

The Filking Times

March/April 1990

Issue 14

Filking at Baycon

A Review

by Aric Leavitt

This review of the 1989 Baycon was written by Aric a year ago. It promptly disappeared and has only recently emerged from the black hole of the *TFT* office "filing system". As Baycon is once again looming on the calendar, it seemed appropriate to print it now, regardless of its being a bit late. My apologies to Aric for having such a long delay on publishing his article.

The filk sessions at Baycon this year (1989 - ed.) were the best I've ever attended. I wish they had been recorded for those who did not make the convention.

On Saturday night, I was more in a party mood than a filk mood and had intended to just catch a few tunes, then go off to the upstairs to circulate from room to room. Lo and behold, I found I could not leave. There was something special about this filk which defies explanation, except that everyone was feeling good, and all singers and musicians were supremely up to snuff.

In addition, I noticed new faces amongst the familiar faithful. But all this is mostly chemistry. Quite possibly, the free and open format has something to do with a successful filk. Kathy Mar and I spoke briefly about it the day after. She told me a free and open format is generally the way it is done in the Midwest, and it always seems to aid in the overall flow of a filk. Whatever it was, everybody's appetite for good filk music was delightfully satisfied, highly enriched. The music was easily absorbed.

Sometime after midnight, a standing-room-only group had to switch rooms when we were told *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* was

Songwriting Seminar

Date Changed To April 28

by Tera Mitchell

For a long time I have wanted to have some workshops to teach those of us interested in the basics of songwriting. This last month things have finally become possible. Kathy Mar has opened her home for a songwriting Seminar to be held over the weekend of April 28 (please note the change of date from last month's *TFT*).

Some of the people I have spoken to about this would reply "I don't sing, let alone write songs," or, "I don't play guitar" (an overrated instrument if filking). To this I would explain that this class is not just for those of us who want to write better songs, but it will also give the non-writer a better appreciation of the songs you are listening to. I know that there are many folks out there (including myself) who are looking for someone to collaborate with, and this could be the place to look.

We will also critique songs, and it has been requested that the songs be sent in advance so that the instructors will have time to look them over. It was also suggested that one of the projects be to assemble a number of songs that would go well together on one tape, the subject to be announced in next month's *TFT*. The material can be drawn from any genre, be it mundane or filkish.

coming in. We all relocated down the hall, and in very short order the filk continued as though no interruption had occurred. The group attendance was still large, and the energy remained high.

See Baycon on Page 5.

Kathy Mar, Peter Thlesen and Cynthia McQuillin have already consented to be lecturers and be at the workshops. We are still talking to others. These people are willing to share their experience. Let's not let it go to waste.

It has been suggested that you bring your dictionary, thesaurus and rhyming dictionary. Remember, folks, this is not a home filk; these people are giving us their valuable time and experience; and we are here to learn. The best way to learn is to have fun.

What's Happening To Filk(ers) At Edwards AFB

by T.J. Burnside Clapp

Excerpts of a letter to Tera Mitchell. Reprinted by permission.

No, unfortunately, Mitch didn't make astronaut this time around, but it was so close it was excruciating - he was actually within the selection criteria (15th on the mission specialist list and they hired 17) but his eyesight was borderline in his left eye, so they disqualified him for medical reasons. The good news is it's only his corrected vision that failed (i.e. his eyesight with his glasses on) - it was only 20/25 instead of 20/20 in his left eye. That means if he can get his eyesight correctable to 20/20 in that eye by the next time he applies, he'll be all set. That shouldn't be impossible with two more years and all the technology of modern ophthalmology at our disposal! So he'll try again in '91.

See Burnside Clapp on Page 6.

Future Filksings

Los Angeles Area:

April 21: Harry & Mara Brener, hosts
Arcadia, CA

May 19: Rod O'Riley, host
Garden Grove, CA

June 16: Lee & Barry Gold, hosts
Los Angeles, CA

For info/mailling list, contact Rick Weiss, 714/530-3546.

