

# Vertigo



Walt Dole

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#### COVER TIME Dept

Our cover this time is once again courtesy of Chris Arenn, who commissioned it for us from an out of the area friend of his, Matt Hale. I'll now turn the floor over to Chris to tell us a little about him:

Matt Hale, 24, has worked as an architectural draftsman, commercial artist, and illustrator -- with time out for some graduate studies in architecture at Rice University. His Vertigo cover has its roots in the John Buscema/Frank Brunner genre, but the artist claims "inspirations for my own peculiar scrawlings (whether apparent or not)" from Thomas East, Arthur Rackham, Rockwell "and his ilk," and Jeff Jones, to drop a few names.

Matt's current "popular fave" is Brain Froud, and "it's too bad Jeff Mackelly isn't into fantasy art."

As for future plans, the artist hasn't given up the architectural ghost (a long-time ambition), but most recent activities lean toward visual communications for the next few years.

Special thanks this month go to both Matt and Chris for this fine cover.

#### SEPTEMBER CON Dept

Durham mini-con XLIII will be held on September 9, 1979 at 2540 Chapel Hill Road, as usual. For those of you who have not memorized the next few lines after over forty repetitions let me rephrase myself once again. We no longer have any sort of a program because it only gets in the way of what people really want to do: talk, browse, buy, sell, eat, etc. The (ha ha) official hours of the con are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM but people tend to arrive a bit early and also leave early. Lat cones are warned that, like most area cons, things tend to be pretty much over by about 5:00 except for the usual stragglers. A good portion of the con takes place outside so hope the sun is shining and the weather is mild. Dealers that can are encouraged to bring a table and set up outside where we have plenty of room for everyone. There is never any charge for dealer space so, at times, sellers seem to outnumber buyers. There are no admission charge but donations of whatever you feel you can afford are always welcome.

#### PREVIOUS CON Dept

Durham mini-con XLII was held on April 1, 1979 at the usual place. It was about medium sized as far as our cons go, with attendance somewhere in the min-90s. Several old friends came after having missed recent cons and it was pleasant chatting with them again. There isn't a whole lot you can say about a con six months old so I'll leave it at that and get on with a partial listing of those who attended, taken from the sign in sheets as well as we could read them: Kevin Lashait, Chris Arenn, Mike Coxo, David & Mary Shankle, Carl Oliver, Bill Bullard, Brian Lockhart, David Cosner, Bob & Jan Burns, Gerald Williamson, James Lowe, Peter Hirschman, Norman Hunter, Billy & Lori Saunders, Ken Puryear, Jim Weston, Tony Galloway, Greg Patton, Sam Joyner, Kent & Viva Kerr, Jerry Minter, John Allison, Jack Wenberg, Richard Pace, Jess Garwood, Eric Larsen, Len Nash, Ken McShee, Richard & Mildred Minter, Glenn Hinceman, Paul Sneed, Janet Rawlins, Clay Kimball, Mark L.

Van Lene, Milton Read, John Polt m, Chuck Smith, Drake Maynard, Bob Wilson, Brian Rooley, Woody Weatherman, Jack McIlfelder, John Motley, Pete G. David Matthews, Barbara McLance, Chester Cox, David Minson, Dave Hurstman, Chris Foss, Carol Strickland, Steve Turner, William Baker, Steve & Cindy Keeter, Jan Bailey, Mike Harris, Ray Templeton, Charles Lawrence, Red Brooks, Ralph Motley, Cary & Lucinda Matthews, Mike Cromartie, Karl Edward Wagner, Scott & Linda Whiteside, David Darham, M. C. Goodwin, John L. Coker III, Linda Coker, John Peters, Doug Foltz, H. Shelton Drum, Juanita Ferris, Philip & Mary Sue Keefe, Tony Kirven, Hugh Monroe, D Gary Grady, David Alan Myscuc, Barbara Ward, Chris Woodbury, Barbara Wagner, Cheryl Deel, Barry Pryor, David Luebke, George Beahn, olm & Terry Murray.

#### CO. WVA Dept

Sometimes it seems like conventions come in spurts, and that is certainly true this year. In March-April-May there were seven or eight area cons and then almost nothing going on during the summer. Things are starting to pick up again now and there will be three (at least) in September. Others are expected during the fall and winter before another issue of Vertigo comes out. You are encouraged to write to people who have put on cons in the past to ask about when their next one will be. Have patience since it may be months before you hear from them that another is planned.

Virginia's 12th Comic Book Trade Mart Convention was held in Richmond on August 19, about the same time this issue of Vertigo goes to press. I don't have the date for the next one available but there will probably be another sometime this Fall or Winter. They are regularly held at the Executive Motor Inn on 5215 West Broad Street. For further information on these cons write to David Luebke, 6813 Edmonstone Ave, Richmond, Va 23226.

