

THE SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION BULLETIN



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CONTENTS	PAGE
Cleary Comments	3
On Winning a Rebel Award	4
Separated At Birth?	4
Fandom Lives	5
Convention Report: Oasis	6
Convention Report: DeepSouthCon	8
Reviews	9
Treasurer's Report	11
SFC Business Meeting Minutes	11
Annotated Fanzine Listings	12
News	14
Ten Advantages to Being Goth	16
Southern Convention List	17
<i>Ender's Game</i> Word Search	18
Southern Club List	19
Letters of Comment	21

Policies

The *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin* Volume 8, Number 6, August 2004, is the official publication of the Southern Fandom Confederation (SFC), a not-for-profit literary organization and information clearinghouse dedicated to the service of Southern Science Fiction and Fantasy Fandom. The *Bulletin* is edited by R. B. Cleary and is published at least three times per year. Membership in the SFC is \$15 annually, running from DeepSouthCon to DeepSouthCon. A club or convention membership is \$75 annually. Donations are welcome. All checks should be made payable to the Southern Fandom Confederation. The *Bulletin* is also available for trades, published contributions, and letters of comment.

Permission is granted to reprint all articles, lists, and flyers so long as the author and the *Bulletin* are credited. All art is copyrighted by the artist, unless otherwise specified. An exception is granted in the case of art that appears in a convention flyer.

The editor encourages submission of lengthy written material and art – covers and illos. Contributions and LoCs via electronic means are highly desirable. If you wish to use the Internet, you may send the article as electronic mail or an attachment. If you wish to send the editor computer media, 3.5" floppies, 100 MB Zip disk, CD and DVD-ROMS are acceptable. IBM compatible file formats are acceptable. Media will be returned if requested. The *Bulletin* is laid out in Microsoft Word 2000 on a Pentium III based PC. Ink and typewritten submissions are also graciously accepted. If you're not sure what all this means, get in touch to work out a solution.

Throughout the *Bulletin*, you will find comments in italics and enclosed by curly brackets *{like this}*. Those are comments from the editor, R. B. Cleary, unless otherwise noted.

Ad Rates

Type	Full Page	Half Page	¼ Page
Fan	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$12.50
Pro	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$25.00

SFC Handbooks

This amazing 196 page tome of Southern Fannish lore, edited by T.K.F.W. Reinhardt, is now available to all comers for \$5, plus a \$2 shipping and handling charge if we have to mail it. The Handbook is also available online, thanks to the efforts of Samuel Smith, at www.smithuel.net/sfcbh/. The SFC Handbook Errata page is:

www.smithuel.net/sfcbh/hberrata.html.

T-Shirts

Sizes	Quantity (Animals)	Quantity (States)
Medium	1	2
Large	2	4
XXL	1	Not Available

T-Shirts are \$10 each plus \$3 shipping and handling fee if we have to mail it. The first selection has a color design of cute animals on white fabric. The second selection has black design of cute icons on states on peach fabric.

SFC Patches

These snazzy color SFC Patches are only \$5 plus \$1 shipping and handling fee if we have to mail it.

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CLEARY COMMENTS

by R. B. Cleary

I hope everyone has had a pleasant spring and summer. Fall is practically upon us. I'll be at WorldCon in Boston and Con†Stellation in Huntsville before the next issue.

LOST TREASURE(R)

Unfortunately, Judy Bemis will be stepping down from doing her excellent job as the Southern Fandom Confederation Treasurer next year. So the call is out for a new Treasurer to be elected at the next DeepSouthCon in 2005. Please consider running and/or nominating willing ~~suckers~~-volunteers.

WEB WE QUESTS

I'm interested in hearing from y'all about what y'all would like to see on the SFC Web-Site. Some suggestions that I've heard so far including listings of some of the *SFC Handbook* information (www.smithuel.net/sfcbh/), such as past DSCs, Phoenix and Rebel Award winners, etc. in a more direct form. Also interest has been expressed in including bios of the Award winners also. So drop me any suggestions you have for the web site and/or the *Bulletin* for that matter.

CONNIPTIONS

I saw a lot of SFC folks at the MidSouthCon/DeepSouthCon 42 in Memphis, TN in March. Attendance was over 1000 people. The biggest snafu seemed to be registration. The art show was a good size and bursting with art. They had an artist reception with food. It was nice meeting Todd Lockwood. Dana Bridges did a great job as Art Show director (and con co-chair). I had fun Friday night at the parties with Julie Wall. Saturday, I helped staff the SFC table with Judy Bemis. Once we learned that there were no DSC bids, Judy got TriNoCon in Durham, NC to bid, and they won. Julie, Charlotte Proctor, Judy Bemis and her husband Tony Parker, and I went out to a place called Interstate Barbeque. The portions were large and reasonably priced. It was good but not great. Then Julie Wall, Gary Robe, Janice Gelb and I went down to Beal Street. We got a librarian action figure there and presented it to Shelia Strickland at the SFC business meeting the next day. We got back just as the Art Auction ended (lots of charity items make it run long). The Masquerade was fun with lots of good costumes. The staff and guests also put on a long skit beforehand. Saturday night, there was a joke bid for DSC in Hawaii. On Sunday, Gary Robe, Naomi Fisher, Pat Malloy, Steve and Sue Francis, Richard Dengrove, and Judy Bemis and her husband Tony concluded the convention by eating at a Steak and Shake, which was a good drive away from the hotel. There is a real shortage of restaurants of any kind near the hotel. Overall I had a good time and think it was a good DSC.

In June, I attended Sci-Fi Summer in Atlanta, a small but fun multi-interest fan convention. Atlanta fandom seems to be in a renaissance of club activity and there were several fan

groups well represented that weekend. I especially enjoyed hanging out with members of the Atlanta Science Fiction Society, such as but not limited to Lewis Murphy, Jayne Rodgers, Lucy Cruel, Tom Bevil, and many others. The Dealers room was slightly better this year (being indoors helped). The art show was in two small rooms but packed with excellent art and well run by Felicia and Patrick Roberts. I had the honor of being auctioneer for the short but sweet art auction Sunday. The classic arcade room was also a big hit as always. Congratulations on Chris Jones running a good fan friendly convention in the land of behemoth convention, DragonCon.

In July, I attended LibertyCon in Cleveland, TN. LibertyCon is a literary fan friendly small convention that is usually in Chattanooga but hotel problems forced a venue change (for the better IMHO). The Holiday Inn scenically overlooked the area and even had very cool (and coveted) rocket ship trashcans in the public bathrooms. The guests were incredible and accessible; Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, David Weber, and Stephen Hickman with many other professionals in attendance. I enjoyed Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle's panel of anecdotes about other professionals, moderated by T.K.F. Weisskopf-Reinhardt. Toni's Baen Slide Show was packed and did not even start until almost midnight. The Dealer's Hall was mostly book dealers (quite a change from most conventions) and people got lots of books signed that weekend by the quests. Julie Wall, Linda and Bill Zeilke, and Toni hosted the best party (of many good parties) with great decorations, drinks, and food (not that I'm biased). See party photo below.

All three conventions were very enjoyable and I feel lucky to have attended them. I hope WorldCon will be equally enjoyable in its own way. ♡



**Starry Eyed Vice-President Julie Wall
and President Randy Cleary
Photo By Charlotte Proctor**

ON WINNING A REBEL AWARD

By Sue Thorn

When Randy asked me to write this article, I said sure, but it has proven to be harder than I thought. The Rebel award has always held a special place in my heart because it is given to someone in recognition for their service to Southern Fandom over a number of years. To me service does not imply just work done for the conventions, but also the way you represent your convention or Southern Fandom as a whole. It's bringing Southern hospitality to conventions. It's greeting the new fan and making them feel welcome. It's helping out the lost fan who can't find his way. It's all kinds of small courtesies that add up to making a fun time for all. I think what I'm trying to say is that to me the award is not just for the obvious work one does over the years, but also for all the small one on one kindnesses that one does to show the Southern spirit.

For example, my second large convention was Chattacon 8. I had just registered and was feeling quiet lost in the Read House. I asked Registration where the Con Suite was, and they pointed in the general direction. However, a rotund gentleman with a beard popped up and said, "I'll show you" and took me there. He of course was Uncle Timmy Bolgeo, who was at the time the Chairman of the Convention! That's the kind of spirit I'm speaking of, someone who takes the time to show a fairly new, confused, somewhat scared fan to the con suite. Timmy did receive his recognition; he received the Rebel in 1999.

My very first Science Fiction Convention was Druid Con in 1980. It was a very small convention held at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Two of the guests were Gerry Page (Rebel, 1980) and Hank Reinhardt (Rebel, 1973), two great guys who let me know that guests are accessible to fans at cons.

My second convention was B'hammacon II / DSC 19. I don't often recall exactly when or where I meet people, but that convention is an exception. I met several people who are still very good friends of mine today at that DSC, Mike Kennedy (Rebel 2003), Jim Kennedy, Nelda (Kennedy) Clarke, Adrian Washburn and Merlin Odom. It was also where I entered my first masquerade. I remember well hearing people speculating on who would win the Rebel and the Phoenix Awards. So of course I asked what they were. So I was lucky in my early days to be hanging around with people who were interested in the awards and who explained them to me. I thought then what a grand thing the Rebel Award was and was in awe of the winners.

It didn't take long until I was working staff for conventions. After all, cons always need volunteers. Through the years I've worked in art shows, con suites, registration, security, and ran lots of masquerades. So many masquerades that I've lost count. As the years went by I found myself working more and more. I don't work for as many conventions now, but now I do a lot of jobs for one convention, LibertyCon. I still work for occasionally for a DSC.

I don't recall when I met most of my con family and friends, but I would like to say that I have lots of them and

they are very special to me. Among my list of friends and acquaintances are many other Rebel winners Sam Smith (2001), Toni Weisskopf (2000), Julie Wall (2002), Patrick Molloy (1993), Charlotte Proctor (1990), and Guy Lillian III (1984) to name a few. I had these exceptional people to observe as role models or they were the actual people showing me how to do the jobs I was doing at conventions. Learning from the best is always a good thing.

I never dreamed I'd ever get the Rebel award. To say I was surprised is a huge understatement. I was dumbfounded. There I was standing against the wall, having just taken a photo of Greta Coger accepting for Dal Coger (Posthumously) the first of two Rebel Awards to be given out that night, listening to Greg Bridges talk about the next winner. I was at first amused as I thought, "I've done that too". As he continued, I realized, "gee, that almost sounds like me". Then he said the part about having introduced him to his wife and it hit me that he did mean me. I was shocked! Stunned! After he called my name out, my friends at the table were telling me to go up to the podium, so I somehow got moving, but there was this very surreal feel to the room. I remember hugging Greg and babbling in the microphone. Hopefully, I said something that made sense. I was in such as daze – I could not believe I was a Rebel Winner.

Winning the Rebel is one of the greatest things to have ever happened to me. I am so pleased that I won the Rebel the same year that fellow native Alabamian Gregory Benford was awarded the Phoenix. Most days I still don't believe I won a Rebel, so I go into the living room and take a peek just to be sure it's still there. ☹

SEPARATED AT BIRTH?

by R.B.Cleary

Actor Terry Thomas and Big Name Fan Gary Robe



Gary Robe photo by Chaz Boston Baden {Now we know why Gary really shaved his mustache.} ☹

FANDOM LIVES

by Charlotte Proctor

There is a web site that has been fun to watch the past year or so: The One Ring dot Net. <[//theonering.net](http://theonering.net)> is a *Lord of the Rings* fan site that deals in facts and news stories. Oh, all right, and a little gossip, too. The core group (staff?) of The One Ring.net (TORn) had a party on Oscar night. They rented a site from the American Legion in Hollywood, decorated it, made goodie bags for everyone, arranged refreshments and set up chairs in the main function room. They prepared a backdrop for the photo area and sold memberships to the party. Houghton-Mifflin and Weta Workshop are two of the website sponsors. I don't know that they did, but the fans may have had a little financial and organizational help with the party, but you can see from the pictures that they did all the scut work.

There was a limited amount of space and they rightly figured they would be overrun with at-the-door memberships, in spite of the life-sized Black Rider at the front entrance, if the membership were left open. Well, they had their party and watched *ROTK* sweep the Oscars. Many, if not most, attendees wore costumes. They laughed, they cried, they cheered, and before it was all over the Hobbits and Gimli, stuntmen and women, artists, the producers, and PJ himself were among those who came by to share the Oscar glow with the fans.

It is at once nostalgic and reassuring to see that Fandom lives on in another incarnation. When I came to science fiction fandom in the 1970s it was thrilling to find a large group of like-minded people. Room parties celebrating our own 'fellowship' lasted into the wee hours. Time travel, shape-shifters, space exploration were all components of our reality. It must have thrilled the founders of modern Tolkien Fandom to be around one another and share their common interest in the Tolkien universe – which also happens to be a classic fantasy.

Costumers were always a big part of science fiction fandom. They fell into two classes: costumers who competed in costume contests, and the more casual "hall costumes" to emulate a favorite fictional character, much as the *LOTR* fans do. By its very nature, SF fandom spawned techies who first ran the movies at conventions and later the computer rooms. The technical requirements of the TORn party with its live feed from the Oscars dwarfed (if you'll pardon the expression) anything done at SF cons. Other SF fans dealt in F&SF books, t-shirts, etc. But no matter what our special interest, if indeed we had one beyond reading fantasy and science fiction, we were tolerant of one another. Sadly, references to The One Ring's party in the press were condescending at best, referring to the fans as "costumers". No respect.

In the 1980s we decried the influx of "media fans" in our erstwhile pristine group of actual *readers* of science fiction. But I've gotten over it. The media fans are here to stay. *Star Wars*, *Star Trek*, and *Lord of the Rings* have seen to that – Science Fiction and Fantasy books and films have gone mainstream. I do not doubt that the most fanatic of *LOTR* fans have actually read the books, so we're back to

square one – actual readers celebrating the life and times of Hobbits, Elves and Men. (Not to mention Dwarfs, Ents, Wild Men, Orcs and Trolls.) It does not matter in the long run how these Twenty-First Century readers *found* the books. These new fans are a product of the technological age and if it took a movie trilogy to bring literature to their attention, that's all right, too.

The TORn party pictures are wonderful, so full of life and excitement! The fans are young and they look just like young fans always did, just ordinary people wearing costumes made with love. They are obviously so thrilled with themselves, and I don't blame them. It's the Party of the Century and an event in their young lives by which all future experiences will be measured. The fans celebrated and hoped for a chance to glimpse the people who brought the books to the screen. How thrilling it must have been to find they are approachable, and 'just people', too.

TORn wondered if there was enough interest among their readers to warrant organizing a special interest convention. My answer would be, "Gracious me, yes!" The world is full of people interested in fantasy in general and Tolkien in particular. I can only imagine the wealth of books, posters, t-shirts, jewelry, swords, statuary and knick-knacks to be found in a Tolkien Convention dealers' room!

