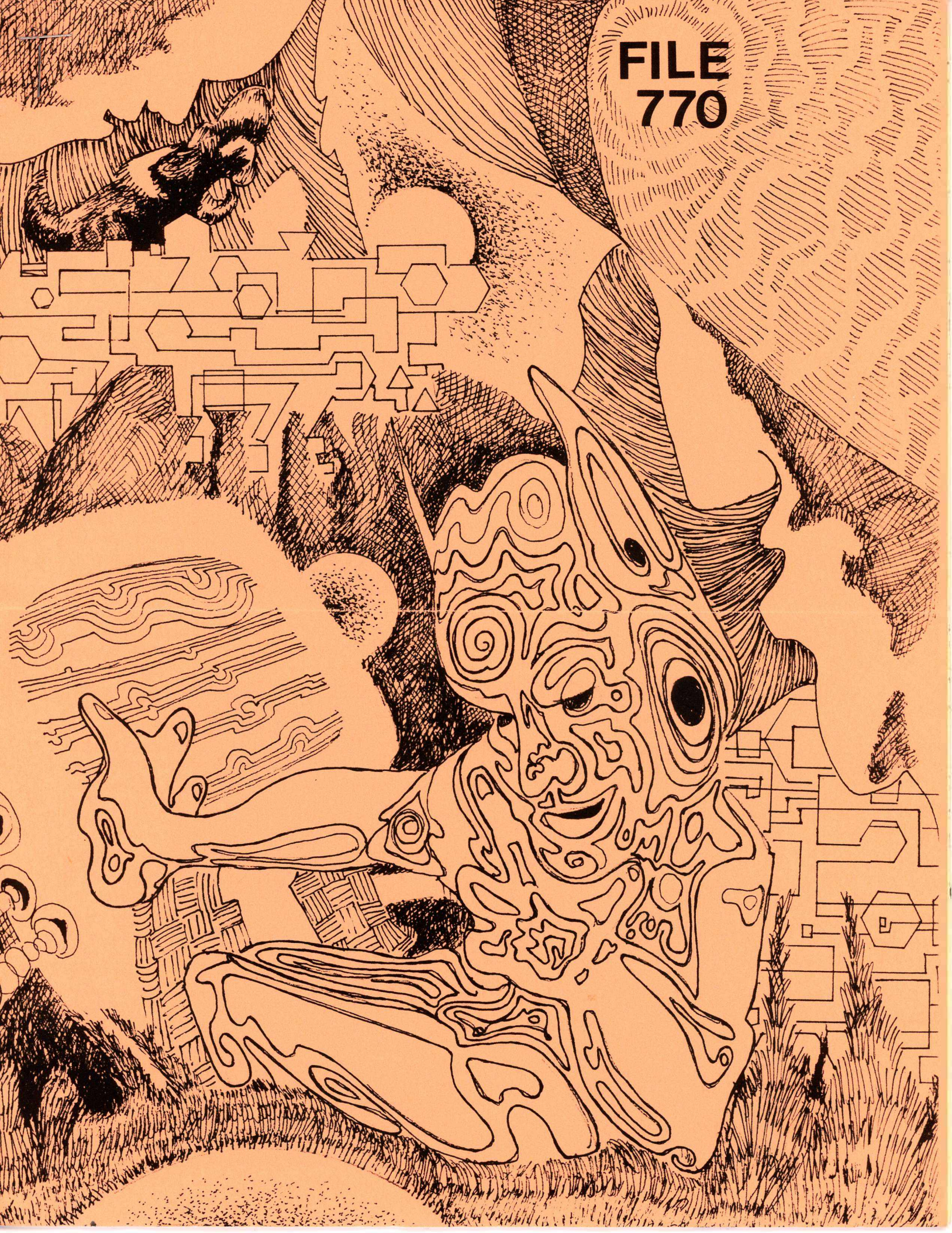
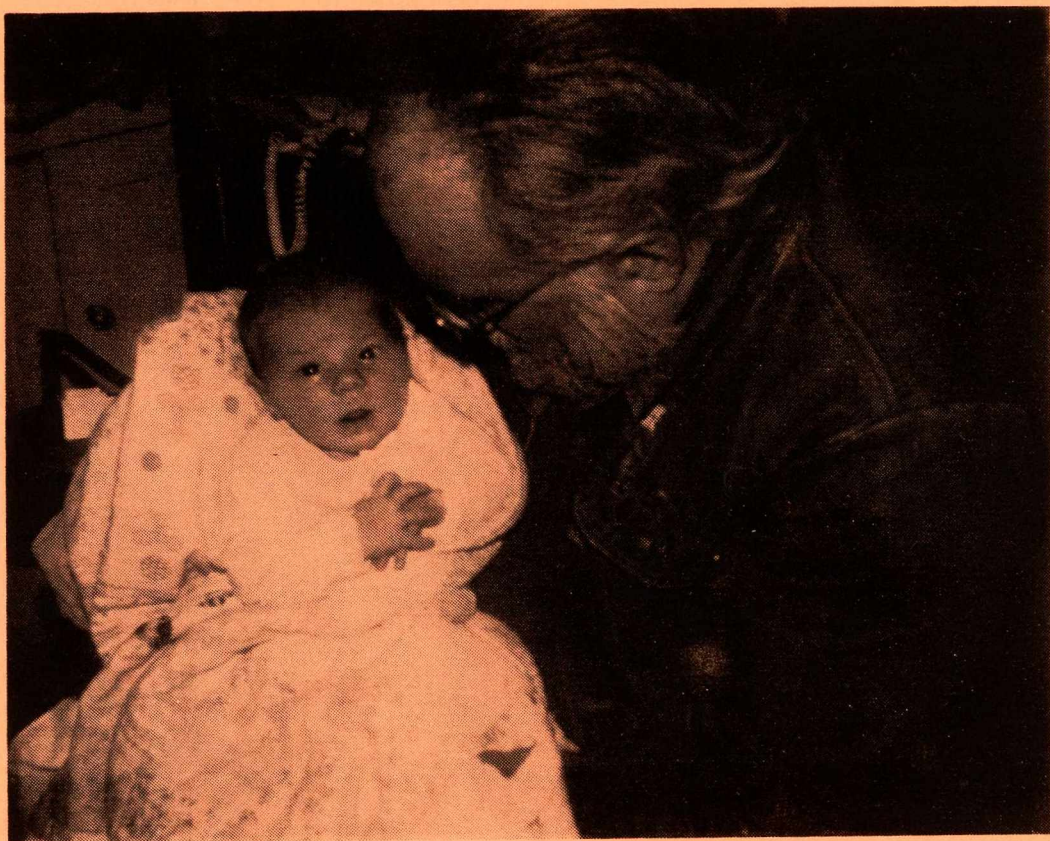


**FILE  
770**







**TED WHITE: THE NEXT GENERATION** Adrian White is shown with his father, Ted, in photos supplied by Jeanne Gomoll.





# THAT'S TWO!

Despite being the largest WorldCon ever held in Europe, Conspiracy '87 has been pressed into bankruptcy by its creditors, primarily the Metropole Hotel.

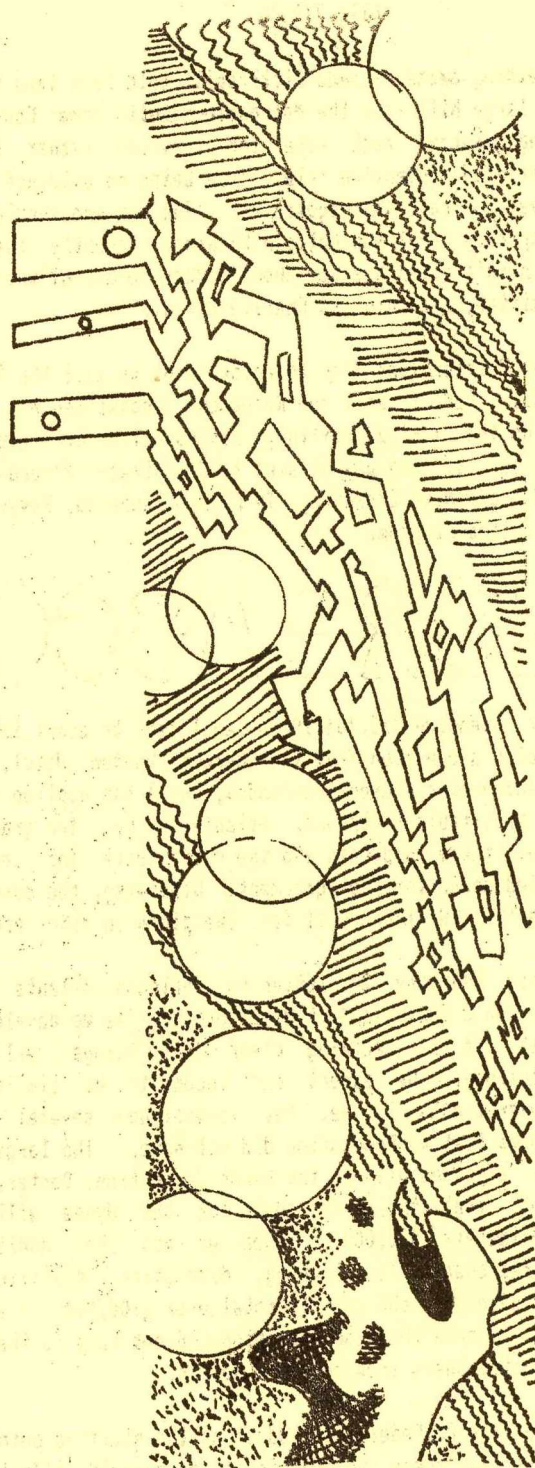
Linda Pickersgill, in conversation with Rick Foss, said she first discovered the state of Conspiracy's finances while trying to find out who American co-agent Bryan Barrett could send his money to. When Linda called the committee's accountant she was informed of the bankruptcy.

