

GEE, but I thought it was a great title...
THE SYMMARILLION for July 10, 1974. The
fan newszine of fact, nonfact, rumor,
in-depth reportage, shallow subterfuge,
and all that other sought-after material.

.....
Available 5/\$1 from Mike Glycer, 14974
Osceola St., Sylmar CA 91342.
.....

LARSON CROAKS

Ses Mike Glicksohn: "...I'm not sure why
I'm trying to loc a newszine, but it
strikes me that poor old Mike working his
arse off out there in California in some
fetid, vermin-ridden basement, cranking
away at his old Gestetner Model T, as a
large, four-bladed fan slowly creaks by
overhead, sweat running off his furrowed
brow and down his prematurely aged face,
his painfully thin body occasionally tor-
tured by wracking coughs, it struck me that
this shadow of a fan, this former titan,
might like to know that out here there are
people who appreciate what he's trying to
do. Keep up the adequate work, Mr. Gorra!
//Actually, this is a postcard to let you
know that Larson E, magnificent creature
that he was, is now deceased. A moment's
silence is in order so I'm going to shut
up.....wasn't
that a refreshing change?" ((What happens
if I say yes?...ook ook.))((I suppose that
Larson E was laid out in the garden with a
sacrificial retainer of hampsters and
white mice to accompany him on his journey
into the next world? Imagine! if reincarn-
ation is a reality, Larson could return as
a fan this time -- if you thought XENIUM
was good, imagine what Larson could do if
he had hands!))

A HIDEOUS ERROR! DISCON II GOOFS!
Saucerian Influence at Work?

That's getting pretty good when concoms
begin issuing press releases to newszines.
Generally they just supplicate CB to pub-
lish the new data, and if Charlie wants
to, they're in! But this is a new era...
(Whoops, there go my free copies of LOCUS).
But note: THE . . . BALLOT IS WRONG. Where
it says vote for the (one) site of your
choice, you should -- as usual, and as it
says in the PB -- vote the sites for the
'76 WorldCon in order of preference:1-2-3.

EXOTERIC
MONTAGE

7-10-74

WESTERCON 27

They told me a bunch of these science
fiction people were going to throw a
fxx convention in the Francisco Torres
at Santa Barbara over July 4th. Always
willing to try anything once, twice if
it's free, I rode up there on three good
tires and a crutch (too bad I forgot
the car, eh?), and checked the place out.

The trappings were superb, the programs
fine, the parties good. The selection
included programs like: "What If?"
where Larry Niven, Jay Freeman, Poul
Anderson, Tom Digby, Dan Alderson and
Milt Stevens mused about "What if the
speed of light was 35 miles per hour?"
or "What if the next expedition to the
moon discovered a nest of baby flying
saucers?" Terry Carr, Robert Silverberg
and Steve Goldin managed a pretty
thorough examination of the history,
practices and donditions of original
material anthologies. Don Pfeil spoke
about his prozine VERTEX, Rotsler,
Bill Warren, and others discussed films.

The Art Show was great; though some of
the best art was Not For Sale, such as
Hoppe's "Pressed Rat and Wart Hog" (?),
and Lawton's captivating astronomical
mit der forgettable alien name. Alicia
Austin made a strong showing with pen
and ink drawings, while Rotsler had a

board full of Technicolor stfnal nudes, at least one of which had been included in the threesome Bowers published in OUTWORLDS SIX a couple years back. A sepia photo in old-fashioned style of "Deja Thoris" (with Astrid Anderson?) snared the photography prize, however. The Tribbles inaugurated a "Popular Ballot" for the show awards this time; I didn't find it extensive enough to be worthwhile (you simply went around and listed your three favorite entries). I'm quite capable of saying a Jim McLeod pointillistic "Martian Artifact" in pen and ink is better than a complex, ingenious scale model of the interior of Nema's Nautilus, but whether such Philistinism ought to be encouraged is quite another thing.

I dragged a boxful of PREHENSILE to the con and was handing them out like Virginia City mining stock. Couldn't figure out why the expression on people's faces sometimes resembled a person just handed a corn husk by the beSkippied Scott Shaw (who was also in attendance, minus costume). "Shit, not another fanzine..." Still can't figure it.

