

VERTIGO #23 is the 22nd issue of the Official Organ of the Carolina Fan Federation. This issue is to promote the October 6, 1974 Durham mini-con. Editor, typesetter: Edwin L. Murray, 2540 Chapel Hill Rd, Durham, N. C. 27707. Publisher: Scott Whiteside, P O Drawer 25820, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Price 35¢ This issue pubbed on September 14, 1974.
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under the elm tree

TIME FOR A QUICKIE Dept

It is hard to believe that it is time for another mini-con again but then it has not been three months since the last one. The time between the end of July and the first of October is not three months, more like two and a half. Also, we have been to a couple of other cons since then in Richmond and Washington. For that the mini-cons are on a regular schedule the publication of VERTIGO has become more of a formality to reaffirm that the con will be when scheduled. For those of you who came in late or just forgot the cons run on a quarterly basis with ones due in January, April, July, and October. The actual dates run: last Sunday in January, first Sunday in April, last Sunday in July, and first Sunday in October. The dates are planned to avoid conflicts with exam time in schools, Super Sunday, Sculing Con, and various and sundry other things. Mark these dates on your calendar now because they should not change.

Many of you have noticed that VERTIGO has been getting shorter and shorter recently. This is because I usually put off putting an issue together until the last minute (literally) because I don't have as much free time as I used to. With luck we try to have a feature article of sorts in most issues but one isn't available much of the time (such as this issue). Another factor in the shorter issues is the increase in the postal rates. The current plan is to keep an issue to ten pages or less so that it can be mailed first class for 10¢ rather than having to go third class as in former times. We might as well get the most for our postage dollar. Some of you may ask why the listed price for an issue is 35¢ when the zine is so thin. This is mainly to discourage any major jump in circulation since we now print up as many copies as we care to and usually only have about ten or twenty extras above the established mailing list. VERTIGO is intended to be a regional newsletter primarily for fans in this area and probably isn't of much interest to those from other areas (except for an occasional article of special interest). As most of you know, the vast majority of the copies of any one issue go out free to area fan and others who have shown a continuing interest. These free copies are paid for in part by proceeds from the mini-cons (donations) and in part by single issue orders from people who see reviews or read articles reprinted from VERTIGO. Trades are not especially encouraged either except by pre-arrangement. Most of the current trades are with people who would get VERTIGO anyway and the trades are just a pleasant bonus. To summarize: 35¢ is high for an 8-page newsletter but show enough interest over a time and you will probably end up getting it for free anyway, any articles of major interest are available for reprinting by larger circulation or special interest zines (by arrangement with the author), and trades are not encouraged except with area fan or others who would probably get VERTIGO anyway (such as Don & Maggie Thompson).