Paul Kincaid, Linda Pickersgill and Mike Christy, told Locus' Charlie Brown that on May 25, 1988, the Metropole Hotel filed for immediate payment of 16,893 pounds owed by Science Fiction Conventions Limited. (Another 6,000 pounds is owed to the Brighton Convention Centre.) The fans state that under British law, a corporation whose liabilities exceed its assets must cease trading.

At the time, Conspiracy's assets were 23,611 pounds, including accounts receivable, and its liabilities exceeded 30,000 pounds. The 6,463 pound deficit is said to include 3,500 pounds that will be required to mail 1700 nonattending 'overseas fans' program books. In accounting, liabilities properly include certain expenses that have been incurred -- such as the obligation to mail overseas members' program books -- although they have not yet been paid. Reportedly, there also is a chunk of money owed to Scots author Duncan Lunan from at-con sales, and Andy Porter says 600 pounds is owed to Rob Jackson for printing.

British fans told Brown that Conspiracy's assets were frozen and the committee expected a receiver to liquidate the corporation. But in their latest reports, although a judge ruled the corporation was bankrupt, the Metropole never served a final writ to close Conspiracy's offices. Meantime, Conspiracy's attorney has negotiated a delay until the end of the year for the committee to pay the hotel and convention centre.

During Conspiracy '87 weekend, I spoke with Martin Hoare about the hotel contract, and learned he and solicitor Tim Stannard had drawn up proposed contractual language setting charges and terms between the Metropole and Conspiracy. He said he believed after it was turned over to Malcolm Edwards, Edwards did not use their work, and he heard nothing further about it, leading him to suspect



## 1987 WORLDCON GOES BUST

~~something amiss.~~ Linda Pickersgill told Foss fans suspect the large bill from the Metropole ~~results from~~ Conspiracy being charged rack rate for services rather than a negotiated convention rate, there being no evidence that a convention rate was negotiated. (The man who should know, Conspiracy chairman Malcolm Edwards, recently remarried and hasn't given his new phone number to any of the former committee, according to Charlie Brown.)

A few British fans plan to raise funds to mail the Program Books. Porter said the Noreascon 3 committee has agreed to do the American mailing, but donations are sought to pay for it, and may be sent to Conspiracy Program Book Fund, c/o Mike Christie, Ty Llyn, Llangorse, Powys, LD37 UD, United Kingdom.

## NOREASCON

After spending \$19,704.10 in legal fees to avert the 1989 WorldCon's ejection from the Sheraton-Boston Hotel, MCFI (Massachusetts Convention Fandom, Inc.) has applied to two past profitable WorldCons, Atlanta and LA, for grants to offset these expenses and the extra costs for security ~~required~~ under the new agreement. Otherwise, the committee feels their WorldCon will feel the pinch in other areas.

In his February 24 letter to Worldcon Atlanta Inc., Noreascon 3 Chairman Mark Olson wrote, "As we develop our budget it is becoming clear that things will be constrained. We expect our income to be similar to Confederation's income, but we will have several major ~~expenses that Confederation~~ did not have. The largest of these expenses will be the Hynes Convention Center. We expect that the base cost for the Hynes will be approximately \$70,000. When we add the additional required charges for cleaning, decorating, electricians, etc., we expect the cost to total over \$100,000. A second major expense that Confederation did not have is the cost of shuttle buses from outlying hotels.

"Taking the Confederation budget as the starting point, we can see that these two additional costs would effectively swallow the \$90,000 surplus and then some. We were definitely in a difficult financial situation even before the extraordinary [legal] costs referred to in the grant application arose.

"This doesn't mean that the convention will go broke, here are always places we can cut back on our services. But it might mean that the WorldCon will provide less than the fans have come to expect and deserve."

Not only does the committee expect its final total legal bills to top \$22,000, to satisfy the new agreement with

the Sheraton they are committed to spend \$64,321 on convention security rather than the \$48,024 they would have normally incurred.

The kind of security fans can expect to see in evidence at next year's WorldCon is hinted in the committee's July 20, 1987 (draft) of "Philosophy of Convention Security" mentions, "At night, instead of massive guard coverage to seal off sleeping floors, the thing to do is (1) provide a reasonable party area, such as the 5th floor and some of the 3rd floor [of the Sheraton] with fairly heavy coverage to keep the lid on and keep out crashers, (2) prohibit open parties on upper floors and make them less attractive, enforced by moderately heavy guards on rounds, (3) keep newsletter or other attraction list distribution within the security perimeter, and (4) plan overlapping and follow events so that you never have a large group of people released all at once with limited places to go." The fifth floor party area, alone, will be assigned 11 ~~uniformed~~ guards on Friday night (9 on Saturday, 8 on Sunday).

The anticipated cost of uniformed security for the entire convention is \$55,024, with another \$2,961 for the Boston Police detail and \$6,336 for the Boston Fire detail -- total, \$64,321.

Worldcon Atlanta Inc.'s response has not yet been made public. In LA, the Southern California Institute for Fan Interests, (SCIFI), responded with the politest no it could muster. Despite MCFI's promise to pass-on to future WorldCons any Noreascon 3 profits corresponding to the grant money, part of SCIFI's decision was based on its philosophy of only bailing out conventions which had lost money despite reasonable efforts to manage their budget, With over a year to the convention, a ~~prudent WorldCon committee can control its financial destiny.~~

As a legacy of the 1987 Boskone, the 1989 WorldCon will have a high security profile, and it remains to be seen what effect it will have on fans' enjoyment of the convention. Ten years ago, when checking bags at the Art Show entrance was considered an intrusive annoyance, 11 uniformed guards in the convention party area would have been unthinkable, but at the end of the 1980s, fandom may have become so comfortably middle-class it will be seen as a boon!

ATLANTA FANTHOLOGY ABANDONED: Dick Lynch, fresh from DeepSouthCon, reports that Patrick Gibbs and Rick Albertson have given up their announced 1987 Fanthology. Worldcon Atlanta Inc. had designated funds to pay for publishing the edition, which was optimistically announced to be available in time for use by Hugo voters.



# ROBERT A HEINLEIN

**ROBERT A. HEINLEIN:** The man whom Isaac Asimov once called "three of the ten best science fiction writers", Robert A. Heinlein, died in his sleep May 8, 1988, at the age of 80. Death was caused by emphysema and congestive heart failure.

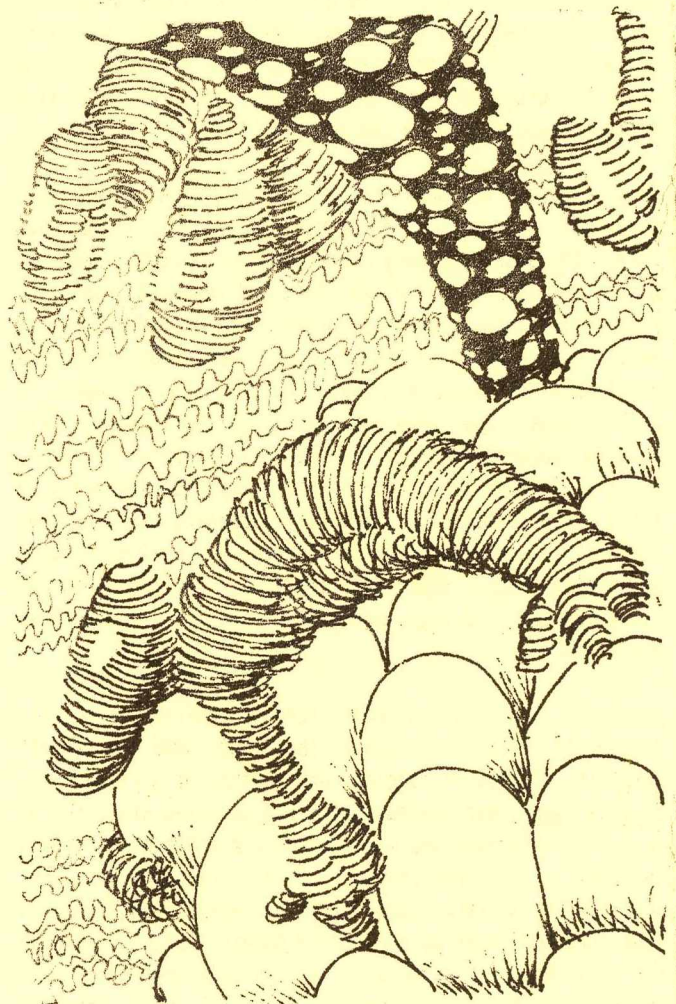
Many eulogies are being written about Heinlein, the consummate professional, whom even his friends held in reverent awe. File 770 will reflect on his relationship with fandom.

As a foundation stone for the golden age of Astounding, the prolific and innovative Heinlein was highly esteemed by science fiction fans. Less than two years after publication of his first story, Heinlein was named guest of honor of the third World Science Fiction Convention (Denvention, 1941). He repaid their esteem in his first WorldCon guest of honor speech by terming fans "timebinders", readers with special perceptivity. Twenty years later, as Seacon's GoH (Seattle, 1961), Heinlein was one again a gracious guest, opening his cabana room each morning to fans -- the entire convention having only 300 members.

