

PSFS News

The Newsletter of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society

January 1998

Our January Program:

Election Night

Membership Status

Note: Status Changes from inactive to general or general to active become effective after the meeting has adjourned.

First Timers: Christianne McCall

Nominees: none

New Members: none

Members at the December Meeting: 52
(46 active, 4 general, 2 inactive)

Non-members at the December Meeting: 1

Announcements

Copies of any official PSFS correspondence should be sent to both the Secretary and the One Year Director for filing in the Society's official records.

The Philcon web site is: www.netaxs.com/~philcon

Newsletter Submissions and Announcements can be e-mailed to rak@netaxs.com, mailed to the Society's P.O. Box or the Kabakjian's home address, or given to the Secretary or Rich K. in writing at the meetings.

Dues Reminder - to all Active and General members: Your dues are due every April 1st. If your dues are not paid by July 1st, you automatically become a Suspended member *and you will not be able to vote at any meeting (and especially in January)* until they are. If you are having severe financial difficulties, you can contact any Board member for special consideration. Check your Bylaws. If you need a copy, contact the Secretary by phone, e-mail, or pick one up at the Meeting.

Art Group - meets the fourth Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. for 4 hours. Please help P.S.F.S. by supplying your own materials such as pencils, paper, and other art supplies. You can contact hosts Bridget Boyle or Barb Higgins for the specific supplies you'll need. Call (215) 423-2076 for more information or directions.

Ira Kaplowitz - is looking for Chicago in 2000 S.F. Writer baseball cards to convert a membership. If you have extras you would be willing to trade or sell see Ira or Becky.

Carol Kabakjian - has a collection of Star Trek action figures (all in the original packaging) for sale. Contact her if you're interested.

John Desmond - says a gaming group that meets on Thursdays has been started up at Houston Hall. They also sponsor a Phila. gamers' email list. See John if you're interested.

Prydonians of Princeton - S.F. club hold their meetings in Northern N.J. at the main branch of the Mercer County Library on the first Saturday of each month at 1 pm. They also put out a magazine called "The Renegade".

Dino Fest - 1998 in Philadelphia at the Civic Center from March 27 to April. All the top people in the field of paleontology, dinosaurs, and other things. Our own Bob Walters has been selected as the Art Director for the project.

Babylon 5 - Will be on TNT at 10:00 on Wednesdays (opposite South Park) starting Jan 21. See Page 4 for details.

Hugo Information - Terry S. S. Graybill reminded everyone that the deadlines for nominating and voting for this year's Hugos will be a month earlier. The Society's Hugo Predictions Panel program will probably be in June 1998.

Alien Resurrection - Tony announced that H. R. Giger didn't get an on-screen credit again this time. You can send your letters of protest to 20th Century Fox at www.fox-world.com

Billie Madle, wife of Robert Madle (one of our Founding Members) passed away in early December 1997.

Condolences should be sent to: Bob Madle, 4406 Bestor Drive, Rockville, MD 20853

General Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes of the General PSFS meeting held on December 12th, 1997, at International House. The meeting was called to order at 8:11 pm.

Proxies: Leslie Ann Alpert to Gary Feldbaum and Marie Schwarzl to Tasha Kelly

Corrections to the Minutes: None. The minutes were approved as printed. One correction was made to the announcements (sorry, Hank. CK).

Officers' Reports:

President: Welcome to the December meeting. Because this is the post-Philcon meeting, any sense of decorum, riotousness, honor, or good taste will be out the window.

It's been two months, lots've happened. Tony thanked everyone for going to and having a good time at Halloween party which was hosted by Tina, Becky, Tim, Tony, Oz, Shelley, and Bruce. The rumors about Tony and the chainsaw are true and they'll never let it happen again.

A month ago was Philcon. Tony said he'd like to thank all the people who worked Philcon especially all the non-members who worked Philcon (subtle hint). He also wanted to curse the gods who really hated us that weekend; the earthquake (3.5 centered in Lancaster, PA), the snow (in the New England area), and the rain, and everything else that happened on the East coast that weekend.

Vice President: Tony said since Oz wasn't here we'd take comments from the chair. He held the mike toward the chair and got no comment. Carol said she thought he probably felt very sat-upon. Rich Ferree moved, Tony Finan second, to thank the Vice President for his brief report. Passed.

