

MAYBE #50

also known as the ChattaCon 3, post-con publication

* Cover? Who needs
* a cover....
*
*
* :.....

NORTH-MAN

(for Robert E. Howard, 1906-1936)

You stand against the savage throng,
Hewing arms to stumps,
Cutting limbs in clumps,
And chant the battle-song.

But as they rise and overrun,
You retreat alive,
Eager to survive
The very slaughter you've begun.

A fierce Cimmerian,
You can sell your blade
Somewhere else in trade
For gold or girls that ease a man.
-0o0-

HAVEN

The abyss yawns and gapes,
Inside the blurry shapes
Of demons writhe and roll
And dance, upon your soul.

Beyond the inky space
Of Hell, there looms a place
Of ice-white stars, and blue,
For you to stagger to.
-0o0-

GREEN BRIDE

Green Knight arrives at the gate,
Up slips the wrought-iron grate,
Draw-bridge is down,
Inside the Princess will wait
In her green gown.

Green Knight dismounting inside,
Princess will soon be his bride
In her green lace,
Covering her since she died:
Wedding-veil on her bone face.
-0o0-

The above three poems arrived
out of the murky black sky (a clear
blue one would never do for such as
these) from Steve Eng, po box 60072,
Nashville, TN 37206. He has about $\frac{1}{4}$
page on him in INTERNATIONAL WHOS WHO
IN POETRY and apparently is a pro songwriter.

*where gods are dead and nightmares green

*Where gods are dead and nightmares green,
Queenly ghosts pale do ride.

*Dark skeletal hands whose ghostly motion
across borderless skies show earthern
dancers of the mushroom clan, under trees
that stretch their arms to hold the sky,
where one by one, the trees all die.

*Ghostly pale she rides, surrounded by black
wraiths, none but the living can give release,
so doomed is she that rides. Fair she is
and fair she was, locked forever between
dawn and dusk, a dwindling space of
her race, where she be Queen of Never Was.

*In the riding of the twilight snake, a
violet bird hovers o'er silver lake,
quivering, fluttering, withering his life
eased out by silver stake. Is there none
these spells to break?

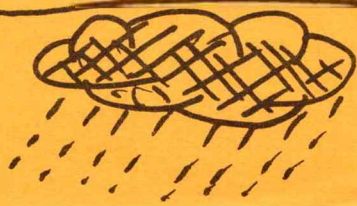
*Gliding through this ageless time, where
never sliver of sun has shined, ever seeking
No One to find, in the shallows of green—
these pits of time, the violet bird each
days break, with silver stake glides to lake
with only a drop his thirst doth slake, and
ever lives on, prisoner of the lake.

*The Black Knight quested through pale Queens
land and sought ever after her pale hand.

*The ever hopeful of the desolate land sought
after that lonely hand.

*Pale Queens know the hearts of Man, ever
did she withhold her hand, ever sought he
of her command. You may find her in the
twilight if you really must try; she's the
flicker in the shadows, caught in the
corner of your eye. Her kindness shrivelled,
she wanders ever untoward, looking her turn
to die. With starved lips she awaits you
there--until she's free to die.
-0o0-

The above quasipoem is by Mary Sewall
Causey, Rt 1 box 228, Bon Aqua, TN 37025.
She haunts fanzines and cons, raises plants,
child, and husband, and usually does much
more cheerful stuff than this.



MAYBE #50

Mid-1978

is the post-con publication of
ChattaCon 3 &/or the fanzine of
Irvin Kooh, c/o 835 Chatt Bank Bldg.,
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402...

Those people having my Atlanta address can use it, esp. for first class mail, with reasonable safety thru Dec30,1978. After then, who knows....404-636-1156.

This thingee is available to all members of ChattaCon 3, a few dozen hardy MAYBEfen, and anyone foolish enough to send me \$1 before I run out of copies. Copies also tend to be sent to strange people for strange reasons. The next issue will come out if and when I ever get around to it so don't expect an answer to LoCs much less publication_of contribs. The cover poets just got lucky(?)

Speaking of them, Steve Eng advises THE ROMANTIST, ed. John C. Moran, is available for \$4.00. 80pp, 8½ x 11, re: F. Marion Crawford and others, articles by Sydney-Fryer, H. Warner Munn(?!). Comes from 3610 Meadowbrook Av, Nashville, TN 37205. The Nashville area seem to be swarming with literarii.

-/-

NOTICE??????

Those of you from ChattaCon 3 will by now have recieved Shelby Bush's CHATTACON 3 PROGRAM BOOK SUPPLIMENT. ChattaCon in 4½ months last year not only grew from a 113attendance semirelaxicon with no ProgramBook, no pros, and no format to a 321attendance fullscale?con with all the above. In the process of becoming the largest con in the state and a fairly good size con for any region, and doing a 180 degree turnaround in general policy to boot, there were some strains. Most of these did not even get seen by the majority of the concommittee. They were fixed as they happened and I won't bore you with stories of missing TVs, vanishing MCs, an overwhelming flood of new--TOTALLY NEW--fans, and other such.