A Tolkien Convention is probably just a fantasy for ordinary F&SF fans, though. Professional guests would be out of our price range. They would have to be protected from their legions of autograph seeking fans. It's too bad, really, but any Tolkien convention would necessarily be a media con. The movie version of the story is taking precedence in the public eye. I guess that's the price we pay when our much-loved fantasy goes mainstream.

When Stephen King first came to Kubla Khan he was friendly, approachable, and accessible. He seemed like such a nice guy that it was hard to imagine his *enjoying* the fears and horrors he writes about. Sunday morning I stopped to chat with him about one of his smaller stories and he told me how he came to write it. Only a couple of years later, when King had become nationally known, he was again a guest at a southern convention. This time he was shielded from the public, and herded to the hotel staff elevator so as to not be mobbed by his fans.

Coda: I became disenchanted with TORn after several members were front and center on the Jay Leno show when Elijah Wood was a guest. In TORn, the ratio of female fans to male is about 70-30. The female fans in Leno's audience squealed and shrieked in a manner reminiscent of Frank Sinatra fanatics in the 1940s. And they wonder why press mentions of them and their party are condescending. The fans need to take lessons from Aragorn in dignity of mien and manner.

Master of the Rings Note: It has begun. I found this advertisement on the Internet for a *LOTR* convention this fall: *Lord Of The Rings* Convention, 22nd - 24th October 04, Manchester.

2nd Note: Various and sundry actors, artists, and stunts have been kept busy appearing at fantasy and comic cons in the U.S. The biggest *LOTR* conventions seem to be in England. Every Elf and Orc, plus Rose Cotton, Farmer

Maggot, Denethor, Theoden, and John Howe will be at The Fellowship Festival 2004 August 28-30 at Alexandra Palace, somewhere in the U.K. ♡

CONVENTION REPORTS

Oasis 17

by Joy V. Smith

Oasis 17, an SF literary convention, is held on Memorial Day weekend (May 28-30 this year) in Orlando, Florida, which is about an hour's drive for my sister and me. (I love this con and go there every year.) We arrived at the hotel about 1 PM Friday and checked in. After unloading, I dropped off fanzines, etc. at the freebies table, and we registered and picked up schedules, programs, and freebies – always a great selection, with new stuff continually added.

Registration, the dealers' room, the freebies tables, the art show, and the gaming and panel rooms are all on the second floor – very convenient. I made it to a 2 PM panel, *Rx for a True SF Fan*, though some of the panelists were late. They discussed favorite authors, including Jack Williamson, Laura Resnick (Mike Resnick's daughter), Eric Frank Russell, L. Ron Hubbard, Robert Heinlein, Isaac Asimov (*End of Eternity*), Michael Flynn, H. L. Lovecraft and Owl Goingback (both horror), Doc Smith, John Campbell, Neal Stephenson (cyberpunk), Michael Moorcock's *Elric* books, Samuel Delaney (some of his are hard to read), Philip K. Dick (*Man in the High Castle*), Frank Herbert (*Dune*), David Weber (*Honor Harrington*), Tanya Huff (the *Keeper* books are fun), Piers Anthony (*Macroscopic*), Harlan Ellison's collections, China Mieville (*Perdido Street Station* – hard to read), Allan Steele (*Coyote* – Little House on the Prairie in space), Pat Frank (*Alas, Babylon*), George Orwell, Kurt Vonnegut, Arthur C. Clarke (*Rendezvous with Rama & Childhood's End*), Ray Bradbury, Ursula Le Guin (*The Left Hand of Darkness* and *Dispossessed*), Alfred Bester's short stories (*To the Stars*, *Demolished Man*), ... Mother London (London's the character), Virginia Wolfe's *Orlando* (the movie is better), Michael Crichton, Resnick's *Santiago* (collection of short stories), John Varley's *Gaia* trilogy, Gene Wolfe's sun stories (too erudite, but the first two are excellent), Zelazny's *Lord of Light* and *Amber* stories, Jack McDevitt, Haldeman's *The Forever War*, ... Great short stories include Heinlein's *Howling Zombies*, Ellison's *The Death Bird*, Bradbury's *There Will Come Soft Rains*, *Repent Harlequin said the Tick Tock Man*, *Arena* by Frederick Brown, and the last man on earth story – the one with the knock at the door, Allen Steele came in at the end with a book he just bought, Heinlein's *Rolling Stones*. *Rocket Ship Galileo* is good; also Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. [There are a few for your reading list, folks.]

The Dealers' Room has lots of books (I bought a few), and many of them are signed, also jewelry, tee shirts, temporary tattoos (done with stencils) and massages; and there was a table with beautiful fantasy collectibles and artwork by a variety of artists and collectible companies

(Enchantica, Tudor Mint, etc.) [You can check out their griffins, dragons, castles, etc. at:

www.griffinsgrove.com

The art show is full of fantastic art – all media, including sculptures. There seemed to be more naked women (tastefully draped) and less furry art this year, and fantasy artworks outnumbered SF.

At 4PM I went to the *Writing SF panel: Can any good writer write SF?* Robert Sommers was the moderator. Panelists included Allen Steele, Jack McDevitt, Glenda Finkelstein, and Linda Evans. McDevitt said that he was once asked – Why don't you write something serious? (The person asking wrote only about the Civil War.) Steele said, referring to Margaret Atwood, Stop her before she commits SF again. McDevitt & Steele say – It's a special kind of writing. Not a backdrop, says Steele. A non-genre writer once said – I don't have the imagination to write it. A panelist said – You can't write in the genre without knowing it. Finkelstein said – It's not like special effects. McDevitt said that he thinks SF writers are more curious.

Since Joyce, literary novels turned inward, said a panelist. Finkelstein said – SF isn't limited; you have forever. *Dune's* first 100 pages is world building. Allen Steele said that so much current SF is read by hard SF fans. Is SF insular? Possibly inbreeding from writing workshops. [Hmm.] Fantasy is for fantasy fans with stock characters. Is that true in mystery fiction too? Robert Sommers said – *Read Gone with the Wind* for characterization.

Accessibility. It's too scientific for most readers. McDevitt mentions that he's an English major on a panel of physicists. Steele – Don't use SF trappings as a crutch; write about people. Woody Allen writes SF. (He wrote about relativity and got it right.) SF writers can make a difference. [Another great panel.]

I got a sandwich at the con suite and went back later for the chili contest. *Wolfe Red* is hot! The winners of the chili contest were Colleen O'Brien for *Colleen's Black Bean Chili* as Fen Choice and dealer Larry Wolfe for *Cthulhu's Colon Cleanser* as Cthulhu's Choice.

The opening ceremonies were at 7 PM. Terry Dahl and Jim Rogers were the con chairs. Allen Steele the author GoH, H. Ed Cox the artist GoH; Michael Longcor the Filk GoH, Jack McDevitt special author guest, and Rebecca Shumacher special artist guest. The theme of the con is Working Stiffs in Space. Someone had to find the Andre Norton scholarship winner (Wilquins Charleston) so he could be introduced. And this year they also have another charity, Journey's End, an animal sanctuary. The ceremony was brief, as usual. A man sitting next to me was surprised at how short it was. [I've read about opening ceremonies that go on and on.]

At 7:30 PM I listened to filksongs by Longcor (my favorite filker). He sang (and played) such songs as *My Seeing Eye Dog and I Don't See Eye to Eye*, *Van Helsing*, *Bob's Obedience School and Taxidermy Shop*, *For the People* (written for a movie that wasn't made), *Lycanthropic Low Down Silver Bullet Blues* [great howl at the end], *Only Son* [a Kipling poem; I love this one], a soldier's ballad for Memorial Day (friends are all you've got), the first world con song [another favorite of mine], *Like a Shooting Star* (a Columbia tribute; it won a Pegasus award; it's fantastic), and others. They are fun and beautiful. [I have a CD of his Kipling poems set to music.]

8:30 PM and it's time for my favorite panel: *Alien Artifacts* (xenoarcheology). Jim Rogers is in charge of the panel and handing out the artifacts. The panelists are Allen Steele, Jeff Mitchell, Mike Conrad, Ed Cox, and Rebecca Schumacher with a variety of personas, including the Brothers Sand of Temporal Engineering. Yep, the Sands of Time.

The first artifact is a metal thingie [a vise, I think]. Cox: For neutering farm animals. Someone else thinks it's a Martian ear piercer. (They have long, tubular ears.) Next is a porcelain towel bar holder. Suggestions: A capacitor. A brain inhibitor, says Conrad, who's great at physical humor... Mitchell suggests rockets/nozzles. Steele: Part of a radioactive experiment with a spider. He holds up a photo of Spiderman. Then comes a strainer insert... There is always clever and funny interplay among the feuding scientists (panelists).

After the panel and some wandering around, I stopped at the con suite for a snack before denning up.

Saturday we have breakfast in our room. (We always take drinks, fruit, and snacks along to save money.) At 9 AM I'm first in line at the trivia contest. There are just enough of us to make three pairs. The trivia contest is similar to Jeopardy; there are categories and we have to buzz in. Juan Sanmiguel is the moderator and thinks up the questions. My team came in second, thanks to my partner, Roger. (I got a couple right that happened to be higher amounts so I wasn't totally embarrassed.) I love winning those dealer bucks. I spent them in the dealers' room on books.

Then I stopped at the Art Show room again and voted for SF, Fantasy, and Best in Show. The next panel [I went to] was *Alternate History* at 1 PM. [There are two tracks of panels, filking, readings, art demonstrations, etc., along with book signings in the dealers' room.] Sanmiguel was the moderator. The panelists were Matt DiPalma, Glenda Filkenstein, David McDaniel, James Bassett, and Steve Antczak. AH was around a long time before it became known as AH. It's What if...the butterfly effect; it's social SF. AH is the new trend after cyberpunk. Someone mentioned that cyberpunk is usually dark, for instance *Matt Headroom*. Another good AH TV show is *Early Edition*. There was a comic book in the '80s - *Captain Confederacy*. Sanmiguel recommended *The Years of Rice and Salt*. And there's *1633*. Larry Niven wrote two AH: *The Return of William C. Proxmire* and one where the Nazis didn't invade Poland. There's Harry Turtledove's *The Two Georges*, among others; and he wrote about the Confederacy because of a cover of General Lee with an Uzi. The panelists discussed *1633* and

1634. Michael Flynn (who was in a trivia contest question, btw) collaborated on *Fallen Angels* with Niven and Pournelle. SF is alternate futures, or the way the future was (Pohl).

The charity auction was at 3 PM and ran till about 5:45. I usually donate a few items to the auction. Often there's so much that they sell some of the books separately at a table in the hallway.

We stopped at the con suite and then denned up in our room until the costume contest at 7:30. Conrad and Longcor were the MCs. While waiting for the entrants to get ready, the art show winners were announced. Fantasy: First: Schumacher's *Hagreth, Sister of Sorcery* (sculpture, I believe); Second: Paul Vincenti's *Maiden*; Third: Jean Pierre Targete's *Guns of Avalon*. SF: First: Targete's *Forge of Mars*; Second: Cox's *The Scar*; Third: Conrad's *World of Records*. Best of show: Targete's *Thieves' World: Turning Point*.

Then Longcor sang an intro: *The Masquerade Song*. The judges were: Richard Byers, Steve Parady, Craig Caldwell, and Rebecca Schumacher. The contestants: Sword Gypsy (little girl), Kindergarten fairy (little girl), The Doctor (Who), Hogsmead Visitors, Delegate from Alpha Centauri, A Little Class, Superman's Secret Identity (the Big S), Rose Liaden (sp), Lilith (belly dancer with knives and lights who did really well despite the fact that her music died. While the judges decided, Longcor sang *Good Luck, Mr. Corsky* and *The First World Con*. (I love his swashbuckling outfit.)

Judges' decisions: Cutest costume: Kindergarten fairy. First: Lilith; Second: Hogsmead Visitors; Third: A Little Class (The Raven). [Sorry. Now and then I have no idea what my notes mean.] Best in show: Delegate.

Longcor was next (8 PM, though we started late. That happens a lot; people are having so much fun, they hate to stop.) He sang, among other things, *Dangerous Heroes*, a Korean war song, *In Another World I Would Still Love You*, *The Swordsman's Dance of Death*, and songs about a truck-driving vampire, the *Battle of Tippecanoe*, the *Cajun Space Song*, and more. He closed with *Like A Shooting Star* (the cool green hills still call...)

There were always other things going on: panels, gaming, videos, parties, ... I met Guy Lillian and his wife, Rosy, at their party in the con suite Saturday night. (I've known him for years through his great fanzine, *Challenger*.) It was a real pleasure meeting them both, and she gave me a string of beads from New Orleans! Then I rushed off to the panel: *Would You Buy This Book? AKA Artists' Revenge Part II*: Authors chose cover art (created by artists Friday) and give it a title and synopsis. (It will all be auctioned off Sunday to benefit Journey's End.) Steele: "*Bring Me the Head of Walt Disney*" (the aliens have arrived and they're not waiting in line). Diana Bennett: *Manifestation: They Will Come (Will you be ready when your gods come?)*. Linda Evans: *When Mice Go Bad* (good ship Oasis...tourists...carpe et diem) [Very good.] And *Something I Ate* by Steve Antczak, *The Mitsubishi Interstice* by James C. Bassett, *A Multiversal Christmas Carol III: A Mollusk and the Dark Knight Visitors* by Richard Lee Byers, *The Alien Fleet* by Adam-Troy Castro, *Day of the Heroes* by Matt DiPalma, *The Return of Crestor the Mighty* by Robert Sommers, *Of Man and Mouse* by E. Rose Sabin, and *Generation Gap* by Jack McDevitt, The

winner: *The Mitsubishi Interstice* by James Bassett. [Terry said that there might be a print out of these story premises, which I'd love to see.]

Before going to our room, we stopped at the video room and saw the end of *The Phantom Planet* (old black & white SF movie) and *Fall of a Saga*, a fan video (A Film by Earl Newton, c 2003/by Southern Ronin Productions) [well done; a good actor played Lucas] and an anime music video, including *A Tribute to Robotech*. [I love those anime music videos – beautiful and fun. I was sorry I didn't have time to fit in *Dr. Who* and *Cowboy Bebop: the Movie*.]

Sunday morning we read the complimentary paper left at our door and later loaded the car with our luggage and freebies. At 10 AM I went to the space ship demo by Conrad: *Building a Better Space Ship*. He showed slides of ships he'd built over the years (his early ones were unfortunately lost); he used kits, but combined them and used things such as whiffle balls. He also made rockets, but never bought a kit – just the parts and designed his own; he won some contests. His goal: stuff that looks cool. The basic shapes were based on things we saw then – 30s to 50s – dirigibles, artillery shells, rockets, bubbles, pie plates, wings, birds, bats, boomerangs, kites, ...

