

Pulsar

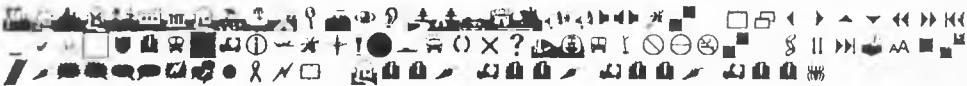
The Newsletter of the Portland Science Fiction Society

Still Only 40 Cents!



IT'S PICNIC TIME!

(Gosh, I hope that got their attention....)



July 1999

Issue 249
Just 1 more to #250!

TIMELINE

Compiled by Sam Butler (with alterations by editor)

PorSFis holds a formal meeting on the second Saturday of each month -- usually these are structured and have a program. After the meeting we adjourn to a social place for snacks, drinks and socialization. Some folks gather after the meeting for dinner at the place listed in the timeline.

There are often a social gathering in varying locations on the fourth Saturday. Lately this has been a video party at the home of two of our members. Everyone is welcome to both.

Saturday July 10, 1999	PorSFis Meeting	2 P.M.
Portland State University	Room 229	Smith Memorial Center

GUEST SPEAKER: to be announced

(No guest has been fixed to date—so be prepared for alternated programming. Bring your sock puppets, we'll reenact favorite movies seen this year. Except this time, JAR JAR DIES! Bwa, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!)

Actually, we're taking this time to go through old copies of the Pulsar to see which articles we'd like to see reprinted in the big 250th issue, since none of us seem to want to write up anything new ☺

AFTERS: Market Street Pub SW 10th & Market Street

Join us after the meeting for a social bit of drinking and eating and talking at a reasonable venue. If this is your first meeting then the drink is on us, well the price of the drink is on the clubs tab.

Saturday July 24 PorSFis Social Event [PorSFis.alt](#)

(Please vote on the new name! Do you like, hate, or are indifferent to it?)

There again will be movies at Jim & Linda Pilcher's apartment. Call for details: 236-0349. Bring your own munchies, etc. They usually start at 7 PM

THE PICNIC July 31, 1999 1 PM see President's Quotes for details

(Sam put 1AM, but personally, I think that's a silly time for a Picnic. ☺)

NEXT MONTH:

Saturday August 14, 1999	PorSFis Meeting	2 P.M.
Portland State University	Room 229	Smith Memorial Center

Guest will be: announced

PRESIDENTS QUOTES:

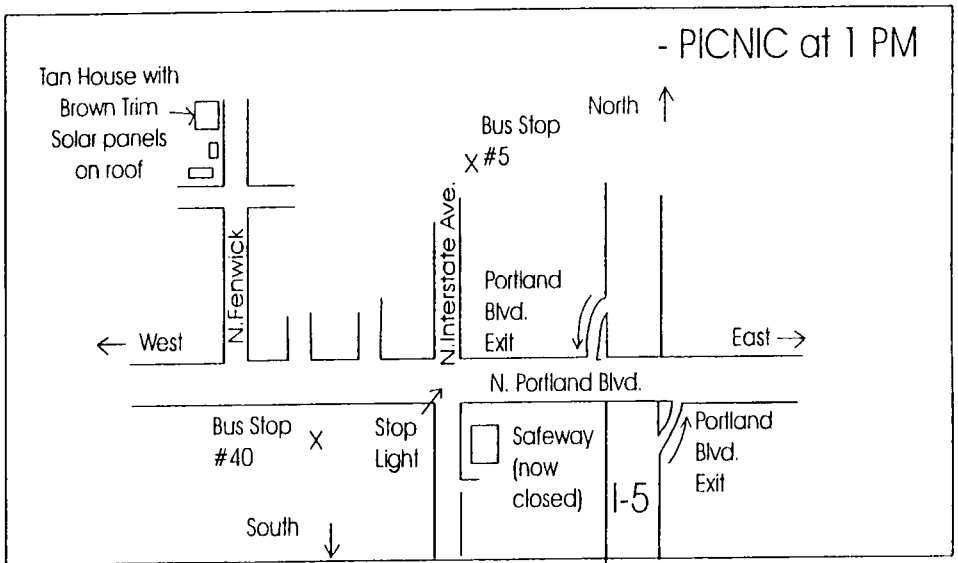
FIRST SUBJECT: THE PICNIC

As of this time we have a picnic site, and it will be the same one as we had last year due to the kindness of Mike & Sharon Parker. And that will be: 6825 N. Fenwick, Portland, Oregon 283-4060
(See the map for details on how to get there.)

