

ConNotations

Spring 2000
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The Quarterly Science Fiction, Fantasy & Convention Newszine of the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society

SF Tube Talk

by Lee Whiteside

Trekking on to a New Adventure

There has been lots of rumors and speculation about what the next **Star Trek** series will be and when it will start. **Rick Berman** and **Brannon Braga** have been developing the series for Viacom but have given out little info on what they are working on. Reports early in the year were that Viacom set up some focus groups to get reaction to several concepts although those sessions likely were the creation of some fan and never really happened. In an interview with EON Magazine, **Braga** said "I think we're all in agreement that it needs to be **STAR TREK**, it needs to embody **STAR TREK's** philosophy, but it needs to be different. It can't just be another group of people on a ship with a different name. It's gotta have something that is going to

new existence as a being of light and blames Janeway and the Voyager crew for pushing her into her current state. Kes manages to travel back in time three years and intends to arrange for the Vidians to capture Voyager as part of her revenge. As with any time travel episode, expect to be totally confused and for things to pretty much be the same at the end of the episode. In a likely much more light-hearted episode, currently titled "*Live Fast and Prosper*", three alien con artists have assumed the identities of Janeway, Tuvok and Chakotay and have been scamming people all over the place. Needless to say, when Janeway and crew get wind of it, they are not pleased.

The Doctor is featured in "*Lifelines*" which also will have return appearances of Barclay and Troi. The Doctor learns through their new communication setup with Starfleet that his creator, Doctor Zimmerman, is ill and that The Doctor's enhanced medical knowledge may be the

only thing that can save Dr. Zimmerman. The Doctor sends his program to the Alpha Quadrant through the micro-wormhole communications link to try to save his creator. There hasn't been much news leaked about the remaining episodes of the season at press



give people a different reason to watch, but without straying too far away from the core elements. We're all in agreement about that—what exactly that concept will be we're not sure of yet." There is also a fan led movement to convince Viacom to do an Excelsior series featuring **George Takei** as Captain Sulu.

They are planning a day of public "displays" of support on April 22nd at Paramount Studios and local stations that carry Star Trek. For more details on the campaign, check out their web site at <http://excelsior.iftcommand.com/>

Meanwhile, we've still got a few more episodes this season and a full season of "**Star Trek: Voyager**" to watch. Once they resume new episodes, we'll have a blast from the past with a return of **Jennifer Lien** as Kes in "*Fury*". Kes reappears and it turns out she's not happy with her

time. Reports are that the season finale will deal heavily with The Borg, possibly with a return appearance of the Borg Queen.

X-Files - The End or Not?

It's looking more and more like this will be the final season of "**The X-Files**." No formal announcement has been made, but recent interviews with **Chris Carter**, **Gillian Anderson** and **David Duchovny** indicate that none of them think there will be another season. They all are willing to continue "**The X-Files**" on the big screen but nothing has been announced in that area, either. **Carter** and 1013 Productions are filming a pilot episode for a Lone Gunmen series for FOX. It will feature the Lone Gunmen (Byers, Frohike, and Langly) as well as a

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24 Frames

Movie & Video Reviews

Currently in Theatres:

The Road to El Dorado

From Dreamworks featuring the voices of : Kenneth Branagh, Kevin Kline, Rosie Perez, Edward James Olmos and Armand Assante Directed by Eric "Bibo" Peterson and Don Paul.

This a lush, beautifully-colored animated feature from Dreamworks (who gave us the fabulous "Prince of Egypt") with music by Elton John and Tim Rice and the great pairing of Kenneth Bran-nagh and Kevin Kline's voices for a pair of rogues Miguel and Tulio who inadvertently set out from Spain in 1516 with Cortez and his men, bound for the New World.

Having been thrown into the brig, they bribe Altivo, Cortez's horse, into setting them free, and in the course of them getting off ship, Altivo jumps overboard and is saved by the rogues. So the three of them get to the New World ahead of Cortez in a long boat. You see, they have this map, won in a dockside crap game that supposedly will lead them to the the fabled land of El Dorado and more gold than the King of Spain.

But this is no "Pocahontas," unfortunately.

The lads and the horse meet up with Chal, an escapee from El Dorado. She's leaving because she stole some temple gold and want's adventure. She's persued by temple guards who capture the foursome and take them back to the city.

But Chal's just a little hustler, a match for Miguel and Tulio who, along with Altivo, are greeted like long-lost gods (ala Cortez and Montezuma) and given the run of the colorful El Dorado. The Chief is a fat, cheerful man pushed into doing nasty sacrafices by a meglomaniac high priest.

So, Miguel and Tulio, along with the helpful Chal, see an opportunity to exploit and get ahead, get the gold, (and one of them gets the girl) and go home to Spain.

The story is slow and only funny in spots and the musical interludes are intrusive and do little to move the tale along. There isn't even a token moment of confusion between these two peoples communicating (At least in "Pocahontas" there was a moment of magic that supposedly helped the two understand each

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other) As I said earlier, Chal is a little hustler with the hots for Tulio and though Miguel comes off more noble than the other two, there's not much there either.

And that's a shame, because it's beautifully drawn, and the trailer made it seem funnier than it was (as usual). The humor is also more adult than kid-level.

There are moments of drama and scary monsters, but not enough, I feel, to hold small kids interests. - **Sue Martin**

I liked the colors. I liked the characers. I didn't like the bad guys. Becuse they were mean. I didn't like the music. Becuse there wasn't a lot of it. I thought the story was ok. I thought it wasn't my cup of tea. -

Johanna Martin

The Tigger Movie

Directed by Jun Falkenstein

(Cont'd on page 11)

Book Discussion Groups

We have two monthly book discussion groups going, one at Glendale Public Library on the first Thursday of each month and another at Barnes and Noble in Metro Center on the fourth Thursday of each month. Here's a schedule of upcoming books:

GLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY: 1st

Thursday of each month

May 4: Firebrand by Marion Zimmer Bradley

June 1: Paris in the Twentieth Century by Jules Verne

July 6: Citizen Of The Galaxy by Robert Heinlein

August 3: So You Want To Be A Wizard by Diane Duane

Sept 7: RedWall by Brian Jacques

Oct 5: The Naked Sun by Isaac Asimov

Nov 2: Wizard's First Rule by Terry Goodkind

Dec 7: Freedom's Landing by Anne McCaffrey

For more information on the Glendale group contact Sue Martin at (623)939-7815

BARNES & NOBLE METRO CENTER:

4th Thursday of each month

April 27: Forty Thousand in Gehanna by C.J. Cherryh

May 25: Hammer of God by Arthur Clarke

June 22: Snowbrother by S.M. Stirling

July 27: Legends Walking by Jane Lindskold

August 24: Officer Cadet by Rick Shelley

Sept 28: Harry Potter & ? by J.K. Rowling

Oct 26: Daughter Of The Blood by Anne Bishop

Note: November and December discussions will move to the third Thursday of the month

Nov 16: Stardust by Neil Gaiman

Dec 21: Lord Of Light by Roger Zelazny

For more information on the Barnes & Noble group contact Stephanie at (602)973-2341

If you would like CASFS to sponsor a book discussion group near you, please contact Stephanie at (602)973-2341

INFORMATION LINE: For up to date information on each month's CASFS and fan sponsored sci-fi related events call (602)973-2341 and select option 7 for a pre-recorded message.

SPRING USED BOOK SALE at the Tempe Public Library, Saturday April 15, 2000 from 9AM to 2PM in the program room on the lower level.

Dear Faithful Reader,

How time flies! It seems like no time at all since we were wrapping up 1999 and gearing up for the first quarter of 2000, and here it's finished already.

First of all, I'd like to applaud our tireless editor-in-chief, Stephanie Bannon, for publishing **four** issues of *ConNotations* last year. Please help support her incredible efforts in every way possible—through subscriptions, submissions, and (please, please) through advertising.

On the convention front, things are very positive. Both CopperCon 19 and HexaCon 9 reported financial success. HexaCon 10 announced Steve Jackson as their very special Gaming Guest of Honor. CopperCon 20 also announced an incredible variety of author guests. Finally, due to personal issues, the banker for CopperCon 20 decided to step down. In February, Kim Martin was elected as a replacement. Congratula-

tions, Kim.

Our other activities are also going well. The book discussion groups continue to meet, one at the Metrocenter Barnes and Noble, and the other at the Glendale Public Library. I encourage everyone to attend; it's a great way to get involved in CASFS outside of the conventions. Check further in the issue for details on dates and books. I have been assured that you don't even have to read the book to show up! ☺

If you're masochistic (which, if you're still reading this, you might be) and would like to actually see what goes on at CASFS meetings, instead of just reading this riveting summary every quarter, show up at a meeting! Meetings are held on the last Friday of the month at the JB's at I-10 and Indian School. Socializing starts at 7:00, and business starts at 8.

Until next time,
The Frantic Scribe

CASFS Member Makes Good

By Michael Griffin

What do mythology, mathematics, science fiction and fantasy have in common?

'Mythic Spacetime' that's what. My academic paper with this title is now out in the January 2000 issue of the 'Journal of Literary Semantics.'

Examples I cite include superhero comic books and Robert Holdstock's Ryhope Wood fantasy series. You may recall that Holdstock's books were reviewed in the April 1999 issue of *ConNotations*, while I have made remarks about superhero comics in various other issues.

The 'Journal of Literary Semantics' covers interdisciplinary topics that shed light on semantics, or linguistic meaning, as expressed in literature. Look for it only in your college library. Or, to save you the trouble, here's the abstract of my paper: Mythic spacetime is an idea described by Mircea Eliade as 'in illo tempore', or what is outside of the world's normal spacetime. The concept is developed into an algebraic set theory which describes all stories of myth. This mathematical notation uses four set elements, (p,x,s,t), representing persons, things, places and time. Five functions operate this set, including a mythic state M and a real state R. Particu-

lar attention is give to M(s,t), or mythic spacetime. A geometric interpretation of this uses Ira Progoff's book about Jungian synchronicity. Examples of mythic spacetime in popular culture are presented, citing fantasy literature and superhero comic books. Applications of the set theory are also made using the four mythic motifs of Hero, Fertility Cycles, Duality and the Fall from Innocence. The limitations of the set theory are discussed, with extensive use of G.S. Kirk's book, 'Myth: It's Meaning & Functions in Ancient & Other Cultures.'

Finally, the superset of mental spacetime is introduced, which includes mythic spacetime as a subset. The other three functions not mentioned in this abstract are called breakthroughs, crossovers and transforms. Set elements going from a real setting to a mythic one are called crossovers, with the reverse called a breakthrough. A transform occurs when a set element is changed into something else, such as when spells are cast upon characters.

Well, that's it in a nutshell. Enough of academic matters.

What is CASFS?

What is really behind putting on a convention? What the funds raised by a convention used for? Why not attend a meeting and find out? We're the sponsor of *ConNotations*, *CopperCons*, *HexaCons*, *SmerfCons* and other conventions. We are a charitable, non-profit organization that exists to further science fiction, fantasy and science fields in Arizona. CASFS currently meets at the JB's Restaurant at 2560 W Indian School Rd in Phoenix (NW corner of I-17 and Indian School). The meetings begin at 8PM and are held on the last Friday of the month Jan. Through Sept. And on the second Friday of the month Oct through Dec. Everyone is invited to attend two meetings as a guest (non-member). Membership rates are \$12/year plus an initial \$3 application fee and rates are pro-rated for the amount of the year remaining. For more info Call: Stephanie L. Bannon (602)973-2341 Webpage: www.casfs.org email: casfs@casfs.org

Who's Who This Issue

Editor: Stephanie L. Bannon
Co-Editors: Craig L. Dyer & Sue Martin
Graphics Editor: Craig L. Dyer
Film & Video Reporter: Barry Bard
Staff Writers: Pam Allen, Barry Bard, Michael Griffin, Daryl F. Mallet, Shane Shellenbarger, Tom Tuerff, Lee Whiteside, Randall Whitlock, Mike Willmoth

Layout & Design: Stephanie L. Bannon
Keeper of the Mailing List: Craig L. Dyer and Doug Cospier

Contributors: Catherine Book, Johanna Martin, Adam Niswander, Gary Swaty
Labeling Crew for Volume 9 Issue 4: Stephanie Bannon, Craig Dyer, Ray & Pinkie Gish, David Hungerford, Bob & Lori LaPierre, Pete Manly, Jean Palmer, Sue & Jo Martin, Marguerite Murray, Helen "April" Rice, Gary Swaty, Susan Uttke

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Submission Info: Writers and artists are encouraged to submit work for publication. While we cannot pay you for your efforts your work will be seen by over 4,000 fans across the Southwest and the country. You will retain the copyright to your work for future publication. To submit your work or for more information please write to: *ConNotations*; PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or contact us via Email at Editors@casfs.org

Contact Information: *ConNotations* and its contributors can be contacted by mail at PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or via email at editors@casfs.org.