San Diego Area:

Usually held the second Saturday of each month. The next filk will be May 12 at Barney Evans' house, 8150 Jefferson, Lemon Grove, CA 92045. Start at 7:00 PM. For more info, call Barney at 619/697-3844, Rilla Heslin at 619/469-4874 or Karen Rogers at 619/265-0069.

SE Bay Area:

For info/mailling list, contact Bob Kanefsky, 415/324-2001, Kathy Mar,

Special Events

Songwriting Seminar, April 28.
See article on Page 1 for information.

Renaissance Pleasure Faire (Southern), weekends and Memorial Day, April 21 thru June 16, at Glen Helen Regional Park in San Bernardino.

415/481-5736, or Colleen Savitzky, 408/294-6492.

Phoenix, AZ:

Contact Charles Coons at P.O. Box 14245, Phoenix AZ 85063-4245 or on the DAG BBS for more info.

To have any open filksing or convention listed, call or write Rick Weiss at *The Filking Times*. Conventions, please include items of Filk Interest, i.e., Filk Guests, Concert, Programming, etc.

Conventions:

Random Realities, The Convention, a.k.a. Randomcon I, April 13-15, 1990. Keith Williams, Chair. P.O. Box 2690, Bell Gardens, CA 90201, 213/927-3200 (phone 6-10 PM only). GoH's: Frederick Pohl, Bill Conlin. Membership: \$30 thru 4/1/90, higher at the door. No mail order after 4/1/90. Hotel: The Hacienda Hotel, 525 N. Sepulveda Blvd., El Segundo, CA, 800/262-1314 (from CA), 800/421-5900 (from outside CA). Rates: \$49 Sgl/Dbl. Free Parking. The Random Realities group ran the LA bid for Westercon 40, and has/had local filkers Paul Willett, Eric Gerds, Chris Weber and more on the committee.

MisCon 5, May 11-13, 1990, P.O. Box 9363, Missoula, MT 59807. GoH's: Author, Elizabeth Scarborough; Artist, Phil Foglio; Fan, "Dr. Jane" Robinson; Gaming, Steve Jackson. Membership: \$16 to 4/15/90, then \$20 at the door. Hotel: Executive Motor Inn, 201 E. Main St. 406/543-7221. We hear that the Miscon crowd is getting into some good filking.

ConCerto, the East Coast Filkcon, June 8-10, 1990. c/o Carol Kabakjian, 17 Lewis Ave. #3, East Lansdowne, PA 19050-2614. GoH's: Kathy Mar and Linda Melnick. TM: Spencer Love. Memberships: (payable to Carol Kabakjian) \$25 to 5/15/90, then \$30 at the door. Supporting: \$10. Hotel: Holiday Inn, Rte. 70 at Sayre Ave., Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034 Phone: 609/663-5300. Rates: \$60 queen, \$65 dbl/dbl, \$70 king.

Westercon 43, July 5-8, 1990. P.O. Box 5794, Portland, OR 97228; 503/283-0802. GoH's: Ursula K. LeGuin, Vonda N. McIntyre, Kate Wilhelm. Attending membership: ? Supporting: \$15.

Con-Chord 6, October 12-14, 1990. c/o DAG Productions, 1810 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404; 213/546-4935. October 12-14, 1990. GOH: Julla Ecklar. Toastmaster: Joey Shoji. Hotel: The Holiday Inn - LAX on Century Blvd. (next door to the "Quality" Inn where ConChord 5 was held.)

THE FILKING TIMES Editorial Policy

Rick Weiss, *Publisher*; Deborah Leonard, *Contributing Editor*

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All items sent to us will be considered open for publication unless specifically requested otherwise. We reserve the right to refuse and/or to edit any item sent. All submissions must include your correct name and address - pen names will be used for publication on request.

