

NA MELE O NA HOKU
(The Songs of the Stars)
c/o D. F. Sanders
1415 Victoria St., #206
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Vol V, No. 2, May-August, 1992

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Beginning with this issue, NA MELE will change to a publication schedule of 3 times yearly. This is due to increased professional and personal responsibilities on my part, and a need to devote more of my time to those responsibilities. As always, however, I will try to bring you the news you look forward to, and keep you up to date as much as possible. Thanks for your continued support!

###

SILVERCON 1 REVIEW

by Mary Creasey

SilverCon, held last weekend in Las Vegas, was without a doubt one of the friendliest cons I've ever been to. The Concom and the fen did their best to make John, Leslie and me very welcome.

This was a relaxacon, with a strong gaming track, and as much filking as they could get. The only GOHs were Robert Lichtman, the FanGOH, who is a long-time zined (long-time as in about 30 years!) and Leslie Fish as the FilkGOH. The panels ranged from zines to Trek to filk as advertising.

The con, however, was not well-attended. Doubtless the riots in several cities (including Las Vegas) didn't help folks' travel plans; however, the main crusher for this con was that the local CreationCon deliberately moved to that weekend to be opposite SilverCon. This, as I understand, is NOT the first time this has happened to a fan con. Leslie has promised to filk them thoroughly (in fact the ConCom practically begged her to!). SNAFFU, the club who ran the con, did their very best with what folks did come. The outdoor banquet was excellent, the filksing was well-attended, and the outdoor concert was a lot of fun. The filk performers were AZ's Elizabeth Burnham, Las Vegas's Roger Scime' (who, IMHO, is as good a guitarist as any of our best--INCLUDING Fish!), and Leslie; then we had an impromptu open-mike until it got too dark to read lyric sheets.

The hotel was the first one in Vegas I've been to that had not so much as one slot machine in it, let alone a casino (Howard Johnson's Plaza-Suites).

The filksing ran all night on Friday, and late Saturday (we left early for other reasons). And by the way--after the filk panel, they cashed in on a rash promise Leslie made at the sing--she actually sang "Banned From Argo"! (However, she swears it's the last time for this year and for Nevada.) Anyway, a good time was had by all, despite the low attendance.

I might add that the fen and the ConCom couldn't have been nicer; they deserved better attendance. They really treated all three of us well. The filksing was enthusiastic, and Leslie was in excellent voice. (I have tapes of about all of it; unfortunately, the outdoor concerts had to compete with the hotel AC system noise.) I have some great guitar duets between Roger

and Leslie, too; he played riffs and fills on about everything, and did them SUPERBLY! (He has a nice baritone, too; he's a professional singer with a local band who was a filker about 20 years ago, and just got back into it at VegasCon.)

If any of you are going to MENSACon over 4th of July weekend, Leslie Fish has been invited there as part of the first filk ever held at a MENSACon. ("First WesterCon I've missed in...how many years?"--quoted at SilverCon when she told us about this.) It's in San Francisco; that's all I know about it. Anyway, she's still planning to make her usual August-September con tour: Pennsic War, WorldCon, CopperCon (AZ post-WorldCon relaxacon), lay over with friends in AZ a few weeks, then ConChord before going home. The folks at SilverCon sent us a nice thankyou note for coming and bringing Leslie; I'm sending them a copy of each of the pictures I took there. Best to all--Mary

NEXT LAFA FILK

Saturday, June 13, 1992

The R & D Lab

13261 Donegal Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92644-2304,
714/530-3546

Rick & Deborah Weiss, hosts

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AUNTIE ESTHER FRIESNER RIDES AGAIN! Watch for Esther's first hardback fantasy entitled YESTERDAY WE SAWA MERMAIDS to be released by Tor in October of this year. This book is a little more in the serious vein, though it does have its humorous moments. Keep an eye out also for her first hardback Young Adult Fantasy from Atheneum called WISHING SEASON. She has an Elfquest story coming out in ELFQUEST Vol 5. It's entitled "Five Finger Exercise." There's a vampire story in SISTERS IN FANTASY which is called "Moonlight in Vermont. There's a dragon story entitled "Take me Out to the Ball Game." "Baby Face" will appear in Jane Yolen's XANADU. There is "You Can't Make an Omelet" for a new David Drake shared-world SF series. That enough for now, Gang? More to come!