Then Oz showed up and gave a real report. He reported that we've confirmed Walter Jon Williams as a Special Guest of Philcon 1998 and hope to have news about our Principal Speaker, Artist Guest, and other Special Guest by January. We had cable TV coverage at Philcon 1997. We got numerous thank-you's from the Pros. Tonight's non-member attendee is a refugee from Philcon 1997.

The location of our after meeting get-together is The New Deck Tavern, at 3408 Sansom St. They have reserved a room for 30 for us and will keep the kitchen open until midnight. They'll have an extra case of Chimay for us as well.

Secretary: If you've got an announcement, meeting, or special event you want listed in the newsletter please give me the information *in writing*. If I don't receive the information in written form I won't guarantee that your notice will be listed (*accurately if at all*) in the Newsletter or on the Hotline. You can e-mail me at rak@netaxs.com, come to the meeting and give the information to me or to Rich (at the Treasurer's table), or snail mail it to the P.O. Box or my

home address (in the Society's Directory).

Treasurer: Gary said (in reference to Philcon), "we have money. I keep on putting more money in. I'll let you know when it's all in there and we have the exact numbers. I haven't a clue whether we've made or lost money. We'll figure that out soon." The Art Show checks have gone out and at least some have already been received. Gary thanked everyone who helped him. We're opening an account at Royal Bank so we don't have all our money at one firm. We're in our third checkbook in the past month or so. We seem to write a "hellofalot" of checks around Philcon.

2 Year Director (Tina): said, "hi. I'd like to thank everybody who helped out at Philcon especially those people who are not members of the Society. That's a not subtle hint. Basically, more members of the Society should work for the convention. Our convention's the main money push for the year and more people should help. Thank you."

2 Year Director (Avi): Not here.

1 Year Director (Shelley): Not here.

Special Business:

P.S.F.S. '98 Board Nominations: John Syms moved, several second, to open the nominations for the Board of Directors. Passed.

President:

Todd Dashoff (Lew Wolkoff, none) declined

Tina Blanco (Todd Dashoff, Rich Ferree) accepted

Oz Fontecchio (Darrell S., Neil Davis & Ira K.) accepted

Vice President:

Tony Finan (John Syms, none) declined

Joni Dashoff (Steve Fisher, Lew Wolkoff) declined

Hank Smith (Ira Donewitz, John Desmond) accepted

Tim Binder (Tina Blanco, Oz Fontecchio) accepted by email

Bridget Boyle (Neil Davis, none) declined

Secretary:

Carol Kabakjian (Rich Kabakjian, several) accepted

Bridget Boyle (Ira Donewitz, Lew Wolkoff) declined

Treasurer:

Gary Feldbaum (Ira Kaplowitz, several) accepted

2 Year Director:

Tony Finan (Joni Dashoff, John Syms) accepted

Shelley Handen (Oz F., John Desmond) accepted in writing

Sara Paul (Ira Donewitz, John Desmond) declined

1 Year Director:

Todd Dashoff (Lew Wolkoff, none) declined

Lew Wolkoff (Ira Donewitz, many) accepted

Becky Jollensten (Tony Finan, Tina Blanco) pending

Shelley Handen (Oz F., Tina Blanco) accepted in writing

Ira Donewitz (Bridget Boyle, Lew Wolkoff) declined

At this point the Officers of the Board started to throw fortune cookies at the membership. No injuries reported.

John Desmond moved, several second, to close nominations. Passed.

Committee Reports:

Art Group: Bridget announced that the meetings are still being held every month. (See *Announcements* for details.)

Education Committee: Lew Wolkoff reported that we had the short story contest and the winners attended Philcon and the P.S.F.S. meeting that was held there.

The application for the historical marker at Milt Rothman's house has been filed. He is currently in the process of getting materials from academics; having letters of support from academics would help in the decision making. James Gunn and Gregory Benford have been contacted, and Lew will contact several more in the near future. If you know any academics, have any suggestions, or can write a letter in support of a historical marker to honor the site of the first Science Fiction Convention, contact Lew. Every letter helps. We have one chance in four of getting the marker.

Space Sciences: Hank Smith has a list of events to be held in the near future. Please see him for details.

No Fund: Ira Kaplowitz represented the committee in the absence of John Prenis. We have four boxes of stuff. John Desmond has a filk song about Xena to the tune of "A Modern Major General" by Gilbert & Sullivan.

Programming: Oz introduced James Morrow to the Society. January's programming is what we call amateur's night.