ARTICLES, REVIEWS, COMMENTARIES, LETTERS: We are looking for items on topics of general interest to filkers, such as local news, pre-Convention filk plans and guests, filk reviews, tips on songwriting, post-Convention reports, filk history, local filk customs, comments on previous articles, or whatever else you can think of. Remember, we are only the Editors - YOU write this 'zine!

CONTRIBUTION POLICY: Contributors of items which generate 3-4 column inches of text (3.75-inch width and 10-point type) in one issue will receive that issue free; subscribers will extended one issue.

RATES: \$7 for 12 issues via 1st class mail. Single or sample copies are available for \$0.50 plus postage. Back issues are available as a set, inquire for current price. Send cash, check or money order payable to Rick Weiss, 13261 Donegal Drive, Garden Grove, CA 92644-2304. We will also trade for other filkzines.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the editors. Different viewpoints and responses on issues of interest are welcome.

EVENT LISTINGS: We will publish information about upcoming filk events and conventions which feature filk artists or programming.

SUBMISSIONS: Send your submissions to the above address in hardcopy OR 3.5" diskettes (Atari ST or IBM 720k format) with ASCII files OR upload ASCII files to the DAG Electronic BBS (213/546-1861 at 900/2400 baud) via the Z: Upload to Sysop command. Direct modem transfer is also possible - call by voice telephone to arrange.

CLASSIFIEDS/ADVERTISING: Classifieds will be published on a space available basis. Free classifieds up to 4 lines for subscribers; additional lines and non-subscribers: \$0.25 per line. Other advertising - call or write us and we'll negotiate.

IBIVIA: This 'zine was produced on an Atari 520ST upgraded to 1 MB using Timeworks *Word Writer ST* and *The Timeworks Desktop Publisher* and printed on a Citizen MSP-10 9-pin dot matrix printer.

On the Care And Feeding Of A Home Filksing

Part 2 of 3

Copr. 1983 by Paul J. Willett
reprinted from Philk-Fee-Nom-
Ee-Non Number 17

Last issue, Paul discussed the factors to consider and how to rate the ability of your home to hold a successful filksing. Now, having provided evidence of your (lack of) sanity by deciding to host a filk, we continue with actual preparations.

Once you've made your decision to play host to a filk at your house and you've got the date set, it's time to let people know about it. As I mentioned above, in the Los Angeles area this means the Filkers Anonymous flyers. In the San Francisco area the flyers are mailed to the regulars and word spreads via word of mouth beyond that. Check and see how it works in your area.

Whatever your method of letting people know, there are certain points which should be mentioned in all flyers. You're far better off letting people know too much than too little. Let your guests know what they should expect and what you need from them in the way of help or supplies. You'll always find your fellow filkers only too glad to help out when and where they can.

Vital information for the flyer: Your name; your address; your phone number; the filksing date and start time; directions to your house and a map; a page and grid number to a commonly available set of street maps (such as Thomas Brothers); items that people should bring (such as chairs, munchies, or dinner courses); dinner plans (send out or buffet, how much if you're charging); crash space status; pets status; parking availability; location and selection of fast food and munchie outlets in the area; anything else that you want everyone to know.

See Filksing on Page 5.

From the DAG BBS

Consonance in Review

by Charles Coons

Three whole days of phun, phriends and philk! (Not necessarily in that order.) I had a blast, and I hope every one else did too! This was definitely smaller than Bayfilk 5, yet it seemed friendlier. The consuite was small, but cozy. (It was also the depot for carpet commandos [i.e. littles].) The main concert hall was large enough to hold every one who wanted to sit, but small enough that you didn't feel lost in the vast wastelands. The workshop room was right upstairs, by the elevators, so it was easily found and accessible to all. The secondary filk room was a quick walk across the second floor pallo, or a slightly longer walk through the hallways. If there was a third, I never found it.

M e m o r a b l e
moments:

Talking to Barry (Friday, about 2 or 3 o'clock) with Carol Roper, Mary Kay Jackson, Barb Reidel about performances, fen, life, vocal/music teachers and more.

