

# PULSAR



APRIL 86

ISSUE 90

forty cents

(cheap)

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# APRIL TIMELINE & TRIVIA FILLER \Dick Pilz

- 1 New PorSFis Officers commence terms at 12:00, PST.
- 5 MKLPRC' 1st 39th BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY; @ 19:30, 9510 SE 29th, Milwaukie. Comet Halley is 17h 22m R.A., -44°14' Decl., 4.0 Mag. in Scorpius.
- 8 NEW MOON, 22:08.
- 10 Comet Halley is 15h 24m R.A., -47°32' Decl., 4.0 Mag. in Lupus.
- 12 PorSFis meets in BPA Auditorium, NE 9th between Holladay & Pacific, at 14:00.
- 15 Comet Halley is 13h 23m R.A., -42°15' Decl., 4.3 Mag. in Centaurus.
- 20 Comet Halley is 12h 06m R.A., -33°00' Decl., 4.8 Mag. in Hydra.
- 24 FULL MOON, 04:46, PESACH
- 25 Comet Halley is 11h 24m R.A., -25°06' Decl., 5.4 Mag. in Crater.
- 26 PorSFis meets in BPA Auditorium, NE 9th between Holladay & Pacific, at 14:00. )Annual General Meeting<< TIME PARTY!: 7:00 PM at Bryce Walden's, 15807 SE Holcomb, OR City, 655-6189. BYOE. Theme: "The Sixties"
- 27 Daylight Savings Time begins at 02:00.
- 30 Comet Halley is 11h 00m R.A., -19°25' Decl., 6.0 Mag. in Crater.

## THANK YOU PORSFIS

\Yaleah

It seems to me that you have chosen a fine group in your selection of new officers. I look forward to working with David, Joyce, and Kate and hope to learn and grow in the process.

I feel you can count on the 1986-7 year to be eventful. Yet each of us - you as well as I - is responsible for whatever measure of success is achieved. You've given me the job and I "take it personal." You'll get as good as you give. But don't quit now. Your club is yours, to be guided and supported by your personal efforts. The officers are there to help you, to coordinate the group effort, to read the fine print, to advise, NOT to do it FOR you.

The meetings, the programs, the parties all happen because you are there. The club has grown because you have made the effort to participate. It can only continue to get better with your

encouragements and ideas. Any idea is welcome whether or not you are personally able to make it happen. Share your ideas and your concerns with your officers and the chances are VERY good that you will see something happen because of it. No guarantee of course as to what that "something" may be. You have my personal assurance though that it will be the best it can be, come what may.



CREDITS: Anthony Pryor, Bryce Walden, Yaleah, Dick Pilz, Roz Malin, Michael Pearce

COVER: Salt of the Earths' Roz Malin

CARTOONS: Weapons Fair \Anne Davenport; Birds of a Feather & Mammoth Hunters \Roz Malin

## THE CASE FOR FRED

Anthony Pryor

Several years ago, I introduced legislation to this organization which would eliminate certain phrases in the PorSFis constitution. Or rather, I attempted to introduce such legislation. The executive branch of PorSFis determined that, as I was not a member at that time, I did not have the right to speak during business meetings. Although I have since searched in vain for any reference, in either the by-laws or the PorSFis constitution, to non-members not being allowed to speak during meetings, I can now say that I am glad that I was muzzled at that time.

The legislation, which would have eliminated from the PorSFis constitution language which rejected the use of the word "sci-fi" in favor of the lean, clean, non-mundane term "SF" was introduced by someone else and approved by a wide plurality. The fact that, as usual, the majority of our distinguished organization did not vote, prevented the measure from passing. I now say that this was a good thing.

The rationale for the "sci-fi"/"SF" controversy is primarily a result of statements by Isaac Asimov that "sci-fi" is used by the "media" (which presumably does not include the good doctor) to denote bad science fiction, and by Harlan Ellison that "sci-fi" sounds (in essence) like two crickets having sex. Now, there are those who would say that this slavish devotion to the words of two simple individuals is a sign that science fiction fans are a lot like fundamentalist christians in that they like to have the Big Guy tell them what's right and wrong. They say that the "SF" faction ignores the fact that the term "sci-fi" was coined by Forrest J. Ackerman, one of the biggest science fiction fans around.

These nay-saying Neville Chamberlains claim that yes, the media does occasionally use "sci-fi" in a derogatory sense, but in a vast

majority of cases, it is used simply to signify that a film/book/TV show, etc., has some science fiction content. They say that this prejudice on the part of fans is an elitist reaction, and an attempt to prove "we're better than those damned mundanes."