Special Events: Mobie Night: Oz announced the viewing of "Scream 2" scheduled for Saturday, December 20, at the UA Riverview at 7:40. **New Year's Eve Party:** will be hosted again this year by Oz Fontecchio & Lee and Diane Weinstein at the Weinstein's home at 1312 Harrison St., Philadelphia, starting at 8:00 pm. The Society is invited.

Book Discussion: January's book will be *War of the Worlds* by H. G. Wells, Sunday, Jan 25, Oz's home in Philadelphia. **February's** book will be *The Postman* by David Brin, day, date, and time TBA. Call Oz at (215) 563-7538 for more info.

Old Business: none.

New Business: none.

Meeting adjourned around 11:30 pm.

Board Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes of the PSFS Board meeting held on December 16th, 1997, at Carol's home. The meeting was called to order at 8:52 pm.

Board members present: Tony, Oz, Carol, and Tina.

Others present: Rich K.

Officers' Reports

President: "Hi. Thanks for dinner. It was yummy. Merry Christmas."

Vice President: Oz liked the dinner. We finally heard from our first choice for the special event at the U. of PA and he won't be able to come. Oz will talk to his contact at Penn and see who else they would be willing to give us the space for free for and try to set it up by the end of this term.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Not here.

Two Year Director (Tina): "Hi. Wonderful dinner. Happy New Year. Merry Christmas."

Two Year Director (Avi): Not here.

One Year Director (Shelley): Not here.

Committee Reports & Old Business: none.

New Business:

Electronic Equipment: Tony reported that a member of the Society requested that the Board consider purchasing a self-contained monitor and VCR combination. Oz and Carol asked why. Tony said "so we can show stuff and he can rent it from us." After a short discussion the Board decided unanimously to recommend that we don't purchase the equipment. It is an outlay of money that we don't need. Also we'd have to find storage space. If we need such a set-up at a meeting we can rent it for the evening. Oz pointed out that the 501(c)3 statute says we can not take steps specifically to benefit a member of the Society.

Adjourned at 9:15 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held on January 6th at 8:30 pm at Oz's (see *Meeting Notices* for details.)

Board of Directors

- President** Tony Finan.....(215) 744-6045
- Vice President** Oz Fontecchio.....(215) 563-7538
- Secretary** Carol Kabakjian.....(610) 623-1139
- Treasurer** Gary Feldbaum.....(215) 673-4044
- 2 Year Director** Tina Blanco..... (215) 744-6045
- 2 Year Director** Avi Freedman.....(215) 576-8669
- 1 Year Director** Shelley Handen..... (610) 642-6061

Questions? Comments? Contact any Board Member at the above numbers or use the Hotline.
To send e-mail to the board, write to bored@cyber.com

PSFS News

PSFS News is the Newsletter and Corporate Minutes of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, published monthly as a benefit of membership. It is available free to Active and General Members of the Society, and to any SF club or organization wishing to trade newsletters. Non-members or Inactive Members may subscribe at an annual cost of \$10/year.

PSFS News welcomes submissions, and is seeking to expand. Anyone wishing to contribute articles (book or movie reviews, discussion group or convention reports, announcements, etc.) is encouraged to do so. We prefer that articles be e-mailed (send to rak@netaxs.com), but they may be mailed if necessary to the P.O. Box. Deadline is two weeks before the next general meeting.

PSFS News is produced on a Macintosh using ClarisWorks 4.0, and is printed on a Desk-Writer 320. Emailed articles may be either submitted as plain text, or as attached Claris-Works files (use macbinary or binhex if available). Other file formats may be possible. Artwork or photos are also welcome in any Mac graphics format, or we can scan originals if mailed to us.

PSFS News Editor & Publisher: Rich Kabakjian. Secretary: Carol Kabakjian. Regular contributors: Henry Lazarus, Lee Weinstein. All contents © 1997 by The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society and the individual contributors.

