

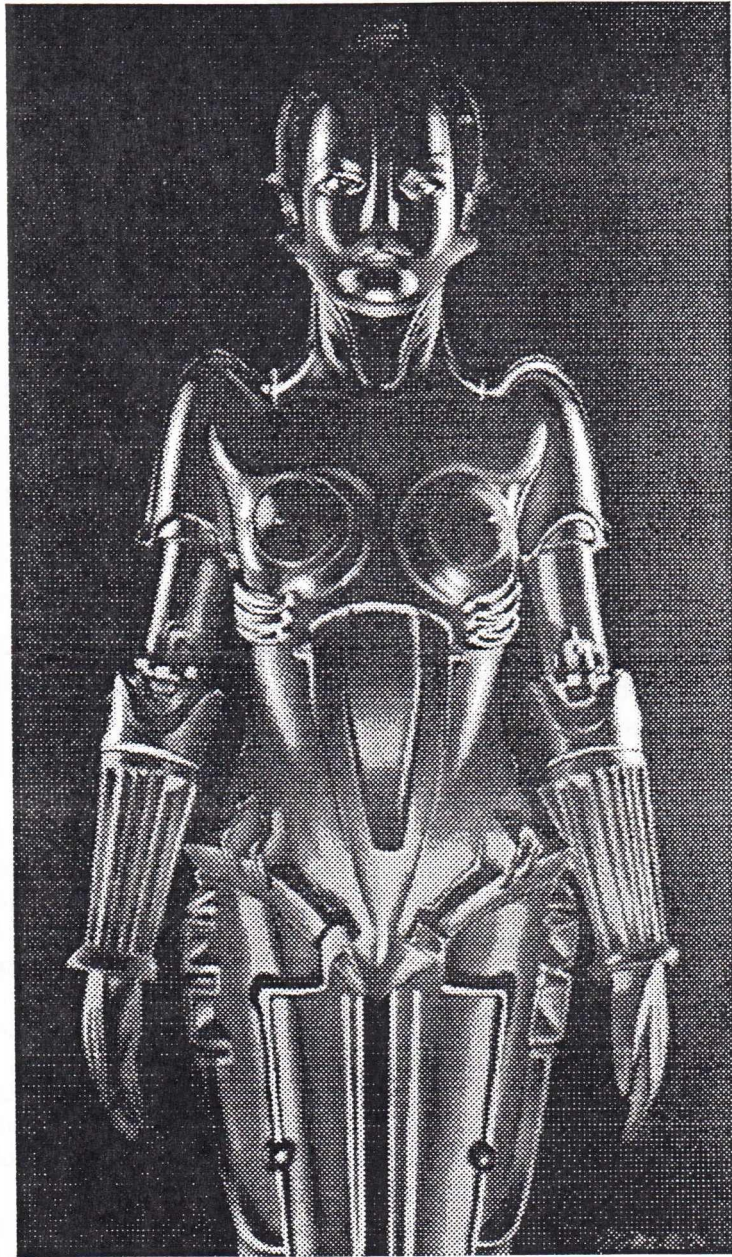


ASFS *future Times*

-OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR
THE ATLANTA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY-

Volume 1, Issue 5

July, 1998



ASFS FUTURE TIMES:

A.K.A. ASFSited: The 'Zine that Leaves You Breathless

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The ASFS Future Times is the official publication of The Atlanta Science Fiction Society, a gathering of aficionados of the Science Fiction and Fantasy genres (in all media). ASFS meets the first Sunday of every month at 2:00 p.m. Meetings consist of a formal business meeting, followed by a program item (guest speakers, videos, group discussion, etc.), each lasting approximately one hour. ASFS produces a club newsletter, containing local items of interest, reviews, artwork and news of upcoming events. Other activities include dinners, film premieres, and attending area conventions. Dues are \$12.00 per year, to cover the cost of the newsletter, programs and activities. *The ASFS Future Times* is published monthly. Subscriptions are \$12 annual/\$1 per issue or trade.

