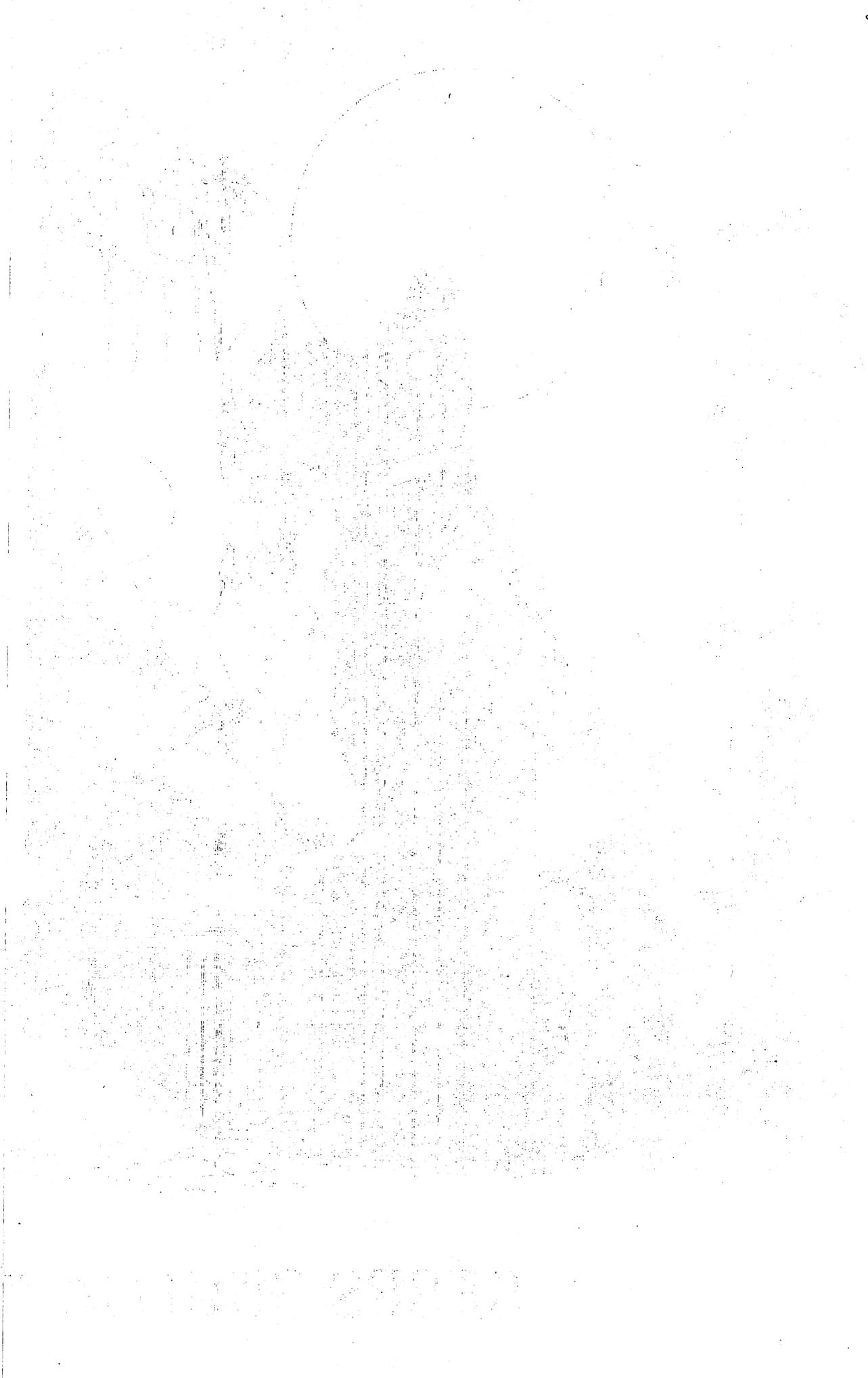


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SFSFS Shuttle #81



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### Shuttle Crew

#### Editors:

Don Cochran  
Fran Mullen

#### Contributors:

Chuck Phillips  
Cliff Dunbar

Cover: Peggy Ranson

#### Art:

Jose Sanchez  
Sheryl Birkhead  
Peggy Ranson

SFSFS Logo: Gail Bennett

Letters to the Editor/s should be addressed to:

SFSFS Shuttle Editor

PO Box 70143

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143

or E-Mailed to Fran Mullen via

CompuServe # 76137,3645

COA's should be sent to the SFSFS Secretary at the  
PO Box

### Deadline for January Shuttle:

Thursday, December 19

*(we may be running late again, due to holidays, so  
check with us. There may be lots of time!)*

### The SFSFS SHUTTLE #81 December 1991

The South Florida Science Fiction Society is a Florida non-profit educational corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501 (c) (3). General membership is \$15 per year (\$1 for children). Subscribing membership is \$1 per issue. The views, reviews, and opinions expressed in the SFSFS SHUTTLE are those of the authors and artists and not necessarily those of the publisher.  
And so it goes . . .