What kinds of shapes work and look good? Jets suck air; that affects their shape. Rockets have to be economically viable. Why a cylinder? Why disks? Otherness and agility. You can't use rocket engines in a disk. There are limits. Why wings? Familiar, but there are different wings; they can look sleek, but they don't look good on spheres. (E.E. Smith used spheres.)

Exploration in the new millennium... He did an exhibit for NASA... There are different types of ships. In *2001*, the movie, the ship was shaped like a sperm (analogy re: populating the universe). There are similarities between space ships and submarines. (Nemo's ship in *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* was ridiculous.) [Now I have to see that movie.] There's a fine line between believability and cool look – the wow factor. Use the familiar in unfamiliar ways.

He showed the evolution of Star Trek's Enterprise. It was upside-down at first; it's much cooler with the disk on top. Others copied that until *Star Wars*. [Lots more fun background and then he gave hints on how to build your own ships.]

Then we had lunch at the con suite – great chili. They had delicious pork earlier, as they did last year. After checking out of the hotel, I caught the 12 o'clock panel: *Writing What You Don't Know* (Steele, McDevitt, Joe Green (retired NASA and writer), David McDaniel, Will Ludwigsen (writer – mostly horror), and Finkelstein. *Guesswork* (Green). *Write what you know is misinterpreted* (Steele). *Some writers write too much what they know – growing up poor in Alabama...* And some people eke out a living writing knock-offs of *Star Trek* and *Xena*.

Research...your life experience...extrapolate...write about humans...don't be too far out...have a vulnerable hero. When writing villains, give them motivation. Goals. Both characters can be right. Bad story: man fell off cliff and sprouted wings.

At a con, there's so much to learn and do, people to talk to everywhere, including writers, the con suite (remember those great desserts Saturday night), but now it's time to go

and to thank the con committee for working their tails off for us and being there to cope with challenges... ☹

MidSouthCon/DeepSouthCon by Tom Feller

After stopping at Kinko's to make copies of my zine for the Southern Fandom Press Alliance (SFPA), Anita and I got on I-40 for the drive to Memphis. Along the way we listened to a tape of *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown. We had a late lunch/early dinner at the Casey Jones restaurant in Jackson, where we had the country buffet.

We checked into the Holiday Inn-Airport and rested for a while before heading to convention registration. It was a mess, because they could not print badges. Their printer had died. Eventually, they gave up and hand-wrote them. Anita and I found this ironic, because one of the people working registration had come to Kublakistan a few years ago and gave us a hard time because we did not have a computer at registration. We printed the pre-registered members a week ahead of time, had the walk-in members fill out cards, and hand-wrote their badges. Sometimes it's better to not be so dependent on technology.

After opening ceremonies, Anita and I visited the parties, including Constellation, DUFF, Chicago in 2008, and Meisha Merlin, a small press publisher. By this time, we were tired and retired for the evening. Unlike some people, we had no trouble sleeping, because of the sound of jets taking off and landing all night. In fact, I can't recall that we have ever had a problem with the noise from the jets, even considering that Memphis is the central hub for Federal Express.

We slept late the following morning and ordered room service for breakfast. However, the order failed to arrive after 45 minutes. When I called to check on it, we found that they had not put the order in. Since we were already up and dressed, we just went down to the restaurant and ate off their buffet. It turned out OK, because we were able to have coffee with some friends.

Anita and I attended one panel on Saturday afternoon: *Forensics in Science Fiction and Fantasy*. It consisted of Selina Rosen, Lee Killough, Jerrod Spicer, Bill Allen, Charlene Harris, and Bill Hopkins. In response to my question, the single most common forensics mistake on television, is the speed with which lab results, especially DNA tests, are performed.

Then Anita visited the video room while I attended the SFPA collating party. There were seven of us at the party: Sheila Strickland, George Wells, Rich Dengrove, Guy and Rosy Lillian, Gary Robe, Janice Gelb, and me. In addition, we did a one-shot fanzine on Gary's laptop. {*I was also there but Tom must have blocked out the memory of me drawing the cover and typing my comments also. ;-)* }

I caught up with Anita after the party and we then went to the banquet. The food was satisfactory, although not great. We had Guy and Rose-Marie, Gary, Naomi Fisher, Pat Molloy, and Jim and Linda Thompson, fans from Clarksville, Tennessee at our table. At the end they recognized the guests and gave out awards. The Phoenix went to Gregory Benford,

and the Rebel went to two people: Sue Thorne from Birmingham and Dal Coger, posthumously.

Anita and I then checked on the Xanadu party. Our friends Dan Caldwell, Debbie Hussey, and Fred and Stephanie Grimm had already set it up and were on their way to dinner, but they gave us the key to the room in case they were not back in time to open up. Anita and I then rested on a couch in the video watching part of *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* before going back to the party room. We mixed some punch and finished the set up before opening the doors. The party itself went fairly well, although the room was off in a dark corner. I stood in the halls and flagged people to come in.

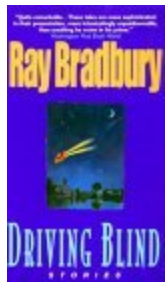
We stayed at the party until the masquerade. Despite the overly long opening skit, it was a good one with 17 entrants, many in *Star Wars* costumes. Then we returned to the party, where we stayed until it closed.

Because it was a DeepSouthCon, we had business meetings to attend in the morning. The Southern Fandom Confederation came first at 10 AM. As secretary, I took minutes. All officers stood for re-election and were re-elected by acclamation. Although I had no official standing at the DeepSouthCon business meeting, I took minutes for it as well. Since there was no one bidding for 2006 as of Friday evening, Judy Bemis put together a last minute bid for Trinoc-Con in Durham, North Carolina, and it was approved. Dan Caldwell explained that the original hotel, the airport Radisson, for the 2005 DSC had broken its contract and that this year's Xanadu would be at the Holiday Inn Express in downtown Nashville instead.

Anita and I sat down in the con suite for one last soft drink before getting on the road. We finished *The Da Vinci Code* on the way home. We wouldn't call it a great book, but we came away with a better understanding of what the controversy was all about. ☹

REVIEWS

by Leana Justice



Driving Blind

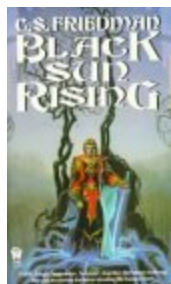
by Ray Bradbury

(1997)

Skill: **A-**

Content: **B**

Bradbury takes the short story collection's title from the story where the author pays homage his memories of friendship with a Human Fly, a local hero to young Bradbury. Almost each short story produces an introspective, nostalgic mood in the reader. I completed the reading in stages; I needed to rest after the third or fourth story during each set. I felt the author's strongest voice was conveyed in his offbeat, fantastic stories. My favorites are *Fee Fie Foe Fum*, a familial horror, and *Thunder in the Morning*. *Nothing Changes* is more terrifying to an older adult, I suspect, when reviewing what 'difference' his/her life made to the world. As I expected from Bradbury, his characters' typical lives are upset by the introduction of a new element (person, force of nature, Progress, mineral, magic, the Mysterious). His protagonists' attention to details crystallizes the setting, timescape and pace. I marvel at what a wallop his short stories deliver. An uneven collection but enjoyable overall.



Black Sun Rising

by C. S. Friedman

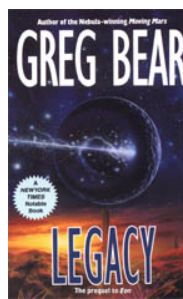
(1991)

Skill: **A**

Content: **A+**

Buy this book. Reward the author for a fabulous fascinating *villain!* Like the protagonist warrior-priest Damien, we ask ourselves: Is our goal tainted if we are helped by someone

aiding for the wrong reasons? Friedman paints Damien into corners constantly. He swears to destroy the immortal Hunter; then he amends his position. "I will kill you...later." The plot is fast-paced without sacrificing characterization. Imagine a new world where the human subconscious can generate life forms at night. Imagine a world where prayer can spontaneously generate visible, tangible miracles. Friedman's attention to details delivers a convincing, interesting world of human, human-spawned and non-human cultures. I liked the physics of Erna, the moral anxiety of Damien, the lusts of lore master Ciani, and Hesseth's own style of practical magic. A special bonus: this is a standalone novel. (I bought the sequel. Bet you will, too.) ☹



Legacy

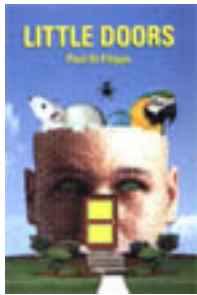
by Greg Bear

(1995)

Reviewer admission: Generally, I do not like hard-science-no-characterization novels. I did not enjoy reading this novel. Not that you'll recover much hard science here. Very vivid, alien ecology is presented in riveting, psychedelic detail.

The book's dust jacket says "a stunning prequel." I am not stunned. I am bludgeoned. The novel's theme is observation, species survival, and mastery. Its lesson is that no one can ever judge another. During my reading I often muttered, "Do something, anything, you twit." Believe the harsh reviews on Amazon.com. This slim novel suffers very staggered, lurching plot revelations, especially the ending chapters/sequences. While Bear's imagination cavorts among quasi-plausible eoi, the queasy reader slogs through the protagonist's narrative. Read Bear's other, much finer works.

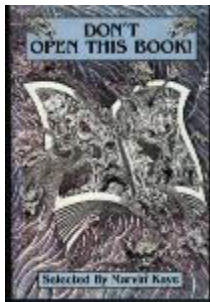




Little Doors

by Paul Di Filippo
(2002)
Content: A
Technique: A

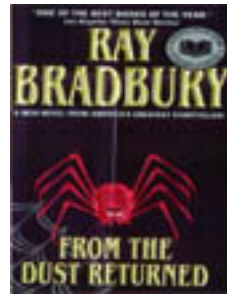
You'll steady yourself against a sturdy piece of furniture when you complete each bizarre short story in this lively collection. Wild, illicit imagination and alluring alliteration bound and rampage across the page. This ain't cha mamma's fantastic fiction. Outlandish? Yes, we visit Slumberland, Rhode Island, Manhattan, fabulous Cockaigne and a lit crit convention. Weird? Definitely, if you find typed messages from a roach, Dali's afterlife, and elective lobotomies unusual. Fabulous? Our postmodern world encounters a plethora of mythic beings, including were-creatures, gods, dryads, mermaids, and a succubus. Di Filippo's prose shines. He creates engaging verbalists, wild talkers who're overly intellectual and loving men, inhabiting worlds populated with magical tenants, covert harvest organizations, possessed suburbanites, worry birds, and magic cameras. Not a single story simply 'meets' reader expectation. The author always takes a step past the boundary. In strong writing, each short story serves as a 'little door,' a desired portal to somewhere different, someplace new, a place to learn the rules as one moves. Need a head-trip? To enjoy a magic carpet ride on an asteroid, pick this gimlet glinting bijou. ♡



Don't Open This Book!

Selected & Edited by Marvin Kaye
(1998)
Content: B
Technique: A

Visit your local library for this one. The terrific jacket art by Ian Miller made me buy this book. I wanted horrifying mind-numbing tales to match the cover, but this collection did not meet my expectation. Many of the stories are mystery classics. Kaye's selected short stories are well organized by theme: Pandora Principle, Eden Syndrome, Sinister Science, Satan's Fine Print, Memoranda from Hell, and Read at Your Own Risk. Literary powerhouses are assembled: Lovecraft, Asimov, Crowley, Vance, Sheckley, Salmonson, Clarke, and Yolen. Thirty-nine modern classics vied for the privilege of quickening my imagination; six succeeded in disturbing and pleasing me. I find that the trouble with reading classic works is my inability to experience 'fresh' reactions to now-familiar tropes and cliché situations. My five picks among the stories? I recommend *Message from Hell*, *Repeating Echo*, *DP!*, *Revised Expectations*, and *Cinnabar*. ♡



From the Dust Returned: A Family Remembrance

by Ray Bradbury (2001)
Content: A+
Technique: A

Buy this instant classic. Read it aloud, especially the day before All Hallow's Eve. (I'd place this novel within the Young Adult genre.) Bradbury's crafted his story of the Eternity-challenged Elliott family over many decades. As you read, you believe the voice of Timothy, a mortal child, born to become insensate dust, as he chronicles his foster Family and its great Homecoming. Each sentence contains a vivid image, and each image evokes an emotional response within the reader. All senses are engaged by the unusual Time-unfettered beings: sight, sound, temperature, smell, and appetites. Key Bradbury themes are present:

- the desire to belong to something special, unique
- the truth that love crosses boundaries of kind, clime, time
- Mystery exists beyond mystery, which cannot or will not explain itself
- the important of remaining open to extraordinary events to be fully 'alive' ♡



She Creature (2001)

Horror/Fantasy Rated R

Final analysis: a C quality chick-flick scary movie. The film is set in the late 1800s aboard a sailing vessel. Opportunistic and passionate lovers, Angus (played by Rufus Sewell) and Lily (Carla Gugino) seek, capture, and try to take a mermaid to America, without telling the misfit ship's crew. The film nods nicely to current feminist views of this time period, with the film highlighting Lily's 'condition' amidst society's strict, puritanical sexual suppression of women and a poor woman's use of sexual bartering. What happens to sailors who swim to mermaids? Gothic effects abound; the film offers plenty of creepy gas-lit wooden ship corridors, cargo crates in ominous shadow, supernatural or hyper-natural elements, fierce storms at sea, firearms, knives, the demon alcohol, and female 'hysteria' to dismiss, debunk, and deride. The most effective scary moments occur inside Lily's solitary waking and dreaming moments. Fears of losing love, security, Angus' trust, and her own sanity multiply in the dark corners of Lily's mind. Is the mermaid really whispering inside Lily's head, sharing visions of frenzied feedings? Lily tries to discern the mysterious nature of the captured mermaid using a diary from an earlier expedition's, presumed mad, woman. Uneven pacing affects the tension level for viewers, however, leaving our pulse too low over extended scenes. I watched because it was on a movie channel. In future, I might use it as a party drinking game movie, with a sip for every naked breast and for each crewman who disobeys a direct order to visit the mermaid's tank. ♡

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Judy Bemis

Report 3/13/04-7/30/04	
Starting Balance as of 3/13/04	\$1449.01
INCOME	
Memberships and Renewals	\$345.00
Club/Convention Dues (NASFA, Concave)	\$140.00
Donations in lieu of dues	\$65.00
Donations	\$40.00
Advertising revenue (Baen)	\$100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$690.00
EXPENSES	
Bulletin Vol 8 #5 Printing	\$251.10
Bulletin Vol 8 #5 Non-US Mail	\$16.90
Bulletin Vol 8 #5 Bulk Mail	\$54.14
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$322.14
Final Balance	\$1816.87

SFC BUSINESS

MEETING MINUTES

by Tom Feller

March 28, 2004
Memphis, TN

- 10:07 AM President Randy Cleary called the meeting to order as Naomi Fischer came in the room.
- 10:08 AM Randy announced dues are due and made a donation of \$20. Steve Francis donated \$30.
- 10:09 AM Randy said the latest bulletin went in the mail the previous Wednesday. He said they still had handbooks, badges, and t-shirts for sale. Randy also mentioned the DUFF, ASFA, and SFA flyers are available.
- 10:10 AM Randy opened up the floor for officer nominations. All current officers stood for re-election. Judy Bemis said she would retire as treasurer after this year. Randall Pass moved that nominations be closed. Several seconded the motion and the current officers were re-elected by acclamation.
- 10:12 AM Adrian Washburn walked in.
- 10:13 AM Randy read the annual treasurer's report.

