

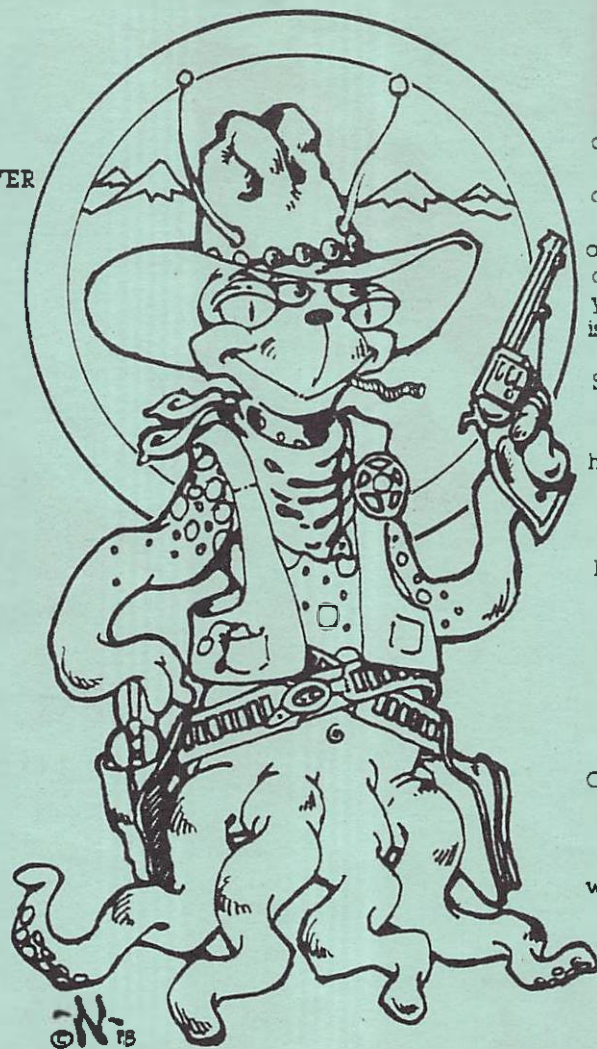


Chattacon 4 program book

DENVER IN 1981

WHY DENVER IN '81 PROMISES TO BE THE BEST WORLDCON EVER

OUR CITY—Denver is centrally located, 1,000 miles closer to fans in the East, Midwest, Britain and Europe than any other bidding city. The downtown area is compact and clean, with wide streets and bustling energy. Within a five to ten minute walk from our hotel one can view the State Capitol building, the spacious Civic Center, the Denver Mint, the new Denver Art Museum, the Colorado State Museum, the Judicial Heritage Center—to name just a few of the attractions. The Mile High City snuggles close to the Front Range of the magnificent Rocky Mountains, the foothills are less than 30 minutes' driving time from downtown. Mountain bus tours are available.



OUR FACILITIES—The downtown Denver Hilton occupies the area between the central business district and the State Capital buildings, and is bordered on one side by a huge park; it is about as ideally situated as you can imagine. The hotel is a 20-minute trip by shuttle bus or limousine from Stapleton International Airport and only a mile away from the Trailways/Greyhound bus depot. The Hilton has a total of 850 guest rooms, and the four overflow hotels within a two-block radius bring the total to over 2,400. The Hilton's 45,000 square feet of function rooms, including the 17,000 square-foot Grand Ballroom, can be supplemented by the 5,000-seat outdoor Greek Theatre in Civic Center Park across the street, and the 1,500-seat Centre Theatre next door. The hotel is within easy walking distance of literally scores of eating places, in all price ranges, including five restaurants in the hotel itself and a giant McDonald's next door.

OUR COMMITTEE—An experienced committee is essential to hosting a successful Worldcon. By 1981, various individuals of our 20-member committee will have been involved in 13 successive MileHiCons and at least two Penulticons in this city alone, as well as having either sponsored or assisted with such other cons as the small but very lustrous Karvalcon, YuccaCon, and FortCon in Fort Collins, AmberCon in Wichita, Kansas. In addition, many of us will have put in volunteer work on Iguanacore, Seacon and Noreascon. But that's only half the story of our experience. In our mundane identities we include an attorney, two college professors, a government comptroller, a journalist, a commercial artist, several organizational managers, assorted computer programmers and engineers, a few bright-eyed students, a housewife and a librarian. One thing we all have is a lot of enthusiasm for seeing that the Denver in '81 Worldcon comes off right.

A SPECIAL BONUS—*Denvisions/Thin Air Wonder Stories* is our very own publication—a 40-page zine with two halves and two covers, done up in the old Ace Doubles style. One half is full of serious stuff—our Worldcon philosophy, our committee insights and other facts and figures worth knowing. The other half is a showcase, edited by Denver authors Edward Bryant and Peter Alterman, crammed full of the oddball humor and the literary talents of DENVENTION II backers. Getting a copy is easy—All pre-supporting members of the Denver in '81 bid receive one.

To become a pre-supporting member, send \$1.00 to the address below. You'll be joining the more than 600 others who have already invested in what promises to be the greatest Worldcon ever—DENVER IN 1981.

P.O. BOX 11545 DENVER, CO 80211

ChattaCon 4

1979 Program Book

ChattaCon 4

Sheraton Downtown Hotel

January 5-7, 1979

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The ChattaCon 4 Program Book
is edited by Shelby Bush III
(all unsigned material is by the editor)

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Editorial

On one of my regular visits to the Post Office the other day, I noticed on the wall a copy of the PO motto, nicely framed. That motto read, "Neither rain, nor snow, nor gloom of night shall stay these couriers from screwing up the ChattaCon Program Book."

After last year's goof-ups with the book, I decided this year's book was going to press as early as possible. Deadlines were set, arrangements were made for cover art as well as interior art, a couple of articles, and other nice items.

But once again, fate stepped in. I was required by my job to move to Indiana in October. The Postal Service decided that anything to be delivered to me must first go through a random program as to whether it actually arrives. And every-other-thing I mailed got lost somewhere.

We apologize for our own shortcomings. We cannot apologize for the USPS. Guy Lillian's "Neo-fan's GUY-de" did not arrive here in time to make press. We never received promised artwork, including a picture of our Featured Speaker. Mail forwarded from Crossville simply did not arrive.