One problem was I will have to take the greatest blame for, not my extra cheap printer—who disapproved of my emergency shortcuts as much as Shelby did and with a little more time and money would have done a much better job. Unfortunately there was NO more time at that time and I was paying on credit and prayers. When the material got to me, production lead times not favoring artists, there was just enough leeway to patch abominably as I did (NO, you DON'T want me to do your layout—you want Shelby). I picked the finished copies up litterally hot off the presses and continued up to Chattanooga with no further stops, well aware I was going to catch hell. I did. I accept it. I'm sorry. — o o o —

RESULTS OF SURVEY WHICH DOES NOT BEAR TYPING ON OUTSIDE COVER (curse Mike's 4pp when I only had room for 2): 36 responses incl. many hoax or nonserious ones.

1. Age now: 13-15, 6; 17-19, 7; 21-22, 6; 24-25, 7; 26-28, 5; 40, 1; hoax, 4.

The youngest tended to turn in blank puzzled forms. The 40yr old missed the warning and answered NYOB after prelim. questions were passed.

2. Age started reading sf: 7-12. That is, grammar school—no later.

3. Sex: M-23, F-8, Hoax-1. The femfen tended to be in mid 20s. Hoax: 4, worse hoax.

4. There was one switch in next question, one of each that was bi, and one each neutral. A neutral = basicly celebrate or nonparticipant/interested.

5. Age activity began: not yet, 13; 8, 1; 13, 2; 15-16, 5; 17-19, 4; 20-25, 5; hoax, 6.

The M started younger the younger they were if they started at all. The F tended all to start 15-16 (see question 1 to compare). The oldest "never" not to depressed to answer was 24. ((The tabulator did not fill in a form.))

6. Avg frequency: if answered averaged 3/wk with normal distribution curve.

7. Activity usual : 95% normal, 5% most widespread other. 8 Preferred: ditto plus 25% into variety on occasion.

9. How to balance ratio: The F's liked the ratio. There was no other clump of opinions. (Except "impossible"). There were negligable good ideas. The trend however is accelerating to balance anyway. Appealing to F interests was a possibility.

10. Comments: none useful. (*sigh*).

11. Method of finding partners: 50% blind luck in one form or another, in fact make that 85% for M, 15% just by being alive and attractive. For F, reverse those.

12. Method activity initiated: 95% of the answers non-hoax translated as "gradual escalation starting with hand holding". This question was strangely successful!!!

14/15. Likes/dislikes: moderately physicaly attractive & honest, vs the opposite. Cleanliness vs opposite also frequently mentioned. — o o o —

WHAT THEN, FEN?

or, what to do after
the con is over and
there is no club in town....

Well, there is the National Fantasy Fan Federation. It has been to some extent a North American wide version of Southern Fandom Confederation. About your best bet here would be to send \$2 (this price has just been raised) for the "two for deal". This gets one issue of TNFF (THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN) and one issue of TB (TIGHTBEAM). TNFF is packed with info of late. Your \$ goes to Janie Lamb, Rt 1 box 364, Heiskell, TN 37754. If, however, you are paying in non-US funds, do so at current exchange rate and send to Joanne Burger, 55 Bluebonnet Ct, Lake Jackson, TX 77566. Despite the name, N3F is a broad spectrum fan group.

Joanne also does a new-mbr packet for N3F containing a short history of fandom. Two other members, Harry Warner & Sam Moskowitz have done pro or semipro history books of fandom. But the best part of the fandom subculture is it needs no real organizations or history.

To start a fansine, for instance, it only takes rounding up materials and finding some way to reproduce them. Addresses/names of recipients can be picked from those printed in other zines or anyplace else you wish. This of course assumes it's a true fansine; such do not worry about making money or even breaking even. If you want to be an imitation prozine—you may have to consider things besides having fun doing the thing. APAs, of course, guarantee a limited readership.

A club is a little harder. Some program is usually needed to make it hang together. The best bet I've seen is 1/3 socializing/parties, 1/3 book/author/topic discussion—speakers—or other "serious" activity, and 1/3 fund raising incl by dues, food functions, and auctions. The last is used for big projects like renting a film or bringing in a pro speaker.

An important factor in your group (or subgroup if the main one is large enough) is that people get to know each other. If the group is large enough and lasts long enough there will be marriages and other social/subculture happenings.

Cons are MUCH harder. There are such problems I would not advise starting one unless you are prepared to lose a LARGE sum of money and have enough help, organization, and—at least—observations of other con's operations to avoid MUNDANE problems. A one day event or an "open club meeting" is much easier.

Above all, any "life" so to speak, in this subculture depends on one thing. YOU have to be able to go up to a person, in person by letter or phone, and start communication. Your chances of a meaningful and possibly pleasant response are greater since you are both fen.

