his uniform as a Colonel of 1st Hussars, King's German Legion. I'm sorry he changed into a tuxedo to give the Hugo Awards. The great moment at the awards ceremony when Larry Niven presented him with a chocolate Hugo ("This is the Hugo that will get you through times of no money & better than money will get you through times of no Hugos") was topped when Larry, knowing that Jerry had just told the story of how the same thing had happened in 1976, pointed to the base and said, "I'm sorry the base is broken -- I dropped it." (end)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES REVIEW: Speaking of Jerry Pournelle, at the events I was able to attend which he administered as MC (Hugos, and Closing Ceremonies) I observed him to be courteous and effective, humorous or considerate as the situation required. He helped work up a few running gags of the sort each con can use to help tie events together. Jerry was economical in his use of words, smoothly moving principal players onto the stage. Inquiring about events I did not see, such as opening ceremonies and the GoH speeches, I heard complimentary things about Jerry's handling of Gordon Dickson (pro GoH not at the top of his form in terms of health). I think he represented L.A.con II very well.

Jerry also serves as a lightning rod for certain kinds of humor. He doesn't like it -- but I think it just reflects his larger-than-life reputation; Harlan Ellison has a history of the same treatment. It's separate from people's regard of the person or his writing. For example, at L.A.con II the promoters of BATTLEFIELD EARTH (the movie) offered a \$200 prize to the fans who could suggest the best disposition for the 30 ft. inflatable Psychlo they've exhibited around the country after the movie is released. Winners -- anonymous -- were (1) "Tie Jerry Pournelle to one of its claws and tie it to the top of the Empire State Building with a weak rope." (2) "Save it in case there's a radiation disaster and some guy grows to the height of 30 feet and needs a suit." Of the Pournelle line, announced as part of a program item, Toastmaster Robert Bloch was heard to say, "That's the most expensive cheap shot I ever heard."

Another Pournelle story likewise not based on anything he actually did involved simultaneous conversations at a party shortly before the con. One group was discussing how to weight the cast-metal Hugos' bases so that they wouldn't topple over, and another group was discussing Jerry's MC duties. The phrase "buckshot and modeling clay" floated over from the Hugo discussion, prompting one of the MC commenters to ask, "I can understand the buckshot, but why modeling clay?"

ART SHOW WINNERS: The panel of judges awarded "First Place" recognitions to whatever artists they thought merited the recognition, whether for a body of work or an individual piece. Therefore a title only appears with the name of a winner if the award was for a single work. The judges panel included Richard Eney (Fan GoH), Bea Barrio, Don Simpson. WINNERS: Christine Mansfield "The Centaur Lovers Series"; Pat Ortega "Cosmic Bestiary"; Michael Whelan "The Narrow Way"; Carl Lundgren "The Day of the Dissonance"; Steve Gallacci "UH 638"; Judy King-Rieniets "Creation of the Horse"; Pame;a Lee "Sin"; Real Musgrave; Lisa Free; Don Dixon; Dell Harris; Sandra Santara "Master of Harmony"; Lela Dowling "The Veldt"; Bob Dewitt; James Christenson; Pamela Breeding; Deborah Whitchurch "Dragon Quilt"; Rhonda Green; Brett Bather; Joan Douglass.



MASQUERADE WINNERS: *ORIGINAL DESIGN - MASTERS:* MOST HUMOROUS - "Late One Night in the Draco Tavern" worn by Kathy Sanders, Steve Barnes, Dave Butterfield, Gavin Claypool, Sandy Cohen, Sue Haseltine, Lyle Lexor, Cary Martin, Dennis Miller, Larry Niven, Phillip Pournelle and Laurraine Tutihasi. *COSTUMAPA AWARD FOR ORIGINALITY and JUDGES' CHOICE* - "Kahiri" worn by David Joiner. *JUDGES' HIGH TECH AWARD* - "Terras Dyne of the Andrones" worn by John Knott. *BEST GROUP* - "Night on Bald Mountain" worn by Karen Turner, Kelly Turner, Rusty Dawe, Dianne Dawe, John Youden, Alys Hay, Melody Rondeau, Pat Witham, Julie Neff and Laura Hoffman. *BEST OF SHOW* - "A Midsummer Night's Dram" worn by Victoria Ridenour, Adrian Butterfield, Victoria Barker, Greg Bevington and Gayle Hutchens.

