

EUREKA!

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EUREKA!

VOL 1. NO. 3

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NOTE: any unsigned articles and misspellings are by editor

EUREKA! is a fanzine devoted to DOCTOR WHO. Since the Doctor doesn't keep a schedule, neither will this fanzine...it will come out when it comes out. EUREKA! is available by editor's whim or the usual (a letter of comment or a zine in trade) or a self-addressed, stamped (business-size, please, I can't stuff this zine in a little personal-size one) envelope for as long as EUREKA! is light enough for one stamp (first class), no subscriptions. Contributions are gratefully accepted, but not necessarily used. I am looking for original articles and illos on any aspect of DOCTOR WHO. No poetry (other than limerics) or fan fiction, please. I am also looking for reviews of WHDcons, products, books, etc. Articles longer than one page single spaced (or two pages double spaced) or hand-written will NOT be considered unless prior arrangements have been made with the editor.

O.P. # 237

C August 1985

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First, the good news...Chattanooga will be starting a **DOCTOR WHO** club in September. The first meeting of the **FRIENDS OF DOCTOR WHO** will meet on September 19 (that's a Thursday) at the Eastgate Branch Library's Community Room at 6:30 PM. Co-founder Debbie Grisham plans to have a **DOCTOR WHO** round robin to break the ice. A survey will probably also be circulated to get an idea of what people are interested in and who might be able to put programs together.

Now the bad news...PBS stations are in trouble.

Quoting from the Georgia Public Television **Fine Tuning** (Sept. 1985): "...On July 19, 1985, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down a Federal Communications Commission rule as unconstitutional under the First Amendment. The decision had to do with what is called the "must-carry rules" for cable television system operators, which basically stated that cable systems were required to carry any television broadcast signal that was defined by the FCC as "local" or "significantly viewed". This "must-carry rule" had been in force for some fifteen years before its constitutionality was questioned.

"The July 19th court decision means that cable system operators are now free to carry or not to carry, as they choose, any broadcast signals.

"We ask that you do your part by writing your cable system to encourage it **not to drop its carriage of the GPTV signal**. And, of course, an avenue open to each citizen is to write your elected U.S. representatives, as well as the FCC (William J. Tricarico, Secretary, FCC, 1919 M street NW, Washington, D.C. 20554). We also ask that you inform us of the response you receive from your cable system. And certainly **let us know if your cable system has already stopped carrying the GPTV signal.**" (Emphasis is theirs.)

The local cable system (Telescripps) has already announced it will drop GPTV, among others, as soon as the court decision is final. Without Chatsworth CH 18, Chattanooga will be without **DOCTOR WHO** (and the newly begun **TRIPODS**) as the local PBS CH 45 is not interested in science fiction. The local station is poorer in terms of programming variety, than GPTV, and it would be a shame to lose this station.

Surely this is not the only PBS station which will be lost from our homes. I urge you to call your cable company to check on what they will and will not be carrying in the future.

Please write to the above addresses and help out PBS.

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS IN WHODOM

by Nicki Lynch

I attended a little over 24 hours of Dixie-Trek 5 at the Northlake Hilton in Atlanta, GA, over the May 17-19, 1985 weekend, but it was a terrific day. I got in from Chattanooga midmorning and had to park my car in the small circle in front of the hotel, as the parking lot was full. No matter, I'd find a better spot later.

Dixie-Trek 5 was the first media type con I'd attended. My previous involvement was in regular science fiction fandom, such as regionals and WorldCons. When I saw Jon Pertwee and Terry Nation were going to be guests, as a long time DOCTOR WHO fan, I HAD to attend!

After finding my friends from Knoxville, with whom I would be crashing, and signing up at the door, I took in the convention.

Terry Nation and Jon Pertwee would be talking later in the afternoon, so I decided to check out the huckster room while waiting. The tables were laden with all sorts of merchandize with, roughly, a fourth STAR TREK (as expected), a fourth DOCTOR WHO (also as expected), a fourth V (not very expected) and a fourth various other TV shows, movies and cartoon characters (but, alas, no DANGERMUSE or BLAKE SEVEN).