This will be the usual potluck. Please bring something to share with everyone else. PorSFis will be providing hot dogs and hamburger to bar-b-que as well as some bready substances and a few drinkable items.

Don't forget to bring along a lawn chair as seating is somewhat limited in case they run out of places to put people. Remember that cleanup after the event is always a good idea, and might be essential if we wish to ever have a picnic here again. Thank you ahead of time.

Picnic begins at 1pm on Saturday July 30th.



SECOND SUBJECT: THE WEB PAGE

There was some discussion regarding the web page at the last meeting, and we'd like to see some suggestions as what to put up on the official PorSFIS web page. I'm currently working on my own web pages and will have a lead out from my into the PorSFIS pages.

If you make no suggestions then it might happen that something you don't want the world to see will go up, and as you know, it will be on the net for a very very long time.

(There has been a change of web mistresses—more in next month's newsletter. If you don't want your e-mail address available on-line, let us know—ed.)

THIRD SUBJECT: PUBLICITY

John Bartley kindly volunteered to place some holders around at the few bookstores designed to hold bookmarkers or business card sized material promoting PorSFIS. This makes us a friendlier addition to bookstores area as this takes up less space. Now we just need to utilize the bookstores that we have with either a good flyer design, or more programs that are planned more than a few days in advance. Bring your markers to the next planning meeting.

FOURTH SUBJECT: OFFICER ELECTION

We have a vacant office, that of secretary, and are holding an election. Please return a ballot to the PO Box 4602 Portland OR 97208 or to one of the other three PorSFIS officers. Election voting ends July 9th.

There is only one person running for this office: John Bartley.

which brings us to:

(Since Chuck's letter came before Sam's rebuttal, I'm inserting it here—ed.)

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF PORSFIS:

From Chuck Leon 6/12/99

At the PorSFIS meeting on June 12th, I was subjected to an unprecedented public embarrassment for being behind in my dues and was removed as an officer (secretary). Now, I do not dispute being unpaid for 1999. Neither am I going to go through my financial status or any of my other current problems. The only thing that I will say is that I was not informed that this would occur beforehand or given any opportunity by either Sam or John to get up to date before it was brought up in open meeting. For all they know (or ever will know, now), I could have had my dues in my pocket to pay at the time. But I was given no chance. I should also mention that during the proceedings that I was never addressed directly, only referred to in the third person; and that I was just dropped, not impeached or voted out. I do not know if this was a violation of

the PorSFis constitution; but it was certainly rude to give me no opportunity to defend myself.

I have been involved with PorSFis for over 21 years and have known both Sam and John as long. While we have not been very close, I always thought that we were friends. But I deserved better treatment than this; if not from friends, then from common courtesy. Other people (including officers) have been behind in their dues (it's only two months); no one else has ever been subjected to such reprehensible treatment without any chance for defense.

Please understand that I do not hold the PorSFis organization or any other individuals to blame (although someone could have talked to me), just Sam and John. Consequently, I demand an apology (or apologies) by them in these pages before I attend another PorSFis event.

Sincerely,
Chuck Leon

(and now, Sam's response)

FIFTH SUBJECT: WHY WE HAVE AN VACANT OFFICE

The Portland Science Fiction Society's Constitution is quite precise on elections and who can hold an office. I quote:

ARTICLE IV:

Section 3: Any dues-paying member of PorSFis shall be eligible for any office.

Section 4: The term of office shall be one year, commencing 1 April at Noon, Portland time. All officers shall maintain their PorSFis memberships throughout their terms of office.

In January and February we had an election. Chuck Leon ran for the office of Secretary, and was elected to this position. Chuck's paid up membership for PorSFis expired on March 31, 1999.

At the Annual Corporation Meeting on April 10, 1999 Chuck was in attendance at the meeting. Chuck was reminded that his dues were not current during the meeting, and after the meeting. He made no arrangements to pay his dues.

On May 8 Chuck was in attendance at the PorSFis monthly meeting. Again Chuck was reminded that his dues were due after the meeting, and again he made no arrangements to make his dues current.

