

# HARPINS

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JULY 1987

Published by The Filk Foundation  
Mail/UPS 34 Barbara Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
Phone (501)666-8466  
CompuServe 71525,1372

Published every other month as a filk newsletter. Deadlines for news are Jan 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, September 1, and November 1: with copy-typing starting a week or so ahead of the deadline date. If you want to send pasteup-ready copy, type it on a 10-pitch machine on a 43-character line. Dot-matrix print if done with a fresh ribbon is acceptable. Text will be reduced to 75% of original size during pasteup.

Current availability is to Filk Foundation members, contributors-of-news, and on Editorial Whim.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR MAILING LABEL

Besides the basic address-lines, there are two code-marks; one alphabetic and the other numeric. The A or C indicates why you are getting this issue. A = Active member. C = Contributor. (If neither appears, you may assume Editorial Whim) The numeric code is YY/MM/DD for your expiration date. DD is always the last date in any month, so if YY/MM falls between 30 days before and 60 days after the postmark date on this issue, you need to renew NOW to be sure of getting the next issue. Foundation membership remains \$15 per year.

## WORLDCON FILK INFO

Juanita Coulson

(this would have been more timely in a May issue, but there is still time to contact Gytha if you're coming)(msm)

Gytha North sent me a note re: filking at Conspiracy. She's in charge of filking there, says we actually get two rooms and a slot on the main program for a concert. She's eager to round up participants for the latter, esp. Her address: Gytha North,  
50A Gladstone Place  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN 2 3 QD  
United Kingdom

I'd love to go, because Britfilk has some charming new stuff to offer. Those filkers who are lucky enough to go to Conspiracy should definitely contact Gytha in advance to reassure her she won't be alone ((Overseas Airmail would be a good idea this late. msm)).

Yeah, I missed the May issue. No excuses; and folk whose memberships would have run out in April & May will get this issue.

Nothing like issuing a roster-book to spark a rush of CoA's ! Nearly a dozen this time, including 2 new members & 1 omitted from the roster-book:

Sally & Barry Childs-Helton, 5141 Norwaldo,  
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Michele Cox/Sulliin, 14515 Leffingwell, Whittier, CA 90604

Randy & Lisa (Berry) Farran, 1323 Main St,  
Parsons KS, 67357

Gytha North, 50A Gladstone Place, Brighton,  
East Sussex, U.K. BN 2 3 QD

Bill Roper, 1724 Oakton, Evanston IL 60202

Marie Schneider, 1722 W. Greenleaf, Chicago  
IL 60626

Howard Scrimgeour, 1260 Marlborough Ct. Apt.  
902, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6H 3H5

Joey Shoji, 2931 Benton, Santa Clara CA 95051

Mike Stein, 3200 John Marshall Dr, Arlington,  
VA 22207

Edith Stern, 4599 NW 5th AV, Boca Raton,  
FL 33431

Membership is hovering in the mid-60's currently, with Bob Laurent and Kim Bethel not having renewed in March. Re-up reminders for April through July will go out with this issue (there are currently no members whose re-up date is in August).

## FREAS FUND UPDATES

I hear by the grapevine that somewhat over 50% of Polly's final humongous medical bills have been covered by the Fund, so far.

One tactic which went-over well at Khubla Quinze this past May was for filkers to band together and take requests at \$2 per. We covered over 10 requests, I recall, including "Jeremiah Was a Bullfrog".

That address, again, is

The Freas Fund  
c/o HaRosFa, PO Box 9434  
Hampton, VA, 23670.

## MIXED BITS & LOOSE ENDS

The tapes from FilkCon 1 are now completely sold-out.

Will someone from MuseCon please send me a printout of all the registrants? If someone else will send me a conreport on MuseCon I will send HARPINGS containing the conreport to all registered for MuseCon.

The same goes for ConChord 3.

## FILK CONS & OTHERS

### SOONERCON 3

October 16-18, Central Plaza Hotel, jct. I-35 & I-40, Oklahoma City. GoH's: Robin Bailey (Author & Filk), David Cherry (Art), Laura Le Hew (Fan), Dell Harris (TM), Richard & Wendy Pini (Comics). Reg. \$12 til 10-1-87, \$15 after & at-door. No huckster rates quoted on flyer. Info Soonercon 3, PO Box 1701, Bethany, OK 7300

### MILEHICON 19

October 23-25, DoubleTree Hotel at Heather Ridge Country Club, 13696 E. Iliff Pl, Aurora CO. GoH's C.J. Cherryh & Peter Beagle, TM Ed Bryant Reg. \$18 til 10-1, \$20 after & at-door. Info Bruce Miller (303)936-4092 or Gail Barton (303) 233-6958 or PO Box 27074, Denver CO 80277 (ref. also related article by Sourdough Jackson)

### OHIO VALLEY FILK FEST 3 (FilkCon 9.3)

Oct. 30-Nov.1, DelawareHoliday Inn (this is different from last ish's listing), 351 S. Sandusky St, Delaware OH. GoH Meg Davis, TM Michael (Moonwolf) Longcor. Reg. \$15 til Sept 1, \$20 thereafter & at-door. Hux tables \$15 n/i reg. Checks to "OSFS, Inc." Info OVFF 3, PO Box 211101, Columbus OH 43221.

### XANADU 4

November 13-15, Ramada Inn @ Music Valley Dr, Nashville TN. GoH's Poul & Karen Anderson, Filk Guests Bob & Anne Passovoy; MC Wilson (Bob) Tucker. Reg. \$15 til Oct. 1, \$20 thereafter. Children 6-12 yrs half price, under 6 yrs free. Info Xanadu SF Con, PO Box 23281, Nashville TN 37202.

