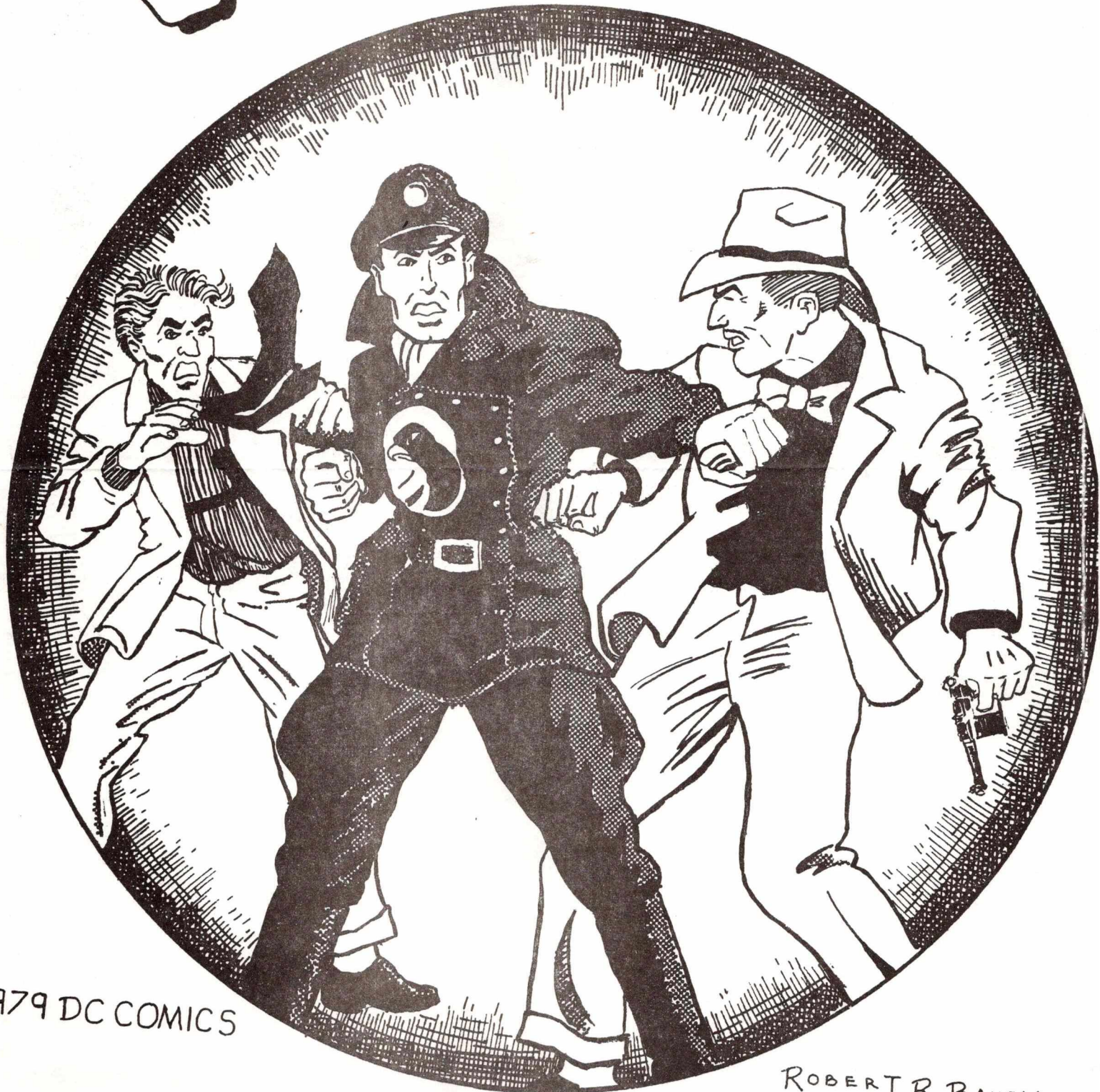


VERTIGO



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ROBERT R BAILEY
FEB 1979

VERTIGO #40 is the 39th issue of the Official Organ of the Carolina Fan Federation. This issue is to promote the April 1, 1979 Durham mini-con. Editor, Typesetter, Publisher: Edwin L. Murray, 2540 Chapel Hill Road, Durham, North Carolina 27707. Price - 35¢ or regular attendance at mini-cons (or continued show of interest). Production aide - Terry Murray.
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LEL H. MURRAY 1908-1978

