

MEMPHEN 52 - Perpetrated by Greg Bridges for the Mid-South Fantasy Association and as a tradezine. Edited by Frank Jordan. The mailing address for MEMPHEN is 266 Garland Place, Memphis, TN 38104. Club Dues for the Mid-South Fantasy Assoc. are \$5 per annum and should go to the club address which is P.O. Box 12534, Memphis, TN 38112. Make any checks to Frank Jordan (Club Treasurer). Meetings for the MSFA are the second Sunday (time and place announced in this bulletin) and the Fourth Tuesday (at the Main Library at Peabody and McLean.) of the month. This is our 12th year of publication. COPYRIGHT 1982

JULY MEETINGS

JULY 11 - The second Sunday arrives with the First meeting of this month at the home of Dr. Dal Coger at 1433 W. Crestwood Dr. and will commence at 6 P.M. Bring refreshments such as Coca-Cola, Pepsi-Cola, chip, dips, cookies, cakes, hot dogs, or whatever suits your fancy or tickles your palate. We'll try to present a film or cartoon around 8:00 P.M.

The club will have on hand fliers for the upcoming con and will be taking memberships for the con. Also on hand will be books, magazines, and other paraphenalia as donated by Rick Ragan and others.

July 27 - The fourth Tuesday slides in and the second club get-together commences at the Main Library at Peabody and McLean at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will be held in Meeting Room A downstairs but if the meeting is not there ask one of the librarians for its location. The film "Ideas in SF" featuring Gordan Dickson will be shown at 8:00. As before bring refreshments, but discretely.

AUGUST MEETING

AUGUST 8 - The first meeting of the club in August will take place at the home of Frank Jordan, 1922 Ezell #5, Memphis, TN 38111. Since this will be only 12 days before the commencement of Midsouthcon II, it will be a somewhat logistical meeting for the task at hand. Please make an effort to attend and lend your assistance to the committee in making the final strategies for the running of the con. As always bring refreshments and call ahead (685-1049) to find what is needed. The gathering will take place at 6 P.M. and the movie ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK will be shown at 8. We will again have for sale the books and other items as mentioned above.

AUTHOR, AUTHOR, AUTHOR, ARTHUR, AUTHOR, AUTHOR.

We have another real-life author in our midst, Rick Ragan. He has sold a story to the magazine, The SATIRIST. Congrats are in order. He is also writing a novel and has approached several publishers about it. Good luck to you, Rick.

REVIEWS, REVIEWS, REVIEWS, and such (F. Jordan, Culprit)

This past few months and the months to come has seen explosion of movies with either science fiction or fantasy themes. I will endeavor to give my impressions of the movies I have seen to-date listed in chronological order if nothing else. Please forgive if I do not give the leading characters' or actors' for some of the movies since my memory is rapidly fading (what was that) and quite frankly some of the characters are not worth remembering.

THE SWORD AND THE SORCEROR

This is an attempt to bring a Sword and Sorcery plot to the silver screen which failed in almost every aspect but the name of the flick. The plot involves the takeover of a kingdom by a treacherous duke with the aid of a resurrected sorcerer who is eventually betrayed. The sword of the film is a tri-bladed construct which can shoot one or both of the outer blades toward its intended victim (Really!?).

The main body of the plot involves a rebellion against the duke and a mercenary who now has the SWORD and is revealed as the son of the former king. This is a confusing point since the rebellion is led by a son of the king, but the story beforehand had shown that the entire family except for one son had been eliminated. (I must have missed something!)

The rebellion succeeds with the aid of the mercenary and the vengeful sorcerer who has disguised himself as one of the duke's trusted ministers. The movie was poorly written, poorly acted, and poorly produced. It tried to exploit the fans of the sword-and sorcery genre

I do not recommend it when it shows up again.

CONAN, THE BARBARIAN

The long awaited translation of Conan to a motion picture had finally arrived, and I was not too disappointed by the effort. Arnold Schwarzenegger is suited for the role only in his physique and strange accent(?). His acting ability still leaves something to be desired, but he evidently had fun with the role. Again a sword and a sorcerer were important aspects of this movie as in the previous flick.

The sword was forged by Conan's father who told him that the only thing he could trust was steel, an almost magical metal. The sword was then stolen by the sorcerer, Thulsa Doom, who is also the high priest of Set, God of death. After his Father and Mother are murdered and his village destroyed, Conan is sold into slavery where his physique develops (?). He is subsequently sold to a promoter of pit fights and becomes the greatest pit fighter of his time first through his superior strength and then later through his skill as a fighter. His owner releases him and he becomes a thief. He meets his love, another thief played by Sandahl Bergman, and they are hired by the local king to rescue his daughter from the clutches of Thulsa Doom. Conan was responsible for the death of his parents so his quest becomes one of revenge as well.

Overall, I thought that the movie was well done and the legend did not

suffer too much from the effort. The only disappointment was that L. Sprague De Camp was not mentioned as technical advisor on the film. He mentioned that he was engaged with the film when he was here for Just Imagicon in '79.