One table held art by one of the guests of the convention, and long time friend, Doug Chaffee. While I was talking with Doug, an older man walked up to the table. At first I thought he was James Doohan (Dixie-Trek is run by the local STAR TREK club, after all), but it turned out to be Terry Nation and Doug introduced us. It was a thrill talking to Terry without the crowds around and it turned out to be one of the few times he didn't have a crowd of fans with him.

Also in the huckster room, I caught my first glimpse of Jon Pertwee, who was signing autographs at one of the tables.

Later I attended the talks by Terry Nation and Jon Pertwee. Terry was a quiet speaker who took questions from the audience. Jon, on the other hand, was very dynamic and took us all by the hand as soon as he walked in the room. He began by giving a short biographical background, then answered a few questions. It was a few because the answers usually lead into a story. As it always is with fascinating people, the hour with Jon was far, far too short. At the end of the hour he began to sign autographs. I got in line and managed to be the next to last person who got an autograph when the line was cut off due to time.

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The rest of the day was spent with friends, wandering around, collecting gossip and waiting for the costume contest.

The costume contest was held in the largest room, yet it was so packed there was barely enough room for the participants to squeeze in. The contest was about what I expected - most people dressed up as characters from either **DOCTOR WHO** or **STAR TREK**. The two most inventive costumers I saw (and I also happen to know them) were two fellows from Knoxville dressed in Star Fleet uniforms. They had separate acts (although the Atlanta 'underground' newspaper, **CREATIVE LOAFING**, said they were a duet) that had the crowd on their feet. The first fellow sang his hit song, "Beam Me Up Before You Go Go" and the second did a screamingly funny scene from **STAR TREK IV** - Captain Kirk before the courtmarshal board. I wasn't surprised when I later heard that they had been co-winners of first place. They deserved it.

Sunday was very quiet, as many of the out of town people has left for home, but there were still enough people for the talks given by the guests. The guests also included Maje! Barnett, Angelique Pettyjohn, Al Zequeira, Ann Crispin, David Anthony Kraft, T.E.D. Klein and Richard Meyers. Again, Jon Pertwee's talk was heavily attended and very much enjoyed.

The official count of the membership attending **Dixie-Trek 5** was over 1,000 fans. I heard from a source that the committee expected about 450, based on past attendance. I guess they didn't realize how large **WHO** fandom has grown in just this past year in the Atlanta area. Despite the large unexpected number of fans, but committee did a very good job of keeping order and keeping things moving. The destructive kids who have been plaguing Southern fandom for the last few years were not in evidence and the people attending were very well behaved and easy to talk with, whether you knew them or not.

I understand that the committee is looking for a larger hotel to hold **Dixie-Trek 6** in next year. I hope that a larger hotel is the only major change they make, because they did a very good job with **Dixie-Trek 5**. Coming from a more main stream science fiction convention background, I missed the usual con suite where fans and authors can meet informally. Fortunately, **Dixie-Trek 5** provided fans with enough access to the guests that I didn't miss it too much, only when the soda machines ran out.

Dixie-Trek 5 was a very pleasant **STAR TREK/DOCTOR WHO** convention. I'm looking forward to **Dixie-Trek 6** next year.

** For information on **Dixie-Trek 6**, send an SASE to ASTS, c/o Owen Ogletree, Jr., 454 Huff St Apt. 9, Lawrenceville, GA 30245. I assume it will be about the same time as last year's.

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KEYS TO TIME - THE MAIL BAG

Well, I didn't receive any letters from clubs that were interested in informing us about themselves. So, this column will make due with letters this time. See **SEGMENTS OF TIME** for news about a Chattanooga club that is starting. All my comments are in double parentheses with a star.

Deb Hammer-Johnson
P.O. Box 1402
Knoxville, TN 37901

I was shocked to hear that **DR.WHO** was being cancelled, even though the demise of new episodes in Britian seems removed from the loop continuum of endless Tom Baker episodes that the local ((*Knoxville*)) station shows. Wotthehell! We love'em and watch'em time and time again. I heard from mike weber that they were cancelling the show (or threatening to cancel it) as a ploy to get more funds from BBC after the anticipated deluge of fans writing to protest the demise of the show. Let's hope this is true because, for me, the fascination of the total **DR. WHO** cosmos is the fact that it remains the same yet changes from season to season. If I can't watch the new Docots, then I can read about them enjoy the series thinking of further incarnations down the line.