PSFS Bylaws

Greatest Hits, Vol. 1

ARTICLE V Meetings of the Society

Section 7. Proxies

- (a) Every active and general member entitled to vote at a meeting of the membership may authorize another member to vote for that member by proxy.
- (b) No active or general member may designate as their proxy any person who is not a member in good standing.
- (c) No person may exercise the proxies of more than four members in addition to his or her own vote.
- (d) All proxies shall be in writing and signed and dated by the member designating their proxy or by the member's attorney in fact. The proxy shall be presented to the Secretary for filing by the member to be represented, or at the meeting, by the member holding the proxy. No proxy is valid for any question if it is presented after voting on that question has begun.
- (e) A proxy is valid only for the one meeting designated therein, and for any adjournments of that meeting. Every proxy shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting for which it is valid.
- (f) A proxy may specify a certain vote or position to be taken on a specific subject or subjects, or can be a general power of attorney for any and all business that may come before the meeting or can be any combination or permutation thereof. Every proxy may be revoked by the member executing it by giving notice to the Secretary, but a proxy is not revoked by the member's attendance at the meeting for which it is given.
- (g)
- (1) A proxy may be reassigned in accordance with the explicit instructions in the proxy.
 - (2) The Secretary, acting Secretary or their designee shall cast all proxy votes to the extent that a specific position or vote is prescribed when
 - (A) the proxy is not validly reassigned; and
 - (B) the designated proxy holder is not present.

ARTICLE IV Membership

Section 3. Determination of Membership Class

- (i) Any person may appeal their membership classification to the Board of Directors by giving written notice to the Secretary. The appeal shall be heard and voted upon at the next meeting of the Board, unless the person making the appeal consents to a postponement of the vote. A majority of the Directors present and voting shall be required to decide an appeal. The person may then appeal the Board's determination to the membership, by giving written notice to the Secretary within sixty (60) days after the decision of the Board. The appeal shall be decided by a majority vote of the membership of the Corporation at the next meeting of the membership, unless the person appealing consents to a postponement of the vote.

B5 on TNT - The Schedule

The Guide to Babylon 5 (0:30) Dec 26, 11pm; Dec 28, 11pm & 2am; Jan 3, 11am & 5:30pm; Jan 4/5, 12:00am

What is Babylon 5? (0:30) Jan 4/5, 2:30am & 5:30am

In the Beginning (*TNT Original Movie*): Jan 4, 8pm & 12:30am; Jan 10, 8pm; Jan 14, 10pm

The Gathering (*Re-edited Pilot*): Jan 4, 10pm (One chance!)

Reruns of Seasons 1-4: begins Jan. 5th, 7:00 pm nightly.

Season 5: Wed. 10pm, repeated on following Sat 7pm.

01/21/98	501	No Compromises
01/28/98	502	The Very Long Night of Londo Mollari
02/04/98	503	The Paragon of Animals
02/11/98	504	A View from the Gallery
02/18/98	505	Learning Curve
02/25/98	506	Strange Relations
03/04/98	507	Secrets of the Soul
03/11/98	508	In the Kingdom of the Blind
03/18/98	509	Cat and Mouse
03/25/98	511	Phoenix Rising
04/01/98	510	Day of the Dead
04/08/98	512	The Ragged Edge
04/15/98	513	The Corps is Mother, The Corps is Father
04/22/98	514	Meditations on the Abyss

06/17/98 522 Sleeping in Light

The Big Nights:

12/28/97	8:00 PM	2001: A Space Odyssey (pan&scan, hosted by Bruce Boxleitner and Jerry Doyle)
	11:00 PM	The Guide to Babylon 5
	11:30 PM	2010 (Unhosted)
	12:00 AM	The Guide to Babylon 5
	2:30 AM	2001: A Space Odyssey (letterbox, hosted by Bruce Boxleitner and Jerry Doyle)
01/04/98	8:00 PM	In the Beginning
	10:00 PM	The Gathering
	12:00 AM	The Guide To Babylon 5
	12:30 AM	In the Beginning
	2:30 AM	What is Babylon 5?
	3:00 AM	Casablanca
	5:30 AM	What is Babylon 5?

==== <http://tnt.turner.com/babylon5/> ====

Call the PSFS Hotline
(215) 957-4004

PSFS & Philcon Meeting Info
Leave Messages
Last Minute Meeting Cancellation Info

Books for January

by Henry Leon Lazarus

"Conclusion: For this you will have to undertake the third (or possibly the fifth) Tour of the trilogy. If you do not immediately book for the whole set, you may well find yourself stranded halfway across the continent with having completed your Quest or discovered your Birthright." This definition from Diana Wynne Jones's *The Tough Guide to Fantasy Land* (trade from Vista in England and one of the three books I bought at the last convention) demonstrates how difficult it is to get to the ending of some series. Since this month is filled with parts of series, I thought it particularly appropriate.