SFC Annual Financial Report	
Starting Balance as of 7/23/2004 (\$1,400 in checking)	\$1429.49
INCOME	
Memberships and Renewals	\$720.00
Club/Convention Dues (Concave)	\$50.00
Donations in lieu of dues	\$90.00
T-Shirts Sales	\$88.31
Patches Sales	\$15.00
Handbook Sales	\$5.00
Handbook Postage	\$2.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$970.31
EXPENSES	
Bulletin Vol 8 #3 Printing	\$329.40
Bulletin Vol 8 #3 Non-US Mail	\$60.30
Bulletin Vol 8 #3 Bulk Mail	\$26.70
Handbook postage and mailer	\$2.00
Bulletin Vol 8 #4 Printing	\$280.80
Bulletin Vol 8 #4 Foreign Postage	\$16.90
Bulletin Vol 8 #4 Bulk Mail	\$54.14
Annual Renewal Bulk Mail permit 2004-05	\$150.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$920.24
Final Balance as of 3/13/2004 (\$1,449.01 in checking)	\$1,479.56

- 10:15 AM Randy announced there is no website administrator and has assumed the duties. Randy will be adding a list of Rebel and Phoenix winners. Guy Lillian recommended a list of previous DSCs.
- 10:18 AM Motion to dispense with the reading of the previous meeting minutes.
- 10:19 AM Dan Caldwell came in the room. Randall Pass suggested sending a thank you to Baen Books for their ad in the bulletin. *{Thanks Baen!}*
- 10:20 AM Janice Gelb and Naomi Fischer recommended soliciting Hugo Award ads.
- 10:21 AM Randy presented a librarian action figure to the Sheila Strickland, the new Official Editor of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance.
- 10:22 AM Judy warned that we might have to raise dues next year.
- 10:24 AM Randall Pass recommended adding Roc-Kon to the mailing list. Steve Francis recommended Conglomeration.
- 10:25 AM Meeting adjourned. ♡

ANNOTATED FANZINE LISTINGS

By Tom Feller

Please send zines for listing to me at PO Box 140937, Nashville, TN 37214-0937. All these zines are available for trade unless noted. Also unless otherwise specified, when writing for a sample issue, send \$1 to cover postage. A SASE is likely to be too small.

Alexiad, Vol. 3, #s 2-3 published by Lisa and Joseph Major, 1409 Christy Avenue, Louisville, KY 40204-2040. Book and movie reviews and letters. Joe has a two part article commenting on *A Clockwork Orange* in #s 2 & 3. Lisa comments on the Triple Crown in #3.

Ansible, #s 199-203, published by Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK. Dave's U.S. agent is Janice Murray, PO Box 75684, Seattle, WA 98125-0684. Fannish news. One of this year's Hugo nominees in the Semi-Prozine category, and Dave, as usual, is nominated for best fan writer. #202 includes comments about Eastercon.

CAR-PGa Newsletter, Vol. 13, #s 3-7 published the Committee for the Advancement of Role-Playing Games, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418. Edited by Paul Cardwell. Available for \$10 annually or 85 cents per copy; no trades. Each issue has a convention calendar and gaming news. In #5, Carsten Obst editorializes against anti-social behavior among players.

Con-Temporal, Vol. 11, #s 3-7, published by Laurel King, 637 Capital Ave SW, Battle Creek, MI 49015. Subscription: \$50 per year. No trades. This zine has the most comprehensive listing of conventions that I have seen.

De Profundis #s 373-375, official newszine of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS), 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601. Edited by Marty Cantor. Club news, calendar, and meeting minutes.

The Devil's Work, Vol. 3, No. 125, published by Norm Metcalf, PO Box 1368, Boulder, CO 80306. Available for \$1. This is an apazine written for the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA) and contains Norm's mailing comments. However, it is available outside the apa as well.

Ethel the Aardvark, #108, official newsletter of the Melbourne Science Fiction Club, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, 3005, Australia. Edited by David Cook. Besides club news, reviews, letters, there is a column by Danny Heap entitled "Fandom is My Life."

Feline Mewsings, # 15, published by R-Laurraine Tutihasi, 29217 Stonecrest Road, Rollings Hills Estates, CA 90275-4936. (This is an apazine written for the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA) and contains Laurraine's mailing comments. However, it is available outside the apa as well.) Laurraine reports on Loscon and reviews plays and movies.

Fosfax, #209, published on behalf of the Falls of Ohio Science Fiction Association. Edited by Timothy Lane, and Elizabeth Garrott. Available for \$12 for four issues. Besides book, zine, and poetry reviews, letters, and political commentary from a libertarian point of view,

Leigh Kimmel reports on Conglomeration, Archon, Conclave, Windycon, and 2BeContinued, Joe and Lisa Major report on Torcon, and James Dorr reports on the World Horror Convention and Inconjunction. *{I only got the last page of this issue delivered by the helpful Post Office.}*

Future Times, Vol. 7, #5, monthly publication of the Atlanta Science Fiction Society, PO Box 98308, Atlanta, GA 30359-2008. Edited by Jayne Rogers. Available for \$12 annually. Club, fannish, and SF news and reviews.

Gegenschein, #s 95-96, published by Eric Lindsay, PO Box 640, Airlie Beach, Qld 4802, Australia. Besides book reviews and rantings on various subjects, Eric reports on his wife Jean's eye surgery and on trips to Brisbane and Australia's Gold Coast.

Instant Message, #s 733-736, newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Association, PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701-0809. Edited by Claire Anderson. Club and Boskone news.

I-94, published by Spike Parsons, PO Box 724, Mountain View CA 94842. Spike reports on the Las Vegas Corflu and publishes the results of a survey taken at the Madison WI Corflu and the 2003 Eastercon.

The Knarley Knews, #s 104-105 *{&106}*, published by Henry "Knarley" Welch, 1526 16th Avenue, Grafton, WI 53024-2017. Available for \$1.50 per issue. Besides letters, zine listings, there is a zine review column by Rodney Leighton, and an editorial by Henry in both issues.

Lofgeornost, # 74, published by Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Avenue, White River Junction, Vermont 05001. (This is another apazine written for the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA) and contains Fred's mailing comments. However, it is available outside the apa as well.) Fred laments on the current state of the Republican Party.

Memphen, #s 279-281, an unofficial publication of the Memphis Science Fiction Association, PO Box 820514, Memphis, TN 38182-0514. Edited by Greg Bridges. Available for \$12 for 12 issues. Greg Bridges reports on the 1972 SF Writers Conference at Memphis State University in #279, remembers the late Memphis SF writer Dan Henderson in #280, and eulogizes P.L. Caruthers-Montgomery in #281. No. 281 also has several eulogies devoted to Dal Coger.

NASFA Shuttle, Vol. 24, #s 3-6, newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, PO Box 4857, Huntsville, AL 35815-4857. Edited by Mike Kennedy. Subscription: \$1.50 per issue, or \$10 for 12 issues. Besides club and Constellation news, there are reviews of movies, zines, and books, and letters. Mike reports on MidSouthCon/DeepSouthCon and CostumeCon in #4.

The National Fantasy Fan, Vol. 3, No.3, & Vol. 4, No. 1 edited by Laura Hazelwood, 1203 S. Market, Mr. Vernon, Missouri, 65612. Official newsletter of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. Available for \$18 per year; no trades. Checks should be made payable to William

Center, but sent to Dennis Davis, 25549 Byron St., San Bernardino, CA 92404-6403. Club news, letters, and book and movie reviews.

Nice Distinctions, # 4, published by Arthur Hlavaty, 206 Valentine Street, Yonkers, NY 10704-1814. Available for \$1 per issue. Arthur reviews books and discusses Sigmund Freud.

Opuntia, # 53.1B {&54 & 54.3}, published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Letters, book reviews, and zine reviews.

Plokta, # 31, published by Steve Davies, 52 Westbourne Terrace, Reading, Berks RG30 2RP, UK; Alison Scott, 24 St. Mary Road, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RG, UK, and Mike Scott, 38 Fitzroy Court, 6 Whitehorse Road, Croydon, CR0 24X, UK. Giulia de Casare describes some homemade inventions, and Lilian Edwards reports on a Christmas lunch. One of this year's Hugo nominees.

Vanamonde, #s 533-547, published by John Hertz, 236 South Coronado Street, No. 409, Los Angeles, CA 90057. These 2 page perzines were originally published for APA-L, the weekly apa which recently celebrated its 2,000th mailing and one member has been in each one. They all have John's mailing comments to other members of the apa. #s 537 & 542 have responses from people outside the apa. John eulogizes Russ Chauvenet in #541 and Hal Clement in #547.

Visions of Paradise, #s 98 {& 99}, published by Robert Sabella, 24 Cedar Manor Court, Budd Lake, NJ 07828-1023. Besides book and zine reviews, Robert prints his diary for October and November. Fei Fei Li continues her report on her trip to Europe.

Yngvi is a Louse, # 87, published by T.K.F. Weisskopf Reinhardt, 196 Alps Road, Suite 2-385, Athens, GA 30606.

Electronic zines

ANIME SACRAMENTO NEWSLETTER, April-July 2004, edited by Laurine White, lvbwhite@concourse.net. Club and anime news.

DISTRICT MESSENGER # 243, published by Roger Johnson, roger_johnson@hotmail.com. Sherlock Holmes news.

JAMES HOGAN NEWSLETTER, published by James P. Hogan, newsletter@jamesphogan.com. Personal information and news about forthcoming books. His official web site can be found at <http://www.jamesphogan.com>

NASHVILLE SF CLUB NEWSLETTER, edited by Reece Morehead, reecejb2001@yahoo.com. Club, fannish, and SF news

THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY! & FRIDAY'S FRANTIC FUNNIES, published by Tim Bolgeo, tbolgeo@att.net. Jokes and fannish news, especially Libertycon.

TANDRA BRIGADE NEWSLETTER, published by Hanther, hanther@tandra.com. News about Hanther's graphic novel series and his comments on various subjects.

3 PIPE PROBLEM PLUGS AND DOTTLES, Newsletter of The Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem, March-June, 2004. Edited by Kay Blocker, pkblocker@comcast.com and Dean Richardson, tarzanrich@comcast.net. Sherlock Holmes and club news. In the June e-issue, Peg Duthie reports on the STUD weekend in Chicago.

WOSSNAME, Newsletter of the Klatchian Foreign Legion. Published by Joseph Schaumburger, JSCHAUM111@aol.com. Terry Pratchett and Discworld news.

THE VIEW FROM ENTROPY HALL #34, from Ed Meskys, edmeskys@localnet.com. Ed reports on Torcon and reviews books.

Web Sites

BARYON at www.baryon-online.com. Downloadable Word files of Barry Hunter's book review zine.

CHALLENGER at www.challzine.net. Web site reproduction of Guy Lillian's Hugo-nominated fanzine.

DOWN UNDER FAN FUND 2004 at www.DUFF2004.com. Includes Norman Cates' itinerary for his trip to Worldcon.

EI COYOTE GORDO at <http://www.livejournal.com/users/supergee/>. Arthur Hlavaty's web log.

EMERALD CITY at <http://www.emcit.com>. Published by Cheryl Morgan. Requires Adobe Acrobat Reader or Microsoft Word. This site hosts downloadable versions of her Hugo-nominated fanzine as well as her web log. Cheryl is also nominated for the Hugo as best fan writer.

SCI-FI DIMENSIONS at <http://www.scifidimensions.com>, published by John C. Snider. Interviews, reviews, articles, and fiction.

SCHOLARS OF THE THREE PIPE PROBLEM (Sherlock Holmes) at <http://www.nashvillescholars.net>. Maintained by Jim Hawkins. Nashville club news and other items of interest to Sherlock Holmes fans.

TOONOPEDIA at <http://www.toonopedia.com>, published by Don Markstein. On-line encyclopedia of cartoons.

VISIONS OF PARADISE AT <http://visionsofparadise.blogspot.com/>. Web log version of Robert Sabella's book reviews and essays on science fiction. His diary entries can be found at <http://adamosf.blogspot.com/>.

{Also received: File 770, #143, edited by Mike Glycer, 705 Valley View Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016; Fanzine Fanatique, Winter 2003/Spring 2005 & Summer 2004, Keith & Rosemary Walker, 6 Vine Street, Lancaster, LA1 4UF, England; Living Free 128, Jim Stumm, Hiler Branch, Box 29, Buffalo NY 14223; Flying Saucer Info Ctr Information, 7803 Ruanne Ct, Pasadena, MD 21122 }



NEWS

{Note that some news items are sent to me but many are gathered from various fannish resources such as Uncle Timmy's e-mail newsletters (*THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY*, tbolgeo@att.net), ASFS Yahoo! Group, [//groups.yahoo.com/group/ASFS](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ASFS), and the like. Keep the news of interest to Southern Fandom flowing folks.}

THE PASSING OF TERESA COMPERE HENRY

From: John Henry, electroglyph@yahoo.com

HENRY, TERESA COMPERE who graduated from Webb School, and attended U.T. and Merrimac College, had boundless enthusiasm for a wide range of eclectic topics. Teresa was very devoted to her husband: John James Henry Jr, and to her children: Maria Alyxandra, Laura Amanda, and Rebecca Elizabeth. She was an Air Force ROTC cadet at UT. While attending Merrimac she was on the Student Board of Governors for the Massachusetts public Interest Research Group. She was one of the first females in the 70s to join the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity. A member of the clamshell alliance, She is most proud of a photograph published in the New Hampshire Union Leader with her picture under the heading "Sodomites Invade Seabrook" She is also fond of scheduling American Indian Movement members to speak at Webb Civics class and the chairman of the Communist Workers Party to the Young Republicans.

Teresa became involved in fandom while working for extra college money at Barnes and Noble. A young group of writers had formed and was publishing a fanzine called *Infinity Cubed*. When they discovered 80% of the issues were selling from one store they went in to discover Teresa at the register, pushing the magazine to everyone who bought an SF title. Teresa joined them and they later produced *Satyricon 1*, the first SF convention in Knoxville.