The night before Thanksgiving my father had what we later learned was a massive heart attack and he was taken to the hospital Thanksgiving morning. All of the doctors' reports were optimistic and we felt he was doing very well. A week later, on November 29, he died while talking to the doctors. Even though he had just had a heart attack the end was quite unexpected because all signs had looked good. Most of you knew my father from the mini-cons where he tended bar (handed out soft drinks) and made sure the snacks were plentiful. He did many of the mundane chores like cleaning up before and after so that Terry and I could concentrate more on the fannish aspects of the cons instead of on running things. This is only one small example of the sort of person he was. He was always there when I (or anyone else) need a helping hand. Whenever I needed advice I knew I could turn to him for the lone of his 70 years of wisdom. The mini-cons were a real family project and they won't be quite the same again. I'd like to thank all of you who found out about his death and sent their condolences. They were appreciated.

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OUR COVER Dept

Robert R. Bailey, late of Greenville NC, is one of our upcoming artists in the area. He is currently studying at the Joe Kubert School of Cartoon & Graphic Art, one of the very few students admitted each year. At the Kubert School you learn the comics business from the working pros. We are proud to have one of our own there and wish him the best. I let time slip by and put Robert in a tight spot by giving him a too-soon deadline but he came through with flying colors. Just in case the deadline proved too tight for him I printed up an emergency cover that I've been holding for some time from Matt Hale via Chris Wrenn. That cover is already printed and will appear on VERTIGO #41 around August.

APRIL FOOL CON Dept

Durham mini-con XXXIII will be held on April 1, 1979 at 2540 Chapel Hill Road, the same as always. Most of you know the way things usually run but for the few of you who might forget let me recite the routine. There is no program of any sort because it would only detract from what you really want to do: talk, browse, buy, sell, eat, etc. The "official" opening time is 9:00 AM and closing time is around 5:00 PM but these times are just rough estimates. Most people seem to come early and leave early these days. All we ask is that you don't come too early or stay too late. With our usual crowd more than half the con is held in our back yard, weather permitting. In case of rain we give phone booth stuffing exhibitions and dealer stacking instructions. There is no charge for dealer space so you are welcome to come and set up for business. We provide some tables but those who can are encouraged to bring their own and set up outside. We are well known as the haven of the small dealer but in fairness we should mention that occasionally sellers seem to outnumber buyers. There is no admission charge but we do ask for anonymous donations of whatever you think is fair, or whatever you can afford. If you can't afford anything that is fine too since we aren't in this for the money but for the companionship.