Terry Goodkind gets around the series problem by having his hero, Richard, confront a new problem with each book. In his fourth adventure he must go to the lost *Temple of the Winds* (hard from TOR) to stop a magically induced plague. The plot may be a bit silly, but I read it on a plane and didn't drowse off for the four hours of flying. Felicity Savage takes a different approach for her excellent trilogy, *Ever*. It can be considered a historical novel set against an imaginary history. In the second part, *The Daemon in the Machine* (trade from Harper Prism). Chrispin and his friend Micky escape the war in the waste, now going badly for the Ferupian forces, and find Micky's family in the Significant Kingdom, killing the daemon that drives their plane to get there. After escaping the fire that engulfs the city, Chrispin goes to his ancestral home of Lamaroon where the increasing growth of daemons are affecting everything. I am in awe at what Ms. Savage has accomplished in this series, and can't wait for the conclusion.



Stephen King's *Dark Tower* series may never have a conclusion, but it is easily the best writing Mr. King has ever done. In the fourth volume, *Wizard and Glass* (Trade from Plume), Roland the gunslinger takes a quiet time in the quest to tell the others of his first adventure, and his first love and of the evil that still pursues him. Connie Willis's latest adventure about the Oxford traveling group sends a time lagged (like jet lag) traveler to 1888 with a misplaced cat and a quest to draw two lovers together so that a diary will fit, and a quest to find the Bishop's bird stump (don't

ask) that was destroyed in the Nazi bombing of Coventry Cathedral in 1940 and important for the rebuilt structure in the 21st century. *To Say Nothing of the Dog* (Hard from Bantam Spectra) is a riotous love story where everything works out in the end in spite of her character's attempts to fail. Brenda W. Clough introduces the odd idea that super powers might be an affliction. In *How Like a God* (paper from Tor) Rob ends up fleeing his family and living on the streets for fear he will affect them after he develops the power to control people.



Neat. C. J. Cherryh is doing a trilogy sequel to her long, but excellent, *Fortress in the Eye of Time* (paper from Harper Prism). Tristan, who had been created by a wizard, now has been given rule of a Province in Fortress of Eagles and has to retake the capitol from renegades as the forces of war grow. I liked it a lot.



Now for some mysteries. Robert J. Sawyer considers the plight of an alien from a first contact to Earth group, being accused of murder and facing a very public trial. I couldn't put it down. Dean Koontz introduces us to Chris, a man afflicted by a genetic disease that never lets him near the sun or fluorescent lighting. In *Fear Nothing* (hard from Bantam), his first adventure, mysterious men and a troop of wild monkeys linked to biological research at a nearby closed army base, steal his father's corpse and chase him when he discovers them.



S. M. Stirling and James Doohan (Scotty) have a light little tale in *Rising* (paper from Baen) about a flight engineer on a new starship who has to find the saboteur on board who murdered his predecessor. Nice, fun action scenes make up for a generic background and a one dimensional villain who was a bit too obvious. I wanted to like *Four and Twenty Blackbirds* (Hard from Baen). Mercedes Lackey has a neat magical twist to the Jack the Ripper scenario. The killer magically takes over someone and makes that person do the killing, getting two victims for the price of one. However because the ending was predictable and the characters not fun, it just didn't work for me.

The latest William Shatner book, *In Alien Hands* (hard from Harper Prism) is much better than *Delta Search* (paper) the first in this series. This time Jim, the boy with the information in his DNA, enlists in an alien mercenary company and discovers his true talents. It's a lot of fun. I missed the first book of Ken Hood's tale of a medieval Europe haunted by demons. In *Demon Rider* (Paper from Harper Prism), Longdirk, the man possessed by an Irish hob, wanders across a Spain that could have been conceived by Cervantes and even has a Don Quixote type character to fend with. It stands alone, but I found the first is out of print when I went looking for it. The tale is very impressively written.

Finally some odds and ends. Rick Shelly's *Return to Camerein* (paper from Ace) ends a sf military trilogy with the marines going in to rescue a lost prince, stranded by the war for seven years at a hotel. *Polgara the Sorceress* by David and Leigh Eddings gives the three thousand years of her story, a must have for fans of the Belgariad series. Diane Duane takes some cats on an adventure to a world of dinosaurs in *The Book of Night with Moon* (paper from Aspect). As a cat owner myself, I couldn't see cats with jobs, let alone as engineers for the magical portals the wizards use. If that doesn't bother you, it's a fun read.