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PRO NOTES

by Daryl F. Mallett

Well, it's been a long time since the last column and much has happened. We've lost another round of greats, including comic artist **Gil Kane** and SF Grand Master and friend **A. E. van Vogt**. Hopefully remembrances by me and Adam Niswander will appear elsewhere in this issue.

Brian Aldiss has the following trips coming up: IAFA (Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Mar.); Nafplion, Greece (Apr.); St. Malo, France (May); Nebula Banquet (New York; May); and a cruise along the west coast of Aisa Minor (Sep.). He notes that he has the following books "which may or may not be published this year" in Britain: *White Mars* (reprint; Little Brown); *When the Feast is Finished* (paperback; Little Brown); *The Cretan Teat* (novel; Orion?); *Supertoys* (stories; Little Brown); ten different books, both novels and stories (Stratus); *Non-Stop* (Orion); *Art After Apogee* (Avernus); and *Jocasta Regina* (Little Brown?).

Mike Ashley has "not done much at all in the SF world." He has finished *Incredible Monsters*, "a children's book about dinosaurs and other large animals for Robinson Publishing" and has turned in two "Mammoth Books" anthologies for Robinson (UK) and Carroll & Graf (U.S.) — *The Mammoth Book of Locked-Room Mysteries* and *The Mammoth Book of Sword & Honour* ("this last being 19th-century military fiction a la Sharpe or Flashman"). He reports that he is "still working on volume two of my three-volume *History of the SF Magazine* and also getting ready to start [on a] biography of Algernon Blackwood."

Spanish SF writer **Miquel Barcelo** has released a new novel, *Testimoni de Narom*, co-written with **Pedro Jorge**, published by Pages Editors. The book, written in 1998, was the recipient of The Jules Verne Award in Andorra.

Marleen Barr will publish *Future Females, The Next Generation: New Voices and Velocities in Feminist Science Fiction Criticism* (Rowman & Littlefield; Mar.); *Genre Fission: A New Discourse Practice for Cultural Studies* (University of Iowa Pr.; May); and *3000, The Next New Millennium: Science Fiction Studies/Cultural Studies* (Wesleyan University Pr.; 2001).

David Brin writes: "I have no recent books but lots of news and recent articles." In February, he spoke at the first "Internet Everywhere Summit" in San Francisco; and, in March, he gave the keynote speech for the Software Information Industry Association Conference, "InfoSummit" in San Diego and a speech entitled "The Future is Now" at a California School Library Association meeting in San Pedro, CA. In conjunction with *Analog Magazine*, Brin launched the Webs of Wonder Contest, "offering a \$1,000 first prize (plus runner-up prizes) for the best web site that vividly links good

science fiction stories or novels to some school curriculum used by teachers, struggling in the field to teach a new generation. To learn more about this exciting contest, go to <http://www.analogsf.com/wow/>." Upcoming public appearances include the American Psychological Association meeting (San Francisco; April 8); Guest of Honor at Norwescon (Seattle, April 21-23); the UCLA Book Festival (Los Angeles; April 28-29); Torrey Pines High School (Del Mar, CA; May 10); and The Reuben H Fleet Space Center (San Diego; May 27). Brin's website can be found at <http://www.kithrup.com/brin/>.

Paul Castiglia is writing a "monthly comic book series called *Archie's Weird Mysteries*. It is a spin-off of the animated series currently airing on the PAX Network, and features the classic comic book teens mixed up in supernatural mysteries, as Archie investigates strange phenomena for his school newspaper's 'Weird Mysteries' column. It's kind of a cross between *X-Files* and *Scooby Doo*, but I like to refer to it as 'Kolchak, The Night Stalker: The High School Years' (unlike Scooby Doo, the menaces Archie and the gang face are 'real,' not shifty con men in costumes). So I guess you can call it sci-fi/horror/comedy."

John Clute has published the "first UK paperback" edition of *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* (London, Orbit, 1999), which he co-edited with **Peter Nicholls**, "with 10,000 additional words of notes and new corrections." Other publications include: *The Book of End Times: Grappling with the Millennium* (New York, HarperPrism, 1999) and *Tesseract 8: New Canadian Speculative Writing* (Edmonton, Tesseract Books, 1999), which he co-edited with **Candas Jane Dorsey**, as well as the "usual other stuff."

Paul Cook reports the following: Electronic Publishing: Getting Your Out-Of-Print Books Back in Print Again. New York agent **Richard Curtis**, has created a company that takes out-of-print books and converts them into an electronic format that can be downloaded onto personal computers at home or at school, or hand-held Rocket eBooks, or printed out as hard copies on regular paper. (Rocket eBooks are hand-held read-only devices that can contain several novels). At present, Curtis has over 2,000 titles, including my first novel, *Tintagel*, which has long been out of print. When I asked him if he'd be interested in considering the out-of-print books of the many SF and fantasy writers in Arizona (even if he wasn't their agent), he said he was. The E-rights contract retains the rights to make your book available in an electronic format for three years, at the end of which E-rights has to pay \$100 a year to you in order to maintain the right or they give it up. Should a real-world publisher take an interest in your book and desire to publish it, the print rights convert to you immediately; E-rights, however, retains the rights to its e-book format (most publishers give up the e-rights anyway). At the end of seven

years, the contract with E-rights expires unless you want to extend it. But your books would be alive and out there for anyone to download or to receive a printed copy. And every title, whether it be in e-book or printed version, will have an original and attractive cover. The size of the books in paper copy will be approximately 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches. Your books would be listed for sale along with your other books at amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and any other online service. They will also be listed on the E-reads web page. Once ordered, the book is e-mailed to the customer or downloaded in an encrypted format where it can be stored on their hard drive or in their Rocket e-Book, or they can receive a printed version. The books will all be priced differently, starting around \$6.95; going up to \$10.95. Whatever the case, you—the author—get 50% of each sale and you get it each banking quarter, not in six months or a year as with nearly all real-world publishers. No publisher on the planet offers royalties such as those offered by E-rights. There is an up-front cost of doing this. The cost includes the scanning of the book (if it isn't already in Microsoft Word format), proofreading, and conversion to all formats, e-book and print. I paid \$250 to have *Tintagel* scanned. Kinkos or AlphaGraphics will also do it, but it's more expensive with them, or you can do it yourself on a home scanner. E-rights will send you instructions on how to do the conversion of the text into a Word format. But the process is very labor-intensive. As it is, E-rights is very careful about reproducing the works in question, and you, the author, will get to proofread the final product—and even do editing to the text, if you wish. But, despite the expense of the scanning, this is not vanity publishing. Curtis has gone on record stating that the cost they charge of scanning and transcribing is as cheap as they can make it. They make no profit on the scanning process. Which leads to the next issue: Is this kind of publishing going to go over well with the buying public? No one knows. Curtis and his team have investigated every angle of this enterprise and they think that it will succeed. Even if it ultimately collapses (as a lot of Internet companies undoubtedly will), your books, even for a short time, will be newly available. Also note: Richard Curtis will not be acting as your agent in this (and you really don't need an agent, but you are certainly welcome to contact your agent and run this past them). This is a separate enterprise from agenting that he's set up. Also note that I am not receiving anything from this in any way. It's just that the SF/fantasy community in Arizona [and elsewhere —DFM] have scads of OOP books that we would like to have back in print. This is a new and unique way to accomplish this. If you are interested in receiving any more information, please feel free to contact Richard Curtis directly by email at rcurtis@curtisagency.com, or his assistant Amy Meo at:

ameo@curtisagency.com. Don't be shy. Tell them who you are, what you've done, your awards, your nominations, etc. You will need a release from your publisher for every book you want digitally translated and two copies of the actual book to send to Richard Curtis. That's it. [For two articles that appeared online about Richard Curtis and his new company, please email me at sfwriter00@aol.com]. —DFM]

Rick Cook is "pretty much fully recovered from heart surgery and pushing frantically to finish the next *Wiz* book, which was due to the publisher at the end of February. This one involves a clutch of stolen dragon's eggs, an Internet startup, and a Lamborghini with emphasis on the 'borg.' "Obsidian Harvest," an "Aztec dinosaur detective noir story I wrote with **Ernest Hogan**" is the lead story in the March 2000 issue of *Analog*. "Ernie and I are still trying to figure out what that Inca is doing in the story's illustration."

Alan Dean Foster's novel "A *Triumph of Souls* is a March release from Warner; *Dirge* is June from Del Rey. All three "Journeys of the Catechist" books will be a summer one-volume omnibus special from the SF Book Club." Alan is "finishing up *Diuturnity's Dawn*, the last book in 'The Founding of the Commonwealth' trilogy, for Del Rey," and he has "turned in *Kingdoms of Light*, a fantasy, to Warner." He "will be spending most of May in Brazil." Alan is now also online at www.alandeanfoster.com, where you can find "bio & biblio information, navigable maps of the Commonwealth, quick trip through a wormhole and a desolate planet flyover, among other goodies."

Carl Freedman says "this very month [Mar.] witnesses the publication of my *Critical Theory and Science Fiction*, from Wesleyan University Press and the University Press of New England. It has already received advance praise in the form of testimonials from **Marleen Barr**, **Chip Delany** and **Darko Suvin**. A must read!"

David Gemmell's new book *Hero in the Shadows*, will be released from Del Rey Books this month. He will appear at The Stars Our Destination (Chicago; 29 March; 6-7 p.m.); University Books (Seattle; 31 March; 7-8 p.m.); Mysterious Galaxy (San Diego; 1 April; 2:30-4 p.m.); and Dangerous Visions (Sherman Oaks, CA; 2 April). A fan has set up a website at <http://www.gemmell-mania.org.uk>.

James Gunn says "the second novelette in my 'Gift from the Stars' series, 'Pow'r,' was published in the January *Analog*, and the third novelette, 'The Abyss,' has been accepted. Aside from that, my partner (a retired economics professor) and I will be defending our North American Open Pair bridge championship at the Spring Nationals in Cincinnati in mid-March, but in a higher bracket. I returned to tournament bridge after about fifty years away and qualified for an all-expense trip to Vancouver last year, and repeated this year."

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Musical Notes

By Tom Tuerff

No new releases have landed on my desk, but I have enough to talk about, so....

Chris Dickenson and **Elizabeth Burnham**, formerly of the **Duras Sisters**, and **Pat Connors** have formed **Tuppence**, and as I write this you can see them each weekend at the Arizona Renaissance Faire through the end of March. **Connors** as been taking mandolin lessons from **Joe Bethancourt** and he's gotten quite good! **Tuppence** specializes in Renaissance and Renaissance-style songs-nothing too heady, except perhaps "*With Her Head Tucked Underneath Her Arm...*"

Speaking of **Joe Bethancourt**, most of you are probably aware that he has joined the ranks of **The Bringers**, probably the best Celtic band in Arizona, or at least they're giving the **Mollys** a run for their money. **The Bringers** are the real deal. See them at your first opportunity. Their first album should be on tables at cons by the time you read this; it's being released by Random Factors...

Local boy **Larry Warner** is the guest of honor March 31-April 2 at Filk Ontario near Toronto. Other locals making the trip north include **Nancy Freeman**..

Which reminds me, I had an absolute BALL a couple of weeks ago, sharing the stage at Fiddlers' Dream with **Nancy** and our various and sundry pals of filk and folk persuasion.

At one point, **Nancy** and **Larry** surprised me by performing "*When Your Wife Discovers Elfquest*," a song that I had written about 15 years ago that I had, thankfully, forgotten. **Debbie Baudoin**, the third former **Duras Sister**, also helped us out with her amazing vocals. She needs to sing the blues more often. My friend **Scott Hallock** also played and sold a few CDS and consequently made more money than any of us that evening. Be sure to check **Scott** out, as he's playing all over town every weekend...