MIDI CON? Dept

Durham mini-con XXIV was held on July 21, 1974 at the usual place and attracted a crowd of about 80 fans and collectors. This makes it one of the larger ones we have had and indicates that Summer cons are still more popular than ones held at other times. We always have our largest attendance at the July con. One of the drawing points of any con is the "Dealer Room" and with a set-up like ours almost every room is converted for that purpose. We had more people selling things in July than ever before and almost ran out of table space. We don't want to discourage anyone but we did notice that much of the same type material (though maybe not the same issues) was seen at almost every table. I'm sure that there are many people looking for that material (I won't mention what since anyone who was there knows what it was) but I'm also sure the duplication hurt sales. Those who have a choice of what to bring might consider bringing a larger percentage of older, more unusual, or just different material. Those of you who brought stuff last time know what sold so let that be your guide and remember that we have only so much room. One of the high points of the con was the showing of "The Gentle Old Madman" by Mark & Alan Upchurch. I was reminded that the co-author of the screenplay is Thomas Abrams and not Abramson. The film itself was fairly entertaining and played to a full house at both showings. For those who missed it, the film is a sort of unauthorized "Kolchak/The Night Stalker" sequence with the menace provided by an escaped lunatic. The film showed much promise and was well received except for occasional lapses in the dubbing. Some of the scenes were reshot and redubbed and re-edited and the film was/will be entered in a contest sponsored by Kodak for teenage filmmakers (as opposed to makers of teenage films). In addition the film was plugged once or twice on TV and twice in the local papers. It got a good background piece the week before the last mini-con and was mentioned again when Alan, "the elder of a pair of identical twins," started his school column in the Durham Sun. As I mentioned last issue, we have quite a few regulars from north of the border in Virginia. All of our activities are based in North Carolina but Virginia has a sizable active fandom and many make it down for the mini-cons. About 25 made it down for the July con. We also had a contingent up from Atlanta to promote the DeepSouthCon and visit with old friends. Unfortunately I could only go to one major con this year and that one had to be WorldCon rather than DeepSouthCon since it will be a long time before we have a WorldCon that close again. The Atlanta and Virginia fan got together and put out a one-shot titled "Honest, Jackie, You Don't Have To Be Coherent In A One Shot!" It had a nice cover by Greg Spagnola and a lot of incoherent talk by a number of people. It is time, kiddies, for the traditional rollecall of all those who signed in at the last mini-con. If you don't want to see you name spelled wrong in print or to check to see who showed up you can skip the next few lines. Remember, I write them as I read them. Attendees included: George Boehm, Pat Gabriele, Ted Casper, Vince Woneley, Tag Gibson, Leo Salch, Ralph Margolius, Robert Starnes, P.D. Gabriele, David Kelly, Alan & Mark Upchurch, Bill Starnes, David Williamson, M.C. Goodwin, David Southerland, Chuck Southerland, Norman Hunter, Ken Stambaugh, Muriel Hunter, Sam Hutchens, York & Kent Phelps, Scott & Linda Whiteside, Thomm Hirschman, John Allison, Jerry Minter, Richard & Mildred Minter, Edwin Wray, David Luebke, Richard Llewellyn, Milton Read, Ron Myers, Karl Wagner, Randy Vance, Tommy Richardson, Allen & Barbara Greenfield, George Orentlicher, Steve Leaf, Sam Gastfriend, Tim Marion, Clay Kimball, John Squires,

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David Ortman, Jacquelyn Kelly Fross, Richard Hall, Ricky Lane, Elaine White, Greg Dragos, Red Brooks, Lois Bell, Clai Smisson, Mary Hall, Eric Larson, Ed Vance, Ross Kubeny & wife, Harrell Forrest, George DiFerdinando, Eleanor & Bob Ide, Jeff Newman, Randy Forrest, Steve Forrest, Gordon Briscoe, Sharon Salch, Vance Parrish, Aln, & Terry, and Mike Cronartic.

CON JOB Dept

On October 6, 1974 Durham mini-con XXV will be held at 2540 Chapel Hill Road and we hope to see many of you there to help make this one special. It makes you wonder when you remember that the first Durham mini-con was held on September 8, 1968 or six years ago. Quite a few people have come and gone in those six years and we now have an entirely different group of fans. Some of you were around for that first con but not many. Attendees included Aln, Terry, Vance, Bill & Robert Starnes, and Randy Williams. (How about making this next one Randy?) Now we are ready for the 25th con and a lot more people are expected to come. We don't plan a program so you will have plenty of time for the usual (or unusual) con activities. There is no admission charge though we do appreciate all donations to help cover refreshments, VERTIGO, and the official con photos.

PUBLICATIONS Dept

The foremost area zine is WHISPERS from Stuart David Schiff, 5508 Dodge Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28303. It is very sharp and polished in appearance and content, making it look fore like a professional job than anything else. Featured are news, articles, stories, and art in the tradition of Weird Tales and Arkham House. Printing costs have forced a price increase to \$1.75 an issue or \$6.50 for four issues. In the works is a special double issue devoted to Weird Tales. Due in February the special will have stories by Manly Wade Wellman, Henry Hasse, and Hugh B. Cave. Currently available are #3 and #4. #3 is a special Lee Brown Coye issue and #4 is a special Lovecraft "White Ship" issue.