But let's go on to what we do have. The very nice cover drawing was done by Victoria Poyser. (Dick Lynch sent it to me unexplained. It made a nice cover drawing, and when Dick saw the cover, he told me that the others she had done were even better. Check out the art show!)

Cliff Amos' "True History of ChattaCon" turns out to be a "True History" of Irvin Koch's convention activity. But it is a valuable piece. We would personally like to see other conventions produce a "True History" [particularly the Kubla Khans, Ken Moore!].

Welcome to Chattanooga, to ChattaCon, and this ChattaCon 4 Program Book. We hope you enjoy all three.

ChattaCon 4 Program

ChattaCon is now a fully-programmed convention, but we still remember our most-humble relaxacon beginnings. We encourage you to set up your own discussion groups or panels. It's easy--just post the event, time, and place on the bulletin board next to the convention registration table.

And now, let the ~~parties~~ con begin!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1979

8 pm PRE-CON WORK SESSION AND PARTY

Since most of you are reading this too late, see what you missed? Think about next year!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1979

10 am CON SET-UP BEGINS.

12 noon HUCKSTER ROOM REGISTRATION BEGINS

Empire Ballroom C.

3 pm CON OPENS:

REGISTRATION	Main Lobby
HUCKSTER ROOM	Empire Ballroom C
ART SHOW	Olde World Hall
CON SUITE	See bulletin board for location
VIDEOTAPES	Venetian Room (Schedule at door)
GAME ROOM	Florentine Room

7 pm- ??? AUTHOR'S PARTY

Main Con Suite. Party with the professional authors who are attending ChattaCon 4, including Alan Dean Foster, Jack Chalker, Steve Vance, "Smooth" Bob Tucker, and others.

8:50-8:50 pm NORTHAMERICAN PROGRESS REPORT

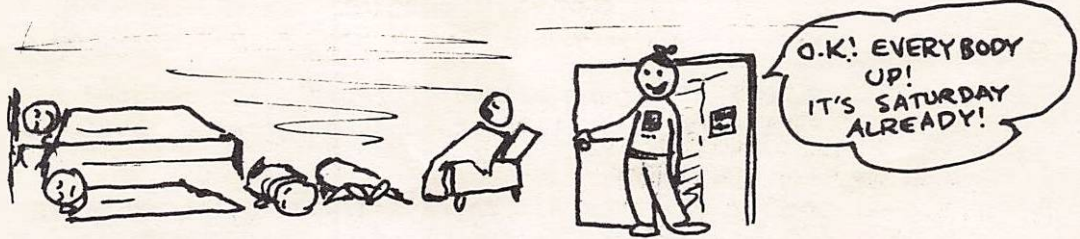
Empire Ballroom A&B. Hear the latest news about the con we're all waiting for--the 1979 North American Science

Fiction Interim Convention, North American '79--
right from the ~~hostel's~~ Chairman's mouth. There will
be representatives from the convention around, too,
to take your membership (plug, plug!).

- 9-9:50 pm "FANNISH LEGENDS" (or, "Who Sawed Courtney's Boat?")
Empire Ballroom A&B. Wilson "Bob" Tucker gives us a
close look at some of the people who built fandom.
A little choice gossip, some True Stories, some Almost
True Stories, and some Grand Lies. Here's your chance
to find out about those rumors you've been hearing.
Be sure to ask about "Tucker Towers" and "Rosebud".
- 10 pm REGISTRATION, HUCKSTER ROOM, ART SHOW CLOSE.
- 10 pm PANEL DISCUSSION: "WHAT THE DEVIL?" (or, "Which is Witch?")
Empire Ballroom A&B. Led by Cliff Amos, the panelists
to be announced. We'll keep you in the dark on this one.
- 10 pm to Midnight MORE VIDEOTAPES Venetian Room
- 11 pm FILM: THX-1138
Empire Ballroom A&B. Stars Robert Duvall. This is the
first feature film by George Lucas, about a futuristic
society, where individualism and love are forbidden.
Lucas, of course, went on to make American Graffiti and
an obscure science fiction film about a galaxy long,
long ago, and far, far away...
- ??? DISCUSSION GROUPS as posted on the bulletin board
- ??? ROOM PARTIES
All we can say about these is that there are bound to
be some around--just look, or listen, for them. We do
encourage persons giving parties to announce them on
our bulletin board.

Oh yes, our CON SUITE is open all night. Strange things have been
known to happen during the wee hours of the morning. Last year saw
the birth of the Southern Gentlemen's Chorus, who very likely will
have an encore performance this year.





SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1979

9 am ART SHOW OPENS *Olde World Hall*
 GAME ROOM OPENS *Florentine Room*

10 am HUCKSTER ROOM OPENS *Empire Ballroom C*

10 am- 1:30 pm STAR TREK MINI PROGRAM
Venetian Room. Led by the internationally famous Tola Varnell, includes several Star Trek videotaped episodes, and the "Tricky Trekkie Trivia Test".

10-11:20 am WRITING WORKSHOP: ALAN DEAN FOSTER
Empire Ballroom A&B. Our Featured Speaker talks about how he writes, and will answer your questions on writing for fun and profit.

11:30 am-1 pm SCIENCE SPEECH: "Current Research in the Field of Artificial Intelligence"
Empire Ballroom A&B. Robert Sample, a systems analyst for the Tennessee Valley Authority speaks.

1-2 pm LUNCH BREAK
Eat Something! The convention cannot be held responsible for people who faint from hunger.

2-3:30 pm FEATURED SPEECH: "Science Fiction--The Efficacy of Entertainment"
Here's the speech we've all been waiting for, the main address by ALAN DEAN FOSTER. Come hear Alan talk about one of his favorite subjects!

3:45-4:15 pm READING: Jack Chalker
Empire Ballroom A. The author of the "Well" books reads some of his short fiction.

??? DISCUSSION GROUPS *as posted on the bulletin board.*

7 pm ALL FUNCTIONS (except Con Suite) CLOSE.

7 pm BANQUET
Empire Ballroom B. Featured: Remarks by Master of Ceremonies Cliff Amos and Toastmaster Wilson "Bob" Tucker. Presentation of the Strange Fan Award, and Art Show awards. A short talk by Alan Dean Foster.

Rumors of a game called "Pyramid", not related to Battlestar Galactica are unsubstantiated, but persistent.

9:30 pm ART AUCTION

Empire Ballroom A. There's always a lot of fine, outstanding art in the ChattaCon art show, and the prices are reasonable. Jack Chalker is your auctioneer.

