

THE SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION BULLETIN



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Policies

The *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin* Volume 8, Number 9, December 2005, 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.

The SFC web site is: www.southernfandom.com

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.

Art Credits

David Deitrick: Cover "Captain Marvel", p. 4, "She-Hulk"; Sheryl Birkhead: pp. 5, 6, 8 19

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CLEARY COMMENTS

by R. B. Cleary

Welcome to the December issue. I had hope to have an issue between this one and the May issue but things did not work out that way. I have been working with Janet Hopkins, the elected treasurer, and Judy Bemis, the former treasurer, to try to get the accounts transferred. Unfortunately, this is still not quite finished at the time of press. So until the next issue is out, please hold out sending in membership fees. Much thanks goes to Judy for continuing to help out in this department.

WEB SITE UPDATES

The *SFC Bulletin* for May 2005 is now on-line in PDF format. This issue will be up next year also. There will be an another issue before DeepSouthCon 44 in July 21-23, 2006.

CONVENTIONS

In July, I managed to finally get a room in the hotel for **LibertyCon**. Actually it was a suite but unfortunately was a smoker's suite. Oh well, beggars can't be choosers. It was nice seeing Toni and Hank Reinhardt, Julie Wall, Todd "the Tax Man", Bill and Linda Zielke and lots of other fan friends. I had a good time. The highlight was seeing Frederick Pohl in person. I got a book signed by him. He had some interesting anecdotes about his long history in the genre and other writers also. My big geek purchase was several Babylon 5 Action Figures. My most embarrassing moment was a toss up of mistaking a Tom Kidd cover for a Charles Keegan cover during Toni's Baen Slide Show (where the it was clearly labeled "by Tom Kidd") and slipping and failing spectacularly on my behind walking into the hotel hall from being outside at the pool. Maybe if I learn to play Hearts and/or Killer Cutthroat Spaces, I could take maximum advantage of the excitement at LibertyCon.



Fred Pohl at LibertyCon 2005

Dragon*Con is an awesome spectacle. I arrived on Friday of Labor Day weekend, checked into the hotel, and registered

with no difficulty. The number of people wearing costumes throughout the convention seemed to have increased exponentially. People go to be seen and to see. I roomed with a friend from work and his girlfriend. Unfortunately, even though I had "reserved" a room with two double beds, we were given a room with a single king size bed. I just made a little nest of couch and bed cushions and sleep on the floor with no problem. The view on the 42nd floor of downtown Atlanta was nice. I got lots of swag (free stuff) at an all night panel (run by www.needcoffee.com, where they showed lots off funny and/or weird video clips. I picked up an *E-Man* comic in the Dealer's room that I did not have. The art show was wonderful as usual. I helped staff the ASFA table when I could. I even ran a last minute ASFA Regional Meeting (with four people attending counting myself and the ASFA Secretary) on the last day (Monday). It was fun seeing several of the actors from the TV show, *Firefly*, and movie, *Serenity* at one panel. Jane Frank gave a nice panel on how to lose money buying art. I regret that I did not get to see some of my Atlanta fan friends.

I ran the **Con+Stellation** Art Show again. The total membership for the convention this year, which ran from October 7th to October 9th, 2005, was about 221. This art show consisted of 265 pieces (including prints but not 22 donated charity pieces) from 14 artists, displayed on 19 panels and 3 tables. The mail-in participation was from 11 artists. The print shop had 3 artists participating. There were 62 pieces sold for a total of \$1812 (not including \$438 raised for the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund). Thus, for non-charity items, the average sales price was \$29.23 per piece. The average total sales per selling artist was about \$181.20. The most sales for a single artist was \$929 and the lowest was, unfortunately for 4 artists, no sales. We had 16 pieces that went to the Saturday voice auction. The convention went well enough, except I had to do a two-hour conference call with the ASFA (Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists) board at the dead dog party. I even fought off a squirrel invasion into the art show via a hole in the ceiling. I got award a special button for it.



ASFA

I'm running unopposed for Director At Large of ASFA for 2006-2007. If elected, I should still be able to do my SFC President duties. However, if anyone would like to run for President at the next DSC, let me know.

EX-TREASURER'S REPORT

by Judy Bemis

Balance as of April 4, 2005	\$1600.88
Income	
Handbook Sales	\$5.00
Badge Sales	\$5.00
T-Shirts Sales	\$20.00
Bulletin Sales	\$1.00
Individual Dues (14)	\$210.00
Donations	\$130.00
Club Dues (NASFA)	\$75.00
DSC 2005 Total Income	\$446.00
Memberships since DSC 2005	\$15.00
Total Income	\$461.00
Expenses	
Bulletin Vol 8 #8 Printing	\$345.60
Bulletin Vol 8 #8 Mailing Costs	\$72.62
Bulk Mail Permit Renewal	\$150.00
Total Expenses	\$568.22
Balance as of November 20, 2005*	\$1493.66

{*Does not include the \$25 in the SFC cash box.}

TREASURY NOTES

by Randy B. Cleary

The new Treasurer, Janet Hopkins, has not provided an official Treasurer report. Here's the information that I know. All SFC Treasury records that Judy Bemis gave to Janet Hopkins at the DSC in April were lost the same day. (If you have any information about their location, please contact us.) I learned this in July at LibertyCon. Judy has since been kind enough to check the bank account to ensure no one has been using the lost checkbook to access the funds. At LibertyCon, I received copies of membership checks she has received. They are listed below so those members are aware of their lack of deposit. Contact Janet if you need to know the current status of your check.

Name	Check Date	Check Number	Amount
Stephen R. Fleming	June 3, 2005	2347	\$15
Patricia Rogers	July 4, 2005	3549	\$15
Joseph Schaumburger	June 20, 2005	3292	\$15
Fred & Mary Van Hartesveldt	June 25, 2005	3681	\$30

Judy was also kind enough to deposit the membership check she received and to reimburse me in September for the costs of the bulk mail permit renewal and print and mailing costs of the last issue of the *Bulletin*. Judy Bemis has since moved from North Carolina and now lives in Florida. Hopefully she will be able to close the old NC account and send the funds to Janet when Janet has the new TN account set up. Janet has started the paperwork process for opening a new account. Hopefully, it will be open by the next DSC. Please hold mailing any dues until then.



OASIS 18 CON REPORT

by Joy V. Smith

Oasis, a literary SF con, is held in Orlando, FL on Memorial Day weekend. We (my sister and I) drove to Oasis 18 Friday morning, and unloaded at the dealer's room, where we had a table this year. After I registered at the hotel, we re-parked and went to our room. Later I spread my year's accumulation of SF fanzines and other goodies on the freebies table.

We come early nowadays to get settled in and not miss anything so we usually have to wait to register. (The con staff was busy setting up at the registration table.) We checked out the con suite, which wasn't ready for the hordes yet. The art show room wasn't open, and we came across an unhappy artist wandering in the hall waiting. When I checked out the art show later, it was full of beautiful SF and fantasy art, as usual. There were possibly more nudes this year; and once I came across two young girls discussing them. One girl said that this was wrong; apparently she was worried about the children at the con seeing them.



The first panel I went to was at 3 PM – *You Could Be a Fan If...* Panelists were Ann Morris, Ed Wysocki, Judi Castro, and Dick Spelman. Roger Sims was the moderator. Audience members discussed the latest Star Wars episode while waiting for the panel to start. The panel premise: Are there certain signs that indicate you've crossed over from occasional reader to a true SF fan. Spelman mentioned going from mouse ears to Spock ears. Morris said that you're a fan if you buy a house so you have room for the SF club meeting. Wysocki said – If you have enough space for your SF collectibles; and an audience member said that it's if you put your furniture in storage to protect your books.

Fan comes from fanatic, said Morris. Someone asked about the difference between FAAN and fan. FAAN means fan fiction, someone said. With so much fan activity on the Internet, will print zines last? Someone wondered. Kids often get into gaming first; some say that gaming and movies have hurt print SF. Morris disagreed. People often come across the books later; most agreed with her.

Morris says that she has more costumes than regular clothes. Someone wondered how many fans met their spouses through fandom, and we heard stories about that. Morris gave the background of the formation of Stonehill (1979) – very interesting.

Someone jokingly asked – Was there SF before the Internet. Castro gave background on the gaming association she belonged to. When it faded, she joined the South Florida SF Assoc. She added that fandom gives balance to life. SF fans, adds Morris, accept that differences are ok.

You know you're a fan if you schedule vacations and time off around cons. BTW, you can find con schedules through *Locus*, *SFWA*, *SF Chronicle*, the *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin* and other zines, and, of course, online.

How do you start a fan club. Put up notices at Barnes & Noble, Borders, libraries. Check out book groups and find the SF fans there. Some people go to a few meetings and disappear, which is normal. Be welcoming to newbies at meetings!

Early cons (1950s) had only one track programming, and people wore suits and dresses. (Roger Sims and Dick Spelman remembered cons from 1950-1952.) There were multiple fans (10-13) in a hotel room, and there was no AC. No art show, no masquerade, no open parties, and possibly no con suite, as I recall. There were few paperbacks in the early 50s; Dell had seven. *Destination Moon* (1950) was the first SF movie, said someone, but then someone else mentioned *Metropolis*. *The Day the Earth Stood Still* was in 1951; and *War of the Worlds* was 1953.