ORIGINAL DESIGN - JOURNEYMEN - *BEST FANTASY* - "The White Dragon" with James Brown as Jaxom and Willetta Grady as the White Dragon. *BEST MYTHOLOGY* - "Soul of Osiris Rising" with Jacqueline Ward as the Soul of Osiris, Patti Middleton as the High Priest, and Mary Leppik as the High Priestess. *BEST HIGH TECH* - "Robot, or

Batteries Not Included" worn by Stephen M. Parady. BEST ALIEN - "Ambassador from the Union of Barsoomian People's Republic" with Bruce Martz and Melissa Pearce as the Ambassador. BEST CONVENTION BID - "The Mad 3 Party" with Sharon Sbarsky (Cheshire Cat), Skip Morris (White Rabbit), Alexis Layton (Mad Hatter), Sira Ordower (Dormouse), Donald Eastlake III (King of Hearts), Pat Vandenberg (Duchess), Tony Lewis (Tweedledee), Rick Katze (Tweedledum), Greg Thokar (Caterpillar), Susan Lichauco (Alice), Susan Hammond (March Hare), Claire Anderson (Queen of Hearts), Dave Anderson (Knave of Hearts), Ann Broomhead (White Queen), Suford Lewis (White Knight), Ken Knabbe (Trey of Hearts), Joe Rico (Trey of Clubs), Jill Eastlake (Red Queen), George Flynn (Trey of Spades), Allan Kent (Trey of Diamonds). BEST PRESENTATION - "Visions from the Hopi World" worn by Regina Nyahay, Lee Shankar, Rene Nyahay and Carol Salemi.

ORIGINAL DESIGN - NOVICE: BEST MAKEUP - "The Lady Mir'Hrim" worn by Dana MacDermott. MOST E-FEET - "Madame Luna Lander" worn by Paul Covington. MOST HUMOROUS - "Ring Worm Engineer" worn by Cary Riall. MOST ORIGINAL - "Offering to the Insect God" worn by Deborah Wykle. MOST BEAUTIFUL - "Morgan, Priestess of the Drowned Lands" worn by Madeleine M. Tokach. BEST PRESENTATION - "Warlord T'en Chih-Yu" by Karey Leichel and John Leichel.

RE-CREATION: BEST VILLAIN - "Klingon Warrior" worn by Peter Mosen. BEST CLASSIC FILM - "Metropolis" with Patti Mercier as Maria, Philip Mefcier as Dr. Rotwang, and Kathryn Mayer as Robotrix. BEST HORROR - "Elvina" worn by Janalee Urban. BEST WORKMANSHIP - "The Magnificent Maleficent" by Roberta Brubaker. BEST ELF - "Rayek" worn by Jaron Hollander. BEST RE-CREATION OF SHOW (single) - "Urzah, the Ritual Guardian" worn by George Docherty. BEST ANIMATION - "Nicodemus" worn by Robert Beech. BEST RE-CREATION OF SHOW (group) - "Dark Crystal", with Carl Coling as Jen and Andrea Fontaine as Kira.