Gary Groth (2000 Huntington Avenue, Box 515, Alexandria, Va 22303) has a couple new publications out that may be of interest to many of you. His WORD BALLOONS is out and features a number of interviews and transcribed speeches and panels. There is an interview with Neal Adams; a writers panel with Denny O'Neil, Ted White, Len Wein, Gerry Conway, and others; and transcribed speeches by Steranko, Denny O'Neil, and Archie Goodwin. The price is \$1 and it is worth it if you want to hear what these people have to say. Gary is also working on a newsletter for Washington area comics fans in an effort to get them organized to some degree. The first two issues discussed the monthly mini-cons in the D.C. area and the effect they were having on local fandom. He has said that he will be adding more local news, plugs, etc to the newsletter much the way VERTIGO does. (By the way, WORD BALLOONS #1 is \$1.50 instead of \$1.) He is also working on/planning another METRO CON and you can be sure you will read about it here when there is something definite planned. He also mentioned special invitations to CFF members when the con comes about.

Those of you interested in APAs might be interested in an index put out by Richard Small (117 S. Meridian St. #3, Tallahassee, Fla 32301) of most if not all known fannish apas. If you would be interested in joining an amateur press alliance this list will help you decide which ones to apply for membership in. The index is in "South of the Moon" vol. 2 #1 and may be had for a long SASE. Tell him we sent you.

IN THE SHADOW OF THE MONOLITH is the newsletter of the Nameless Order of K'Lyeh and comes out bi-weekly, the week before the bi-weekly meetings. After a long hibernation the SHADOW is back and showing some life. Each issue is usually about 3-5 pages long and consists mostly of directions to the next NO meeting plus any other news that happens their way. There are occasional reviews and sometimes even a cover illustration by David Kelly. Those of you in the Raleigh area who are interested in attending a meeting or just finding out what is happening should check it out. The latest issue (in production at the same time as this issue of VERTIGO) is a special WorldCon issue consisting of conreps and should be longer than this issue of VERTIGO (more interesting also). It seemed like half the NO attended the WorldCon and they could have had a full meeting there if someone had suggested it. You know the club has a lot of pull locally when the city sets aside special parking places for members only. Eric Larsen (4012 Colby Drive, Raleigh, NC 27609) is the editor and anyone wanting a copy should send him \$\$\$.

The latest issue of THE STRIPPER features the Popeye article from last issue of VERTIGO. It is the cover feature, surprisingly, displacing an article on Doonesbury by Shel Dorf, internationally renowned comics scholar. With luck you can still get a copy from Biljo White (P O Box 440, Columbia, Mo 65201) for 50¢. I hope so anyway since I haven't gotten my copy yet.

FOLKS AROUND HERE Dept

The Chapel Hill mafia is slowly taking over the s-f world. Dave Drake has twostories in the October issues of a couple of the s-f magazines. His short story "Contact!" is in the current issue of ANALOG along with stories by Ellison, Saberhagen, Garrett, and Haldeman. His novelette "Under the Hammer" is the cover story for the Oct GALAXY. Dave also has a story upcoming in F&SF. . .Karl Wagner's Kane novel "Bloodstone" will be out from Warner Paperback Library sometime this winter. His Kane collection from Warner, "Death Angel's Shadow," is reportedly selling fairly well and one California bookstore is having trouble keeping it in stock. With any luck Karl may be selling another book in the next few months. BLOODSTONE will have a big plus going for it because Frank Frazetta will be doing the cover and we all know what a Frazetta cover can do for a sword and sorcery book. I also understand that "Midnight Sun," the Kane fanzine, may have another issue before too long. Things look promising for Karl. . .George Evans is doing the interiors for the upcoming E. Hoffman Price book from Carcosa and I understand that there will be quite a few interiors again this time. With any luck the book might show up sometime next Spring or so. . .The Manly Wade Wellman biography and/or bibliography is being updated from its appearance in VERTIGO a few issues ago and will be appearing in the s-f/pulp fanzine XENOPHILE from Nils Hardin. Subscriptions are twelve issues for \$5 (first class), \$4 (third class), or \$9 (air mail) from XENOPHILE, P O Box 11751, St. Louis, Missouri 63105. As I said before, most articles from VERTIGO are available for reprinting in appropriate publications. . .As mentioned last issue, James Childress' "Conchy" is now syndicated by Field Enterprises and now has a Sunday strip. The Sunday strip has been picked up by the Menomonee Falls Guardian but they missed the first few. Many thanks to William Wilson Goodson Jr for clipping and sending us Conchy and Hagar every week. Thanks also to Ron Myers for saving the color comics from the Charlotte News for us. You don't know how much we appreciate this, fellows, so don't stop now.