The Harmony workshop Saturday night, with 40 or 50 pholks all singing together and making it sound terrific!

The Friday night alternate room: 10 people walked in, saw 2 people & left. Now, if only 1 more had stayed.... We eventually had 8 or 10 in there. Nice quiet conversations, some music, more guitar basics, lots of fun.

The Sunday evening Jam session with the Childs-Helton's, & every one else who joined with voice and instruments. Talk about energy!!!!

Gary Anderson's comments about CostumeCon's past and present. (What alligator clips?)

Paul Willett's advice on filkcon's, especially in the Southwest. Who, what, where, all valuable info.

Very little or no visible politics!!!!
Hot diggity!!

Small Quibbles:

A photocopier for general use. The front desk wanted 25 cents a copy (but that wasn't enforced for just one or two)

More trashcan's that could be found. Trash just got left behind, because no one could find where to throw it away.

Another suggestion: Schedules at the rooms, listing activities in each. (I know, I know, it

was in the program book, but no every one carries that with them, all the time.)

An instant replicator, to allow you to be in two or more places at any one time, ie the workshops & the concerts, or both filkrooms at once. (Well, maybe someday soon)

This year was great, and a whole bunch of fun. The hotel was excellent, and all the ConCom should be congratulated for making it all work so well.

Consonance: Other Voices

Eric Gerds

It was a great convention and everyone had a good time. There was a big turn out from the mid-west, with about 10-12 people, which was a lot of fun, singing went till dawn, and the hotel was even reasonable.

John Creasey

The only thing I wish that could have been changed, was the jam session was so late on Sunday. We had to leave due to littles at home. Otherwise the con was great!

Quicknews

➤ **Re:** Tolerance discussion of several issues ago. A belated letter to say that I remember being present at a con when the anti-Christian song alluded to in earlier letters was sung. I'm not Christian, but I found it offensive. It was all yucky double-entendres, along the lines of "I slept with Jesus last night. He got so deep in me I screamed with pleasure." I've been kicking myself ever since for not standing up and telling the singer I thought the song was offensive. *Lee Gold*

➤ **DAG BBS:** Rich Kabakjian Contrary to the report in *TFT* #13, the guests of honor at ConCerto are still Kathy Mar and Linda Melnick, and are NOT "TBD". Finishing up work on ConCerto PR #1... should be in the mail by next week, along with hotel cards for those of you who are coming (or even supporting, just in case...). Numbers at this time: 5 supporting, 37 attending, 3 months to go.

➤ **Thanks:** Normally I would send a "Thank You" card to people who have been so gracious in helping me, but in this case that did not seem to be enough. I wanted the whole world to know how pleased and appreciative I was to have worked with both Mary Creasey and Sandra Kleinschmitt to make my concert spot at Consonance work so well. I have had concert spots in the past but often I felt something was lacking. This time this was not the case, with Mary's excellent guitar playing (which freed me to put all of my energy into my singing) and Sandra's beautiful vocal back up, and guidance which make these songs very special. *Tera Mitchell*

➤ **CON-CHORD 6** will be held over the weekend of October 12-14. This is the weekend AFTER Columbus Day. The GoH is Julia Ecklar. The Toastmaster is Joey Shoji. We are holding this event at The Holiday Inn - LAX, which is the hotel right next to where we were last year. *Eric Gerds, Chairman*

What I Think I Know About Writing Filksongs

by Lee Gold

What follows is a series of disjointed observations on points I try to remember when it comes to writing filksongs. Of course, I don't always follow them, but the songs are usually better when I do. Maybe someone else will find them handy. Or be moved to write *TFT* with some contrary examples. (I might even do that myself.)

If two (or more) words rhyme, one of them often sounds a bit forced. For a serious song, put the forced rhyme first so it won't stand out as much. For a comic song, put it last, so it'll make people giggle.