When have you gone too far as a fan. When you go to jury duty in a Star Trek uniform. When it interferes with your life. When the actor portraying an SF character has to take out a restraining order against a fan. When you're too into a fantasy about a character. And when you can only describe the inside of a hotel as you go to cons around the world.

The next panel I went to (4 PM) was *Cover Art by Committee*. Richard Lee Byers was the moderator. Panelists were Stanley Morrison (who's been going to cons since 1992), Paul Vincenti (mainstream and Fantasy/SF art), Paula Tabor (going to cons for a year), Johnny Atomic (theme park designer, comic book artist, etc.), and Mary Hanson Roberts (illustrator for over 30 years). The artists must fill two wide panels. Audience suggestions included a volcano, bug-eyed monster, time travel, wedding, alien chapel, a princess, ... Stan Morrison started with a volcano. [In previous years the artists worked together on a panel; this year each artist works one at a time.] A little alien is added, along with other ideas; Roberts adds a cute little dinosaur with a ring pillow.

The second panel suggestions include a space ship, vampires, a vampire robot, ... Roberts begins with a space coffin! And enhances it with a vampire rodent. There is always an impressive display of off-the-cuff ideas. What do you do after

the preceding artist?! Johnny Atomic adds a mouse on a gurney with a tube and pressure gauge, and another figure. Tabor adds a lovely swirling black hole. Vincenti adds details, which include more flying coffins, background, and space bats; Morrison adds more details. Then everyone has to sign the panels. The finished artwork will be sold at the art auction. I enjoy the chance to talk to writers and artists at cons. I talked to E. Rose Sabin at her book-signing table about her books and marketing; she gave me a flyer and two Hershey miniatures wrapped in lovely labels she makes herself on the computer.

The Chthulhu chili contest was at 6 PM in the con suite. (I love chili contests!) My vote for hottest chile went to the Titusville chile; and the tastiest chili was *Not as Hot as Last Year...* [the name was actually longer than that]

At 7 PM was the Opening Ceremony. The one at Oasis does not go on forever ... Katy Droege is the special guest, a filker and the fiancée of Steven Macdonald, who's the Filker Guest of Honor; Judi Castro is the Fan Guest of Honor; Jane Lindsfold is the Author Guest of Honor; and Jim Rogers and Terry Dahl are the co-chairs of the con. [There was no Artist Guest of Honor this year.]

Announcements: The Andre Norton scholarship winner is Denver Clark. Oasis 18 is dedicated to the memory of Andre Norton (she used to come to Oasis and support it). Journey's End (animal shelter) will get the proceeds from the charity auction. Stanley Morrison did the Oasis badge art and program cover.

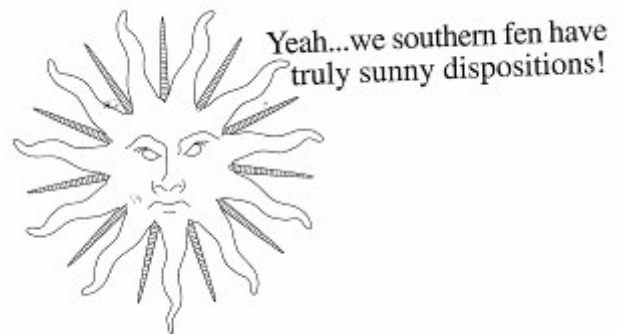
At 7:30 I listened to Steve Macdonald, the filker guest of honor. He sang, among other songs, *October Sky*; a *Harry Potter/Tommy the Pinball Wizard* combination, which was a lot of fun; a beautiful duet with Katy; a *Lord of the Rings* song from the viewpoint of the ring – "I will rule them all;" *When I Was a Boy* (always a favorite); and a song using lines from *Galaxy Quest*, the movie; another duet, *The Dark is Rising*; a space ship duet; and one with the lines – *Till the stars be won, Journey's Done*.

Alien Artifacts is one of my favorite panels. This year's panelists were Jeff Mitchell (a real rocket scientist), Johnny Atomic, Jane Lindsfold, Craig Caldwell (who wore a professional white jacket and was equipped with a magnifying glass, a laser, and plastic wrap for handling items safely), and James Moore. Ann Morris was moderator – and the Hitchhiker with a towel. She gave out the artifacts, which she had collected. The first artifact was a plastic thingie (later identified as a baby wipes container top) and was identified by the learned members of the panel as a weapon, a toilet cover, a prophetic device, and a diaphragm. The next artifact (a plastic salad shooter) was a mice sub – the Titanic (the largest of its kind). The paperweight was crystallized dinosaur snot. A metal utensil (later revealed to be a fish skinner) was a mower, ... All the objects were identified as a variety of alien items, often having something to do with excrement and sex.

Afterwards we checked out the con suite and then dunned up. The next morning, Saturday, I zipped to the Trivia Contest (9AM) room; Juan Sanmiguel was there already setting up. The audience, while waiting discussed, among other things, Peter David's blog, which is apparently very interesting. We waited a little bit for more people to show up. Juan was hoping for a tournament of champions, but not everyone showed up in time so I got a chance to be one of the pairs. [I'm always surprised more people don't come; it's fun, and you get a chance to win dealers bucks.]

The trivia contest is based on Jeopardy and you have to buzz in. Juan told an interesting story about Leo Doroschenko and a game question – What university did Indiana Jones teach at. Princeton is the answer, but Doroschenko pointed out that Princeton wasn't coed at that time- 1936. (*Raiders* takes place in 1936; *Temple of Doom* in 1935; and *Crusade* in 1938.) My partner was Perry, and thanks to him, we came in second. The winners were very good. Richard Lee Byers rocks! Categories included Anime, Andre Norton, Jane Lindsfold, ...

In between panels (periodically I checked the schedule so I wouldn't miss anything), I checked out the dealer's room, the art show, and the gaming room, which was always busy, noisy, and full of enthusiastic gamers. There were about ten tables and a table with an impressive landscape. Kevin Bressman of Reaper and the Black Lightning Demo Team spotted me looking around and came over to see if I wanted to join the fun and explained things to me. The table with the volcano and dragon on top of it is a demo game for Warlord, a new game. I can see that that would make learning the game really interesting. There was also a Paint-and-Take table where you choose and paint Reaper mini figures and get to keep them.



The next panel I went to was the Slush Pile panel. I had to wait for the Crunchy Characters panel to finish; they were discussing evil. That panel, which included horror writer Owl Goingback, discussed how to hurt your characters in inventive ways. [I am not a horror fan or writer, which is why I skipped that one; plus there are so many other things to do.]

The Slush Pile panelists were Jack McDevitt and Maggie Hogarth; William Hatfield was the moderator. [Apparently one panelist didn't show, which happens for a variety of

reasons.] McDevitt, Hogarth, and Hatfield recounted their publishing backgrounds and a lost ms story. Unsolicited mss go into the slush pile and wait to be read by assistants. Mss going to a specific editor have a better chance. A typical wait is six months, possibly six to twelve months. Writers have to persevere and write a good story. Editors look for a reason to reject a story [because they get so many mss], such as single-spaced, printed on both sides, stapled – things that make a ms hard to read. And you need to find out the publishers' GLs! McDevitt suggests that a SF writer should not start out with a novel. Start with *Asimov's*, *Analog*, ... not a fanzine where you might only get paid with two copies.

Hogarth and McDevitt say – You don' t need an agent. (Also, some agents can' t be trusted.) McDevitt says– Not until you have a contract. Sell the first story and you know you can do it. (A lot of writers never write a second story.) Hogarth doesn' t like writing or reading short fiction; but it helped her. It gets your name out there. She told how after Tor gave her a provisional yes, she got an agent who had rejected her seven years ago. McDevitt advises – Send mss to only one publisher at a time.

Rejection reasons: Too over written – too many words with too little to say. Hemingway said – Get rid of adjectives and adverbs; let nouns and verbs carry the cargo. McDevitt had to shorten a story from 7,000 words to 3,800 words, including a favorite scene, but it worked better shorter. Hatfield says – Start at the top – Playboy, for instance. If they reject you, you get a neat card. Hatfield doesn' t like writing a synopsis, but Hogarth loves it. McDevitt wrote a synopsis for an editor on a napkin.

Pitch length is two sentences; then comes the synopsis; then the novel. Have a good first paragraph. McDevitt – Hit the ground running. Start close to the climax. Fill in later. Hatfield – Don' t be liar. McDevitt – Use a prologue with excitement. Hatfield – His book first started with four chapters about his characters; but then he started with a prologue with the aliens who are going to steal the ship, contents, and crew.

Audience question: Can an older writer be or continue to be creative. McDevitt – Be passionate. (He started later as a writer.) Hatfield – He wrote a novel early on and reread it recently. It' s awful. McDevitt– Some writers have too many characters, like fifteen in the first chapter. Make it easy for the reader! In *Moonfall*, there are six days to make a decision about what to do ... In *24* (TV series), they had two hours to locate a launched missile and destroy it.

Audience question: How long should a novel be. Publishers prefer about 90,000. A short story is about 5,000 or 6,000 words. Hogarth suggests trying *Flash Fiction*. Question: How do you manage your time? Hogarth – Don' t clean the house. You have to be disciplined. Set an objective; write a scene.