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To submit to the *ASFS Future Times*, please e-mail valhalla@dscga.com with article/art or send a 3.5" disk formatted for Windows (all text oriented files can be read).

For more information, send e-mail to asfsl@juno.com, or write to ASFS, P.O. Box 98308, Atlanta, GA 30359-2008.

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MEETING MINUTES

BY MISS JAYNE

June 1998

On the 7th of June 1998, the monthly meeting of the ASFS took place at the Buckhead branch of the Fulton County Library. A word of thanks goes to Anne Brunsgaard for securing the new, and spacious, meeting site. Before the formal meeting began, Regina Kirby set up a table with snacks and drinks for those in attendance. Ken Poskey arranged the newly produced club T-shirts on a table near the entrance for everyone's perusal.

Chair Ian Letendre called the formal meeting to order at 2:26 p.m.. In attendance were 12 officers, members and others. Three new attendees were present, and brief introductions were made.

In Old Business, Ken stated that club T-shirts were now available in sizes M through 2XL. Members may purchase shirts for \$4.00; no price has been set of non-members. Mention was made of BarbequeCon, and intentions for another event in 1999 were stated. Acting secretary Lewis Murphy made the treasury report.

In New Business, the deadline and submission guidelines were given for the newsletter. 'Zines received in exchange for our newsletter will be made available to the

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(Continued from page 2)

membership at the formal meetings, using a library system format.

Copies of the proposed club bylaws were made available. Voting on the bylaws is to take place at the August meeting, and members are encouraged to bring any desired changes then.

The July meeting will take place on Saturday, July 4th at the home of Vice-Chair Regina Kirby. The meeting will include a potluck dinner/cookout.

Upcoming conventions were discussed. Former Chair Randy Cleary and Regina Kirby will be attending Deep South Con, and will promote the ASFS there through various publications and word-of-mouth. A motion was made, and carried, to purchase chocolate snacks for the Buccaneer/WorldCon staff, with the ASFS's compliments. Regina Kirby, who will be attending WorldCon, will handle the chocolates. Flyers and sample newsletters will also be distributed at WorldCon. It was decided a breakfast social would be hosted by ASFS at Dragon*Con on Saturday morning. Regina Kirby offered to obtain food for the event. Lewis Murphy reported meeting with Ed Kramer, who assured him that the club would have programming space at Dragon*Con for the September meeting.

Anne Brungaard volunteered to handle club meeting programming. The nomination passed unanimously. Already scheduled for the August meeting programming is SF Pictionary, with B5 prizes awarded to the winner(s).

In other business, Michael Liebmann made attendees aware of the new Dragon*Con Christmas ornaments available for \$6.00. Aaron Dunne informed the membership that Monarch Computers will donate systems to be used at Dragon*Con, which would be offered for sale after the con at substantial discount. Regina Kirby proposed a group viewing of the *X-Files* movie to take place on the Saturday afternoon following the film's release. Aaron Dunne reported on the recent Vulkan convention. He stated that Joe Motes, the con organizer, was soliciting advice from fans on how to improve Vulkons. Numerous suggestions were made for Aaron to take back to Mr. Motes. Lewis Murphy mentioned that the club received several e-mails asking if the ASFS had a writing critique group. Several in attendance were interested in forming one, and a sign-up sheet was provided.

Ian had to leave the meeting due to a domestic medical emergency; Regina presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Bill Bevil offered to make a vinyl banner for the club, using the logo and font, to be used at meetings and conventions.

Regina adjourned the meeting. Attendees mingled at the library for a few minutes, several then went to Fado's for food and drink.

MY CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE BY IAN LETENDRE

Greetings reader! Welcome to another *fabu* issue of the SF club 'zine in Atlanta. Much going on here with the club. I am proud to say that we had our first official meeting at our new location. Big kudos go out to Anne Brungaard. Not only did she secure our new spot, but she then turned around and applied for Programming Coordinator. Bravo Anne! But hey, all fannish eyes are on you now to provide us with long lasting hours of memorable entertainment. Bring on the dancing girls!! Yahoo!!