(continued page 3)

WARNER

HARRY WARNER, JR.
ON HIS FANHISTORY PROJECT

Right now I'm trying to notify all fannish news publications at more or less the same time about what has happened to my latest fan history project.

Late in June, I finished the first draft. It runs to about 140,000 words, covering fandom in the 1950s. I've also inserted a sentence here and there to tell what happened on a particular topic after 1959, in the belief that such a procedure might make the new book useful as a general guide to fandom, in addition to its main purpose of chronicling one decade. Now I'm working on a checklist of about fifty small matters on which I need more information or verification.

Advent:Publishers says it wants to new book. But it won't appear for two or three years because the Tuck project is currently in the works. This should make it unnecessary for me to take three or four months off from all other fannish obligations to write the final draft. I'll try to work the remaining work on the book into spare time a chapter or so at a time during the next year or two. I'm further behind than ever writing locs, answering requests for fanzine contributions, replying to correspondence, and so on, because I did almost nothing fannish between March and June other than work on the book.

You could perform a service for me if you'll be publishing a Sylmarillion before the DISCON. Unless I get sick, I'll be at that event, and if anyone is willing to lend photographs for use in the history

of the 1950s and would like to hand them to me in person in Washington, I'd be very happy, because it could be the last chance I'll have to get pictures that way at a worldcon before the book appears. I'd rather not borrow pictures by mail, because of the danger of loss to postal orcs. I'll bring back to Hagerstown anything I borrow at Washington, copy it photographically, and mail back the original to the owner; if it should be lost in the mails on the way back to the owner, it wouldn't matter too much because I could supply a duplicate from my copy negative.

(JACKIE) FRANKE TALK:

Regarding THE REALLY INCOMPLETE BOB TUCKER, after some discussion with Dave Locke I think we will charge \$1 for the zine -- if it's picked up at conventions -- and \$1.50 by mail. Otherwise we'll only wind up with about 20¢ above expenses, and might as well save ourselves a lot of work by merely donating our share of the expenses...

Windycon ((Chicago)) is looking good. The Blackstone Hotel has been selected as the site: \$20 for singles -- \$25 for doubles. Registration is \$4 in advance, \$6 at the door. There is no 'club' behind this, merely a conglomeration of Chicago fans, so registration is high this year in hopes of bankrolling future cons /that will charge no fee at all/...

Elayne and Fuzzy Pink's Futuristic Fashion Show outshone the masquerade with its brief (10 minutes!) but impressive collection highlighted by the designs of Kathy Bushman and Kathleen Wade. A featured costume for aficionados of "that Devenia stuff" was Larry Niven as either a general of the mercenaries of one faction, or a private in the forces of the other faction... Twenty-three costumes, all well-done, were involved in the presentation. The next night's Masquerade was somewhat anticlimactic, though Kathy Bushman's "Metamorphosis" (yet another entry) copped Best of Show. The Westercon attendees, saturated with Doc Savage movie promotionals (including a 10-minute preview reel), were ripe for satire, hence the ovation for the Best Presentation winner "Duck Savage", featuring Jack Harness in shredded undershirt as the Duck of Bronze, and Elst Weinstein, Jim Kennedy, Glenn Mitchell, Marc Schirmeister, me and Barry Gold in supporting roles.

Out-of-towners aplenty were on hand; Ted Pauls and Jack Chalker to sell their wares, Dick Eney went around the con for two days serving up wine to sundry fans; KC's Bill The Galactic Fesselmeyer was pushing his bid and doling out fanzines.

"Those LA fans" (Pelz, treasurer; Patten, chairman; Stevens, programs; etc. etc.) did it again. A great one. (Remember -- LA in '78! Len & June Moffatt, chaircouple)

MIDWESTCON

BY JODIE OFFUTT *star conreporter* Midwestcon. The Relaxacon. Something and someone for everyone. The Busycon -- at least it was this time. A partial list of attendees: Dennis & Valerie Conners; Bruce Coulson; Katy Curtis; Brian, Curt & Sandy Franke; David & Richard Gaines; Chirp, Mite & Peter Miesel; Chris, Jeff, Missy & Scotty Offutt; Gwil Owens; Deb Stopa; Valerie Thompson; Bruce Tucker; Karen and Paul John Somebody; and (if you'll allow me to stretch it a bit) Chris & Mike Couch, and Leslie Couch Luttrell; Ginger Bread Anver; one other unidentified dog and a cat (those last two weren't wearing nametags).