A LOT of rhymes or alliterations sound funny. (Think of "tacky khaki walkie-talkies.") For a comic song written to a serious original, feel free to complicate the rhyme scheme by throwing in half-line rhymes. For a serious song to a comic original, try to mute the rhyme scheme so it won't feel clunky.

It's usually a mistake to write a longer filk than the original song. Especially if it's supposed to be funny.

Any song longer than one page in print - or that takes longer than 220 seconds - had better be very good. The San Diego crowd calls very long songs "pizza songs", claiming that you've got time to send out for a pizza, get it, and eat it.

Only keep phrases from the original for comic effect. And then only if you're sure that they still make sense in the new context. On the other hand, stick strictly to the original scansion - and to something like the original rhyme scheme.

Put a throwaway line after the big laugh line.

Put the verse with the greatest emotional impact at the end. If necessary, rearrange verses after you write the song.

A song should stand on its own two feet. You shouldn't have to ask if people have heard of the original song. Or read the book, or seen the movie, or gone on the Disneyland ride.

When you've finished writing a song, turn the sheet of paper over and see if you can still sing it. If not, sneak a peek - and try to fix the line so it won't be so forgettable. You'll notice as you sing the song without looking at it that you spontaneously change a word or two here and there to help out a rhyme scheme or the grammar or even the meaning. Keep doing it until everything seems to go along smoothly.

When you think you've finished writing a song, give it to someone else who knows the tune and ask him or her to sing it cold. Work on any lines that get flubbed.

Quoth the FilkLord....

An off-centered column from a
eccentric filker

by Quentin Long

Has anybody else noticed how non-rational the environmental movement gets at times? Consider the flap over the ozone layer., frinstance - to hear some of the eco-doomsters tell it, this piece of our atmosphere is in imminent danger of utter obliteration from those horrid chlorofluorocarbons, to be followed by massive increase in skin cancer and dying plants and such within, oh, three weeks at the latest.

Frankly, I don't buy it. Consider these facts:

○ Ozone is what happens when ultraviolet light shines on ordinary, diatomic oxygen molecules.

○ As should surprise nobody, solar UV is, essentially, ~~the~~ source of ozone for That Layer.

See Ozone on Page 6.

Filksing

Continued from Page 3.

So now you've told everyone to come over and use your house and the date's coming up; what do you do to get ready?

Certain preparations can begin days before the sing. Start making ice and storing it in plastic bags in the freezer; it's a lot cheaper than paying someone for frozen water. If you just don't have the room for it in your freezer, remember to get ice the day of the sing.

Informing your neighbors of the upcoming festivities is a good idea in general if you get along with them to begin with. Let them know what's going on and ask them to let you know if they have any noise problems or other difficulty with your guests. You might even invite them over, but warn them of what a filksing is. Giving them warning and asking them to let you know of problems first can save worse problems later. In over a half-dozen sings here, we've never had a complaint from the neighbors; so this policy must work.

Set up some house rules if you feel them to be necessary. After all, it is your house! Don't be dictatorial, though; common sense goes a long way. We have found that a sheet of poster board with the house rules listed comes in quite handy when placed by the front door. It lets everyone know what's going on and it saves you the effort of having the explain them all fifty times a night.

As an example, our house rules are:

- 1) Filkers: Come on in; don't bother knocking.
Non-Filkers: Consider what you are about to do. If you still want to come in, act like a filker (see above).
- 2) NO SMOKING!!!
- 3) Use kushyons with care. There are breakables, and if you kill it, you eat it.
- 4) Please be quiet when outside after 10 PM. We like our

Baycon Review

Continued from Page 1.

The Sunday night filk was held in the registration area. Although the group was a little smaller, there was still a positive spirit that didn't seem to just ride on the coattails of the evening before but rather had a life of its own.

Now for some acknowledgements: Joey Shoji teamed up with Mary Ellen (from Michigan) to give us some miracle melodies and harmonies. Jane Robinson cracked us up with "Anthem to Bureaucracy", Kathy Mar reassured us with "Drink Up the River", Fred Capp gave us

neighbors and would like to keep it that way.