In fact, what distinguishes an SF fan, from a reader, is that the fan is interested in something else besides reading. Except for incurable sole-interest collectors, some major part of this will be other fans. Usually everyone else "in here" is as crazy as you are. If the first person isn't into what you're looking for, keep trying the next. You may not start talking about arcane oriental fantasy and end up engaged, but you may make a few friends.

Be sure to take down addresses and phone #'s to keep in touch. And, if you do run up on someone unpleasant—ignore them. Fandom is fairly large and dispersed. If you want to keep in touch, an effort is required. A problem person you can avoid.

This article was originally requested by Jacqueline Lichtenberg on "fan customs and fan lingo." Most customs have been skipped as they vary from place to place and time to time. If someone sends specifics, I'll gladly answer questions. But a few pointers may substitute for a book of explanations.

1. Assume NOTHING. Assuming you DON'T know something may stop communication. There may BE nothing to know about whatever strangeness is afoot, no one ELSE may know anything, and above all—you'll never find out if you don't ask. Ask politely and preferably in the split nanosecond between other talkative fen speaking.
2. Keeping eyes and ears open before jumping into something is a very good idea. If you don't see or hear what you are looking for, find someone who knows. Most fen

will have special limited interests and may be as new as you are. There are some trustworthy more or less oldtimers tho that specialize in handing out info. Find'm.

The best place to find these are not the people running a con or club, but their close friends with sense enough not to be doing the work. If by mail—SFC or N3F. 3. Find a conversation (fanzine, etc). When they get to talking about your interest after you've edged in and waited for them to get to it—drop your 2¢ worth. They'll listen since you're on their interest too. After you've talked awhile (don't overdo), THEN introduce yourself. If they never get to "your thing", skip to next group. 4. Sex exists in fandom. The above points apply to it also. The difference between social relationships in fandom and in the mundane world is the fen tend to be more open and may even be rational....

Some Key Terms

BEM, bug eyed monster, a near extinct species of prozine cover fauna.
 BNF, big name fan, with or without sufficient reason. WKF = well known fan, a step less.
 CoA, Change of Address, be sure to send them when you move.
 Crud, material which the labeler thereof believes is undesirable.
 DNP, DNQ, Do Not Print—Do Not Quote (NFP=not for print). If you ignore such injunctions coming with something, the teller/writer won't speak/write to you again.
 Egoboo, ego boost, that which fuels most fan projects.
 Faan, one more interested in fen than sf.
 Fafia, forced away from it all, what happens when one changes jobs, starts school, etc.
 Faunch, to crave something.
 Feghoot, an especially nasty disease manifesting as a $\frac{1}{2}$ page story turned pun.
 Feud, obnoxious dispute between fen. When supporters are asked—isolate both sides!
 FIAWOL, FIJAGH, fandom is a way of life; ...just a godum hobby? Actually between these.
 Filk song, folk song with sf fan words—we kidnap them.
 Dramatic presentations, these days can be plays or slideshows in a similiar manner.
 Gafia, getting away from it all, dropping fandom for voluntary reasons.
 GoH, Guest of Honor. MC=master of ceremonies. Slightly different titles for these two positions have slightly different connotations (e.g., Featured Speaker).
 Huckster, a fan selling stuff. A "dealer" may be in it just for the money.
 LoC, Letter of Comment, response to a zine.
 Neo or neofan, a new fan who ignores pointers 1 and 2 above.
 Robins, a letter to several people where each puts in their response and passes in a circle removing their previous response. Dupletters (multicopies) work better.
 Sci Fi—a rhyme with hi fi used by 12yr old "Famous Monsters" fans and the less literate media members or those they influence. Actually this should rhyme with the peanut butter, skippy, and produce a profound orange in truefan listners.
 sf, ess eff, that which is read by trufen. Produces a "sense of wonder."
 Sercon, serious and constructive, activities wanted by those opposite of faans.
 TAFF, TransAtlanticFanFund, a charity in fandom which alternates between bringing a deserving Eurofan or Anglofan to Northamerica for a con, then from here to there.
 Subfandom, an offshoot or convergent subculture or similiar such as SCA, Trekkfans, Burroughpiles and Friends of Darkover. In order: Society for Creative Anachronism=medievalists, StarTrek fans, E.R.Burroghs fans, MarionZimmerBradley fen. There are also comix fans, movie/video types, and art(sf)subfandoms.
 SMOF, secret master of fandom, either a mythical stuffed shirt or the nonsecret people who do the work and start cons, clubs, zines, etc.
 Smoffing, gathering to chatter on plans and possibilities.
 Snogging, gathering, often by twos, closeley and affectionately.
 Hugo—voted by interested members of World SF con = sf version of Oscar, etc.
 Crogged, astounded, amazed, bemused.
 Propeller beanie, traditional headgear of the mythical fen.
 "Smooooth"—ritual invented by Bob/Willson Tucker involving passing JimBeam bottles.
 Tuckerization—using your friends(?) names as names in pro books/etc.
 The usual—trade, LoC, or similiar show of interest, what trufanzines are avail for.