The next Charlotte Mini-Con will be held on September 22 (Saturday) at the Eastland Mall Community Room. Hours should be 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This is another of our long-running cons in the area and one you can look forward to. For further details and table information write H. Shelton Drum, 2049 E. 5th street, Charlotte, N. Car. 28204 (note new address) or phone (704) 376-4145. Shelton is one of the nice guys who always makes an effort to set up his con dates so that they avoid conflicts with other area cons.

Annually the major con in this area is RoVaCon and this year is no exception. RoVaCon 4 will be held on September 28-29 at the Northside High School in Roanoke, Va. Activities start at 7:00 PM on Friday (28th) and run all day Saturday (29th). In addition there will be a special sf/fantasy film program at the Beaches Valley Science Museum on Sunday (30th) for those who want to spend the whole weekend. Guest of Honor this year is our own Karl Edward Wagner, with Special Guest being David Gerrold. Karl will be honored (?) with a "Wagner Roast" which should be a lot of fun though I've been told it won't quite be the same as the Roasts you see on tv. Other featured guests include Nelson Bond, Paul Dellinger, Thomas Atkins, Richard Dillard, Richard Preston, Janice Preston, and Elizabeth Taylor Warner. Tentative guests are Frank Kelly Freas and Polly Freas. The film program will include "The Day the Earth Stood Still," "Planet Outlaws" (Buck Rogers with Buster Crabbe), and "Blueboard" (John Carradine), plus Star Trek and excerpt films from "Buck Rogers," "Diamonds Are Forever," and The Three Faces of Superman (1940s cartoons, 1950s tv show, recent movie). There will also be a couple of old B Westerns. Other con activities will include an art display, panels, workshops, a costume contest, a trivia contest, and an amateur film program. Food is available on the premises. The Pava Award will be presented

to an author or artist for their contribution over the years to science fiction and fantasy. RoVaCon is unique among cons in that it sponsors three scholarship programs for deserving students. The Edmond Hamilton-Leigh Brackett Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to a student planning a future in writing and mass media. The Frank Kelly Freas Scholarship is given for art and the Elizabeth Taylor Warner Scholarship is given for the dramatic arts. I don't have to tell you how proud they are, and deserve to be, for these programs. This year's winners will be announced at the con. Membership rates are \$1.50 until Sept 15 and \$3 thereafter and at the door. They will have an extra large dealer area with room for over 100 tables, all in one room. Tables are \$10 for the first (includes 2 memberships) and \$5 for each additional (no memberships). Checks payable to RoVaCon, P.O. Box 774, Christiansburg, Va 24073. Richard Hurt will be at the Durham mini-con as a representative of RoVaCon. A special pat on the back to Richard Hurt, Ron Rogers, and Dr Fred R. Eichelman for a class con.

That covers all of the announced cons so what follows will be a listing of a number of people who have put on cons in the past and are likely to do so again sometime in the future. When writing these people remember that they will send you information when it becomes available but that they may not be for several months or more. Stamp money is appreciated, I'm sure.

Milo Holt and the Old Time Western Film Club have occasional showings on Saturday afternoons at the City Hall in Siler City, N.C. If you are a fan of the old B Westerns you are encouraged to take in these showings when available. For info on the next showing write Milo Holt, Box 142, Siler City N. Car. 27344.

Clay Kimball sometimes holds cons in Greensboro and while I doubt he has one coming up soon you may want to be put on the mailing list for when he does have one. Write to Clay Kimball, 212 S. Mendenhall, Greensboro, N. Car. 27403.

Plans for the next con in Greenville, N.C. are still in the talking stages but we do know that it won't be held at the same site as before. We may have more info available at the Durham mini-con but to be on the safe side write to Nostalgia Kewstand, 919 Dickinson Ave, Greenville, NC 27834.

Best Book Shops sometimes puts on Comic Book Fairs at the Reynolds Manor Shopping Center in Winston-Salem, NC but we don't have an address on hand for you to write them. The phone number listed in their last flyer is 723-8261. Kevin Lasmit also occasionally puts on cons in Winston-Salem. To get in touch with Kevin write 2301 Breckbill Dr. Winston-Salem, NC 27107.

There is a second series of cons held in Richmond that you might want to look into and that is the Richmond Mini-Con held at Holiday Inn West (3200 W. Broad St). For more info write to Bruce Messick, 5621 Walmsley Blvd, Richmond, Va 23224.

There is talk about another Raleigh Con sometime next Spring so we will probably have another issue of Vertigo out before then. However, if you want to be put on their mailing list when something is decided write to Peter Hirschmann, 6 1/2 Maiden Lane, Raleigh, N. C. 27607.