She recounted with great joy her weekly lasagna suppers with up to 40 people in her tiny Forest Avenue apartment. Video Entertainment with SF and anime movies were provided by J. J. Johnson. Guests sometimes included notables like Karl Edward Wagner. His *Kudzu* story was based on the vacant lot four houses down.

At the time of her death she was reading Patricia Cornwall's *Blowfly* Gryzmek's *Ethnology of Lower Vertebrates*, and Georgette Heyer's *The Corinthian*.

She is survived by her husband; children; mother: Maria Compere; sisters: Alicia & Suzy; parents-in-law: Jim & Audrey Henry.

ROGER D. AYCOCK 1915-2004

From: Barry Hunter, baryon@bellsouth.net

Roger D. Aycock who wrote science fiction in the 1950's under the name, Roger Dee, has died at his home in Rome, Georgia at the age of 89. In the local area, Roger is most remembered for his 1981 historical history of Rome and Floyd County Georgia. He was also an accomplished musician, playing the violin and the fiddle. He had retired from the Post Office and was a staff writer for *The Rome News-Tribune*. He

spent most of his latter years doing charity work, continuing to work on the history of the area and entertaining with the Georgia Mountain Music Club.

In the 1950's, he had good many science fiction stories published in the leading pulps of the day. He sold stories to *Amazing*, *Astounding* (edited by John W. Campbell), *Analogue*, *F & SF*, *If*, *Planet Stories*, *Startling Science Fiction*, *Super Science Stories*, and *Galaxy* as well as others. In 1954, his novel, *An Earth Gone Mad*, was released as an Ace Double (D-84) with *The Rebellious Stars*, by Isaac Asimov as the other side. He seemed proudest of the Japanese translations of his work. At that time, few writers could boast of Japanese editions although it has gotten more commonplace today. The majority of his work was done in the 1950's but some stories were published in the 1960's with his last story appearing in 1971. The Rome Area Writers are planning an anthology of his works and I will pass along details as the plans are formally announced. For those interested, his bibliography can be accessed at:

[//isfdb.tamu.edu/cgi-bin/ea.cgi?Roger_De](http://isfdb.tamu.edu/cgi-bin/ea.cgi?Roger_De).

JERRY BURGE PASSES

From Jerry Page

On Tuesday April 6, I received a phone call around noon from Jerry's wife Sure. She had discovered him dead around 11 o'clock. We held graveside services for him on Good Friday.

Jerry Burge was one of the founders of Atlanta fandom. In 1950 a group of youngsters, including Hank Reinhardt, Ian McCauley, Carson Jacks and Jerry Burge, formed the first major SF group here, the Atlanta Science Fiction Organization. Later people to join the club included Gregory Benford and myself. In 1954 Jerry Burge and Carson Jacks issued, under the small-press imprint of Asfo Press, the first edition of Sam Moskowitz's *The Immortal Storm* in hardback. Asfo Press was, I think, the first small-press publisher of SF related material in the southeast. In 1956 ASFO (the club not the publishing operation) held Agacon, the first SF con held in Atlanta, the first regional con held in the southeast (New Orleans had held a Worldcon, but who cares, right?), and the first convention I ever attended.

Jerry was at the first club meeting I ever attended, in December of 1954. (We would have known each other fifty years if he had lived to December 10 of this year.) Shortly after Agacon, almost everyone in ASFO left Atlanta or gafiated. I moved to Tampa for about a year and when I got back the only person I could find from the old group was Jerry Burge. (I'd not met Hank; Jerry introduced us in 1959.)

Jerry played a key role in the formation of Southern fandom. In the 60s J.T. Oliver wrote Jerry suggesting the formation of a group for Southern Fandom. (J.T. then left fandom and refused to even answer mail.) Jerry and I started a round robin letter to go to the mainstays of the fans we knew in southern fandom. Jerry was always cautious and wanted us to think through the idea before we announced it, but one of the participants in the round robin decided he wanted credit

for it and announced it to the world, before the rest of us were ready.

Jerry and I also wrote the constitution for the Southern Fan Press Association, a document we based (I think) on the constitution of FAPA – though I might have the wrong apa there.

About that time I began selling stories to the science fiction magazines and in 1969, Jerry and I entered into a partnership with William Crawford, the publisher of Fantasy Publishing Co., Inc., to publish the fantasy magazine *Witchcraft & Sorcery*. It was the first fantasy magazine specializing in new material since the collapse of *Weird Tales* in the early 60s. I was editor and Jerry Burge was the art director. Jerry was an accomplished but decidedly slow artist.

Those of you in amateur radio theatrics may recall that a few years ago at a convention Doug Kaye directed a production of my play "Hollywood Armadillo," starring Winslow Thomas, Wendy Webb, Judy Thomas and Doug Kaye. Jerry Burge served as the announcer for that show. About a year ago the subject of that radio play came up in one of our marathon phone sessions (Jerry lived in Marietta) and I asked him if he enjoyed it. He admitted he had. Jerry being notoriously reclusive in his later years, I found that amazing and asked if he'd like to do it again. He said he would, if we'd let him phone his part in. I thought at the time that was a feasible enough idea and wish I'd done something about it.

Over the years Jerry and I edited a number of fanzines together. In 1959 we did *Si-Fan* which saw four issues before I went into the Army. By himself Jerry edited *Asfo*, the official organ of the Atlanta SF Organization. After I was discharged, we began in 1967 the legendary collector's fanzine *Lore*, of which I remain extremely proud. More recently we've been doing *Flashback*, a fanzine for pulp collectors.

My financial problems and Jerry's health have caused a lot of delays for *Flashback*. In the past few years Jerry has suffered severe vision problems, which kept him from drawing for several years. Those were corrected, but he was not able to start drawing again before he began to suffer heart problems. He had a severe bout with congestive heart failure in December, and underwent surgery to repair a valve in January. It was felt that he was showing improvement but he did not regain his stamina. Jerry suffered from a form of anemia that caused severe nosebleeds and it was discovered that the anticoagulants needed after his operation aggravated that condition. So he was taken off them. He died on April 6, possibly of a blood clot, possibly of congestive heart failure.

The night before he and I talked on the phone for about an hour. It was one of the liveliest conversations we've had in ages. We talked about SF and fantasy, pulp magazines, favorite writers (especially Clark Ashton Smith), *Flashback*, articles we were at work on for the fanzine, illustration, baseball, old friends (Hi, Hank!) and Jerry's fondness for some of the ladies who were modeling for illustrations in *Flashback*: he looked forward to doing drawings of Mary Ann van Hartesveldt, Rebecca Brayman, Karen Barrett, LaDona Johnston and Wendy Webb, especially – once he had taught himself to draw again. I pointed out that as long as I had known him he had disparaged himself as an artist and he replied, "Maybe, but I think I need some practice. I want to at

least be able to draw faces where both the eyes are the same size."

SHARON GREEN REQUEST

Sharon Green has run into some financial problems and asks people to check out her website www.integritytech.com/sharong.html to purchase items for your enjoyment and her assistance.

FRESH AIR FUND

"Charles L. Grant, the acclaimed horror author, has been diagnosed with COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease). As a result, and probably for the rest of his life, he will rely on bottled oxygen to live."

According to Nick Mamatas, a "Fresh Air" fund has been set up to accept donations which will be used to pay the staggering expenses of oxygen and other durable medical equipment required to keep Charlie with us. There are two ways to contribute. Mail a check in any amount, made out to Kathryn Ptacek, to:

Fresh Air Fund c/o Kathryn Ptacek
PO Box 97
Newton, NJ 07860-0097
or Paypal: katptacek@yahoo.com.

DEEPSOUTHCON 42 AWARDS

The Phoenix, given to a professional who has contributed to Science Fiction and Fantasy, was awarded to Gregory Benford. The Rebel, given to a fan for service to Southern Fandom, was awarded to Sue Thorn. A posthumous Rebel was awarded to Dalvin Coger. The Rubble was given to the Charlotte WorldCon Bid Committee Members who could not be bothered to vote for their own bid (which may have won it for them).

CHALLENGER HUGO NOMINATED

Challenger, Guy Lillian's genzine, has been nominated for the Noreascon 4 Hugo as Best Fanzine. This is the fifth year in a row he has been so honored, and his ~~head~~ gratitude swells every time. You can find it on-line at www.challzine.net. Read and send letters of comment.

2004 SESFA AWARD

The online magazine *scifidimensions* (www.scifidimensions.com) announced the nominees for the 2004 Southeastern Science Fiction Achievement Award (the SESFA).

Best Novel:

Hyperthought by M.M. Buckner (Ace Books)

Omega by Jack McDevitt (Ace Books)

Pattern Recognition by William S. Gibson (G. P. Putnam's Sons)

Veniss Underground by Jeff VanderMeer (Prime Books)

Best Short Fiction:

Daddy Mention and the Monday Skull by Andy Duncan (Mojo: Conjure Stories, Aspect)

The Door Gunner by Michael Bishop (The Silver Gryphon, Golden Gryphon Press)

The Haw River Trolley by Andy Duncan (The Silver Gryphon, Golden Gryphon Press)

Threads by Jessica Reisman (SCIFICTION, 8/23/2003)

Lifetime Achievement in SF/F/H:

Joe Haldeman

Robert E. Howard

Murray Leinster

Manly Wade Wellman

Participants who pay a modest \$7.00 membership fee may vote on the Nominees through October 31, 2004. The winners will be announced no later than November 5, 2004.

DEEPSOUTHCON 2007 BID

Irv Koch is bidding Atlanta for the 2007 DSC. The website is [/home.earthlink.net/~atlanta2007](http://home.earthlink.net/~atlanta2007) and the OPEN e-list (which you may want to join) is atlanta2007info@yahoogroups.com. He is looking for committee volunteers.

MEMPHIS SF ASSOCIATION ADDRESS CHANGE

Hager Bridges informs that the club/con PO Box has been condemned due to tornado damage and recommends that all Memphen/MSFA mail go to:

141 Stonehaven Circle
Jackson, TN 38305

NOVEL SOCILITATION

Steven Gordon, Judicator@allreaders.com, novelist, is exploring the possibility of giving away free copies of one of his science fiction novels to increase awareness and interest in his writing. The novel in question is a fun action-adventure sci-fi book called *Attack of the Bounty Hunters*, and here is a brief description:

The Graftonites had incredible reflexes, making them superior bounty hunters and almost unstoppable gunmen. They could draw and fire a blaster in a blink of an eye. Grafton II had evolved into a planet with no government – a purely libertarian society where all services were privatized and civil disputes were mediated by one-on-one gunfights. But when the Graftonites banded together to take over the galaxy, only super spy Clifford Croft, aided by Red Sally the always angry fire starter, the Clapper, an eccentric telekinetic who liked to clap, and the legendary bounty hunter known as the Silencer working together could try to stop them.

You can see the cover and a sample chapter as well as more information about his writing at www.CliffordCroft.com. If interested contact him.

ATLANTA RADIO THEATER COMPANTY

The ARTC has the following upcoming shows:

Dragon*Con, performing H. P. Lovecraft's *The Shadow Over Innsmouth*, with special guest star Harlan Ellison (subject to availability), and Robert A. Heinlein's *The Menace From Earth*. There will, of course, also be a new episode of Rory Rammer, Space Marshal. The convention dates are September 3-6.

Halloween at Stone Mountain Park, in Memorial Hall, ARTC will present some family-friendly spooky selections for Halloween in conjunction with the park's Tour of Southern Ghosts. Currently on tap for this show is *The Last Dragon to Avondale*, by Thomas E. Fuller, but more will be added. Also for Halloween, ARTC has worked out a deal for public performances at Onstage Atlanta. These performances will be on Friday and Saturday nights starting at 10:30 PM...ARTC After Dark. Exact plans are still being finalized. Check the website, www.artc.org, for updates. ♡

TEN ADVANTAGES TO BEING GOTH

by R.B. Cleary

1. Saving loads of money by not buying suntan lotion, laundry bleach or life insurance. (Money is such a sell out.)
2. The slimming power of black fabric. (Not to mention the stain hiding power.)
3. Looking deep while staying shallow. (Sometimes the cover sells the book.)
4. Blazing a well-traveled path of non-conformity. (Individuality is easier in groups.)
5. Putting the sub back in sub-culture. (Everyone's a poser but you.)
6. Misery loves company. (Hating in unison is fulfilling.)
7. Lower life expectations means fewer disappointments. (Life sucks and then you die.)
8. Jocks pick on you less due to fear of you "snapping" and inspiring another pandering Michael Moore film. (Practicing thousand yard stares is cool.)

9. Slighter higher chance of getting "some" than other geeks (Goth Chicks are hot!)
10. Everyone can nod knowingly when you finally commit suicide. (Dark poetry suicide notes rule!) 🖤

SOUTHERN CONVENTION LIST

Listings of upcoming conventions are not exhaustive but are accurate as possible with no guarantees. Use contact information to verify and obtain further information. Prices listed are "at the door." Contact the editor with corrections, additions, and/or to purchase ad space. For a more complete list, go see **Kelly Lockhart's** web site, the *Southern Fandom Resource Guide*: www.scenic-city.com/sfrg/.

SEPTEMBER 2-6: Fall Gathering Of The Tribes (\$50); 7651 Whispering Pines Trail, Windsor, VA 23487; 757-357-0664; www.outofthedark.com/FallGathering; Blackwater@OutoftheDark.com; Blackwater Campground in Windsor, VA; Special Guests: Freya Aswynn and many others.

3-4: **Columbia Games East** (\$40), PO Box 4661, Charlottesville VA 22905; www.prezcon.com/columbia; kingmaker96@mindspring.com; Doubletree Hotel (\$79), Charlottesville, Virginia

3-6: **Dragon*Con** (\$85); PO Box 16459, Atlanta, GA 30321-9998; 770-909-0115; FAX 770-909-0112; www.dragoncon.org; dragoncon@dragoncon.org; [news:alt.fandom.dragoncon](http://news.alt.fandom.dragoncon); Hyatt Regency Atlanta & Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotels (\$150); Guests: Hundreds

3-6: **Mephit Furmeet** (\$35); PO Box 6001; St. Louis, MO 63139-0001; www.mephitfurmeet.org; tygercowboy@gmail.com; The Holiday Inn Select Memphis (TN) Airport Hotel (\$89); GoH: Rog Minotaur

3-6: **TCEP 11** (\$40); Barking Mad Productions, PO Box 3311, Sterling, VA 20167-3311; www.BarkingMad.org; info@BarkingMad.org; Dulles Days Hotel (\$69); Herndon, VA 20170; Gaming

10-12: **Hubcon 12** (\$25); Tim Broome; 601-794-6537; pnzr12@yahoo.com; hubcon.iwarp.com; pnzr12@yahoo.com; Hattiesburg, MS; Lake Terrace Convention Center

24-26: **Anime Weekend Atlanta 10** (\$45); PO BOX 13544; Atlanta, GA

30324-0544; 404-364-9773; info@awa-con.com; www.awa-con.com; Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, GA; Guests: Many

24-26: **Klingon Feast** (\$30); LaOrue@aol.com; [//groups.msn.com/KlingonFeast](http://groups.msn.com/KlingonFeast); 334 Euclid Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118; Holiday Inn (\$68), Daytona Beach Shores, FL

24-26: **CogCon 12** (\$15); PO Box 1939, Rolla MO 65402; 573-341-5932; cogcon@rollanet.org; www.rollanet.org/~cogcon; University Multipurpose Building on the University of Missouri-Rolla campus; Gaming

30-October 3: **Archon 28** (\$45), P.O. Box 8387, St. Louis, MO 63132-8387; Rich or Michelle Zellich 636-FAN-3026 or 636-326-3026; archon_hotline@archonstl.org; www.stlf.org/archon/28; Gateway Center & Holiday Inn (\$94) in Collinsville, IL; Featured Guests: Alan Dean Foster, Vincent Di Fate, George Takei, Shane Hensley, Jacqueline Ward, Luke Ski. Mike Glycer, Ben Bova, Vic Milán, and many more.