WORKMANSHIP AWARDS: FEATHERWORK - "Pretty Maggie Moneyes" by Janet Wilson. METALCRAFTING - "Pendragon Family Reunion". LEATHER AND FUR - "Eon" and "K.C." by Kishma Armstrong. APPLIQUE AND SEQUINS - "The Soul of Osiris Rising" by Jacqueline Ward. ACCESSORIES AND PROPS - "Victorian Fantasy" John Flynn and Dorsey Flynn. HEADDRESSES - "Visions from the Hopi World" by Carol Salemi. FABRIC PAINTING - "The Valar" by Roseanne Reynolds. MOULDING AND CASTING - "The Ritual Guardian" by George Docherty. BEADWORK - "A Midsummer Night's Dream" OVERALL EXCELLENCE - "Night on Bald Mountain" costumes by Alys Hay and Julie Neff.

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BACKFLASHONFILE

TULSA (NOT) IN '88: The chairwoman of the Tulsa worldcon bid stated at L.A.con II: "Due to hotel problems, the Tulsa in '88 bid has been postponed to a later, as yet unspecified, date. Our main hotel has just gone into receivership and one of our secondary hotels has missed two reopening dates, with no new date being given. With this hotel situation we cannot guarantee everyone a room within walking distance of our convention center. Our motto has always been and will always be 'If we can't do it right, we won't do it.' Our presupposing members will be receiving a letter of explanation. Thank you for your support and interest."

BENEFIT AUCTION RESULTS: From the midwest Steven Tait writes, "Tom Messerole (sp?) of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society reports that the OKon auction for Rob Chilson netted about \$700. At Omacon, Debbie Ketelsen of the League of Omaha Science Enthusiasts, I and Tom Messerole ran an auction netting \$140. David Lee Anderson, Dell Harris, R. Cat and one other artist I can't remember all donated pieces of art as well as a marvelous turnout from the hucksters."

DAN MCPHAIL: From Harry Warner Jr. comes the following regrettable information: "I have the melancholy chore of telling you about another fan's death. Dan McPhail of Lawton, Oklahoma, died September 26. He had been in poor health for several years but I don't know the exact cause of death and I don't know his age. Dan's fanac in recent years had been mostly as a member of FAPA and First Fandom, although he attended some regional cons before his health became a problem. With his wife's assistance, he contributed to the end to publish PHANTASY PRESS several times each year for FAPA. He had an issue in the August mailing, in fact. Dan considered it a continuation of his first FAPazine, THE ROCKET, which had made its initial appearance in the second FAPA mailing. Dan was a charter member of FAPA, starting late in 1937. Dan was extremely active in fandom during its first decade, the 1930s. In fact, I think he holds the record for longevity as a fanzine publisher, 53 years. He'd begun in 1931 to publish his first fanzines, Sam Moskowitz in THE IMMORTAL STORM credits Dan with being the first fan to create a state organization, the Oklahoma Scientifiction Association. He published in 1936 the pioneering newzine for fandom, THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWS. This, incidentally, is the third FAPA member to die in little more than a year, so the old slogan for the organization, 'Where old fans go to die' doesn't seem as amusing as it once did."

CINCINNATI IN '88: Carol Resnick bent my ear about my views on the Bill Cavin letter published last issue. I criticized the Cincinnati Fantasy Group's oblique attack on a Columbus-fan-operated bid to hold a WorldCon in Cincinnati. I continue not to regret having criticized a letter which did not present information to support its condemnation of a bid. However I received a letter from Dave Locke which encapsulates the reasons for Cavin's letter from the CFG's point-of-view.

DAVE LOCKE: "The last time I looked at Bill Bowers' mailing list, you were on it. Now I find out you're not, so you didn't get to read my bit on the 'Cincinnati in '88' WorldCon bid /in OUTWORLDS/ before receiving Bill Cavin's letter. (Actually, I wrote the draft and the club massaged it in committee.) I consider that unfortunate, because I think we know each other well enough to recognize when we're being straightforward about something."



There's no 'smokescreen' here, and the CFG /Cincinnati Fantasy Group/ did reveal their 'actual objections to the bid.' There's much more that could have been said to backup what was really written, but there's no misdirection. The reason more detail was not given, and there were some in the club who wanted to let it all hang out (I wasn't one of them), will come clear as I let it all hang out in this letter.