After the panel, I had some snacks in the con suite, roamed the halls, visited with people, and asked questions, such as What is the difference between a comic and a graphic novel. Answer (from Mike, as I recall) a graphic novel is a self-contained

story. And checked out the art show again and voted. Ah, there is some furry art there now. (Mary Hanson-Roberts.) I refrained from voting for Legolas. My eye was also caught by Maggie Wang' s *Myrael* – good color and balance. (I' m not usually grabbed by the yin and yang theme.) I liked *I'm Gonna Lick Your Nose* (furry art). And I enjoyed Sandra Santara' s animal art. Also *Cave Sweet Cave* with a dragon with its hoard, including Anne McCaffrey books, and a teddy bear, by Charlene Taylor-D' Alessio.

There were fun cartoons by Mike Cole. I especially loved Stargate LM (toilet/Stargate/parts from eBay) and *Run, Forest, Run* (hobbits riding the Ents). One of my favorite SF pieces was *My Next Job* by Brett Bas. Some other favorite fantasy art included *Birds of a Feather* (dragon on branch with birds) by Deborah Woods, also *Fairy Hut*.

The charity auction began at 4 PM after the winners of the Cthulhu Chili Challenge were announced. Fen Choice was Larry Wolfe' s *Not So Hot As Last Year's Chili...*; and Cthulhu' s Choice (hottest) was Mike Warrensford' *Titusville Whoop-Ass Chili*. Jeff Breslauer was the auctioneer; he alternated with Byers, and everyone pitched in as runners and whatever was needed as the con members were dragged off to other duties. There were a lot of good buys on books (good prices on hard covers; some were autographed) and art. Other items included tickets to *Necromicon*, tee shirts, collectibles, games, fancy ties, and more! The one thing I really wanted was the set of *Witches of Karres* by James H. Schmitz and *Wizard of Karres*, the sequel, by Eric Flint, et al, but it went too high.

After the auction – lots left over; people got to browse and make offers – I went to the con suite. I missed the barbeque (delicious last year and I was looking forward to it), but I enjoyed the cheese fondue and snacks. Then I checked out the video room; I hoped to watch a little bit of a Jon Pertwee *Dr. Who* episode, but I didn' t want to miss the masquerade so I didn' t stay long. Art show winners were announced before the masquerade began:

Fantasy Art Awards:

- 3rd Place: *Reflection of the Shire* by John Kaufmann
- 2nd Place: *Gates of Atlantis* by Stanley Morrison
- 1st Place: *Rhythms on the Wind* by Paul Vincenti

Science Fiction Art Awards:

- 3rd Place: *First Pass* by Ralph Ryan
- 2nd Place: *Galactic Paradise* by John Kaufmann
- 1st Place: *Rainbow Bay* by John Kaufmann

Best of Show: *Spring* by Paul Vincenti (the paint was still wet on this one!)

Then the Andre Norton scholarship winner was introduced – Denver Clark. Announcement: Terry Dahl is resigning as co-chair of the con and will run the art show next year. The new chairperson is Peter Popovich.

Masquerade contestants included *Celtic Fantasy* (in mail); Ann Morris as Mary Reynolds from *Serenity*; *Spidery Wizard* (little girl); Darth Maul with light saber and a fun performance; *Space Patrol* member; *Punisher of Oz*; Dalia Winters; *Demon Spawn*; and the *Tooth Fairy*. After that, Steve MacDonald played and sang, including a fun sing along, until the judges made their decision. The kids got tee shirts and ribbons in their category; Ann Morris took third; second was the *Punisher of Oz*, who entertained us with *Ding, Dong, the Witch is Dead* and a malevolent hand. First was the *Tooth Fairy*. (You had to see her and her costume to appreciate how well-deserved that was.) They got tees, Cthulhus, and memberships for Oasis 19.

Back at the video room, I caught the end of *Scary Stories for Kids* and got to meet Vincent Courtney, the producer, writer, director, host, and caterer. (Cons are full of fun opportunities!) After that were a number of anime music videos provided by Juan Sanmiguel, the anime video consultant. The program started with a history of anime to *We Didn't Start the Fire* by Billy Joel. Lengthy credit list! Music and anime included Sarah Brightman's song *Only An Ocean Away for the Transcending Love* video; the footage used was *Cowboy Bebop*, *City Hunter* and *Macross*; the Beatles (*Help*) for *Love Hina*; the *Reading Rainbow* theme (The footage used for the cover of the *Reading Rainbow* theme was *Read or Die*); the song used in the *Spirited Away* video was Duran Duran's *Ordinary World*; *Secret Agent Man* (a favorite video; the footage was *Excel Saga*); *Hawaii 5-0* for *Orange Road* (very good; another award winner); *The Cat Returns* (2002; *The Cat Returns* video song was a remix of the *Never-ending Story* theme song.); ... Lots of fun, and I saw excerpts of anime I'd love to see.

I had planned to watch *Bubba Ho-Tep* at midnight in the video room; but I went to the *Dr. Who* room party earlier and watched three episodes of the new *Dr. Who*, which I really enjoyed, instead. I like this doctor and Rose, his companion. Her mother and friend add a lot to the episodes. I picked up a lot of *Dr. Who* background, a *Dr. Who* sticker ("Don't Drink and Time Travel"), and some delicious merangue cookies. (Nice spread, plus collectibles to buy; I got *Harry Potter* valentines.)



Sunday I started off with a visit to the con suite and then pre-registered for next year and hauled our luggage to the car. (Quite a trek as the garage elevator was out of order, but after a weekend of lounging, eating, and drinking, I needed the exercise. I've never been on a cruise ship, but I think it might be a little like this except you'd get a lot more exercise.)

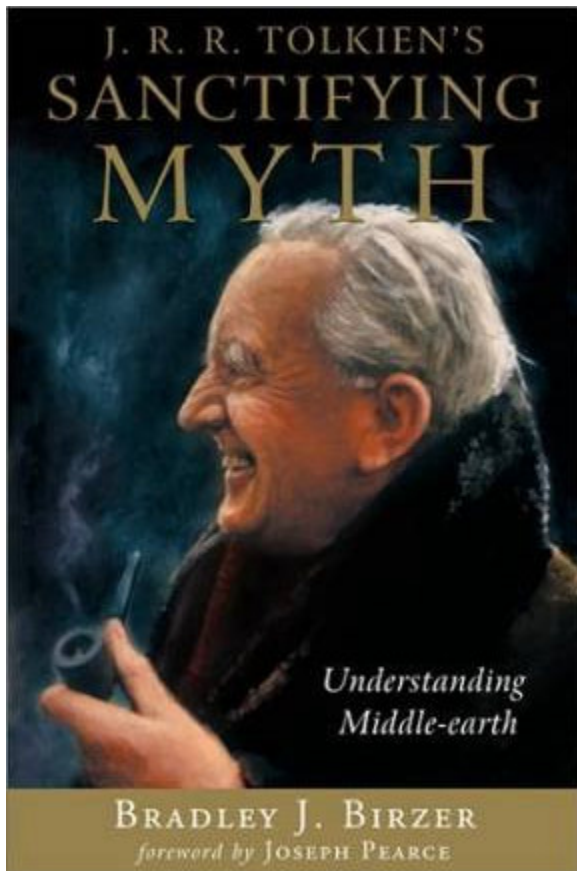
The first panel (at 10 AM) was *Time Travel* with William Hatfield, Glenda Finkelstein, Richard Lee Byers, Craig Caldwell, and Arthur Dykeman (moderator). A number of time travel tales (books and movies) were recommended, including: *October First is Too Late*, *Ground Hog Day*, *Lest Darkness Fall*, *Back Step*, *Price Upon a Time*, *Final Countdown*, *Try and Change the Past*, ... Time travel and parallel world premises were discussed.

After that panel, I checked out, stopped by the con suite, and then went to a 12-noon panel – *Surviving the Writing Life* with Andrew Fox (moderator), Jack McDevitt, Jane Lindskold, Adam Troy-Castro, and Bassett. Lots more interesting writing background and advice. (It took McDevitt 25 years to realize that he didn't have to compete with Charles Dickens.) They discussed mentors; McDevitt said that his were the writers he read, such as Bradbury. Castro mentioned writers he'd read and Harlan Ellison, who is nice and helpful to new writers ... Fox mentioned that Anne McCaffrey was personally encouraging also, as was George Effinger. (He took his workshop.) Lindskold came across an *Amber – Write Your Own Adventure* book, and she wrote Roger Zelazny, and he wrote back, and they corresponded; and later she wrote a biography of Zelazny, using his letters to her, with his permission, for the Twain American Author Series. After her first story sale, he sent her a tax organizer; and when he was dying, he contacted his agent and others and told them that he wanted her to finish *Donnerjack* and *Lord Demon*. [I picked up a copy of *Lord Demon* in the dealers' room, BTW, because Zelazny's *Lord of Light* is one of my favorite books; and she autographed it for me at her book signing.]

There was great writing advice shared here, but too much for a con report. You might check out Jack McDevitt's website. There were a lot more panels, of course, but with two tracks, relieving my sister in the dealers' room, etc., there's no way to do it all. (We decided that next year we wouldn't have a table in the dealers' room so we could focus on having fun.) So, next year I won't miss the art auction and she won't miss the charity auction, the videos and panels, etc. There are book readings and signings also, plus fun to be had visiting in the hall, the con suite, and the room parties, plus intriguing other hotel guests...