Things are looking up more and more for our small little entourage of goonies, geeks and wackos. A small group of us viewed the *X-Files* movie together. I am going to save any review of the movie for Anita Benecke's column. I pretty much share the same opinion, so I don't want to be repetitive here.

It was a nice outing though. If you missed it, please join us for our next excursion as we attempt to be sociable with one another. Our small group consisted of Miss Jayne, Lewis Murphy, Regina Kirby and her hubby, the lovely Anita Benecke (ok, I'm biased) and myself. Non-ASFS member, but a fellow SF nerd none the less. Scott Lembke joined us as well. We gotta recruit this guy. Extensive video library and a warm personality should more than include him to our ranks.

After viewing the movie, our group (sans Scott) ate dinner at Chris's Pizza House. If you like Greek and Italian, check this place out for sure. The six of us made small talk over dinner. We talked of fandom in general and things we wanted to see happen with the club. Meeting new fans and making new friends was the basic design of our conversations. I think we all had a good time.

To move to other areas, the group is trying to make our presence known more within Atlanta. An ad in *Creative Loafing* should appear within the next few weeks. More and more Comic & Gaming stores are putting our flyers out. The most important thing we are doing is trying to show our support for fan run conventions.

Regina has attended two cons now for the group (and herself). She reported that a good time was had at Deep South Con in Birmingham. Regina will also be attending WorldCon and the club will provide some chocolates for the con. Lucky them. Anyone wanna supply chocolates to the Letendre Chocolate Fundraiser?

As a group, we have decided to host a breakfast party at Dragon Con. Details will follow on this in the next issue and our July 4th meeting. We will also be holding our September meeting at Dragon Con due to the dates. Time will be the same, but location will differ.

I think I have covered everything for now. Much to be done. Remember, tell your fellow geeks that they have sanctuary with us. Until next month...

Upcoming Regional Conventions

July

July 10-12. Conjuraction 2; Days Inn, Columbia, MO. GoH-Lawrence Watt-Evans, Nene Thomas, Bear Reed, Keith Berdak. Memberships \$25 ATD. Info: Box 874, Columbia, MO 65205-0874; conjure@gte.net

July 17-19. CastleCon 11; Holiday Inn Holidayome & Convention Center, Frederick, MD. GoH- YOU! Memberships: \$30 ATD. Info: EveCon HQ, 1607 Thomas Rd., Friendly, MD 20744; bruce@fantek.com; web: tiac.net/users/fantek/ccon/

July 24-26. ConGames 98; Camberly Plaza Hotel. (Gaming) Info: web: home.att.net/~kasumi.tendo

July 24-26. Temporal Disturbance; Jefferson Civic Center/Sheraton Hotel, Birmingham, AL. GoH- Lee Shackelford, Marcus Lusk, David Duncan and more. Memberships: \$25 til 6/10, \$30 ATD, \$15/day. Info: Box 59059, Birmingham, AL 35259-9059; tempdist@geocities.com; web: www.geocities.com/area51/chamber/4780

July 31-August 2- RiverCon 23; Executive West Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky. GoH-Harry Turtle-dove, Hal Clement, Kevin Ward, Julie Johnson-Tate & Chris Tate, plus many more! Memberships: \$25 until July 15, \$35 ATD. Info: PO Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009; River-ConSF@aol.com; web: members.aol.com/raroehm/member.html

July 31-August 2 - Florida Con-Quest ; Ft. Myers, FL. Gaming convention; available info: angelfire.com/fl/FloridaConQuest/index9.html

August

August 5-9. Bucconeer/56th WorldCon; Conven-

tion Center, Baltimore, MD. GoH: C.J. Cherryh, Milton A. Rothman, Stanley Schmidt, Michael Whelan, Charles Sheffield, J. Michael Straczynski. Memberships: \$165 ATD, \$30 Supporting. Info: Box 314, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701; 410/JOE-BSFS;bucconeer@pineline.com; baltimore98@access.digex.net; Web- www.bucconeer.worldcon.org

August 29-30. Vulkan Orlando; Orlando, FL. (Media) GoH- Robert Beltran. Memberships: \$20/day. Info: 12237 SW 50th Street, Cooper City, FL 33330-5406; 954/434-6060; joemotes@aol.com

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

To date, these are the publications received for the month of June. All fanzines are available to ASFS members in a library style format. In order to obtain any official copies of these publications, you must be paid member in full. Members may sign out fanzines at monthly meetings for one month (until the next meeting). See Jayne Rogers or Lewis Murphy for sign-out sheet and fanzines.