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CHATTACON 3 QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The questionnaire distributed at Chattacon 3 was the second in what I hope will be a series of questionnaires. I think that this work helps us know what Southern fans are interested in and what they believe.

This questionnaire was a revised version of the survey taken at Chattacon 2. Therefore, some of this year's results will not be comparable to last year's. If the questionnaire is distributed at Chattacon 4, it will be substantially unchanged except for the addition of a few demographic and fanac-related questions.

Before starting the questionnaire, I'd like to mention one interesting response. Someone wrote on their form, "Of course, I don't really know the answers; these are just intuitive." But at least we're asking the questions.

1. What factor(s) made you decide to come to Chattacon 3?
 41 SF &/or fandom; 10 huckstering; 2 comics; 9 Star Trek; 12 other
 More than one response was permitted here. I'm surprised at the low number of answerers mentioning Star Trek. I'm sure there was a greater percentage of Trek fans than that.
 Comments from the "Other" category: "Opportunity to spend time being 'socially acceptable'." "Irvin's threats on my life!" (You didn't really do that, did you Irv? Oh, you did?)
2. Do you believe Western civilization will survive to the year 2000?
 42 Yes; 5 No; 6 Don't know
 The last questionnaire was 3 to 1 "Yes"; here, almost 4 to 1. One person commented, "[I] don't care."
3. a. Do you believe there is intelligent life elsewhere in the universe?
 52 Yes; 0 No; 1 Don't know
 In two surveys, not one person ~~has~~ answered "No".
 As you would expect, this question lends itself to sarcastic comments. Three or four people said something like, "Are we?" The comment I loved was, "[In] Birchwood." (For the out-of-towners, it's a rural area northeast of Chattanooga.)
- b. If so, when do you believe we will make contact with this intelligent life?
 16 We already have, it just isn't public knowledge; 3 0-10 years;
 12 10-50 years; 14 50-200 years; 2 200-500 years; 1 longer than 500 years; 1 never
 In the last survey, the most popular choice was "50-200 years". I don't know why there was a change. Anyone have any ideas?
 A couple of people said, "We won't; they'll contact us."
- c. Will this contact be beneficial or harmful to Earth?
 13 Beneficial; 3 Harmful; 27 Mixed; 9 Don't know
 The "Beneficial" sentiment is a lot stronger this time than last. Close Encounters could have had something to do with that.
4. Do you believe man will ever travel faster than the speed of light (Einstein notwithstanding)?
 35 Yes; 3 No; 13 Don't know
 These percentages are about the same as last year's.

5. a. Do you believe that man will ever establish off-Earth colonies?
49 Yes; 2 No; 2 Don't know
- b. If so, what will be the most distant location of these colonies?
0 Earth orbit; 4 Moon; 1 Mars; 12 Elsewhere in our Solar System;
24 Elsewhere in our Galaxy; 10 Other galaxies
One person wrote, "Further than the above." I thought "Other galaxies" covered it all.
6. Do you believe a unified field theory will ever be constructed?
21 Yes; 4 No; 26 Don't know
I think that this question would appeal mainly to scientific types. SF is obviously appealing to a much wider audience.
Comments: "But not by humans." "But then things will come apart again over something else."
7. Do you believe there are alternate universes?
27 Yes; 7 No; 17 don't know
8. Will mankind ever learn to live without atomic weapons?
25 Yes; 18 No; 10 Don't know
Last year's poll gave a solid majority to "No". This is muted, however, by a couple of comments. "When he finds something more destructive." One "No" response had this written beside it: "But he'll learn to die with them."
9. Will man ever completely understand the workings of his brain?
6 Yes; 34 No; 10 Don't know
10. Please check all of the following professional magazines and fanzines you subscribe to or purchase regularly.
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 27 <u>Starlog</u> | 4 <u>Amazing</u> |
| 22 <u>Analog</u> | 4 <u>SF Review</u> |
| 22 <u>Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine</u> | 4 <u>Algol</u> |
| 17 <u>Magazine of Fantasy and SF</u> | 3 <u>Karass</u> |
| 13 <u>Galaxy</u> | 2 <u>Fantastic</u> |
| 10 <u>Cosmos</u> | 2 <u>Outworlds</u> |
| 6 <u>Galileo</u> | 0 <u>Future Retrospective</u> |
| 6 <u>Locus</u> | |
- The most impressive figures are those for Starlog and Asimov's SF Magazine. Last year, Starlog was well down the list and Asimov's mag wasn't even mentioned. One wonders why Cosmos went out of business with this much support.
11. Does soundness of scientific speculation in a science fiction work outweigh bad plots, weak characterizations, and/or other literary deficiencies?
1 Yes; 29 No; 2 Don't know; 20 It varies from work to work
The "No" vote was much greater this time
12. Would you like to see a revival of Star Trek as a television series?
37 Yes; 5 No; 2 Don't know; 9 Don't give a hoot
The percentage of "Yes" votes decreased slightly this year. This may support the rumors that Star Trek fandom is weakening.