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E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial

A beautiful movie from the mind of one of the two greatest filmmakers of our time. A young(?) E.T. is left on earth by accident and he must try to survive on his own. He meets a boy of ten or eleven years of age who realizes who or what the E.T. is. The boy, Elliot, is determined to protect the being from harm or exposure to the authorities, who appear at first in the film as faceless adults. In fact, the only adult we can truly identify in the first two-thirds of the movie is Elliot's mother. Elliot recruits his older brother to help and then his young sister stumbles upon the secret and is enthralled by E.T. The being is shown to weaken because of his inability to adapt to Earth's ecology. The most frightening aspect of the movie is when the AUTHORITIES move in and try to prevent E.T. from apparently dying. The subsequent revival of E.T. and the final scenes except for the last are perhaps the least effective of the movie. The farewell scene is a tear-jerking moment and is worthy of inclusion with any of the other great farewell scenes of movie history.

The movie was well worth the time to see it but would suffer upon viewing it again.

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POLTERGEIST

The word poltergeist is from the German for noisy ghosts. The title characters of this movie live up to their name and much more. The younger daughter of the family of the house is the first to encounter them. She hears them when their t.v. is tuned to a channel on which there is no station broadcasting. They eventually leave the t.v. and enter the house and wreak their havoc on the family. The son is ~~almost~~ the first victim of the ghosts in a ruse to kidnap the young girl. The rest of the plot is a rescue story to bring the little girl back from the other plane ~~(plane)~~ of existence with the aid of a team of parapsychologists and a psychic. They are successful, but the poltergeist are not through.

The movie was written and produced by Steven Spielberg, but not directed by him. I believe it suffered because of this, but he was busy with E.T. The movie was not as frightening as I thought it would be and some of the special effects were not as well done as they possibly could have been. This was surprising since they were fabricated by Industrial, Light, and Magic, Inc.

However, the premise of the movie was convincing and was well presented.

July 7 1982 is the 75th birthday of Robert Anson Heinlein, may he have many more.

August 16th, 1982 is the 48th birthday of Andrew Jefferson Offutt, Really, Andy, you wear it well! Many happy returns!

STAR TREK: The Wrath of Khan

This movie is a continuance of a Star Trek t.v. episode called "The Space Seed". Come with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear relive those wonderful times. The t.v. plot involved the Enterprise finding a seemingly derelict spaceship. When the crew investigates they find a group of humans in total hibernation. When the humans are revived we learn that they are a band of genetically superior men and women who started the genetic wars on Earth during the latter parts of the 20th century. Khan Noonan Singh is their leader. Khan tries to wrest the Enterprise from its crew for his own purposes and is punished when he fails by being exiled on a planet with a harsh climate. The Movie starts as the Enterprise is taken out on a training exercise for Academy cadets and recent graduates, among whom is Lt. Saavik, a most interesting person. Khan seizes an opportunity to take revenge on Admiral Kirk since the planet on which he was exiled had a catastrophic change in its climate from not just harsh but to deadly. His obsession to avenge himself on Kirk is his undoing especially since he lacks the experience that Kirk has in combat between starships.

The story of the movie shows many aspects of having returned to the original atmosphere of the series. The constant verbal battle between Spock and McCoy and the confidence that Kirk displays as he tries and succeeds to outwit Khan are two examples. The effects are adequate for the story including some computer graphics animation in the unveiling of the Genesis Project to Kirk, McCoy, Spock and the audience. I will admit that the second movie does stand above the first in story and in being more like the series, but I still like the first one, and I believe it has its own good points.

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 BLADE-RUNNER

This is the movie made from the novel by the late Philip K. Dick called "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep". Harrison Ford, in route from the 1930's to a galaxy far far away, made this stop in the early 21st century. Ridley Scott of ALIEN fame was the director of this opus and it definitely shows his influence if ALIEN can serve as a guide. About the only time it's not raining and gloomy is toward the end of the film when Ford's character, Deckard, is fleeing the city for good with his companion. The story revolves around Deckard's pursuit of six escaped replicants whom he has to 'retire'. Two are already dead from an attempt to enter the facilities where they were incepted(made?). The rest, two women and two men, are the subjects of the remainder of the movie. The complications of the plot consists of another replicant named Rachel whom he falls in love with and must protect from his partner. The action is a fairly straight detective story with a strong flavor of the Mike Hammer stories. The culture of Los Angeles at the time is shown to be a real 'mixing bowl' of Chinese, Mexican, Japanese, Arabic, and Western cultures with the added trappings of a very sophisticated technology. These aspects lend credence to the story. The only detractions are the somewhat surrealistic characters of the creators of the replicants.

Deckard's main antagonist, replicant Roy Batty, made what I believe to be the main statement of the movie as he was dying from an implant that keeps most of the replicants lives short. He recounted to Deckard the sights and experiences he lived through when he was off Earth.

He saw more and experienced more wondrous things in his four years of life than virtually all humans do in all their life. This statement was put across very well for some of the audience at the showing I attended for I overheard some of the confusion as I left the theatre. This may have been due to the fact that Batty was trying to kill Deckard before he himself died and that the statement was made close to the end of this crisis.