Through his 1950s juvenile sf novels Heinlein was the inspiration of a generation of scientists and engineers; their teacher, too, as he filigreed his prose with applications of practical mathematics.

Despite their being legion, Heinlein's fans seem to have had less impact on his work than on a number of other writers. Still, George Scithers recalls that Glory Road was triggered by his postcard in which he asked "What would happen after the hero wins the hand of the princess and half the kingdom..." Scithers credits an offhand remark by L. Ron Hubbard, who dismissed the small whirlwind in the courtyard of Heinlein's apartment as "That's just Kitten," as the source of the short story "Our Fair City."

While Heinlein was regarded, along with Asimov, as the epitome of "hard science fiction writers", not even church-founder Hubbard anticipated half so well American youth's appetite for the sexual liberation and New Testament spirituality evident in Stranger in a Strange Land. His canny publisher successfully hyped student sales of Stranger's late-60s reprint by flooding the country with "Do You Grok?" stickers meant for notebooks and lockers.



The early-70's generation of college graduates became such a large market for sf there even began to appear nonfiction books and popular articles about the creative talents in the genre (not to mention the first semiprozines, Science Fiction Review and Locus, and those who wanted to follow their lead.) Among them was J. Neil Schulman, contributor to Sam Konkin's ambitious New Libertarian Notes, who put NLN on the map with his very extensive Heinlein interview. Given his withdrawal to the privacy of his Santa Cruz home, the extent of Heinlein's cooperation in the interview was at least a surprise to me, and the interview thoroughly reacquainted fans with his adamantly conservative opinions.

Other than John W. Campbell, Heinlein was the only three-time pro GoH, but probably unlike Campbell his last stint as guest was tinged with controversy. By the late 1970s, when Bruce Pelz enchanted the LASFS one night with fanhistorical slides of Heinlein in his room at Seacon, many viewers found that scene starkly contrasted to their memories of MidAmeriCon (1976). Consideration of Heinlein's age and health, blended with pre-MidAmeriCon paranoia about the explosive growth of WorldCon attendance resulted in Heinlein being convoyed through the convention by a phalanx of paramilitary Dorsai Irregulars, and usually being sequestered in a private room or committee suite, inaccessible to the members.

Then, during his guest of honor speech the unthinkable happened: Heinlein received scattered boos, more than once, for some pointedly conservative political remarks. While Heinlein's political views had remained constant, and judging from my reading formerly corresponded to views held by a majority of fans, in the 1950s, by 1976 the popularity of science fiction had grown to encompass a much younger and more centrist group who reacted with hostile embarrassment to parts of Heinlein's speech. Closely watched by closed-circuit television cameras, a first at MidAmeriCon, Heinlein appeared halting and distant, a man undertaking a duty he was not quite physically equal to, but certainly unwilling to be relegated to the quiet pedestal his audience would have preferred.

Despite fans' tension when forced to confront the "Old Testament" Heinlein, rather than the "New Testament" Heinlein of popular imagination, author of Stranger In A Strange Land, many enthusiastically accepted his marching orders that summer and went to local blood banks in the hundreds. In recognition of his reliance on the availability of rare blood, Heinlein used his GoH-ship to publicize the importance of blood donors. LASFS conducted the first Heinlein Blood Drive at the 1976 Westercon, and Heinlein expressed his appreciation by attending a meeting at the old LASFS clubhouse.

That night, he was ensconced in its library, accessible to a few at a time. Although it's not the only reason I appreciate Jerry Pournelle, I always remember that LASFS meeting and his efforts to grant me the finest favor he could bestow, an introduction to his friend Robert. "You're the President of LASFS -- go on in!" I met the man, and then slipped out, because I just couldn't think of anything worthy enough to say! But like many others, I still have my offprint of his 1976 article "Are You A Rare Blood?", autographed "To my blood brother, Mike Glycer."

Through the balance of Heinlein's life, LASFS continued to feel a special relationship with him, renewed for a generation of LASFSians who could not have known him as an

active club member in the early 1940s. Gary Louis continued to hold blood drives at each Loscon. Club President Casey Bernay's reaction to news of his death was so strong she was virtually unable to preside over the following meeting, much of which was devoted to him: not merely remembrance of a lifelong affection for his books, but strongly expressed desires to have some lasting memorial -- be it in the form of a blood drive, naming the NASA space station for him, or in a club ceremony. (NOLAcon will have a Heinlein Memorial Blood Drive at the WorldCon.)

## SIMAK

CLIFFORD SIMAK: Grandmaster Nebula winning author Clifford Simak, 83, died April 25 in Minneapolis. Simak was often called a naturalistic Midwestern writer, a valid compliment probably repeated out of surprise at finding one in the sf genre.

He was born on his grandfather's farm in Wisconsin, a rural environment that provided the setting for Way Station, winner of the 1964 Best Novel Hugo. Simak, who was nominated several times, also received a Hugo for his short story "Grotto of the Dancing Deer" in 1981.

Fandom's affection for Simak's work resulted in his being one of the few pros to have a return engagement as WorldCon pro guest of honor. His first GoH stint came at Noreascon I (1971), and he shared the marquee with C. L. Moore at Denvention Two (1981).

RAY FISHER DIES: Ray Fisher, chairman of the 1969 WorldCon (St. Louiscon), editor of Odd and one of the founders of Missouri fanzine fandom, died recently of a diabetic coma. (Andy Porter).

## DITTO

DITTO FADES TO SEPTEMBER: Ditto, Corflu's cousin as a convention for fanzine fans, has been forced to postpone its date from late July to the end of September. Toronto's Bond Place Hotel reneged on its contract, so the committee (Alan Rosenthal, Bob Webber, Catherine Crockett, Mike Glicksohn and Taral Wayne) is in the process of signing a contract with a new hotel. The new date of the convention is September 23-25, hotel to be announced after the contract is actually signed. Their notice says, "[We're] planning to take the management of that hotel to court."



# 1988 HUGO BALLOT

## BEST NOVEL

THE FORGE OF GOD, Greg Bear (Tor)  
 THE UPLIFT WAR, David Brin (Bantam Spectra)  
 SEVENTH SON, Orson Scott Card (Tor)  
 WHEN GRAVITY FAILS, George Alec Effinger (Bantam Spectra)  
 THE URTH OF THE NEW SUN, Gene Wolfe (Tor)

## BEST NOVELLA

"Eye for Eye", Orson Scott Card (IASFM, 3/87)  
 "The Forest of Time", Michael Flynn (Analog, 6/87)  
 "The Blind Geometer", Kim Stanley Robinson (IASFM, 8/87)  
 "Mother Goddess of the World", Kim Stanley Robinson (IASFM, 10/87)  
 "The Secret Sharer", Robert Silverberg (IASFM, 9/87)

## BEST NOVELETTE

"Buffalo Gals Won't You Come Out Tonight", Ursula K. LeGuin (F&SF, 11/87)  
 "Dream Baby", Bruce McAllister (IN THE FIELDS OF FIRE/IASFM 10/87)  
 "Rachel in Love", Pat Murphy (IASFM, 4/87)  
 "Flowers of Edo", Bruce Sterling (IASFM, 5/87)  
 "Dinosaurs", Walter Jon Williams (IASFM, 6/87)

## BEST SHORT STORY

"Angel", Pat Cadigan (IASFM, 5/87)  
 "The Faithful Companion at Forty", Karen Joy Fowler (IASFM, 7/87)  
 "Cassandra's Photographs", Lisa Goldstein (IASFM, 8/87)  
 "Night of the Cooters", Howard Waldrop (Omni, 4/87)  
 "Why I Left Harry's All-Night Hamburgers", Lawrence Watt-Evans (IASFM, 7/87)  
 "Forever Yours, Anna", Kate Wilhelm (Omni, 7/87)

## BEST NONFICTION BOOK

ANATOMY OF WONDER, THIRD EDITION, Neal Barron (Bowker)  
 SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY AND HORROR: 1986, Charles N. Brown & William G. Contento (Locus Press)  
 IMAGINATION: THE ART AND TECHNIQUE OF DAVID A. CHERRY, David A. Cherry, (Donning Books)  
 THE BATTLE OF BRAZIL, Jack Matthews (Crown)  
 MICHAEL WHELAN'S WORKS OF WONDER, Michael Whelan (Del Rey Books)

## BEST "OTHER FORMS"

THE ESSENTIAL ELLISON, ed. Terry Dowling with Richard Delap and Gil Lamont (Nemo Press)  
 I, ROBOT: THE MOVIE (SCRIPT), Harlan Ellison (IASFM, 11 & 12/87)  
 WATCHMEN, Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons (D.C./Warner)  
 THE WILD CARDS, VOL. I, II & III (WILD CARDS, JOKERS WILD, ACES HIGH), ed. George R. R. Martin (Bantam)  
 CVLTVRE MADE STVPID, Tom Weller (Houghton Mifflin)

## BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

PREDATOR, (20th Century Fox)  
 THE PRINCESS BRIDE, (20th Century Fox)  
 ROBOCOP, (Orion)  
 STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION "Encounter at Far Point" (Paramount Television)  
 THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK, (Warner)

## BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR

Gardner Dozois  
 Ed Ferman  
 David Hartwell  
 Stanley Schmidt  
 Brian Thomsen

## BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

David A. Cherry  
 Bob Eggleton  
 Tom Kidd  
 Don Maitz  
 J. K. Potter  
 Michael Whelan