PENTANGLE, featuring **Jacqui McShee**, will be appearing Thursday, April 27, at Fiddler's Dream Coffeehouse, at 17th Street and Glendale. For more information, call (602) 997-9795. Tickets should be available by the time you read this...

A CD YOU NEED TO BUY RIGHT NOW: Get the new **Chieftains** CD, *Water from the Well* (RCA/BMG). Four stars on a scale of five. **The Chieftains** have, in the last 15 years or so, recorded in places as diverse as China, Brittany and Frank Zappa's basement. For this one, they go back to Ireland and record what they do best: traditional Irish songs. This one is an absolute winner. **Matt Molloy's** haunting wooden flute and **Kevin Conneff's** vocals are featured a bit more than usual here, and it's a welcome idea.

Word of warning: DO NOT play track 14, *Ballyfin Polkas*, at any workplace that requires the constant supervision of dangerous machinery. This track is

guaranteed to make you forget about everything except dancing around like an idiot. If you play it in your car, you will get out at red lights and dance around. If you're working a dry cleaning machine, that \$4,000 Brooks Brothers suit will dissolve in the presser because this song has made you dance with such abandonment and glee. Take it from me, this track is DANGEROUS. You can't help yourselves. Try it and see!

I will close by inviting all of you would-be pickers, grinners and songwriters to work on your chops at Open Stage Night, every Wednesday and Thursday at Fiddler's Dream from 8-10. **Steve Bodinet** from Channel 3 hosts it on Wednesdays and I handle Thursday night.

Admission is \$2 or two cans of food for the poor. Sing folk, sing filk, hell, sing whatever you want to. Just be sure to come on by! See you next time... Tom Tuerff reviews CDS and writes about local filk and folk for ConNotations. If you have a CD or tape for him to review, send it to him c/o ConNotations. No, you can't have it back!

Neither Return To Tomorrow, Nor Back To The Future, But Beyond 2000:Theatre of the Mind

By Shane Shellenbarger

One of the great things about a book is that it challenges you. The reader creates the look, the sounds, the textures of the world about which the author is telling. In fact, you become a partner in the creation of that world by using your imagination. Television and movies are passive experiences, while a book causes the reader to actively participate as the story unfolds. Radio drama series are like books, with the listener sharing in the realization of the author's vision.

Coming to participating National Public Radio stations in April is BEYOND 2000, a weekly series of hour-long dramatic programs which take place in a time after 2000 AD.

Harlan Ellison hosts, and sometimes adapts and acts in the plays. The bulk of the adaptations are being written by Yuri Rasovsky, producer of the series and creator of the Peabody and Grammy award-winning Hollywood Theater of the Ear.

The following are the 34 programs planned for the series: Hans Christian Anderson, "In A Thousand Years" Isaac Asimov, "Nightfal,l" adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Stephen Vincent Ben t, "By The Waters Of Babylon," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky

Ray Bradbury, "Pillar of Fire," adapted by Dennis Etchison Fredric Brown, "Knock," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Karel Capek, "R.U.R.," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Terry Dowling, "The Only Bird in Her Name," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Friedrich D rrenmatt, "The Mission of The Vega," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky *Harlan Ellison, "'Repent, Harlequin!' Said the Ticktockman," adapted by Harlan Ellison & Yuri Rasovsky E.M. Forster, "The Machine Stops," adapted by Eric Bauersfeld Robert A. Heinlein, "By His Bootstraps,"adapted by Yuri Rasovsky L. Ron Hubbard,"Ole Doc Methuselah," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Rudyard Kipling, "As Easy as ABC," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Cyril M. Kornbluth, "The Marching Morons,"adapted by J. Michael Straczynski Ursula K. LeGuin,"Vaster Than Empires and More Slow," adapted by Carol Adorjan Murray Leinster, "The Mad Planet," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Jack London,"A Curious Fragment," C.L. Moore,"Shambleau," adapted by Sarah Montague William F. Nolan,"And Miles To Go Before I Sleep," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Lewis Padgett, "The Proud Robot," adapted by Brad Schreiber Dannie Plachta,"Revival Meeting," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Frank M. Robinson, "Hunting Season," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Bernard Shaw, "A.D. 7170 (from "Back to Methuselah") Robert Sheckley, "Watchbird," adapted by William F. Nolan Robert Silverburg, "A Sleep And A Forgetting,"adapted by Michael Cassutt Henry Slesar, "Merchant," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Theodore Sturgeon, "Hurricane Trio," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Mark Twain,"A Learned Fable," adapted by Haris Orkin A.E. van Vogt, "Dear Pen Pal" Jules Verne, "In the Year 2889," adapted by David Ossman Kurt Vonnegut, "Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow,"adapted by Yuri Rasovsky H.G. Wells, "A Dream of Armageddon," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Connie Willis,"Even The Queen," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky Roger Zelazny, "Collector's Fever," adapted by Yuri Rasovsky *Harlan Ellison is part of the cast for "Vaster Than Empires and More Slow,""'Repent, Harlequin!' Said the Ticktockman."

The BEYOND 2000 Repertory company consists of Rosemary Alexander, Newell Alexander, Rene Auberjonois, Erik Bauersfeld, Alan Bergmann, Ira Burton, Hamilton Camp, Janet Carroll, Gerald

Castillo, Gabrielle de Cuir, Robertson Dean, Diana Douglas, Terry Dowling, David Dukes, Alistair Duncan, Charles Durning, Samantha Eggar, Harlan Ellison, Brian Finney, Janet Fontaine, Robert Foxworth, Ashley Gardner, Joe Greco, Melissa Greenspan, Kaitlin Hopkins, Amy Van Horne, Milton James, Martin Jarvis, Tony Jay, Arte Johnson, J. J. Johnston, Laura Kellogg, Ann Marie Lee, Norman Lloyd, Tom Magliosi, Kascia Marciniak, Marilyn Mercer, Allan Miller, George Murdock, John O'Hurley, Sandy Orkin, David Ossman, James Otis, Melinda Peterson, Tom Poston, Phil Proctor, Lorna Raver, Stefan Rudnicki, Barbara Rush, Jay O. Sanders, William Sanderson, Brad Schreiber, John Schuck, Kristoffer Tabori, Thomas Towles, David Warner, Robin Williams.

The Script Writers are Carol Adorjan, Erik Bauersfeld, Michael Cassutt, Dennis Etchison, Sarah Montague, William F. Nolan, Haris Orkin, David Ossman, Yuri Rasovsky, Brad Schreiber, and J. Michael Straczynski.

The remaining participants who create the worlds of BEYOND 2000 are Executive producer: Stefan Rudnicki, Executive producer NPR Cultural Division: Andy Trudeau, Host/ Literary Advisor: Harlan Ellison, Producer/Project Director: Yuri Rasovsky, Announcer: Robert Foxworth, Sound: Warren Dewey and Jamie Cerniglia, Composer: Series Theme Jerry Summers, and Production Assistant: Laura Kellogg.

The show will only appear in markets where the Program Director of the local NPR affiliate knows that there is an audience for material of the fantastic. If you want BEYOND 2000 to be available in Arizona write to:

In Flagstaff, KNAU 88.7 FM, KNAQ 91.7 FM, In Prescott KPUB-FM 89.3 FM and in Page KNAD 91.7 FM, contact Program Director, Erik Nycklemoe at KNAU PO Box 5764 Flagstaff, AZ 86011 Main Number: (520) 523-5628, AZ toll free: (800) 523-5628. Main Fax: (520) 523-7647, Newsroom Fax: (520) 523-6202, Listener Comment Line: (520) 523-8778

In Phoenix and the surrounding area, KJZZ 91.5 FM and KBAQ 89.5 FM, Mark Moran KJZZ News Director 1435 S. Dobson Rd. Mesa, Arizona 85202 (480) 834-5627 email:

In Tucson, KUAZ-FM 89.1 FM and KUAT-AM 1550 KUAT Communications Group University of Arizona Tucson, AZ 85721 Telephone: (520) 621-KUAT(5828) In Yuma, KAWC -AM 1320 Yuma, AZ (520)344-7691

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"WESTERCON" IS A REGISTERED SERVICE MARK OF THE LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, INC.

Golden Age standout A. E. van Vogt, a life member of SFWA, passed away on January 26, 2000 of complications of pneumonia.

Van Vogt's science fiction career began with the short story "Black Destroyer," published in John Campbell's *Astounding Science Fiction* in 1939. Over the next eight years, van Vogt placed at least 35 stories in *Astounding*. Among them were the memorable stories later incorporated into the "fix-up" novels *THE WEAPON SHOPS OF FISHER* (1951) and *THE WORLD OF NULL-A* (1948). Other volumes in both series followed.

Van Vogt's first novel *SLAN* (1946) is widely considered a classic of the field, and a prototype for the SF wish-fulfillment tale. His other notable works include *THE VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE* (1950), *EMPIRE OF THE ATOM* (1957) and *CHILDREN OF TOMORROW* (1970). The *Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* calls van Vogt "a master of intricate, metaphysical space opera."

Alfred Elton van Vogt was born in Manitoba, Canada. In 1939 he married E. Mayne Hull, and they wrote several stories together in the 1940s. They moved to the United States in 1944. The last 50 years of van Vogt's life were spent in Los Angeles, California. (Hull passed away in 1975.)

In 1980, A. E. van Vogt received a Casper Award (precursor to the Canadian Aurora Awards) for Lifetime Achievement. In 1996, he was named a Grand Master by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America in 1996, and was selected as one of four inaugural inductees in the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame.

Van Vogt is survived by his second wife, Lydia.

Funeral services were held at 10am Monday, January 31, at Callanan Mortuary, 1301 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027.

Cards may be sent to 2850 Belden Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90068-1902, to the attention of Lydia van Vogt. - Adam Niswander

THOUGHTS ON THE PASSING OF A. E. VAN VOGT

by Adam Niswander

I did not get to meet A. E. van Vogt until 1987.

I attended a first-time convention at the LA Hilton called Universe 87.

The con was a disaster for the committee who ran it. It turned out to be a "gamers" convention, and the attendees checked in, went to the gaming rooms, and were never seen again.

It was a remarkable and seminal event for me. I was still a bookdealer then, not yet published. I had lugged two cases of books by him, hoping to get signatures - not books for resale, just out of my own library. The man wrote a lot of books, most paperbacks, but some landmark hardcover

A. E. van Vogt, 1912-2000

publications as well.

By the middle of the first day, I had abandoned the dealer's room, and gone to join the writers in the Greenroom at the invitation of James P. Hogan. There were no literary fans, so the writers were being ignored, and were bored out of their minds.

Van, even back then, was already suffering from a mental deterioration, a kind of Alzheimers, I guess. His short term memory was shot, but a few key words might trigger a wonderful, long, detailed recollection. His infirmity was strange in that way, very inconsistent. I recall that he was on a panel - a debate - the subject of which was "There Will Be War." It was moderated by Jim Hogan, and the one representing the affirmative was Jerry Pournelle. Van represented the negative. Seated next to me in the audience was Lydia van Vogt. Under my chair were two U-Haul book boxes of Van's books.

When I realized the lady next to me was Mrs. van Vogt, I gushed that I was a huge fan, and showed her the cases under the chair. I explained that I had waited to find them at a convention for ten years, and told her how excited I was. She was very kind and did not kill me on the spot.

In the course of the debate, Van became disoriented, and unable to participate effectively. Lydia, seated next to me, said very quietly, "Oh, dear. Oh dear." Hogan, as moderator, saw the difficulty and brought the panel to an immediate close, with Pournelle helping him as they escorted Van, with Lydia, to his room for a needed rest.

After he had been taken to his room, Lydia came back down and sought me out. She said that he would rest for a couple hours, and then, if it was alright, they would meet me in the Greenroom and Van would sign all my books. I was speechless with surprise and gratitude.

True to her word, two hours later, I went to the Greenroom, where, for fifty-five minutes, A. E. van Van signed his books to me, each one with its unique inscription. He had to be reminded of my name between each and every book, but Lydia would remind him, and he would bend to the task and sign it "To Adam -".

I was never so honored in my life. I never felt so badly about being a collector with so many books. I have never been more grateful to an author and his wife, who treated me so kindly.

