



THE INTERNET EMAIL ONE SHOT

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© 1998 Steve Hughes | 195 North Mill Ct | Atlanta, Ga 30328 | steve@shughes.com

When I sent out the message asking for contributions to this zine, I really didn't expect to get 14 pages worth. As it is, almost everyone submitted something including two past members. The original request was sent to everybody on the last OO roster. Richard Brandt's address was not valid and none of the other addresses I had for him would work.

Putting it together proved to be quite a challenge. For some reason *Word* applied it's own formatting to each email message as I imported it into the master document, different formatting! Then *Word* put invisible frames around some of the text making it very hard to change things.

The messages are presented in the order I received them. I did chop out any "reply" text from old messages unless it was needed to explain comments.

Thanks for all the contributions. It was fun doing this zine. See you guys in the mailing..

Published for the 204th mailing of SFPA on July 15, 1998

## Contributors:

Eve Ackerman  
Ned Brooks  
Gary Brown  
Jeff Copeland  
Liz Copeland  
Richard Dengrove  
Janice Gelb  
Arthur Hlavaty  
Binker Hughes  
Steve Hughes  
Irv Koch  
Janet Larson  
Guy H. Lillian III  
Gary Robe  
David Schlosser  
Mike Weber  
T.K.F. Weiskopf  
George Wells  
JoAnn Montalbano (past member)  
Ruth Judkowitz (past member)

**From: Steve Hughes [steve@shughes.com]**  
**Subject: The first SFPA email One shot**

Hi,

A few days ago Janice and I happen to be exchanging emails and the idea of an email oneshot came up. The thought is that anyone who wants to help sends me an email with their contribution. I will collate all the replies and turn them into a one shot for the next mailing. For this to work we need a relatively short deadline like the 14th both to give me time to put it together and to lend some immediacy to the project.

Don't worry about format, I can convert almost anything to a format I can print. Just send as normal text or in word processor format.

So anyone who wants to be part of a SFPA "first" send me something. If you want to reply to everyone so they can see what other people are doing, that's great.

I'll put this together on Wed the 15th next week.

Take care.

-----  
The All E-Mail Inter Net One Shot

"Cowboys Save The World" well it would have made a pretty good alternate title for Armageddon. I will admit that I liked the movie but it was pretty lame plot and character wise. The science was awful; noticeable gravity, when the 'plot' needed it, on a Texas sized asteroid was the least of the problems. Was it a fun movie? Oh yeah, Suzanne and I really enjoyed it. There's not a dull second in the whole movie and that's saying something given that it's over two hours long. It's a definite to see at a theater with at big screen and a good sound system.

The X Files on the other hand was a real disappointment. It's basically an over long TV episode without any of the atmosphere that makes the show so good. Even the little kids sitting behind us were bored. I always try not to expect too much of a new movie but sometime it's hard to keep expectations safely low. If I'd never saw an episode of the TV show I might have liked The X Files. It wasn't bad if you looked at it as a grade "B" SF flick.

OK, my general outlook on life might be a little on the dark side at the moment due to my foot problem. That might even explain my being a little more critical then usual. Those of you who were at DSC know I was limping around the whole time. I've got a bone spur on my left heel and it hurts all the time. Not a lot, just enough to always remind me it's there. The doctor says there are several things we can do that might clear it up and we're going to try every one of them before he gets to try fixing the problem with a knife. I really hate surgery and I'm going to put up with this problem for a long time before I get that desperate. In the mean time it makes me more then a little hard to live with, poor Suzanne!

**From: Cuyler Brooks [nedbrooks@sprynet.com]**

**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Hi Steve & Suzanne - I have been here a week and a day, and the Stuff has been here a week - Ghu knows when it will all be unpacked. I am working on it. It weighed in finally at 50,000 lbs. Found three things busted already - I've read that the old collectors said that "Two moves were as bad as a fire" - but the computers are ok and I have the same e-mail address.