BOOK REVIEWS

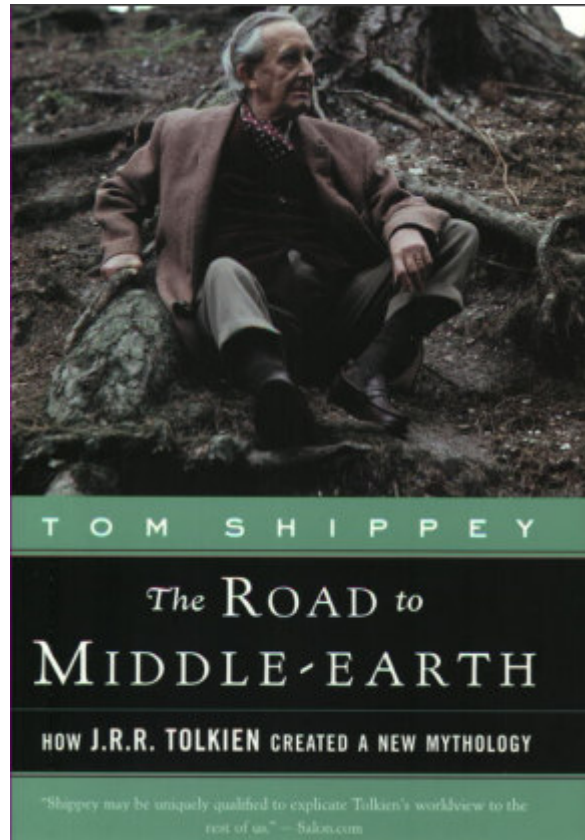
by E.B. Frohvet



J.R.R. Tolkien's Sanctifying Myth (Understanding Middle-earth) by Dr. Bradley J. Birzer, 2003 ISI Books \$24.95 hardcover

Dr. Birzer, it says here, is a professor of history at Hillsdale College. I suppose "ISI" to be an academic press; the material here is clearly a scholar's paper. (The text itself only 138 pages, the rest footnotes, bibliography, and index.) The thrust of the article is to explicate Tolkien's writing as specifically Christian metaphor. This will not come as much surprise even to anyone reasonably familiar with Tolkien. Birzer makes the point rather bluntly: "Sam plays the character of St. John the Evangelist to Frodo's Jesus." Evens metaphor, that seems a little much. Yet it demonstrates one failing of the scholarly approach: If indeed Birzer wants the reader to understand Tolkien and *Lord of the Rings*, he wishes you to understand it ONLY as Christian metaphor. Appreciating it as story is peripheral to his purpose. If the author grasps one level of Tolkien's accomplishment more clearly than the average reader, Dr. Birzer's narrowness of vision ("specificity of focus", he would probably say) prevents him from appreciating other levels.

This book is a worthy accomplishment of its sort, but may not have much to offer the non-academic reader not seriously concerned with Tolkien's theological imputations.



The Road to Middle-earth (How J.R.R. Tolkien created a new mythology) by Dr. Tom Shippey, 2003 Houghton Mifflin \$13.00 trade paperback

This is likewise not a book for the casual fan of the films, or even for a serious reader of the tales. This is a scholarly paper; its focus is separate from, but very nearly as narrow as, the Birzer book. Even more so than in Dr. Shippey's *J.R.R. Tolkien: Author of the Century*, this book attempts to analyze *The Hobbit* and *LOTR* as exercises in philology. To anyone who is not a detailed student of, particularly, northern European languages of the last 2000 years, it will be heavy going. There is much less effort here to access the literary aspects of *LOTR*; and moral and aesthetic considerations factor into it only as they affect the philological side. "The effect of languages in Tolkien's world, as might be expected, is as great as those of maps or of myths. As might also be expected, Tolkien used them in an extremely peculiar, idiosyncratic, and daring way." Or as Dr. Shippey sums up in an atypically succinct moment, "Maps, names and languages came before plot." We knew that already, but the point of Road, as the subtitle says, is to explain exactly how that's the case.

The author does make an interesting point in comparing the corrupting effect of the One Ring to heroin addiction: the more you use it, the firmer the vile grip it exerts. Sam, who handled the Ring but used it only a little, and Faramir who did not touch it at all, escaped its threat relatively easily. Frodo, who used it more and was sucked deeper into its power, could never be wholly healed; or at least not in this world.

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. 4., #'s 3-4, published by Lisa and Joseph Major, 1409 Christy Avenue, Louisville, KY 40204-2040. Book, magazine, candy, horse race, and movie reviews and letters. Joe reports on Xanadu/DeepSouthCon in #3, and Trinlay Khadro reports on Wiscon in #4. This zine was 15th in the Hugo nomination voting.

CAR-PGa Newsletter, Vol. 14, #'s 6-10, 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. Carsten Obst discusses the relationship between gaming and the German military, and Ted Skirvin reports on TechwoodCon in #8.

Con-Temporal, Vol. 12, #'s 5-9, 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.

Feline Mewsings, #'s 20-21, 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.) Besides book, movie, and play reviews, Laurraine reports on Corflu in #20.

Future Times, Volume 8, #'s 5-10, newsletter of The Atlanta Science Fiction Society, PO Box 98308, Atlanta, GA 30359-2008. Edited by Mark Woolsey. Available for \$12 annually. Club and SF news, a listing of Atlanta are a clubs, stories, and reviews. #8 reprints the Associates Press obituary for James Doohan

Instant Message, # 752-759, newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Association, PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701-0809. Edited by Rick Katze. Club and Boskone news.

Lofgeornost, #'s 79 & 80, 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 describes the process of re-cataloging a Jewish library in #79 and discusses science fiction in the classroom in #80.

The National Fantasy Fan, Vol. 5, No's. 2-3, published by Craig Boyd, PO Box 7488, Little Rock, AR 7217-7488. 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. Jeff Redmond eulogizes Andre Norton in #2.

NASFA Shuttle, Vol. 25, #'s 5-10, 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. Grant Kruger and Sam Smith report on Interaction in #8, Mike on NASFiC in #9, and David Robinson on Dragoncon in #10.

Nice Distinctions, #'s 9 & 10, published by Arthur Hlavaty, 206 Valentine Street, Yonkers, NY 10704-1814. Available for \$1 per issue. Arthur reviews books and makes comments about the world. Arthur eulogizes Jack Chalker in #9 and reports on the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts in #10.

Plokta, #'s 32-33 1/3, published by Steve Davies, 52 Westbourne Terrace, Reading, Berks RG30 2RP; Alison Scott, 24 St. Mary Road, Walthamstow, London E17 9RG; and Mike Scott, 13 Collette Court, Eleanor Close, London SE16 6PW, United Kingdom. This year's Hugo Award winner. Both issues contain several humorous articles, but the standout was the one in which John Berry relates his experiences as a 15 year old RAF cadet.

Opuntia, #'s 56.1, 56.3, 57, 57.3, & 58, published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Letters, book reviews, essays, and zine reviews. Dale reports on Westercon in #58.

Steam Engine Time, #4, edited and published by Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard Street, Greensboro VIC 3088, Australia and Janine Stinson, PO Box 248, Eastlake, MI 49626-0248. Available for \$30 for 5 issues. Book reviews, articles, and letters. Darrell Schweitzer discusses funerals, Gregory Benford reports on a meeting with Stephen Hawking, and Andrew Butler and Paul Brazier survey recent British SF

Vanamonde, #'s 583-607, 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. They all have John's mailing comments to other members of the apa. John eulogizes George Flynn in #590. #'s 587, 592, 597, 602, 605, & 607 have comments from people outside the apa.

Visions of Paradise, # 103, published by Robert Sabella, 24 Cedar Manor Court, Budd Lake, NJ 07828-1023. Book reviews, articles, and Robert's diaries for December through May.

Electronic Zines

ANIME SACRAMENTO NEWSLETTER, edited by Laurine White, lvbwhite@concourse.net. (Plain text format.) Club and anime news.

THE DISTRICT MESSENGER, newsletter of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, edited by Roger Johnson, rogerjohnson@yahoo.co.uk. (Microsoft Word format.) Sherlock Holmes news.

IMPLICATIONS, published by Joyce Katz, joyceworley1@cox.net, John Hardin,

fractal_zero@yahoo.com, and Arnie Katz, crossfire@cox.net. (PDF format.) Articles, fan fiction (stories about real or fiction fans), and letters about fanzine and Las Vegas fans.

NASHVILLE SF CLUB NEWSLETTER, edited by Reece Morehead, reecejb2001@yahoo.com. (Plain text format.) Club, fanish, and SF news

THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY, published by Tim "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo, tbolgeo@att.net. Jokes and fanish news, especially Libertycon. For years, this e-zine has been in straight text format, but recently he has switched to PDF, which requires Adobe Acrobat Reader.

VEGAS FANDOM WEEKLY, published by Arnie Katz, crossfire4@cox.net. (PDF format.) Las Vegas Fanish news, letters, and fanhistorical by rich brown and others.

THE VSFA VALLEY VOYAGER, newsletter of the Vegas Valley Science Fiction Association, edited by Ruth Davidson, rcmailgroups@gmail.com. (PDF format.) Club and Las Vegas news, reviews, and letters.

3 PIPE PROBLEM PLUGS AND DOTTLES, Newsletter of The Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem. Edited by Kay Blocker, pkblocker@comcast.com and Dean Richardson, tarzanrich@comcast.net. (Microsoft Word format.) Sherlock Holmes and club news.

THE VIEW FROM ENTROPY HALL, from EdMeskys, edmeskys@localnet.com. Book reviews and letters.