OCTOBER 1-3: SPX 2004 (\$15); The EXPO, PO Box 61, McLean VA 22101; www.spxpo.com/expoinfo.htm; steve@steveconley.com; Holiday Inn Select (\$125) in Bethesda, MD; Lots of Exhibitors.

1-3: **MagFest** (\$35), 902 Jackson Dr., Williamsburg, VA 23185; tgz@orotech.net; www.magfest.org; Clarion Hotel (\$82), Williamsburg, VA; Electronic Gaming; Guests: Cindy Morgan, Robert Aldrich, Stephen Kennedy, and more.

7-10: **Batty's Best Game Fest** (\$25); 3631-C Chamblee-Tucker Road, Atlanta, GA 30341; 770-939-8455; info@battysbest.com; www.battysbest.com/bbgf.html; Courtyard by Marriott (\$69) in Atlanta Northlake, GA

8-10: **INTERCON MID-ATLANTIC 2004** (\$60); Baltimore, MD; outreach@larpaweb.org; www.larpaweb.org/intercon/midatlanti c2004; Days Hotel (\$72) in Timonium, MD; LARPA

8-10: **Ditto 17** (\$40); roger.sims@att.net; www.circlenk.com/ditto; 7030 Villa Estelle Drive, Orlando, FL 32819. Quality Suites Universal, Orlando; 800-228-2027; Fanzines

15-17: **Con†Stellation XXIII: Delphinus** (\$40), PO Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857; constell@con-stellation.org; www.con-stellation.org/constell; Holiday Inn Express (\$65), Huntsville, AL; Guests: Lawrence Watt-Evans, Esther Friesner, Kinuko Y. Craft, Grant Kruger

15-17: **Necronomicon** (\$35); PO Box 2213, Plant City, FL 33564-2213; raggedyann@stonehill.org; www.stonehill.org/necro.htm; Crowne Plaza in Tampa, FL; Guests: Spider & Jeanne Robinson, and many more.

15-17: **Capclave 4** (\$45); 4030 8th Street South, Arlington VA 22204; leeandalexis@hotmail.com; www.wsfa.org/capc04; Tysons Corner Marriott (\$84), Vienna, VA; Guests: Butch Honeck, Nick Pollotta, Dennis McCunney

21-24 **Camarilla Conclave** (\$55/\$35 members); 10239 Magnolia Grove Drive; Manassas, VA 20110; kl.barnes@prodigy.net; camarilla.white-wolf.com/ICC/; Sheraton Imperial Hotel, 4700 Emperor Blvd, Durham, NC

22-24: **Rising Star 13** (\$25); New Camelot Productions, PO Box 10787, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0787; Glenvar High School, 4546 Malus Dr, Salem VA; ConChair@Rising-Star.org; www.rising-star.org; Comfort Inn, Salem, VA; Guests: Paul Dellinger, Barb Fischer, Peg Fisher, Mary Goad, Brenda Gressman, Thomas S. Gressman, Chris Impink, Ron Jarrell, Tim Mullins, Ted Reid, White Plectrum

22-24: **Weekend in the Principality of Ulek 4** (\$40); Registration@MiniCon.cc; www.minicon.cc/wipou/; Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel Miami Airport, Hialeah Gardens, FL

22-24 **TideCon** (\$25); 5836 Newtown Arch #103 VB, VA 23462; www.warhorn.net/tidecon; Clarion Inn and Conference Center (\$72), Williamsburg VA; Gaming

29-31: **HallowCon** (\$45); 395 Stancil Rd; Rossville, GA 30741; hallowcon@vei.net; www.hallowcon.com; Comfort Inn Conference Center and Suites (\$56) in Chattanooga, TN; Guests: Julia Morgan Scott, Sean Patrick Fannon, Lawrence Barker, William Spencer-Hale, Powell Crider

29-31: **Anime USA 6** (\$45); Vienna, VA; chairman@animeusa.org; www.animeusa.org; Sheraton Premiere at Tysons Corner (\$79); Guests: J-Rock, Camino, Greg Ayres, Monica Rial, Carrie Savage, Steve Bennett, Jan Scott Frazier, Austell Callwood, Chisuji, Robert V Aldrich, Big Danny T, Cody

NOVEMBER 5-7: Nekocon (\$45); PO Box 41227, Greensboro NC 27404; admin@nekocon.org; nekocon.com; Holiday Inn Chesapeake (\$77) in Chesapeake, VA; Guests: Greg Ayres, Tim Buckley, Robert and Emily DeJesus, DiZZiNESS, Tiffany Grant, NovaBlade Studios, Fred Perry, Monica Rial, Carrie Savage, Shawn the Touched

6-13: **CRUISE TREK 2004**, 23852 Pacific Coast Hwy #385, Malibu, CA 90265; 310-456-7544; cruisetreka@aol.com; [//members.aol.com/cruisetreka](http://members.aol.com/cruisetreka); Tampa, FL; Guests: Ethan Phillips (Neelix), Robert Picardo (Voyager Doctor), Casey Biggs (Damar), Chase

Masterson (Leta), Lolita Fatjo (Script Coordinator) and more.

11-14: **ShaunCon 22**; PO Box 7457, Kansas City MO 64116-0157; rpgkc@rpgkc.com;

www.rpgkc.org/Con/; Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, MO

11-14: **EURO QUEST** (\$50); 1541 Redfield Rd, Bel Air, MD 21015;

doncon99@toad.net; [//euroquest.gamesclubofmd.org](http://euroquest.gamesclubofmd.org); Days Hotel (\$99), Timonium, MD

13-14: **Coast Con Jr.** (\$20); Biloxi, MS; coastcon@bizarroworld.net;

[//coastcon.org/jr](http://coastcon.org/jr); Gulf Beach Resort (\$60), Biloxi, MS; Guest: Jason Fisher

13-14: **Galaxy Con II**;

www.galaxycon.com; staff@galaxycon.com; Sheraton College Park in Beltsville, MD

19-21: **Tsubasacon** (\$35); PO Box 75093, Charleston WV 25375;

questions@tsubasacon.org; www.tsubasacon.org; Charleston Civic Center, Charleston Mariott Town Center (\$89); Guests: Gerry Poulos,

Matt Greenfield, Tiffany Grant

19-21: **SUGOIcon** (\$35); PO Box 31131, Mt Healthy, OH 45231;

www.sugoicon.org; Cincinnati Marriott at Rivercenter (\$115), Covington, KY; Guests: Kazuko Tadano, Takao Koyama, Monica Rial, Doug Smith, Neil Nadelman, Greg Ayres, Jan Scott-Frazier, Bob and Emily DeJesus

26-28: **Darkover 27** (\$45); PO Box 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907;

www.darkovercon.com; Holiday Inn (\$84), Timonium, MD; Guests: Tamora Pierce, Katherine Kurtz, Debra Doyle, Nancy Janda, Scott MacMillian, James MacDonald, Alanna Morland, Diana Paxson, Don Sakers, and Hannah Shapero, Clam Chowder

DECEMBER 3-5: East Meets South (\$25), PO Box 351, Jacksonville, AL 36265; conchair@eastmeetssouth.com;

The Downtowner (\$40), Anniston, AL 3-5: **SMOFcon 22** (\$70); 7113 Wayne Drive; Annandale, VA 22003-1734; reg@smofcon22.org;

[//www.seahunt.org/smofcon22](http://www.seahunt.org/smofcon22); Wyndham Washington (\$119), Washington DC

12-14: **Numa Rei-No Con** (Free);

liondancepro@aol.com; www.numareinocon.com; Quality Hotel & Conference Center (\$59); Metairie, LA; Guests: Robert DeJesus, Jan Scott Frazier, Steve Bennett, Monica Rial, Greg Ayres, Chris Patton, Candice "Cherry" Boyles, Keith Burgess, Brian Godwin

17-19: **Otakucon** (\$40); 10300 SW 72nd ST, Ste 410, Miami, FL 33173-3019; 866-433-4334; www.otakucon.com; Fontainebleau Hilton Resort (\$99), Miami, FL; Guests: Johnny Yong Bosch, Joshua Seth, Kirby Morrow, Scott McNeil, David Kaye ☹

ENDER'S GAME WORD SEARCH

by Leana Justice

I used software on SuperKid Resources' website. Please visit www.superkids.com/aweb/tools/words/search. Find the following hidden nouns, created by the imagination of Orson Scott Card:

WIGGIN,
PETER,
BEAN,
SHAFTS,
BATTLE SCHOOL,
CRAZY TOM,
MAZER RACKHAM,
DINK,

COLONEL GRAFF,
PETRA,
VALENTINE,
BONZO,
DEMOSTHENES,
ALAI,
MRS. PUMPHREY,
BUGGERS

H E E I G E K A E X J R D Y E S
C D S E S D T Y M Z Q S E I E H
O E I R E A F X P R S R G E O E
L M R N E L P E C R H N E L L S
O O C P K G T M B P F S R S N O
N S O M F R G T M B T H Z I M N
E T R H A S F U N U E E G D L O
L H V H C X P G B S N G R E O G
G E S A N S J Y M J I S V A F M
R N T P R G E S R W T O Z N O B
A E S M E I A L A V N N R T I U
F S C T Z T E S T O E I Y T N D
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N B H S H R N S C A E X M E O E



SOUTHERN CLUB LIST

Listings are not exhaustive but are as accurate as possible at publication. We cannot guarantee accuracy of any information. Check with the organizers to verify. Contact information should only be used for obtaining further information. Contact the editor with corrections and/or additions. Clubs are welcome to purchase ad space to promote the club and or associated conventions to the best joiners in the world, *SFC Bulletin* readers.

ALABAMA

- Birmingham Wargaming Association** – 328 Orchid Road, Birmingham AL 35215; 205-853-5434; vsolftronk@earthlink.net; http://www.geocities.com/vsolftronk/birmingham_wargaming_association.html; Meets in Cleveland & Cleveland basement, 2330 Highland Avenue South, next to Caldwell Park every Sunday, 1:30 PM
- Huntsville Area Anime Society** – basil@haas-online.net; www.haas-online.net; Meets at *The Deep* on Memorial Parkway every Sunday Night at 7 PM
- North Alabama Science Fiction Association** – PO Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857; <http://www.constellation.org/nasfa/index.html>; Meets in BookMark, 7500 South Memorial Parkway, Suite #133, the Village Square Shopping Center every 3rd Saturday, 6 PM

ARKANSAS

- Little Rock Science Fiction Society** – Little Rock, Arkansas; info@lrsfs.org; www.lrsfs.org; Meets somewhere every 1st Saturday, 7:30 PM

FLORIDA

- Alliance of Gaming Enthusiasts** – GOTH, 3130 Castle Cove Ct, Kissimmee, FL 34746; 407-344-3010; morgoth883@aol.com; Meets somewhere every month.
- Guardians of Gallifrey, The** – 170 Broadmoor Ave, Lake Mary, FL 32746; 407-321-5953; drwhoville2001@yahoo.com; www.angelfire.com/space/ntime; Meets somewhere every 3rd Sunday.
- North Florida Gaming Association** – 523 N. Meridian Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301; www16.brinkster.com/nflga; Meets in Leon County Public Library every Tuesday at 5:30 PM and Capital Circle Miami Subs every Friday at 6 PM
- Orlando Area Science Fiction Society** – PO Box 940992, Maitland, FL 32794-0992; oasfis@sff.net; www.oasfis.org; Meets in the Orange County Public Library every 2nd Sunday at 1:30 PM
- South Florida Science Fiction Society** – PO Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143; sfsfs@sfsfs.org; www.sfsfs.org; Meets somewhere every 3rd Saturday at 2 PM

- Stone Hill Science Fiction Association** – PO Box 2076, Riverview, FL 33569; raggedyann@stonehill.org; www.stonehill.org; Meets somewhere every 2nd Sunday.

GEORGIA

- Atlanta Science Fiction Society** – PO Box 98308, Atlanta, GA 30359-20098; 770-844-2256; info@asfs.org; www.asfs.org; Meets at Sandy Springs Library every 2nd Saturday at 2 PM
- Georgia Filkers Anonymous (GAFIA)** – contact@gafia.org; www.gafia.org; Meets monthly in Georgia.
- Outworlders** – president@outworlders.info; www.outworlders.info; Atlanta, GA; Meets various places weekly.
- Southern Organization of Live-Action Reenactment** – c/o Scott Neeley, 4835 Baker Plantation Drive, Acworth, Georgia 30101; president@solarinc.org; www.solarinc.com

KENTUCKY

- Burroughs Bibliophiles** – George T. McWhorter, Curator, Edgar Rice Burroughs Collection, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, Louisville KY 40292; 502-852-8729; www.taliesan.com/panthans/erb2.htm; gmcwh01@louisville.edu;
- Falls of Ohio Science Fiction and Fantasy Association** – PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281. Meets every 2nd Sunday.
- Lexington Science Fiction and Fantasy Association** – 1825 Liberty Road #418, Lexington, KY 40505. lexfa@lexfa.org; www.lexfa.org; Meets somewhere in Lexington every 2nd Sunday.
- Western Kentucky University Speculative Fiction Society** – Annette Carrico, WKU Chem Dept, #1 Big Red Way, Bowling Green, KY 42101; www.geocities.com/Pentagon/5813/wkusfs.html; Meets weekly.

LOUISIANA

- Babylon 504** – 5109 Oak Bayou Ave, Marrero, LA 70072-4962; eric_benson@compuserve.com; ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/eric_benson/babylon504.html; Meets at member's house every 3rd Saturday.
- Science Fiction Xchange** – Contact Harriet; 318-798-1277, dupuy@shreve.net; Meets at Mr. Gatti's, Youree Dr., every other 2nd Sunday at 2-4 PM
- Star One Delta** – PO Box 45577, Baton Rouge, LA 70895; StarOneDelta@yahoo.com; www.staronedelta.org; Meets in Bluebonnet Library every 3rd Sunday at 2 PM

NORTH CAROLINA

Research Triangle Science Fiction Society – PO Box 90821, Raleigh, NC 27675; info@rtsfs.org; www.rtsfs.org; Meets in the RTP twice monthly.