Sorry to hear about your foot. I don't really see what can be done for a bone spur except by surgery - I had something similar with my right shoulder. The surgery is very minor, the incision is hardly a quarter-inch long. And it was successful - I couldn't raise my arm more than shoulder-high, and now it seems completely normal.

Haven't talked to any of the local fans except Hank, back in the hospital with pneumonia and a fever of 103 alas. I generally work all day at unpacking and then eat dinner at my mother's house. I get a little SF read, I have finished Jack Vance's excellent Ports of Call, which ends in the middle so I guess there will be a sequel. If I were doing this in FancyFont the book title would be in bold, but I am not sure whether everyone getting this can handle anything beyond plain ascii. I will try it.

Anyone have Anne Robertson's address or phone number or e-mail address? I ran into her at DSC and she said she lived out in this same distant suburb and that there was a local fan group, but I have lost the reference. No use looking in the phone book, there are too many Robertsons.

Well, that's more than I usually manage in a oneshot - I hope this SFPA e-mail doesn't do to SFPA what the Slanet has about done to the print version of Slanapa!

**From: Emshandar@aol.com**

**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Bne spur? I've got one of those on my right heel -- not as bad as it might be, but still, it annoys me. Other than that -- and still being unemployed -- everything is Simply Wonderful.

What with everything, i've been Sorely Depressed over the recent weeks --

getting worse as i get closer to the end of the Unemployment Insurance and no jobs turn up. Periodically, an agency goes "Have we got the job for you!" and then it goes "Pffft!" -- one client ((for whom i had worked before, in a different division)) turned me down because my resume showed that i was "Overqualified and under-experienced". Sounds like that sheriff in South Carolina ((as i heard it, anyway)) who got busted and removed from office for "Malfeasance, misfeasance -and- nonfeasance in office".

Periodically, i free-associate from my mention of depression in the above paragraph, someone asks me what clinical depression looks like from the inside. Do you know Peggie Lee's song "Is That All There Is?"? And do you know Shel Silverstein's "The ballad of Lucy Jordan" ((as performed by Marianne Faithfull))? Okay. Make a tpe that repeats just those two songs over and over and listen to it at barely above subliminal levels all day while you're trying to do something else or live a normal life...

But Cowboy Mouth played the Roxie last month -- and Richard Thompson is playing the Variety Playhouse next week ((and maybe i can afford it))...

Maybe i'll make it, agan, one more time...

<mike weber>

PS: Got an e-mail from Pat Morrell last night -- at least -she's- been successful in a job search -- she starts soon at a school (i think) bookstore in a small town in Virginia!

**From: Wells [gwells@suffolk.lib.ny.us]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Dear Steve,

i took the liberty of forwarding your message to a few ex-Sfpans whose e-mail addresses I have in my mailbox. I hope this is okay. And I hope to send you something  
ghw

**From: Irvin M. Koch [irvkoch@sprintmail.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Steve Hughes wrote:

> A few days ago Janice and I happen to be exchanging emails and the idea of  
> an email oneshot came up. The thought is that anyone who wants to help sends  
> me an email with their contribution. I will collate all the replies and turn  
> them into a one shot for the next mailing. For this to work we need a  
> relatively short deadline like the 14th both to give me time to put it  
> together and to lend some immediacy to the project.

Yeah, but you have to make people NOT hit the "Reply to ALL" key or we get a "list" instead of a oneshot, and it gets messy. In any case, not 5 minutes ago, I got my Sprintmail full internet account working from Atl11 ... uh ... HOTlanta ... at a location not normally advertised.

> Don't worry about format, I can convert almost anything to a format I can  
> print. Just send as normal text or in word processor format.

You also get to figure how much quotes to retain <G>.

BTW, did you get the photos I sent and how goes they? (This is of the last DSC, mostly Rubble Award stuff.)

> So anyone who wants to be part of a SFPA "first" send me something. If you  
> want to reply to everyone so they can see what other people are doing,  
> that's great.