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ELLEN GUON and Mercedes Lackey are doing yet another collaboration, this one a science fiction novel set in the Wing Commander computer game universe. The title is FREEDOM FLIGHT, and it's slated for publication in December. The main characters are Captain Ian "Hunter" St. John from the TCS Tiger's Claw, and a young Kilrathi lieutenant named Kirha, with one of the Firekkan bird-people as well, a Firekkan lady named K'Kai. The story parallels Wing Commander: Secret Missions 2 -- Crusade. Ellen has also been working on her first solo book, HEALER'S CRUSADE. And for those that don't know it yet, she has just moved to Santa Clara, California, where she has begun a new job with Electronic Arts. Congratulations, Ell!

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WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM MISTY (MERCEDES LACKEY) AND LARRY DIXON? Just out -- the collaboration with Ellen Guon -- SUMMONED TO

TOURNEY, a sequel to KNIGHT OF GHOSTS AND SHADOWS. The second SERRATED Edge book, WHEELS OF FIRE, is scheduled for release late this year. Coming in August: THE SHIP WHO SEARCHED, by Anne McCaffrey and Mercedes Lackey. As you might have guessed by the title, this tale takes place in the same universe as McCaffrey's THE SHIP WHO SANG. It promises to be a good one! CASTLE OF DECEPTION, a collaboration with Josepha Sherman, is due out in July. In addition, Misty is now working on a collaboration with Ru Emerson. The working title is BARD'S TALE, though that may change. If you can't find one of the novels, beat the rush and order directly from FIREBIRD ARTS & MUSIC, INC., P. O. Box 14785 Portland, OR 97214, 1-800-752-0494. They usually manage to get books before they appear in retail outlets. You can place your order now and sit back and wait for it to arrive!

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Conventions where you can see Misty and Larry:

MAGICON, The World Science Fiction Convention. September 3-7, 1992, Orlando, FL. For more details on the WorldCon, see the convention listings elsewhere in this newsletter.

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Visit WALDENBOOKS in the Ward Warehouse, 1050 Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii 96814, (808) 533-2711, for the latest in Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror books. Colleen Lashway, our own resident book expert and world convention traveller extraordinaire, will be happy to help you find whatever you need!

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FIREBIRD/PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS:

Just released is FREEDOM, FLIGHT, AND FANTASY, featuring songs by Mercedes Lackey and Leslie Fish, and vocals by Heather Alexander. Probably the best cut on the tape is "Arafel's Lament," the lead song. Beautiful! And from John Bunnell, this news: Two tapes due out soon are "new entries in Firebird's live performance series: CECILIA ENG ... LIVE! and HEATHER ALEXANDER ... LIVE! These are not remixed from previously recorded tapes, they're brand new, and both are being done with the full backing of 24-track tape and first-class tech wizardry. The Cecilia Eng tape has a variety of material -- space, sorcery, and swashbuckling are all in there somewhere. So does Heather's, for that matter; there's traditional balladry, Peter Pan, anti-Pirates, and some fiddling and bodhran in addition to the singing. IN THE NEOLITHIC AGE, the third Kipling tape, is approximately next up in the pipeline to be produced. (Exactly when depends on studio schedules and the like.) Definitely on the priority list, though. The Complete Fish Songbook is sitting behind the hurdle of being a Very Large And Expensive Beast To Typeset (all the *words* are typed in, but there's music-transcription and typesetting to be done, so that all the right chords get attached to all the right lyrics)." Thank you, John! Don't miss 'em!