13. Please rate Star Trek and Star Wars on a 0-10 scale with 0 being bad and 10 being good.

Overall average: 7.53 Star Trek; 8.50 Star Wars

The Star Trek average is from 53 responses; the Star Wars average from

52.

Individual preference of one over the other:

24 Preferred Star Wars; 20 Liked both equally; 8 Preferred Star Trek

Distribution of ratings:

	0-0.9	1-1.9	2-2.9	3-3.9	4-4.9	5-5.9	6-6.9	7-7.9	8-8.9	9-9.9	10
Star Trek	2	1	0	2	0	5	4	8	10	6	15
Star Wars	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	13	13	17

Overall, a definite preference for Star Wars.

14. Who is your favorite SF or fantasy author?

7 Isaac Asimov

6 Robert A. Heinlein

5 Larry Niven

4 Harlan Ellison

3 Michael Moorcock

1 vote:

Piers Anthony

Ray Bradbury

Edgar Rice Burroughs

Perry Chapdelaine

Arthur C. Clarke

Arthur Byron Cover

Philip K. Dick

Dorothy C. Fontana

Heinlein won last year's poll, with Ellison 2nd.

Alan Dean Foster

Zenna Henderson

Ursula K. Le Guin

C.S. Lewis

George Lucas

Anne McCaffrey

Andre Norton

Edgar Allen Poe

Alice Sheldon (writes as James Tiptree, Jr., Raccoona Sheldon, et al.)

Robert Silverberg

J.R.R. Tolkien

Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

Roger Zelazny

15. a. Who is your favorite SF character?

5 Lazarus Long--The Moon is a Harsh Mistress--Heinlein

4 Mr. Spock--Star Trek

2 Michael Valentine Smith--Stranger in a Strange Land--Heinlein

2 Jubal Harshaw--" "

Last year, Spock was 1st and L. Long 2nd.

1 vote:

Manuel O'Kelly Davis--The Moon is a Harsh Mistress--Heinlein

Chewbacca--Star Wars

Luke Skywalker--"

Darth Vader--"

R2D2--"

Commander Norton--Rendezvous with Rama--Clarke

Hal 9000--2001--Clarke

The Mule--Foundation Trilogy--Asimov

Adzel--Satan's World--Poul Anderson

Richard Burton--To Your Scattered Bodies Go--Philip Jose Farmer

(cont.)

Lone--More Than Human--Sturgeon
 Gully Foyle--The Stars My Destination--Alfred Bester
 Prime Alien--Close Encounters of the Third Kind
 Paul Muad'Dib--Dune Trilogy--Herbert
 Painter the Leo--Beasts--John Crowley
 Speaker--Ringworld--Niven
 James Retief--CDT Stories--Keith Laumer
 Huhgyens--Exploration Team--Murray Leinster
 Buddha--Lord of Light--Zelazny
 Lije Bailey--The Caves of Steel--Asimov
 Kilgore Trout-- --Vonnegut
 Genly Ai--The Left Hand of Darkness--Le Guin

b. Who is your favorite fantasy character?

5 Bilbo Baggins--The Hobbit--Tolkein
 3 Gandalf--The Ring Trilogy-- "
 3 Elric--Elric Series--Michael Moorcock
 2 John Carter--Mars books--E.R. Burroughs

1 vote:

Thorin Okenshield--The Hobbit--Tolkein
 The Hobbit--same--Tolkein
 Hawkmoon--Runestaff--Moorcock
 The Eternal Champion Character--Moorcock
 Blood--A Boy and His Dog--H. Ellison (I'd call this story SF, but why argue
 the point?)
 Cordwainer Bird--New York Review of Bird--H. Ellison
 F'nor--Dragonflight--Anne McCaffrey
 Conan--Conan Series--Robert E. Howard
 Kane--Bloodstone--Karl Edward Wagner
 Corwin of Amber--Amber Series--Zelazny
 Cormac MacArt--Cormac Series--Andrew J. Offutt
 Herbie--ACG Comics
 Den--"Heavy Metal" magazine--Richard Corben
 Howard the Duck--comic character
 Fhafrd (?)
 King Arthur
 Eet--Zero Stone--Andre Norton
 And a couple of joke votes
 Donald A. Wollheim (the answerer misspelled Wollheim's name)
 Irvin Koch

If the questionnaire is distributed again, it will not be possible to announce preliminary results at the Chattacon 4 banquet.

I am interested in comments on this questionnaire. Please send them to me at 233 Barton Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37405.

--Mike Rogers

There were three surveys at ChattaCon 3. As this is typed 15 May, on a crash schedule to beat the coming postage rate hike (*sigh*), Part I—to be tabulated by Mike Rogers ~~is still out. Not Mike's fault.~~ Only about 100 of you even got the surveys so the response was less than the previous year. No more surveys. (?)

There were 15 responses to the Part on FanActivities plus 3 more from the CSFA questionnaires. All but 2 gave their names.