## BEST FAN ARTIST

Brad Foster  
 Steve Fox  
 Teddy Harvia  
 Merle Insigna  
 Taral Wayne  
 Diana Gallagher Wu

## BEST SEMIPROZINE

2 ABORIGINAL SF, ed. Charles Ryan  
 INTERZONE, ed. Simon Ounsley et al  
 LOCUS, ed. Charles N. Brown  
 1 SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE, ed. Andrew Porter  
 THRUST, ed. D. Douglas Fratz

BEST FANZINE

- 4 FILE 770, ed. Mike Glyer
- 2 FOSFAX, ed. Timothy Lane
- 3 LAN'S LANTER, ed. George "Lan" Laskowski
- 1 MAD 3 PARTY, ed. Leslie Turek
- 5 TEXAS SF INQUIRER, ed. Pat Mueller

BEST FAN WRITER

Mike Glyer  
 Arthur Hlavaty  
 Dave Langford  
 Guy H. Lillian III  
 Leslie Turek

JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD (Sponsored by Davis Publications)

C. S. Friedman	(1st year)
Loren MacGregor	(1st year)
Judith Moffitt	(2nd year)
Rebecca (Brown) Ore	(2nd year)
Martha Soukup	(2nd year)

NOMINATING BALLOTS CAST IN EACH CATEGORY: Best Novel 214, Best Novella 37, Best Novelette 109, Best Short Story 165, Best Nonfiction Book 62, Best Other Forms 182, Best Dramatic Presentation 103, Best Professional Editor 76, Best Professional Artist 173, Best Fan Artist 145, Best Semiprozine 52, Best Fanzine 122, Best Fan Writer 174, John W. Campbell Award 119.

So much for the official press release. Chuq Von Rospach has circulated the following additional information on the Delphi computer service: OtherRealms (his fanzine) placed sixth in the balloting for Best Fanzine. In Other Forms, the Elric costume presentation from last year's WorldCon placed sixth, and The Shaft placed seventh.

DESPITE POPULAR DEMAND: BEST OTHER FORMS Not that the award was well-conceived, but every special interest group in fandom promptly claimed it for their own. Off Centaur, Inc., bulk mailed a circular headlined "AT LAST, A FILK HUGO!" In the short amount of time available, they had assembled a list of 68 filksongs (many by Clif Flynt, Julia Ecklar and Leslie Fish) which they considered to meet the eligibility requirements.

The costumers rounded up sufficient votes for the "Elric" costume presentation by Victoria Ridenour and crew at the 1987 WorldCon that they received one of the committee's form notifications asking whether they wanted the opportunity to withdraw. (Actually, the Satterfields' efficiency should be commended for that, although several people, such as Marty Cantor, were misled by its implications to assume the correspondence was only sent to

the final nominees, and consequently disappointed.)

At Corflu, thanks to George Flynn's suggestion, there was even a last-minute burst of effort to nominate The Adventures of The Shaft, which came close to success according to Von Rospach's report.

Monica Stephens and Steve Jackson argued, in Rebel Rouser, "Did you know SMOFL-BBSJ is a fanzine using electronic media? Well, it is! Here's a plug: Nominate it for the Hugo for Best Fanzine!" They should have joined the thundering herd and sought an Other Forms berth for Earl Cooley's bulletin board service.

Will the category be seen again? Mad 3 Party (May 1988) reporting a Noreascon 3 subcommittee meeting, "Should we have a special Hugo category? Nolacon is trying a category called 'Other Forms' but there wasn't a lot of enthusiasm among the group for repeating it (although we agreed we should watch it and see what gets nominated in that category. Dave [Anderson] threatened to nominate the new IRS tax form, and Mark [Olson] proposed the category 'Best New Work By A Dead Author.'" (The balance of the Hugo discussion at that meeting revolved around proposals that Noreascon 3 use its chance to run an experimental Hugo category and give an award for Young Adult sf.

# NEBULAS

NEBULA AWARDS: Amid rumors they may change their name to the World Wrestling Writers Federation, the Science Fiction Writers of America convened their annual awards meeting in LA's Hollywood Roosevelt hotel over the May 21 weekend. Witnesses report Norman Spinrad was spectacularly audibly unhappy that a hotel guest had failed to vacate part of a suite reserved for the reception, and after the reception moved downstairs to a function room, Jerry Pournelle's final solution to a loud portable stereo was an attempt at radical surgery with a Swiss Army knife.

Actor David Rappoport, of Time Bandits and the TV series The Wizard, was discovered out by the hotel pool listening to an OMNI magazine cassette when it was pointed out to him, "The editor of OMNI magazine is sitting right over there!" Rappoport was invited to the banquet and gave an impromptu talk on the same program as keynote speaker Lewis Friedman of the Planetary Society. Rappoport, in the pose of interviewing God, asked, "Why did you invent science fiction writers?" God's answer: "Because I ran o of ideas!"

Fred Pohl delivered a eulogy for Clifford Simak, and Jerry Pournelle's eulogy of Robert A. Heinlein received a standing ovation, and was termed by Bill Warren the finest



talk he'd ever heard by Pournelle, an acknowledged audience spellbinder.

NOVEL: FALLING WOMAN, Pat Murphy.

NOVELLA: "The Blind Geometer", Kim Stanley Robinson.

NOVELETTE: "Rachel in Love", Pat Murphy.

SHORT STORY: "Forever Yours, Anna," Kate Wilhelm.

GRANDMASTER NEBULA: Alfred Bester.

DUFF

DUFF: The 1988 Down Under Fan Fund will send Australian Terry Dowling to the New Orleans WorldCon.

	FIRST		SECOND		THIRD		TOTAL
	Aus	US	Aus	US	Aus	US	
Cathy Kerrigan	41	23	44	25	44	27	71
Terry Dowling	41	41	42	42	43	45	88
Hold Over Funds	18	7	21	8	--	--	
Write In	6	4	--	--			
No Pref	1	4	--	--			
TOTAL	107 79				186		

What happened to The Door? The Australian Administrators (Morley, Pride and Stathopolous) ignored first-place votes for the Rogers Street Laundry Door, proceeding directly to the next preference on the voter's ballot. The American Administrator (Lucy Huntzinger) counted them as write-ins. According to Thyme 68, there were 19 Australian and 2 US first place votes for The Door.

The Australian Administrators reported a \$3,092.00 balance in their Fund accounts as of April 7, 1988. Lucy Huntzinger reports the North American DUFF fund stood at \$2,083.75 on June 1, 1988.

Nominations for the North America-Australia leg of the trip will be accepted until September 4, 1988, by Huntzinger or new Australian Administrator Terry Dowling. Candidates must provide 5 nominations (three from N. Am., two from Australasia), a written platform of no more than 100 words, a \$10.00 bond (like your personal check) and a written pledge to go if elected and fulfill the duties of the DUFF administrator. The winner will attend Swancon in Perth over Easter weekend, 1989.

GUFF: Candidates for the 1988-89 "Going Under Fan Fund" are Roelof Goudriaan and Linda Pickersgill. Roelof edits the European English-language newzine Shards of Babel. Linda has publishing credentials, and in her GUFF platform adds, "Most recently I organized the fan activities at Conspiracy '87 where I bullied many an Australian."

TAFF

TAFF: Lillian Edwards and Christine Lake have captured the pennant of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund.

	Europe	N.Am.	Australia	Total
Edwards/Lake	73	63	6	142
Martin Tudor	51	16	4	71
Dave Wood	43	11	0	54
Hold Over Funds	1	2	0	3
Other	1	0	1	2
Total	169	92	11	272

Only Edwards and Lake received at least 20% of the first-place votes cast by North American voters, which under TAFF rules meant they were really the only candidates eligible to win. This seemingly posed no problem given their first-ballot majority.

The real problem was no sooner had the landslide vote been recorded than Lillian Edwards was seriously considering attending a law conference in Salzburg, Austria, that conflicted with the NOLAcon weekend. The TAFF administrators having already weathered the mini-tempest regarding the female pair's running as a couple were plunged into chaos at the prospect of losing the winning candidate while having no legal replacements among the runners-up. Eventually, Edwards decided the law conference was not crucial to her career, and will be with Lake at the 1988 Worldcon.

American Administrator Jeanne Gomoll reports the North American TAFF funds amounted to \$5,020.60 as of May 10. She is preparing to launch the next North-America-to-Britain race to select a delegate to the 1989 Eastercon. The British newzine Critical Wave published rumors that Charlotte Proctor and Robert Lichtman will run.

SEFF: According to Thyme 68: "Jim Barker has resigned as administrator of SEFF as the 'Keep SEFF Swedish' faction SEFF administrators prepare to nominate the third Scandinavian in three years to make the trip to Europe. (Doesn't anybody want to visit Scandinavia?) Ahrvig Engholm, the 'SEFF is Dead' faction SEFF administrator has been raising money for a 'SEFF Damage Fund' to use to start up a new replacement Fan Fund."

TARAL ON THE CUFF: Taral will be in Winnipeg for the 1988 Convention, (Keycon 5), courtesy of the CUFF fund which alternates bringing eastern or western Canadian fans cross-continent. Maple Leaf Rag reports CUFF administrator Fran Skene said Taral was the only candidate to be properly nominated (by western Canadians Skene, Affleck-Asch-Lowe, Garth Spencer and Don Bindas, and eastern Canadians Michael



Skeet, Lorna Toolis and Mike Glicksohn.)