###

THE QUEEN'S OWN is an international fan club dedicated to the writings of Mercedes Lackey(TM). There is an informative

newsletter, and annual dues of \$8.00 for 10 issues. Gifts of cash or stamps are always welcomed to offset expenses (subtle hint #23), and members who volunteer to help with some aspect of putting together the newsletter and/or running the fan club are given extra credit toward becoming a Herald. For info, send an S.A.S.E. to Judith Louvis, The Queen's Own, P. O. Box 43143, Upper Montclair, New Jersey 07043, or call (at a reasonable hour! -- get your timezones straight, gang!) (201) 744-8575.

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UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

WESTERCOLT .45, the 45th Ann. Western Regional SF Convention, July 2-5, 1992. GoH: Author - Jennifer Roberson; Artist - Rick Sternbach; Toastmaster: Wilson "Bob" Tucker. The Omni Adams, Phoenix, Arizona. For more info, write: WesterColt .45, Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society, P. O. Box 27201, Tempe, AZ 85285.

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CON 7, August 13-15, 1992. PO Box 5703, Portland, OR 97228-5703. Phone: (503) 777-0537. Rates are: \$15 until 6/14, \$20 at the door. Children: 6-12 - half price; 5 and under, free. GOH is Barbara Hambly. CON draws 200 people, and is weaponless. Hotel is \$55 to \$65 (plus tax) a night.

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MAGICON, September 3-7, 1992, Orlando, FL. Attending Memberships \$110.00 until 7/15/92; \$135.00 at the door; supporting-\$25.00. For info, write to: MAGICON, P. O. Box 621992, Orlando, FL 32862-1992, (407) 859-8421.

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COPPERCON 12, September 13-15, 1992, Scottsdale, AZ. GoH: Roger Zelazny and Alan Dean Foster. Memberships: \$25.00 thru 8/28/92, \$30.00 at the door. For info, write: CopperCon 12, 2040 E. Cypress, Phoenix, AZ 85006, (602) 220-9785.

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CON-CHORD 8, October 2-4, 1992. GoH: Tom Smith; Toastmaster: Joe Bethancourt. Attending memberships \$30 to 9/8/92; higher later. Supporting: \$10 forever. Hotel Holiday Inn LAX. Rates \$59 sgl, \$69 dbl, \$79 tpl/quad. For info write: Con-Chord 8, c/o Rick Weiss, 13261 Donegal Drive, Garden Grove, CA 92644-2304, (714) 530-3546 (call before 10pm, their time, please!).

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ORYCON 14, November 20-22, 1992, Red Lion/ Columbia River, Portland, OR. GoH: Fantasy author Esther Friesner (Ask Auntie Esther!) Write or call: OryCon 14, PO Box 5703, Portland OR 97228-5703. Phone number: (503) 283-0802. GEnie address is J.Lorentz. Cis is 74007,3342. Rates are: \$16 until 5/31, \$20 until 10/31 and \$25 at the door. Children: 5 and under--free. 6 to 12--Half-price. They hope to announce an Artist GOH real soon now. OryCon attracts about 1,200 people each year, and no weapons are allowed (real or fake). Hotel rooms are \$61 a night plus tax.

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CONFRANCISCO, September 2-6, 1993 (expanded to five days!).

Hotel: Parc Five & Le Meridien. For info, write: CONFRANCISCO, 712 Bancroft Road, Suite 1993, San Francisco, CA 94598. (SASE please!).

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PRODUCTS, ETC.