"First, a preamble. I'm writing for myself here. I'm also intrigued at the idea of any reasonably good Worldcon at my own back door, which is why this particular Cincinnati fan does not endorse this particular bid.

lar Cincinnati fan does not endorse this particular bid.

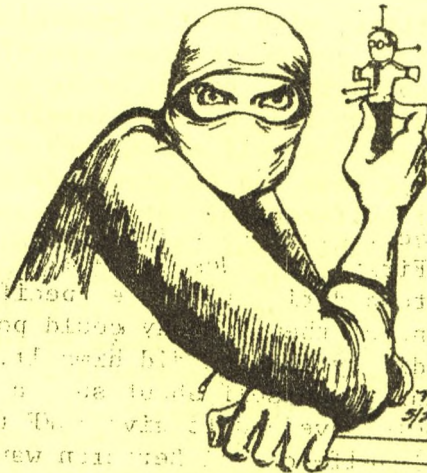
"I was the one who called the Cincinnati Convention & Visitors Bureau. I called on June 14 and spoke with Dave Kremp, the Director of Sales. His phone number is (513)621-2142. I still have my notes from that conversation. I told him who I was and fabricated the reason for calling: that many fans were displeased with the Cincinnati in '88 bid and I was considering putting together a competing bid. Kremp told me he hadn't spoken to his contact, Bob Hillis, in over a week, but that Hillis was coming down to speak to him before the end of the month, and Kremp said he'd tell me the same thing he was going to tell Hillis.

"And here's what he told me. He was concerned over a major problem: the Cincinnati Bicentennial. The committee had just been formed and they were a bunch of 'eager beavers.' Big plans were afoot. Riverfest, which is Cincinnati's large annual Labor Day whoopdedo, is growing in leaps and bounds every year and would be amplified by the Bicentennial. He suggested that 200-300 more rooms would be lost that weekend per hotel amongst those hotels which are connected by the skywalk system. If we wanted to book those hotels now, or next year, no problem. However, based on not winning the bid until 1986, it would be 'a real problem.'"

Dave proceeds to detail his observations about personalities associated with the Columbus bid which need not be repeated here: suffice it to say they lead into his summary comment, "What appears to be left, after all this, is that -- given a bad convention -- (and it could well be a bad worldcon irrespective of the truism that people can have a good time no matter what) the history wouldn't read *that was a bad con that Columbus threw in Cincinnati in 1988*. It would read *that was a bad Worldcon there in Cincinnati*. If such a scenario came to pass it would be even more dismaying to Cincinnati fans that the title for their 1949 Worldcon, Cinvention, would have been taken and used in this matter. /Cinvention II/. Those not dismayed might prove generally rankled." Jackie Causgrove postscrips Dave's letter: "Margaret Kiefer (widow of Ben Kiefer and Don Ford, who was chairman of Cinvention) practically had a heart attack when she heard of the usurpation of the name. Don had come up with it; CFG endorsed it; it was not available for the first crew that came down the pike. Like a lot of Cinti fans, she's not opposed to a Cincinnati worldcon, even if hosted by a group from out of town..." So, with Dave and Jackie's comments, each side of the Cincinnati in '88 issue has had a hearing. I've attempted to focus on disagreements about factual matters: Unhappiness about individual conduct cannot be resolved in F770.

MIKE GLYER

ROUNDFILE



In FILE 770:48 I ran the list of voters in the recent Trans Atlantic Fan Fund race, however in the process of typing the names onto stencil I overlooked a line in Avedon Carol's list. According to Avedon, the TAFF Administrator for North America, the names I omitted were: Pamela Reuben, Mike Glicksohn, Jay Kinney, Eli Cohen, Suzanne Tompkins and Daverol Rike. Adds Avedon, "It was also discovered that one vote had been missed because it was printed on a file card with a loc to a fanzine on the other side. However, when the lists for the UK and North America were compared, it was also discovered that an American had voted a second time when visiting the UK. Since both votes were for the same candidate, the combined totals remain the same as one vote replaces the other." In brief: take away the duplicate vote, and add in the previously missing vote, and the numerical voting results stay the same.