**METAPHYSICAL REVIEW SIGHTED:** A new issue of Bruce Gillespie's The Metaphysical Review has been released, according to Australia's two fan newzines, Thyme and The National. Leigh Edmonds reports the 124-page tome encompasses issues 11, 12 and 13. Peter Burns says the professionally-printed Review will be followed with a 40-page musical supplement, after Gillespie has managed to come to grips with the \$1,600 printing bill. Since Bruce hasn't figured out how to pay for the postage, take this as the excuse to plan a summer vacation in Australia and pick up your copy.

**KAYMAR AWARD:** The NSF (National Fantasy Fan Federation, founded in 1941 by Damon Knight) has named Fred Jakobcic as the winner of its 1988 Kaymar Award for his work on behalf of the club.

**NSF 1987 SHORT STORY CONTEST WINNERS:** First Prize (\$25) - Kit W. Wesler for "Conncrithir"; Second Prize (\$15) - Michael Weiss for "By the Book"; Third Prize (\$10) - Anthony Trull for "This Call's For Me." Donald Franson screened the best 12 out of 36 entries for final judging by Darrell Schweitzer.

**MORE MAYHEW:** Peggy Rae Pavlat writes, "The report in the recent File 770 that Joe Mayhew resigned from the DC in 1992 bid is correct. For many months Joe devoted a great deal of his time to organizing and promoting the DC in 1992 bid. However, he then realize that all of his spare time was devoted to the bid and that he had other priorities for his time.

"Joe did not, as reported/rumored, close the bid post office box. The box Joe closed was the 1987 Disclave post office box. The confusion may have come from the fact that Hoe, as Disclave 1987 chairman, allowed the bid to use the Disclave post office box (Box 971 in College Park) before the bid obtained its own post office box (Discon III, PO Box 2745, College Park MD 20740).

"Since we often get other people's mail in our box (this happens at my home, also!) I have no doubt that some of our mail is misdirected, also. I hope they will try again. Thanks for letting me set the record straight."

**WE KNEW YOU'D WANT TO KNOW:** According to actor Jonathon Frakes, Cmdr. Riker in Star Trek: The Next Generation, questioned at May 13-15 Dixietrek, the black stuff in "Skin of Evil" was an eight-foot pit of Metamasil and printer's ink. The ink was to make it black. The Metamasil kept it from sticking to Frakes. [NOVA ODYSSEUS, May 1988]

**LUNAR REALTY TRUST #1 TO BE CASHED OUT:** The New England Science Fiction Association's innovative clubhouse funding scheme, obtaining a mortgage by offering notes from a realty trust, has served its purpose and the NESFA will soon pay off all the remaining noteholders.

**ELIGIBLE AUSTRALIAN BACHELOR ENSNARED:** Justin Ackroyd proposed marriage to Jenny Chudecki on April 1. She said yes: but Justin would not believe her until he said yes again after midnight, on April 2. They will marry the week of April 1, 1989, around the time of Swancon. Lucy Huntzinger has been asked to officiate, in her capacity as a Universal Life Church minister. Huntzinger prides herself for officiating at weddings wearing fantastic hats, and says her ceremonies are very funny. [Lucy Huntzinger]

**ANOTHER FANNISH 501(c)(3) FORMED:** Helping fandom put the Archon debacle further behind it, the South Florida Science Fiction Society has received IRS tax-exempt status after nearly two years of bureaucratic wrangling. According to Joe Siclari, IRS exempt organization specialists repeatedly challenged the group's commercial activities, particularly convention art sales, and cited the Tax Court decision which denied tax-exempt status to the non-profit corporation organized by St. Louis fans to operate Archon. Siclari says, "After four submissions to Atlanta and one to Washington, totalling over 220 pages...we have 501(c)(3) status. I'm not sure but maybe the real qualification is endurance not education."

According to Creede Lambard's report in its clubzine, the Austin sf club Eternacon is now registered with the Secretary of State of Texas as a nonprofit corporation. Eternacon is also applying to the IRS, and Lambard says, "Getting our 501(c)(3) could take as little as a month or two -- or as long as forever."

**DETROIT CRIME WAVEICLE:** Howard DeVore reports the theft of Denise Brown's Volkswagen on April 11. "Brian reports that a neighbor mentioned a few days later that she saw three men pushing it down the street. Presumably she thought they were trying to start it and I suppose when they got around the corner they jumped it and took it somewhere so they could trade it for some more nose candy." Actually, Howard, you could force-start those VWs by pushing them down the street then engaging first gear, which is probably what they were doing when the neighbor spotted them.

**MAIA COWAN'S MICHIGAN REPORT:** In the Farmington Hills, MI, public library a new science fiction club meets the second Wednesday of every month. (32737 W. 12 Mile Rd.) They usually have a specific topic to discuss, and films to show. Anyone interested can call the library and ask for Jean Jambas, (313) 553-0300. // Tom Barber and Tara Edwards are engaged, but haven't set a date yet. // Contraption (Southfield, MI) and Marcon (Columbus, OH) both handily



survived being on the same weekend. Attendance was up at both cons, and at Contraption at least art auction sales were up 20%. The two cons have vowed to check with each other before setting next year's date. I suspect Marcon has also vowed to find out before they sign a contract whether the hotel's planning to go bankrupt -- the reason they ended up changing hotel and date this year. // A certain local fan who won the Best Fanzine Hugo got his name in the Detroit Free Press as part of Contraption publicity, which absolutely thrilled his mother. She probably won't even complain when he misses Easter dinner to be Fan Guest of Honor at next year's Minicon. // I haven't broken my leg yet this year, and hope to keep it that way.

## FREAS IN FOCUS

THE POLLY FREAS FUND AND FUTURE FOCUS: The Indiana clubzine Circle of Janus has published the following letter from Kelly Freas, on the question of Roger Reynolds' ostensible sale of the Future Focus Book of Lists for the benefit of the fund:

"It has been brought to my attention that there has been some unauthorized collection of funds in the name of the Polly Freas Memorial Fund, as well as some question as to the actual whereabouts of the money collected. As an old friend of the Circle of Janus, I felt that some sort of hard copy for your files might be of interest and perhaps help you. I should mention that while I have no direct connection with any of the Fund's affairs, I do have a strong feeling of responsibility toward it.

"Therefore, as a preliminary step, I released the following statement to the computer network. 'This is to notify all convention committees and others concerned that Roger Reynolds does not, in any way, represent me, Frank Kelly Freas, nor, to my knowledge, is he, nor has he ever been, authorized to speak for, or collect money for the Polly Freas Memorial Fund. Further, permission to use my name to collect money, or promote any of Roger Reynolds' operations is hereby expressly and publicly denied.'

"For your own information, the only people authorized to accept donations for the Fund are Ivan and Susan Clark, of the Hampton roads SF Association... I gave Roger permission to dedicate an issue of his magazine to Polly, and that is ALL."

The editors say that after reading Kelly's letter to him, Roger Reynolds agreed with its views and disclosures. He said all remaining copies of the dedicated Future Focus will be given away at upcoming local cons, in hopes

recipients will make a donation directly to the Freas fund.

NOREASCON THREE NEWS: The 1989 Worldcon has announced its membership rates through July 15, 1989.

	until 9/15/88	9/16/88 to 3/15/89	3/16/89 to 7/15/89
Attending Membership	\$60	\$70	\$80
Supporting Membership	\$20	\$20	\$20
Convert Att. to Supp.	\$40	\$50	\$60
Childrens Admission	\$40	\$45	\$50

## PETREY

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED: The 1988 Susan C. Petrey Clarion Scholarship has been awarded to Sharon Wahl of Somerville, MA. This is the seventh time the scholarship has been awarded. This year the scholarship, in the amount of \$1,200, will pay part of the costs of attending the Clarion Writer's Workshop in Lansing, MI. The scholarship is awarded to attendees of the Clarion workshops in Michigan and Washington in alternate years. It is sponsored by Oregon Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., and administered by Debbie Cross and Paul M. Wrigley. Information may be obtained from 5429 SE Bush, Portland OR 97206.

THE DESTINY OF PAULA ANN ANTHONY: Mark Anthony says rumors of his death have been greatly exaggerated -- by his sister -- but for those of you who wondered what became of Paula Ann Anthony, she is in Santo Domingo completing her studies to become a medical doctor. (Just think of the group practice she could have with peditrician Elst Weinstein....)

IT HAD TO HAPPEN: Says Forrest J Ackerman, "Donald Wollheim informs me that his Annual Best of SF has been listed in the catalog of a Norther California bookshop as THE 1988 ANNUAL WORLD'S BEST SAN FRANCISCO STORIES!"

-----++::\*\*\*{ CHANGES OF ADDRESS }\*\*\*\*\*::-----

Garth Spencer 4313 Watson St. #3, Vancouver BC V5V 3S2  
CANADA

Arthur Rubin PO Box 2437, San Gabriel CA 91778-2437

David Fristrom 17 Endicott Ave. #4, Somerville MA 02144

James Van Hise 13101 Sudan Rd., Poway CA 92064

Roelof Goudriaan & Lynne Ann Morse, Caan van Necklaan 63,  
2281 BB RIJSWIJK (ZH), THE NETHERLANDS

Doris Bercarich 90 Runnymede Rd., Toronto ONT M6S 2Y3  
CANADA

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# FAN MAIL

A salvo of explosive rhetoric preceded the latest power-play to wrest control of FACT (Fandom Association of Central Texas). In Steve Jackson's and Monica Stephens' Rebel Rouser, issued March 10, they published a polemical "Call To Arms" variously accusing fellow directors, past and present, Willie Siros, Rembert Parker, Ed Graham and Fran Booth of in-group manipulation, inaction and incompetence.