Trade collections include Greg Egan's odd time warped stories, *Axiomatic* (Harper Prism) and *A Magic Lover's Treasury of the Fantastic* (Aspect) with older stories found by Margaret Weis.

The oddest paper collection is *Revelations* (Harper Prism), a decade by decade listing of the coming Apocalypse edited by Douglas E. Winter. Greg Benford offers *The New Hugo Winners, Volume IV* (conventions 92-94) (Baen) which are the fan's best of the year choices. Elizabeth Moon has a collection of her own stories, *Phases* (Baen). Gardner and Dozois and Sheila Williams have stories from the magazine, *Isaac Asimov's Christmas* (Ace). Finally, Josepha Sherman and Keith R. A. DeCandido have managed to talk authors into stories about common *Urban Nightmares* (Baen) like alligators in the sewers of New York.

Media books include a new and expanded *The Star Trek Encyclopedia* (hard from Pocket and edited by Michael and Denise Okuda) which now even includes Voyager info, *Star Wars: The Essential Guide to Weapons and Technology* (Trade from Del Ray), and a nice *Magic: The Gathering* calendar (Workman Publishing).

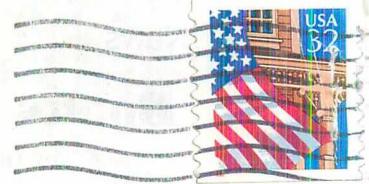
Paper back reprints include: Walter Jon Williams's excellent sequel to Metropolitan which I've read twice, *City on Fire* (Harper Prism); Fred Saberhagen's *Pilgrim* (Baen) joins two related Egyptian time travel novels; Alan Dean Foster's *The Howling Stones* (Del Ray) about primitives with left over high technology; another dragon novel by Gordon R. Dickson, *The Dragon and the Djinn* (Ace); and Jody Lynn Nye's new ship novel *The Ship Errant* (Baen).

Finally avoid Jules Verne's lost manuscript, *Paris in the Twentieth Century* (Trade from Del Ray) unless you are a student of his works. It's a diatribe against the mechanization of the world overwhelming art against a well-realized twentieth century.

--Henry L Lazarus hlazar@netaxs.com



Philadelphia Science Fiction Society
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 Philadelphia, PA 19101-8303
 Forwarding & Address Correction Requested



12/29

NYSFS, The Lunarians Inc. (T)
 PO Box 3566
 New York, NY 10008-3566

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Meeting Notices

General Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, General Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month in the South America Room at International House, 37th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Business meeting starts at 8 pm. Program starts at 9 pm.

The elections of the Board of Directors of P.S.F.S. will be held at the Annual Meeting in January 1998. If the January meeting is canceled, the elections will be held at the first General Meeting in 1998 that takes place.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Guest/Agenda</u>
January 9, 1998	Annual Election Meeting
February 20, 1998 3rd Fri.	Jonathan Lethem
March 13, 1998	Stuart Moore
April 10, 1998	(<i>unscheduled</i>)
June 12, 1998	Annual Hugo Panel

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host/Location</u>
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Board of Directors	
Tues., Jan. 6, 1998, 8:30 pm	Oz Fontecchio, Sterling Building, 1815 JFK Blvd. #1708, Philadelphia; (215) 563-7538

Philcon '97 Post-mortem

has not been set yet

Rich & Carol Kabakjian, 17 Lewis Ave., East Lansdowne; (610) 623-1139 (623-4388 during the meeting.)

About the Society

The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society (PSFS) is a non-profit organization that meets monthly to discuss and promote science fiction and fantasy in literature, the arts, and popular culture. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month at International House, 37th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia. Meetings consist of business proceedings from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., followed by a guest speaker involved in some area of Science Fiction or Fantasy, such as writers, editors, artists, publishers, etc.

In addition, PSFS sponsors an annual science fiction conference, Philcon, and has many special interest subgroups; such as the Book Discussion Group, which meets monthly to discuss a work of science fiction or fantasy; and the Special Events Group, which attends science fiction and fantasy movies and other events.

Membership in the society is open to everyone. Becoming a member is easy. Attend your first meeting; we'll say "Hello." At your second meeting, you can nominate yourself for membership or ask someone else to nominate you. At the next meeting you attend following your nomination, you're eligible to be voted in as a General Member. Our current dues are \$15 for a full year (\$24 for couples), and attendance at 4 meetings each year maintains the status of Active Member.