1. What sf/related groups are you now with: Sarpeidons (Jackson, TN club), Crosskeys HS SFC (Atlanta), FOSFA (Louisville area), CSFA (Chatt area), APAS: SAPS, MYRIAD, SFPA, APA Q, Southern Fandom Confederation (several people—most common group mentioned), N3F, Riverwood HS SFC (Atlanta), Auburn Univ SF&FS, Friends of Darkover, Knoxville SFS, Central Arkansas SF&FA, Nelson Bond Society (Virginia group), Milwaukee SFA, Washington (DC) SFA, Baltimore SFS, Atlanta SFC. StarTrekGroups (varied). Dungeon & Dragon Groups. Only 3 people who answered were in no group. Most were simply in a local group. The APAs were mostly one multi-APA-member. People who were into more than 2 groups were into many many groups.

2. Club programs: Almost universal was films—at club, attend, make, videotape, etc. Next were artshow and costume related (a very poor second), close behind were mass trips to cons, local science lectures, having speakers, discussions, wargames, putting out fanzines, parties, plays, other group outings, quiz & other contests.

About half those who answered who gave an answer (semiblack sheets existed) didn't quite know WHAT to do about programing but wanted to do SOMETHING. The only solid group of suggestions for Chatt SF Assn were get-to-know-each-other parties. A trip to the Observatory was mentioned too.

3. What can YOU do? Film making was a clear out winner. (Remember people, I'm just counting these—). Art or general worker stuff was next along with recruiting science speakers. The rest ran pretty much with 1 & 2 above. Most of those who said they'd work at cons have already been drafted—if you will...and haven't, write c/o your favorite Dept Head on the list.

4. Cons: Rivercon, 14 cons this year not specified, ChattaCons previous, various Atlanta SF, comix, ST and DeepSouthCons, WorldCons past and future, Roc*kon, MarCon, KublaKhan, WindyCon, DeepSouthCon. RovaCon, BaltiCon, Disclave. The most mentioned were tied between Atlanta and Louisville/Nashville. Those who went to cons in more than 2 cities tended to go to MANY—far and wide.

5. For the most part the "programs" and "would do" for cons either ran same as clubs or reiterated in the case of the really hard core types the full spectrum of ChattaCon and NorthAmerican Depts.

6. Fanzine activity: about half the people were into fanzines to the point of doing them (6 people) with 3 or 4 more admitting to doing one or two poems or the like. The rest met this question with a blank stare. There was a sharp break here—people either were into publishing and knew the whole bit or had nothing to do with it (except for the 4 or so who did not pub but occasionally read one).

7. Writing/art/creative: 11 people wrote and/or did art (half and half). Several were interested in Dramatic Presentations and/or film making. Everything points at a filmed/videotaped play with performance at club and con and a fanzine print with illos as an activity. (I'm just tabbing this now—not my idea.) 8/Two or 3 had videotape sets, 3 or 4 had film gear, a few had audiotape stuff. Otherwise that question was useless. 9. The question on collecting/etc was a bust. 10. A couple people had access to or interest in computers. One Ham Radio type.

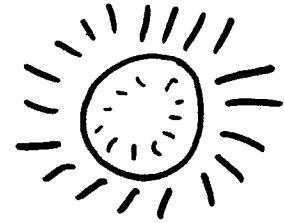
11. The questions in free form got untabulatable answers. What could be added to the above is that our fen are either nonreligious or scattered from Southern Baptist to Muslim. If they have any interests, they have MANY many interests and then it covers all facets of mundane activity. They are militantly tolerant, like to talk and gettogether (esp if they have no friends—they come to sf fandom seeking such), and similtaneously love and hate any form of format or organization.

CSFC :

For 1979 there is indeed no more Con-dictator. Praise be. There is a GREATLY less beleaguered con-chairman and 15 other trustees plus at least one alternate and several others who can be counted on to work when the time comes. There is also none of this oneman hippocket(creditoard)financeing. There is more or less a Trust. That is why it is now Chattanooga SF Con LTD. The 16th trustee by the way is Jack Hawkins. The non-trustee alternate is Connie Neal.

Shelby, like all the other Departments, has his very own budget. As long as a Program Book is done on time and within budget, he gets full credit...or blame. I, by the way, made a sufficient ~~profit~~ surplus on the first 3, before finances were turned over to the Trustees, to pay for most of this publication and a party at DeepSouthCon. Y'all come. Meanwhile here is the line up for #4+.

- Chairman—Irvin Koch. Alternate Chairman—Richard Lynch. Sec-Treas—Nicki Lynch.
 - Registration—A.J.Barker. " Trustee—Jack Hawkins.
 - Publicity—Nicki Lynch . " " —Shelby Bush.
 - Programing—Mike Rogers . " " —Tola Sneed.
 - Art show—Dick Lynch . " " —Julia Wilhoit.
 - HuxterRm—Janet Caruth . " * —Connie Neal.
 - Films—Ken Scott . " Trustee—Bill Hedrick.
 - ProgramBook—Shelby Bush. " " — open? .
 - ConSuite —David Tabor . " " —Tim Bolgeo.
 - Video—Bill Hedrick . " " —Tim Bolgeo.
 - GeneralServices—NancyTabor." " —Richard Morehouse(esp. Gameroom)
- (esp gofers);



SO MUCH FOR ORGANIZATION.
Ideas?—write in.....