Before last year's FACT annual meeting, an earlier issue of Rebel Rouser attacked Willie Siros, but the voting membership apparently found its charges to be empty and returned him to the board of directors. The same issue advocated a slate of directors including Rembert Parker. FACT's purpose has been disputed between Willie Siros and his allies, who feel its founding philosophy, to run sf conventions, should remain its reason for being, and others who want FACT to function as a regional super-club. A great deal of emotion and personal history is also being vented in the process, and may be more important than the supposed issues.

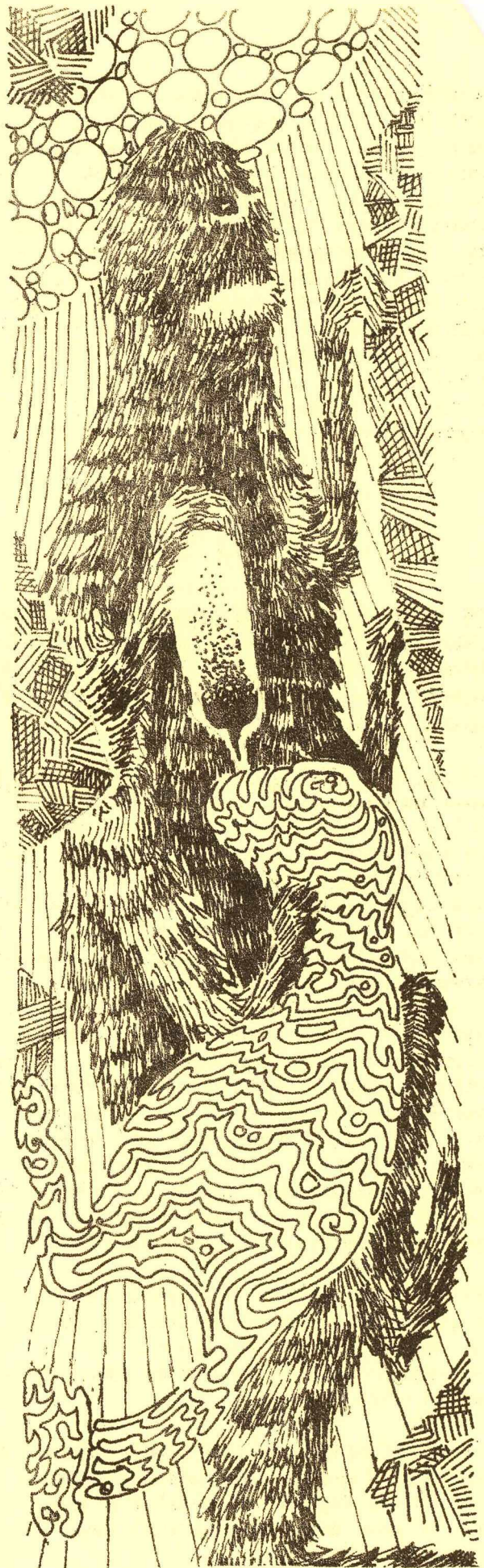
FACT ran the 1985 NASFiC, and the 1988 Sercon. The Rebel Rouser claims that before Sercon 2, "Because so few rooms were reserved in advance, the Hyatt refused to allow access to the function space until Rembert Parker let them put a \$2,000+ charge on his credit card. Though the Hyatt had been picked because it owed FACT some \$3,000 [from disputed NASFiC charges] hotel relations were so carelessly handled that the con was almost thrown out of its site!" The Rebel Rouser claims a financial accounting has yet to be made to the membership.

To an outsider the directors keep recombining their alliances at a rate more appropriate to Diplomacy (or perhaps the owner of Steve Jackson Games). One wonders how FACT voters can sort out the truth.

In any case, the result reported by Pat Mueller to her Texas SF Inquirer mailing list was, "On March 19, 1988, a new board of directors was elected to FACT: Earl Cooley, Steve Jackson, Teresa Patterson, Monica Stephens and Judith Ward. At the first board meeting, held at 10:00 PM evening, Monica Stephens was appointed Chair of FACT Publications.

"Additionally, the board also resolved that I continue as editor of the [Texas SF] Inquirer, provided that I mail an issue on April 4, and another on May 4.

"I have edited and produced this Hugo-nominated fanzine





for FACT since its inception as an Austin-in-'85 NASFiC bidzine back in March, 1983. Under my editorship the post-NASFiC Inquirer has evolved into a widely-acclaimed "genzine", or general interest fanzine, and I am proud of the 16 issues I have produced between then and now.

"However, I am unable to meet the new board's directives and deadlines. Therefore I have resigned as editor of the Texas SF Inquirer. The imposed deadline of May 4 for issue 24 cannot be met, given my resources (since July, 1986, the Inquirer has been typed, laid-out, printed, collated and mailed by yours truly and Dennis Virzi.)"

Mueller's resignation included an announcement of her new genzine, Pirate Jenny, whose first issue was distributed at Corflu in April.

## ROTATION

FILTHY PIERRE'S REVISED STANDARD VERSION: The "Strauss & Sacks" 4-zone site selection proposal reported in File 770: 74, which creates a new European zone, and forges a Pacific zone from the existing Western zone, Australia and Japan, was recently endorsed by the directors of SCIFI (the former LA in '90 bidders) on the condition that its proposed North-Eastern zone be modified to include the southeastern U.S. Erwin S. "Filthy Pierre" Strauss has agreed and will incorporate the change, stating, "I hear at least some Australians would prefer to bid against the U.S. West Coast rather than Europe. Moving Australasia that way can only benefit European bids, so they should have no objection. Since that's your preference, too, that accounts for all three of the affected areas."

Before the change, the "S&S" plan would have expanded the existing Central zone to take in the southeastern U.S. The fourth zone would have been the remaining northeastern U.S. Besides assuring Boston and Balti/Wash no overseas competition (other than under exceptional circumstances), the North-Eastern zone also would have removed most of their present domestic competition. For example, Atlanta and Orlando would have shifted to the Central zone.

As revised, the "S&S" plan's Eastern zone is comparable to the current zone.

CON GAMES: Former Locus staffer Dawn Atkins has been representing herself to conventions as a Locus employee in order to get free memberships. She got a free membership to the 1988 Baycon, and passed herself off to 1988 Westercon program coordinator Doreen Webbert as a representative of Locus to get a membership and spot on the program. According to Charlie Brown, this has been going on since her association with Locus ended four years

ago, beginning when she picked up one of the memberships set aside for Locus at the 1985 Austin NASFiC. Brown reports that Webbert has cancelled Atkins' free Westercon membership.

SMOFCON: "Convention Communications" will be the theme of Smofcon 5, to be held in Phoenix, AZ, December 9-11, 1988. Smofcon is the annual training and brainstorming meeting for those who run sf conventions. Chairman Bruce Farr predicts, "Attendance will be in the range of 70-100 people with most coming from the Western U.S." Out-of-area attendees from active convention bids are also expected.

The thematic umbrella of "Convention Communications" covers anything from convention publications to treasury reporting and electronic communications technology.

Membership is \$30 until July 31, \$35 until October 15, and \$50 thereafter. Contact: SMOFCON V, c/o CASFS, PO Box 11743, Phoenix AZ 85061.

## LUNACON

LUNACON: by Laurie Mann

Lunacon was about the same size as Boskone [1800] but is beginning to outgrow its facilities. All the Lunacon guests -- Harry Harrison, Taylor Blanchard, Pat Mueller, Bob Tucker -- were wonderful con guests. Moshe Feder presented Lise Eisenberg with a customized Boskone t-shirt "The Golden Age of Fandom Is Under 18 Years." The TOR party early on Saturday night had more fans under 10 than adults: maybe Lunacon finally needs to add babysitting?

The convention was fun, but some of us were really worried when a fire alarm went off about 8:30 PM on Friday. Fortunately, that was the only one of the weekend. Many nice parties on Saturday included a nicely laid-back Magicon party. Lunacon tossed Harrison a birthday party on Friday night. The candles on the cake gave off so much smoke that Ben Valow busily fanned the smoke away from the smoke detector!

## WOOSTER

BALTICON 22: (April 1-3, 1988) by Martin Morse Wooster.

This year Balticon returned to the Hunt Valley Inn. The moved seemed to exaggerate problems that Balticon has had for some time. I had fun at Balticon, but it was in spite of the convention, not because of it.



This was the year that Balticon was finally taken over by special interests. Friday night the Masquerade reigned; if you weren't interested in costumes, the convention not only had little to offer, but even blocked most hallways so that the costumers could move. Most of the programming on Saturday night was devoted to folksingers. Parties were scant; Discon III's was the largest, but was largely devoted to videotapes showing masquerades from mediacons. Smaller parties were held by the Orlando and Phoenix bids, Penn State fandom and the National Space Society. Balticon has now become the largest convention not to have any programming devoted to fanzines or fanish activities.

The only high point was the film program, so strong that the people behind it are producing yet another convention (FANEX, coming to Timonium, Md., this October, and featuring special interest guest John Agar). Attendance was 1900, the lowest in years.

## ORTLIEB

### KINKON 3: (April 1-4, 1988) by Marc Ortlieb

KinKon has become a Melbourne tradition, being the only convention where Melbourne's media fandom, literature fandom and fanzine fandom ever get together as a group. This year's con attracted fans from all the major Australian fan centres and Tasmania! The programme tends to be eclectic and this one was no exception, with items on Philip K. Dick, Dr. Who, Fantasy Gaming, Warner Brothers Cartoons, Favourite Books and Bheer Tasting -- and that was just day one. (The alternate programme, in the video room, featured Avengers, Outer Limits, Star Trek, N.G., Quatermass and Out of the Unknown.)