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During August the Charlotte News ran a contest for the best mungs and the offices were swamped with entries. To enter the contest you took a triangle embellished it so that it made a picture and then used the word "mung" in the caption. Entries included such winners as Armung Hammer, Mt. Mung Kinley, loconungtive, acumungture, Almung Joy, Tennis Anymung?, Tommy Burlmung, Mungomery-Ward Catalog, and many (or would that be Hungy?) more. Each winning entry and honorable mention was redrawn by staff cartoonist James Childress for its appearance in the paper. At this point I haven't heard what won the grand prize as Mung for All Seasons but we will try to have it and the other winners on display at the mini-con. I wonder if Cenchy will start to look like a triangle now. . . Frank Kelly Freas has another set of color prints available now and this new set is a bit different from the previous ones. The new set consists of six of his exotic Planet cover from the early 1950s featuring attractive women in space and on strange worlds. If you liked the old pulp covers you will not want to miss this new set. They are all very attractive and of the same high quality as his previous prints. A signed set is \$29.95 and unsigned set is \$19.95. Individual prints run \$6 and \$4 respectively. To order or for more info write Frank Kelly Freas, Route 4, Box 4056A, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23457.

RICHMUNG MINI-CON Dept

On August 11, 1974 David Lubke sponsored a mini-con at the Executive Motor Inn in Richmond, Va. It was fairly well attended in spite of a conflicting convention elsewhere that day which drew away several dealers who would have attended. I won't estimate attendance but the con seemed to be a success. There were fans in attendance from all over Virginia and we saw many familiar faces. The majority of the material for sale was comics oriented and we picked up a nice item or two for our own collections. It looks like Richmond is becoming the con city for Virginia. This is the third mini-con held there in a couple years and I am sure that there will be more there in the future. Most of our Durham mini-con regulars out of Virginia come from either Richmond or the Norfolk-Newport News-Virginia Beach area, the two nearest fan centers to the NC border.

COMICS NEWS Dept

The big news this issue is that Roy Thomas has resigned as editor of the Marvel line. The reason for his resignation is not known at this time but it is understood that it was due to a disagreement. At this writing we have not heard about a successor being chosen. Roy will continue to do Conan on a free-lance basis. We are sorry to hear this news but hope that it will mean that he will be doing more writing in the future. . . Seaboard is soon to be a major force in the comics world when it comes out with more than a dozen color comics and at least five black and whites. The new company is run by Martin & Chip Goodman, formerly of Marvel, and will have the advantage over most new companies of starting with an experienced backer who has been in the business for many years and knows all of the ins-and-outs. Editors will be Jeff Rovin and Larry Lieber (brother of Stan Lee). A few of the artists and writers lined up for the E&W and color lines include: Frank Thorne, Howie Chaykin, Steve Ditko, Sal Amendola, Walt Simonson, Mike Ploog, Ernie Colon, Wally Wood, Jack Sparling, Mike Kaluta, Jerry Siegel, Steve Skeates, Mike Kaluta,

Leo Sommers, Ralph Reese, and many more. Seaboard has bought the rights to the Tower characters and will feature them as well as many new creations. Here is hoping that they can make a go of it where so many other companies have failed. With any luck they will inject some new looks in the ever expanding comics field. . . Doc Savage will guest in the next Giant-Size Spider-Man but is not supposed to meet Spidey. He is also due to come back in a new Marvel black and white comic. . . There will be an Alfred Bester interview in the upcoming WORLDS UNKNOWN black and white from Marvel. . . Look for adaptations of the Fu Manchu novels in the Kung Fu B&W in the future. . . DC has decided not to drop the Shadow after all and will now have a companion comic in the Avenger, based on the popular pulp & paperback series. . . Many pulp characters may soon be turning up in the pages of the comics if current negotiations by several companies are completed. . . There is a Blackhawk movie coming up in the future. . . Joe Orlando will take over Sandman. . .