Well to this, I say: Poppycock! My researches have proved that a definite conspiracy exists among the mundanes, that the proportion of twits, dipsticks and idiots was just as high (or higher) among fans as among the general public, and I did not believe that the average intelligence of science fiction fans was any higher than the rest of the world. I even began to check out book and movie reviews and descriptions in newspapers and on TV, and was under the distinct impression that positive references to "sci-fi" outnumbered negative ones by ten-to-one.

Well, all that changed when I made a staggering discovery: The Mundanes Are Using "Science Fiction" in a Derogatory Sense, Too! An actress stated that she didn't want to get typecast into "some kind of science fiction stuff;" a reviewer for Willamette Week trashed science fiction up one side and down the other, and never once used the term "sci-fi;" another reviewer referred to "science fiction silliness" in a movie; the list went on and on.

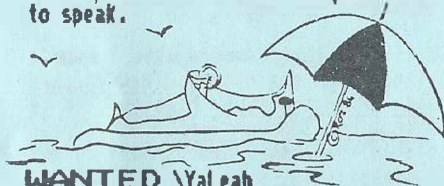
Dammit, fellow fans, The Media, and its mundane minions, is trying to strip us of one of the last signs of our superiority! Now, I realize that there are those of you out there, those compromisers, those nervous nellys, who will claim that the media uses "science fiction" and "sci-fi" interchangeably, sometimes positively, sometimes negatively, and that the only prejudice associated with either term exists in the minds of slavish hero-worshipping, pseudo-intellectual fans.

Wrong. I have changed my mind, and to anyone who will listen I say: God, I'm sorry. I mean this sincerely. (Cont. on Pg 3)

(FRED, cont. from Pg. 2.)  
 And so, in order to prevent further erosion of our superiority to the common mundane, I propose that we abandon the term "science fiction" all together. After all, The Media uses it in a derogatory sense, doesn't it? I propose that we rename our favorite genre "Fred." That'll show those mundanes what's what!

We'll rename PorSFIS as PorFiS. We'll hold Fred Conventions. We'll read Fred Novels, and see Fred Movies. And those damned mundanes can go on using "SF", "sci-fi", and "science fiction" all they want and never be the wiser. In this way, our superiority to the common human will be assured.

And, mark my words, I would introduce legislation on this point, but I probably wouldn't be permitted to speak.



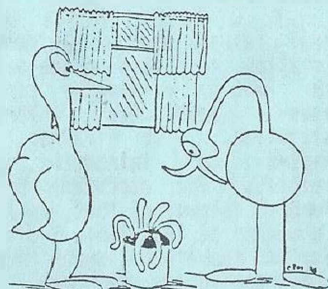
**WANTED YaLeah**

Last time I asked for glass jars of any size, with lids, preferably clean (no bottles), trading stamps, and coupons - especially with extended expiration dates. Now I'm going to add to that list.

Also needed are coffee type cans, all sizes, with lids, and extra lids if you have spares, and the small square tea boxes with lids that press into the top, (as opposed to over the top, which have a hinged side too). Any other containers you think might be useful, just add them to the stack. I will be at nearly every PorSFIS meeting and party; so just bring them along, or call 281-8183 to arrange for pick-up or something. My phone slave is on duty 24 hours a day, so don't expect to talk to me until after you've talked to her.

The response so far has been delightful. Thank-you to everyone who has passed on a batch so far.

**BIRDS-OF-A-FEATHER**



WELL, I SEE YOU'VE OPENED UP ANOTHER CAN OF WORMS.

**PENGUINS**

At Kris Demein's Valentine's Party, someone suggested replacing phrases that contain the word "cat" with the word "penguin". After a few minutes creating phrases like the "penguin's meow" and penguinpillar, we advanced to book, movie and song titles. All of the new officers were at the party, and some of the ideas came from them. The rest were contributed from other guests. I can no longer remember who contributed what. Nevertheless, this will give you a chance to see what warped minds you will have to contend with for the next year.

**TA! DA! ... Drum Roll ... WATCH FOR THESE MOVIES!**

**PENGUIN ON A HOT TIN ROOF, 20,000 PENGUINS UNDER THE SEA, CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE PENGUIN KIND, SOME WITH THE PENGUIN, and THE PENGUIN HORROR PICTURE SHOW.**

**Drum Roll ... BOOKS!**

**SLAVE PENGUINS OF GOR; THE STAINLESS STEEL PENGUIN'S REVENGE; LEFT WING OF PENGUIN; PENGUIN'S EGG; DO ANDROIDS DREAM OF ELECTRIC PENGUINS?; PENGUIN, ASK NOT**