Guff winner Irwin Hirsh presented his slide show and two-thirds of the 1987 DUFF team, Lewis Morley and Marilyn Pride, presented their slide show. Justin Ackroyd ran the fan funds auction, during which bidders with more money than sense were rewarded with glasses of wine (most civilized.)

At least a quarter of the 200-odd attendees entered in the Masquerade, making it the most successful Melbourne masquerade since Aussiecon Two. The standard of costuming was particularly high with almost a third of the entrants taking up the theme "I Was a Teenage..." The two most entertaining were Ian Gunn as "I Was A Teenage Sirius Cybernetic Ventilation System With A Ten Year Warranty" and Geoff Tilley as "I Was A Teenage Blue Polka-Dotted Slime Creature" who received Greg Turkich's award for "Best Lay of the Masquerade" because the costume resembled a large blue polka-dotted mattress.

Lee Harding spoke on the joys of writing science fiction in Australia, John Baxter entertained all with tales of his experiences in the film industry, and Guest of Honor, Greg Turkich, a policeman by profession, gave a sobering talk on the position of the police in the Australian community, now and in the future.

Other successful events were the indoor cricket match, between the depleted Heavyweights and a strong KinKon Committee team, a Fanzine sacrifice where various faneds made burnt offerings to the ghods, and a Trivia quiz (won by Justin Ackroyd).

With the Easter weekend being taken up by the Australian National Convention in Perth next year, there won't be a 1989 KinKon, but there may well be something in 1990.

### BAYCON: (Memorial Day Weekend) by Mike Glycer

San Jose's Baycon was well-attended by a colorful cross-section of Bay Area fandom. Baycon is structured to bring all of fandom's special interests under one tent with science fiction: dealers, artists, costumers (both hall costumers and those who compete in the Masquerade), SCA, Buckaroo Banzai fans, Japanimation, dance, film, Elfquest, Star Trek. The programming wasn't bad, and at first glance you'd think it was in the right quantity to match the attendance, but the fact is there seem to be hundreds of Baycon attendees who have no interest in panel programming. The result is most programs are held in cavernously empty rooms for a small audience -- sometimes less numerous than the panelists. Which is too bad, because the panel ideas and the participants were usually creative and interesting.

In fact, one panel devoted a few moments to understanding the phenomenon. Responding to accusations that lots of sf fans aren't well-read, the always-quotable Rich Dutcher said, "The definition of fandom is not reading -- there are lots of readers -- but participation." No question all the diverse interest groups were participating; they just not interacting with each other.

Another well-done program was a costume panel with Bjo Trimble, Drew Sanders, Kevin Roche, and Sarah Goodman. Explained Sarah Goodman, "I got into costume-making because you can't go into a store and say I'd like a Gothic, size 16, and light blue is my best color." Discussing how to get interesting fabric for costumes, Bjo Trimble, from a resourceful generation of fanish scroungers, asked Kathy Sanders how she found such fabulous fabric, and to Bjo's horror Kathy answered, "I buy it!" Kevin Roche declared, "The Salvation Army is your friend." And later he mentioned "Every so often what I call 'Klingon fabric' goes on sale." Late in the hour, Roche said the three motivations to be a costumer are 1. To win. 2. To Be on stage. 3. To be on stage and move people.



# DISCLAVE

DISCLAVE: (Memorial Day Weekend) by Martin Morse Wooster  
I knew Disclave was in the throes of change when I noticed that the familiar logo of the New Carrollton Sheraton was draped in black. The hotel was in the process of being de-Sheratonized, from now on, Disclaves would be held in the Howard Johnson Plaza. (Not Howard Johnson's; the admen consider that passe.)

Perhaps the "change" in the hotel was responsible, but I had more fun at Disclave than I had in years. An outstanding addition this year was the con suite, or "Discave." This was the first consuite I've seen in years that people actually wanted to spend time in. Among the shocking innovations: comfortable couches, well-stocked bars (including a madman who wanted to supply espresso and cappuccino at all hours of the day -- thank you, anonymous madman), and plenty of space. Because the large con suite was filled at all times of the day, the 1,100 member con seemed less crowded and impersonal than would otherwise be the case.

While the fanzine fen huddled in Moshe Feder's room, most of the entertaining innovations at the con came from newly emerging interactive fiction fandom. These people previously sponsored the "Right Through The Wall" party, but this year expanded their range to include Evil Hitler Clones, giant blue lobsters and, their most welcome innovation, the Fashion Police, who roamed the halls ticketing people for fashion violations. (Thankfully, I wasn't ticketed, but among those who were were fen who insisted on "excessive use of cute, cuddly dragons.")

Parties were plentiful; among Worldcon bidders present were both 1992 bids, Chicago in 1991, and San Francisco in 1993. The Sock Hop this year not only featured hundreds of fen in tuxes and prom dresses, but also included a photographer, who took dozens of portraits of fen in the time-honored manner of portrait photographers everywhere. (It was very mundane.) GoH Barbara Hambly was amiable, but not in attendance most of the con. All in all, one of the more enjoyable Disclaves.

MAPLE LEAF RAG RUMOR: MLR 4 published Vancouver fan Steve Forty's report that a member of the concom for Seattle's Norwescon approached him offering financial assistance and personnel to help with a Vancouver WorldCon bid.

PHOENIX, REBEL AWARDS GIVEN: Southern pro Gerry Page received the prestigious Phoenix Award at DeepSouthCon, becoming the first person to have won both the Phoenix and the Rebel. The Rebel is the annual Southern fan award. This year's winners were Mike Weber and Sue Phillips.

## LEADING CONVENTION ART SHOWS

Ingrid Neilson wrote in to comment on Ann Morris' Necronomicon report, and her claim, citing Neilson's article in ASFA Quarterly, that Necronomicon's art show is one of the Top ten convention shows in the country. Says Neilson, "As you can see by the enclosed copy of the original article, (Spring '87 issue), while Necronomicon did indeed make my Top-Ten list for '85 and '86 art shows this listing is based solely on my own show participation. And while 28 shows in '85 and 43 shows in '86 is a fair number of shows for one artist, it is misleading to expand this data to encompass all artists and convention shows nationwide. Necronomicon, as a small local convention, has a decent art show and its director Terri Crabb works to improve it from year to year, but to say that Necro is one of the ten best shows around, based on sales or quality of artwork displayed is a very inaccurate statement."

Having heard Neilson's caveat, you may still be interested in her list of her ten most lucrative art shows in 1985 and 1986:

TOP TEN '85	TOP TEN '86
1. NECRONOMICON	1. CONFEDERATION
2. OMACON	2. SCI-CON
3. NASFiC	3. ALBACON
4. ALTI-EGOS	4. WESTERCON
5. CHATTACON	5. NORWESCON
6. OKON	6. LASTCON FORE
7. LEPRECON	7. WISCON
8. LOSCON	8. MAPLECON
9. SCI-CON	9. TIMECON
10. WAMCON	10. NECRONOMICON

Said Neilson, "Surprisingly, there was very little overlap between the two lists -- what may be a strong selling show one year may be an average selling show the next year. Who the guest is at a convention can influence your sales, too. For example, I was a Fan Artist Guest at the '85 Necronomicon, and it's amazing what a slide show and a panel appearance can do for your sales. Other examples of guest influence are the ALTI-EGOS show and the '86 NORWESCON -- both conventions where Anne McCaffrey was GoH; since most of my artwork is dragon-oriented, I tended to sell very well at these shows."

Neilson keeps track of how effectively conventions service artists in other respects, such as how long it takes a convention to return unsold art that she submitted by UPS. (Please turn to the last page)



# LETTERS

## WHO'S THAT GIRL?

**MARK LONEY:** The woman on the inside front cover of Thyme 66 is not Michelle ((Terry Dowling's girlfriend)) as some people have assumed from the comment at the bottom of page 15.... Not only is her hair short and breast size smaller, but neither of us owns any Dunlop Valley OC tennis shoes -- let alone that much rope. As for who it is, if you really want to know, ummm, I'm afraid you'll have to ask someone else.

**HARRY WARNER JR.** I was somewhat startled and a bit terrified to find something I'd written in a loc used as a title and the lead quotation in one of your riders. If all fandom is to be plunged into war over The Door, it could mean I've finally shot my bolt as an active fan. At least, I'll have something in common with a much more famous individual, Cleopatra: she was done in by an asp and my gaffiation will be hastened by a hasp. When I write my fannish memoirs, I'll reveal a probable reason for my incautious statements, my subconscious fondness for doors in general because of something that happened some months back. The door leading from the kitchen to the vestibule fell down and I repaired it, the first time I've achieved something involving tools since I was ten years old and put a model airplane together. (The model plane never flew and the door won't close the whole way now but it's the spirit of the thing.)

## A DELICATE ROTATION

**BEN SCHILLING:** I've looked at those rotation plans and I really have to object to any plan that forces the Central zone to bid overseas every time to be totally unacceptable. It is going to have to be some other plan entirely. However, I think that we need to change the plan so that we avoid the problem of having a zone trapped by the overseas non-zone.

**JOSEPH NICHOLAS:** We returned from our US trip only a few days ago, but instead of je-lag we feel refreshed and reinvigorated, ready again to enter the fannish fray..