I saw them many times after that, at conventions in the Western U.S., and I had an open invitation to their home under the Hollywood sign in California, but, alas, I never visited. Van was our Guest of Honor at a CopperCon in Phoenix. By then, his memory had degraded even farther, but he had a unique gift. He had a cheat sheet, one that listed his book titles and had a short summary of their plots,

and other little notes to jog his recollections. On panels, he would be asked a question, then refer to his sheet, and then launch off into wonderful and detailed stories of his career and the history of the genre. It was a phenomenal compensation on his part.

I remember his description of how he had written so many books by dreaming them. He would write until he got stuck, just didn't know where he would go from there. Then he would lie down, set an alarm clock for twenty minutes or forty minutes, and then go to sleep, telling himself to dream the next part and remember it. When the clock went off, he would awaken, and grab a pad, and scrawl furiously what he had dreamed. It worked for him. He said he finished over fifty novels that way.

In Lloyd Arthur Eshbach's "Of World Beyond, The Science of Science Fiction Writing," his section is called "Complication in the Science Fiction Story." In it, he first talked about the 800 word scene. He said it was not original to him, but I had never heard anyone else define it so clearly. As he said, it could be as short as 600, or as long as 1000 words, but the principle was the same. As a young writer, years later, I took his words to heart. That little book, by the way, contains the wisdom not only of van Vogt, but Heinlein, and Jack Williamson, John Taine, John Campbell, Doc Smith and L. Sprague de Camp as well. Every writer should have a copy. Published in 1947, it is a fundamental for the would-be writer.

In later years, when my own novels were starting to come out, I wrote to Van asking if he could look at my newest and perhaps provide a pre-publication blurb, but I got a very kind note back saying that he was "retired" now and no longer did critiques, blurbs or reviews, and wishing me luck in the new venture. I knew what that meant.

And now I live in a world without the physical presence of A. E. van Vogt, though it will always be one he touched and influenced.

Behind me on the shelves are forty of his novels, each signed especially to me, and I recall many evenings, many signings, many events, where we shared a table, or a panel, or just a warm social chat - one where he and Lydia showed me how graciousness could be defined in the modern age.

Van is gone, but he is woven irrevocably into the fabric of the speculative fiction genre. He had a wonderful mind, a superlative imagination, a kind and compassionate heart, and he loved the fans. And he was blessed with Lydia, who may be the most remarkably accomplished woman I have ever met.

So take a moment, with me, and lift a glass, and toast a giant who is no longer among us but will always be with us, as

long as people read, or imagine, or dream. And Van, thank you.

January 2000
Adam Niswander
Phoenix, Arizona

Remembrance of A.E. van Vogt by Daryl F. Mallett

I met Van in 1987, when I was 18 years old. At the time, to me, he was a legend in the science fiction field, with me a mere neophyte, just entering the industry. Van had penned great works like "Black Destroyer" before my *FATHER* was born, and yet he had time to spend with me. He and his second wife, Lydia, were gracious hosts to me, and later guests of mine, she with her beautiful European accent and charming manners, he with his easy smile and gentility, truly one of the grand old men of the literary world. While I was thrilled to become friends with this writing giant, it was difficult at times.

When I worked on his bibliography, I was able to spend a great deal of time with him and Lydia at their Los Angeles home. But the Alzheimer's Disease, which had already been plaguing him since before our meeting, would not relent. He would smile and say goodbye at the end of the day, and as the door was closing, I would hear him ask Lydia, "Who was that nice boy again?" The next morning, he would smile again, and then ask me, "Would you remind me of your name again, please?"

During an interview I conducted with him in the late 1980s, he said, "I would trade it all [his career, awards, etc.] to be able to start over again." I smiled at the time, not realizing how badly his mental deterioration had progressed.

As I spent time with him, my heart broke, watching him sit at the typewriter, pecking away for a few moments before losing his train of thought. He would stare out the huge window overlooking Los Angeles and his hands would clench at the side of the table, knuckles white, as he tried to regain the thread. Nevertheless, he continued, with Lydia assisting him, on into the very early days of the 21st century. I spoke with Lydia briefly on the phone during WesterCon 1999, and she said he'd gone into a home. I knew then that I would probably not see him again.

Sadly, I was right.

The great Alfred Elton van Vogt, known to his friends and colleagues as simply "Van" has gone to the celestial convention, and this world will not be the same without his great heart, but he will forever live on in the field and in my own heart. Goodbye, Van. Thank you so much for your friendship and the memories.

competing female conspiracy theorist and reportedly will have **Terry O'Quinn** ("Millennium" and "Harsh Realm") in a regular role.

The most recent reports are that **Duchovny** has been offered \$1 million to continue with the series. If he turns them down, the series may continue with Mulder being recast and the show moving its production back to Vancouver.

If you blinked and missed the first three episodes of "**Harsh Realm**" last fall or would like to see the remaining episodes that were produced, the FX cable channel starting airing the produced episodes (eight or nine depending on the source) in late March on Friday nights.

For upcoming **X-Files** episodes, as would be expected for the final season, the main actors are getting their last chances to contribute to the episodes. **William B. Davis** wrote the episode "*En Ami*" which focused on his Cigarette Smoking Man character. **Gillian Anderson** wrote and directed "*all things*" and **David Duchovny** wrote and directed "*Hollywood A.D.*".

"*Brand X*" will center on a conspiracy at the Morely Tobacco Company where a whistleblower dying with a really nasty cough. **Anderson's** episode "*all things*" will focus on Scully and "delves into Scully's struggles between her place in life as an FBI agent and as a medical doctor," according to **Anderson**. In "*Hollywood A.D.*", Mulder and Scully check in on a movie being made about them called "*The Lazarus Bowl*". Starring in the movie as Mulder is **Garry Shandling** and Scully is being played by **Duchovny's** real-life wife **Tea Leoni**. For the final three episodes, little info has leaked other than one of them will feature "*The Lone Gunmen*" but is NOT the pilot episode for their series.

Babylon 5 & Crusade: The Wind-down

Activity related to "**Babylon 5**" is less and less these days, due in no small part to TNT's burying of the repeats on early Saturday mornings. Don't expect TNT to repeat the "**Crusade**" episodes anytime soon, if ever. However, once the current contract with TNT is over in 2001, it is likely that SciFi will pick up "**Babylon 5**" and "**Crusade**" and put it on in a much better time slot where it can easily be caught in repeats. In the meantime, the "**Babylon 5**" related items are slowly coming to an end. *The Official Babylon 5 Magazine* will end with issue #24 in a couple of months. The last three issues will feature original "**Babylon 5**" short fiction from **J. Michael Straczynski** (#22), **Fiona Avery** (#23) and **J. Gregory Keyes** (#24). The novels will continue with the currently planned releases but there are no plans for additional novels. The next **Peter David** Centauri novel, "*Armies of Light and Dark*", will be out in May and the first of the **Jeanne Cavelos** Technomage novels will be released early in 2001.

As the Buffyverse Turns

The WB has already given both **Buffy** and **Angel** a full season order of 22 episodes for next season, so **Joss Whedon** is moving full steam ahead with both series winding up their respective plot threads with a large amount of crossover as the end of the season approaches. As in previous seasons, the major plot threads will be pretty much wrapped up by the end of the season and this year it looks like the final episode for each series will be more of an epilogue to the major events, showing us how the characters deal with the major events that just happened instead of waiting until next season to pick things up after summer vacation. I still find it hard to believe that things really die down that much in Sunnydale during the summer. Phoenix I could believe.

There's still a lot to happen before the season ends, and the **spoiler sensitive** may want to skip over the next few paragraphs, even though some of it may change as they actually film the episodes.

In Sunnydale, a new head of the initiative is assigned, Colonel DeHavilland, whose main priority is to clean up the mess, which includes making sure the soldiers are all OK, especially Riley, that Adam is captured and tested to figure out what went wrong, and to make sure anyone else who knows about The Initiative is eliminated. When Anya and Xander have a big fight, Anya comes on to Spike and a spell makes everyone get into a sexy mood. We'll also have a return



appearance by Oz, who has to deal with Willow's new relationship with Tara. Faith turns up in Los Angeles and gets involved with Wolfram and Hart, who hire her to take out Angel. When Buffy hears about Faith being in L.A., she and Riley head there to check up on the situation. Riley and Angel hit it off, annoying Buffy, and she gets really annoyed when Riley is almost killed when helping Angel in a fight.

Meanwhile, back in Sunnydale, Oz gets captured by The Initiative when he turns

into a werewolf, Adam is rallying the vampires, including Spike, who gets his inhibitor chip removed, and the Council of Watchers makes their presence felt once more. Buffy and Riley head back to Sunnydale with Angel and crew right behind them for a big sweeps crossover dealing with The Initiative and Adam.

After that, when Angel and crew head back to Los Angeles, they have to deal with a biker gang that hunts vampires, a blind woman with supernatural abilities, and a new bad guy who steals the prophecy of Aberjain from Wolfram & Hart and takes out the Oracles.

It has also been reported that Bai Ling, Princess Shiera in the Angel episode "*She*" will be returning as a semi-regular, so she and the other escaped women may get involved with the festivities.

Other rumors are that Angel and crew have their hands full with The Scourge in Los Angeles and stay there to deal with it.

Elsewhere on The WB, "**Roswell**" is getting a new time slot, moving in early April to Mondays at 9 pm ET/PT, 8 pm CT/MT in hopes of improving its ratings. The latter episodes of the season will deal more with the science fiction aspect of the series and less on the teenage angst. We'll learn more about the aliens and what's really happening as they hope for a pickup for next season.

On the syndicated front, "**Hercules**" went out with somewhat of a bang, although Herc's appearance when Xena gave birth to Eve got the ongoing "*Twilight of the Gods*" storyline moving at full steam. After a visit to Amazon land (with heavy use of footage from the failed "*Amazon High*" pilot, Xena and Gabrielle deal with Cleopatra, Marc Antony and Augustus Ceasar over a couple of episodes, followed by an episode with a grown up Eve looking back with an old Joxer. The season finale will deal with the Gods again, featuring Ares and likely setting up a cliffhanger ending to lead into season six.

With the end of "**Hercules**," we got the Back2Back Action hour with "**Cleopatra 2525**" and "**Jack of All Trades**." Both shows suffer a bit from moving too fast to do everything in a half hour. "**Cleopatra 2525**" is better than I expected and handles the action and humor well. Plus they have some mysteries to reveal as they go along. "**Jack of All Trades**" benefits from having Bruce Campbell as the lead but the humor goes a bit overboard at times and makes the show come across as trying too hard to be funny at times. Still, both have done well in the ratings to start with and look to continue for at least a second season.

Elsewhere in syndication, most of the other new shows have done well enough to get picked up for a second season, including "**Relic Hunter**," "**The Lost World**" and "**Beastmaster**." **SciFi's Lexx, Farscape, Exposure, & Good Vs. Evil**

SciFi started the new series of "**Farscape**" in late March, continuing from the cliffhanger ending of the first season. Look for even better special effects in the CGI and puppets for the new season as they explore the uncharted territories even more this season.

SciFi added "**Lexx**" to the Friday night lineup in January, however they decided to emphasize the episodes focusing on Xenia Seeberg's Xev character (with the emphasis on sex) and skipped over the season's initial episodes which set up the ongoing arc of the season and introduces Xev and Lyekka. In late March, SciFi has started airing the season "from the top" and will run the rest of the episodes pretty much in their proper order, although skipping over the ones they have already aired. As the season progresses, the Lexx crew discover that their freeing of Mantrid in the opening episode is leading to the destruction of the universe and they must try to figure out a way to stop Mantrid or be destroyed as well. SciFi and the U.S. is still way behind on the series, as the third series of "**Lexx**" debuted in the U.K. in February and should start airing in Canada in April. That series has now been picked up in the US by SciFi but it will likely be a while before they air it.

The other addition to the Friday night lineup is "**Good Vs. Evil**", which was brought over from the USA Network (called "GvsE" there). From the initial episodes shown on SciFi, the series is pretty much the same as it was on USA.

Ron Moore, late of **Star Trek: Deep Space Nine** and **Voyager**, has done some consulting for the show, mainly helping to improve the scripts and such.

Starting April 5th on SciFi will be a weekly short film series, "**Exposure**," which will feature short films from various sources, from ones done by a young **Tim Burton**, to the recent online **Star Wars** meets **COPS** short "**Troops**" to films submitted by SciFi viewers. The show and the associated web page (exposure.scifi.com) has info on how to submit your short films to SciFi.