NO IT IS NOT. It eats time and clutters systems. Some idiot in MENSA  
did this and it took months to get everyone to stop broadcasting the  
list that had been compiled. This also undercuts SFPA in general ...  
but that's a long and involved discussion.

> "Cowboys Save The World" well it would have made a pretty good alternate  
> title for Armageddon. I will admit that I liked the movie but it was pretty  
> lame plot and character wise. The science was awful; noticeable gravity,  
> when the 'plot' needed it, on a Texas sized asteroid was the least of  
What ... ME ... go to a movie? Only if Kay wants to. <G>

> The X Files on the other hand was a real disappointment. It's basically an  
> over long TV episode without any of the atmosphere that makes the show  
THAT gets talked about at "the store." It's therefore "another story."  
Actually, "what gets discussed at the store" is a topic in itself.

/s/ Irv in Chattatlanta

**From: Irvin M. Koch [irvkoch@sprintmail.com]  
Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Cuyler Brooks wrote:

DO NOT REPLY TO ALL ... I'm sending this to the One Shot as well as you  
but do not recommend this be done by others.

> Hi Steve & Suzanne - I have been here a week and a day, and the Stuff  
> has been here a week - Ghu knows when it will all be unpacked. I am  
> working on it. It weighed in finally at 50,000 lbs. Found three things  
> busted already - I've read that the old collectors said that "Two  
> moves were as bad as a fire" - but the computers are ok and I have the  
> same e-mail address.

Glad to hear you're in Atlanta metro now. We must visit....

> Anyone have Anne Robertson's address or phone number or e-mail  
> address? I ran into her at DSC and she said she lived out in this same  
> distant suburb and that there was a local fan group, but I have lost  
> the reference. No use looking in the phone book, there are too many  
> Robertsons.

If you mean Ann Robards, art show type, of Chattanooga, I can help....

> Well, that's more than I usually manage in a oneshot - I hope this  
> SFPA e-mail doesn't do to SFPA what the Slanet has about done to the  
> print version of Slanapa!

Please describe. Similar has happened elsewhere and is NOT GOOD.

**From: Wells [gwells@suffolk.lib.ny.us]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

George Wells here. Just wanted to send one HASTY reply to Steve's review of the X-Files theatrical movie.... My wife Jill and I have now seen it three times and I am seeing more and more things in it. I "finally" saw, this last time, the poster of INDEPENDENCE DAY that is on the wall in the alley...  
One of the FBI fellows on the roof is played by T W King who starred in Mark Verheiden's TIMECOP tv show.  
Anyway, I am disappointed that the movie let Steve down (he deserves great experiences), but don't let his review stop you from seeing it. Please see it several times so that they will have enough money to make a LOT of sequels!!!!  
And don't miss The Truman Show---it's not a goofy comedy.  
Best, G Wells

**From: Jeffrey Copeland [jeff@interix.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Never one to provide original content in a one-shot, I will merely comment on the stuff provided earlier.

As for "Armageddon", I found it far inferior in character development, plot, science content, and thoughtfulness when compared to "Deep Impact". But, then again, things go BOOM! Given that, which one do you think is more likely to win next year's Hugo?

As for Ned's move, I make two observations: The first is that he has ten thousand volumes, which is more than three times as many as Thomas Jefferson had in his personal library when he donated it to jump-start the Library of Congress after it was burned in the War of 1812. Second: fifty thousand pounds is more than twice the maximum of any of the moves our family of four has made.

Tonight we are off to see "X-files: The Movie"; we've promised our daughter that she can come to see "Lethal Weapon Meets Abbott and Costello" with us sometime soon; our lawyer wants to see "Small Soldiers" and is borrowing JJ tomorrow for cover.

**From: RichD22426@aol.com**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Steve,

Someone said Oneshot's should be one shot. But I'm willing to give it a shot.