I also enjoyed your bit about having the zine title confused with a vaccuum cleaner company. Ben ((*her son*)) pretends that our vaccuum cleaner is a Dalek and that the kitchen table is the Tardis when he plays **DR. WHO** and the image makes me chuckle.

The intersection of **RHPS** and **DR. WHO** is interesting. The next time I watch **RHPS**, I'll bear the comparisons in mind and see if I can fit the pieces of the fannish puzzle together. A recent movie that I enjoyed, **BUCKAROO BONZAI**, is another movie that could be spliced with fandom. For some reason, it really appeals to me and I won't rest until I have it on videotape.

((* You should have a copy of **THE ADVENTURES OF BUCKAROO BANZAI IN THE EIGHTH DIMENSION** by now; it's out on video tape and it has been on cable. It is a fun movie. And, if you've been to any recent convention, you'll notice fandom has taken BB into its heart, right down to the headbands and fanclub!

Read on for a bit about how the Doctor and **THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW** have been combined. **RHPS** is not as prevalent in fandom as it once was, but it is far from gone! *))

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Steve Cobert
970-R 61st St.
Tulsa, OK 74136

Loved your second ish of EUREKA!, though I wish the circumstances in the Whoniverse were better. I've done my part; I hope it makes a difference.

I have passed your address on to Betzi Vortko, the BOSS of ROCKY HORROR SHOP TALK; she will not doubt get in touch with you. I'll include her address at the end of this letter. ... On April 20, at the Oriental Theatre in Milwaukee, the local Rocky group (who usually call themselves The Celluloid Jam) presented *The Rock 'N' Who Revue*. The performers acted the Show, as usual - but their costumes were of cult characters NOT features in ROCKY HORROR! That included Doctor #3 (Pertwee) in the role of Brad and Doctor #4 (T.Baker) as RIFF-RAFF! Can you do it!? And imagine this: Cyndi Lauper as Columbia, Doctor Detroit as Dr. Scott, Boy George as Janet, Divine as Meatloaf, etc. I wish I'd been there.

ROCKY HORROR SHOP TALK
c/o Betzi Vortko, BOSS
P.O. Box 4711
Racine, WI 53404

- note: subscriptions are \$14 and 12 SASEs a year or \$7 and 6 SASEs for six months.

((* Well, Steve, I hope your move from Knoxville to Tulsa went well. There are a lot of good people who live in Tulsa.

Thanks for the info on the ROCKY HORROR group. I wish I could have seen that show as well. Maybe it will inspire some creative work. I've seen stories that combine DOCTOR WHO with a lot of other fan-ish favorites.**))

Debbie Grisham
411 Rosa St.
Rossville, GA 30741

I pulled EUREKA! out of the mailbox on the way to the car. What a depressing way to start a trip. The Doctor's possible cancellation had slipped my mind, and the zine brought it back.

(Dry food is something campers sometimes carry with them, especially backpackers. "Yurika", (that company's spelling) is an Amway type set up.)

Previously a local 'Tardis' was appealing because of companionship, like minds and such. Now it's more business than pleasure. A fan club would likely do better with the Save the

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Doctor campaign than an individual). At least one person would be enthusiastic of the others began to slaken letter writing.

((* As you know, even though the BBC says that the Doctor isn't cancelled, that doesn't mean it won't be cancelled. Now it seems PBS is in trouble as well. Will it never end?*))

People who get bored with the Doctor after 4 episodes are using him as a pasttime. They aren't actually "fans" in the true sense of the word (fanatic). As a rule, the fanatics see something different each time a show is seen: they study the alternate universe it presents.

Are you familiar with the theory everything exists somewhere? Somewhere-other Jim Hawkins is headed for Treasure Island, Alice is swimming in a pool of tears and the Doctor (all of him) is saving planets. God may have created the one universe and stopped, but I see no reason for Him to have limited Himself. And men once though Earth was the Hub of the Universe.