SEMPER SURSUM

**WELCOME TO TROPICON X,**  
the annual convention of the South Florida Science Fiction Society. We certainly hope you find this an enjoyable experience. So many special things are being planned for this gathering. Many thanks to the folks who are making it possible.

Take time to find a member of SFSFS and ask about our club. You may find something here for you, as our activities are varied and interesting.

Those of you who are members... remember that it is time to renew your membership. You have a grace-period till the end of January in which to pay your dues without having to be re-voted in. Peggy will be glad to take your money.

## SFSFS ANNUAL BANQUET

DATE: Thursday, Dec. 19, 7:00pm

LOC: The Flaming Pit

1150 N Federal Hwy

Pompano Beach

(305) 943-3484

The first person Edie talked to remembered us from last year. Is that scary or what?

The restaurant is giving us the usual three choices:

7 oz. Top Sirloin - \$12.00

Broasted Chicken - \$10.50

Broiled Filet of Sole - \$10.50

Included are soup, salad and dessert bar. Tax and gratuity are also included. The management has requested no separate checks, please.

Appropriate fun and games are being planned, so bring your thinking caps and plan to have a good time. Joe informs me that small remembrances of Tropicon will be distributed.

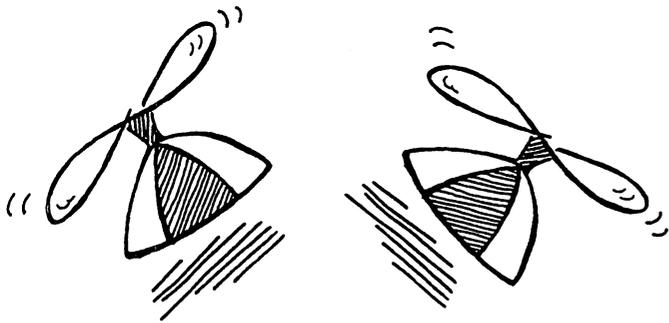
Edie needs to tell the restaurant how many will be attending. We will be in the same room we had last year, which seats about 30, a bit of a tight squeeze. In Palm Beach call to confirm with Edie or Joe at 407 392-6462. Those in Broward or Dade can call Fran at 305 435-9572 (leave a message)

---

## F.M. Station

---

Well, folks, this will probably be the last shuttle for a number of you unless you renew your SFSFS dues. We'll miss your company and we know you don't want to miss any future shuttles. Most especially you don't want to miss any of this year's meetings. There is quite a lineup planned already and we are open to ideas. Is there some activity you think the rest of us would find of interest? How about a local writer you would like to meet? This club is comprised of all of us and you should have a say in what goes on.



---

## DECLarations:

---

Every time the space budget comes up in congress, I recall a story about an alien visiting Earth to find that humanity has abandoned space exploration. It seems that all intelligent species pass through a window of opportunity, beginning with the development of technology and the accumulation of surplus capital. The window slowly closes as overpopulation and dwindling resources available to a planet-bound society squeeze space flight out of existence. The story ends with the alien offering to plant a small colony on an uninhabited planet to start over as primitives.

What with state and local governments wanting the US to foot the bill for everything from new streets to day care, special interest groups insisting that their causes must get first crack at the budgetary pie, and most senators and representatives pushing pork-barrel projects to get re-elected, the above scenario seems only too likely. I sympathize with those actually

needing aid. However, most social services could and should be handled at the local level. Help for the homeless and child care are two of many cases where local solutions for local problems and the absence of another level of bureaucracy are a big plus. No matter how much is spent, someone can always find a worthy cause that simply "must" have Federal support.

I do think, because of the magnitude of the undertaking, if the US doesn't support manned space flight, no one will. It is vital to the economic and social well-being of the United States. But more important, it is necessary if the human race is to advance and - considering the various catastrophes possible - to survive. If we don't do it, I hope some other country does.

To advance the space program, write in support of important projects such as the Advanced Aerospace Plane. Your local congressmen are in your phone book. Others are listed below.

## SENATE

President pro tempore: Robert Byrd

Majority leader: George Mitchell

Minority leader: Robert Dole

appropriations chairman: Robert C. Byrd  
and ranking Republican: Richard G. Lugar

budget chairman: Jim Sasser  
and ranking Republican: Pete V. Dominici

commerce, science, & transportation  
chairman: Ernest F. Hollings  
commerce, science, & technology ranking  
Republican: John C. Danforth

## HOUSE

Speaker: Thomas S. Foley

Majority leader: Richard A. Gephardt

Minority leader: Robert H. Michel

appropriations chairman: Jamie L. Whitten  
and ranking Republican: Silvio O. Conte

budget chairman: Leon E. Panetta  
budget ranking Republican: Bill Frenzel

science, space & technology chairman:  
Robert A. Roe  
science, space & technology ranking  
Republican: Robert S. Walker



Teddy Harvia  
Eules, Tx

12 November 1991

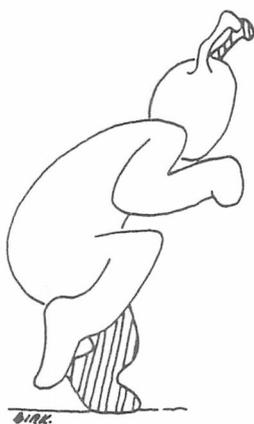
Dear Don and Fran -

I could say something tasteless about Phil Tortorici exhibiting his fantasy miniatures at your club meeting but I'll leave it to his imagination. He can illustrate it better than I anyway.