All of the above brought their parents, masters, and in one case an uncle.

Jackie managed to cut me down to size for my remark about her sculpture not being art. I bought a lovely green dress from Betsy Curtis (who put on a fashion/costume show Saturday afternoon) and wore it to the banquet. When we walked in, I noticed Betsy sitting at a table just inside the door. I curtsied to show her my Curtis original and Betsy and her daughter applauded my dress. Next thing I knew the entire room full of people was applauding. Three minutes later Jackie breezed by and said in passing, "Well, how did you two sneak in without anybody noticing."

I thought John Millard was going to bop me over the head when I told him we ate cold cuts in our room Friday and watched a baseball game. John thinks it terribly tacky to go to a con and watch baseball -- provincial. (The Reds won!) ((Now they're only 10½ games back!)) The usual intimate group of about forty went out to a Hungarian restaurant.

There were movies both nights. On Saturday I gave my daughters instructions to go to bed immediately after the last movie. Sometime late in the evening Bob Curlovitch told me the movies lasted all night,

There were lots of hucksters -- books, comics, jewelery -- and Rick Cellmen & Louie Spooner had some original Bode art. George & Lana Proctor from Dallas (who had been visiting us for the week prior to the con) bought a Bode. Andy and one of the boys went halves on a Blitzkrieg game; we've been taking our meals in the kitchen since we got back, the dining room table having been turned into a battleground.

The only planned affair at the Relaxacon is the banquet. Bob Tucker, our ambassador to Australia, looking sharp as a tack and wearing his new contacts did his usual smooth job of MC-ing.

Ken Keller and the Kansas City people passed out twelve cases of Coors in 55 minutes Saturday night. Larry & Cele Smith and Columbus had their bathtub filled with Stroh's. Lynn Aronson decorated everybody she saw with Windycon buttons. In the Rivercon suite (Louisville, Cliff Amos), I showed a small group my difference -- the result of spending all of Saturday afternoon by the pool & getting an interesting burn pattern through the rings on my trunks.

First Fandom had a meeting; Dennis Dotson referred to them as the originals...Linda Bushyager hand-delivered KARASS, the best issue yet...Leo & Rita Bergman (Two of a half-dozen or so editors of Cincy's LAUGHING OSIRIS) bought some Dollens slides for inclusion in their vacation slides;...somebody showed a spelunking movie on Saturday night in the con suite -- God knows why!...Quality Inn Central is a good hotel; the DoNotDisturb signs are honored, the rooms are soundproof, and the air-cons work with a nice steady humm...Lynn Hickman told me about a couple of his early pubbing experiences...Jim Turner told me all about white crime...Sandra Miesel explained about four-leaf clovers...Jerry Kaufman thanked me for some of the silly stuff I've sent him...Mike Wood borrowed my Coppertone for his feet (?)...Flash told me I took good pictures ((Flash = Alan Frisbie?))...Lou Tabakow said he'd take good care of me at Discon in the Cincy suite while Andy is busy MCing...Bruce Tucker & Jeff Offutt discovered how to make one of the machines in the game room run without feeding it and played half the night...Scotty Offutt fell off the diving board, scarping knee, ankle & elbow, and had the full attention of Larry Propp, Lee Smoire and both lifeguards for a few minutes...Buck Coulson said the highlight of his fannish career was -- well, maybe I'd better leave that one out, just to be on the safe side.

It was a good con, Mike. Too bad California is so far away; you people would enjoy the cons and the fans in this part of the country.

DISCLAVE

THE ADVENTURES OF NORM HOCHBERG::::: Speaking of Disclave...it was a crashing bore. I felt none of the excitement I normally do at cons...because I wasn't meeting any new and exciting people. Hell, I wasn't even meeting any old and exciting people. Talked with Mike Glicksohn for a bit which was about the high point of the con for me. Among the many topics discussed were fanzines, fanzines and fanzines. For a fleeting moment we almost got something together for a fanzine review zine, but both of us shook the Jack Daniels from our scummy brains and decided against it. After that we both went off to find Ron Bounds, who seemed to be the only one around who had a tap into the old Jack stuff.