Coming later this year on SciFi will be the new "**Invisible Man**" series in June and the six-hour **Dune** miniseries this fall, starring **William Hurt** as Duke Leto Atreides, **Alec Newman** as Paul Atreides, and **Giancarlo Giannini** as Emperor Shaddam IV.

New Syndicated series this fall.

Coming to the syndicated market this fall will be several new syndicated genre series. Most notable are "**Sheena**," starring former Baywatch Babe **Gena Lee Nolin**, "**Queen of Swords**," featuring **Tessie Santiago** as an 18th Century female Zorro-type vigilante in California, and "**Matthew Blackheart: Monster Smasher**" from Director/Producer **Richard Donner** about a man-made superhero who smashes monsters created by an evil scientist.

The most anticipated new syndicated series is **Gene Roddenberry's "Andromeda"** starring **Kevin "Hercules" Sorbo** as Captain Dylan Hunt of the sentient starship Andromeda Ascendant. Hunt and his ship are trapped in the event horizon of a black hole and when they are rescued discover that it has been 300 years since they were trapped and that the galaxy's governing body, the System's Commonwealth, has collapsed. Hunt and crew set about restoring order to the galaxy for the rest of the series. The main writer/producer of the series is **Robert H. Wolfe**, formerly of **"Deep Space Nine,"** and he's bringing a lot of what he learned doing Trek to help make Andromeda a good show. They're creating a ton of backstory for the series and getting plenty of scripts ready before they start filming. We'll definitely have more in the next couple of issues to preview the series.

There's a ton of science fiction, fantasy and horror shows in development for the current pilot season for the networks and cable channels. How many of them will make it to the screen is unknown at this time.

Most ambitious of the lot would have to be the live-action version of **"The Tick"** being produced by **Barry Sonnenfeld** that will star **Patrick Warburton** (Puddy on **Seinfeld** and also the human in recent M&M's commercials) will be the big superhero. Among the many other shows in development at FOX is **"Ultraviolet"**, based on a British series about modern-day vampires and the cops who fight them and track them down. It will be "Americanized" so prospects aren't as good as one could hope.

If you've been trying to watch **"Roughnecks: The Starship Troopers Chronicles"** and have been getting frustrated at the seemingly random order of the episodes, you'll get a chance to watch the series in order starting in mid-May on the local stations carrying the series. The show has returned to SciFi, but is still aired Monday-Thursday, skipping the Friday episode which means that SciFi will skip every fifth episode once they start running them in order. The show has completed all of the forty episodes and the overall quality of the CGI animation from Foundation Imaging has held up despite the long hours they've been putting in to get them done. The storylines have maintained their adult edge to them and has made the series a worthy adaptation to the original novel.

For other news and episode schedules, check out Lee Whiteside's Magrathea/SFTV web pages at <http://www.sftv.org>

ConClusion

The Eleventh Hour of Gallifrey One: A Review by Mike Willmoth

The 11th annual Gallifrey One (G1) convention was held Friday, February 18 thru Sunday, February 20, 2000, at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys, California. For those of you familiar with LosCon each (American) Thanksgiving Day Weekend in Burbank, the G1 is held only a few miles west next to the municipal airport in the next city.

G1 started out as a **Dr. Who** convention and this remains its main emphasis, but it also encompasses other SF TV shows and movies, like **"Babylon 5," "Buck Rogers in the 25th Century," "Alienation,"** etc. It is the only media convention that I go to and is run by a non-profit organization (The Time Meddlers of Los Angeles).

I've been to two previous G1s, but missed last year due to family obligations. This year I expected that we'd be able to drive over on Thursday before the con and leave on Monday after the con. However, due to my wife's work schedule we couldn't leave until Friday afternoon. This put us in to the hotel around 11:30p.m. Then, the front desk gave us keys to someone else's room, which didn't work, and I spent 30 minutes just trying to get that straightened out. On the third set of keys the security manager went with me only to find out the door was latched from the inside!

One phone call corrected this error and we got in on the fourth try. On passing the original door I noticed that the DO NOT DISTURB sign had been hung on the doorknob after our entry attempt...

The hotel is laid out as two buildings with a park-like separation between them. Some of the events were in the main building and some in the additional one. Each year G1 has a theme; this year's was South Pacific.

Along with the hotel registration desk and G1 Registration the main building housed the Tahitian Terrace (Programming #1), Hawaiian Hall (Programming #2), Bali Hi Cinema (Main Video Room), The Lanai Room (Green Room & Art Show Auction), The Dis-Enchanted Tiki Room (Con Ops) and The Beach (Fan Tables / Services). In the same building, but down some hallways, were Easter Island (Special Events) and Con-Tiki Suite (Hospitality Suite). The other building housed South Pacific Square (Programming #3), South Sea Traders (Dealers Room) and Jungle Book Alley (Autographs). We stayed upstairs from these latter functions.

G1 had a whole slew of guests, most of which were from **"Dr. Who"** in some fashion or another. The main guest was **Peter Davison**, the fifth doctor. Also attending were: **Terrance Dicks, Dr. Who** script editor and novelist; **Gary Russell** and **Jason Haig-Ellery, Dr. Who** producers of the audio adventures; **Justin Richards**, BBC Books range editor and novelist; **Stephen Cole**, former BBC Books range editor and novelist; **Kate Orman** and **Jonathan Blum, Dr. Who** novelists; **Mike Tucker, Dr. Who** novelist and BBC

visual effects consultant; **Paul Cornell, Dr. Who** novelist and screenwriter; **Keith Topping, Dr. Who** novelist; **Dave Stone, Peter Anghelides** and **Jon De Burgh Miller, Dr. Who & Benny Summerfield** novelists.

Other shows represented: **J. Michael Straczynski**, creator **"Babylon 5" & "Crusade;"** **Peter Woodward**, Galen from **Crusade;** **Carrie Dobro**, Dureena Nafeel from **Crusade;** **David Allen Brooks**, Max Eilerson from **Crusade;** **Jo Castleton**, Natasha from BBV's **"Auton Trilogy;"** **George Telfer**, Winslet from BBV's **"Auton Trilogy;"** **Bill Baggs**, producer/director from BBV productions; **Mark Altman** and **Robert Burnett**, producers of Free Enterprise.

Actor **Gil Gerard** (couldn't make it), Buck from **"Buck Rogers in the 25th Century;"** but **Erin Gray**, Wilma Deering showed up. **Bob May**, the voice of the robot in **"Lost In Space;"** **Andrew Prine**, Steven from **"V"** were also in attendance. From **"Alien Nation,"** **Gary Graham**, Matt Sikes, **Eric Pierpont** (also a no-show), George Francisco, **Michele Scarabelli**, Susan Francisco, **Terri Treas**, Cathy Frankel made a showing. There was also **Tiny Ron**, Maihar'du from **"Deep Space Nine;"** **Maggie Egan**, ISN Anchor from **Babylon 5 & Crusade;** **Michael Forest**, Apollo from **"Star Trek: Who Mourns For Adonais?;"** **Scott MacDonald** from **Star Trek** series; **Mojo**, Visual Effects Coordinator for **Star Trek: Voyager;** **Mark Allan Shepherd**, Morn from **"Deep Space Nine;"** and a host of other authors, producers and artists. Suffice it to say, you missed a heck of a line up.

On Saturday we got up late and ate lunch offsite (Japanese food nearby) before registering. Even though we missed Friday the registration price was the same (\$50) as for the entire weekend.

We missed some events: **Mojo's** Voyager Visual Effects, Polynesian Feud game show and the Dr. Who Clip Show. We also missed the **Frank Kelly Freas** Slide Show, but saw his wife, **Laura Brodian Freas**, afterwards and she said it went well.

"Beyond Buck Rogers" offered **Erin Gray** as **Gil Gerard** couldn't make it. **Erin** is still in excellent condition, giving us a demo of Tai Chi on stage, and discussing her book about getting into the business as well as some memorable moments, such as getting deep throated by **Don Ho** in her first gig as a beach beauty in 1967.

Phoenix's own **Lee Whiteside** was on a panel, Crusading Forward. We checked out the Dealers Room before attending **Crusade** talk with **Woodward, Dobro** and **Brooks**. In it **Brooks** asked if we liked characterization better than storyline; the results were both! I then asked them if they attended cons for other genres as they do with sf; the answer was no, we were unique and very intelligent audience to work with.

For dinner we hit one of the top 10 BBQ places before returning to the Nightmare of Eden Ice Cream Social, which was lightly attended due to the Charity Benefit Auction for the Downs' Syndrome Association. Following that they held the Greatest Show in the Galaxy: Cabaret,

Mark XI. I wandered in while it was in progress and the Enigma Players were holding a mock talk show scene.

Following that was one of the guests, **Jo Castleton**, I believe, who sang a song about an eleven-armed man from Mars looking for a wife whom she joins and leave with, hand in hand in hand in... She was quite timid at first but really sang with emotion and movement and received a resounding applause afterwards.

There were more table-based skits as well as one fellow singing with a guitar as a fill-in for a delayed **Julie Caitlin Brown** (from **Babylon 5** fame as various characters). **Julie** then sang one song from her current CD as well as one new one from her upcoming CD. Both were well received.

The chorus line of **Dr. Who** guests was pathetic, but the horror poem reading was kind of cool. The dance followed the cabaret and was extremely well attended. I haven't seen a dance that crowded in years. They played a mixture of music, from 80's to 00's, interspersed dance with slow stuff. Up on stage there were about a dozen attendees writhing with the wrhythm with one woman using fluid motions (perhaps from a martial art) to express the music through her body.

There was an amazing amount of energy carousing through that room for an hour or so. Once it began to die off I headed to my room to crash.

Sunday brought the Art Show Auction, BBV and the Auton Diaries, Free Enterprise film screening, **Andromeda** preview, **Alien Nation** chat, **JMS Beyond B5** and **Crusade**, Easter Island Tea and Luau and the Closing Ceremonies.

I made it to the **Andromeda** preview with **Wolfe** where he discussed the new show already approved for 2 seasons! It stars **Kevin Sorbo** of **Hercules** fame as Captain Dillon on a ship in an intergalactic empire taking place roughly 2900 years in our future. **Wolfe** discussed the calendar system (which I asked about), slipstream technology for traversing from one place to another, lack of interstellar communications instantaneously, genetically engineered humans as crew members, etc. It sounded good.

Scarabelli and **Graham** chatted about the behind the scenes on **"Alien Nation" (Pierpont** and **Treas** weren't there). I didn't realize **Scarabelli** played Data's girlfriend in one episode of **ST:TNG!** **Graham** was rather full of himself, but settled down to talk about things more normally before heading off to go skiing. **JMS** discussed the **B5** game status and answered questions from the audience directed to his characters (Londo, Vir, Delenn, G'Kar, etc). He did quite well overall.

The Closing Ceremonies were packed and the thank-yous for the various staff members took up much of the time. The Chair, **Christian McGuire**, announced that there were over 600 attendees on site this year with close to 700 total membership, a new record breaking G1 #1 10 years ago. The Closing Party at Easter Island wasn't much, so we hit a pizza joint nearby despite all the rain and water and wind.

(Cont'd on page 10)

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page 10)
Arthur Loy Holcomb sends "the Reader's Digest version of the past year": He

"produced a series of new stories for the relaunch of *Battlestar Galactica*, was signed to write for the SciFi Channel's *First Wave* comic book edition; will teach screenwriting at Hofstra University this summer at their Writer's Conference" and plans to complete his first novel next year.

Philip E. Kaveny says, "The thing I am most excited about is my involvement in both *The Midwest Book Review* and The Internet Book Watch (a non-commercial Website which gets 60,000 hits a month and goes to every library in the county and many all over the world." He also reports that "for the first time in 12.5 years since we were married, my wife [fellow writer and scholar **Janice Bogstad**] and I are both living in Eau Claire, rather than being separated by 200 miles of Interstate as we were in the past."