- 5) If you're putting anything in the refrigerator and you don't want it to be community property, mark it! If something is in the refrigerator and it's marked, don't touch it!
- 6) The animals are: Murph-Dog, friendly to the point of being obnoxious; Murph-Cat, (the black one) is cautious but friendly if she knows you; Itty-Bitty-Pretty-Kitty (the brown one, Itty for short) is terrified of humans and should not be bothered at all.
- 7) There's an aluminum can crusher in the kitchen and a barrel for aluminum cans ONLY. Please don't put trash in the recycling barrel or vice versa.

House rules should be informative rather than inhibitive or restrictive.

Get the emergency numbers that you might need and post them by the phone in plain sight. Aside from being a good idea even if you aren't hosting a filksing, it can become vital if an emergency pops up. With the number of people in your home going up by a factor of fifty or so, the odds of needing one of those numbers also goes up. An ounce of prevention.....

Clear as much unneeded furniture as possible out of your main filking room. You'll need the space! If there

his space rendition of "Ghost Riders in the Sky", and Tim Griffin treated us to an island flavor with "I Do Adore Her". We enjoyed Howard Harrison's songs and artful guitar playing, and we joined in with Brin-Marie Landerman, singing: "Skin-heads, skin-heads, neo-Nazi skin-heads; skin-heads, skin-heads, beat 'em up, yum!" (or was it "EAT 'em up"?) And, oh, those harps!

I contributed "Star Pilot's Hymn" and "Van Dieman's Land", and by playing tunes on the dulcimer, including my original "Harper's Woods" (for Wonder Year fans).

Perhaps the highlight was Roy Torley and his remarkable bandura. His "Waltzing With Bears" got an overflow crowd singing along (and dancing) in such full force that a mundane spectator (or fan) might think it was a celebration for the end of World War III.

Take the most diehard practitioner of the art - one who looks for perfection over pure enjoyment - he would conclude, in famous last words: "A good time was had by all."

are heavy things to be moved, ask some of the filkers to come early and help.

Clear out your refrigerator. Anything that's marginal in the way of leftovers should be dumped because you're going to need all of the space you can get for drinks, food, and other filking items.

If you have pets, try to vacuum thoroughly before the sing. This will pick up a lot of the hair which might otherwise aggravate allergies. If your dog is a nasty one, make sure that it is put where it won't be a hazard or threat. Then let people know where not to go! It doesn't do any good to have the dog locked in the garage if someone wanders in there with it while looking for the bathroom.

Let people know where the bathrooms are!

See Hosting on Page 6.

Ozone

Continued from Page 4.

- Ozone is highly reactive.
- Ozone is highly unstable as well.
- The celebrated holes in That Layer are found only over the polar regions, and then only at a certain time of the year (i.e. local spring).
- That Layer contains very little ozone indeed - at STP, it would be maybe an eighth-inch thick, if even *that* much.

Question: How come the holes in That Layer are over the *poles*, where virtually no CFC's are released, rather than over the *temperate/tropical regions*, where virtually all CFC's are released?

Question: Is it significant that said holes occur only in those regions which regularly go six months without solar UV to replenish their ozone?

Question: How much oxygen is there at or above the height of That Layer in the atmosphere, and how much is there *below* that level?

Question: Is there any reason to believe that low-altitude oxygen is any less able to absorb UV than that found at high altitudes?

Question: Has anyone actually measured the amount of UV that penetrates all the way to ground-level during the ozone-free polar spring?

Question: Eco-doomsters say it's the prudent course to solve incipient problems of this sort *before* they become serious. If so, is it not equally prudent to study any proposed solution *before* implementing it, to make sure that the alleged "solution" won't create any problems worse than the one it "solved"?

Editor's Note: Yes, I realize this doesn't have anything at all to do with filk. But there was room, and it is rumored that some people do find Quentin's rantings amusing. If you object, complain, and future columns will be related to Filk or they will not be run.