Did y'all watch the new Star Trek episode with Spock? Matilda thought Picard wearing a wig extremely funny. If it blows off, she said, he'll be recognized.

Beast Wishes,

Teddy



I'LL SNEAK UP  
ON THIS LOC

Sheryl Birkhead  
Gaithersburg, MD

16 November 1991

Dear Fran (et.al.)

Hmm - I guess I'm just a bit late and since I see the deadline is tomorrow, I have "serious" doubts I can make it. (*Ed. note: don't worry, we're late too*) Hopefully you have at least a piece or two of mine lying around so I'll be represented!

Ugh - looking at the way my cover turned out I have to give in and agree with others that zipaton just does NOT photocopy well. Ironically where I do my copying there are two machines and one WILL copy the patterns, but it WON'T do solids at all. Of course you can guess at the other machine - pity I can't run the same sheet through twice. I also now know that felt tip markers aren't my best tool even though I like what others can do - just not me.

Let me see how well I did with the mail this month. I'm losing ground - only 6/17.

I agree with Becky on BARRAYER - really enjoyed it - but I like all the "Miles" books.

Decisions ... since I can't make the deadline anyway do I mail this and then try to send material. Do I mail this and skip ... Do I mail this and hope I can make the con and hand carry ... What to do, what to do.

You didn't say that you need a cover - so I hope you have a real spiffy one lined up (for Tropic?).

If I don't make it to Tropic - hope it's enjoyed by all -

Sheryl

# IT CAME IN THE MAIL

BCSFazine #222 (Nov 91)  
British Columbia SF Association  
PO Box 35577, Stn E  
Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4G9  
Ed: R. Graeme Cameron

DASFax v23 #11 (Nov 91)  
Denver Area SF Association c/o Fred Cleaver  
153 W. Ellsworth Ave.  
Denver, CO 80223-1623  
Eds: Fred Cleaver & Rose Beetem

FOSFAX #158 (Nov 91)  
Falls of the Ohio SF and Fantasy Association  
PO Box 37281  
Louisville, Kentucky 40233-7281  
Eds: Timothy Lane & Janice Moore

THE INSIDER #167 (Nov 91)  
St. Louis SF Society  
PO Box 1058  
St. Louis, MO 63188  
Ed: Kay Goode

INSTANT MESSAGE #504 (30 Oct 91)  
& #505 (13 Nov 91)  
NESFA, PO Box G, MIT Branch Post Office  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
Clerk: Tony Lewis

THE INTERGALACTIC REPORTER (Nov 91)  
New Jersey SF Society  
PO Box 65  
Paramus, NJ 07653-0065  
Ed: Carol P. Smith

OASFiS EVENT HORIZON v5#6 (Nov 91)  
Orlando Area SF Society  
PO Box 940992  
Maitland, FL 32794-0992  
Ed: Ray Herz

OSFS STATEMENT #172 (Oct 91)  
Ottawa SF Society  
Box 6636, Station J  
Ottawa, Ont. K2A 3Y7  
Ed: Lionel Wagner

PENGUIN DIP #49 (9 Nov 91)  
Stephen H. Dorneman  
99 Pond Avenue #200  
Brookline, MA 02146  
P.S.F.S. News (Nov 91)  
Philadelphia SF Society  
PO Box 8303

Philadelphia, PA 19101  
Sec: Carol Kabakjian

ROBOTS & Roadrunners v6 #3 (Oct 91)  
URSA MAJOR  
PO Box 691448  
San Antonio, TX 78269-1448  
Ed: Lynn Garcia

The SemiCircular of Janus (Jun 91)  
Circle of Janus SF Club  
of Central Indiana  
P. O. Box 19776  
Indianapolis, IN 46219  
Eds: Greg Dunn & Linda Dunn

SITUATION NORMAL?? v1 #7 (Oct 91)  
Southern Nevada Area Fantasy &  
Fiction Union  
c/o Kenneth Forman  
7215 Nordic Lights Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Stone Hill Launch Times  
v5 #10 (Oct 91) & V5 #? (Nov 91)  
Stone Hill SF Society  
PO Box 2076  
Riverview, FL 33569  
Ed: Ann Morris

SUMMA NULLA #2 (Aug 91)  
Tony Ubelhor  
PO Box 886  
Evansville IN 47706-0886

The Texas SF Inquirer #40 (? 91)  
& #41 (Oct 91)  
Fandom Assoc. of Central Texas  
PO Box 9612  
Austin, TX 78766  
Ed: Dale Denton & Alexander R. Slate

TRANSMISSIONS v14 #4 (Oct 91)  
Panhandle SF Society  
PO Box 16382  
Panama City, FL 32406-6382  
Ed: Anne Davenport