THIRTY ANNIVERSARY mini-con Dept

Durham mini-con XXXI was held on Sunday September 17 at the same old place but it could have been one from a few years before. The attendance was down to about the 80s and without the crush of so many people we had a bit more time to talk to old friends than usual. The large crowds are good for meeting a lot of people but crowds just a bit smaller are better for talking with them. Big crowds are better for selling but small crowds are better for buying (less competition). All in all it was one of the more enjoyable of recent cons but it was also six months ago so memories are a bit hazy. Special thanks to Peter Hirschman and friends who took up a collection for an anniversary present for the whole family and to Clay Kimball who brought anniversary gifts on his own. Those who remembered to sign in include: Dave Weaver, Tim Marion, Chris Krenn, Billy Saunders, Lori Whitley, Kevin Lashmit, Peter Hirschman, Brian Lockhart, Adam Burns, Steve Rowe, Bill Baker, Scott & Linda Whiteside, Lester Brim, Paul Brim, Bob Burns, Mike Coxe, Clay Kimball, Jack Wenberg, Wiley Bass, James Lowe, Marc Whitley, Jerry & Randy Minter, Sam Joyner, David & Rosemary Shankle, Richard & Mildred Minter, Carl Oliver, Jim Weston, Tony Galloway, Steve Turner, M.C. Goodwin, Deborah Sizenore, Russ Garwood, Norman Hunter, Mike Pugh, David Kelly, Paul Maggitti, Glenn Hincenan, Milton Read, Dallas Morales, Walt Strickland, Brian Hooley, Mark Van Name, Rana Van Name, Drake Maynard, Ken Puryear, Karen Weatherman, Jesse Willis, Woody Weatherman, Robert Wilson, Eric Larsen, Barbara Ward, Carol Strickland, David Barham, Tony Kirven, Leslie & Bill Pearce, Chester & Cherie Cox, David Hinson, Keith Hinson, John Coker, Ray Templeton, David Lyscue, Charles Guess, John Peters, Karl Edward Wagner, Cary Matthews, Charles Lawrence, Mike Harris, Betty Stinson, John E. Maroney, Barbara Wagner, Chet Woodrow, Charles & Gloria Bridges, Chuck Smith, Chris Foss, Chris Woodbury, Larry Hill, Terry & elm, and David Luebke.

OUR COVER REVISITED Dept

I forgot to include it before so here is a short autobiography by our cover artist of the issue, Robert Bailey: "I was born in New Bern, N.C. on 7/29/52. In the mid-and late-1950's I was influenced first by Hal Foster and then by my father's old comics from the forties: Batman/Justice Society/Blackhawk. Until recently my largest influences had been Crandall, Anderson, Severin, and Virgil Finlay. Now that I'm at the Kubert School I've begun to develop my own style. Special thanks go to Charles Lawrence for introducing me to Edwin and Terry in 1975. I'm very interested in doing fantasy oriented work. Anyone wishing to get in touch with me can write: Robert Bailey, 4B Crestview Apts, Rt. 46 and W. Main St., Rockaway, N.J. 07866." And for the aspiring artists in the group: "About the method of work - it was first penciled with an HB pencil and then inked with a .00 rapidograph. Next came Windsor-Newton brushes 00 and 2 then the magic marker - a Pilot fineliner (not waterproof). The logo style came from Caniff's "Terry and the Pirates" and was originally created by Noel Sickles - and I almost forgot, Blackhawk's costume was shaded with rub-on 'instatex'." He also says the cover was done as a class project and is a bit of a departure from his usual style.

UPCOMING CONS Dept

We are going ahead with plans to cut back on the number of mini-cons we hold from four per year to two, the Spring and Fall ones. The Durham mini-cons for 1979 will be April 1 and September 9. We are only slowing down and not stopping and, as you will see, there are plenty of cons to take up the slack.

The Con season is upon us and for the next couple of months there will be something going on just about every other week. There are a few new cons springing up but most of the the ones I'm going to mention should be familiar to you now because there have been others before them put on by the same people in the same places.

The first thing on the schedule is a get-together especially for those of you who love old B-westerns. The Old Time Western Film Club will meet at the City Hall in Siler City, NC on Saturday March 24 for another gala showing. It sounds like a good line-up with Tom Mix ("Destry Rides Again"), Luck Jones, Sunset Carson, the 3 Mesquiteers (first movie), and Ron Maynard. Things will start at 10:00 AM with the first film and there will be a short lunch break somewhere in the middle. They will pass the hat to help cover expenses. For more info on future showings write Milo Holt, Box 142, Siler City, NC 27344.