WORLDCON NEWS Dept

Hal Clement is working on a sequel to "Needle". . . There will be a Harlan Ellison issue of F&SF around the first of the year and in it should be his sequel to "A Boy and his Dog," titled "Blood is a Rover." It centers around a tough girl of that time named Spike and what happens when she meets Vic and Blood. . . Ballantine will be reissuing all of the Tarzan novels with new covers drawn by Neal Adams. . . Russ Cochran is working on an expensive coffee table art book of ERB art including many paintings by St. John, Frazetta, etc. He is still in the process of gathering the art for the book so it is some time off. . . The new Tarzan movie is supposed to be much closer to the book than any other movie since the very first ones. ERB Inc must approve the script so you know it will be better than usual. "The Land That Time Forgot" is a movie now and it is supposed to be fairly entertaining though the special effects are not of the highest quality. It will not be too long before the movie is released. . . The Tarzan comic is going monthly again and will have all Tarzan/ERB material though at this point I don't know what the material will be. With any luck they will start using old newspaper strips instead of Dell reprints. . . Kubert's Tor will return from DC. . . Roger Zelazny is working on a 4th Amber book and the 3rd one hasn't even come out yet. . . F&SF will experiment with a letter column in January. . . The Solar Pons stories of August Derleth will be coming out in paperback before too long. . . In a few months you will be able to pick up new editions of Spider, Operator 3, and Shadow paperbacks. . . Kansas City won the 1976 WorldCon. . . A number of awards were given out at the Hugo banquet. Forrest J. Ackerman and Sam Moskowitz won the First Fandom award. Bob Madle won the E.E. Evans award. The John W. Campbell award for best new author went to Spider Robinson and Lisa Tuttle. J.R.R. Tolkien won the first Gandolf award for contribution to the fantasy field. . . The Hugos went as follows: Best Novel: RENDEZVOUS WITH RAMA by Clark; Best Novella: The Girl Who Was Plugged In by James Tiptree; Best Novellette: The Deathbird by Harlan Ellison; Best Short Story: The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas by Ursula K. LeGuin; Best Editor: Ben Bova (Analog); Best Fanzine: tie Algol and The Alien Critic; Best Pro Artist: Frank Kelly Freas; Best Dramatic Presentation: Sleeper (Woody Allen); Best Fan Writer: Susan Wood (Glicksohn); Best Fan Artist: Tim Kirk. . .

DisCon II was well attended by fans from this area and especially by the Virginia fans. There were quite a few familiar faces from mini-cons including a large contingent from Raleigh. I can't remember everyone we saw but a few of the CFFers at the con were: Arlan Andrews, Bruce Arthurs, Ned Brooks, George Beahn, Tim C. Marion, David Ortman, Edwin Wray, David Luebke, Jerry Minter, Mr & Mrs Archanbault, Tag Gibson, Jay Casper, Sandra Dodd, Dave Drake, Karl Wagner, Mike Lobson, Ed Smith, Harold Wilson, Phil Hawkins, Stuart Schiff, Sam Hutchens, Bob & Eleanor Ide, David Kelly, Elmer, Barbara Matt, Steve & Elizabeth Smith, and others. A North Carolinian had a part in the Hugo Banquet when Arlan Andrews had the committee present Fan Guest of Honor Jay Kay Klein with a poster sized photo of Jay Kay. Jay Kay Klein is the "official" photographer of fandom and somehow never appears in con photos. It was in recognition of this that he was presented with the photo of himself.