9:30 pm GAME ROOM and VIDEOTAPE ROOM REOPEN.

10:30 pm MASQUERADE PRE-JUDGING

Location to be announced on the bulletin board.

11 pm MASQUERADE

Empire Ballroom A&B. Masquerades at Southern Cons leave a lot to the unexpected, and we don't know what we're going to get. We regret to inform you that the ChattaCon Billboard Girl will not be appearing.

FOLLOWING THE MASQUERADE: FILM: BARBARELLA

Empire Ballroom A&B. Jane Fonda stars as a sexy space-heroine in nearly constant danger in this Dino De Laurentis space opera.

Again, watch and listen for the room parties, and check the bulletin board.

Also, remember that the Con Suite is still open, too. Cliff Amos is probably still there, telling *Civil War* "War for Southern Independence" stories.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 1979

9 am- 1 pm ART SHOW OPEN Olde World Hall

10 am-3 pm HUCKSTER ROOM OPEN Empire Ballroom C
GAME ROOM OPEN Florentine Room
VIDEOTAPE ROOM OPEN Venetian Room

11 am TALK: "The NFFF And You"

Empire Ballroom A&B. The National Fantasy Fan Federation is one of fandom's oldest organizations. N3F president, Irvin Koch tells you *wote/ethan/god/really/want/to/know* all about it and tells you how it would benefit you to be a member.

12:15 pm CSFA ANNUAL DISORGANIZATION MEETING

At the last Chattanooga Science Fiction Association Disorganization meeting, Robert's Rules of Order were thrown out, so this year's meeting is likely to be a real free-for-all. If you're a Chattanooga local, you're welcome to attend and join CSFA.

1 pm ELECTRONIC MUSIC CONCERT

Empire Ballroom A&B. A short program of works by students in the Electronic Music Class at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Arranged through the help of Dr. Peter Temko of the UTC Music Department, to whom we extend our thanks.

1:45 pm onward DEAD DOG PARTY

Wherever there's a suitable doghouse (after the Con Suite closes at Midnight).

We enjoyed having you here in the Scenic City, and hope you'll be back again next year for ChattaCon 5.

the ChattaCon Com

(or, Who To Blame)

Andre J. Barker. . .	Registration	Richard W. Lynch	Vice Chairman, Art
Tichard T. Bolgeo.	Video, Con Suite	Richard Morehouse	Game Room
Shelby Bush III. .	Program Book	Michael Rogers	Programming
Janet Sue Caruth .	Huckster Room	Ken Scott	Films
Jack Hawkins . . .	Asst. Publication	David Tabor	Con Suite
William Hedrick II	Video Room	Nancy Tabor	Con Suite
Irvin M. Koch. . .	Chairman	Tola N. Varnell	STAR TREK
Nickilyn Lynch . .	Secretary/Treasurer	Julia Wilhoit	Asst. Registration

ALSO: Joe Celko, Dan Caldwell, and Fran Bray, Security
Adrienne Fein, Certificates
Norman Michael, "Some Miscellaneous Category" *

[* Norm has done quite a bit of work for the convention, but that's how Dick Lynch said to list him... --ed]

Featured Speaker Alan Dean Foster

They say that there are worlds parallel to ours; that every decision that we make, every accident that happens, every action that we take creates another world. Somewhere then, there must be a spaceship designer, a lawyer, a politician, a motion picture producer/director, a university professor, and the world's greatest gigolo--all of them named Alan Dean Foster.

Alan says that he began drawing spaceships as a beginning, and blossomed at it in the fifth grade. But like many dreams, reality had a way of showing him that he was not able to fulfill. But his dream did not end--it found sustenance in books like *The Spaceship Under the Apple Tree*. Some of us owe a lot to Louis Slobodkin.

When the time came to go to college, Alan went to UCLA as a political science major, "the second-most crippled college bastard" (first is the English major), bound for law school, but escaping reality in the spaceships of Asimov, Sheckley, Russell, Leinster, and others.

But came the day when Alan discovered that--joy of joys--he could actually get college credit for courses in which you watched movies.

Peter Bogdanovich once gave him a "B", but he said "You have good instincts...you should continue."

Alan received a master's degree in Motion Picture Arts and Sciences from UCLA.

And he started writing. All kinds of writing.

He sold a story--his twelfth--"Some Notes Concerning a Green Box", which wasn't even submitted as a story, to *The Arkham Collector*. Then another, which was actually his first publication, to John W. Campbell, "With Friends Like These...".

Alan's first novel, *The Tar-Ayim Krang*, was sold just before he went into the service of Uncle Sam in the United States Army.

After his army stint, Alan did some teaching, part-time at the Los Angeles City College, with courses in Film History, and even one in the literature of H. P. Lovecraft.

But he kept writing. Betty Ballantine asked for a sequel to *Krang*, so Alan wrote a "sort-of" sequel, *Bloodhype*. Then, because of his background in film, was asked to novelize the screenplays of *Luana* and *Dark Star*.

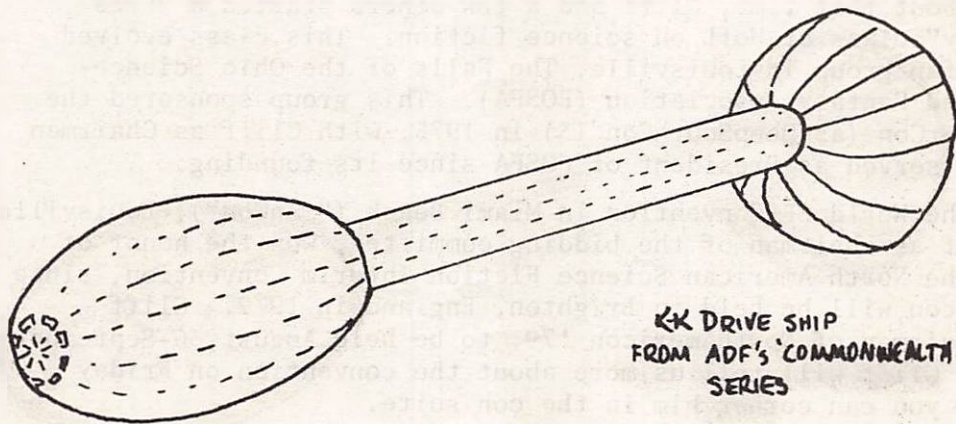
But the spotlight was placed on Alan's writing when he started adapting into story form the animated episodes of *Star Trek*. That spotlight also illuminated his other works, *Icerigger*, *Midworld*, and the two direct sequels to *Krang*, *Orphan Star* and *The End of the Matter*.