The next Durham mini-con after September will be April 6, 1980. Due to space limitations that prevent us from holding any more inside only cons we will once again skip the regular January date. We will put together Vertigo three weeks before the con so if you have something you want plugged be sure to have info to us by then. At this time we have not yet decided whether or not to have a Summer con next year and a lot will depend on how things go the next couple of times. After that the next one would be in early Sept 1980, date not yet determined.

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Adam Burns was the cover artist for The Buyer's Guide #288 (May 25, 1979). He also won the art judging at Raleigh Con I in the younger age group. Congratulations go to Adam for both of these accomplishments. He will also be doing a cover for Vertigo in the near future, probably for next issue. . . TBG #295 (7/13/79) included a Shel Dorf interview with Dick Moores of Gasoline Alley fame. . . Screen Thrills, from Jerry R. Burke, has recently merged with both Nostalgia Monthly and Falling For Stars NEWS (the magazine of the Hollywood Stuntmen's Hall of Fame). If you are interested in old movies you might look into this big tabloid publication. A sample copy is \$3 from Screen Thrills Magazine, 7307 Longstreet Drive, Raleigh, N. C. 27609. . . Fans of old movies might also want to try The Big Reel (Drawer B, Summerfield, N.C. 27358) which for a short time is offering to send you a free sample issue. . . THE DRAGON LORD by Dave Drake is due out this month (August) from Berkley/Putnam in a \$9.95 hardcover edition. Several area bookstores had Dave in for autograph signing parties when his earlier book, RAMBLER'S SLAMMERS, came out and I anticipate more of the same when this one appears. . . Karl Wagner's Conan novel, THE ROAD OF ALICES, is due out from Bantam in October. The cover was done by Bob Larkin. . . The Wagners have gone to Britain for SeaCon (WorldCon) in August. . . Two of our area fans have returned from prolonged stays overseas. Bill Starnes has returned from Germany and is now stationed in Ga but I don't have a current address for him at the moment. William Wilson Goodson Jr is back from Malaysia and once again receives his mail at 9209 Providence Rd, Matthews, N.C. 28105. . . Guy L. Lillian III has also returned to the area and the SFC Bulletin reports his current address as 103 So. Mendenhall #15, Greensboro, N.C. 27403. This sounds like he lives only about a block away from Clay Kimball. . . the SFCB also reports that StarCore, a Charlotte sf club, is several years old and meets at 7:30 PM the second Saturday of every month in the 4th floor auditorium of the newspaper building at 600 So. Tryon. Secretary is Toni Perry (Box 151, Newell, NC 28126). How come nobody tells me these things? . . . Eternity SF, the semi-pro sf zine from S.C., is scheduled to return in Nov with a quarterly schedule. Pre-publication subscriptions are \$4.50/4 with the rate going to \$6.50/4 after #1 is published. Cover price is \$1.75. Order from Eternity SF, Stephen Gregg & Henry L. Vogel, P O Box 510, Clemson, S. C. 29631. . . Karl Wagner's new Beam Meek Horn novel, QUEEN OF THE NIGHT, will come out from Ace. . . Fans of Karl's Kane stories can look forward to more stories in the future. The next collection of Kane shorts is titled DRAGON BLOODS and the novel in progress is THE LORD OF THE NIGHT. . . The Dragon #20, the magazine for Dungeons & Dragons players, featured Kane in the first of a series of articles converting fictional characters into D&D game terms. Also covered that issue were Cugel the Clever and Tros of Samothrace. Copies are \$2.60 from TSR Periodicals, P O Box 110, Lake Geneva, Wis 53147. . . Sorcerer's Apprentice #3, the magazine for Tunnels & Trolls players, prints the poem "Death Angel's Shadow" plus an essay on the chronology of Kane by Steve Trout. A letter with Karl's comments on the Kane chronology is also printed. The issue also contains a D&Dish the Deliverer story by Roger Zelazny. The issue is available for \$2 from Flying Buffalo Inc, P O Box 1467, Scottsdale, Ariz 85252. If you tell them we sent you they will never figure it out. . . Carol "Strick" Strickland is now the Staff artist for WCTV-TV (Channel 9) and is responsible for illustrations for TV Guide and TV supplements as well as such things as weather maps, caricatures, etc seen on the air. . . Steve Rowe & Charles Lawrence are