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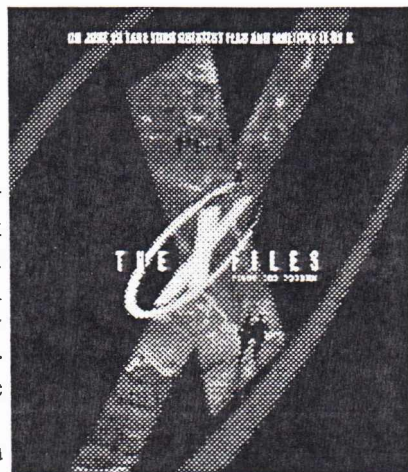
Movie Review: The X-Files



by Anita Benecke

To begin, I do watch the X-Files and have been an avid viewer and fan since the first episode. I recommend seeing this movie at a matinee. Though it may not have been a cinematic masterpiece, I've seen far worse.

Now here's a simple recipe to make a movie from a television show, one only Malcom McLaren. Do note this recipe; many directors already have and I'm sure, unfortunately, many will in the future.



Ingredients: lots of money, a television show with the Midas' Touch, rehashed show script, mediocre special effects, & insatiable greed, and last but not least a cult following to sucker into your greed machine:

1. Get your television script. Be sure to pick out a show script that has already been aired so not to waste any potential upcoming shows.
2. Tweak your television script here and there, especially the ending, so it isn't a blatant rip-off. This will save on writer's fees as well.
2. Insert "big badabooms" in key areas, but not too many. Too many special effects skyrocket your costs. Make sure every explosion is highly predictable so that parents know well in advance when to cover their children's ears.
3. Make sure there are enough plot holes to make fans need to watch the television show next season to fill them in. I do not mean cliff-hangers but huge plot holes.
4. Hype it up. Use clever trailers to get people interested. Milk that chocolate cow so you can earn excellent profits.
5. Make sure the movie theaters that air your movie have insurance. This is in case one of the movie-goers injures themselves while bumping around in the dark, looking for their remote, so they can change the station.
6. When touting what the critics say, be sure to use only ones

employed by your television network or affiliates. They know where their paycheck comes from.

Here's a one word summation of the X-Files movie:
predictable

COOL WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Every month we feature one to two websites that we find that are just too cool not to share with fellow SF fans. If you have a site that you know of that you want to share with other club members, please e-mail them on in and the editorial staff will check them out. Not all sites need to relate to SF directly, but must relate to fandom in some form (no porn sites please).

Sci-Fi Dominion - <http://www.scifi.com/index.html>

Okay, so maybe the Sci Fi Channel doesn't air the greatest programming ever. However, their website is pack full of all sorts of groovy info fans need. Book gossip, movie tid bits, behind the scenes B.S., NASA stuff you name it. This is a good starting point to get started with fandom on the net.

Ewok Safari - <http://bobafett.metrolink.net.au/ewok/>

For Star Wars fans everywhere who despised the furry little things. I happen to be a fan who enjoyed the Ewoks, but oh well. This site has multiple ways for you, the browser, to do away with those "pesky varminits". Choose a light-saber, blaster, or a star destroyer to perish the Moon of Endor of those cute little yub-yubbers.



The Bujold Nexus - <http://www.herald.co.uk/~dendarii/webring.html>

While this is not necessarily one web site, this webring gives you tons of info on the award winning author. I for one am a big fan of her work, and thought it was about time to feature more literary info for our cool websites. Learn about the personal side of Bujold as well as the more fantastic side of her work. There is listings for mailing lists, fan clubs, an online dictionary to the universe of Miles Vorkosigan and plenty of book reviews.