Movies and books should not be scientifically or factually correct at all. It was great that the "Cowboys" producers put planet strength gravity on an asteroid. And I think their other howlers must be great too. Also, now after all these years, I appreciate the movie "Riders to the Stars," where the great mystery is Why meteors do not burn up in the atmosphere. The answer is they are coated with diamond. Since any

idiot knows that meteors do in fact burn up in the atmosphere, I think the screenwriter -- Kurt Siodimak, I believe -- was to be commended.

In fact, I feel that having the details of movies accurate is a danger to the Republic. People have enough trouble separating fact from fiction as is.

Yours,  
Rich Dengrove

**From: Gary R. Robe [grrobe@preferred.com]**  
**Subject: SFPA E-Mail One Shot**

Hi Steve!

I'm surprised that we have not gotten around to doing this before! Anyhow, here's a contribution from The Robe Experience.

This is my last day in the country until August. I will leave tomorrow for Argentina, and should get there in time to watch the World Cup final game in Buenos Aires. This will be a six-country tour including Argentina, Uruguay, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Costa Rica. I plan to send in SFPA contributions via E-mail to Jeff to report on my progress. I'll still have one week of the trip to cover in the next mailing.

I'll get back on August 2, have one day in the office to file my expense report, make reservations for the next trip, and then leave for Baltimore on the 4th. Due to the uncertainty of my schedule, we have not upgraded our memberships, and I had to make a last minute reservation at the Holiday Inn instead of the core hotels. Anyhow, we do plan to be at Worldcon.

Another change here is that we are hosting two of the players for the rookie league Kingsport Mets in our house. We have five bedrooms here, and the basement is like a small apartment to start with, so it is no great inconvenience for us, and is actually turning out to be fun. Our two players are David Wheeler, a right handed pitcher from Spokane, and Tom Paciorek Jr., outfielder from Atlanta, and son of former major leaguer Tom Sr. The main advantages of having them here so far is to keep Corlis company while I'm travelling, and Dave has volunteered to keep the grass cut for the next month! Oh, and we get free admittance to the K-Mets home games.

That's about enough shooting the one for now.

See y'all at Worldcon!

Gary Robe

**From: Wells [gwells@suffolk.lib.ny.us]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Here's another contribution to the one-shot by George H. Wells.

More re: THE X FILES movie; Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert both gave it very favorable reviews. I was surprized because 1) Siskel doesn't seem to like anything, and 2) Ebert said he hadn't seen the tv show much and he's more well-versed than Siskel in things of an sf or fantasy nature. Both, particularly Siskel, said the story-telling in the movie was refreshingly free of the predictable plotlines of movies (the two partners would hate each other in the beginning, learn a gruding respect, and then become best friends or lovers at the end, probably), and also free of the habit of movie-makers to SPELL EVERYTHING OUT. ((Or if they're making an art movie, make things incomprehensible.)) [ I am putting into my words what I perceived from the Siskel and Ebert Show. ]

My wife Jill has watched some episodes of the X Files, but avoided a lot, to save time and to avoid gross visuals. After seeing the theatrical movie, she has read the novelization, bought magazines with X Files coverage, bought both soundtrack albums (not that she liked "all" of the contents), watched every rerun broadcast that we get ((this excludes the FX cable channel which isn't available to us)), and seen the movie twice more (as have I). So it must have some things going for it, as I would consider her a fairly difficult audience to please. (In that regard, she was willing to see THE TRUMAN SHOW movie with me and told a friend on the phone that it was the best (or one of the best) movie(s) she had ever seen... Of course, this was before seeing the X Files movie.)

So, as much as I am sorry Steve was disappointed in it, I hope you all will buy tickets to the X Files movie as often as possible (unless you really don't like it.....

Signing off...your pal, G H Wells

On Fri, 10 Jul 1998, Wells wrote:

**From: Eve Ackerman [EAckerman@compuserve.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

>>"Cowboys Save The World" well it would have made a pretty good alternate title for Armageddon.<<

And as a subtitle we could have "Let's see how much cheap emotion, bad science and way too many last minute disasters we can wring from this puppy--at high volume."