WOSSNAME, Newsletter of the Klatchian Foreign Legion. Published by Joseph Schaumburger, JSCHAUM111@aol.com. Terry Pratchett and Discworld news. **THE ZINE DUMP**, published by Guy Lillian, ghliii@yahoo.com. Guy's zine reviews.

Web Sites

Atlanta Science Fiction Society at www.asfa.org. Web site of the Atlanta club.

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

Challenger at www.challzine.net. On-line version of Guy Lillian's fanzine, which finished fifth in the Hugo Award voting for best fanzine.

Sherlock Peoria at <http://www.sherlockpeoria.net/>, published by Brad Keefauver. Sherlock Holmes news.

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-winning fanzine as well as her web log. The site finished third in the final Hugo Award voting and the zine second.

Kajikit's Corner at <http://www.kajikitscorner.com/>. Karen Johnston's personal web site.

Nashville Scholars Of The Three Pipe Problem at <http://www.nashvillescholars.net>, published by Jim Hawkins. Sherlock Holmes and club news.

Sci-Fi Dimensions at <http://www.scifidimensions.com>, published by John C. Snider. Interviews, reviews, articles, and fiction.

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

Vegas Science Fiction Association at www.vsfa.us. Web-site of a Las Vegas club.

VideoVista at www.videovista.net. Video Reviews.

Web Logs

Arthur Hlavaty at <http://www.livejournal.com/users/supergee/>

{Also received: Argentus, Ethel the Aardvark, Fanzine Fanatique, The Knarley Knews, and Living Free.}

TEN SIGNS THAT YOU ARE IN FACT A GERRY ANDERSON (SPACE:1999/THUNDERBIRDS/UFO)

CHARACTER

by David R. Deitrick

1. You have an alliterative name.
2. Your girlfriend has no last name.
3. You get into your ride via tube, slide or some means other than just walking up, opening a door and getting in.
4. The swirling colored rings of a bowl of Fruit Loops® cause you to nervously shake so hard that you lose your hat.
5. Your place of work spins on its foundation, flies in the air or sinks into the ground at the slightest provocation.
6. No one sees you actually go through a doorway.
7. Much of your daily routine involves timers, clocks or other ways of counting down time.
8. You have a speech impediment that compels you to spell out the answers to simple questions, as in "Y -E-S", "S -I-G" or "F -A-B".
9. Nervous sweat on your forehead looks like condensation on a Slushee® cup.
10. Your head is too big for your body. If your head is in proper proportion to your body your legs can't move.

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@comcast.net), ASFS Yahoo! Group, groups.yahoo.com/group/ASFS, Southern Fandom Classic Yahoo! Group groups.yahoo.com/group/SouthernFandomClassic and the like. Keep the news of interest to Southern Fandom flowing folks.}

FANNISH FIFTY

Jerry and Charlotte Proctor (Rebel Award Winner) celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with an afternoon of food, fun, and reminiscence, Sunday, June 5th, 2005 in their home in Birmingham, Alabama.

ASFA SF CONTEST WINNERS

Jan Sides, announced, Sunday, June 5th, 2005 that the Atlanta Science Fiction Society's Fourth Annual Science Fiction Contest for Grades 9 through 12 winners are:

In the Essay Category:

- 1st Place - *Europa* by Alex Henke, 10th grade, age 16, from Northview High School
- 2nd Place - *MCE* by Heather Miller, 10th grade, age 15, from Dacula High School
- 3rd Place - *What Will Atlanta Be Like in One Hundred Years?* by Jaclyn Norton

In the Poetry Category:

- 1st Place - *Radio Controlled Butterflies* by Dani Herd, 10th grade, age 15, from Dacula High
- 2nd Place - *A Changing Wind* by Tiffany John-Lewis, 10th grade, age 15, from Dacula High
- 3rd Place - *The Anarchist Rebellion of 2192* by Adriana Thomas, 11th grade, age 16, from North Cobb High School

In the Short Story Category:

- 1st Place - *Ernie* by Cole Landfried, 10th grade, age 15, from Dacula High School
- 2nd Place - *A Day in the Life: Atlanta in the Future* by Alex Henke, 10th grade, age 16, from Northview High School
- 3rd Place - *The Worlds War* by Aiki Griffin, 10th grade, age 15, from Dacula High School

The winning entries are posted at www.asfs.org.

NASHVILLE SF CLUB MAILING LIST

If you want to be on the Nashville SF Club mailing list, e-mail skywise@bellsouth.net. The newsletter is also available at the newsgroups for the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction and Fantasy List, the Memphis Science Fiction Association, and the Knoxville Speculative Fiction Association:

groups.yahoo.com/group/MidTennSFF/

groups.yahoo.com/group/MemphisSF/
groups.yahoo.com/group/kasfa/

HEINLEIN CENTENNIAL

The Robert A. Heinlein Centennial Convention, set for July 2007 in Kansas City, Missouri to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of American author Robert A. Heinlein is looking for anyone interested in helping to make a reality the celebration of the centennial of the birth of one of America's great writers. There are positions to fill in almost all areas of the convention. Go to www.heinleincentennial.com/maillist.html to sign up for their mailing list and let them know your interest in volunteering. Download Posters to display or give out at your events and conventions.

DEATH OF A BELOVED BROTHER

Artist Debbie Hughes' brother, Donald, was killed by a hit and run driver, Thursday, June 9th, in the morning while riding a bike back from a store in Lawrenceville, GA. At the funeral, there was a Catholic mass. Debbie gave the eulogy for him graveside.

DEATH OF A COSTUMING LEGEND

Robert A. Rosenberg informs that Bobby Gear, Baltimore area SF fan, costumer & Mrs. Marty Gear, died in June 2005 of complications of pancreatic cancer. She was 63. She was a member and past treasurer of the Baltimore Science Fiction Society, she helped run Balticon. She was a founding member of the Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumers' Guild. She helped run masquerade events at science fiction conventions, including Bucconeer, the 56th annual World Science Fiction, in 1998. In addition to her husband, survivors include two sons, Daniel Melville Gear of Monroe, VA, and John Martin Gear of Lansing, Michigan; a brother, Noll Butcher of Columbus, Ohio; and five grandchildren.

END OF MYRIAD

Daniel Taylor, the long time OE of *Myriad* has announced the July issue of *Myriad* (#235) was the last. *Myriad* was founded in 1967 by Louisiana fan Stven Carlberg and in its time was rivaled only by the *Southern Fandom Press Alliance (SFPA)* as the focal point of Southern Fandom. Many of the most active Southern fans of the past 4 decades were members at one time or another, including many of those responsible for the successful 1986 Worldcon bid and subsequent convention.

SF AUTHOR CHRIS BUNCH DIED

Chris Bunch, 61, author and coauthor of several works of fantasy science fiction, died July 4 in Ilwaco, Washington, of a lung ailment.

2005 HUGO WINNERS

INTERACTION, THE 63rd WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION (www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk) announced Sunday 7 August 2005 the winners of 2005 Hugo Awards.

- Best Novel: *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell* by Susanna Clarke
- Best Novella: *The Concrete Jungle* by Charles Stross
- Best Novelette: *The Faery Handbag* by Kelly Link
- Best Short Story: *Travels with My Cats* by Mike Resnick
- Best Related Book: *The Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction* Edited by Edward James and Farah Mendlesohn
- Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form: *The Incredibles* Written & Directed by Brad Bird
- Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form: *33 - Battlestar Galactica* Written by Ronald D. Moore and Directed by Michael Rymer
- Best Professional Editor: Ellen Datlow
- Best Professional Artist: Jim Burns
- Best Semiprozine: *Ansible* Edited by David Langford
- Best Fanzine: *Plokta* Edited by Alison Scott, Steve Davies and Mike Scott
- Best Fan Writer: David Langford
- Best Fan Artist: Sue Mason
- Best Web Site: *SciFiction* (www.scifi.com/scifiction) Edited by Ellen Datlow. Craig Engler, general manager
- John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer (not a Hugo Award): Elizabeth Bear
- Special Interaction Committee Award (not a Hugo Award): David Pringle

DJ GARY POOLE

Kelly Lockhart has a new job disc jockey for Brewer Broadcasting's Alive 95 in Cleveland, Tennessee (thirty minutes northeast of Chattanooga). The station is a "Hot AC" format, which is basically modern Top 40 without any heavy rap or hard rock. He will also be working with the Brewers on a variety of web development projects and other Internet initiatives company-wide.

BRUNSGAARD AND BARNES WED

Atlanta fans Anne Brunsgaard (past president of ASFS) and James Barnes got married on September 9th, 2005.

ST. LOUIS HOSTING NASFiC

The 2007 North American Science Fiction Convention will be held in Collinsville, Ill., a suburb of St. Louis, on Aug. 2-5, 2007, according to a report on the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America Web site. The site was selected by ballot at this year's NASFiC in Seattle. NASFiCs held only on years when the World Science Fiction Convention is held outside North America; the 2007 WorldCon will be

held in Yokohama, Japan. Guests of honor at the 2007 NASFiC (which will also be known as Archon 31) will include Barbara Hambly, Darryl K. Sweet, Mira Furlan, Nancy Hathaway, Roger Tener and Vic Milán.

OPERATION MAIL DROP KATRINA RELIEF

Debbora Wiles has been coordinating donations to help members of fandom affected by hurricane Katrina. Check out the web site at:

www.IntegrityTech.com/operation_mail_drop.htm.