Alan's *Splinter of the Mind's Eye*, a novel sequel to the fabulously successful film, *Star Wars*, was on the paperback best-seller list for several weeks this past summer.

Mission to Molokon, Alan's latest novel, a sequel to his popular novel *Icerigger*, is the February 1979 selection of the Science Fiction Book Club.

We hope you'll enjoy meeting and talking with this engaging young writer, one of the real rising stars in the science fiction firmament.

--Shelby Bush



KK DRIVE SHIP
FROM ADF'S 'COMMONWEALTH'
SERIES

Master of Ceremonies Cliff Amos

Although he was born in the middle of the current century, our Master of Ceremonies would probably feel right at home in the midst of the *last* century.

In fact, that ere is one of Cliff's pet subjects, since it includes the Civil War ("That's 'The War for Southern Independence', if you please,"). In fact, going to science fiction conventions is really an excuse for Cliff's real passion--touring Civil War battlefields.

To speak of Cliff's fannish career, one must go back to his college days at the University of Louisville. In those days, Cliff was involved in political activity. Some friends of his were involved in *Star Trek* fandom, and through them, he found out that there was a "world science fiction convention" going to be held in the same city--at the same time--as one of the political organization conventions that Cliff was planning to attend. So Cliff attended some of the activites at St. Louiscon.

It was from the St. Louiscon mailing list that Irvin Koch got Cliff's name, and sent him a Gnomoclave flyer (as chronicled in Cliff's "True History of ChattaCon" in this program book).

At about that time, Cliff and a few others started a "Free University" class at UofL on science fiction. This class evolved into the fan group in Louisville, The Falls of the Ohio Science-Fiction and Fantasy Association (FOSFA). This group sponsored the first RiverCon (as DeepSouthCon 13) in 1975, with Cliff as Chairman. Cliff has served as President of FOSFA since its founding.

At the World SF Convention in Miami Beach ("SunCon"), Louisville, with Cliff as chairman of the bidding committee, won the honor of holding the North American Science Fiction Interim Convention, since the Worldcon will be held in Brighton, England in 1979. Cliff is the Chairman of NorthAmericon '79, to be held August 30-September 3, 1979. Cliff will tell us more about the convention on Friday night, or you can corner him in the con suite.

Speaking of the con suite, one of the things that makes Cliff memorable to fen who meet him at conventions (aside from his imposing

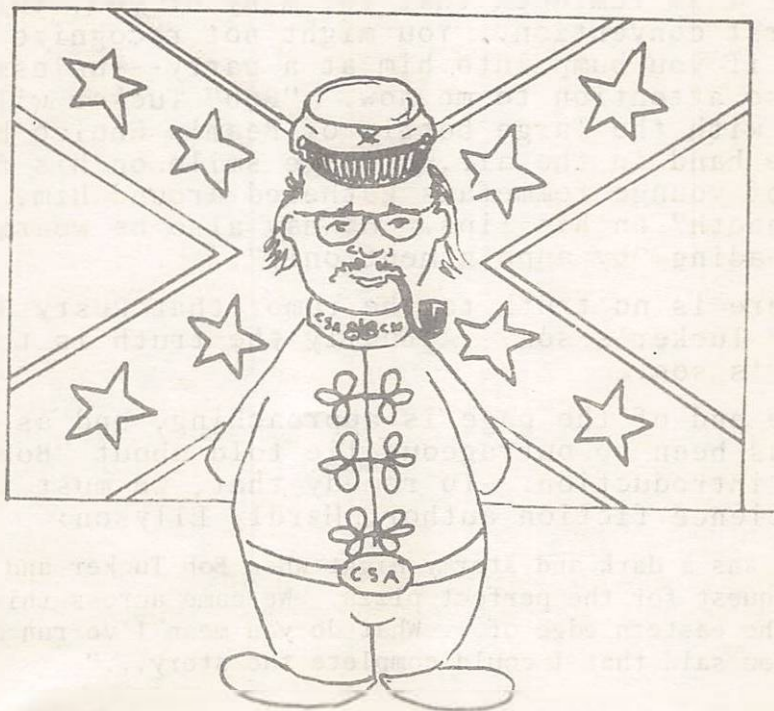
stature) is the fact that he never seems to require any sleep. Some people attribute this to the fact that for six years, Cliff held a job as a breatholizer operator in Louisville, requiring him to keep late hours. Others point to his interests in the occult, and say that he has signed a pact with His Satanic Majesty. The truth is much stranger.

Some time back, Cliff had a portrait painted by an obscure artist. He takes this painting with him to every convention. While Cliff sits in the con suite, talking, smoking, and drinking, the painting is tucked away in the hotel bed, asleep.

But we digress. Cliff's interests are wide ranging, from the historical to the futuristic, from the diabolical to the decadent. (Attendees of last year's Kubla Khan will remember Cliff's rendition of the "Time Warp".)

Cliff's interests in the occult have borne fruit in his having been invited as "guest expert" to such places as Southern Theological Seminary and the *Tomorrow* television show.

Whatever the subject, chances are, Cliff can talk about it. And you can have your chance--just corner him in the con suite, while his portrait dreams the night away.



Toastmaster Wilson Tucker

How does one write an introduction to one of the most famous people in fandom? Surely all that can be said about his fannish career, and his professional career as well, has been repeated so many times that the mere recitation of credits is not enough.

It can be said truthfully that "Bob" Tucker is a fannish legend, and one is tempted to use the old cliches that he is the "smoocooothest" man in fandom, or a "grand old man of fandom", or mention "Rosebud", but I will not.

I will point out that "Bob" Tucker is of such esteem in fandom that his advice is often sought. In fact, young neo femmefans often make appointments with "Bob" to discuss serious matters with him--in his room. Needless to say, "Bob" has a full schedule at conventions, and the occasional male fan who seeks an appointment is always turned away.