I feel so...used...so emotionally manipulated...I hated myself for getting misty eyed over this updated version of THE DIRTY DOZEN and THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN and every other "misfits are what you really need" flick. THE TRUMAN SHOW was much better at depicting "real" emotion in a sfnal setting.

Other than that we're off to fetch the boys from camp tomorrow and I remembered to get my Hugo votes in before the deadline. Site selection will wait till I'm at the con. Hey, I can be bribed. Oh yeah, and the fires didn't come too close, but we did get refugees and lots of smoke.

Cute idea for a one-shot.

Eve

**From: Doris Larson [djl Larson@innova.net]**  
**Subject: SFPA e-mail oneshot**

Dear Steve,

I'm at my mother-in-law's house, and I'm not computer literate enough to send this from my logon, so please excuse the strange address. She lives in Seneca, South Carolina, and her house is on Lake Keowee, so it's been a real nice vacation. We're leaving at 6 a.m. to catch a plane out of Greenville, S.C., and then to Miami, and the cruise! Yay! I am so looking forward to this cruise. We sail on the Carnival Destiny. Kyle's mother and the baby are coming along, as well as Cathryn. It should be great!

The unique thing about this ship is that it has a 200-foot waterslide. Cathryn definitely wants to go on it, and I haven't made up my mind yet. I'm just going to have to look at it and see; it depends on how fast you go on it! I do like roller coasters, but I'm not a fan of free fall for extended periods of time. (I guess I'm not going to be a good candidate for the space station, am I?).

The bad thing about this is that my son, Chris, decided not to come. He and Kyle kind of had a scene when Chris moved back in with his step-mother. So we haven't seen very much of Chris (actually we haven't seen him at all in two weeks). And since the step-mother and I don't get along (read, she hates my guts) we're not likely to see very much of him, either. Oh well, he is over 18, and I guess is entitled to screw up his life as he sees fit. Since I managed to pull a few boners in my time, I guess I can't say too much.

So this time tomorrow we will be at sea! I went ahead and sent my pages in to Liz before I left, so I doubt if you will get a report of the trip in SFPA 204. I plan to take lots of pictures, though. I bought some really cute sailor outfits for Cassie today, and I can't wait to take some shots of her in them!

Hope your summer in hot, humid, muggy Atlanta is going well. And for the rest of you SFPAn's, hope your summers are great wherever you are.....

See you in SFPA!  
Janet

**From: Cuyler Brooks [nedbrooks@sprynet.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Wells wrote:

> George Wells here. Just wanted to send one HASTY reply to Steve's  
> review of the X-Files theatrical movie.... My wife Jill and I have  
> now seen it three times and I am seeing more and more things in it.  
> I "finally" saw, this last time, the poster of INDEPENDENCE DAY that  
> is on the wall in the alley...

George, George, George...

> One of the FBI fellows on the roof is played by T W King who starred in  
> Mark Verheiden's TIMECOP tv show.

Yes, but do you know the name of his sister's cat?

> Anyway, I am disappointed that the movie let Steve down (he deserves  
> great experiences), but don't let his review stop you from seeing it.  
> Please see it several times so that they will have enough money to make a  
> LOT of sequels!!!!  
> And don't miss The Truman Show---it's not a goofy comedy.

I only go to goofy comedies...

> Best, G Wells

**From: Cuyler Brooks [nedbrooks@sprynet.com]  
Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

GUY LILLIAN wrote:

> Ned -- I can't figure this business out. Please add my contribution  
> for me and send it along to everyone.

What's to figure out, you were supposed to send it to Hughes instead of  
me. Or both.

This is going to you and him. CHAL got a nice review in Sean  
MacLachlan's ichthyoelectroanalgesia (or itchy for short) #4.