The next con on the schedule is the Durham mini-con on April 1 so we will pass on to one of the more promising newcomers, StellarCon IV on April 6-8 (Friday-Sunday) at Elliott University Center on UNC-G campus. The big draws will undoubtedly be Guests of Honor Theodore Sturgeon and David Gerrold though there is a lot of programming planned. There will be a large s-f film program featuring such movies as Metropolis, Things To Come, The Day The Earth Stood Still, Silent Running, Invasion Of The Body Snatchers, etc. There will be an art show, a masquerade, a banquet, a cantina, dealers, and displays. The Society for Creative Anachronisms will put on a fighter demo and have arts & crafts & costumes on display. There will be a Dungeons & Dragons room. Sturgeon & Gerrold will be involved in several lectures/panels interviews as well as in autograph sessions. M.A. Foster will be there and will be toastmaster at the banquet. In case you haven't guessed yet, this is an s-f con rather than a comics con. The con will run from 4:00 PM on Friday through 6:30 PM Sunday. Registration costs \$6 until March 25 and \$7.50 after that. The banquet is \$5 per person. Dealer tables are \$15 (includes one con membership). For more info write to: The Science Fiction Fantasy Federation, Box 4, Elliott University Center, UNC-G, Greensboro, NC 27412 or call (919) 379-7395.

To the best of my knowlege Clay isn't involved in the above con, and it will probably be a while before he has another comics mini-con, but you might write him to put you on the mailing list for when he docs plan one. Write to Clay Kimball, 212 S. Mendenhall, Greensboro, N.C. 27403.

On April 22 (Sunday) a mini-con will be held at the Roxy Theatre on Albemarle Ave in Greenville, NC. It will run 9-5 and set-up & admission will be free as before. There have been several cons there before and they are known as small, friendly cons. For more info call (919) 758-6909 before 7:00 PM or write Nostalgia Newstand, 919 Dickinson Ave, Greenville, NC 27834.

I have it by word of mouth that there is a con planned for on or about April 28 in Winston-Salem but I haven't gotten a flyer yet. There have been several held there so the only problem here appears to be confirming the actual date and place. For more info try writing Kevin Lashmit, 2801 Brookhill Dr, Winston-Salem, N. Car. 27107. Once again someone who has been involved in putting on cons before.

After a long lapse cons will resume in Charlotte. On Saturday May 5 a comics con will be held at the Eastland Mall. The date has just been set so all the details aren't set but Shelton Drum used to put on a mini-con there every month so those of you who attended those should already have most of the info you need. For further details write to H. Shelton Drum,

2016 Lynnhurst Ave, Charlotte, N. Car. 28203 (please note new address). If you want to call the number is (704) 376-4145. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish Shelton a hearty welcome back to the con game and to thank him for the consideration of changing the date of his con to avoid a conflict with another area con (not the Durham one). It was very nice of him as such conflicts should be avoided at all costs.

Raleigh-Con I has also been moved out of conflict with another con and at last word was scheduled for Saturday May 26 in the Jim Graham Building on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds. The con will run 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM as most do. Over forty dealer tables are available for \$10 each. For more info write to Peter Hirschman, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ Maiden Lane, Raleigh, N. C. 27607. There are sure to be flyers and people to talk to at the Durham mini-con.

There is another Virginia Comic Book Trade Mart Convention due sometime soon but, unfortunately, I don't have the date at this typing. These are the next oldest running cons in the area after the Durham cons and are always held on a Sunday at the Colony House in Richmond, Va. From a collectors point of view these are my favorite cons and I try not to miss one if possible. For more info and a flyer write to David Luebke, 6813 Edmonstone Ave, Richmond, Va 23226.

There is another series of cons being held in Richmond and these have many of the same benefits mentioned above. For info on the Richmond Mini-Cons held at Holiday Inn West (3200 W. Broad St) write to Bruce Messick, 5621 Walmesley Blvd, Richmond, Va 23224. This is another long running series.

I have little info at this time on the next con but it is still a long time off. Pembroke Super Con I will be held at Pembroke Mall Shopping Center, Virginia Beach, Va on July 6-7. Hours are 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Dealer tables are \$10. They are trying for one or more Marvel artists as guests. They will be doing some local advertising. For more info write Frank Zenau at Zeno's Books, 1112 Sparrow Rd, Chesapeake, Va 23325 or call (804) 420-2344.