But I am reminded that for many of you, this is your first convention. You might not recognize "Bob" Tucker, if you bump into him at a party---unless you pay close attention to me now. "Bob" Tucker will be the man with the large bottle of Beam's Choice bourbon, with one hand in the air, a large smile on his face, a bevy of younge femmefans gathered around him, and "smooooooth" on his lips. He may also be wearing a shirt reading "by appointment only".

There is no truth to the rumor that Rusty Hevelin is "Bob" Tucker's son. Actually the truth is that "Bob" is Rusty's son.

The end of the page is approaching, and as yet, there has been no outrageous lie told about "Bob" Tucker in this introduction. To remedy that, we must turn to famed science fiction author, Hardly Ellyson:

"It was a dark and stormy night when Bob Tucker and I set out on a quest for the perfect pizza. We came across this small cafe on the eastern edge of... What do you mean I've run out of space? You said that I could complete the story..."

The True History of ChattaCon

By Cliff Amos

"It's hard for the historian to be totally objective about history in which he is personally involved," says Cliff Amos, our Master of Ceremonies for ChattaCon 4. In the case of Cliff and ChattaCon, Cliff is probably less objective than many of us, since he was Guest of Honor at the first ChattaCon, and a guest again now. But in the absence of a True History from its founder, or any other person in a better position to say, Cliff has taken it upon himself (at the 'gentle' prodding of your editor) to produce this history.

Until the spring of 1971, I was blissfully ignorant of the existence of Southern Fandom, regional SF cons, and Irvin Koch. My ignorance ended with the arrival of an unprepossessing mimeographed flyer for something called the Gnomoclave. The rough, unillustrated block of text explained that this was "a convention for Science Fiction and Fantasy fans and similar types in the upper South or wherever they can make it from" to be held in Knoxville over the weekend of June 11-13. The MC was someone I had never heard of ("andy offutt"), but the name of the GoH was somewhat familiar from its frequent appearance on the covers of *Analog* magazine--Frank Kelly Freas. There was a schedule of sorts, listing such items as "8pm: Hobbit Costume party: dress as character

IN CHATTANOOGA FANDOM IS CSFA.

*Did you ever have anyone look at you strange
of ISAAC ASIMOV'S SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE?*

*Did you ever have anyone wonder why you fell
said they loved "Sci-fi"?*

If so, then CSFA may be the place for you.

*The Chattanooga Science Fiction Association
every third Saturday of the month, for book
science talks, and other fannish pastimes.*

*CSFA is a load of fun for the science fiction
consider being a member.*

*On Sunday afternoon, the annual CSFA Disorga
program schedule). You're welcome to attend*

DOOGA,



because you asked for a copy

the floor crying when they

*comes new members. We meet
discussions, movies, videotapes,*

and fantasy fan. We hope you'll

*ation Meeting is held (see
and join.*

without i.d.", whatever that meant. Crude though it was, the flyer intrigued me enough that I talked several friends into joining me on a trip to Knoxville.

Southern fandom was about to experience a renaissance. Prior to 1971, there was only one annual convention in the South--the DeepSouthCon--and it had never had more than a few dozen attendees until AGaCon '70 in Atlanta attracted a membership of 130. Irvin Koch, then a student at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, was determined to stir up fannish activity in the Upper South. The success of AGaCon had convinced him that Southern fans were ready for another annual con in their region, so he recruited Jim Corrick as cochairman to help him host an early summer get-together (well away from DeepSouthCon's late August dates). Thus was Gnomoclave born. What has all this to do with ChattaCon? Be patient; all will be made clear shortly.

Our Louisville contingent arrived around midnight on Friday, bringing unrestrained joy to Irvin, for we pushed the membership total to 53, just over the 50 bodies he had promised the hotel. We immediately started getting acquainted with the other attendees, most of whom were also new to fandom. Meade Frierson III, for example, had only been to one previous con (AGaCon '70) and was busily taking names and addresses for the first Southern Fandom Confederation Roster.

Gnomoclave programming, Irvin frequently reminded us, was modeled on DeepSouthCon program items, including a trivia contest, panel discussion, and GoH speech. Not included were banquet or films, which the small attendance made impractical. The most significant imitation of DSC programming was a Sunday morning business meeting, where the major issue was whether to continue the newly established tradition of a springtime convention in the upper South. Irvin was soon to leave the area for a job in Florida, but he was dead set on starting an UpperSouthClave which would rotate among cities which he felt were too far north to stand much chance of winning a DeepSouthCon bid. Most of us were not yet foolish enough, despite Irv's frantic encouragement, to take on the job of running a con. He finally prevailed upon a group from Johnson City, Tennessee to accept responsibility for Gnomoclave's successor, to be called TriClave.

The rotating UpperSouthClave Irvin envisioned did not last beyond its third year. The second one, TriClave, was quite willing to pass on the USC to another city, Nashville, in keeping with the tradition. The third one, however, was Kubla Khan Clave, whose vocal co-chairman expressed no intention of holding a site selection session for a fourth one. Instead, Nashville simply appropriated the role of holding a springtime upper-South convention while dropping the "-clave" designation and starting a new system of numbering the series, with Kubla Khan Clave as the first Kubla Khan, rather than

the third UpperSouthClave. This development was something of a personal blow to Irvin, as well as to fan groups in other cities which might have wanted to host an UpperSouthClave. [It goes almost without saying that the "vocal co-chairman"--now chairman--of Kubla Khan is the redoubtable Ken Moore. --ed.]

Irvin Koch's next attempt at holding a con in East Tennessee was his bid to host the 1975 DeepSouthCon in Knoxville. An interesting point is that this was after he had been instrumental in convincing the Louisville fan group to bid for the same DSC. The result was an embarrassing third-place finish for Knoxville in the final balloting (West Palm Beach ran a close second to Louisville). Irvin had declared in his bid presentation that he would not hold a 1975 convention if his Knoxville bid lost, and he was true to his word, although just barely.

Early in 1975, I received a letter from Irvin announcing his plan to organize a convention to be held in Chattanooga on the first weekend of 1976. I was croggled to learn that he was inviting me to be the guest of honor for the affair. Meade Frierson was to be the mc, and Ken Moore was to be in charge of the art show (translation: Ken was expected to bring a lot of art for the auction). Though I doubted Irv's wisdom in having only fans as guests ("I don't think you'll be much of a draw," was the way one of my friends expressed it), I was not about to turn down an expense-paid trip to a con.

One of the things Irvin had not decided was the name of the con. I wrote back with several suggestions, including ChattaCon.