Hosting a Filksing

Continued from Page 5.

Stock up well on necessities, particularly toilet paper and disposable dinner utensils. It's astounding how much toilet paper a few dozen filkers can go through in one evening. Be prepared!

Dinner will go MUCH more easily if you use paper cups, plates, napkins and paper utensils. It is impossible to do dishes in a crowd, and dirty dishes take up space you'll need in the kitchen. Anything that can be disposable should be.

Put trash barrels in conspicuous spots so that they can be used as needed. This saves the problems of having trash all over the house all night. If you're saving aluminum, mark the bins for trash and cans clearly so that they don't get mixed up and put a notice about the difference into your house rules.

Have paper towels at the ready since things will be spilled. If you have fine carpets or furniture, then think twice about hosting a filk! The filkers you're hosting aren't slob, but they aren't saints either and things will be spilled. Bet on it.

If you have good wood furniture that you want to protect, provide coasters for drinks and make sure that people know where they are. Put this into your house rules also.

If things going into the refrigerator should be marked to avoid becoming community property, make sure that there's a indelible marker for that purpose by the refrigerator.

If you want to peace-bond kushyons (a Los Angeles phenomenon), say so. Otherwise, you will have things flying at every pun, at least in Southern California.

If you have a bunch of extension cords with multiple outlet endings, plug them in and string them around the room to increase the number of outlets available for people to use. Be sure you know where the circuit breaker is so that you can reset it if it blows from the load.

Burnside Clapp

Continued from Page 1.

The REALLY good news is that I'm expecting a baby at the end of September! (That was good for cheering us up after Mitch didn't get the Houston assignment.) So we'll definitely be here for at least two more years, so we can settle in...we're putting in a back lawn in the spring (we have a huge back yard, but no grass!) and I'm busily shopping for furniture and wallpaper, etc. All in all, life is pretty good! I'm supposed to be GoH (w/Technical Difficulties) at OVFF in October... this could be really interesting with a month-old baby. Well, get them started on Cons early, I always say.

Tera adds: A note of special interest, when I spoke to Mitch at Consonance he was told the news of the baby within a few hours of the news of not getting the Houston assignment. The emotions at that time were understandably, shall we say, confused.

If there are any areas of the house that are out of bounds (relatives' rooms, workshops, etc.), let people know and mark doors as being off limits. If possible, lock them. Filkers aren't any snooper than any other group, but they'll wander while looking for something else.

If you're putting any deadlines on when everyone should clear out in the morning (noon is about right for us), let people know about it in advance.

Editor's afterword: Even less to comment on than last month. The regular LAFA Filk flyers are now included with The Filking Times, or mailed by separate subscription. As noted before, the average size of filks in the LA area has decreased, so preparations and stockpiling need not be done on *quite* the same scale. *On the Care And Feeding Of A Home Filksing* will conclude next month with advice on what to do once the invasion starts, uh, the filkers actually arrive.

Filk Sources And Resources

John & Mary Creasey, "The Family Business", 3754 W. 170th St, Torrance, CA 90504-1204. Retailers of Firebird filk tapes and other merchandise. Look for them at conventions and local filkings. "We sell filk, not politics."

DAG Productions, 1810 14th Street #102, Santa Monica, California 90404. Telephone: 213/546-4935 or 213/546-1861 (BBS). Eric Gerds, owner, producer and publisher. Write or call for FREE CATALOG and UPDATE FLYERS.

DAG BBS (Electronic Bulletin Board System), 213/546-1861 at 300/2400 BAUD. 24 hours/day, Tuesday through Sunday. Filk, costuming, SCA, gaming, books/media, general fannish interest.

Firebird Arts & Music, Inc., P.O. Box 14785, Portland, Oregon 97214-9998. Telephone: 800/752-0494. Andrea Mitchell, proprietor; Teri Lee, executive producer. Write for FREE CATALOG.