Debbora also announced the *Writers for Relief Anthology* currently available at Amazon.com. Edited and compiled by Davey Beauchamp, it features more than 17 short stories and novelettes from some of the finest and most talented writers of our time. All proceeds from this book will go directly to charity for Katrina survivors. Here is a direct link to the book:

www.amazon.com/gp/product/1411656822/qid=1133361673/sr=11-1/ref=sr_11_1/104-8512489-0396706?n=283155

IRV KOCH RIP

Irvin Koch passed away Saturday November 19, 2005 of an apparent heart attack. His wife, Kay Pinckney, said that he died peacefully while taking a nap. Irv was 58 years old. The burial was Tuesday, November 22 in Jackson, GA. Irv Koch help start many southern conventions (Chattacon, DeepSouthCon, GaFilk, etc.) and fannish organizations since the 1970's and was active in current fandom. He is survived by wife, Kay Pinckney of Lithonia, and father and mother-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Pinckney of Jackson, GA.

JANICE GELB MARRIAGE AND MOVE

Janice Gelb is marrying Australian fan Stephen Boucher. She now has a new address in Australia. This will make her the southern most member of the *Southern Fandom Amateur Press Alliance*.

KERRY GILLEY RECOVERING

Fan and convention dealer, Kerry Gilley came down with a kidney infection before Thanksgiving and went into a diabetic coma. He is out of the hospital but has a long road to recovery. It is hoped that his eyesight and lung function will mostly recover. Needless to say his activities are pretty restricted right now; he's unable to drive, much less set up and run a dealers table.

GEORGIA ANIME SITE

A new site has gone up for Georgia Anime. It's a listing for anime events, fan clubs, and links for people in the state of Georgia. They are also hosting Free Manga Day 2006. For more info, please see www.georgiaanime.com.

SOUTHERN CONVENTION LISTINGS

Listings of upcoming conventions are not exhaustive but are accurate as possible with no guarantees. Use contact information to verify and obtain further information (such as the hotel address, etc.). 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/.

December 2005

- 30-January 1, 2006: **Galactic ConQuest** (\$5), Athens, GA;
www.galacticconquest.org; kyle@galacticquest.com
30-January 2, 2006: **HunnyCon** (\$35), Tallahassee, FL;
www.warhorn.net/hunnycon2005; dintaur@yahoo.com

January 2006

- 6-7: **ShadowCon X** (\$30), Memphis, TN;
www.shadowcon.org; KaneILissa@aol.com; 5310
Hungerford, Memphis TN 38118
6-8: **GaFilk** (\$50), Atlanta, GA; www.gafilk.org;
conchair@gafilk.org; P.O. Box 702, Alpharetta, GA
30009-0702
7: **Brunswick Games Day** (Free), Brunswick, MD;
www.fantasymaps.com/gaming/brunswick.html;
karl_musser@yahoo.com; 24 Gum Spring Rd,
Brunswick, MD 21716; 240-462-3029
13-15: **MAGfest** (\$35), Charlottesville, VA;
www.magfest.org; tgz@orotech.net;
13-15: **Rail Gaming Challenge** (\$30), Chattanooga, TN;
home.chattanooga.net/~derrick/gaming.htm;
derrick@chattanooga.net
15: **Comic Book and Card Show** (\$3), Tyson' s Corner, VA;
www.shoffpromotions.com; pnshoff@aol.com; 5904
Willow Knoll Dr; Derwood, MD 20855; 301-990-4929
20-22: **Chattacon 31** (\$50), Chattanooga, TN;
www.chattacon.org; info@chattacon.org; PO Box
23908, Chattanooga, TN 37422-3908
20-22: **MarsCon** (\$30), Williamsburg, VA;
www.marscon.net; info@marscon.net; 4618 Olde Stone
Way, Chesapeake, VA 23321
27-29: **FL Extravaganza FX 2006** (\$40), Orlando, FL;
www.fxshow.com/scifi.htm; tickets@fxshow.com; FX
2006 Tickets; PO Box 300546, Fern Park, FL 32730-
0546; 407-788-7469
27-29: **Ushicon** (\$30), Austin, TX; www.ushicon.com;
info@ushicon.com; PO Box 150514, Austin, TX 78715-
0514
27-29: **WAM** (\$40), Hunt Valley, MD;
www.boardgamers.org/specific/wam06ann.htm; 1541
Redfield Rd, Bel Air, MD 21015

February

- 17-19: **Visioncon** (\$30), Springfield, MO;
www.visioncon.net/Welcome.htm;

junior@visioncon.net; PO Box 1415, Springfield, MO
65801-1415; 417-886-7219

- 17-19: **Furry Weekend Atlanta** (\$40), Atlanta, GA;
www.furryweekend.com;
furryweekend@furryweekend.com; 1361 Fairbanks St,
Atlanta, GA 30310;
17-19: **Stellarcon 30** (\$35), High Point, NC;
www.stellarcon.org; stellarcon@yahoo.com;
Stellarcon/SF3, Box 1-1, Elliott University Center,
UNCG Greensboro, NC 27412
17-19: **Farpoint** (\$50), Hunt Valley, MD;
www.bcpl.net/~wilsonr; trekcontact@comcast.net;
11708 Troy Ct, Waldorf, MD 20601
17-19: **Katsucon 12** (\$50), Washington, DC;
www.katsucon.org; chair@katsucon.org; PO Box 7064,
Silver Spring, MD 20907-7064
17-19: **Techwood Con** (\$25), Atlanta, GA;
www.techwoodcon.com;
webmaster@techwoodcon.com
22-26: **Prezcon Winter Nationals** (\$60), Charlottesville,
VA; www.prezcon.com;
justin.thompson@prezcon.com; PO Box 4661,
Charlottesville, VA 22905; 434-961-6953
23-26: **Winter Fantasy** (\$6/event), Arlington, VA
24-26: **ConDFW** (\$25), Richardson, TX; www.condfw.org;
info@condfw.org; 217 Tulane Dr, Richardson, TX
75081
24-26: **SheVaCon 14** (\$30), Roanoke, VA;
www.shevacon.org; Chairman@shevacon.org; PO Box
416 Verona, VA 24482-0416
24-26: **MegaCon** (\$48), Orlando, FL;
www.megaconvention.com;
info@megaconvention.com; PO Box 1097, Safety
Harbor, FL 34695; 727-796-5725
- ### March
- 3-5: **Starfleet Region 2 Summit** (\$25), Birmingham, AL;
www.treknoid.com/summit; PDMohney@aol.com
10-12: **Madicon** (\$15), Harrisonburg, VA;
www.madicon.org; contact.madicon@gmail.com; 760A
Collicello St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
12-19: **Gulf Wars 15** (\$Varies), Lumberton, MS;
www.gulfwars.org; Autocrat@gulfwars.org; 316 44th
Street, Gulfport, MS 39507; 228-871-5735
15-19: **IAFA 27** (\$135), Fort Lauderdale, FL; www.iafa.org;
katy.hatfield@gmail.com; Post Office Box 50517,
Eugene, OR 97405
17-19: **FantaSciCon** (\$45), Chattanooga, TN;
www.fantascicon.com; fantascicon@vei.net; 395
Stancil Rd, Rossville, GA 30741
17-19: **Enlightenment IX** (\$35), Hunt Valley, MD;
www.boardgamers.org/specific/aor06ann.htm; 1541
Redfield Rd, Bel Air, MD 21015
17-19: **Megaplex** (\$35), Orlando, FL; ppmp.info/mp05; [mp-
ceo@pawpet.org](mailto:mp-
ceo@pawpet.org); 843 Cypress Parkway #317,
Kissimmee, FL

17-19: **Revelcon** (\$75), Houston, TX;
majorcrimes.freesevers.com/REVELcon.htm;
Revelcon2006@aol.com; PO Box 130602, Houston, TX
77219-0602

18-19: **MomoCon** (Free), Atlanta, GA;
www.onegaistudios.com/momo

23-26: **AggieCon 37** (\$25), College Station, TX;
aggiecon.tamu.edu; DeamonRyoko@yahoo.com; Attn:
AggieCon Registration, Cepheid Variable (958460), PO
Box 5688, Aggeland Station, College Station, TX
77844-9081

24-26: **CoastCon 29** (\$40), Biloxi, MS;
www.coastcon.org/CCWEB/CC29/cc29.html;
coastcon_inc@yahoo.com; PO Box 1423, Biloxi, MS
39533

24-26: **MidSouthCon** (\$35), Memphis, TN;
www.midsouthcon.org; info@midsouthcon.org; PO
Box 11446, Memphis, TN 38111

26: **SciFi Spring Break** (\$8/vechicle), Stone Mountain, GA;
springbreak.scifisummer.org;
spike35@mindspring.com;

31-April 2: **Technicon 23** (\$35), Blacksburg, VA;
www.technicon.org/tcon23; info@technicon.org; PO
Box 256, Blacksburg, VA 24063-0256

April

1: **FLUKE Mini-Comics Festival** (\$?), Athens, GA;
www.wideawakepress.com/flukeathens; PO Box 948,
Athens Georgia 30603

1-3: **ConneXions** (\$50), Baltimore, MD;
connexionscon.home.mindspring.com/connexions.html;
inpersonpress@mindspring.com

13-16: **Frolicon** (\$55), Atlanta, GA; www.frolicon.org;
steve@frolicon.org; PO Box 4880, Huntsville, AL
35815