He replied that he didn't want to use a contraction or nickname, so was going to use the official title "Chattanooga Science Fiction Convention 1976". Since fans generally dislike such long, unwieldy names for common use, a number of other sobriquets appeared. Ken Scott favored "ChattanoogaCon"; others talked about "Choo-Choo Con"; Ken Moore provoked an incoherent response from Irvin by referring to it as "Koch's Koch Kon" from the podium of a Kubla Khan banquet. The popular choice, however, was ChattaCon, which gradually came to

be accepted as the official name. [Although Irvin did refer to the second ChattaCon by the long name in his flyers. --ed.]



ChattaCon '76 began on Friday, January 2, which astute readers will note is the day after New Years Day. The hotel was the brand-new Chattanooga Sheraton Inn South, conveniently located near the foot of an exit ramp off Interstate 75. This combination of date and place produced an unforeseen problem for the con. It seems that hordes of yankees find the holiday season the ideal time to drive down to Florida with the family for a short respite from the northern winter. But the kids have to be back in school very soon after New Years, so there is a mad rush up I-75 during the first three or four days of the new year. A roadside motel just south of Chattanooga makes an excellent spot for a one-night stopover. Homeward-bound tourists want to go to sleep early in quiet surroundings; partying fans want just the opposite. There were more of them than there were of us. The whole con was marked by the ceaseless attempts of the hotel staff to stifle all socializing among fans after dark.

Daytime programming was highly informal. For reasons known only to Irvin, some items were cancelled at the last minute (such as my panel discussion on the Occult), and others were made up on the spot. The banquet was held in one end of the hotel's public dining room. I don't remember the menu, which is probably all for the best (I do remember that Irvin had characteristically selected the cheapest entree available). After the meal, Irvin presented the smof ("strangely maddened old fan") awards to John Hollis and Bob Roehm *[The award consists of a small plaque, and a certificate made up like a ransom note, of clipped headline letters. It should also be noted that Bob Roehm did not attend the convention. --ed.]* for their quiet, behind-the-scenes service to fandom in Tennessee and Kentucky respectively. He then presented a special award, a bottle of champagne, to Ken Moore for charging each guest at the Nashville New Years party a higher fee than ChattaCon had charged for membership in the con. The guest of honor's speech was notable chiefly for its brevity.

The first ChattaCon was not exactly an auspicious beginning. Total membership was only about 80; no pros had shown up; and the hotel problem had killed most parties before they really got started. But most of us managed to have a good time anyway, and there was



general agreement that ChattaCon was an institution worth preserving. Thus ChattaCon became the fifth annual con in the South, and Chattanooga became the third Southern city to have its own, non-rotating convention. [The other two, of course, are Kubla Khan in Nashville, and RiverCon in Louisville. --ed.]

ChattaCon II was strikingly different from its predecessor. It was held on a slightly later date, January 7-9, and transferred to a different hotel, the Admiral Benbow downtown, both moves calculated to avoid the mad yankee stampede. The Yankee problem was averted, all right, but a new complication arose--the weather. A winter storm was predicted for the weekend. To make matters

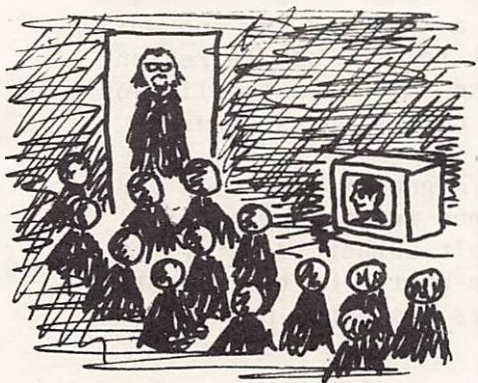
worse, the Benbow had no interior hallways--all rooms opened onto exposed outside balconies.

The snow delayed my own departure for Chattanooga until Saturday morning. Consequently, I missed whatever daytime programming the con had ("no great loss," I was told). Upon arrival, I found registration set up in the huckster room, which could only be reached by going through the con "suite" (actually just a large bedroom). Videotapes were being played on the con suite's TV set. The resulting log jam of

bodies made passage through the room a hazardous undertaking. The videotapes, which included several *Star Trek* episodes, ran continually, effectively preventing any partying from taking place there.

The con membership had changed considerably from the previous year. Most out-of-town fans, including all but a very few of the South's well-known con fans, had stayed home. These notable absences were obviously due in part to the unfriendly weather, but I suspect another factor was also largely to blame. Irvin's old nemesis, Ken Moore, had held a Halfacon in Nashville only a month before ChattaCon II. That affair had attracted a sizable percentage of hard-core Southern fans, thereby satisfying their appetite for a mid-winter con. Many of them apparently weren't ready for another one so soon, especially when it might involve driving in freezing rain or snow.

Despite the loss of previous attendees, ChattaCon actually managed to draw a larger membership than it had the year before. The committee accomplished this feat by generating strong local publicity, with emphasis on the con's *Star Trek* features. Thus a major portion of the membership was relatively young and new to



organized fandom. They added a strange dimension to the con. On a survey of con members, for example, the question asking for one's "favorite science-fiction character" received Gene Roddenberry as the most frequent answer (in the "favorite author" category, Mr. Roddenberry placed second, behind Robert A. Heinlein). These results drew groans of protest from older fans at the banquet, where they were announced. *[Those results were also deleted from the survey results in the ChattaCon 3 Program Book. --ed.]*

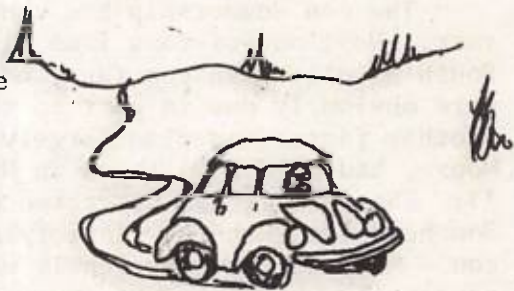
Speaking of the banquet, the entree this time was most memorable--meatloaf supreme. Oh well, at least it was cheap, as hotel banquets go. The second annual smof awards went to Terry Lepley and Shelby Bush *[In keeping with the tradition of Bob Roehm founded the previous year, Shelby Bush did not attend the convention. --ed.]*. There was no guest of honor speech for the simple reason that there was no guest of honor. Irvin had announced a policy of "every fan is GoH and mc", which, if not a catchy phrase, was at least easy on the con budget.