One June 12 (with vice-president Debra Stansbury officiating the meeting) it was announced as part of the old business section of the meeting that one of the officers position for PorSFis was vacant and that we needed to fill this. Since this position is one of the two necessary positions for the Corporation Status of PorSFis to continue and be in good graces with the Corporation Division of the State of Oregon we asked for candidates. John Bartley was the only volunteer to run for the position.

Now comes the hard part. While this may have been a matter of strict parliamentary procedure I will acknowledge that this procedure could have been handled better. Chuck was not approached immediately prior to the meeting with a chance to pay his dues, and was probably blindsided by the procedure. Once the business was brought up Chuck was not properly addressed or acknowledged and for this I apologize to Chuck. However, I cannot go against the constitution that stated that all officers must be paid members at all times during their term of office. Chuck was not in compliance with this requirement since April 1. There is another section regarding officers missing two consecutive meetings, and while this might apply to Chuck, it probably doesn't, because according to the constitution Chuck was never legally an officer.

While Chuck may feel slighted, I do feel that he was asked several times prior to the June 12 meeting to make his dues current and he made no effort to correct this fact. To make a special consideration for his unwillingness or inability to pay his dues doesn't seem to be something that should be granted automatically. Chuck, if you had a problem in paying your dues I feel that you should have come to the officers, explained your situation and have seen what might have been worked out. As you didn't do this, but instead let it slide I don't feel that all of our actions were inappropriate.

I don't know that the remainder of the people at the meeting felt that you were humiliated, instead I suspect that they were quite glad to have someone who was eligible for the office volunteer to do the job. I hope that things start going better for you in your personal life.

MR KNOW-IT-ALL:

A Ms ST of Glendale asks:

Some time back I was involved in a traffic accident in the left-most lane of the Foothill freeway near home. With all the police reports, I learned that the California Highway Patrol numbers the lanes and they considered the left-most lane to be lane number one. A while later, I was off on vacation in Washington State and was involved in another accident on Interstate 90 near Moses Lake. This time the Washington State Police referred to the right-most lane as lane number one. Isn't that terribly confusing? Why do Washington and California number their highway lanes differently?

First, please, confine your driving to the States, if you must drive at all. California numbers from the inside so that the inner-most lane remains number one when the outer-most exits. Most of the other Western States make a point of being as different from California as they can.

A Dr CJWG of Walla Walla asks:

What would one get if one crossed Buridan's Ass with Schroedinger's cat?

A somewhat feline equine animal with a 50% chance of starving to death.

A Ms AB of Edinburgh asks:

I may be spending some time in Paris. Are the night spots there really as superior as I have been lead to believe?

They are vastly over-rated. What really would one expect of a place called the 'Red Mill'? We have a sufficiency of red mills here in the British countryside. Besides, here we get fine, imported wines; all they ever serve in Paris is domestic.

Mr Know-It-All's esoteric question of the month:

Which European Community nation does not have an official national flag?

Answer to last month's question: Neptune is furthest from the sun. Of course, I meant this for the current time. Do bear in mind that Pluto's orbit is very eccentric; (more eccentric even than a certain Frenchman who keeps complaining about our language.) A few years ago, Pluto's orbit brought it closer to the sun than Neptune, and it will remain so for a few years in the future. So, right now and for the next few years, Neptune is the furthest from the sun of the nine known planets.

You can reach Mr Know-it-all in care of the Pulsar or at mrknowit@earthlink.net

(Editorial note: Are you sure about that answer, Mr Know-It-All? I thought Pluto had recently returned to it's former status as Number Nine. Inquiring minds want to know)

Hot off the wire, dated 6/11 at 4:10pm.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/news/archive/1999/06/11/obituary1820EDT0070.DTL>

DeForest Kelley, 'Bones' on 'Star Trek,' dies at 79

LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

Friday, June 11, 1999
Breaking News Sections

(06-11) 16:10 PDT LOS ANGELES (AP) -- DeForest Kelley, who as crusty Dr. Leonard ``Bones" McCoy on ``Star Trek" brought a country flavor to outer space, died Friday, hospital officials said. He was 79.

Kelley died at 12:15 p.m. after an extended illness, said Carol Pfannkuche, spokeswoman for the Motion Picture and Television Country Home and Hospital, a retirement facility, in suburban Woodland Hills.