Mal Worob wasn't there but held a party anyway as part of his Sleazycon in 84 bid which is rapidly becoming famous as the only party that can be counted on to be going after three am since it is the only party I know of that doesn't start until two a.m. I jabbered on with Ted White and David Harris about the Firesign Theatre but otherwise guzzled the smuggled-in liquor (the party itself was supply those thirty enough with beer which Dave had bought that afternoon at the strikingly low price of two dollars a case; it was green on the way out of the can so I passed it up).

The program itself resembled a Midwestcon in some of its aspects. The Saturday program was a total waste except for the slide show or a film (or something audiovisual) which was narrated by Isaac Asimov who wasn't at the con that I know of. So I didn't even

attend the damned program, escaping instead to Georgetown with Lynn where we found the best damn bookstore in all of Washington DC.

Sunday's program was only slightly better as Kelly Freas gave a reasonably good talk on art. An artists' panel (which for some odd reason had been scheduled right after Freas' talk) was cancelled when no one had anything additional to say. So, while Freas went out into the hall (where he was forced to draw caricatures of any fan willing to sit on the line for them) Gardner Dozois, Piglet, Dave Hartwell, Joe Haldeman and some unknown one-story writer presided over a "Writers' Panel" and I use that term with much trepidation. These things are usually quite funny when they have a topic to stick to (more or less) but this one started off with Gardner admitting they didn't have a topic so he asked the audience for one. It went downhill from there save for a few high points (such as Gardner's revelation that one section of Heinlein's TEFL had been ripped off from the poem Hiawatha, or Piglet's rendering of the famous fan game -- Titles That Just Didn't Make It, like "The Moon Is a Rough Wife", or "Time Enough for Like"). Moshe, Hank, Lynn and I (along with some upstate NYer who sat silent in the car) and I escaped right after that and drove home.

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FURTHER WESTERCON RAMBLINGS BY MIKE GLYER, WHO SEZ NEVER LEAVE HALF A PAGE BLANK UNLESS ED COX DOODLEZ THERE: Likewise at the con was Ron Bounds, now walking with a cane, who waged a heavy bidding contest with Forry Ackerman during the AASF's auction (the weekly meeting was held at the Francisco Torres, consite in Santa Barbara). Forry donated the latest, pre-release issue of FAMOUS MONSTERS, and kept bidding up those in the audience who were trying to buy it at an outrageously generous price. After it had been redonated twice, Forry continued shilling, except that he was suggestively waving a ten dollar bill under his moustache, evidently looking for somebody to bid him up. Nobody seemed ready to 'bet' on it, though, and the final sale went to Ackerman for about five bucks. Or was it to Bounds? Hell, it's not like this was a newszine...

Parties were thrown by Friends of Klingon, the Church of Herbangelism, the North Hollywood-Granada Hills Westercon in '76 bid, and brother-sister Anthony. There I kept running across the Fellowship of Coors, Jim McLeod, Bob Vardeman, Sal DiMaria and Mike Kring, ably assisted by Frank Denton.

UNCLE and Hunt fen were constantly charging through the con, plonkers in hand. And the Torres had a fairly good pinball & game room. I played electronic doubles tennis with various of the Fellowship of Coors -- which is about the only way I'm going to play tennis with them. As it was they had me hustling up eight flights of steps to one party, evading the ever-slow elevators. These people are a hazard!

Among other parties was the Gay Lib Party Friday night, reportedly drawing 30-40 attendees at its high point, though the reporter said the number was inflated by the influx of 'straight tourists'... Citizen Kane was on TV early Saturday morning... Despite being given a full Espacio (a room typically devoted to hucksters, as were the other six or so), the SFWA seemed to make virtually no use of their suite. It was borrowed by the likes of STARFLEET for a Saturday afternoon meeting...Charlie Brown elucidated some of the tax advantages fanzine editors have if they but used them...Michael Coney and Mike Bailey, of British Columbia (Vancouver fandom) were down for the con...Traditional Westercon entertainment -- belly dancers -- roamed the halls one convention evening, including one amazing performer who danced for 17 straight minutes. You try it sometime...As far as I know Philip Dick, con GoH, was not in attendance. Fan GoH Charles Burbee arrived Saturday morning, third day of the con... Barry & Lee Gold continued to sell THE INCOMPLETE BURBEE (\$1.50 via mail from 2471 Oak St., Santa Monica CA 90405.)Harlan Ellison showed up for a day, but wore his clothes...