-o-o-

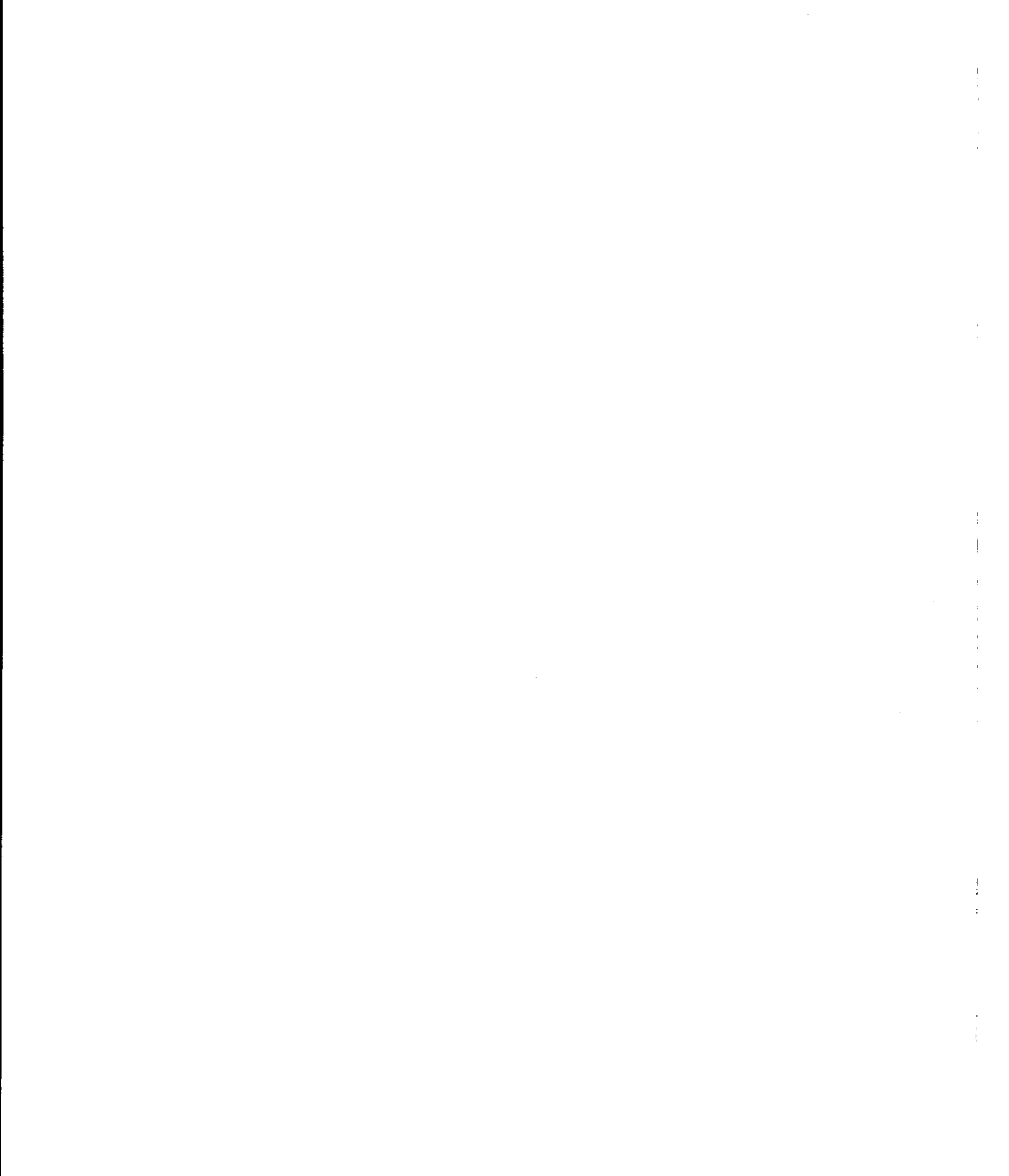
Irvin Koch
1870 Dresden Dr. NE, B9
Atlanta, GA 30319
404-636-1156

TIL 30DEC78?

Irvin Koch
835 Chattanooga Bk. Bldg.
Chattanooga, TN 37402

PERMANENT

FIRST CLASS
TO:





SEX
IN
FANDOM

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an introduction
(of sorts) for
the neo-fan

by Irvin M. Koch

It exists. That was not always so. As best can be determined, fandom started via the lettercolumns of ancient pulp magazines read mostly by lonely young males. That was the early 1930's. Fandom, the subculture which spawns science-fiction conventions (usually called "cons") is a different world today. In any case the newcomer can well use an introduction to this world, microcosm, or whatever, and SF fandom could use some fast thinking and research before it becomes "just another part of the mundane (non-fannish) world".