**Drum Roll ... SONGS!**

**"I WANT TO HOLD YOUR PENGUIN", "LIFE IS JUST A BOWL OF PENGUINS", "SOME ENCHANTED PENGUIN", and let us not forget "WHEN THE GOING GETS ROUGH, THE TOUGH GET PENGUINS" by Billy Ocean ...**

**SPACE CON IN SEATTLE: REGISTER NOW!** Bryce Walden

What started as an L5 Annual Conference five years ago has gained sponsorships and grown into a major futures/aerospace conference. This year the seattle L5 Chapters won the bid to host the fifth annual Space Development Conference. It is centered at the Westin Hotel in Seattle but stretches out to the whole region. Dates are May 23-26, 1986

Although the Conference officially opens May 23, for some it will start Thursday, May 22. These are the folks registered for a two-day "Solar System Tour" visiting NW geological sites similar to those on alien worlds (\$95 adv. registration required, includes meals, lodging).

Closer to Seattle, Friday May 23 is a day open to tours - one to the Boeing Everett plant building 747's, or one to Boeing and other companies' computer centers (either tour, \$14), and then a Friday night Reception at the Seattle Aquarium (\$12).

For early risers, at 5:30 am May 24 and optional and limited capacity "Kayak Breakfast" is available hosted by George and Freeman Dyson. Breakfast and Kayak rental are included, all for \$16.

Regular Conference programming starts at 9 am on Saturday, May 24. Three tracks of programming run concurrently. Programs are about 2 hours long. One track specializes in space stations and space transport, materials processing, tourism debates and workshops on lunar, Martian and asteroidal development. Track 2 concentrates on international programs, historical items, Voyager & Comet data, commercial space, military space, and the recent National Commission on Space final report. The third track is billed a "reunion track" and features time slots for Johnson Space Center, Marshall Space Center, Kennedy Space Center, and programs from Boeing, Grumman, and Rockwell. Several banquets are also planned.

Prices for the conference are as follows: pre-registration prices are void after April 25. Members of sponsoring organizations should so certify and pay the discount price in parentheses:

**Regular Conference Registration:**

Before April 25: \$70 (\$50)  
After April 25: \$95 (\$45)

**Student Registration:**

Before April 25: \$40 (\$30)  
After April 25: \$55 (\$45)

Sponsors of the 1986 Conference in Seattle are: L5 Society, Wash. State Citizens for Space, AIAA, American Astronautical Society, American Space Foundation, AMSAT, ASTRA, National space Institute, Planetary Society, SEDS, SpacePac, Space Studies Institute, and the Young Astronaut Council. Send to L5 Society, 1060 E. Elm St., Tucson, AZ 85719.

**NAMING YaLeah**

Mahn and YaLeah are pleased to announce the naming of their household which hereafter will be known as

**CAT'S CRADLE**



## PARTIES, MEETINGS AND LOCAL CONVENTIONS

### R.A. MacAVOY COMING TO PORTLAND \Bryce Walden

Fantasy-writer R. A. MacAvoy will be Guest of Honor at CON IV, a Generic Science Fiction Convention, announced Committee Chair Anthony Prior. CON IV will be held August 8-10, 1986, in a new and lovely location: The Nyberg Inn right at the Tualatin exit from Interstate 5.

MacAvoy wins consistent praise for her love affair with language and her well-paced style. Her most recent book is The Book of Kells. Her other books include Tea With The Black Dragon and the Damiano trilogy. This will be her only convention appearance in 1986, she said.

Registration for CON IV will be limited, so guarantee your membership and save some money by preregistering. Send \$15 to: CON IV, P.O. Box 5703, Portland, Oregon 97228-5703.

### MULTNOMAH MYTHOLOGY STUDY GROUP

PRESENTS:



FASCINATING TALKS ON VARIOUS TOPICS!  
ESOTERIC, ANCIENT, UNUSUAL!

First and Third Mondays of every month

7:30 P.M.



Room B of the Multnomah County Central Library (Downtown)

More to come: Arthurian Legends, Eskimo Myths, Folk & Fairy Tales, Nordic Sagas, Atlantis & Mu, American Indian Lore, Etc.

Interested in MYTHOLOGY? Join Us ...

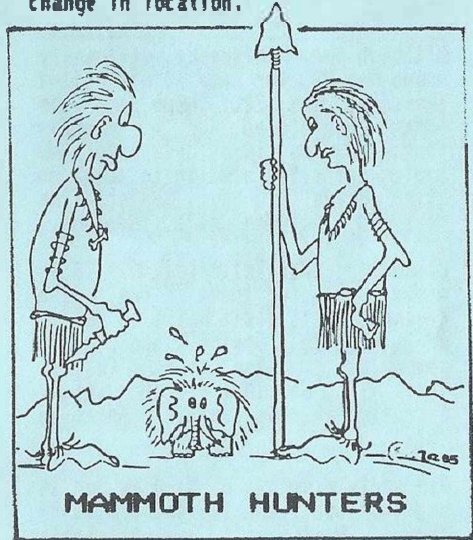
INFO: 284-0278

FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!