On the whole I recommend this movie for it shows that a bachelor's life in the 21st century is not much different from that of the 20th century bachelor.

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CONVENTIONS

CON*STELLATION, Huntsville, Al. 7/16-18/82. GoH: Phyllis ("Born to Exile") Eisenstien. Fan GoH: Ken & Lou Moore. MC.: Andrew Offutt. Memb. \$15. to "Nelda Kathleen Kennedy", Sheraton Hotel, University Dr., Huntsville Al. 35801

OKON 4 - Tulsa, OK. 7/16-18/82. GoH: Wilson Arthur (Bob) Tucker. TM: Lee Killough. Special Fan GoH: Frederik Pohl. Artist GoH: Kelly Freas. Fan GoH: Polly Freas. Special Guest: James P. Hogan, C.J. Cherryh, Jack Williamson, Rob Chilson, R.A. Lafferty, Camelot Hotel. Info: Box 4229, Tulsa, OK. 74104 or 918-492-0243.

RIVERCON 7 - Louisville, Ky. 7/23-25/82. GoH: Gordon R. Dickson. Fan GoH: Dave Kyle. Membership - \$10 to 7/15 then \$15. Box 8252, Louisville, Ky. 40208

MIDSOUTHCON II - MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. Guest of HONOR - Wilson (Bob) Tucker.

AUG. 20-22 ARTSHOW, VIDEO ROOM, 24 HOUR CON SUITE, PROGRAMMING, HUXTERS ROOM. Memb. is \$12.50 till Aug. 6th. then \$15 thereafter. Also Huxter's tables are \$30 per table (which includes membership with first table.). All this will be going on at the Quality Inn Riverview, 271 West Alston Ave. The rooms are \$29 single, and \$35 double. The Hotel is the last exit on the old bridge at I-55 with a grand view of the river. All memberships Huxter's inquiries, Art, etc. should go to MIDSOUTHCON II
1229 Pallwood Dr.
Memphis, TN 38122.

WORLDCON 40 - Chicago, Ill. The Apogee of SF Cons. Everything for anyone interested in Science Fiction. 9/2-6/82. \$50 to 7/15 then \$75 thereafter. Supp. is \$15 which includes all the publications and if you join early enough a chance to vote on the HUGOs (it's too late now but you can for next year's in Baltimore, if you join it). Info - Box A3120, Chicago, Ill. 60690.

ROC*KON 7 - Little Rock, Ar. 10/15-17/82. GoH: C.J. Cherryh. Fan GoH: Mary Wallbank. TM - Juanita Coulson. Membership - \$9 till 10/8 then \$12. At the Sam Peck Downtown Motor Inn. Rooms \$26/31. Info: Box 9911, Little Rock, Ar. 72219. This con usually has lots of Filking (SF Folksongs) since Margaret Middleton runs it and with Juanita Coulson there this year it should be very good.

WORLD FANTASY CON 82, New Haven Conn. 10/29-31/82 GoHs: Peter Straub, Joseph Payne Brennan, Donald Maitz. TM - Charles L. Grant. Dedicated to Mark Twain and H. Wraner Munn. Memb. \$10 Supporting and \$25 attending. Info - Box 8262, East Hartford CT. 06108.

CHATTACON 7 - Chattanooga, TN 1/14-16/83. GoH - Jerry Pournelle. MC - "Bhob" Tucker, Robert "Horsglans" Adams. Memb. \$13 till 12/1, \$16 at the door. In TN 800-572-7304, Pts. beyond 800-251-6443. In Chattanooga. 615-2664121. Info - 921, Hixson, TN 37343.

UPPERSOUTHCLAVE 13 - Park City Ky, 3/4-6/83. GoH: Dalvan Coger (our very own, which is the second time a Memphis fan has been so honored by the Bowling Green group; P.L. Caruthers-Montgomery (now of Col.) was the other.) Memb. \$5 to 9/2 then \$6.50. "ConCave", Morgan Bldg. 512 E. 12th St. Bowling Green, Ky 42101.

FANTASY FILM JOURNAL #2

The club has for sale this fine magazine published by the late TOM JOHNSON. Number 2 was a special Ray Harryhausen issue with a wraparound colour covers and much colour interiors, 56 pages of a fine Memphis fan effort. This was originally \$3 but we are selling them at 75¢ thro the mail (plus a loose 20¢ stamp) or for a mere 25¢ at our meetings.

These were donated to the club by KAY HUEY-JOHNSON, Tom's widow.

Over a several years we have had much donated to the club by numerous people - Mike Brown (in bondage for present), Nancy Collins, Randall Pass (who just recently married Donna finally. She's an honest woman now), and Rick Ragan. Rick just donated a number of recent paperbacks and digest SF at the last meeting along with a trade hardback edition of CUJO by Stephen King all of which are presently for sale at the meetings.

We had a table at last years Imagicon and made a fair amount of money for the club. We would like to repeat that if we can get people to man, woman or thing the table. We additionally need more donations for the table & to sale at the meetings. We want anything SF related - paperbacks, hardbacks, digests, posters, calendars, etc. So think of us when cleaning out your shelves and closets. So please

DONATE!

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