21-23: **Middle TN Anime Convention** (\$40), Nashville,
TN; www.mtac.net; conchair@mtac.net; PO Box
40941, Nashville, TN 37204

21-23: **Malice Domestic 18** (\$190), Washington, DC;
www.malicedomestic.org;
MaliceChair@malicedomestic.org; PO Box 31137,
Bethesda, MD 20824-1137

21-23: **RavenCon** (\$35), Richmond, VA;
www.ravencon.com; registration@ravencon.com; P.O.
Box 70430, Richmond, VA 23255-0430

21-23: **ShowMeCon** (\$30 pre-reg), St. Louis, MO;
www.showmecon.com; info@showmecon.com; PO
Box 410115, Creve Coeur, MO 63141-9998

28-30: **JAcon** (\$30 pre-reg), Orlando, FL; www.jacon.org;
chair@jacon.org; PO Box 780555, Orlando, FL 32878-
0555

May

4-7: **Game Days** (\$45), Timonium, MD;
gamesday.gamesclubofmd.org;
gcom@gamesclubofmd.org; 9 Augusta Wood Court,
Reisterstown, MD 21136; 410-833-4395

19-21: **Mobicon** (\$TBA), Mobile, AL; www.mobicon.org;
PO BOX 161632, Mobile, AL 36616-2632

26-28: **Animazement** (\$45), Durham, NC;
www.animazement.com;
information@animazement.org; PO Box 1383, Cary, NC
27512-1383

26-28: **Conquest** (\$TBA), Kansas City, MO;
www.kacsffs.org/conquest/conquest.htm; PO Box
36212, Kansas City MO 64171

26-28: **Oasis 19** (\$30), Orlando, FL; www.oasfis.org/oasis;
peter@popovich.net; PO Box 592905; Orlando, FL
32859-2905; 407-263-5822

26-29: **Balticon 40** (\$55), Baltimore, MD;
www.balticon.org; balticoninfo@balticon.org; PO Box
686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686; 410-563-2737

June

2-4: **ConCarolinas** (\$35), Charlotte, NC;
www.concarolinas.org; conchair@concarolinas.org; PO
Box 9100, Charlotte, NC 28299-9100

2-4: **MetroCon** (\$45), Tampa, FL;
www.animemetro.com/metroconventions/control.cfm;
info@animemetro.com; 4501 Manatee Avenue West
#304, Bradenton, FL 34209-3952

2-4: **Persacon** (\$25.95 pre-reg), Huntsville, AL;
www.persacon.com; info@persacon.com; PO Box
1035, Madison, AL 35758

9-11: **A-Kon** (\$32), Dallas, TX; a-kon.com; webmaster@a-kon.com;
Phoenix Entertainment, 3352 Broadway Blvd
#470, Garland, TX 75043

16-18: **Anime Mid-Atlantic** (\$30 pre-reg), Richmond, VA;
www.animemidatlantic.com;
animemidatlantic@yahoo.com; PO Box 2636, Glen
Allen, VA 23060

16-18: **Sci-Fi Summer Con** (\$30), Atlanta, GA;
sfcon.tripod.com; info@sfcon.net; PO Box 957203,
Duluth, GA 30095

16-18: **CON.TXT** (\$100), Silver Spring, MD; www.con-txt.net;
info@con-txt.net

23-25: **Apollocon** (\$35), Houston, TX; www.apollocon.org;
conchair@apollocon.org; PO Box 541822, Houston, TX
77254

23-25: **Vulkon** (\$?), Tampa, FL; www.vulkon.com;
vulkon@aol.com

23-25: **Hypericon** (\$35), Nashville, TN;
www.hypericon.info; hypericon@gmail.com; 6001 Old
Hickory Blvd Apt 411, Hermitage, TN 37076

24-25: **AdventureCon** (\$10), Knoxville, TN;
www.adventurecon.com; eraser@chartertn.net; 865-
984-4476

30-July 2: **Heroes Convention** (\$20), Charlotte, NC;
www.heroesonline.com/con-update.htm;
shelton@heroesonline.com; PO Box 9181, Charlotte,
NC 28299-9181; 704-375-75462

30-July 2: **Fusion Gaming Convention** (\$?), Roanoke, VA;
www.fusiongc.com; Andy@FusionGC.com

SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION ROSTER

0.	FIRST	LAST	STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP	EXPIRES
1.	WARD	ADINA					DEC-05
2.	CLIFF	AMOS					LIFE
3.	LON	ATKINS					LIFE
4.	MARIE & KIRBY	BARTLETT-SLOAN					JUL-05
5.	JUDY	BEMIS					APR-06
6.	GREGORY	BENFORD					LIFE
7.	CLIFF & SUSAN	BIGGERS					LIFE
8.	MICHAEL	BISHOP					LIFE
9.	TIM	BOLGEO					LIFE
10.	NED	BROOKS					LIFE
11.	D L	BURDEN					JUN-05
12.	DAN	CALDWELL					MAR-05
13.	ROGER	CALDWELL					APR-06
14.	HUGH & PEGGIE	CAVE					LIFE
15.	DOUG	CHAFFEE					LIFE
16.	RANDY	CLEARY					APR-06
17.	ELAINE	CORVIDAE					JAN-05
18.	DR. CLEON E.	DEAN					JAN-05
19.	LYNDIA L.	DEW					NOV-05
20.	CHARLES	DICKENS					JUL-06
21.	MAURINE	DORRIS					LIFE
22.	DAVID	DRAKE					LIFE
23.	LARRY	ELMORE					LIFE
24.	TOM & ANITA	FELLER					LIFE
25.	STEPHEN	FLEMING					JUN-06
26.	STEVE & SUE	FRANCIS					LIFE
27.	FRANK KELLY	FREAS					LIFE
28.	PENNY	FRIERSON					LIFE
29.	JANICE	GELB					MAR-05
30.	PAT	GIBBS					JAN-06
31.	SHARON	GREEN					LIFE
32.	JOHN	GUIDRY					LIFE
33.	RICH	GUTKES					NOV-07
34.	JERRY J.	HAGAR					MAR-05
35.	JOE & GAY	HALDEMAN					LIFE
36.	LYNN	HARRIS					LIFE
37.	TEDDY	HARVIA					LIFE
38.	LEE	HOFFMAN					LIFE
39.	JAMES	HOGAN					LIFE
40.	JOHN A. R.	HOLLIS					LIFE
41.	ERIC	JAMBORSKY					APR-06
42.	SAMANDA DONALD	JEUDE & COOK JR					LIFE
43.	LEANA M.	JUSTICE					MAR-05
44.	MIKE	KENNEDY					LIFE
45.	MICHAEL	KINGSLEY					MAR-05
46.	IRVIN M.	KOCH					
47.	DINA S.	KRAUSE					SEP-05
48.	GRANT	KRUGER					APR-06
49.	MICHAEL	LIEBMANN					APR-06
50.	GUY H.	LILLIAN III					LIFE
51.	ROSE MARIE GREEN	LILLIAN III					LIFE
52.	RICHARD & NICKI	LYNCH					LIFE
53.	J. R.	MADDEN					LIFE

54.	TIMOTHY C.	MARION	DEC-05
55.	DON	MARKSTEIN	LIFE
56.	JACK	MCDEVITT	LIFE
57.	MARIE	MIESEL	AUG-05
58.	NAOMI	FISHER	LIFE
59.	G. PATRICK	MOLLOY	LIFE
60.	LARRY	MONTGOMERY	LIFE
61.	KEN	MOORE	LIFE
62.	AUSTIN G.	MORRIS	SEP-05
63.	JAYNE	ROGERS	JUL-06
64.		NASFA	APR-06
65.	ROBERT	NEAGLE	LIFE
66.	ANDREW & JODIE	OFFUTT	LIFE
67.	JERRY	PAGE	LIFE
68.	TONY	PARKER	APR-06
69.	RANDALL J	PASS	APR-06
70.	SUE	PHILLIPS	LIFE
71.	GARY L	PLUMLEE	OCT-05
72.	CHARLOTTE	PROCTOR	LIFE
73.	HANK	REINHARDT	LIFE
74.	T K F W	REINHARDT	LIFE
75.	DARRELL	RICHARDSON	LIFE
76.	GARY, CORLIS, DOMINIC & ISAAC	ROBE	LIFE
77.	DAVID	ROBINSON	APR-06
78.	GARY & DEBBIE	ROWAN	DEC-05
79.	JOSEPH	SCHAUMBURGER	JUN-06
80.	PHILLIP	SCHMITT	FEB-06
81.	ROGER & PAT	SIMS	APR-06
82.	SAMUEL	SMITH	LIFE
83.	DICK	SPELMAN	APR-06
84.	ALLEN	STEELE	LIFE
85.	MARIANN	STEELE	NOV-05
86.	MIKE & DEB	STONE	JAN-06
87.	BRAD	STRICKLAND	LIFE
88.	SHEILA	STRICKLAND	APR-06
89.	GARY	SWATY	JAN-06
90.	JAMES & LINDA	THOMPSON	MAR-06
91.	JEFF	THOMPSON	JUN-05
92.	SUE	THORN	LIFE
93.	SCOTT	THORNE	APR-06
94.	ARTHUR	TOWNSEND	JAN-05
95.	WILSON BOB	TUCKER	LIFE
96.	MARY ANN & FRED	VAN HARTESVELDT	JUN-06
97.	VANESSA	VAN WAGNER	APR-06
98.	JULIE	WALL	LIFE
99.	ADRIAN	WASHBURN	APR-06
100.	SHARON	WEBB	LIFE
101.	DAVID	WEBER	LIFE
102.	MIKE	WEBER	LIFE
103.	JIM	WOOSLEY	MAR-05
104.	BEN	YALOW	LIFE

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.}

June 14, 2005: **Joy V. Smith**, Pagadan@aol.com

I enjoyed all the convention reports – Grant Kruger has covered a lot of territory and given away a lot of fun freebies; and your list of *Science Fiction Cookbooks I Would Like to See* was fun. *Rendezvous with Ramen Noodles* and *Deepness in the Pie* sound especially good. BTW, *Fallen Angels Food Cake* should be by Niven, Pournelle, and Flynn. (I happened to have come across it the other day.)