Although when I read Erwin Strauss' proposals to redi-

vide the existing WorldCon rotation system I too thought "Not again!" and made to wearily dismiss them. But if, as he says -- or as you say; it's not that clear that that point who's paraphrasing who -- some Europeans have expressed an interest in being included in the rotation system, the proposals require rather more than mere dismissal.

As Judith and I argued in an article in Critical Wave 3, including "Europe" or "Overseas" or "The Rest of the World" (or whatever) in the existing rotation system would tend to enshrine the dominance of North America in the WorldCon bidding process by ensuring that it was entitled to host the convention at least three years out of four (or two years out of three, or however the world was eventually divided up.) Yet North America does not constitute three-quarters (or two-thirds) of the world, and hence has no right to dominate it in such a fashion -- which is precisely what two of Strauss' three proposals unfortunately imply. True, North America may have a larger fan population -- with the possible exception of Japan, about which little is currently known -- and thus be better able to organize the huge week-long events that WorldCons have now become (simply because there are more people available to do the work!); but it would be an odd argument indeed that claimed this had any bearing on the entitlement to host the WorldCon in the first place. (Not that Strauss or you make it, but just in case anyone else should be thinking of it.)

But -- as Judith and I argued in Critical Wave 3 -- numbers provide the clue to the problem of organizing non-North-American WorldCons. North American fandom is large enough to be able to organize a WorldCon in every zone every third year (there has never been a year in which there hasn't been a bid from at least one city in the relevant zone) and while the work involved might exhaust and so lay low the fans in one city in the zone there will always be fans in another city in the same zone willing to run a WorldCon three years later. Outside North America, however, the number of fans per country is so much less that the organization of an "overseas" WorldCon usually requires the active involvement of the entire fandom of the country in question, leaving it shattered by overwork for years afterwards. Organizing a non-North-American WorldCon is therefore not a task that can be undertaken in accordance with a rotation system that requires that it take place every three or four or five years regardless of circumstances, otherwise one might end up forcing it upon a fandom that wasn't capable of organizing it and manifestly didn't want it.

This may be sheerest speculation, and it would be interesting to see what everyone else has to say. But two things should be borne in mind during whatever discussion might ensue. Firstly, the current rotation system was devised to regulate bidding within North America, and while



you're entitled to come to whatever domestic arrangements you like to determine which of your cities should bid when, the various proposals for reform that have been made in the past few years essentially do no more than tinker with the system's internal national aspect, instead of adapting it wholesale to meet the international situation we now face. Secondly, no rotation system, no matter how cleverly devised, can deal with the problem at the root of organizing all non-North American WorldCons that of stimulating and encouraging bids for them in the first place. And this last is the question to which we should really be addressing ourselves.

**HARRY WARNER JR.** Filthy Pierre will probably end all this nonsense about fanzines being on the decline, through his new worldcon rotation proposals. If previous patterns are followed, arguments on this topic should fill at least five thousand fanzine pages in the course of the coming year, thus reversing the long trend to fewer and smaller fanzines.

\*\*\*\*\*  
PLEASE, WAIT A MINUTE, MR. POSTMAN!  
\*\*\*\*\*

**HARRY WARNER JR.** The 74th File 770 arrived in an unprecedented manner: having received tender, loving care from the postal service. It bore one of those "damaged in handling in the postal service" stamps, but a large tear which had occurred in the last page had been painstakingly repaired with vast quantities of cellophane tape. I don't know if this signifies a new policy of respect for fanzines, or if it has something to do with the new postal rates of it it happened to be processed by one lone postal employee who still has respect for mail in general. Not one solitary word was missing, in any event.

((If somebody's copy is rendered unreadable by the USPS, I will replace it at no charge. If a reader discovers he has failed to receive an issue entirely, he should contact me and I will replace it given that since it may have been destroyed in the mail.))

**DREW SANDERS:** I wanted to respond to a couple of Greg Bennett's comment in File 770:72. None of Nolacon's events will be taking place in the Superdome, so no one needs to rush out and make reservations at the Hyatt. There are two "official" hotels -- the Sheraton and the Marriott. The lobby of the Marriott is probably the closest we'll get to a "Great Fan Gathering Place" as the sight lines there are somewhat better than at the Sheraton. One of the hotels will be used primarily for programming, and the other for static functions -- displays, art shows, and huxters. I don't remember which

is which. The two hotels are about a five minute walk from the river.

I'll agree with Greg's comments on cars. Parking places are near to impossible to find, and the hotel parking lots are expensive. It also took about an average of 15-20 minutes to get a car retrieved each time we needed to take it out last October when I was there. All of the hotel parking is by attendant.

---((^^^##### ADDRESSES OF THE LETTERHACKS #####^^^))---

Ben Schilling 45605 Fox Lane E., #206, Utica MI 48087  
Harry Warner, Jr., 423 Summit Ave., Hagerstown MD 21740  
Joseph Nicholas 22 Denbigh St., Pimlico, London SW1V 2ER  
ENGLAND

## NOLA CON

Guess what? One of NolaCon's two hotels, the Sheraton will not be available to the WorldCon until Friday, when the Baptists move out. Its main room holds 1050, or is divisible into four 500 seat rooms. The Marriott will be available Thursday. Opening Ceremonies will be held there. The Con Suite will also be located in the Marriott in the 8th floor suites adjacent to the pool. The Suites will run 24 hours, the poolside area available till 1 AM.

Veterans of convention rescues of years past are divided between those staying on the sidelines (Tom Whitmore said at Baycon he will spend this year's WorldCon interviewing attendees about "what they want from the WorldCon" for a personal research project), and those frustrated in their attempts to rescue a convention that does not view itself as being in trouble. Joe D. Siclari, asked to recruit Program Operations staff, rounded up 15 volunteers at Disclave and turned their names over to the committee. On June 28, he complained that only two of the people had been contacted.

As one of the two individuals organizing "Mainstream Programming", your editor doesn't plan to gafiate at the end of Labor Day Weekend so just let me say that I am continuing to press for the best possible results. How easy is this? After watching pros' program questionnaires pile up in one committeewoman's mailbox for five weeks, another committee member took matters into her own hands and mailed copies to Foss and I. There were over 30!

Towards that end, I am announcing there will be no issue of File 770 until August, leaving my attention undivided for the critical organizing period. (Continued)



NOLAcon's major events will occur as follows: Thursday, Opening Ceremony - 1:00 PM, Marriott: Mardi Gras Ballroom. Friday, guest of honor speeches, War of the Worlds series presentation; Saturday, Masquerade; Sunday, Hugo Awards. Only movies, videos and the Filk Recording Session will be allowed to be programmed opposite the award ceremony. Monday there will be no major events. There will be a Heinlein Blood Drive, and a David Cherry ASFA Auction. Each evening of the con will have things like dances, and the late night track.

Among the pros you can expect to see at NOLAcon: GoHs the Wollheims, toastmaster Mike Resnick, L. Sprague & Catherine Crook DeCamp, Barbara Hambly, David Brin, Ellen Datlow, Robert Silverberg, Pat Murphy, Rebecca Brown Ore, Joe Haldeman, Charles Sheffield, Greg Bear, Eleanor Wood, William D. Vernon, Roger MacBride Allen, David G. Hartwell, Brad Linaweaver, Robert Asprin, Joseph Green, Darrell Schweitzer, Jack C. & Vol Haldeman, Michael Kube-McDowell, Arlan Andrews, Scott Green, Michael Armstrong, John Betancourt, George Scithers, Edward Bryant, Nancy Etchemendy, Carole Nelson Douglas, Lillian Stewart Carl, C.J. Cherryh, Sharon Farber, Fawcett, Cynthia Felice, Jean Lorrain, D.C. Fontana (part of the War of the Worlds tv series), Alexis Gilliland, Steve Gould, Eileen Gunn, Haldeman, Gwyneth Hood, James Morrow, Robert Hovorka Jr., Dean Ing, Robert Adams, James Patrick Kelly, Dr. Dean R. Lambe, Gay Miller, Melinda Snodgrass, Walter Jon Williams, Betsy Mitchell, Elizabeth Moon, James Morrow, Jody Lynn Nye, Joe Patrouch, Claudia Peck, Kevin D. Randle, Jennifer Roberson, Lewis Shiner, Melinda Soukup, Mark Stegler, Ryder Syvertsen, Sharon Webb, Connie Willis, Lynn Barker.

Those who won't be there include William Gibson, who'll be in Japan, Norman Spinrad, who's going to France, Poul & Karen Anderson, Lee Killough, Suzy McKee Charnas, and Lawrence Watt-Evans.

CONVENTION ART SHOWS: (Continued from page 15) Neilson considers a two week return limit reasonable, and says any longer delay is evidence of unconcern on the part of the art show director. In 1986 the quickest returns were from Phoenixcon, Marcon, Inconjunction and Tropicon (4 days each). Average return time was 13 days. The biggest procrastinators were three West Coast conventions, San Jose's Baycon (25 days), Los Angeles' Equicon (30 days) and San Diego's Westercon (32 days). Neilson lives in South Carolina, which may explain part if not all of the comparative delay.

COLOPHON: File 770 is published pretty often, compared to Planet Stories, by Mike Glyer, at 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401. The zine is available for surreptitious dialog, conniving and fabrication, inducements, and emoluments, but for \$5 for 5 issues mailed first class in North America. Air printed matter delivery is available for \$1.25 per issue. ART CREDITS: All art this issue is by an artist who would like you to guess who he is. That's what he said. Later we will reveal all....

Ed Meskys 76  
RFD 1 Box 63  
Center Habor NH 03226

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Mike Glyer

5828 Woodman Ave. #2

Van Nuys CA 91401