thinking about doing a zine devoted to humor comics sometime next year. . . Steve "Skeeter" Keeter is getting back into publishing and has come out with a new issue of Marzra (#4). Anyone interested in getting a copy should write him at 101 Martha's Lane, Greenville, N.C. 27834. . . Chris Green will soon be moving to Rocky Mount for a while, if he has not already done so. . . Great Krypton! #1, the Superman fanzine, includes an article by Carol Strickland on Kendor. The issue is available for \$1.25 from Kevin Gould, 4018 N. Hall #4, Dallas, Texas 75219. . . Hola! is a fanzine devoted to comics with the main emphasis on women @ DC, published by Carol Strickland, Apt P-3 Oakmont Square, Greenville, N.C. 27834 and is available in subscription for \$3. . . John D. Squires is involved in a project to get the works of M. P. Shiel into the hands of his readers with a privately printed four volume edition of stories and material by and about M. P. Shiel. Each volume runs \$30. For more info write to J.D.S. Books, P O Box MCS, Dayton, Ohio 45402. . . Nobody local is involved but I wanted to mention it anyway. Lan's Lantern #9 is a Jack Williamson special with an interview, a bibliography, and innumerable appreciations by sf authors. Well worth \$1.50 from George Laskowski, 47 Valley Way, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013. . . Charles Lawrence (Box 27, Falkland, NC 27827) writes: "I've been trying to collect data about new material comic books before the superhero boom in the late thirties. If anyone has copies of the following, I'd appreciate a list of features appearing in them: Few Comics #1-11, New Adventure #12-31, New Fun #1-2, More Fun #3-41, Big Book of Fun Comics #1, New Book of Comics #1-2; Centaur: The Comic Magazine #1, Comic Funny Pages #2-3, Detective Picture Stories #1-7; Dell: The Funnies #1-44, The Comics #1-11, Popular #1-45; Centaur: Funny Picture Stories #1-25; McKay: Now/What a Magazine #1-4 and any other comic published before 1940 that featured new material, not listed in the Bails indexes." Any help you could give to one of our local comics scholars would be much appreciated. . . We have heard from various sources that Polly Froas is suffering from a prolonged illness and would like to take this moment to wish her the best of luck and a speedy recovery. . . I seem to have temporarily run out of gossip and news so let me explain why so many of you are not mentioned in this section and others always. I pass along the news that people have mentioned to me and if you don't let me know what is happening I can't mention you. So I want all of you to do something newsworthy and then write me about it about next February or March so it will be fresh when I put the next issue of Vertigo together. I will be more than glad to plug any club, con, or fanzine in our area if you just let me know. . . Gullownee Comments is an s-f fanzine from Richard Llewellyn (P O Drawer EF Gullownee, NC 28723) and is well worth a look. . . If you are interested in keeping up with all the sf fan news in the South you should consider joining the Southern Fandom Confederation. Dues are only \$1 and run August to August. Many of you are already members but we could use even more. Send your dues to Meade Frierson III, P O Box 9032, Birmingham, Ala 35213. . .

#### COMIC STRIP NEWS Dept

I've got a little more than a half page to fill up to finish out the issue so I'll mention some of the recent doings in the comic strip world because there has been a lot of news on that front. Russ Manning has given up the Tarzan Sunday page after more than 11 years on it to devote more time to Star Wars. Manning started on the Tarzan newspaper strip in December 1967 and continued until the dailies went reprint in 1972. He has continued the Sunday until just recently when he finally quit. I consider his work to be

the very peak of that strip. Arnie Goodwin and Gil Kane now do the Tarsan Sunday page. Goodwin has replaced Ron Goulart, who says he was fired, on the Star Hawks strip. Within the past month Star Hawks has gone from a double sized daily to a regular sized strip, giving both time to do Tarsan, some time to do covers for DC, and Goodwin time to take over writing FF. . . Sealensker & Granberry, who have been doing Buz Sawyer since before Roy Crane's death, are now signing the strip. . . The Phantom. Diana Palmer Walker are the parents of twins, a boy and a girl, born in early May. . . Mammie, one of the heavyweights from the Moon Mullins strips, recently went on a diet and is now slim and trim for the first time in the over 50 years on the strip. . . Fans of Rick O'Shay will be delighted to hear that Stan Lynde is back in business with a new western strip, Latigo. The strip is a straight, realistic western and looks like a gem. The Charlotte News has picked up Latigo but they dropped Modesty Blaise to do it. The only current paper I know of that carries Modesty is the Detroit Free Press. The News also dropped Star Hawks to pick up Star Wars. You can get the Star Hawks strip in The News-Herald from Willoughby, Ohio. It also carries Conan, Hulk, Dick Tracy, Rip Kirby, Buz Sawyer, and others. Odds are that it will pick up the new Buck Rogers strip drawn by Gray Morrow that starts shortly. . . Richie Rich, the very popular Harvey Comics character, now has his own strip. The only paper I've seen it in is the Daily Mail of Hagerstown, Md, which also carries Steve Canyon & Broom-Hilda. The Richie Rich strip is signed by Warren Krenner & L. Feiman. This is especially interesting since fandom seems to be gaining interest in all of the Harvey comics. . . The Tarsan dailies are now up to reprinting the start of John Celardo's long run on the strip. . .

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FIRST CLASS MAIL