QUICKSILVER FANTASIES, Pat Apodaca, P. O. Box 1660, Post Falls, ID 83854. Large catalogue of filk and folk music, a variety of SF/F gift items. Quite a bit of "period" folk and Native American music. Many items you won't find with other dealers, including Earth stickers and Amber Essence. NEW OFFERINGS include: Roger Fountain & Leatherwoods \$9.00; Songs as Old as the Hills \$9.00; More Ose than Not \$10.00; Plain Brown Wrapper \$10.00; Morning has Broken \$10.00; Hammerin' On \$9.00; Stone County Dulcimer \$9.00; Ozark Mountain Dulcimer \$9.00; Potpourri \$10.00; Lost Treasure Legends of the Ozarks: Video \$29.95.

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RANDOM FACTORS, c/o John and Mary Creasey, 3754 W. 170th Street, Torrance, CA 90504-1204, (310) 329-6772. Convention retailers of a variety of music, including filk and folk, songbooks, the music of PDQ Bach and Tom Lehrer, instruments (some eclectic), and gift items that defy description, such as the DARWIN'S FISH automobile applique (you have to see it to believe it)! For those of you who can't make it to cons, a catalogue is available upon request.

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TALES FROM THE WHITE HART, Kathy Sands, 3360 Greenmount Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21218, (301) 889-0099. SF/F bookstore which also carries a variety of Filk and Folk music, including some of the newest selections from Firebird Arts and Music, as well as some hard to find Off Centaur selections. Look for them at various conventions.

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T. K. GRAPHICS, P. O. Box 1951, Baltimore, MD 21203. Large, outrageous selection of stickers, decals, bumper stickers, stationery, everything the serious SF/F fan could possibly want -- and then some! Their periodic flyers are free and something you don't want to miss!

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DANCING DRAGON DESIGNS, 1881 Fieldbrook Road, Arcata, CA 95521. A variety of jewelry and gift items, many of them based on the theme of dragons. If you're a dragon person, as I am, you'll love their products! Write for their free catalogue.

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SPACE OPERA HOUSE, c/o Barry & Sally Childs-Helton, 5271 Primrose Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46220, (317) 251-8099. They now carry Dandelion Conspiracy pins handcrafted in pewter. These small pins make a tasteful addition to any filking or mundane wardrobe and feature a dandelion impression like those on the larger buttons and stickers you've seen. And these handsome, high-quality pins can be had for \$4.00 each, plus \$1.00 shipping for 1-4 pins. They can also be purchased as a necklace (call for price and availability).

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Subscribe to STAR*LINE, the newsletter of Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry! The \$10.00 annual dues give you a subscription to the newsletter, and membership in the Science Fiction Poetry Association. Members also vote to award the annual Rhysling Award, for excellence in the poetry of the genre. Write to SFPA/Star*Line, c/o Chuck & Susan Noe Rothman, 2012 Pyle Road, Schenectady, NY 12303. (Note: the newsletter contains a lot of interesting information about the SF poetry market in general.

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WAIL SONGS, P. O. Box 29888, Oakland, CA 94604.

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BERGERON HAND-CRAFTED INSTRUMENTS, 2802 L Street, Vancouver, WA 98663-3125. Handcrafted, custom-made instruments. Contact her for more information. Be sure to send an S.A.S.E. when you write for a free price list/info.

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FIREBIRD ARTS & MUSIC, INC., P. O. Box 14785, Portland, OR 97214-9998, 1-800-752-0494. Large selection of studio and convention folk tapes; Science Fiction and Fantasy music; Literary tie-in music based on the works of many contemporary and traditional authors, including C. J. Cherryh, Mercedes Lackey, Leslie Fish, Peter Beagle, Rudyard Kipling, Lewis Carroll; song books; maps; books; artwork; T-shirts; and many other items. Write or call for their catalogue. Note: Firebird is offers a special Club Discount on orders of \$250 or more. If your club's order totals this amount, then Firebird will give a 20% discount on all items produced by their studio. This is an incentive for clubs, schools, and other groups to save money on bulk orders. Special dealer's rates also available. Contact them for more information on rates and upcoming projects.

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Annual dues \$5.00



The Filking Times
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GARDEN GROVE, CA

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