Fiona Kelleghan has had several essays come out, including: "The Rhetoric of Humor in **James Morrow's** *The Wine of Violence*," in *ParaDoxa: Studies in World Literary Genres* 5:12 (1999): 69-87; "Author Studies" (Chapter 12), in *Fantasy and Horror: A Critical and Historical Guide to Literature, Illustration, Film, TV, Radio, Internet*, edited by **Neil Barron**, which she co-wrote with **Richard C. West** and **Michael A. Morrison**, Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1999, p. 471-527; "The Theater of the Absurd," in *Twentieth-Century Literary Movements Dictionary: A Compendium of More Than 500 Literary, Critical, and Theatrical Movements, Schools, and Groups from More than 80 Nations...*, edited by **Helene Henderson** and **Jay P. Pederson**, Detroit, MI: Omnigraphics, 1999, p. 760-766. She is also serving as the bibliographic researcher for the latter book, as well as for *Pilgrims and Pioneers: The History and Speeches of the Science Fiction Research Association Award Winners*, edited by **Hal W. Hall** and **Daryl F. Mallett**, Tempe, AZ: SFRA Press, 2000. She is also giving a talk in March on "The Comedy of the Incongruous in **Sean Stewart's** *Resurrection Man*," at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts in Florida, as well as acting in two playlets by **Brian Aldiss**, also at the ICFA.

Kay Kenyon had *Rift* published from Bantam in September. Her forthcoming book is *Tropic of Creation*, also from Bantam, coming this November.

Judith B. Kerman reports that in March, Mayapple Press is publishing *Uncommonplaces: Poems of the Fantastic*, co-edited with **Don Riggs**. She says "this new collection features an exemplary range of poetry of the fantastic, including work by such well-known SF and fantasy authors as **Brian Aldiss**, **Joe Haldeman**, **Jeanne Larsen**, **David Lunde**, **Patrick O'Leary**, **Rick Wilber** and **Jane Yolen**, with original cover art by **Judith Clute**."

Gary Kern says "nothing much coming from me in the SF line for the next few months, though I am planning an article on **Carl Sagan** and need to brush up what I did on **Ernst Jünger**."

Daryl F. Mallett is finishing up editing (finally) on *Pilgrims and Pioneers: The*

History and Speeches of the Science Fiction Research Association Award Winners with **Hal W. Hall** (SFRA Pr., 2000); on *Wail!*, a collection of "street" plays, stories and poems by Beat writer **Brio Burgess**, which will be the second book in his "Jacob's Ladder Books" imprint (Angel Enterprises, 2000); and on *Sherlock Holmes: The Great Detective in Paperback* by **Gary Lovisi** (Gryphon Books, 2000). He is also writing his usual group of essays for *Vocational Biographies* and St. James Press' *International Directory of Company Histories*, as well as working as a subcontracting research assistant at The International Research Center in Phoenix. His wearable computer company, Blue Fire Technologies, has also been featured recently in *The Business Journal—Phoenix*. For more information, go to <www.geocities.com/area51/1295> and <www.bluefiretech.com>.

Louise Marley, who attended a Phoenix convention in 1999, writes, "There's nothing a writer likes better than being asked what's up with their career! *Pour moi*: The paperback edition of *The Terrorists of Irustan* [One of my favorite books of 1999! —DFM] comes out July 4, 2000, and my new novel, *The Glass Harmonica*, hits the shelves in trade paper in September. Also, *Terrorists* was selected by *VOYA Magazine* as one of the best SF novels of 1999." Congratulations, Louise!

Susan R. Matthews says, "since December of 1999, I have published my (fourth) novel *Avalanche Soldier*" [Which I recommend! —DFM] "(January 2000; Avon Eos) and delivered the final draft of my (fifth) novel *Colony Fleet* (October 2000; Avon Eos). I'm working on a Koscuisko-related novella while my editor decides what she would like to see from me next." [I also recommend her Koscuisko novels! —DFM] "I've been to Rustycon and Potlatch and expect to attend Sakura Con (Tukwila, WA) and NorWesCon (Seattle, WA) between now and May. (I may be attending VCon Vancouver, BC in May.)"

James A. Moore's novel, *Under the Overtree* is coming out at the end of March from Meisha Merlin, and, aside from that, he has a *Werewolf: The Apocalypse* book, *Breedbook: Ananasi*, coming out later this year, as well as a new anthology coming out from FireDance Literary Works and an anthology of psychosis, due out in October.

Visual artist **Annette Maria Sexton-Ruiz** has produced a new body of paintings in acrylics and oils. She will be participating in this year's 12th Annual Art Detour, where her new works will be on exhibit in the gallery at The Phoenix (AZ) Center for the Community Arts. More works, including her mono-silkscreens, will be on display in her studio, which is located in the same building as the gallery: 214 East Moreland (just south of I-10 at Margaret Hance Deck Park in Phoenix). On other fronts, Annette has been recently hired by The Phoenix Art Museum, as Studio Coordinator for all their art classes. For more info, write to <sextonruiz@aol.com>.

Scott P. "Doc" Vaughn and **Tamera K. Frahm** report that they are in production

on the next issue of their *Hero-Lore* comic book series, as well as the next issue of *M&V Magazine* (based on the old *Mules & Vaughn MagaZine of Art, Humor, and Literature*). They are seeking advertisers and contributors. Scott says, "Please write for guidelines. We are always seeking freelance illustration and writing gigs." Scott is also currently illustrating an as-yet unnamed erotica comic title, and invites readers to visit the M&V webpages—"always in production with new materials and characters"—at <www.doitnow.com/~dalek7>.

Sean Alan Wallace reports: "Cosmos Books, a U.S./U.K. publishing company, continues its ambitious publishing program with *Fantasy Annual 3*, a short story anthology containing such British authors as **E. C. Tubb**, **Sydney J. Bounds**, **Norman Lazenby**, **Stephen Laws**, **Andrew Darlington**, **John Russell Fearn**, **Philip E. High**, **Eric C. Williams**, **Ken Alden** and **David Somers**. Projects planned for later this year include *Fantasy Annual 4* and *The Great World and the Small*, a short story collection by *Weird Tales* editor **Darrell Schweitzer**, for a September release. All books are and will be available through various outlets, including specialty SF bookstores and online bookstores, including <amazon.com> and <barnesandnoble.com>. Further inquiries regarding all these projects may be directed to me at <saw@neo.rr.com>. I have also been named a consulting editor of a new book division of Dreamriders Workshop, a Canadian-based company."

Janine Ellen Young's second novel, *The Bridge*, will be released in September by Warner/Aspect. She will also be attending "NorWesCon/Westercon (Seattle, Apr.), the International Comic Con (San Diego, Jul.), WorldCon (Chicago, Sep.) and, hopefully, World Fantasy Con (Corpus Christi, TX; Oct.)."

Del Rey's publishing schedule for the next three months looks like this: *Hero in the Shadows* (hardcover, by **David Gemmell**); *Star Wars, Episode I: The Phantom Menace* (mass market paperback, by **Terry Brooks**); *Enchantment* (mass market edition, by **Orson Scott Card**); *A Calculus of Angels* (mass market edition, by **J. Gregory Keyes**); *The Crusading Wizard* (paperback, by **Christopher Stasheff**); and *Dragon's Egg* (trade paperback, by **Robert L. Forward**) in March; *Pegasus in Space* (hardcover, by **Anne McCaffrey**); *The Demon Apostle* (mass market edition, by **R. A. Salvatore**); *Orion Arm: The Rampart Worlds, Book Two* (paperback, by **Julian May**); *Ghost of the Well of Souls* (paperback, by **Jack L. Chalker**); *Pegasus in Flight* (reissue, by **Anne McCaffrey**); *To Ride Pegasus* (reissue, by **Anne McCaffrey**); and *Star Wars: The Essential Chronology* (trade paperback, by **Kevin J. Anderson** and **Daniel Wallace**) in April; and *Star Wars, Episode I: Rogue Planet* (hardcover, by **Greg Bear**); *Prospero's Children* (hardcover, by **Jan Siegel**); *Wit'ch Storm: Book Two of the Banned and the Banished* (mass market edition, by **James Clemens**); *Babylon 5: Armies of Light and Darkness: Legions of Fire: Book Two* (paperback, by **Peter David**); and *Empire of Unreason*

(trade paperback, by **J. Gregory Keyes**) in May. To subscribe to Del Rey's online newsletter, *The DEL REY BOOKS Internet Newsletter (DRIN)*, send a blank message to <join-drindist@list.randomhouse.com>.

That's it for this time. If I missed anyone, apologies; please send me email at <sfwriter00@aol.com> and let me know what's going on with you for the May 15th deadline. And pass this along to other colleagues as well!

ConClusion

(cont'd from page

10)
 Upon returning I hung out with other Phoenicians (**Jim Cryer**, **Jeff George**, **Mike Elliott** and **John ?** and watched **Hercules** movies on the in-house TV system.

Our drive home on Monday was wet, slow and dangerous. Fortunately, we managed to miss all opportunities for native Californians to intersect our trajectory. We arrived in the early evening to a slightly damp Phoenix before the storm dropped some of what we saw in California earlier. We were tired and sore from sitting all that time (about 7 hours each way), but had a great time.

We got to see some friends we don't see much of, meet new ones and listen to actors and producers and writers of TV and movies talk about their creations or work. We don't get much in the way of media guests in Phoenix, so this was our annual pilgrimage for that. LosCon gets some, but not like Gallifrey One. The main convention similar to them was Visions in Chicago, but it ceased to exist last year. The only other one mentioned was United Fan Con in Massachusetts. So, support your non-profit run media cons or they will disappear.

Next year's con will be held President's Day Weekend (February 2001) at the same hotel. Confirmed guests include **Sarah Sutton** (Nyssa), **Mark Strickson** (Turlough) and **Bonnie Langford** (Melanie Bush). For more info check out www.gallifreyone.com or call 818-752-3756 or write P.O. Box 3021, North Hollywood, CA 91609.

This is a charming, bittersweet animated feature from Disney about our good buddy Tigger who realizes that though being a Tigger is a wonderful thing...he IS the only one. So he sets out to find his family.

The film's setting is late autumn and into winter in the Hundred Acre Wood, and this coupled with Tigger's increasingly anxious search for his family color the film a bit gray and sad.

But since it is always a joy to be with the gang: Pooh and Piglet and Eeyore and Rabbit and Owl, the film is still fun. (It's hard to keep a good Pooh Bear down! And out of a honey tree!)

It is especially fun with Roo who tries his darnedest to be like Tigger and to cheer him up, because Roo is feeling lonely too. He'd like to have a little brother to share things with.

Perhaps to all the fans of Pooh, it's pretty obvious who (and where) Tigger's family is, but this is a delightful emotional journey anyway. - Sue Martin

Johanna Martin says: "It was sad and happy. I liked when Pooh thought frogs were Tigger's family. And when they all dressed up like Tigger's. I want to see it again."

Currently on Home Video:

Trilogy of Terror

Karen Black, Robert Burton
Anchor Bay Entertainment Inc., 72 min

This is a trio of stories starring Karen Black in four characters. According to the box label, her performances are "legendary."

Story 1 "Julie" is a little tale of seduction between a teacher and her student. It was scarcely a surprise who really seduced whom. From a '90's viewpoint, this story was neither suspenseful nor scary. Karen Black delivered a very subdued performance.

Story 2 "Millicent and Therese" is a story of two "opposite" sisters with a serious case of sibling rivalry. This was easily predictable and no one could've been surprised at the ending. Ms. Black did seem to have some fun playing both "opposite" personalities . . . who never confront each other.

Story 3 "Amelia" was the best of the three. This story was actually simpler - an insecure, unhappy woman accidentally releases an evil spirit whose only purpose is to kill. Not that this scenario wasn't equally predictable; but, Karen Black has a couple of really excellent moments that I enjoyed watching, especially the final scene. She looked . . . amazing.

Rent it if you really enjoy your camp horror; or, better yet - borrow it from an equally compulsive friend. - Catherine Book

Motel Blue

Soliel Moon Frye, Sean Young,
Robert Vaughn

MTI Home Video, Rated R, 96 Minutes

With a name like that it could only be either horror or an erotic thriller. Let me tell you it's not horror. Punky Brewster all grown-up and actually showing she can act. Sean Young's character is quick, devious, and completely amoral. I really enjoyed this movie and will recommend it enthusiastically. However, it is not for everybody. A lot of nudity, and sexual situations including sexual role-playing make this strictly adults only. The story bogged down a couple of times but overall it played well. - Bob LaPierre

Me & Will

Sherrie Rose, Melissa Behr
MTI Home Video, Rated R, Color

A buddy movie in search of the motor-cycle ridden by Peter Fonda in "Easy Rider". Sounds like a great movie for the guys right? Wrong! The protagonists are a couple of women with pasts they're riding from. The movie is extremely realistic in it's dialogue and attitudes. I liked it but the ending was unjust. I do endorse this movie but it isn't for families. Limited nudity, sexual situations, and drug use. It is worth the movie to see the various bikes in it. - Bob LaPierre

The Werewolf Reborn!