> Someone make sure to print this  
> out so the apa will have a "hard copy" in the next mailing!  
> Greetings to all -- I am at the local Kinko's listening to a phone  
> solicitor bamboozle people with a phone scam about security systems  
> behind me, and trying to steel my nerve enough to buy an airplane  
> ticket for Baltimore tonight. I'll have more to add at another time.  
> Steve -- what's this about surgery??

>

\*\*\*\*\*

> DO YOU YAHOO!?

> Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

**From: Emshandar@aol.com  
Subject: One-Shot**

I'm confused.

Were we supposed to circulate all of this by e-mail to each other, or  
are you planning to print one set for all of SFPA?

If the former, i can resend mine to the list; otherwise, i'm confused  
as to what the others are thinking...

<mike>

**From: Arthur Hlavaty [hlavaty@panix.com]  
Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

One shots suck.

But you raise some interesting questions. You say that "Armageddon" can



**From: JoAnn Montalbano [anniejm@communique.net]  
Subject: the One Shot**

Hi, Steve -  
George Wells (and many others) forwarded me the info about the Great Email OneShot. I hope you meant to include us former members who're still in the loop (electronically, at least...) And, am I right in assuming you're going to print this all out and run it through SFPA, as well as "cc" it to everyone via email?

Here's my contrib.....

\*\*\*\*\*

What a wonderful idea this is - and here's Steve once again moving us into the modern world with another high-tech way of doing what we used to do drunkenly with stone knives and bear skins.....

I can even correct all the typos before I "Send".....

Steve, I agree with you that the X-Files movie was like one big two-part episode, which DID disappoint me a bit. However, I thought it was a GOOD two-part episode... but not the BEST one. I appreciated all the more expensive effects. I am now Officially Tired of the "almost" kisses between Mulder & Scully... either let'em do it, or else poke each other in the eye with a sharp stick.

Had I been writing the movie, I wouldn't have made it a "mythology" script at all. I would've made a super scary, gory, gross out of a thriller. Like a "stand-alone" ep in the series, but of course writ large for the Big Screen.

All that aside, however, I still liked the movie; saw it twice on opening day. I'll probably buy the video when it comes out, because I have a collection. But I didn't LOVE the movie, and I wanted to. It was really just an expensive way to watch the TV show, on a big screen. I might be content with that when the show finally leaves tv and all we can get are bi-annual movies (like we have to do now with ST:NG), but not now, when we'll be getting pretty much the same thing on a somewhat smaller scale every Sunday night at 8.

And I haven't seen ANY other movies yet this summer! And I'm already ready for another DSC!!

Love and kisses,

JoAnn

\*\*\*\*\*

Great idea, Steve, and thanks for doing the work necessary to put it together!

Hope you & Suzanne are well, and that your foot gets better soon,

JM

**From: Janice Gelb [janiceg@marvin.Eng.Sun.COM]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Count me in with Arthur as having been extremely impressed with THE TRUMAN SHOW. Jim Carrey only mugs a little bit, Ed Harris is great, and the film is very thought-provoking. Remember, everyone who goes to see DARK CITY or LOST IN SPACE should look for my brother's ADR group, Ear Whacks, in the credits!

-- Janice

**From: Schloss17@aol.com**  
**Subject: Re: one shot**

First to Gary, the purpose of those middle-to-out slanted keyboards is to facilitate drainage if you spill something on them.

Haven't seen the Armaggedon Rag yet (geez, we're lucky to see movies before they stop playing, let alone when they've only been out for a week). However I did see The Truman Show last night and it struck me (in ways) as a sort of inside-out Twilight Zone episode since we're seeing it from the outside looking in rather than from the same perspective as the main character. And, of course, there were several TWZ episodes that used a "What's Wrong With This Situation?" plot

That's more than enough for a one-shot. And I hope that's all this is.

David 7/12

**From: Cuyler Brooks [nedbrooks@sprynet.com]**  
**Subject: Re: one shot**

Beware of any job that requires a new keyboard...