NEWSE

Freff
102 N. Gregory #8
Urbana, IL 61801

Hi, Mike -- just a
comment or two and
some unnecessary ex-
planation/update.

where readers lay it on the editor...

First, I don't like the title, even though it is a neat pun on Sylmar. The Organlegger was better, lighter. Pun or not, reading the title you are now using makes me think of Tolkien and the Mythopoeic people, not fan/pro news. I wish you luck in your -- hopefully -- continuing search for a name.

Err--I didn't expect to be quoted at full length or anything...since then, things have changed a bit. I'm still doing work for GAL and IF -- no mistake there -- but I've finally done some things that I am extremely proud of...though whether or not they'll reproduce is up to Fate and various other god-like euphemisms for the future. Here's something bizarre -- despite production errors leaving me off the ToC of the August IF, I still have my name on the cover. Oy, people will wonder "Freff? What the hell is a Freff?" (Neat coincidence: one of the other names on the cover is Sabernagen, and it was because of the of his Berserker stories that I bought my first SF magazine back in '67.)

((This letter itself should be proof enough of why I sometimes (often) print things straight out of letters. There's no need for a rewrite; what's for me to add?))

Cheers and howdy doody and if you quote me again as a lazy excuse for not writing up news in a flashy and interesting style by yourself, I'll get my good friend Hohn Boardman to talk you into the ground ounce by ounce and inch by inch. So there, Glycer! ((Ulp!))

Bjo Trimble SIR! MY SECONDS WILL SEE YOU AT DAWN!*

*No, I won't be up at dawn: I'll pick some seconds who'll do the job right the first time! I think it's called a "contract..."

It's getting too much when irresponsible fanzine publishing involves blatant innuendo, untruths and distortion!

RE: your Equicon report. Dammit, we've been accused of running off with at least \$34,000 (when we said our price was higher than that, the rumor was raised to \$50,000 ...they're getting close!), and we've been accused of maltreating, mistreating and distreating our various committee, attendees and guests (or all of the above)...

But this is the first time we've been accused of speaking Portuguese to a fanzine reporter! And we resent that! We demand a retraction, or our lawyer will write you a really nasty LOC!

By the way, check the postmark on this letter. If it's from Tahiti, the rumors about our making off with the funds are possibly true... ((Postmarked Warsaw. Warsaw?))

But seriously friends.

You are dangerously close of becoming a fanzine newszine, ((stop me, before I pub again!)) and if you don't watch out, people will start sending you news and you'll start a regular schedule, and have lots of nifty DRQs to sift through every week, and all sorts of excitement added to your life. ((Is that a threat or a promise?))

Why not? LOCUS has stopped being anything near fanzine, and is aimed entirely for the

pro market--and the pro attitudes. Which is fine, except that leaves fans with no place to even register a CoA...If you've noticed, LOCUS doesn't bother with many of those lately, either, even. Yet. Already. I like LOCUS, but something else is definitely needed for the fan field, and it's high time some nice, ambitious fan like you took on the job. Go, go, Glycer!

All you have to do is learn to control that urge to accuse people of speaking Portuguese (I have all I can do to manage English!) ((Well, let's see. This will be the third Sylmarillion in as many months. You don't suppose this zine is threatening to become Consistent, do you?))

Bruce D. Arthurs You may have already gotten this info from someone else, but just
57th Trans. Co. thought I'd tell you that I found the nearest McDonald's to the
Ft. Lee, VA 23801 DISCON hotel while at the Disclave last week. Within easy walking
 distance (about 15 min) for a Ranquet.

You head out the front drive of the Sheraton-Park and bear right until you come to Connecticut St. Turn right, and go down about a block til you come to Calvert. Turn left, keeping on the left-hand side of the street., and you won't be able to miss it about half a mile up.