The big con in the area is RoVaCon 4 and once again it will be held at Northside High School in Roanoke, Va on Friday evening September 28 and all day Saturday Sept 29. Registration is \$1.50 in advance and \$3 at the door. Tables remain \$10 for the first and \$5 for each additional. They will have a bigger dealer room than before. Richard Hurt (1306 Gilliam Dr, Farnville, Va) is in charge of tables and Ron Rogers is in charge of registration (P O Box 774, Christiansburg, Va 24073). The Guest of Honor hasn't been confirmed yet but they have a tradition of good ones. One thing that sets RoVaCon apart from other cons is the establishment of the Edmond Hamilton-Leigh Brackett Memorial Scholarship and the Frank Kelly Freas Art Scholarship. Each is given annually to graduating high school seniors who plan careers in writing and art respectively. This is certainly a worthy project and it speaks well for the con committee. For more info (or if you have suggestions) write Dr. Fred R. Eichelman, RoVaCon 4, 545 Howard Drive, Salem, Va 24153.

As you can see from the length of this list there are quite a few cons in the area now and there will be no trouble taking up the slack caused by the slowdown in Durham cons. Most of the cons listed fall in the March thru May period and I look for a number of them to set another date during the June-August period, traditionally the most active of the year. Some are obviously annual events but I would hazard a guess that most of the others will have another con this Summer before the next VERTIGO comes out. Be sure you request any info on Summer cons (and Con Chairmen should check with each other now to avoid conflicts this Summer. Make other cons the first people you notify when you set a date. Conflicts hurt both cons.).

FOLKS AROUND HERE Dept

First let me apologize to Dave Drake for passing on some inaccurate info on his first novel last time. THE DRAGON LORD is set in Britain and Ireland in 491 AD and will run about 80,000 words. It will probably be out from Berkley in 1980. . . DUSTINILS #2, the paperback magazine from Ace, is out and includes Dave's "Cultural Conflict". . . Apologies are also due to Thomas "Tag" Gibson and John Nichols for neglecting to mention their fanzine The Darks Collector before this. It gets better every issue and includes, among other things, fairly regular coverage of the European Disney comics. The latest issue I have seen is #10 (mistakenly called the Tenth Anniversary issue). Published quarterly at \$1 each or \$4/year from John Nichols, P O Box 1906, Suffolk, Va 23434. Worth a try for funny animal fans. . . COA: Steve Rowe, Camp E-ma-hen-wa, Rt. 1, Box 45, Newport, NC 28570. Paul Harwitz 4805 Sepulveda Blvd - Apt 5, Sherman Oaks, Calif 91403. Chester Cox, 1040B Harwood Dr, Sumter, SC 29150. . . Chester puts out ARF ARF, a quarterly 4-pg ditto fanzine devoted to Popeye and it is well worth the 15¢ stamp it costs. It focuses on the current Gold Key comic that is drawing praise from all over. It is also interesting to note that Gold Key no longer distributes comics in Raleigh. . . F&SF April 1979 featured "Toad's Foot" by Manly Wade Wellman. . . WHISPERS #11/12 is out and is the much awaited Wellman issue. Included are original stories "Chorazin," "Whom He May Devour," and "Keep Away" as well as the article "Witch Whispers from Stratford." This double-issue costs \$4 as should #13/14 which will be a Fritz Leiber issue. Sub rates are 4 single issues or equivalent for \$7 from Stuart David Schiff, Box 1492 - W Azalea St, Browns Mills, NJ 08015. Congratulations are due Stuart for his WHISPERS anthology from Jove. Included are stories by Karl Edward Wagner, David Drake, and Manly Wade Wellman. . . CARTOONIST PROFILES #41 included a fine piece by Bob Zschiesche on Roy Crane & Les Turner and his memories of them. Bob is currently assisting Dick Moores on the Gasoline Alley Sunday. Let me add that both men do outstanding jobs maintaining the universal appeal of the strip. . . THE FANDOM DIRECTORY is available from Harry Hopkins, P O Box 873, Langley AFB, Va 23665 for \$7.95. It includes listings for over 4000 individuals and dealers as well as a lot of other useful info. . . Upcoming Starblaze books, edited and illustrated by Polly & Kelly Freas, include: CAPRICORN GAMES by Robert Silverberg, DOMINANT SPECIES by George Warren, TAKEOFF by Randall Garrett, CASTAWAYS IN TIME by Robert Adams, MYTH-CONCEPTIONS by Robert Asprin, and THE TROUBLE WITH YOU EARTH PEOPLE by Katherine MacClean. You can become a Charter Subscriber by ordering any four of these (or their earlier books) for \$16 (Va residents add 4% sales tax). They will also do WONDERWORKS: SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY ART by Michael Whelan in 3 editions (\$7.95 paperback, \$13.95 library edition, and \$30 autographed numbered & specially bound limited edition). Order from Starblaze Editions, The Donning Company/Publishers, 5041 Admiral Wright Rd, Va Beach, Va 23462. . . Clyde Caldwell is one of our fastest rising local artists and it is a pleasure to watch his progress. He keeps so busy it is almost impossible to list all his upcoming or recent work here but I will mention just a few. He regularly does paperback covers for Avon and Zebra as well as ones for Ace and Popular Library. He has front or back covers on several issues of Heavy Metal as well as Unearth. He has also done a couple of covers for Eidolon Press. If you want the latest info on what to look for write him at 505 Hand Circle, Lowell, NC 28098. . . The Wagners have made another trip to England and I haven't been able to confirm these items or get more news recently. Karl has a Kane poem in Sorcerer's Apprentice, #1, a magazine for fantasy role-playing enthusiasts from Flying Buffalo Inc. A Barbara Wagner has a poem in