Pegasus Publishing, P.O. Box 150471, Arlington, Texas 76015-6471. Write for further information.

Quicksilver Fantasies, P.O. Box 1660, Post Falls, Idaho 83854. Write for FREE CATALOG.

Thor Records, P.O. Box 40312, Downey, California 90241. Telephone: 213/862-1722. Chrys Thorson and Ralph Mason, music producers. Write for information and flyer.

Unlikely Publications, 1741 Eighth Street, Berkeley, California 94710; 415/525-5534. Cynthia McQuillin, proprietor, producer and publisher of Folk and specialty tapes and songbooks.

Wall Songs, P.O. Box 29888, Oakland, California 94604. Telephone: 415/763-6415. Bob Laurent, proprietor, producer, and publisher. Write for FREE CATALOG.

Filkzines Around The Country

APA-Filk: Collated and published quarterly by John Boardman, 234 E. 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11226-5302; 718/693-1579. Current copy count unknown. John will mimeo your 'zine for you if you send a him a cut stencil.

Harpings: Published by the Filk Foundation, edited by Margaret Middleton, 34 Barbara Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204; 501/666-8466; Compuserve 71525,1372.

LOOSE NOTES: A Zine for Filky-Minded Fans. Published and edited by Susan Landerman, 3327 West Luke Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85017.

Na Mele O Na Hoku--Song of the Stars: Published and edited by Debra F. Sanders, 1415 Victoria Street #206, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

Philk-Fee-Non-Ee-Non: Published by Philk Press. Paul Willett, editor. P.O. Box 4128, Panorama City, CA 91412, 818/893-7397.

Philly Philk Phlash: Published and edited by Carol Kabakjian, 17 Lewis Avenue #3, East Lansdowne, Pennsylvania 19050-2614.

Xenofilkia: Published and edited by Lee Gold, 3965 Alla Road, Los Angeles, CA 90068, 213/306-7456.

For more information, contact JD Watson, RP STAR, 11800 Kiltidge #39, No. Hollywood, CA 91606-2428, or send you contribution check payable to Brooke Rodriguez to the same address.

I will try to remember to bring the original documents to LAFA filks for your inspection. Ask me if you want to see them.

And for those of you who gagged, Jane Mailander's review of the BatB next month will be sweet revenge.

Mundane Media Invades TET

Ron Perlman Nominated For Star On Hollywood Walk-of-Fame

Beauty & The Beast Advo*cats Soliciting Contributions

by Rick Weiss

If it wasn't such a slow month for real Filk news, I'd never be printing this. But there's room, and there may possibly be two or three subscribers who will be interested.

I received an unusual letter in the mail recently. It was addressed to Con Chord 6, Rick Weiss, with my address. It contained a copy of a letter from the Larry A. Thompson Organization to JD Watson, Beauty & The Beast Advocats, expressing Ron Perlman's thanks and permission for Mr. Watson to pursue a Walk-of-Fame nomination on behalf of Mr. Perlman.

Also in the envelope was a letter explaining the Hollywood Walk-of-Fame nomination procedure, with a nominating form on the back. Finally, there was a flyer from JD Watson saying the the *Beauty and the Beast Advo*cats* are sponsoring a nomination for Ron Perlman for a star on the Hollywood Walk-of-Fame, and asking for contributions to cover the \$4,800 cost of installation. This cost must be paid for by the sponsor of the nominee. The names of all contributors will placed in a special gift book and presented to Mr. Perlman.



SONGWRITERS SEMINAR

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO WRITE A SONG?
HAVE YOU EVER HAD A SONG THAT YOU COULD
NOT FINISH? HAVE YOU EVER WRITTEN A SONG
BUT IT JUST WASN'T RIGHT?

Starting Friday April 27th thur Sunday afternoon April 29
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SOME OF THE TOPICS TO BE COVER:

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(415) 481-5736

Checks should be made payable to Kathy Mar,
Registration is limited so Register early.