((* I am familiar with the alternate universes theory. If only there was a way to get to the alternative universes! *))

Why on earth did that man put down a club was planning to form on a flier which said the show could be cancelled? When the club wasn't going to form if it was cancelled? 18 months is a long time to put organizing on hold. And you innocently asked him about the flier. You have a devious mind. I must remember that. What happens if a club does form, and he and his expert friends show up and are enlightened about EUREKA!?

((* Your guess as to the WHY is as good as mine. I'm not worried; some people can never be enlightened. Maybe they can also take a joke!*))

Star Tech had something important to say about the letter campaign: it must continue. 1500 letter per month at first and 2 the last month would indicate (to them) a loss of interest in the Doctor. (Actually, there'd better be more than 1500, but that's one of my favorite numbers, so I used it.)

((*Who received the letters, Star Tech or BBC? How does Star Tech know how many letters were received? Why would a slowing down of letters indicate anything...I would think quantity would count for something. Sure, continue to write letters, but won't worry about how many BBC receives or doesn't receive. They make tons of money from the licensing of DOCTOR WHO and money always speaks louder than letters.

It seems as if the local showing of DOCTOR WHO is now in trouble, if the "must-carry rule" is struck down for good in the courts. See SEGMENTS OF TIME for more details.))

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Betsy Jacobs
6829 Mitchell Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63139

Thank you very much for the first issue of EUREKA!

The only thing I understand about EUREKA! for certain is that I like it. As to its purpose, I'm not sure if what you have here is a DOCTOR WHO zine on the professional side of DOCTOR WHO or a non-fiction zine on the aspects of the resulting fandom. Or is it a letterzine? It's certainly not one's usual newsletter.

Will you be concentrating on the factual aspects of the show itself in the non-fiction sense of the word to the exclusion of zines altogether, or will you be taking a non-fiction approach to them as well? Reviews of DW fan fiction do appear in other zines and newsletters, but I've yet to see any articles about fan fiction in general (Like whatever current trends might be, who they reflect or do not reflect fan attitudes and responses to the show, in effect, a study of a literary style--such as it is). I think you may have seen how STAR TREK zines were handles in this way in the book STAR TREK LIVES. Perhaps the same can be down for DW.

((*I'm glad you like EUREKA!; maybe I can unconfuse you (or maybe really confuse you!). I hope it won't be a letterzine, but unless I can get people to write articles, it'll be that for a while. I have neither the wherewithall or the time to do articles, other than the odd review or news. The trick is to get others to write articles, on anything. I've never cared for zines which talked about other zines; I've never cared to "review" other zines or their contents. It's a great way to start trouble. I'm looking for articles, any articles. I don't see EUREKA! as a newsletter; I've done a newsletter. I've had little to do with STAR TREK fanzines (although I have the book you mention along with some of the BEST OF TREK series), my experience is from general science fiction fanzines and amateur press publications. The only direction I'm looking for is onward. I'm looking for articles on any aspect of DOCTOR WHO and it's like pulling teeth, let me tell you.))

I like your idea of having a column devoted to clubs and organizations. Will you be doing the same for conventions? That is, instead of as report on whatever happened at the last gathering, maybe a history of each convention in general, like what makes CREATION different from PANOPTICON WEST? What happens every year at TIME CON that makes it unique from other conventions, or is it unique at all?

EUREKA! made me do some thinking...

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((*Those are great ideas, but I need someone to do the writing. I've never attended any of the conventions you've mention (although I would have liked to). There are very few STAR TREK/DOCTOR WHO cons in this area. I haven't been to many cons farther than 100 miles in quite a while (I've been working on finishing a degree, which I finally did in June.) Now I have no idea what any job I may get (I'm looking) will require. I'd be glad for a con committee submit it's history or for someone to write one or do the comparisons and contrasts you suggest, but I can't. Someone else will have to and that's the person(s) I'm looking for.

Hope you keep enjoying EUREKA! and if you know anyone (or yourself) who is interested in writing an article, let me know!*))

Another zine comes to an end. Thanks go out to Dorothy Tompkins and the Dr. Who Fan Club of Knoxville, the good folks in Terminus Tardis, St. Louis CIA, Atlanta Star Trek Society, Debbie Grisham, Dick Lynch and anyone else I may have missed.

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How about a TRADE CONTRIBUTION ?