The book reviews were interesting; it sounds like *Making Space Happen* needs updating. I wonder if the author and publisher have thought about a new edition. Thanks to Tom Feller for the fanzine listings. (If you wanted to e-mail them to me, Tom; I could add them to the AOL fanzine folder.) I appreciated the e-zines, web sites, and web log listings too. BTW, my blog is Joy's Journal:

<http://journals.aol.com/pagadan/JoysJournal/>

Thanks for the news items, award winners, and southern con listings; I wasn't aware that Joe Siclari had won the 2005 DUFF race. All the best to Grant Kruger with his SFC Handbook update.

I enjoyed the LOCs and the illos; the fiery dragon on the cover is interesting (I'd like to see that tail in ☞); and I was wondering if the ferret on page 31 is Elric? I loved your beautiful space-patterned dolphin too, Randy. {Thanks!}

June 18, 2005: **E.B. Frohvet**, 4716 Dorsey Hall Drive #506, Ellicott City, MD 21042

It's refreshing to see a person so stoked over fandom as is Grant Kruger in his con reporting. Even if his enthusiasm sometimes gets in the way of actually telling what happened. Uh, people are Scottish, Grant; whiskey is Scotch. If Grant needs a part theme, I suggest elephants.

I had the good fortune to meet and talk with Jack Chalker several times; Andre Norton a few times; FM.Busby once at a con in Florida. I was never quite so taken with Jack's work as my fellow reviewer, Leana Justice, but tastes vary. I enjoy Leana's reviews also.

If there are two things fandom needs: they are: less factionalism and better coffee.

June 24, 2005: **Sheryl Birkhead**, 25509 Jonnie Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Yet another fine issue of the *SFCB* has arrived. Lotsa work in there. Lotsa thank yous.

There should be a lot of other nifty titles for cookbooks...given the (ahem) relish with which fans will cook.

Question about the mailing permit: Is it a win-win situation for other fan editors if it could go out under a bulk-mailing permit. Granted, I do not know the rules and regulations covering bulk permit user. But it just seem a right thing to be able to do. I thought about it when I saw Guy Lillian's name in the SFC business meeting minutes – thought about facilitating mailing *Challenger*. As I say, just a thought. Uh, I guess Guy really had things to say at both meetings. {The permit is for Southern Fandom Confederation usage. If Guy wanted to use it to mail *Challenger* to the SFC mailing list then that would probably be okay. But mailing it to his mailing list would probably not be okay.}

Outside cons sounds...interesting. Along with titles for cookbooks, you can come up with menus for meals for fen, being cooked in the park.

Congratulations to Grand on the GoH-ship. I had never heard of Kinuko Craft. Just wish the *Bulletin* could have run some of her artwork. {Her work is very detailed and full of color. It would not reproduce well here.} Sounds as if the doing right was reciprocal. Just as there are sister cities, perhaps there ought to be sister cons? About the Worldcon live link: at the very least I REALLY wish there was some way to have a live web feed for the Hugos. So those of us not going could actually see all the pomp and circumstance.

I have not been to a con in quite a few years. The stresses (etc.) are just not worth it to me right now. BUT, I do remember the heightened levels of just about everything and the really zonked feeling after getting home.

Grand did get around! Then there was Mid-South Con. I don't have a lot of SF artist books. But I do have a few. One of them is a Hickman book – very talented! Ah, the evolution of the con-suite. Once upon time it DID act a fannish soup kitchen, when most fen were poor (starving) students who piled as many as possible into one room with not much left over to cover food. Whatever was available from the con-suite was what acted as food for the duration. Cons vary widely in what comestibles show up. Always nice when you get pleasant surprise. I've have never yet been early enough to a Worldcon to attend the opening ceremonies and never stay long enough to hit the closing ceremonies. And of course that means I miss all the dead dog parties!

I get less than half the zines listed and have not visited any of the zines (e that is). And only visited *Emerald City* around Hugo time last year to re-check and see if it had metamorphosed – nope. So that bodes well for pubbing health.

I haven't seen any note yet, maybe later on this, but we also lost famed *OUTWORLDS* editor, Bill Bowers, suddenly. Even though he had protracted health problems, nothing had seem that immediate...sigh.

Uh, Grant, if I remember, I'll drop you a note separately, BUT I usually kept a file copy of art I sent out. So there OUGHT to be stuff from SFC. Let me know if you want to look.

Nice to see Trinlay branching out. Stretch those artistic muscles!

Gotta run. I'm cat sitting for the Lynches as they head to and from Midwest con. Seemed odd not to have them say hi to Bill for me...

As always, thanks for all the work you do, hope you know it is appreciated. I will not mail this until I have a few fillos to put in here. That's a threat and a promise! *{Thanks!}*



July 2, 2005: **Trinlay Khadro**, PO Box 240934, Brown Deer, WI 53224-9024; trin63@dias.net

I'm really way behind on my LoC wrtting. Starting to catch up. Thanks for using so many of my drawings. Do you realize this is the first time my art's been on a 'zine cover...well on a 'zine that wasn't mine. *{It was an honor to be the first.}* I'll gradually send more. Would you also like photos? *{Anything is nice but line art is easier to reproduce.}*

I like the space dolphin on page 7. *{Thanks!}*

At the end of May I went to WISCON' mainly to meet up with Lyn McConchie (N. Zealand), and Jan Stinson (Michigan, formerly of the Keys), and my sister (Madison, WI). I also entered the art show with origami dragons and cranes as well as fannish scarves (*Dr. Who* and *Harry Potter* (Griffendor and Slytherin)). If anyone is interested in may such, drop me a line. I've also been knitting iPod and cell phone cozies.

For awhile there I had some nifty mail-art correspondence with Scott Thomas whose art I've also seen in *SFCB*.

I'm still struggling with Fibromyalgia, but I do best in the Spring and Summer. In Fall and Winter, I find my life quite restricted as the damp and cold tend to cause flare ups. Our winters are much like the ones EB write about

EB: KT has classmates now reading *LOTR*, who wouldn't have attempted it, but for the movies. One is quoted as saying the movies were fantastic and people always say "the book is so much better..." so I had to try them.

Jack: Part of what happened with the Indian Ocean tsunami is that it's not a region where tsunami are common

and something that big was a surprise to everyone. But just the same, it was about 100 years ago that there was a tsunami in the same region.

Henry Welch: I owe you and *VOP* a LoC ... hopefully soon.

Grant: When I lived in North Carolina (17 years ago for about 3 years), I did absolutely nothing fannish. So I have nothing to contribute. Good luck with the project though.

July 5, 2005: **Lloyd Penney**; penneys@allstream.net; 1706-24 Eva Rd, Etobicoke, ON CANADA M9C 2B2

Many thanks for Volume 8, Number 8 of the *SFC Bulletin*...hope you're all recovered from your July 4th celebrations. I spent three days having a great time to celebrate Canada Day on July 1, and I'm still recovering! Small renaissance faire, being a tourist in downtown Toronto, and spending a day at Niagara Falls...a most enjoyable weekend. And now, back to the work grind, and back to writing letters of comments.

I don't think anyone really enjoys the meetings and paperwork that goes with clubs and conventions, but I do like the idea of a regional convention and club. However, we never did get the Eastern equivalent of a Westercon or a DeepSouthCon here...kinda wish we did.

Congratulations to Grant on being a Fan GoH...it is a wonderful thing indeed, and I am happy to say that this is based on experience. I would prefer to earn the trip the committee has given us, and be as busy as possible at the convention. Our guest stints at conventions have ranged from being treated like king and queen to basically being ignored. There are certainly enough conventions to get to in the US South, and you're getting to most of them, and writing extensive reports. You realize, of course, that you've written enough to start up your own fanzine. When shall we expect the first issue? You'd have something to trade with *Probe*...

I believe that within a short time, Guy Lillian's *Challenger 22* will be on his *Challzine* website. I always look forward to the articles and personal reminiscences Guy intersperses in the zine. I would prefer a paperzine, but reading it as a webzine on the site will do fine.

My LoC in this issue is about six months old, and a lot has happened employment-wise. *Canada NewsWire* let me go about five weeks after they took me on, saying I wasn't learning the job as fast as they would have liked. I think I was let go because of my age, to be honest, but I have spent the past four months at the *Globe and Mail* newspaper, doing some evening data entry work on their website. The hours aren't the greatest, and it is part-time, but the pay is good, and there's nothing on TV anyway...

Not much comment this time around, but at least this *Bulletin* has done what it is intended to do, and keep its members updated. Many thanks, and I look forward to the next issue.

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

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