TENNESSEE

Anime Nashville – 615-883-6677;

anime@animenashville.org; www.animenashville.org; Meets at Tower Records (Opry Mills location) every 2nd Thursday at 7 PM and member's home every 4th Thursday.

Clarksville GameMaster's Guild –

president@gamemastersguild.org; www.gamemastersguild.org; Meets at the Clarksville Montgomery County Public Library every 1st Saturday at noon

Knoxville Area Speculative Fiction Association –

Knoxville, TN; kasfa@yahoogroups.com; www.kasfa.org
Memphis Science Fiction Association – 141 Stonehaven Circle, Jackson, TN 38305; 901-274-7355; 3bridges@earthlink.net; www.pseudoworld.net/msfa; Meets at the Main Public Library every 2nd Monday at 7 PM

Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society – C/O Anita Feller, PO Box 68203, Nashville, TN 37206-8203; www.egroups.com/group/MidTennSFF; Meets in Green Hills Public Library every 2nd Wednesday at 7 PM

Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem – 5017 Maywood Drive, Nashville TN 37211; 615-327-1047; gaelbstahl@juno.com; www.nashvillescholars.net; Meets in The Sherlock Holmes Pub downtown Nashville monthly.

TEXAS

Fandom Association of Central Texas – PO Box 27277, Austin, TX 78755; 512-472-9944; FAX 512-472-4290; webmaster@fact.org; www.fact.org; Meets monthly somewhere.

Friends of Fandom – PO Box 541822, Houston, TX 77254-1822; 713-790-0707; CandaceVP@aol.com; www.cam-info.net/fof.html

MSC Cepheid Variable – (AggieCon Hosts), PO Box J-1, Texas A&M University, 1237 TAMUS, College Station TX 77844-1237; baldeagle@tamu.edu; [//cepheid.tamu.edu](http://cepheid.tamu.edu); Meets regularly.

Severl Unlimited – PO Box 1766, Bellaire, TX 77402-1766; scififan@hal-pc.org; members.aol.com/ErikaF/su; Meets monthly somewhere.

Ursa Major Science Fiction Literary Association – PO Box 691448, San Antonio, TX 78269-1448; UrsaMajorSciFi-owner@yahoogroups.com; groups.yahoo.com/group/UrsaMajorSciFi; Meets weekly.

VIRGINIA

Hampton Roads Science Fiction Association - PO Box 9434, Hampton VA 23670; 757-930-2301; tgray@norfolk.infi.net; Meets in the H. J. Reid conference Center at NASA-Langley every 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Northern Virginia Gamers – P.O. Box 223660; Chantilly, VA 20153; www.novag.org; Meets at various locations, usually game stores and individual member's homes.

Science Fiction and Fantasy Club at Virginia Tech (VTSFFC) – PO Box 256, Blacksburg, VA 24063; president@vtsffc.org; filebox.vt.edu/org/VTSFFC; Meets 1st floor 101 Robeson Hall every Thursday that classes are in session.

Shenandoah Valley Gamers Guild – PO Box 1448, Winchester, VA 22604; SVGG@aol.com; Meets regularly.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

These are clubs with affiliated clubs and/or members spread through the South. For the chapter nearest you, contact the address listed.

Committee for the Advancement of Role-Playing Games (CAR-PGa) – c/o Paul Cardwell, 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418; members.aol.com/waltonwj/carpga.htm

EDC Animation Society – PO Box 515942, Dallas, TX 75251-5942; M. Kelli Hazlewood

International Costumers Guild – c/o Randall Whitlock, PO Box 39504, Phoenix, AZ 85069; corr-secretary@costume.org; www.costume.org

International Fantasy Gaming Society – PO Box 3577, Boulder CO 80307; clerk@ifgs.org; www.ifgs.com

International Federation of Trekkers – PO Box 242, Lorain OH 44052-0242; ops@iftcommand.com; www.iftcommand.com

Mythopoeic Society – PO Box 320486, San Francisco, CA 94132-0486; ecrowe@email.sjsu.edu; www.mythsoc.org

National Fantasy Fan Federation – 25549 Byron Street, San Bernadino, CA 92404-6403; n3f_info@yahoo.com; www.simegen.com/fandom/n3f

National Space Society – 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Suite 201 Washington, DC 20003; 202-543-1900; FAX 202-546-4189; nsshq@nss.org; www.nss.org

North American Discworld Society – 18205 SW 94th Avenue, Miami, FL 33157; jschaum111@aol.com; discworld.imaginary.com/DiscworldSociety

Romulan Star Empire – PO Box 3508, Dayton, OH 45401; starpath@rsempire.org; www.rsempire.org

Society for Creative Anachronism – PO Box 360789, Milpitas, CA 95036-0789; directors@sca.org; www.sca.org

Starfleet International – PO Box 460, Gaithersburg, MD 20884-0460; FAX 419-793-7976; CompOpsHELP@sfi.org; www.sfi.org

United Federation of Planets Internationale – 2609 Crystal Falls Dr, Mesquite, TX 75181-4015; CaptPappas@aol.com; www.ufpi.org ☺

LETTERS OF COMMENT

{When e-mailing a LoC, please put "SFC LoC" or similar in the subject line and remind me if you wish your contact information printed or not.}

March 2004, 2004: **Irv Koch**, irvkoch@sprintmail.com

Got and enjoyed V8N5 of *SFCB*.

On p. 10, where Pat Gibbs notes "Hank Davis (a fan living in NC)"...that's one of the fans who work for/at BAEN BOOKS. Sorta a pro too <grin>. Production and general whatever needed staff.

That's why Toni has TWO Hanks to play with <grin!>.

April 1, 2004: **E.B. Frohvet**, 4716 Dorsey Hall Drive #506 Ellicott City MD 21042

Great minds think alike. Which doubtless explains how it is I used that very same Julia Morgan-Scott piece on the cover of my fanzine in October 2001. Of course I had no proprietary claim to the piece, Julia was and is free to distribute her art to anyone. There is no shortage of people overdue to receive a Hugo nomination for "Fan Artist", but maybe we should add Julia to that list. *{Yes!}*

So, what did Julie Wall serve for the Titanic theme dinner? North Atlantic salmon, perhaps – "Catch your own dinner, folks, just stick an arm out the porthole and grab a fish as we go past."

I don't quite see the similarity between actors Anson Williams and Johnathan Frakes. The cheekbones are similar, and they both pluck their eyebrows; other than that I don't see it. *{I needed better photo evidence.}*

Enjoyed the book reviews, especially the wonderful opening line, "I can't believe it's not butter I spent two days on this crappy novel." Such honesty, *Locus* could use. It would not trouble me if Leana Justice would explain the curious phrase, "nonfiction novel".

Fanzine listings: Unless I'm greatly mistaken, *Niekas* #46 was published something like three years ago.

Glad to vote for DUFF. Someone send me a ballot.

Interesting about the special DeepSouthCon postal cancellation – I didn't know you could do that sort of thing. Of course I found the book (*Startide Rising*) absolutely unreadable but we all know what my opinion counts for around here...

The idea of promoting a Hugo award for Darrell K. Sweet is a fine one; and yet, mucked up as the system already is, the notion of actively campaigning for an award strikes me as just a touch unseemly. *{Sweet is not campaigning. Fans are trying to bring to light an oversight.}*

A Civil War vampire story... No, too easy a target.

Nice to see two of my favorite writers are GOH's for Trinoc*Con. Run out and buy Steve Miller & Sharon Lee books.

I will take Paul Cardwell's word for it on "groom's cake" which I had never heard of. Good point also on people who steal Bibles, that the Gideon Society expects that. It's less

clear how much help that would be to someone who would steal a Bible! Isn't there a Commandment on that?

My experience with cooking polenta suggests: Cut back on the water. The classic formula for cooking rice is two cups water to one-cup rice; try that with the corn meal. This may also be one of those rare instances where that over-recommended kitchen knick-knack, a whisk, is actually useful. I discussed grits in correspondence with Sue Bursztynski in Australia, who has all sorts of odd notions about American cuisine.

LOTR: In his new book on Tolkien, Dr. Tom Shippey makes the interesting analogy, comparing the effect of the One Ring to heroin addiction. Thus Frodo, who used the Ring, could never be wholly cured of its effect (at least in Middle Earth). Sam, who carried it briefly but never used it *{Charlotte Proctor informs that he did use it. See Book Four, Chapter X, The Choices of Master Samwise and Book Six, Chapter I.}*, and Faramir, who refused to touch it at all, escaped its power rather easily. Interesting thought.

By the way, Tom Feller should ask to be placed on the mailing list for Peregrine Nation, from ex-Floridian-now-in Michigan, Jan Stinson.

Is Roswell, GA, related to Roswell, NM? *{Separated at Birth?}*

Toon on page 20: It is indeed possible to sleep standing up if you're tired enough. It is possible to sleep face down on steel deck plates with no pillow if you're tired enough. It is possible to sleep with people shooting off 155-mm howitzers 100 yards away, if you're tired enough.

In my opinion it would greatly improve the tone of the lettercol if certain individuals were simply banned, or relegated automatically to WAHF. But you're the editor and that's your decision. *{I like to let the reader decide who to read or not.}*

Happy New Year (it must be new year according to someone's calendar)...

April 7, 2004: **Joseph Nicholas**, 15 Jansons Road, Tottenham, London N15 4JU;

josephn@globalnet.co.uk

Thanks for the latest *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin* – received at the weekend, but laid temporarily aside as we scurried around completing various tasks before Judith departed for Singapore (and then to Australia) on Tuesday. I shall be flying out to join her at the beginning of May (my workplace wouldn't give me as much leave); we won't be returning to the UK until the end of that month. The holiday will be book-ended with visits to relatives; but the bulk will be occupied with what might be called "tourist Australia" – the Top End and the Red Centre, which even Judith (an Australian) has never seen. So that will be a first for both of us. (Next trip, we'll have to visit the Great Barrier reef – if it's still there.)

There's plenty to comment on or respond to in this issue; I particularly want to reply to and amplify some of what Paul

Cardwell says. But first (it's boring, so I'll keep it short) a couple of quick rejoinders to the usual suspects:

Tim Marion accuses me of triviality. I suppose it makes a change from being accused of vitriolic ranting, but his spending the whole of his letter raking over the details of what we might have said about each other in passing twenty-odd years ago suggests that he is no mean slouch at trivia-mongering himself. Several hundred words on that? He badly needs to develop a sense of proportion....

(But since he asked: throwing the teddy out of the pram is completely different from throwing the baby out with the bathwater. It means – as one might guess – having a tantrum.)

And then there's Hank Reinhardt. "According to Mr. Nicholas, the terrorists attacked us because they are angry at their repressive regimes because these governments do not allow them to force their brand of Islam on everyone else." But I never mentioned religion in my original argument, which concerns the power relations between the rich North and the Majority World. It's Reinhardt who insists on dragging in religion and thus changing the terms of the argument – followed by him then narrowing the focus solely to what Arabs think of the USA. I can only suppose that he finds it easier to knock down his own straw men than to engage with my points.

Pursuing his claim that the Nazis were really socialists, Reinhardt avers that they met "all of the requirements for a socialist state ... collective ownerships of all major industries, government control of the economy, etc.". As he should know, state control of industry and the economy is also a feature of fascist states.

"I doubt seriously if Mr. Nicholas is well read enough to know, but a great deal of our Bill of Rights is based on the 1689 English Bill of Rights." As it happens, I do know that, but so what? One might as sensibly (i.e., as idiotically) argue that all EU member states have the same culture and history because they all subscribe to the same founding documents. That Reinhardt drones on about guns (again) only confirms the point I made last time.

His concluding paragraph is a classic. "Mr. Nicholas has convinced me that it is not worth wasting my time on him ... Mr. Nicholas is not a bleating sheep; he is the classic Braying Ass. And I, for one, will no longer pay any attention to his letters." Sounds like someone else is having a tantrum because they've just lost an argument!

So to something more substantive: Paul Cardwell's comments on the use governing elites are making of the "war on terror" to curtail civil liberties in the name of preserving public order and security. As he may be aware, something similar is happening in the UK, assisted by the fact that we don't have a written constitution and politicians are therefore free to make it up as they go along. (Sure, there have been implicitly accepted conventions about what the constitution allows or disallows; but Thatcher broke most of them, and no government since has felt a need to restore them.) Labour, New and Old, has always had a tin ear for civil liberties, and in Jack Straw and David Blunkett (the previous and the current Home Secretaries) it's had the biggest tin ears of all. Even when Labour was still in opposition, before 1997, Jack Straw was sounding off about

the need for early state intervention in cases of anti-social behaviour, including "parenting classes" for errant mums and dads (causing one newspaper cartoonist to invent the Bedtime Police to make sure that no one stayed up too late); in power, to mingled astonishment and amusement, he started to put some of these ideas into practice.

David Blunkett, who took over the post after the 2001 election, has stepped up the war, attacking not just the anti-social but also the judiciary (for not imprisoning enough people, for upholding judicial reviews of his decisions, for daring to disagree with him at all – because, of course, he's elected, and therefore superior to anyone who was only appointed) and – disgracefully – refugees and asylum seekers. Indeed, refugees and asylum seekers are now treated worse than criminals: denied the opportunity to work, separated from each other, incarcerated in special holding centres, even locked up for most of the day. This, Blunkett claims, will help alleviate any climate of fear or racism that might be whipped up by the right-wing press; instead, of course, it simply panders to it, by suggesting that the destitute of the world are less than human. He's even used "the asylum seeker threat" as an excuse to promote the idea of compulsory identity cards, to prove entitlement to healthcare, social security, and other public services and thus sort genuine citizens from the ungentle. Foolishly, he even claims that identity cards will help the "war on terror", presumably because he thinks that terrorists won't have the skills to forge them. But then his ignorance of technology is almost legendary; two years ago, he was forced to abandon proposals to log people's use of the internet and e-mail because they would have been unworkable – although every now and then he trots out a frustrated desire to force telephone companies to keep records of everyone's calls for the police to trawl whenever they wish.

And all this in a political culture where (save for a panel of the great and good appointed by the Prime Minister which reports directly to him – and doubtless assures him that everything is just fine) there is no parliamentary oversight of the security services (MI5, MI6 and GCHQ), where the security services are largely uncontrolled (until recently, they had no formal, legal existence), and where we know that they spent most the seventies and eighties pursuing the elusive (and illusory) threat of "subversion from within" in the shape of trade unions, anti-racists, environmentalists, and nuclear disarmament activists. (I suspect that they at one time viewed me as a potential subversive; as a nuclear disarmament activist, there were odd periods when my phone was cut off which, I would discover a day or so later, had coincided with cruise missile deployment exercises from Greenham Common.)