West Wind #158 (Jun/Jul 91)  
& #160 (Sep 91)  
Northwest SF Society  
PO Box 24207  
Seattle, WA 98124  
Ed: Robert P. Suryan

---

ALSO RECEIVED:  
BRITTV V4 #2 (Jun 91), GAMES WORKSHOP  
catalogue, Miss-Con Flyer, NOT JUST ANOTHER  
CON-7 flyer

# CON\*STELLATION X DRACO

There was almost no me at the con to report. A \$400-cheaper morning flight, a dash to the airport from work, and no sign of a parking lot shuttle equals getting to the plane with no time to spare and having to check a guitar at the gate. I did just about recover by the time I made it to Huntsville. No guitar.

After pigging out at Britling Buffet, an all-you-can-eat cafeteria, I got back to the hotel in time for Opening Ceremonies. The guests - Algis Budrys, artist Bob Giadrosich, and Buck and Juanita Coulson - were introduced by Mistress of Ceremonies Toni Weisskopf, who lived in Huntsville before she became an editor for Baen Books. She blew up a Baen Book balloon and it bounced around while she was talking. While waiting for the Friday night filk, I went to a talk by Jim Woosley, an engineer from Marshal, on "blue sky" propulsion or How Will Your Grandchildren Fly to Pluto? It would have been more interesting if Jim had cut down on the intro so that he could have spent more time on possible developments in electric and nuclear propulsion.

Still no guitar. A room was reserved for filk from 9pm, but it was nearly eleven before Juanita showed up. She and I were the only performers there. She let me borrow her guitar and we spent the evening passing it back and forth. She knows a LOT of songs.

Fortunately my guitar arrived about Noon. Sigh of relief. I had lunch at The Mill, a most excellent bakery and spot for sandwiches, soups, and salads. Constellation always emphasises its art show. Kelly Freas sent three panels of choice items. As usual, I couldn't afford the pieces I really wanted. The dealers' room offered a good variety. The main attraction for me was Buck and Juanita's table. I bought three filk books and 3 tapes, including the tape "Minus Ten and Counting" which is hard to find.

Juanita Coulson and Robert Cooke presented a panel on "What Is This Filk

Stuff Anyway?" Songs and anecdotes (mostly by Juanita) on the rise of filk. GOH speeches and presentations of silver trays to them were followed by Champagne and Mimosas courtesy of Baen Books. They also handed out a booklet with the opening section of a new Lackey novel.

Toni's father, Martin Weisskopf gave a talk on the Advanced X-Ray satellite. The con filled the usual Saturday evening gap by providing cold cut subs in the con suite. Yum. The masquerade had 11 entries, one of which withdrew, and 9 prizes. They WERE pretty good, but that's ridiculous.

The Saturday filk had 3 or 4 more performers, but still not as many as last year. I was disappointed. One would think having Juanita there would attract more filkers. But Huntsville is a filk wasteland.

Sunday for lunch, I paid my annual vist to Terry's, my all-time favorite pizza emporium. There was only one program, a round table on the publishing process. Since the Art Show and Dealers' Room closed early, the afternoon was QUIET. I wandered around, relaxing and chatting, until plane time. This time I kept my guitar with me. I enjoyed Constellation, which is always relaxed. More effort should be spent on keeping things from collapsing on Sunday afternoons though.

Don Cochran



## Circle the (chuck) wagons!

OK, here are the latest ramblings. I found myself on a business trip in Everett, Washington over the first weekend in November. Entirely by chance, Fran had noticed the blurb for a convention named DreamCon to be held there. How can I resist a free con?

The convention was small, well attended and friendly. I especially liked Security's slogan; "If it's drawn, it's gone!" The hotel left a bit to be desired (like moving the filks and panels into the main building instead of across the north tundra) but my room was comfortable.

The westerners have some strange though sensible customs. They start their filks at about 8PM. I met Tom Paine and Cecilia (Cec) Eng there as they were making a mighty attempt to play every request. In a filk of almost fifty people, there were only two guitars on Friday night. Saturday was much better, with some obviously new people getting brave enough to do some really good stuff. Both nights went on until well after my fingers, voice, whiskey, and time-telling ability gave out.

Cec and her husband were pleasant folks and even invited me down to the convention in Portland the next weekend. I could not make it, but did ask her to let me know how it turned out. After all, it's not many cons that share a hotel with a VP speech and the Secret Service.

"Let me see your badge."

"Wrong badge!"

(but I digress)

*(Ed. Note: If this quote is unfamiliar to you, ask Chuck to relate the story of the KDC at WindyCon 76.)*

Look, I don't get to win arguments very often, but on Saturday night I just had to put my foot down. One of the two girls with Irish table harps announced (without a careful survey of the room) upon her arrival

"I have more strings than anybody, so everybody has to tune to me!" On very rare occasions the autoharp is an advantage! I did condescend to pluck an E for her.