GaryB98294@aol.com wrote:

> My problem is two-fold: my modem is being repaired, so I have to send this  
> from work; and they have one of those "hand/wrsit friendly" keyboards that is  
> terrible to type on. It's raised in the middle and slants down on each side.  
> I'm not sure what it accomplishes, but I keep hitting the wrong letters --  
> especially when I want to backspace. \\\ (see!)  
> Oh well, work beckons, so this is short and sweet. Working on Oblio with my  
> new scanner, so beware.  
> Gary 7/12/98

**From: E.M.B.G. Hughes [embgh@mindspring.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Neat idea for an e-mail one-shot! Would have replied sooner, but just got a chance to pick up my e-mail. A few fragments are in the attachment.

Thanks for the deadline being Tomorrow instead of today!! Binker

***E-mail One-shot# 1*** contribution by Binker Glock Hughes <embgh@mindspring.com>

Sorry this is so late — I just got a chance to pick up e-mail [13th] so I'll be brief and just mention three recent nifties — you can use 'em as filler between other, more real stuff.

***Favorite Moment from the All-Star [baseball] Game:*** a batter slung his bat like you've never seen before — it sailed clear past 3rd base and hit about a dozen feet behind it just outside the base line before bouncing further still. Whereat the umpire calmly signalled 'Foul'. [seems like at least one of the umps got into the spirit of the game!]

***The Chronicle of Higher Education NCAA Reports*** included a few lines on the odd nickname of the Cal. State Long Beach baseball team — the Dirtbags, since their practice field is rough dirt that gets all over them [their pitching staff, having chosen to bleach their hair instead of shave it for a tournament, are known of course as the "Bleach Boys"]. The note concludes, however, that there are other oddly named teams. The U.Cal Santa Cruz tennis team just won a major championship — *Congratulations, Banana Slugs!*

***I saw the leaves of a little tree under my window fluttering wildly on a day of no wind*** and, looking closer, saw a half-grown female bluejay — literally about half the size of a full-grown one, but with feathers, not down — flapping frantically. It was figuring out how to fly. With immense concentration, it would flap its still-folded wings frantically, then pause, then try this routine again while hopping to a nearby branch — all of 3-4" away. I must have watched for half an hour as she worked her way among the collections of little branches, sometimes just hopping, sometimes flapping and hopping, sometimes not getting quite coordinated enough and retreating. Utterly cool. A couple of older birds would fly by from time to time and make sure she wasn't in any trouble, but she was too busy silently concentrating on this demanding business to even notice them. More power to her!

**From: Ruth Judkowitz [aj519@lafn.org]**  
**Subject: SFPA one-shot**

My mambo responses: THE TRUMAN SHOW = Loved it. THE X-FILES MOVIE = A 2-hour TV show and I hated the \*SPOILER ALERT\* speedy alien resurrections. \*END TEENSY SPOILER ZONE\* So derivative. Enjoyed some of Mulder and Scully's dialogue, but my overall impression of the movie (and I'm a big fan) was one of disappointment.

Hello everyone!

--

www.petridish.com (launching 7/98)

...where culture grows

For artists, crafters, creators of all kinds, metaphysical folks, and the people who appreciate them!

**From: E.M.B.G. Hughes [embgh@mindspring.com]**  
**Subject: The first SFPA email One shot**

You and Janice really seem to have started something! I ended up getting copies of lots [or all?] of the participants' replies even though each of them only had my address on it. I sent replies, but after a bit began to suspect that they were all going to everybody, too. Weird and neat! I went out of my way to send this as a new-message rather than a reply, to see if it made any difference. The file attached to the foregoing is in Word-for-Windows of course, so you probably won't have trouble opening it -- but, if the rest of the

accumulated e-mail is any indication, I shouldn't have bothered to drop out into Word to do stuff for the one-shot.

Looks like most people just typed as on a typer. I don't envy you the editing of it, but what fun!