((On to the Ranquet! Even now your Ranquet Committee is enmeshed in selecting its guest of honor, and the officers of the Ranquet. More data to come.))

Jeff May Irvin Koch's filing system croggled me. You mean he really spends
Box 68 that much time on his mailing list? Hell, if I can keep up with
Liberty MO 64068 CoAs and what has been sent where I feel like I'm doing just fine.
 I send some people copies after I have determined to cease because
of their silence. I send some people 2 copies of the same zine. It doesn't bother me.
In my job here at the welfare office I run into enough red tape already without trying
to make up more for my hobby.

TRUMPET 11 is printed. Ken Keller, one of the ass't editors, had a copy last time I saw him. It is very nice, with color covers and fine offset printing. The Denver Area Science Fiction Society is sponsoring a fan fund. Their con has been known to have all the features of a little worldcon -- hucksters, movies, panels, banquet, masquerade, everything but a fan fund. Now they've begun the Adjacent Region Fan Fund, which seeks to pay the membership and room for a fan from a state or area adjacent to the Denver area -- outlying parts of Colorado and surrounding states such as Kansas and Wyoming. The candidate we named was Bill Fesselmeyer. ((Bill the Galactic Fesselmeyer, natch.)) Candidates ((were)) nominated by a club, or by 3 individual fans. The nomination carries a \$1 nominating fee, to DASFA, % Doris Beetem 4161 W. Eastman Ave., Denver CO 80236. Each vote should be accompanied by 25¢. ((I heard Vardeman mention this at Westercon -- I thought he was kidding!))

To commemorate their third anniversary, KaCSFFS is holding a regionalcon. BYOBcon 4 will be held July 19-21 at the Hotel Muehlebach in Kansas City. Guests will be James Gunn and Bob Tucker. Programming will be light and start Friday about noon. Panels, films, discussion, a banquet...hucksters, parties and probably more. Chairman is Allan Wilde. Price -- \$3.00 in advance, \$5 at the door; banquet \$6 extra (Swiss steak); huckster tables are \$10 apiece for 3 days; rooms start at \$16/night single and \$24/night double. To join, or for information, write BYOBcon 4 %508 W. 75th St., Kansas City MO 64114. (I just discovered today that I'm supposed to be on the fandom panel. Help.)

The KC in '76 bid seems to be prospering. I've noted 2 or 3 people who've changed their stated support to KC...Several fans have gotten so wrapped up in the bid that it will be a real blow if we lose. ((While I think a con in Kansas City would be just fine, I've been hearing others discuss it in terms of "which city would you rather go see".

Columbus is straggling, New Orleans is ahead on the basis of the city, while KC is keeping close on the basis of self-publicity, the fannish angle, etc. Scores against the committees are also low, tending to keep NO and KC abreast -- namely, nobody's been able to come up with solid reasons to vote against either of you yet.)) ((Don't look at me -- I'm only repeating what the china plate said...))

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FROM THE PRESS RELEASE
OF THE SAME NAME.....

"The Ray Bradbury Companion: A Life and Career History, Photolog and Comprehensive Checklist of Writings," edited by noted Hollywood Screenwriter and author ((and fan!)) William F. Nolan, has been announced for October, 1974 publication by Gale Research Company, Detroit. ** "The Ray Bradbury Companion" is an autobiographical work as well as a bio-bibliography, inasmuch as Bradbury has writteb a lengthy forward, "The Inherited Wish", especially for this book. The book is profusely illustrated with numerous personal photographs and more than 50 facsimiles from Bradbury's published, unpublished and uncollected work in all media. Price: \$28.50 -- from Gale Research Co. Book Tower, Detroit MICH 48226.

Gale Research has recently published "Cumulative Paperback Index", 1939-1959. 362pp. \$24.00. (Index covers all pbs, if you were wondering.) Also, the company has announced a new and comprehensive SF Index, directed by R. Reginald, "a professional librarian, bibliographer and collector in the SF field."

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The University of Maryland is reportedly acquiring a fanzine collection . It has bought 10,000 fmz for its library, "from a combination of several West Coast collections which are being sorted out to eliminate duplicates before shipment to College Park."

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