My typographical error, along with other such spurious evidence, have been concocted into a case against the way Avedon has performed her job as TAFF Administrator. Some of the most prominent fanzine fans have been behaving as asses on the subject of TAFF for over a month on the strength of such "evidence", but mostly on the initiative of speculation, propaganda, bad faith and an obvious lack of something better to occupy their time. You will not be seeing 20 pages of letters of comment on the subject people have sent to F770. I'm going to ignore the writers' efforts to make a Watergate out of TAFF. It was never big enough, official enough, or efficient enough to be worth those efforts.

In fact, what TAFF has represented through the years is a standard of fannish idealism. The selection of the TAFF delegate has always turned on our view of that person as a representative of his or her respective fandoms. I have never heard anyone's candidacy touted on their strength as an administrative functionary. Sometimes fans have been supported for their past performance as fundraisers -- not because they'd bring in dollars later. This makes sense -- the TAFF delegate takes the money and goes on his/her trip, and hopefully writes a report of the experience for the benefit of the rest of us who couldn't afford the same kind of trip. We wouldn't send anybody we didn't trust to do it right, or to reciprocate for the next winner of the fund by doing what they must to fundraise. And while some TAFF winners have provided financial reports -- most have not, and until now none have ever been challenged for it. I don't think we should start now: it's a brand of cynicism that makes us low, mean and suspicious.

Of course, financial accountability has been a makeweight issue in the TAFF feud, which really began with Dick Bergeron pillorying Avedon Carol for her comments about D West, construing these as evidence that Avedon acted to impair West's

TAFF candidacy. This must set a new record for fannish perversity, in two respects. First, with West's general history of disparaging American fandom, and his cartoon during the race specifically mocking Hansen for wooing Americans while he ignored them, nobody could possibly have done more to end West's serious candidacy than he did himself. I think it was a bit much to have expected Avedon to muzzle herself about such a negative candidate. I wouldn't have done it. You would have had to give TAFF to the ever-reliable George Flynn to assure the level of self-control Bergeron wants to take for granted. Secondly, since we all agree that the ideal fan fund administrator would observe complete neutrality (no matter how much it killed them), why hasn't this kind of controversy emerged before? Avedon was not the first to pop off, but she has been the first to be subjected to this level of abuse -- and for what? Only a fool thinks she affected the American vote, or the results. Yet the reaction here has been vastly larger than the piddling attention most fans paid to the DUFF race two years ago when it was alleged that fan fund administrator indiscretion might indeed have changed the outcome for a number of reasons. I myself concluded at the time that most fans had a low threshold of concern for the propriety of administrators' conduct. How strange it seems to see fans dismissing serious charges in one instance, and then turn around to rabidly debate remarks that had no effect on a candidate whose own interest in winning was dubious.

I would like to see everybody drop their endless rebuttals and proofs and dissections of others' correspondence line-by-line. It's foolish, and destructive of people I personally like on both sides. But I also know fandom, I won't hold my breath waiting for this to happen. I'll simply state my point of view.

(1) Under the conditions when she won TAFF, Avedon was not obligated to make a financial report. I always welcome the financial disclosures of fund administrators: I enjoy having the information. But they are not required and their absence is evidence of nothing except perhaps lack of time and inclination. Even I don't get F770 out every six weeks -- this proves something? (2) It is very bad faith on the part of fandom to try and hold Avedon to a standard they have never bothered to hold anyone else to, especially when her remarks had no effect on the race.

ART CREDITS: cover - Brad Foster. Elst Weinstein: 2. Stu Shiffman: 3. Taral: 5. Steve Fox: 10. Ray Capella: 13, 17. Mel White: 21



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FILE 770:49

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