The weather was chilly and damp, but it was a fun weekend. After the con, I stayed on to complete a project in the grayest, drabest, most "yuckiest" weather this Florida boy has seen in a long time. The middle of this November I'd just as soon write off, but the month did end with a delight.

I had not had the opportunity in the past to attend a night launch. The launch of STS-44 was a real thrill. I never dreamed the sky could look like that! SRB separation always brings tears to my eyes, but this time they were already there.

Well, golly gee, campers ... there I go being sentimental again. Damn! Might ruin my image.

<sniff>

Until next time, keep those cards and letters coming in! And remember:

Vote Cthulu .. when you're tired of choosing the LESSER of two evils!



## **F.M. Pre-Launch Briefing**

Attending a Shuttle launch is well within the realm of possibility for those with the desire and spare time. For those planning a vacation, just remember that launches have a habit of getting delayed. If you plan the launch for the first day or two of your vacation, then you can always come back later in the week.

### **How to get a pass:**

1. Write your Congressman or Senator (did you know you can do that on CompuServe?)
2. Get a job at Kennedy Space Center (if you can't, then the next best is to make good friends at the base and treat them to dinner and drinks).
3. Write a letter explaining what you want to: Mailcode PASS

Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899

Your name will go into a queue, for which you could get a pass to one of the next two or three launches (you're at their mercy, although the popularity has gone down and your chances are much better now to get the launch of your choice).

Allow two to three hours for entering the base. There will be a crowd. The gates will be open approximately four hours before launch-time. Our NASA source says you would be advised to get there right after the gate opens. Your pass will have instructions as to gate and time.

### **If you can't get a pass:**

1. Find someone who already has one, and bum a ride with them (a popular method here in Florida). The passes are for the vehicle, not a specific number of people. Passenger vans are OK, but RV's and trailers need a special pass. Bribery in advance gets you a sure seat. If you have friends who own an RV, suck up to them now (Chuck made me write that!).
2. Arrive early enough to park outside the gate (3 to 6 hours). There are some choice locations immediately outside the base. Also, there are loudspeakers (with launch commentary) set up at Jetty Park at the south side of the channel. Jetty Park is open to the public, but is first come, first serve only. Be there early.

**How to get there:** If you have a pass, follow the directions on the back. However, to find good roadside viewing areas, try the following:

From I-95, take State Road 528 east across the Intracoastal Waterway. Watch for the signs to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. It will say "Closed to the Public" .. that's OK, take the exit anyway. Along the roadside just before the entrance to CCAFS is excellent viewing. Make sure you park where you are not obstructing traffic.

or:

From I-95, follow the signs to Spaceport USA. Go farther east on the NASA Causeway. This is another excellent viewing area, but is a little more subject to being closed. Arrive early!

### **Where to park:**

On base, you will be directed to a location of the Air Force's choice. You can't plan on sitting in your car, because they stack 'em pretty deep (although it's a good place to stay out of the sun) and the view is better from the water's edge.

Off base, the local constabulary is pretty tolerant on launch days - roadside is OK so long as you're not presenting a safety hazard.

If you're a pilot, TICO control is 118.3 and will advise you on NOTAM's for launch clearance. Patrick AFB is an alternative. Consider Melbourne and Orlando Exec for better tie-down and hotel. Don't forget to close that flight plan!

### **Special notes:**

1. RV's and Campers are not allowed on base without an oversize vehicle pass. Plan on parking it elsewhere and ride in with a friend.
2. Absolutely no weapons.
3. Alcohol is not permitted on a Federal Reservation (which includes the entire NASA area). However, it is traditional to celebrate afterwards with a bottle of champagne (in our crowd, 2 or 3 bottles at least!).
4. Under no circumstances feed the alligators. They are carnivorous and sometimes help themselves. All wildlife in

the Kennedy area is protected.

5. If you are boating in the area, slow down and observe the Manatee warning signs.

**After the launch:**

Don't make any urgent plans. It will take anywhere from half an hour to two hours to get off the base (depending on the quality of the view). Make sure your car has plenty of gas before you go. Plan to visit the Visitor Center before or after the launch, but remember that a lot of other people will be making the same plans. Visiting the center is free, but take money for IMAX and the bus tours (they are well worth it!). The bus tours are about \$4.00 and run up to six hours before launch time, an excellent way to see the shuttle before it goes up! Just keep in mind there will be a lot of other people there also. And I recommend their fast-food restaurants. The food is decent, and service is fast.

**How to find out about future launches:**

1. Watch your local newspapers
2. Watch this newsletter
3. Write Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899. Our NASA source tells us that all mail that doesn't specifically have a name goes to "fan-mail" and gets answered by his department.
4. If you don't mind paying the toll, call 1-407-867-INFO. Best for last-minute information.
5. Join SFSFS, which will get you a subscription to the SFSFS Shuttle. We will be doing our best to keep you updated.

**Note for non-residents:**

Write the Orlando and Brevard County Tourism Boards for activities to coordinate around the launch. Might as well make a long vacation of it. If the launch doesn't go

as planned you won't be as disappointed and you can find fun ways to kill time while you're waiting for the next launch window.