### PORSFIS MEETING LOCATION CHANGED

Because of lack of space at the Multnomah County Library, PorsFIS Meetings are now being held at the Bonneville Power Building near the Lloyd Center. All other scheduling remains the same. If you know folks who attend meetings on an irregular basis, please remind them of the change in location.



MAMMOTH HUNTERS

### ORYCON '86

DryCon '86 will be held on November 7-9, 1986 at the Red Lion Inn, Lloyd Center. This hotel is much larger than the Hilton where most past DryCons have been held and has been recently renovated. The Guest of Honor is Ed Bryant, and the Toastmaster is George R.R. Martin.

Membership rates are:

\$14 until May 31,  
\$17 until October 31,  
\$20 at the Door

ORYCON '86  
P.O. BOX 5703  
PORTLAND, OR 97228

(503) 283-0802 (GENERAL INFO)  
(503) 774-7592 (REGISTRATION)

TIME PARTY \Bryce Walden

Saturday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Bryce Walden

15807 S Holcomb Blvd, Oregon City  
655-6189

Theme: BACK TO THE  
60'S

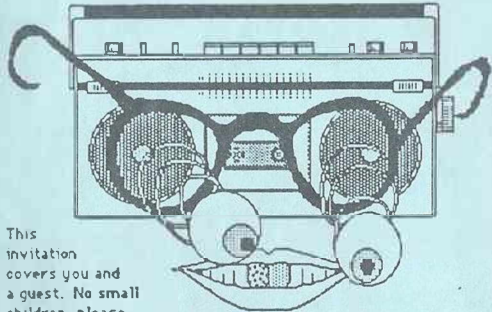
HEY GANG!

THIS IS THE FINAL ISSUE OF YOUR  
SUBSCRIPTION, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY  
RENEWED. RENEW NOW! ONLY \$7.00

# Please come to a PARTY

in celebration of

The First Anniversary  
of my 39th Birthday



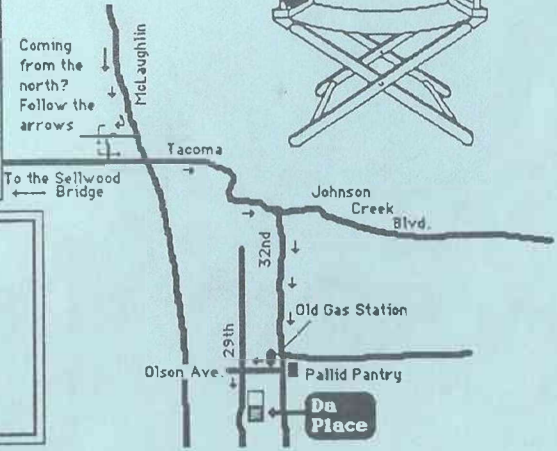
This invitation covers you and a guest. No small children, please.

Michael Pearce invites you;  
"Bob" invites you



Presents are not encouraged, but please do bring interesting food or drink to share. To get things off, there will be a pony keg or two from the Columbia River Brewery.

Saturday, April 5th  
7:30 p.m. until Burnout  
9518 S.E. 29th St.  
Milwaukie, OR 97222  
653-5673



PULSAR is the monthly newsletter of the Portland Science Fiction Society (PORSFIS). Opinions expressed herein are solely those of the original authors, who retain all rights to the material. Articles without a byline are usually by the editor. PULSAR has a rotating editorship, open to all PORSFIS members. This month's editor was Rosalind Malin; next month's will be Pat Gulley.

Issues of PULSAR are available: free with PORSFIS membership, by trade with other newsletters, or for 40 cents per copy at Portland area bookstores. Contributions (editorials, reviews, artwork, etc.) are always welcome and may be sent to the PORSFIS address.

PORSFIS meets on alternate Saturdays in the Bonneville Power Administration Auditorium. Check the Timeline in this issue for the dates and times of these meetings and other events.

### 1986/87 PORSFIS OFFICERS

|                     |                    |                |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| President.....      | David Levine       | (503) 224-6427 |
| Vice-President..... | YaLeah             | (503) 281-8183 |
| Treasurer.....      | Kate Yule          | (503) 224-6427 |
| Secretary.....      | Joyce Zimmerscheid | (503) 236-1812 |

PORSFIS  
P. O. BOX 4602  
PORTLAND, OR 97208