“He represented humanity and it fitted him well,” said Leonard Nimoy, who played Mr. Spock on the science fiction saga. “He was a decent, loving, caring partner and will be deeply missed.”

The conflict between McCoy's all-too-human character and Spock's cold logic provided grist for many of the lighthearted moments in the series and “Star Trek” movies.

Flowers were being placed on Kelley's Walk of Fame star, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce said.

His Dr. McCoy was one of a colorful crew of 23rd-century space travelers that helped make the original “Star Trek” television series a lasting cult favorite, although the program aired only from 1966-69 on NBC.

The “Star Trek” phenomenon lived on in feature films starring William Shatner as Capt. James T. Kirk and in a series of TV and movie spin-offs, including “Star Trek: The Next Generation.”

“I'm just a country doctor!” McCoy would exclaim when called on to cope with the other-worldly illnesses and calamities that beset the U.S.S. Enterprise, but he would always come through for his captain.

Kelley, born Jan. 20, 1920, in Atlanta, played supporting roles in a number of movies, including “The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit” (1956); “Gunfight at the O.K. Corral” and “Raintree County” (1957) and “Apache Uprising” (1966).

His part in “Star Trek,” which was created by Gene Roddenberry, brought Kelley out of relative obscurity and into the popular culture limelight. He played in six of the sci-fi films, including “Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country” in 1991.

Kelley didn't object to being typecast as McCoy.

“He loved it. He loved that series so much,” said A.C. Lyles, a friend and longtime Paramount Studios producer who knew Kelley for five decades.

Lyles recalled how Kelley went up for a leading role in “This Gun for Hire” in 1940, losing out to Alan Ladd but gaining a Paramount contract and regular roles in Westerns.

“I always used him as a heavy, a mean man, and he was marvelous at that,” Lyles said. In real life, Kelley was known for his great sense of humor and his skill at growing roses, his friend said.

In addition to “Star Trek,” he made appearances on dozens of television shows, including “Gunsmoke” and “Bonanza.”

Kelley is survived by his wife of nearly 55 years, Carolyn. She was hospitalized at the Motion Picture facility with a broken leg and had been in the room next to her husband, Lyles said.

Funeral plans were not announced, but a memorial service would be held at Paramount.

STAR WARS FUN

Here's how to determine your Star Wars name:

For your Star Wars first name:

- + Take all the letters up to (and including) the first vowel of your middle name (or your last name if you have no middle name)
 - + Append the first 3 letters of your first name
- e.g. Lyndon Baines Johnson => Balyn

For your Star Wars last name:

- + Take the first syllable of the city you were born
 - + Append the first 2 letters of your mother's maiden name
- e.g. born in NYC, mother's maiden name, Nicholson, => Newni

For your Star Wars honorific:

- + take the last three letters of your last name and reverse them.
- e.g. Bill Clinton => Not

For your Star Wars title:

- + Take the name of the first car you drove or owned
 - + append the word "of"
 - + append the name of the last medication you took.
- e.g. Nova of Romilar

AN ALERT FOR ALL GEOCITIES WEB SITE HOLDERS:

This may concern you—from the Yahoo TOS:

8. CONTENT SUBMITTED TO YAHOO

By submitting Content to any Yahoo property, you automatically grant, or warrant that the owner of such Content has expressly granted, Yahoo the royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive and fully sublicensable right and license to use, reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, translate, create derivative works from, distribute, perform and display such Content (in whole or part) worldwide and/or to incorporate it in other works in any form, media, or technology now known or later developed. You acknowledge that Yahoo does not pre-screen Content, but that Yahoo and its designees shall have the right (but not the obligation) in their sole discretion to refuse, edit, move or remove any Content that is publicly available via the Service. Without limiting the foregoing, Yahoo and its designees shall have the right to remove any Content that violates the TOS or is otherwise objectionable. You agree that you must

evaluate, and bear all risks associated with, the use of any Content, including any reliance on the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of such Content. In this regard, you acknowledge that you may not rely on any Content created by Yahoo or submitted to Yahoo, including without limitation information in Yahoo! Message Boards, Yahoo! Clubs, and in all other parts of the Service.

One opinion posted regarding this:

That means anything you put up on Geocities--images, sounds, text, etc.--is automatically owned by Yahoo, and they can do whatever they like with it (sell it, reproduce it in whole or in part, etc.). Pretty outrageous.