**What to take:**

- Binoculars (telescopes are too limiting)
- FM Radio (local 91.5mhz transmits direct from Launch Control)
  - or Scanner that can tune 146.94mhz, the NASA Select channel
- Bug Spray (Chernobyl-grade!)
- Caladryl (in case the bug spray doesn't work)
- Warm jacket (it may be Florida, but that wind off the water gets *cold*)
- Long pants, hat, shoes & socks (even in the summer.) Have you been acquainted with our fire ants and Florida's state bird: the ever-present mosquito?
- Porta-Potty (if you don't own one, borrow one). There are the usual temporary facilities for large crowds on the base, but the lines are long.
- TP (large crowds use up the supply fast so bring your own)
- Cooler with plenty of food and liquids. You won't find any fast food joints past I-95.
- Portable chairs and/or ground tarp
- Trash Bag (take your garbage back with you, please)
- Book to read - it could be a long wait!  
(highly recommended:  
Larry Niven's *Fallen Angels*)

**Special note to Filkers:**

If we see a sign on your car that says "Out to Launch" we will expect you to be in tune and ready to play "Witnesses Waltz"! (key of C preferred)

If you're travelling with a bunch of fans - make sure they're good friends!

Remember!

NASA DOES NOT GUARANTEE A LAUNCH - IT JUST SCHEDULES THEM!

# 1992 CONVENTIONS

## JANUARY

### 3-5 MUSICON

PO Box 198121  
Nashville, TN 37219-8121  
GOH Naomi Pardue  
TM Murray Porath  
SG Phil Cooper  
Margaret Nelson

### 17-19 CHATTACON 17

P. O. Box 23908  
Chattanooga, TN 37422  
GOH Leo Frankowski  
Craig Shaw Gardner  
AGOH Barclay Shaw  
TM C. J. Cherryh  
FGOH Samantha Jude  
SG Lawrence Watt-Evans  
Mercedes Lackey  
Larry Dixon

### 17-19 RUSTYCON 9

P. O. Box 84291  
Seattle, WA 98124-5591  
GOH Spider & Jeanne Robinson  
AGOH Mark Ferrari  
FGOH Dragon

### 17-19 Sercon 6

PO Box 9612  
Austin, TX 78766  
GOH Johathan Carroll  
SG Olson Scott Card

### 24-26 BamaCon 6

P. O. Box 6542  
University of Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35486  
GOH C. J. Cherryh  
Hal Clement  
Jane Fancher  
Gerald Brom

### 24-26 CONFERENCE 3

P. O. Box 1958  
Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958  
GOH Chuck Melville  
Dave Garcia  
Taral Wayne

## FEBRUARY

### 7-9 Psurrealcon

Box 2069  
Norman, OK 73070  
SG Tad Williams

### Psurrealcon (cont)

Bill Hodgson  
Casey Hamilton  
Robin Bailey

### 14-16 Continuity

620 80th Place South  
Birmingham, AL 35206  
GOH Harry Turtledove  
TM Brad Strickland  
AGOH David & Elissa Martin  
WGOH Jerry & Sharon Ahern

### 14-16 Circle Ouroboros

Meridian, MS  
SG Andre Norton  
Tom Weitz  
Mercedes Lackey  
Larry Dixon

### 14-16 Boskone 29

Box G, MIT Branch Post Office  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
GOH Jane Yolen  
SF Dave Langford  
AGOH Jody Lee  
FP Kathy Mar

### 29-1 Conniption

PO Box 260912  
Plano, TX 75026  
SG Wilson Tucker  
Brad Foster  
Robert Taylor

## MARCH

### 7-8 Czarkon (date tentative)

5138B Old Lemay Ferry  
Imperial, MO 63052  
SF Ray van Tilburg  
Cheryl Medley

### 13-15 CRACKERCON (Jacksonville)

P. O. Box 1509  
Orange Park, FL 32067-1509  
GOH Mercedes Lackey  
AGOH Larry Dixon

### 26-29 AggieCon XXIII

Box J-1  
College Station, TX 77844

### 26-29 NORWESCON 15

P. O. Box 24207  
Seattle, WA 98124-5591

**MARCH (cont.)**

27-29 Mid South Con  
 P. O. Box 22749  
 Memphis, TN 38122  
 GOH Nancy Springer  
 TM Margaret Weis  
 AGOH Beth Willinger  
 FGOH Belinda Anderson

27-29 CoastCon  
 Biloxi, MS  
 SF Orson Scott Card

**MAY**

1-3 DEEPSOUTHCON 30  
 1579 Monroe Drive, Suite 318  
 Atlanta, GA 30324  
 GOH Joe R. Landsdale  
 AGOH Alan M. Clark  
 TM Charles L. Grant  
 FGOH Marilyn Teague

1-3 NameThatCon 5  
 PO Box 575  
 St Charles, MO 63302  
 SG Mercedes Lackey  
 Paul Daly  
 Ron & Chere Raiti  
 Mickey Zucker Reichert

1-3 ROCKON 16  
 P. O. Box 24285  
 Little Rock, AK 72221  
 PGOH Lois McMaster Bujold  
 AGOH Cat Conrad  
 ST Fran Stallings