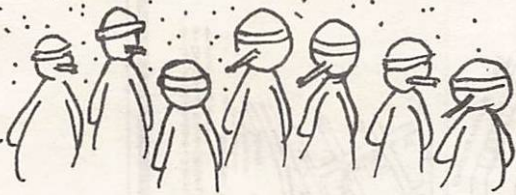
Saturday night partying was subdued. A goodly number of con members had trekked over to the U.T.C. campus for a showing of *Dark Star*, and a lot of the local fans didn't bother to return to the hotel afterwards; the con suite was pre-empted by the videotape crowd; and cruising the private room parties was not a popular activity due to the unpleasant necessity of venturing out into the cold, wet night to get from room to room. For the second consecutive year, ChattaCon had failed to provide a favorable environment for parties.

The real adventure of the weekend for me was trying to drive home to Louisville in the snowstorm that had come as predicted, and then some. I made it as far as the Daniel Boone National Forest before finding the Interstate impassibly blocked. The highway was open again by Monday morning, but it took all day for my little VW beetle to plow through the last 200 miles home.

I understand Irvin also got stranded somewhere *[in Louisville, strangely enough --ed.]*, even though he was travelling by plane.

All grotching aside, I enjoyed ChattaCon II almost as much as I had the first one. Not only was it enjoyable, but it showed some promising developments, the most important of which was the





The Chattocon Committee...

growth of a real committee. Irvin was no longer single-handedly running the con with the help of some volunteer assistants. *[But he was still running the whole con out of his pocket, which was its own set of problems. --ed]* With the experience of two problem-beset cons behind them, I felt the committee had learned enough to be able to produce a really well-run convention the third time out. I was not disappointed.

ChattaCon 3 had all the special features missing from the first two; a spacious con suite devoted primarily to partying; a hotel with plenty of function space (the downtown Sheraton); a program book; and a distinguished pro Guest of Honor--A. E. van Vogt. In addition, the con tripled its previous membership record by attracting over 300 fans, including most of the stalwarts of Southern Fandom. Chattacon was no longer just a Kochcon.

The problems this time were relatively minor, and didn't affect the enjoyment of most of the con members. Some hucksters grumbled about being put in a separate overflow huckster room upstairs from the main one *[and we must admit, rightfully so, since the problem was directly linked to a bad policy move by Irvin. --ed.]*. MC Arsen Darnay was unable to come, but Perry Chapdelaine obligingly took his place. The banquet fare was once again unmemorable. *[Ham slices and rice. --ed.]*

The con was large and diverse enough to please a wide variety of fannish tastes. Among the aspects I remember best were an amusing panel discussion on sex in fandom, a serious panel on con organizing, and a long, drunken songfest in the con suite on Saturday night *[the Southern Gentlemen's Chorus, which will with any luck at all, return in all their off-key glory again this year. Any similarity with filk singing groups is to be denied. --ed.]* There are a lot of other details I could report, ~~if I wanted to take a little bit~~ but this history has already taken more space than I had intended. Besides, ChattaCon 3 is still too recent for any real historical perspective. Suffice it to say that ChattaCon is now a vigorous, full-grown con, with every prospect of an even better future.

Oh, by the way. I got snowbound again, halfway home from ChattaCon 3. Can't the Committee do anything about ChattaCon's weather?

A Man's Guide to Chattanooga

You'd be surprised at the changes a year can bring--even in Chattanooga. This year has been especially busy, and downtown looks noticeably different.

The big change is the rebuilding of Market Street. All year long, the city's main drag has been torn up, narrowed to two lanes, crowded by bulldozers and uprooted underground lines. It was a holy mess. But the three blocks from 6th to 9th St. now form a mall, and its appearance is much better. You're invited to see for yourself.

Last year, we had three bridges over the Tennessee River downtown. Now, only two. The city was finally forced to close the 90-year-old Walnut St. Bridge. A lot of traffic that formerly skirted the edge of downtown had to come into town via--you guessed it--Market Street. (See why the rebuilding was such a mess?) To accomodate the traffic, the Market St. Bridge was made partially reversable during rush hours, so NOTE WELL--the Market St. Bridge is *3 lanes outbound and 1 lane inbound* Friday from 3:30-6 pm. Even the concom will avoid going over the bridge then--you may as well avoid it yourselves.

And there are a couple of new places to eat downtown. They're noted in the guide which follows. The numbers on each item refer to numbers on the map at left. So as I said last year, feel free to ask one of the concom for information, and enjoy yourselves!

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

1. Gateway Books--Market St. between 6th and 7th St. Note the new location. Decent SF collection. Good magazine selection. A few out-of-town newspapers. They have stores, also, in Eastgate Mall and Highland Plaza.

Waldenbooks--Northgate Mall, Hixson. Typical chain store.

2. The Book Stacks--Chattanooga Choo-Choo complex, Market St. at 14th St. Their SF collection has deteriorated greatly in the last few years, but it's still pretty good for mainstream books.

LIQUOR

With 54 package stores scattered across the city, I won't try to list all of them. Here are a couple of close ones. All stores are open Mon-Sat, 8 am- 11 pm. Bheer can be purchased in supermarkets, but not between midnight and noon on Sunday, so stock your parties early! Wine can be bought only at package stores. Legal buying/drinking age is 18, and is enforced.

3. EZ LIQUORS--Corner of 4th and Market Street.
4. JAX LIQUORS--Corner of 3rd and Market Street.

FOOD

Convenience Stores:

5. MAJIC MARKET, Frazier Ave, N. Chattanooga. Cross the Mkt St bridge, then turn right at the 1st light, go .2 mile.

Supermarkets:

6. RED FOOD STORE, Golden Gateway Shopping Center, W. 9th St. Mon-Sat, 8:30 am-10 pm; Sun, 12 noon - 6pm. No bheer.

Kroger--Dayton Blvd, Red Bank. About 5 miles, but it's the only 24 hour, 7 days-a-week supermarket in the city. For directions to Red Bank, see RESTAURANTS---RED BANK.

RESTAURANTS--DOWNTOWN

Of course, there's always the hotel cafeteria.