Take care and keep in touch,  
Binker

**From: Cuyler Brooks [nedbrooks@sprynet.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

Hi Binker - Good to hear from you online. These strings of email blather can go on forever, I have no idea how Steve plans to process them into something publishable. I have umpteen home made tables in the basement to unpack stuff to.

Saw a UFO a few minutes ago. My sister and mother and I were at her house near the intersection of Clairmont & N. Decatur Rds at 9 p.m. and my sister noticed a speck in the northern sky, about 45 deg above the horizon, moving very slowly (must have taken it 5 minutes to cross the sky) to the west. The sky was nearly cloudless and still quite a light blue. The speck subtended no more than 0.1 deg of arc and I could make out no detail, nor was there any sound. But with binoculars it could be seen more clearly, though the sight made no sense - it was all black but you could see through it in places. There were no lifting surfaces or the bulk of a lighter-than-air volume. It appeared to be tumbling slowly - sometimes it looked like part of a tree. After a few minutes it altered direction so that it was moving directly away from us into the NW, and vanished behind the trees. Let me know if you hear of anyone else seeing it or any mention of what it was.

E.M.B.G. Hughes wrote:

> In which the delights of the e-mail one-shot [even if never printed and put  
> through a mlg] reveal themselves. So is this going to take on a life of  
> its own or turn up in print as ASH [son of 'IGNITE'] or what? As a  
> one-shot, this is turning out to be a two-step, due to replying to each  
> entry as found. Quite neat.

I found Toni's contribution to the one shot waiting in my inbox when I got home from mailing the finished zine to Liz. But the first paragraph was so appropriate to the zine cover that I couldn't resist putting it in. I'll either get Liz and Jeff to add this page to the end of the zine or reprint the whole thing.

**From: toniweisskopf [tweisskopf@mindspring.com]**  
**Subject: Re: The first SFPA email One shot**

TKFW here. While I'm happy to be participating in a historic event (not "an"--god, how pretentious "that" is), and while most people treat e-mail as a stream of consciousness method of communication sans proofreading, similar to that of the good ol' one shot, though usually without the beer, I do have the awful feeling that this is the

Beginning of The End. And since I'm going to be running for OE next time, I'd really hate to be presiding over the Death of SFFA. Well, okay, maybe not the Death, but the transmutation into something Else.

Still, one can't help but notice that we are all (but one) on-line now. And I suppose the instantaneous sharing of movie reviews is a useful thing. But the feel of the mailing, that I will miss. \*sigh\* I'm such a conservative. It's only because I hate change, I suppose.

On to happier subjects: Midwestcon. Since Janice never reads one-shots I feel free to mention that Joe Siclari was entranced by the idea of the DSC one-shot with Janice on the cover (who can forget the title: "Janice & Tucker: Their Night of Wild Passion in St. Louis"), and volunteered, all unsolicited, to put it on the Internet and circulate it to the entire unofficial floating Worldcon committee!

Midwestcon was small, about 160 people or so. Who knows what will happen when Pat & Roger Sims move to Florida (which they are planning to do in a few years). Damn, we seem to be back to melancholy subjects. See, this is why one needs to be drinking beer for doing one-shots. Can't drink beer by the computer--you'd get it in your keyboard and then where would you be?

(Well, we know the answer to that, don't we Jeff Copeland?)

I'm in the middle of reading "Brittle Innings" by Michael Bishop. I find it useful to watch or read something baseball oriented during the All-Star break, just to feed the addiction. (Shall I complain about WGN not playing enough Cubs games? Nah, Harry's not around to appreciate my plight.) The male-rape scene in the first 100 pages turned me off, but I came back to it and it's being readable enough. This is the one from a few years ago that tells the story of the Frankenstein monster as a minor league baseball player in Georgia during WWII. Bishop was the GoH of the DSC this year and I had wanted to get it read before I got there. Oh well, good intentions and all that.

All right, enough blather for a one-shot. Just to make it traditional: "George, shut up & type." Sperm. Pepsi. Whale. No, wait while I look it up in the OED....