8-10 Miss-Con  
 P. O. Box 13626  
 Jackson, MS 392336  
 SG Mary Hanson Roberts  
 Sidney Williams  
 Steve Jackson  
 Michael Scott  
 John Bell  
 Margali

15-17 OASIS V  
 P. O. Box 940992  
 Maitland, FL 32794  
 GOH Michael Bishop  
 AGOH Holly Bird  
 FGOH Ann & Kendall Morris  
 SG Andre Norton

**JUNE**

5-7 New Orleans SF&F Festival  
 PO Box 791089  
 New Orleans, LA 70179

**New Orleans SF&F Festival (cont.)**

SG Stephen R. Donaldson  
 David Cherry

12-14 ConCat IV  
 805 College Street  
 Knoxville, TN 37921  
 GOH Chelsea Quinn Yarbro  
 AGOH Debbie Hughes  
 TM Sharon Webb  
 FGOH Laura Modine  
 SG Tom Deitz

**JULY**

10-12 LIBERTYCON 6  
 P. O. Box 695  
 Hixson, TN 37343  
 WGOH Katherine Kurtz  
 AGOH Kevin Ward  
 SG Brad Strickland  
 MC Wilson 'Bob' Tucker

17-19 DRAGONCON  
 Box 47696  
 Atlanta, GA 30362

24-26 OKon '92  
 P.O. Box 4229  
 Tulsa, OK 74159  
 GOH Elizabeth Ann Scarborough  
 TM Wm. Mark Simmons  
 AGOH David Lee Anderson  
 FGOH K. D. Wentworth  
 FP Diana Gallagher

**SEPTEMBER**

3-7 MAGICON  
 P. O. Box 621992  
 Orlando, FL 32862-1992  
 GOH Jack Vance  
 AGOH Vincent DiFate  
 FGOH Walt Willis  
 TM Spider Robinson

**OCTOBER**

29- World Fantasy Convention NOV 1 Box 148  
 Clarkston, GA 30021  
 SG Michael Bishop  
 John Farris  
 Martin H. Greenberg  
 Anne McCaffrey

**KEY:** AGOH - Artist Guest of Honor; FGOH - Fan Guest of Honor; FP - Filk Performer; GOH - Guest of Honor; MC - Master of Ceremonies; PGOH - Pro Guest of Honor; SG - Special Guest; ST - Story Teller; TM - Toastmaster; WGOH - Writer Guest of Honor

# FIRST LANDIN'

They was big and they was shiny, they was flat and they was round

Them things that come down in the heart o' mah town  
Spittin fire, and gases, and stuff all 'round  
A-rippin and a-roarin, shakin Carolina ground!

Ah took one last sip, and ah laid that ol' jug down.

Of a sudden in the square, the folks begun to shout  
Them things was dangerous, there weren't no doubt  
It weren't too long afore no one was about  
But ah was too drunk to go that route--

Them doors opened wide; they was fixin to come out.

All the problems of the world crowded in on my head  
The black folk, white folk, and them whose skin is red  
We got war and we got poor, we got sick and we got dead  
We gots little babies that needs to be fed!

We don't need no aliens, to mahself ah said.

So ah picked up mahself raht off a the ground  
Staggered on over to whar them ships put down  
Yellin "Hey little green dudes, turn them things around!"  
And "Ah'll give y'all till sunset to git outta town!"

Ah got out the way as them ramps unwound.

They come on out to whar they could be seen  
From all four o' those saucers, but they wasn't green  
They weren't little neither; they was tall and lean  
Like a big oak sapling with a ghostly sheen!

One pointed raht at me, and he looked mean.

Well the moonshine was flowin perty strong in mah veins  
White lightnin was curdlin and burnin mah brains  
Ah weren't in the mood to play no games--  
So ah picked up a rock and ah took mah aim--

The air all 'round me burst out in flames!

Them flames disappeared leavin smoke in mah beard  
They come at me then but I weren't afeared  
Ah hit em and ah kicked em, ah laughed an ah sneered  
Ah shouted "Try a little harder, whatsa matter y'all scared?"

They was shoutin too and it sounded plumb weird.

Ah'll give y'all till sunset one of em said

And to git outta town from another one's head  
They shocked me into stoppin from seein red  
And carried me inside to a real hard bed.

If this here's alcohaulism, ah'd ruther be dead.

Ah said "Lay off boys this ain't no fun  
"Ah'd take ya to mah leader but I ain't got none"  
One of em come at me with a tinny-lookin gun  
Ah looked all 'round me for a chance to run!

But they strapped me down then and ah knew ah was done.

A whole bunch a colors started a-flashin  
Noises was smashin, and crashin and slashin  
Felt like mah brain was a-gittin a bashin  
Felt like mah body was a-gittin a lashin!

Ah couldn't stop mah teeth from a-mashin and a-gnashin!

It was all over then and ah opened mah eyes  
Them alien boys looked pleased as pies  
Ah asked em "Do ya have me hypamatized?"  
One said We may be ugly but we tells no lies

We comes from a land across them skies.