Fantome, an alternative fanzine, but I don't know if it is our Barbara. In Fantasy Newsletter we learn that Karl's second Bran Mak Morn novel, QUEEN OF THE NIGHT, will be out from Ace and that he has his Conan novel for Dantam, THE ROAD OF WINGS. Karl won't be writing any more pastiche material as he prefers to work with his own characters, most notably the very popular Kane. . . .The Comic World continues to dominate the comics scholarship field with well researched articles on heroes of the past. (Clay)"Kimball's Column" is a regular feature and I have had two articles published there on ACG as well as one currently being edited for future publication on Brain Loy. A sample issue is \$1.50 and a six-issue sub runs \$6 from Robert Jennings, RFD 2, Whiting Rd, Dudley, Mass 01570. . . .Copies are still available of HEALTH OF FANL (The History of S-F Fandom in the 1950's) by Harry Warner Jr from Fanhistorica Press for \$8 plus 75¢ postage. Those interested in fannish history should also check out Fanhistorica, an irregular fanzine that reprint pieces of note such as "Ah! Sweet Idiocy!" by F. Towner Lancy. The current issue is #2 (\$1) and may be ordered from Joseph D. Siclari, 2201 N.E. 45th Street, Lighthouse Point, Fla 33064. . . .GLA SPTAL GLAMA #2 will be out before too long with an article by Steve Rowe and a Sugar & Spike checklist by Charles Lawrence (with comments by Sheldon Mayer). Send \$1 to Jay Silber, 226 E. 85th Street #7, New York, N.Y. 10028. . . .Just a few more lines to go so I'll pick up here with STRIPPLER NEWS: The big news this time is the new Star Wars newspaper strip by Russ Manning starting on March 12 from the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. This is being typed on the 10th so I don't know which papers have it except that the Durham Sun will pick it up, probably dropping their best current strip as they usually do. . . .Strip fan Russ Garwood is due a vote of thanks for telling us about The Daily Southerner. This very thin paper carries Popeye, Secret Agent Corrigan (Al Williamson), Flash Gordon (Ming is back!), Phantom (Diana is expecting), Brick Bradford, Hagar, Moose Miller, and Blondie. Sub rates are \$7.50 for 3 months or \$30 per year from The Daily Southerner, P O Box 1199, Tarboro, NC 27886. . .

FROM: Edwin L. Murray
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FIRST CLASS MAIL