I have little doubt that a good deal of the establishment's current paranoia about "the terrorist threat" derives from the implicitly paranoid mindset of the security services themselves, and the more they wind up the politicians then the better for them – more money, more staff, more resources, more political clout. The security services know that they're playing to the right audience – historically, Labour is terrified of appearing "soft" on defence (the legacy of the so-called "Zinoviev letter" which lost Labour the 1924 election, and which was recently admitted to be an MI5

forgery) and can therefore be relied on to be more generous to the military and its political allies than the Conservatives (who have, historically, cut military budgets). They must be rubbing their hands with glee at the new powers they've already been given – in the Terrorism Act 2000 and the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 – and the thought of the controls over legitimate dissent which will soon be flowing their way in the Civil Contingencies Bill, under which the Government will grant itself the power to ban people from leaving or entering any area, deploy troops, prohibit gatherings, requisition property and disregard existing legislation in cases of emergency – an emergency being defined as "disruption of a supply of money, food, water, energy or fuel". In other words, anything the Government decides qualifies, as an emergency will become an excuse to introduce something close to martial law.

Which is perhaps a bit tangential to the comments, which Paul Cardwell made: what's happening in my country rather than yours. But perhaps it was of interest....

April 12, 2004, **Joy V. Smith**, Pagadan@aol.com

Great cover by Julia Morgan-Scott. It makes me want to run out and read a good SF book about space exploration. Congratulations on being elected as the Central Director of the ASFA and being chosen to do the cover art for the ConCave program book. (There's always something to add to your list of things to do!) *{Thanks!}*

Re: the Titanic Formal Dinner Party. I think it was in Alexiad that I read about someone leaving the movie and "spoiling" the ending by saying – I can't believe it! The ship sank!

I enjoyed the Chattacon con report (re: *The Lord of the Rings* movies; nowadays you can see those deleted scenes on DVD; I wonder if anyone mentioned that at the panel) and book and fanzine reviews (print & electronic). Good crop circle cartoon on page 6 – clever idea.

Thanks for the news roundup; I think it's great that the SF & Mystery Bookshop in Atlanta didn't have to close; *{Actually they have since finally and really closed.}* and I'm sorry that I couldn't go to the High Hallack auction. Congrats to Guy Lillian and Rose-Marie for being chosen to edit the Noreascon 4 program book.

I didn't see Ditto on the Southern convention list. Know anything about it? I thought I was on the mailing list. *{See this issue's convention list.}* I will be going to Oasis 17 at the end of May.

Re: LoCs. As usual, interesting and informative. Thanks to Paul Cardwell for the info on the Beard book preface. Hey, Trin, could I have one of those amber jewelry flyers? I didn't know they came in different colors. Sorry about your job... I hope your disability claim comes through soon.

I also enjoyed seeing the autographed aircraft carrier photo (thank you for the Baen books), but to do the Narnia puzzle, I'd have to reread the books. (Think I'll wait for the next movie, which is upcoming, I believe.)

April 20, 2004 **Lloyd Penney**, penneys@allstream.net,
1706-24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON CANADA M9C 2B2

Thank you all for the March issue of the *Bulletin*. It's always welcome here. The warm weather is just starting to get here, and I am torn by thoughts of the new job (!) and wanting to get to the park for a picnic or two. And then, there's all these fanzines, too...

My congratulations to Randy Cleary on his non-hostile takeover of ASFA, or at least his central position. Way to go! Also, congratulations to Julie Wall on being another year lovelier. I second that emotion...

Anita Feller should do well on Weight Watchers...that seems to be a weight loss programme fans can follow. Three fans in the Toronto area have lost 100 pounds or more on WW, and Yvonne is one of them.

I have wondered...with all of the club and convention lists in these issues, would someone be willing to look at southern-based fannish and SFnal blogs and Yahoo! Groups, and make lists of those. Everyone must find their level of involvement.

I don't see a LoC of mine in the local, so I can't update it...I have started a new job in Markham, just north of Toronto, and I am pleased to say that it's a comfortable fit, it's more money than I've ever made, and after 13 months of frantically searching for that new job, I can finally sleep well at night.

I must order one of the SFC cloth patches! Real soon now, as soon as a few pay cheques have gotten us on the road to financial recovery...

Short LoC, but because I now commute a grand total of four hours to get to this new job and back home, time through the week is short, too. Take care all, and see you next issue.

April 21, 2004: **John C. Snider**, jcs1963@charter.net

I just happened to be perusing your SFC Bylaws and noticed an error. In the very first sentence you list Kentucky as a state of the Confederacy. Any student of history should know that Kentucky, while still a slave state, remained a Union state and was never part of the failed Confederacy.

{Actually, this web site explains that Kentucky WAS the 13th state admitted to the confederacy:

www.confederateflags.org/FAQ/FOTCfaq4.htm

17 March 2002 by Devereaux

D. Cannon, Jr. <<mailto:dcannon@nctc.com>>

Why there were 13 stars on the Confederate flag. We only count 11 states in the Confederacy? Am I missing something here? The short answer is that the 12th and 13th stars represent, respectively, Missouri and Kentucky. As you may have read, both Kentucky and Missouri proclaimed neutrality early in the war. In the case of Missouri, that neutrality was broken when US forces under General Nathaniel Lyons arrested the Missouri State Guard at their summer encampment, and imprisoned them in St. Louis. His forces then proceeded up the Missouri river to Jefferson City, forcing the State government into exile. This began a civil war between the Missouri State Guard and the United States forces. The Missouri government retreated to the town of Neosho in the southwestern corner of the state. The legislature went into a special session, and on 31 October 1861 adopted an Ordinance of Secession. On 28 November 1861 the Confederate Congress passed an Act admitting Missouri as the 12th state of the Confederacy. The

Union response in Missouri was to organize a state convention, which declared the state government to be deposed, and organized a provisional state government. As a result, Missouri had two state governments: the elected government, which seceded and joined the Confederate States, and the provisional government created by Unionists to remain with the United States. In Kentucky, the actions were essentially a mirror image of Missouri. Kentucky's neutrality was broken when CS Gen. Leonidas Polk moved his troops to Columbus, Kentucky, one day before US General Ulysses Grant moved his army into Paducah, Kentucky. The legislature of Kentucky had been elected on a pledge of neutrality backed by a secondary pledge to go with the South if neutrality proved impossible. However, when the neutrality was broken, the legislature cast its lot with the North, on the grounds that the Confederacy had been the first to break the neutrality. Southern sympathizers in Kentucky were furious. They replied that Polk's move had been necessitated by Grant's preparations, and that the pro-Union members of the legislature had broken their campaign pledge. As a result, a convention with delegates from most of Kentucky's counties met at the town of Russellville and adopted a Declaration of Independence. In the same fashion as the pro-Union convention in Missouri, the pro-Confederate convention in Kentucky deposed the elected state government and created a provisional government loyal to the Confederate States. By an Act of Congress approved on 10 December 1861, Kentucky became the 13th state admitted to the Confederacy. So Missouri and Kentucky had representatives in both Congresses and regiments in both armies. They were not alone in this. Virginia and Tennessee also had Unionist congressmen and army regiments, and there was even a provisional government of Virginia, which was recognized by the United States. The only reason I can think of that Missouri and Kentucky are treated differently in most history books from the rest of the Confederate States is that their secessions took place well after the outbreak of hostilities, and as a result large portions of their territory were pretty quickly overrun by US forces. Missouri was tenacious however. Her forces kept returning, and as a result the number of battles fought in Missouri were only surpassed by the number in Virginia and Tennessee, respectively. }

April 24, 2004: **Henry L. Welch**, welch@msoe.edu

Thanks for the latest *SFC Bulletin*.

I had not realized that Darrell K. Sweet had been around SF that long. I certainly remember his crisp cover paintings on many a novel that still adorn my bookcases. He certainly deserves the nomination, but it didn't happen this year.

April 30, 2004: **Sheryl Birkhead**, 25509 Jonnie Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

As I start writing they are singing out auctioning off Harry's *{Warner}* Beta-tapes etc. I'm trying to get some of his disk "stuff" – we'll see. This is only for the furniture/collectibles. I was told no books, etc., but they lied. Unfortunately, they have one or two SF books in each of about a dozen boxes. Well, I got a little of the desktop stuff, but not the stuff I wanted. Luckily, this was not a fannish material sale – no idea when that will be.

I was a member of ASFA for a year and decided that it was for "serious" artist", but I support it all the way. *{I'm rarely serious but they let me in anyway. ;-}* }

E.B. – I wimped out and bought prepared polenta – and rapidly found that varieties varied GREATLY. I finally gave up after going through two "rolls" and deciding I would either have to (horrors) actually learn to make it myself, or settle for the one brand I could find locally.

Trinlay – I've heard Bill Bowers' tale of applying for disability. It is not an easy or quick process. I hope things crank through the system for you.

Congratulations to this year's Hugo Nominees. If anyone does not see a favorite there, be sure you have joined next year's Worldcon and remedy the situation.

I need to send some \$ to both TAFF and DUFF. I think I've missed the DUFF deadline, but I'm sure they won't turn down a donation. I was hoping Guy's address would be in his DUFF *{report}* but I know I downloaded the forms from the DUFF website and am not sure where I put them. I did just get a TAFF ballot, so I have that address. Support our fannish funds.

August 13, 2004: **Hank Reinhardt**, 1135 Duncan Road, Oxford, GA 30054-3614; rein10@bellsouth.net

Thanks for the quick note. Although I had decided not to pay any attention to Nicolas, this last letter is such a superb example of either intellectual dishonesty or intellectual stupidity that I just have to respond.

Nicholas objects to me mentioning religion when I stated that the governments do not allow them to force their brand of Islam on everyone else. This is what is known as "argument by irrelevant objection." The point is that they wish to force their will on others. What their will is, is immaterial. This type of argument is often used by those who have lost the argument, and is considered an intellectually dishonest technique to confuse the issue. It is also used by those who are too stupid to understand the full argument.

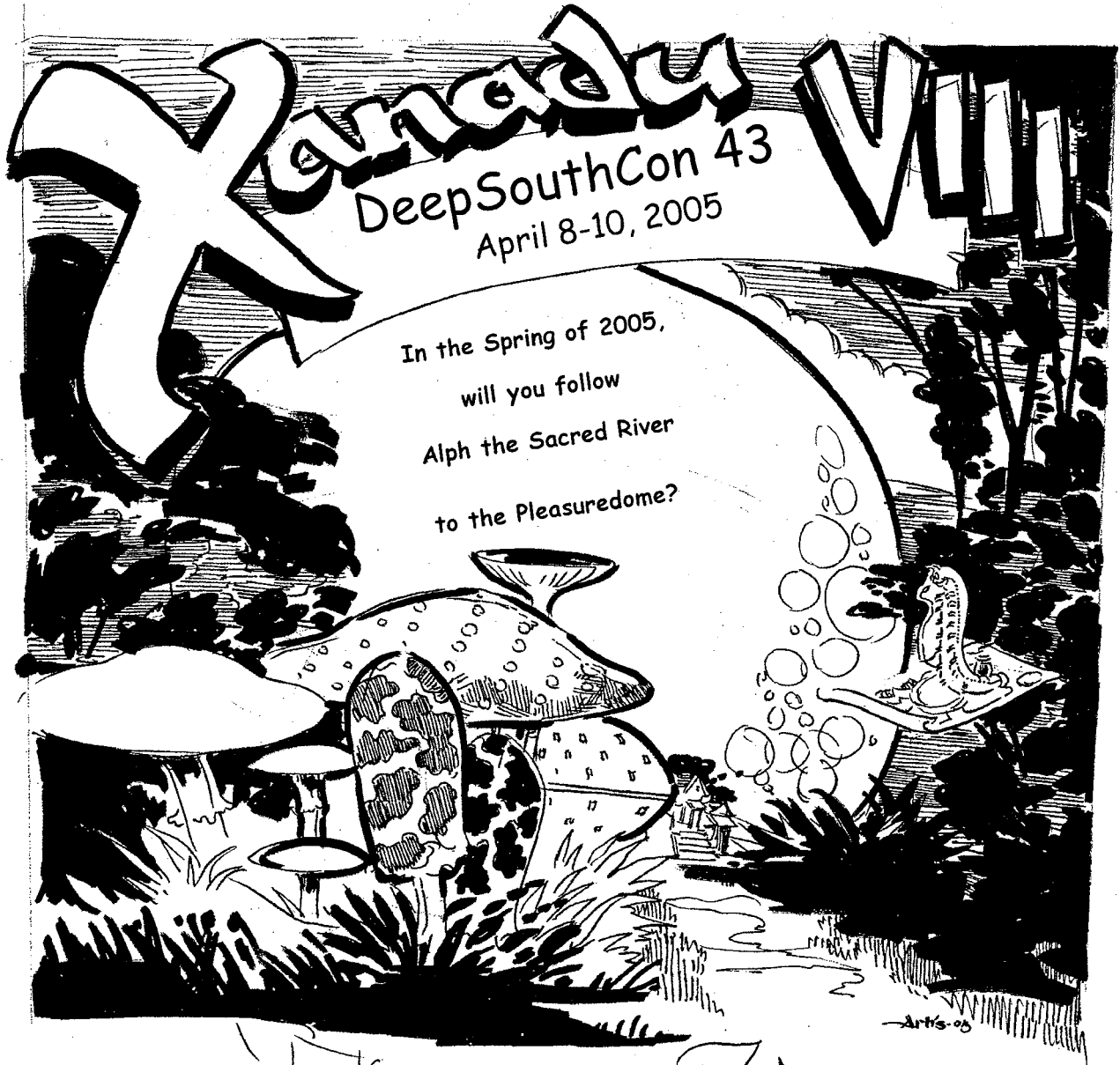
"Red herring" is the technique used in his second comment about socialism. True democracies and republics both allow people to vote, but they are not the same thing. The point is that the Nazi movement called itself socialist and practiced a socialist doctrine. Note the Nicholas does not offer any evidence or attempt at refutation, merely throws out a red herring that some fascist states do the same thing. Again, dishonest or stupid.

Nicholas' comment regarding the English Bill of Rights ends with "So what?" I find the comment interesting, since it is in reply to his comment that England has a culture that I am not allowed to comment on, whereas he is free to comment on our culture at any time.

Having seen some of his other comments and replies to various people, it is clear he falls into the class of people who seek to gain notice by braying loudly, often about things of which they have no knowledge.

Let me hasten to add that these comments are not intended as insults, merely evaluations.

{Thanks for all the help folks. Keep those LoCs, Reports, Reviews, News, Illos, etc. coming for the final issue of the year.} ☹



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