### BAYFILK 4 (FilkCon 10.1)

Early March, 1988, GoH Murray Porath. All else TBA. Write Off-Centaur Publications, PO Box 424, El Cerrito Ca 94530.

## A FEW MORE EDITORIAL COMMENTS

I have gotten some feedback on my comment last issue regarding authorization of Filk Cons by the FF. (ref. Loc Kate Cochran) Mary Kay Jackson of the OVFF concom also spoke to me while at OKon, making the point that since the Filk Foundatbn no longer subsidizes Filk Cons directly, they felt free to schedule the con anytime they wished, and Meg Davis was going to be available at this particular time.

My intended point last ish was that it was about equally bad manners on the part of the Dallas concom not to have said anything further on its plans after the initial announcement, and on the part of the Ohio concom to have tromped on Dallas's dates without tracking down someone on the Dallas concom to see if Dallas was still going to use the dates.

The current arrangement being a fait accompli, all parties are accepting it, but it made me feel a bit like a mushroom, and I'm the one a lot of folks contact for info on filk-cons. I can only pass-on what the con-planners tell me.

Mary Kay's point about concom's freedom in scheduling is something I have no problem with, by the way. It just strikes me as a bit pointless to double-up filk-cons (but this is verging on a debate on "how far is reasonable to drive to a con" ; from Little Rock, both Dallas and Columbus are reasonable).

Kate Cochran's loc:

I definitely support you re-filk-con-coms checking with the Foundation about dates etc. I was very surprised when I saw the bit in OVFF's program book--see you next year-- & even later I overheard Mary Kay saying to someone who asked about a filk-con in '87 to "bite your tongue" was the phrase I think she used. A filk-con every two years is just about as much as most filkers can handle (at least from what I have observed, anyway). It takes time to get new songs written & polished-up to performance quality & still maintain things in mundania so you don't starve to death for your art.

## REORGANIZATIONS AT OFF-CENTAUR

Cathy Cook MacDonald's partnership in O-C is being bought-out by Teri Lee and Jordin Kare. Replacing Cathy as Comptroller will be Andrea Mitchell. Andrea has not been an active participant in the business end of O-C before now, but she & husband George are long-time associates of O-C: O-C's original printing press lived in Mitchell's back porch for the first several years of the business.

O-C is also affiliating with BMI, and forms are available to the various recording artists on-request, if Teri has not sent them to you already.

According to O-C's spring catalog-supplement, they are now managing the mail-order sale of Kelly Freas's line of prints.

## CAROL LYNN'S LOC:

Harpings just surfaced in the mess of things and I see that I'm up for renewal again. Keep up the good work. Sometimes when I get bogged down by work and kids and things, and feel that I'm never going to get to stay up all night ever again and sing at some con somewhere or other, along comes a Filk Foundation mailing and gives me some hope that it will all continue until Jenny is old enough to beave with her grandparents for a weekend. She's almost 14 months old and still nursing up a storm. I have left her for two nights in the course of business, but neither one of us really enjoyed the experience.

((That's the sort of LoC that makes a faned blush and hurry-up to get the next ish out...))

SORT OF A PRE-REPORT ON MILEHI CON

Sourdough Jackson

There will be a filk concert, open filking, several filk panels, and probably a Fan Cabaret. Other major filkers present (beside the GoH's) will include Anne Prather and (hopefully) Kathy Mar.

There will also be the traditional activities for a MileHiCon: trivia bowl, art show, gaming, 24-hr. video room (including Japanimation), masquerade, and dealers' room (Off-Centaur has been a dealer here two years running). One thing west-coast filkers might consider: Denver is roughly halfway between the west coast and the Ohio Valley Filk Fest, and takes place one week previous to OVFF. In the last three years, MileHiCon has acquired a strong filk theme, and we have tried to get at least one filk-oriented guest of honor. At MHC-17 it was Leslie Fish, at MHC-18 it was Juanita Coulson, and this year we are having two of them: Peter S. Beagle and C.J. Cherryh. We hope to keep this up in the future, especially since a number of pro authors have shown themselves to be musicians.

MileHiCon is also a smallish convention by most standards; attendance the last few years has been in the 350-400 area. The 30 to 50 filkers we have gotten in recent years have not gotten lost, shoved into a corner, or exiled to frozen ballrooms. The organizers of the convention are sensitive to the needs of filkers and have had considerable experience in the technical end of producing concerts. We can't promise World-con-scale filking, but we can promise a friendly atmosphere in which to filk all night long, along with well-organized concerts featuring first-class performers.

We're actively looking for more out-of-state filkers and fans at MileHiCon. Hope to see you there.

EDITH STERN'S LOC:

Don't know if you subscribe to SING OUT!, but there was an obituary in the Winter '87 issue for Bill Maraschiello. SING OUT! occasionally has filk related comments in the "Roads Scholar" column - people trying to track down songs and so forth. The crossover between science fiction people and folkies is greater than one might think. Or at least, I hope so.

My interests in traditional music lie mostly in old broadsides and ballads. I've been listening to filk (and mangling it in the shower) since DISCON II. At MAC, I sat in the basement near the art show and listened to filk all night long. ((you too, huh?)). Of course, I was hooked. I am trying for the worlds record in intending to learn the guitar (going-on 15 years now), and am self-taught (ha!) on the mandolin.

For the last couple of years I've been organizing the filksinging group down here. As Fran has mentioned, we're kind of thin on original writers, and in fact on able performers. Lacking skill, we've been forced to rely on enthusiasm. At least, I have.



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