Another opinion:

The reason they did this was they needed copyright permissions from web page owners in order to mirror your page (for faster access), and various other reasons, not to take all your stuff and do whatever they want. Unfortunately, the language in their document says exactly that: they can do whatever they want. They've issued a release explaining their reasoning, but so far there's been no word about where they're going to reword the TOS agreement. I suggest reading it carefully, and if you object, then moving your pages elsewhere and letting Yahoo/Geocities know exactly why.

--(Name withheld), who does have a sneaking desire to let all the entertainment lawyers in Hollywood know about the fanfic and fanart and outright theft of stills and screen captures to which Yahoo has now claimed ownership of the copyright, and sit back and watch the fur fly...

Another opinion:

<http://www.sitepowerup.com/boycottyahoo/boycottyahoo.htm>

Yahoo's reply to this controversy is at

<http://docs.yahoo.com/docs/info/toshelp.html>

and says in part:

We've heard your concerns about the Yahoo! Terms of Service, especially the section of the Terms regarding content that you include on your Yahoo! GeoCities site. We'd like to clarify our intentions.

Yahoo! does not claim ownership of the content on your site. We never have.

<snip>

Yahoo! has the right to reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, and create derivative works of your content only for the purpose of hosting your GeoCities site and providing and promoting the Yahoo! GeoCities service.

Some people have asked if under these rules Yahoo! can do things like publish a book or make a movie using your Yahoo! GeoCities homepage content. We cannot.

We intend for these rules to be legally binding on Yahoo!. And, as the lawyers say, to the extent that any of these rules conflict with or modify the Yahoo! Terms of Service, these rules will prevail.

<another snip>

We understand your recent concerns, but there are some very basic and important reasons why an online company such as Yahoo! asks for such a license.

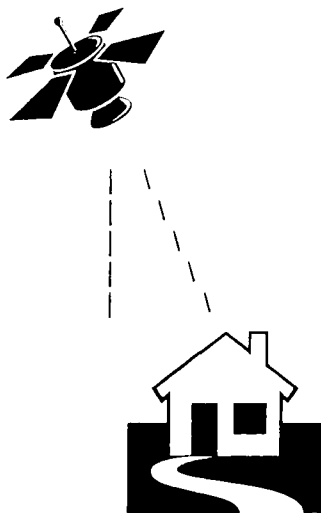
For starters, we use many computers to serve to the world the millions of GeoCities home pages. In order to display your pages quickly and not lose any of your content (say, in a computer crash), we often need to copy your files onto more than one computer. Very simply, the license assures that we can do this.

In addition, if we choose to promote your page on the top of Yahoo! GeoCities, or anywhere else on the Yahoo! network (even, for example, in a marketing promotion of Yahoo!'s many services), we need to reproduce the content. Again, the license assures that we can do this.

<more snipped>

. . . Also keep in mind that the Yahoo! GeoCities Terms of Service (which have been standard on the Yahoo! network) are very similar to the terms of service of many major Websites and online services, including other home page providers.

Please read and make up your own minds, opinions stated here are not to be held against the editor ☺ Comments are welcome—write or e-mail the Pulsar and tell me what you think.



Don't forget to submit an article, review, art or whatever to the big 250th issue coming up next month!

Don't forget to let us know how you want your name to appear in the directory!

PO Box 4602
Portland, OR 97208

Pulsar, the newsletter of the Portland Science Fiction Society (PorSFIS), comes free with membership. It is also available in trade with other fanzines, and can be purchased at Excalibur Books, Future Dreams/Burnside and Looking Glass Books, all in Portland, Oregon.

Your editor has been Debra Stansbury. Next month's editor is the same. Deadline is generally the 20th of every month. Contributions are always welcome, and may be sent to the PO Box above, or to the editor direct at debstans@canada.com or porsfis@email.com

PorSFIS meetings are open to everyone. Check the Timeline for meeting times and places. Membership per year: \$20 individual, \$30 family (1 newsletter)

Current PorSFIS Officers:

President	Sam Butler	(503) 289-2670
Vice Pres.	Debra Stansbury	
Treasurer	John Andrews	(503) 771-2894
Secretary		

PORSFIS INFORMATION TELEPHONE: 727-3570

PORSFIS WEBPAGE: <http://www.europa.com/~jpilcher/>