Ashley Cafagna, Len Lesser,
Robin Downes
Full Moon, Rated PG, 70 Minutes

An update of the classic Werewolf movies. I'd like to say now that I never have liked screaming females in my horror. That said this is a good update of a classic. If you like the old Boris Karloff / Bela Lugosi style horror you will enjoy this. It is a little more gruesome than the original but that is what sells now. I found it to be good fun. - Bob LaPierre

Her Name is Cat

Almen Wong, Michael Wong, Ben Lam
MTI Home Video and Majestic Studios,
Rated R, Color / 90 Minutes

Pretty straight forward Chinese action flick. Beautiful, lethal, vicious contract killer with a heart of gold. Cat has the opportunity for one last big score and then she will retire (yeah right they always say that). Enter one good looking brash police detective, add sexual tension, Competitor assassins, and a cool sound track, mix well. This is a very good example of a movie overcoming it's formulaic shortcomings and becoming very good. I was impressed with the viciousness of the exchanges between actors. The betrayal on Cat's face was so real I was saddened. There is sex but no nudity, violence but little gore. I enjoyed myself watching this one. A genuine diamond in the rough. - Bob LaPierre

Detention

Charisse Brown, Justin Black,
John Hall, Darryl Wheaton

MTI Home Video
Rated R, Color / 85 Minutes

I thought this would be entertaining. I hoped it would at least be likable. I figured it could either be somewhat comedic and be an inner city version of "The Breakfast Club", or a preachy solve everyone's problems in two hours type movie. What it was was flat, stale, and stereotypical. I wanted to like it but I just couldn't accept one-dimensional characters and the lack of drive. There were plenty of possibilities but nothing was followed to its promise. - Bob LaPierre

Cube

Nicole DeBoer, Nicky Guadagni,
David Hewlett
Trimark Home Video, Rated R, Color / 90
Minutes

Typical violent senseless slasher movie. The twist is that the slasher takes the form of a seemingly endless series of interlocking rooms. It is listed as science fiction but the reality is it wasn't good enough for horror and lately sci-fi has been the waste-bin for all kinds of poorly made, poorly acted, and poorly advertised manure. I thought it had potential but if you never care what happens to the characters then you can't enjoy the movie. - Bob LaPierre

Urban Menace

Snoop Dogg, Ice-T, Fat Joe, Big Pun
Sterling Home Entertainment, Rated R,

Ice-T's narration is the only thing keeping me from using this tape as a home for my Saturday morning cartoons. Snoop Dogg, Big Pun, and Fat Joe need living lessons not just acting lessons. If Snoop's character had more of an identity this could have been made into a decent movie. I liked the sound track but while you buy a sound track if you like the movie I can't recommend the movie based on the soundtrack. Straighten out "Preacher Caleb" and get real actors and you have a movie until then you have several bad music videos. - Bob LaPierre

Office Killer

Carol Kane, Molly Ringwald,
Jeanne Tripplehorn
Dimension Home Video, Rated PG-13,

I like Carol Kane. That being said, this movie was the winner of this issues bonfire donation. It was over-acted, under-thought-out, and completely around-the-bend. There were no redeeming qualities what-so-ever in this movie. I'm just glad Carol will never see this review, I am a great fan but I cannot recommend this movie for any reason. The tag line is "Working here can be murder" yeah well so can watching this movie. - Bob LaPierre

Totem

Tyler Anderson, Sacha Spencer,
Jason Faunt
Full Moon, Rated R, Color / 80 Minutes

This movie runs like a bad description of a so-so movie. I found myself rooting for the "Totem" just so the movie would be over. It was a typical low-budget slasher movie with a weaker than normal story and a cast that apparently never saw ANY slasher movies. I thought with the success of the "Scream" movies writers would realize that they can incorporate that kind of mentality into their scripts. Silly me. Some nudity, save your money, see "House painting for fun and profit" instead. - Bob LaPierre

Alien Arsenal

Josh Hammond, Danielle Hoover, Michelle
Nordin
Full Moon, Rated PG-13, 90 Minutes

Two geeks save the world. A few problems with that. First, they use "Prom Royalty" for the starring roles. I couldn't believe them as outsiders. Second, the only reason the world was in peril was because of their meddling where they shouldn't be. Oh yeah splitting your fingers will open a lock meant for a three digit hand. Third, there was NEVER any rationale for the aliens leaving an arsenal and then when we find it destroying the planet. Some interesting moments and Danielle Hoover is a real babe but not good enough to recommend. - Bob LaPierre

When Justice Fails

Jeff Fahey, Marlee Maitlin
Moonstone Entertainment, Rated R, Color
/ 90 Minutes

This movie is a series of sex scenes interrupted by a good story line. I put it that way because it seems the sex is predominant and the story, however good, is secondary. I enjoyed both aspects of it but took two cold showers during it. You don't know everything you think you know, and the ending is completely believable. I really liked this one and recommend that you check it out.

That's all from the easy chair this quarter. You pick the snacks and I'll pick the video. - Bob LaPierre



The Words of Harlan Ellison

ACROSS

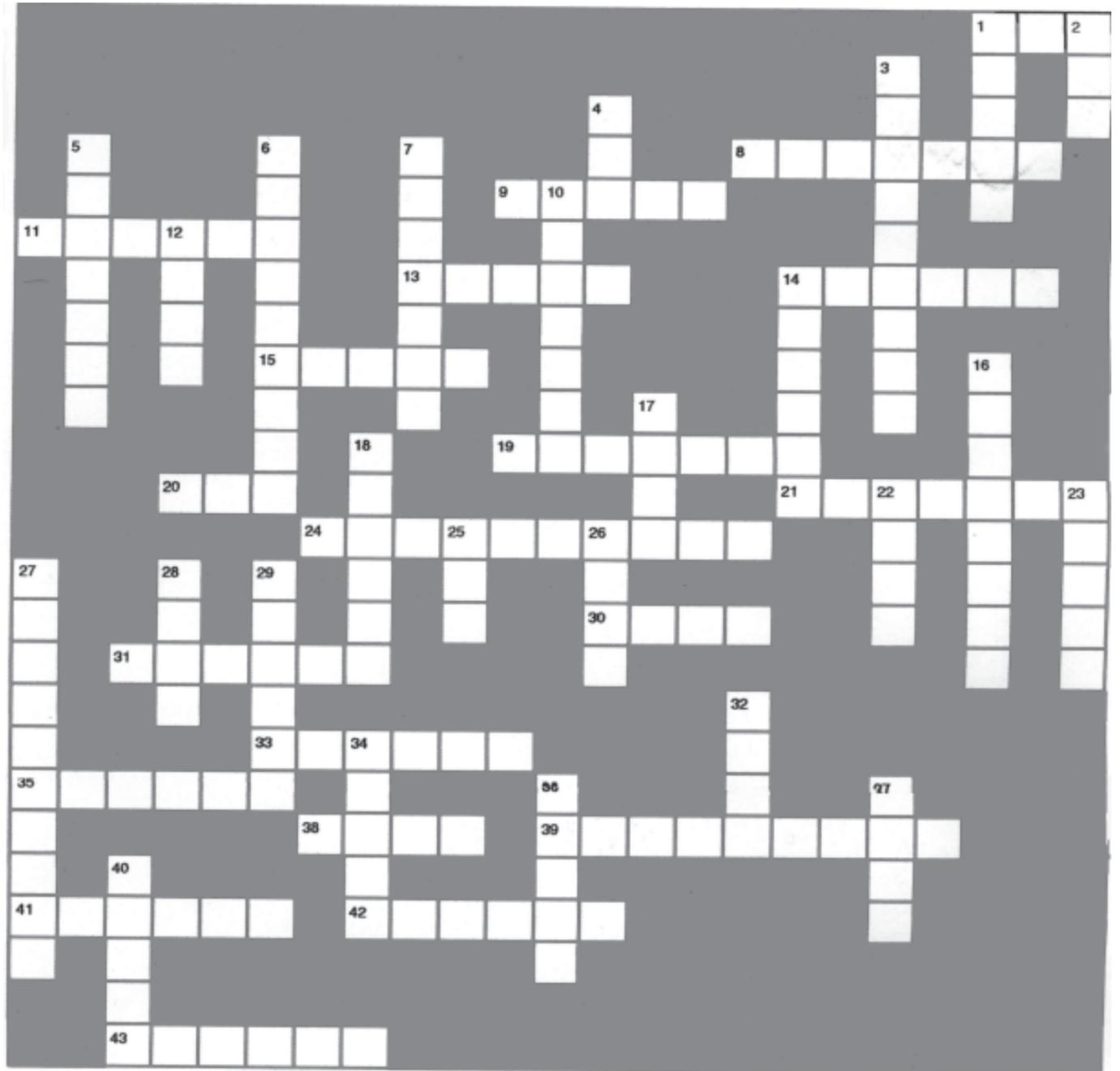
- 1 When you've spent your youth you're left with this age
- 8 Opposite of lesser
- 9 Female
- 11 Entreaty to a god
- 13 If you didn't have this, you couldn't scream
- 14 A pleasant view while traveling
- 15 Worn out
- 19 Odd, different
- 20 Adolescent male
- 21 Army Private
- 24 Opposite of popular
- 30 Sans cost
- 31 The living dead

- 33 Small islands
- 35 Where flowers and vegetables grow
- 38 Fort where gold is held
- 39 Not a clown or jester. The joker's girlfriend
- 41 One to three rings
- 42 Routine, as in standup comedy
- 43 Only The _____.

DOWN

- 1 Different, distinct, else, separate
- 2 Descended from wolves
- 3 A dropped glass is this
- 4 Partner to Dad
- 5 Consuming in flame
- 6 Purifying place for penitent souls
- 7 Whine or cry
- 10 Distant Army station

- 12 Lock or University
- 14 Cleats, stakes, skewers
- 16 Fragile, like a flower
- 17 Loathe
- 18 Cadaver
- 22 _____ Is A Many Splended Thing
- 23 All The Birds Come Home To _____
- 25 Ocular organ
- 26 Play the game of _____
- 27 Reappearance, rebirth, renewal, revival
- 28 Radiance
- 29 Shattered Like A Glass _____
- 32 Fermented grapes
- 34 Kings holdings
- 36 Through _____ and thin
- 37 $3*10+20/8-1.25=$
- 40 Monty Python And The Holy _____



Answer to puzzle is on page 15

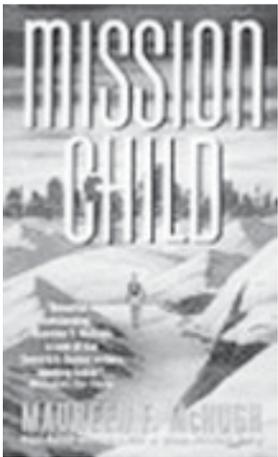
In Our Book

Mission Child

Maureen McHugh
Avon/EOS, 347 pp., \$6.99

This is a tale of a young woman's quest for identity, ranging across a colony planet and across the lines of gender. There isn't much futuristic technology here. The descendants of the colonists have developed many cultures across the world, all at preindustrial levels. In contrast, "offworlder" humans have spaceships, artificial intelligence computers, a few biotechnology implants, and advanced medicine. That's it.

Jan, the main character, starts out in a reinderr-herding clan. Her clan is killed off and she comes to a refugee camp run by the offworlders. A refugee shaman sees Jan dressing as a man, and takes it as a sign that her path in life is the in-between one of the shaman, combining male and



female genders. Shamans are medicine men, who serve as intermediaries with the spirit world. He takes her under his care to teach her, but she rebels. When she leaves the camp, Jan continues her male impersonation, sometimes falling out of it for boyfriends. When it comes to sex and language, this ain't no juvenile book.