One of the highlights of the con was the showing of A BOY AND HIS DOG, the movie based on the Harlan Ellison story. The movie is a L.Q. JAF production and stars Jason Roberts, Lon Johnson, and Susanne Denton. It was not a typical world premiere because the film was still in the rough stages and the projectors didn't work. The film was supposed to be shown on Friday night but after two hours of awful sound and working on the projectors they gave up and put off the showing until Saturday night. During the time that the film was not being shown Harlan kept the mammoth crowd entertained by telling about what went on behind the scenes. The movie was finally shown one reel at a time after the masquerade (we had much better seats for the second attempt) with Harlan again filling in the dead time. The movie itself was quite good and followed the story fairly closely given the changes that must be made in translating a story into a film. The end was something of a shock to a friend of ours who had not read the story and I am sure that this was compounded by the dog's final line. The dog who played Blood was the star of the movie because he had the best lines to say and did some of the best acting. The movie has enough sex and blood to to get at least an "R" rating and this shouldn't hurt it with the college market. A title change is likely because even Harlan says that the original title won't work because "it sounds like a Disney movie" instead of what it is. In order to get the money to make some dubbing changes Harlan auctioned off a pile of stills, film clips, presentation books, scripts, etc. Prices were pretty high (especially for the scripts) but I did pick up one still from the scene just before Vic was to rape Quilla June. I, for one, am glad I saw the movie after I read the story instead of the other way around.

LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS LATE NEWS

Yes folks, the big news this issue is that we are two weeks late in getting this issue out. We had the issue all typed up and ready to print (I slept two hours in two days to do it) when we ran into printing problems and could not get a stencil properly inked after several hours of trying. Reminder postcards were mailed to those people most likely to attend the mini-con or at least get in touch with someone who will. In the meantime Linda Whiteside found the trouble and fixed the minco. This and the next page had to be retyped two weeks after the rest of the issue so forgive me if they do not follow closely. //How many of you noticed that a basic premise from the movies was stomped on in the first five minutes of the PLANET OF THE APES TV show. The opening scene had a young ape running through the woods with his pet dog! As you surely remember, all dogs & cats in the world died and it was this factor that lead humans to adopt apes as pets. That was rather sloppy of somebody.//

~~We have some good news and some bad news. In that order. The paper shortage is over at DC so look for more titles including a one shot every month in 1975. The one-shots include a Joker and Two-Face battle issue, Metamorpho, The Green Team (Simon), Atlas (Kirby), Dinahite (Kirby), and the before mentioned Tor. The paper shortage is still going strong and has forced IF to fold. It will combine with GALAXY for one 160 page monthly magazine. They have enough paper for one month but not two bi-monthlies. Len Wein will replace Roy Thomas as editor on most of the color comics from Marvel though Roy will still edit his own stuff as well as Savage Sword and Unknown Worlds of Science Fiction. He will write more than he has been, including FF and Giant FF and two new 50¢ comics. The new comics are Giant-Size Supervillain Team-Up (featuring Doc Doom and Sub-Mariner) and one featuring The Invaders. This is set between Pearl Harbor and D-Day and will be a war comic for people who hate war comics. The team will consist of Timely heroes Capt America & Bucky, Human Torch & Toro, Sub-Mariner, and others. Even though they promised that they would never be money-grubbers enough to stoop so low you can look forward to a Spidey & Conan team-up. Some of the 50¢ comics will be all new material. They are (Giant-Size) Dracula, Werewolf, and Man-Thing. The Avenger comic from DC will be called Justice, Inc. and may have art by Walt Simonson. Red Tornado & Phantom Stranger will narrate Wonder Woman. TCR announced many of the new titles from Seaboard but we don't have room to. They have adopted the name Atlas-Comics. Denny O'Neil will do the TV KUNG FU comic book from DC. DC will go to 25¢ and cut original material to 18 pages (Marvel is already at 17). The 60¢ and \$1 books may have more original material. Tarzan and Shazam revert to the 20¢ (25¢) size so the problem we mentioned earlier is gone. Doc Savage will have his own B&W (after one more color comic) and will have Fu Manchu by Englehart & Brunner as a back-up. Planet of the Apes goes monthly. Golden dropped & replaced by Starlin done Warlock. A-Man likely to be in 50¢ comic with Len Wein & Dave Cockrum. Fu Manchu & Yellow Claw team-up against SHIELD. Yellowjacket may join the Defenders. J'onn J'onzz returns in JLA #115. In case you couldn't guess, after a while I ran out of bad news to alternate with the good, the only problem is guess~~

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