7. S&W CAFETERIA Market St, through to Broad, between 8th & 9th St. Mon-Sat, Breakfast, 7 am-9:15 am; Lunch 10:25 am-2:15pm; Dinner, 4:45-8 pm. A cut above the average cafeteria and very reasonable. Recommended.
8. McDONALDS Market street, through to Broad, between 8th & 9th Sts. 7 days a week, 6am-10pm. Opened just 2 months ago.
9. SHONEY'S Golden Gateway Shopping Center, W. 9th St. Mon-Sat, 6:30am-11pm; Sun, 8am-11pm. Typical Big Boy. My personal opinion is UGH!!!, but some would disagree. Close to hotel.
10. ORANGE JULIUS Market St.between 8th & 9th st. Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm.
11. THE YOGURT EXPRESS Corner of 9th & Market Sts. Mon-Fri, 9am-8:30pm; Sat&Sun, 11am-8:30pm. Salads, sandwiches, desserts, and (of course) yogurt in divers permutations.
12. HOME PLATE CAFETERIA Corner of 7th & Cherry Sts. Mon-Sat:

Breakfast, 6:30am-9:15am; Lunch, 11am-2:30pm; Dinner, 5-8pm;
Sun, 11am-8pm. Real Southern cooking.

13. KRYSTAL Corner of 7th and Cherry Sts, Mon 6am-midnight; Tues-Sat, 24 hrs. The hamburger people either love or hate [*For any yankees around, the yankee equivilent is "White Castle". --ed.*]
 14. KRYSTAL Cherokee Blvd, N. Chattanooga. Never closes.
 15. SHAPIRO'S Cherry St between 7th & 8th Sts. Mon-Sat, 8:30am-5:30pm. The only kosher deli in the city.
 16. GEORGE'S FAMOUS HAMBURGERS Corner of 8th & Cherry Sts. Mon-Sat, 6:30am-10:30pm. Popular with the lunch-time crowd. Breakfast served anytime. Bheer served.
 17. BIG E'S RESTAURANT Corner of 4th and Broad Sts. Mon-Sat, 6am-4pm.
 18. GREYHOUND STATION CAFETERIA Next door to hotel, Chestnut St.
- The following stores have lunch counters. Generally, they're open Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm:
19. WOOLWORTH'S Market St, between 7th & 8th St.
 20. KRESS'S Market betwen 8th & 9th St.

RESTAURANTS--RED BANK

To get to Red Bank, get on I-124 at W. 9th St. as marked on the map (avoid the 4th St. entrance; it's a blind entrance with no acceleration ramp!). Cross the river and get off at the exit marked "US 27--Dayton Blvd." (4th exit). [If you come to the end of the freeway, you've gone too far. Make a U-turn after coming off the ramp and turn left at the first light.]

WAFFLE HOUSE Corner of Dayton Blvd and Signal Mtn Rd. (1st light after the freeway). 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week.

LONG JOHN SILVER'S SEAFOOD SHOPPE Signal Mtn Rd, immediately after left turn from Dayton Blvd. Sun-Thur, 11am-10pm, Fri,Sat 11am-11pm.

WENDY'S Dayton Blvd, .2 mile past Signal Mtn Rd intersection. They say their hours vary, but generally Sun-Thurs, 10:30 am-10pm; Fri&Sat, 10:30am-1am. Drive thru window. Excellent chili. Recommended.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PIZZA Dayton Blvd, Make an IMMEDIATE left turn at the foot of the freeway ramp. Mon-Thurs, 11am-10pm; Fri&Sat, 11am-midnight; Sun, 11am-11pm. They deliver after 5pm; call 875-6907. Recommended.

CLASSIER RESTAURANTS

21. TOWN AND COUNTRY RESTAURANT North end of Market St Bridge. Steaks and salad bar. Mon-Fri, 11am-11pm; Sat, 5pm-11pm. Be prepared to wait a while Fri and Sat nights.
22. CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO Market St. at 14th St. Mon-Fri, 11:30am-4pm and 5-10pm; Sat, 11:30am-10pm; Sun, 12noon-9pm. One of the area's tourist attractions, the Choo-Choo is the old Southern Railroad station. The Hilton Inn there uses renovated Pullman cars for suites and sleeping rooms.
23. THE BRASS REGISTER Georgia Ave on Fountain Square, downtown. Mon-Sat, 11am-1am; Sun, 11am-9pm.
24. FEHN'S Frazier Ave, N. Chattanooga. Turn right at foot of Market St Bridge, go .3 mile. Tue-Thurs, 4pm-9:45pm; Fri&Sat 4pm-10:30pm. Less expensive than above, but still pretty good.

MICHAEL'S COW PALACE Brainerd Rd, Brainerd. Take I-124 south to I-24 east, go over Missionary Ridge to the Germantown Rd exit, turn left at the foot of ramp, turn left at 2nd light (Brainerd Rd), go 2 blocks. Daily, 5pm-midnight. In my opinion, the best steaks in town. Homemade bread.

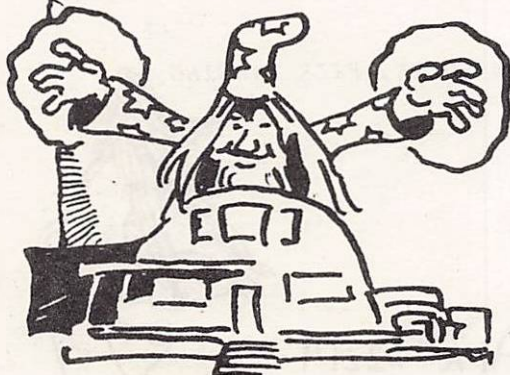
DRUGSTORES

25. ECKERD DRUGS Market St between 7th & 8th St. Mon-Fri, 8:30-5:30pm; Sat, 8:30am-5pm. Lunch Counter.
26. ZAYRE'S PHARMACY Zayre's, Golden Gateway Shopping Center, W. 9th St. Mon-Sat, 10am-10pm; Sun 1-6pm. Lunch Counter.

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Fan Guest of Honor:

Shelby Bush III

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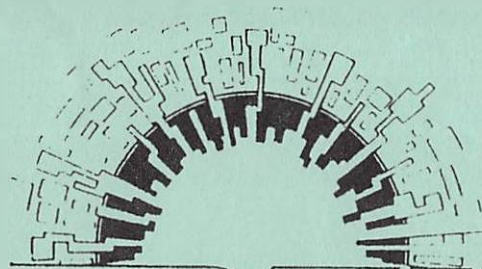
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