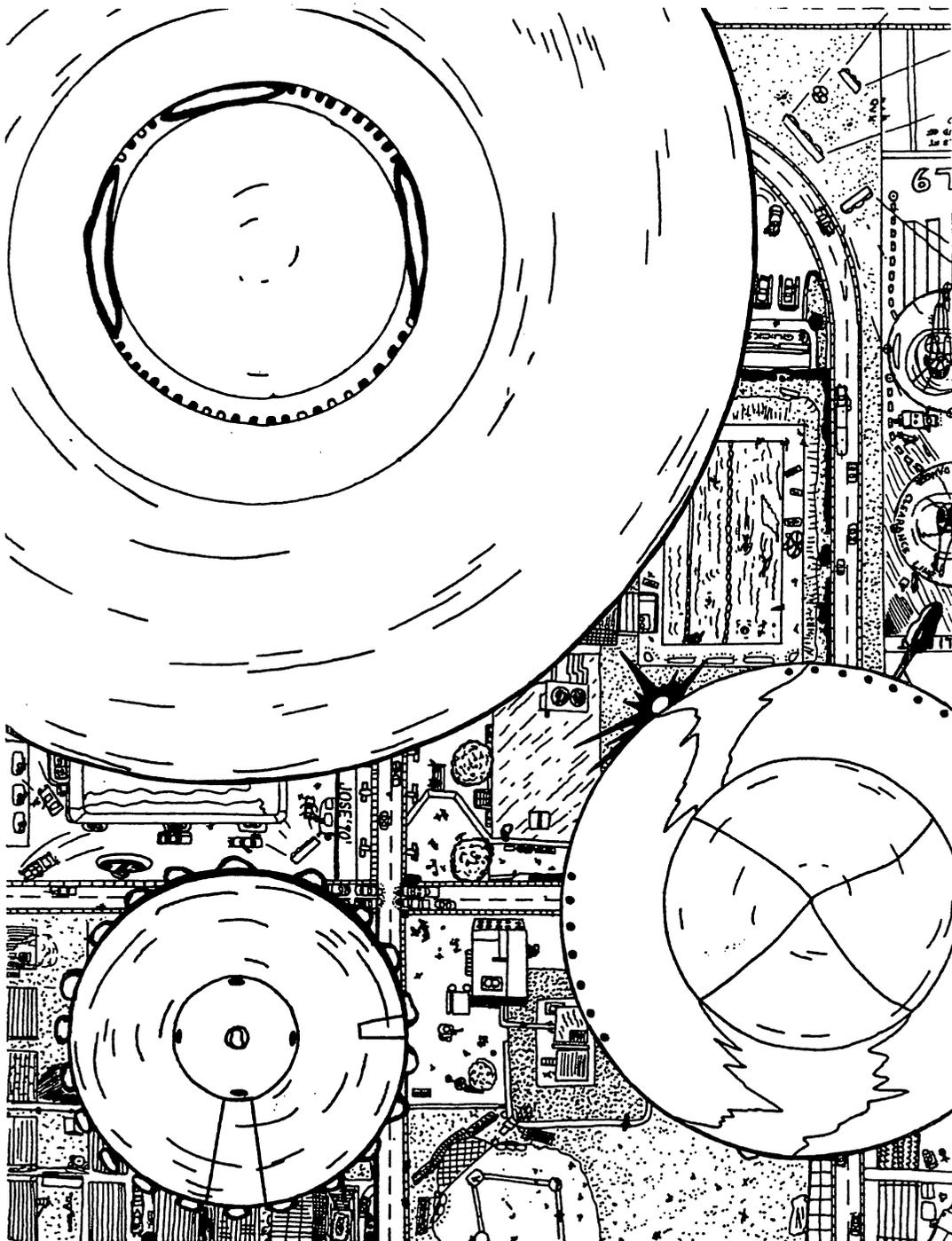
Ah said "Whar are we?": he said We's up in space  
We jest borried ya ta larn the language o yo race  
He musta seen the look o fear arise upon mah face  
Cuz he said Don't worry son we don't need no new base

Thar's intelligint beins all over the place!

Well they put me back down in mah hometown  
And then they flew on; they was Washington-bound  
Ah felt bad for not mentionin it but ah did wonder how  
That New England feller that they got in office now

Would react  
To a alien--with a Carolina mouth!

Clifford W. Dunbar





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## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Werner Karl Heisenberg 1901
- 7 Leigh Brackett 1915
- 14 Tycho Brahe 1546
- 16 Arthur C. Clarke 1917  
Philip K. Dick 1928
- 17 Jack Chalker 1944
- 18 Alfred Bester 1913  
Jack Haldeman 1941  
Steven Spielberg 1947
- 24 Fritz Leiber 1919
- 26 Charles Babbage 1792
- 28 Sir Arthur Eddington 1882
- 31 Bob Shaw 1931

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**The editors know better, but decided to anyway.**

**Your name was etched at the bottom of a cauldron of swill.**

**Only the Shadow knows...**

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