First, the jargon, sometimes called fanspeak, fanslang, slanguage, or similar terms. You may expect the use of this jargon sporadically and unexpectedly. It may change rapidly from place to place and time to time, but some things remain relatively constant. Contractions, suffixes, infixes, prefixes, deliberate misspellings, derivatives of words and phrases used in popular books, and...shudder...puns are frequently used.

Now that you know a con is a convention (or conference or conclave) guess what a concom is? Right; the committee that runs the thing. A huckster is anyone dealing—selling or trading—most often in an attempt to pay their expenses to the con, but some are pros. A "minimum bid"

is part of the process by which most of the art is sold/auctioned; you can meet it or bid above the other bidders on the sheet provided. When there is enough interest, only those works with at least one bid go thru the actual scheduled auction.

The consuite is a hospitality semi-permanent party run by the concom. The business with the bathtub full of drinks, incidentally, was popularized by Nashville's Ken Moore. Larger cons will not have such suites, but parties (by any group with any or no excuse to have one) are so rife that some cons are nothing but. One observation is that a good con will have one party for every 25-50 persons at the con each night. Open parties have more or less open doors and may or may not be posted on message boards and such. Closed parties are self-explanitory, while those in between are very difficult to explain. The best advice is to act nice, keep your ears and eyes open, and if all else fails, throw your own. SF fandom is as shot full of cliques as anything else, but it is much easier to start a new circle of friends of your own.

APA's and fanzines form the base of amateur publishing. After the most ancient fen (plural of fan) had written to each other, the urge overcame them to publish things themselves. Only lately, with the proliferation of cons, local clubs, and non-reading fandom (of movies, TV, etc) have these become relatively less important. They have also been shamed into a lower birth rate by the advent of zines (remember what was said about suffixes and contractions) which look and act like prozines, have circulations in the thousands, and draw talent to them.

In any case, if you run into an APA, it won't bite. It's an Amateur Press Association (alliance, or similar style). The basic idea is that one produces X number of copies of one's zine with Y minimum frequency and every period Z, the OE (official editor, also know as CM, OA, etc, for Central Mailer, Official Anarch, etc.) collates all the contribs into bundles (mailings, disties (distributions) or some such... one group calls these things Chicken Salads) and sends one to each member. Extra bundles usually are also prepared. Dues are usually required. The rules vary greatly from group to group.

APA's may or may not be specialized on some subject or by some class of person allowed to join. The chief variation of interest is the letterapa. Instead of zines, one produces dupletters; often the OE rotates among all the members and there are no dues.

Fanzines, of course, came before APA's. Fan magazines also may be specialized. Some are: genzine, fictionzine, perzine (personal zines alone can stand the glare of imitation prozines and big newszines; they ignore everything but themselves), clubzines, and OO. OO means

official organ = a clubzine of some sort. Fanzines are frequently available for "the usual" instead of money. The usual is a contrib loc (letter of comment). Those may or may not get you an ish (issue). Be warned that zine pubbing is even more expensive a hobby than putting on cons.

If someone tells you they are going to start a zine "RealSoonNow", the chances are 80% that they won't. The mortality rate after that doesn't improve much. If you send in money, don't expect to get anything back (the poor slob doing the zine probably will lose more than you do).

You may also run into a collector. If they are somewhat shy, try the "I'm an accumulator myself" bit" and see if they open up. Most fen can't collect; they just accumulate with more or less specialized taste.

For more information on any facet of fandom or fanspeak, send \$1 to Meade Frierson III, 3705 Woodvale Rd, Birmingham AL 35223 for a Southern Fandom Confederation Handbook. And then...

But back to sex in fandom. None of the recent attempts at describing the social activity in fandom (or lack of same) have even scratched the surface. Since there are enough fen now in many areas to not only form slan shacks, but have regular communities of sorts, tho spread out over several states, fans have done everything normal people have... sort of.

First, fans at one time pretended to be slans (superhumans invented in a book called SLAN written by A. E. VanVogt... hmm...). A slanshack therefore is any dwelling housing several fen.

But anyway, fen, used to at least, have somewhat of a different personality from mundanes. The sexactivity patterns as near as can be told, however, when they emerged, were straight mundane...with a few less hangups...maybe.

Basically, at this point the article breaks down. Let's instead jump straight to the questionnaire passed out at the registration table (or by mail if you want one and are reading this after the con).

THE QUESTIONNAIRE(S)

Part 1 is a plain old survey. Elsewhere in this publication is printed the results of the one from ChattaCon 2 (1977). If you would like to add, delete, or change questions, write us.

The Activities Questionnaire is also, hopefully, self-explaining. What shall we do with the con? What shall be done with CSFA? N3F? And by whom!!! Attention is called to the blurb at the bottom of questionnaire page 4: Reproduction of any/all of the 3 surveys is