As years pass, Jan travels from the snowy north to the warm southern islands, settling in as a conspicuous foreigner. The final, climatic battles of the novel are against a plague instead of people. Jan becomes a language translator, helping the offworlder doctors. In the end, the shaman was right, if you think about it.

There are elements from the heroic story formula in McHugh's novel. Jan is an orphan, who brings a boon to her community from another world. These timeless plot devices serve as merely that, providing some structure to the novel. McHugh gets inside Jan's head and tells the story in the first person narrative. One could call this a character-driven rather than a plot-driven story. Or one could call it literary but still full of adventure. Regardless, call it excellent science fiction.

There are entire chapters in the book which are not science fiction, though. The

narrative could just as well be describing a Native American in the old west, a Laplander in our own time, or anyone going through culture shock. Just when you think it isn't science fiction, futuristic technology reappears, weaving an unnoticed central plot thread. You see, Jan's clan was part of an experimental mission settlement devoted to appropriate technology, ala E. F. Schumacher. Jan is fitted with offworlder implants which influence her entire life. And the entire issue of appropriate technology comes as the plot's climax. But it's very subtle, embedded in a literary narrative devoid of preaching. No didacticism here, just good writing. - **Michael Griffin**

Lord of Emperors

by Guy Gavriel Kay
Harper Prism, 531 pp.; \$24

This is a continuation of Kay's previous novel, "Sailing to Sarantium," which follows the course of several characters, most notably the mosaicist, Caius Crispin and his on-going work on the cathedral to the god Jad, the massive undertaking of the Emperor Valerius II and his Empress Alixana, and a new character, the Bassanid physician Rustem, who is sent by his King of Kings to spy, but ends up dispensing sensible medical care throughout the tale. (The Bassanids sound very Babylonian/Persian in flavor).

Once again, Kay takes us through the labyrinthine politics of his pseudo-Byzantine world, expanding his tale with a richer and fuller exploration of the colorful city and kingdom of Sarantium. He gives us more layers to Crispin and the dancer Shirin and Crispin's queen-in-exile, Gisel, who has a few surprises up her fair sleeve.

There is a hellaciously exciting chariot race in the middle of this volume, between two city factions, the Blues and the Greens, where many threads of the story come together: the career of charioteer Scortius, Rustem, the Emperor and empress, the clever Styliane and her husband the Strategos, Leontes.

And the fate of the whole kingdom of Sarantium is changed by a rather nasty confrontation, as is Crispin's life.

I don't want to say too much about the big events that occur near the end of the volume, because they caught me by surprise. Nevertheless, these occurrences don't come out of nowhere and make the novel that much more compelling. Happy as I will be if there is another book, it's hard to tell if there's a third volume in the offing.

To repeat myself: Kay is such a satisfying, steady writer who never gives up excitement to over-explain or get carried away, yet his descriptions are beautiful and clear. His even hand with his writing and his ideas just serve his characters that much better and give the reader intriguing people and events they never fail to entertain. - **Sue Martin**

The Great Book of Amber; The Complete Amber Chronicles, 1-10

by Roger Zelazny
Avon/Eos, 1258 pp., \$20

This is a single-volume trade paperback of all ten Amber novels. It's a good find for someone like me who only read the first five originally. They came out in 1970-78, making a complete story of Corwin, Prince of Amber. The next five came out in 1985-91, centered on Merlin, son of Corwin. This book contains most of the Amber material, although other tidbits exist. Bob LaPierre says there is another story published in a magazine, and of course there is the Amber section in the "Illustrated Roger Zelazny" book.

Here is my favorite description of the series, which has echoed through the years in publishing: Amber is the one true world, of which all others are but shadow reflections. This series makes an interesting example of what I call mythic spacetime (see my publication notice in this issue). Zelazny took the quantum physics concept of multiple universes and applied it to a fantasy setting. Our own Earth is a shadow aspect of Amber, and infinitely many variations are possible. Some other mythic motifs are used also. Beside sibling rivalry among the princes of Amber, a main theme of both five-novel stories is a quest for the father, something Joseph Campbell emphasized. Zelazny used mythology more explicitly in other books, and he became one of the top fantasy and science fiction writers. He could write at all levels, from profound explorations of good and evil, to just lightweight, escapist adventure. With Amber, he could put in everything.

The Amber novels have a complexity of story due to the interactions of dozens of characters, most of them related in a royal bloodline. Corwin and Merlin go through so many considerations of possible schemes by others, yet the action still abounds. Zelazny also gives us romance, villains, lots of swordfights, battling armies, sorcery and trump cards used as magical portals between dimensions.

The titles in the series in order are: "Nine Princes in Amber," "The Guns of Avalon," "Sign of the Unicorn," "The Hand of Oberon," "The courts of Chaos," "Trumps of Doom," "Blood of Amber," "Sign of Chaos," "The Knight of Shadows," and "Prince of Chaos."

There is more to this series than just light adventure, or the standard high fantasy theme of good versus evil. At one point in the fourth book, Zelazny put himself in the story for a few paragraphs, as Roger the dungeonkeeper and amateur writer. He described his aims: "I am writing a philosophical romance shot through with elements of horror and morbidity." The multiple realities allow for some philosophy, as does the overt conflict between the forces of Chaos and the Pattern. we

get an echo of mathematical chaos theory in that conflict, besides the quantum theory. Taken all in one book, these infinite levels of wonder make for a good read. - **Michael Griffin**

The Annunciate

by Severna Park
Avon/EOS; \$23; 294pp

This is a rough, cold, dry book.

And that's not saying it's bad. It isn't. This is a book about a trio of drug runners, Eve, Annmarie and Corey in a closed system of three stars and eleven planets (ThreeSys). They have re-discovered Paradise, the site of the first human landing and where The Annunciate, the first human to touch land, became the heart of their religion. The planet is now a slag heap, a collection of ruins and pocked with holes from various wars. The air is not even breathable.

The three drug runners hope to make Paradise the center of their drug producing, but as they try to get settled on the planet they find there's actually primitive life evolving...and this doesn't bode well for their plans.

The youngest on the ship Eve (a little too obvious a name) falls in love with Naverdi, an outcast with her own agenda. And their relationship is the thread throughout the book as they find and lose each other. Their lives get tangled with an alien with sweeping plans, who impregnates Naverdi with it's offspring.

A lot of the book involves the Jacked, the Jackless and the Meshed, different castes who are either partially connected or completely connected to a virtual reality world, or not connected at all. These three castes have had nasty, destructive wars throughout ThreeSys and life for most is very dismal. There doesn't seem to be one place in the system that hasn't been dragged through conflict and destruction.

The book is grim, but Park has created an interesting array of characters and desires, but it's not a very pleasant world. - **Sue Martin**

Sir Stalwart

by Dave Duncan, Avon
229 pp., \$4.99

We're back in the world of the King's Blades (I reviewed the "Gilded Chain" in the last ConNotations), those brave men who swear their allegiance and their swords to protect the King.

Well, this time, a young man, Stalwart, very deft with a sword, but having the unfortunate look of an awkward adolescent boy, finds himself out of the running to be a King's Blade, though all the other senior boys at Ironhall (where Blades-to-be get their training) have been chosen. The King has been going through an unusually high number of Blades lately as he has been under magical attack by

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In Our Book (Cont'd from page 14)
 hideous monsters and no one knows who is behind the assaults.

But the king's ministers have a plan. Stalwart, Wart to his friends, will be thrown out of Ironhall in disgrace, never having been made a King's Blade. He will then track down a "disgraced" White Sister, a woman who can "smell" the presence of magic. The two of them will provide bait to a trap to flush out the sorcerers behind the monsters.

So Stalwart and the White Sister he meets, Emerald, find themselves shanghaied by evil group of sorcers who have this grand plan to take control of the kingdom, that is, well...evil. They're led by the droopy-faced Dr. Skuldigger.

This is just a dandy adventure novel. Not high and grand, but a charming, modest bit of fantasy, with lots of sword-



play of course, some minstreling, deceptions and escapes.

Standard fare, but an easy and entertaining read. Duncan's writing doesn't try the mind, but it does paint nice pictures. - **Sue Martin**

Legends Walking

By Jane Lindskold
 Avon Books, 403 pp, \$6.99

The first remarkable thing I noticed about this book is that the author has written it entirely in the present tense. This isn't something I've seen very often and, at first, felt uncomfortable reading. Gradually I became accustomed to the style (and the author's ability) and came to enjoy it. Don't let it scare you; this book is a treat!

This is the second volume of what has the makings of a series. I have not read the first one. Ms. Lindskold assumes the reader has read her first book and I was well past halfway before certain characters and previous events became understandable. However, this did not detract from my enjoyment.

The world is inhabited, unbeknownst to most humans, by immortals of all shapes and sizes. These immortals are called athanor, whose leader is King Arthur.

Many of the athanor are shape changers, including one called the Changer who may well be the oldest living creature on earth. The athanor who have human bodies have been known by familiar names during their existence: Lancelot, the Wandering Jew, Athena, Lilith and Dionysus, to name only a few. Ms Lindskold has stolen unashamedly from just about every god myth you ever knew. The world also abounds with Yeti, satyrs, wind spirits, fauns, merfolk, intelligent coyotes, unicorns, griffins and, my favorite, the Cats of Egypt.

This book opens with King Arthur and his human assistants concerned with a number of issues. One is to transport the Changer's daughter, a coyote, to a ranch in Colorado, where her father intends that she learn to socialize with other athanor who live at the ranch. The young coyote, Shahrazad, has much to learn from the unicorns and the Cats of Egypt and her ever-present guardians, the jackalopes. There is also a mystery at the ranch. Shahrazad has dreams about a locked door that she is unable to discuss with anyone at the ranch. And, a neighboring cattle rancher, has a dangerous curiosity about the wolf tracks he found and the notable absence of any human ranchhands.

Arthur is also concerned about a popular idea amongst some of the athanor, mostly the fauns and satyrs, of telling the world of their existence. While the athanor have been debating this issue, a great refuge is being built under the sea to hide the athanor in the event their existence generates hate and fear from the humans. One of their number, a popular rock star, has conceived the notion of using the fauns and satyrs in his stage show, contending that no one will ever believe what he is seeing. Unfortunately, the sexual needs of the satyrs are inflamed by the rock star's fans and the allure of stardom, which leads to an amusing situation and threatens the athanors' masquerade.

Meanwhile, Arthur's best friend, once known as Lancelot, is sent to Nigeria to find a reclusive athanor. Nigeria is beset with a resurgence of smallpox, which the country is desperately trying to conceal from the rest of the world. In his search, he finds that the smallpox epidemic was deliberate and may have been engineered by a fellow athanor. He finds a most unexpected ally in his battle to stop the plague, one whose existence is a myth even among the athanor.

I loved this book. I fully intend to find the first volume, Changer, and look forward to her next. In this cookie-cutter fantasy market, Ms Lindskold's world is a truly welcome diversion. - **Catherine Book**

Cryptonomicon

Neal Stephenson
 Avon Books (May 1999) Fiction, 910 pages plus appendix \$27.95

Stephenson uses a split time line and

some very odd turns to put out a story that is interesting, easily recognizable and too long. There were memorable characters and places but too much of them. I would have liked to have the story go a little faster and not dwell so much on small details. I liked the cryptography but if I wanted it so detailed I would have bought a book on it. Also the premise that we broke all the codes of WWII and didn't use the information because we couldn't reveal our information is a little far-fetched. If you can break the codes it should be simple to develop a system that would make the discovery seem accidental. I enjoyed the book but it is not up to his better work. My score : Effort 8, Execution 5 - **Bob LaPierre**

999: New Stories of Horror And Suspense

Ed. Al Sarrantonio
 Avon Books (September 1999) Horror, 666 pages \$27.50

Sarrantonio took a daunting task and conquered it. I am only recently returned to horror and was unfamiliar with many of the authors. The editor blurbs at the beginning of each story was very informative and showed me that I was familiar with their work if not their names. The stories are all new and were mostly written for this volume. A few were written but not published and so are all the better for not having been written "under the gun." I enjoyed these stories and more so because they show how much horror has grown up since I last read it. The one that

stood out the most was "Darkness." Most of the stories are short enough that telling you about them would reveal too much so you will just have to trust me on this one. My score : A solid 9. - **Bob LaPierre**

Avalon: The Return of King Arthur

Stephen R. Lawhead
 Avon Books (September 1999) Fantasy, 442 pages \$25.00

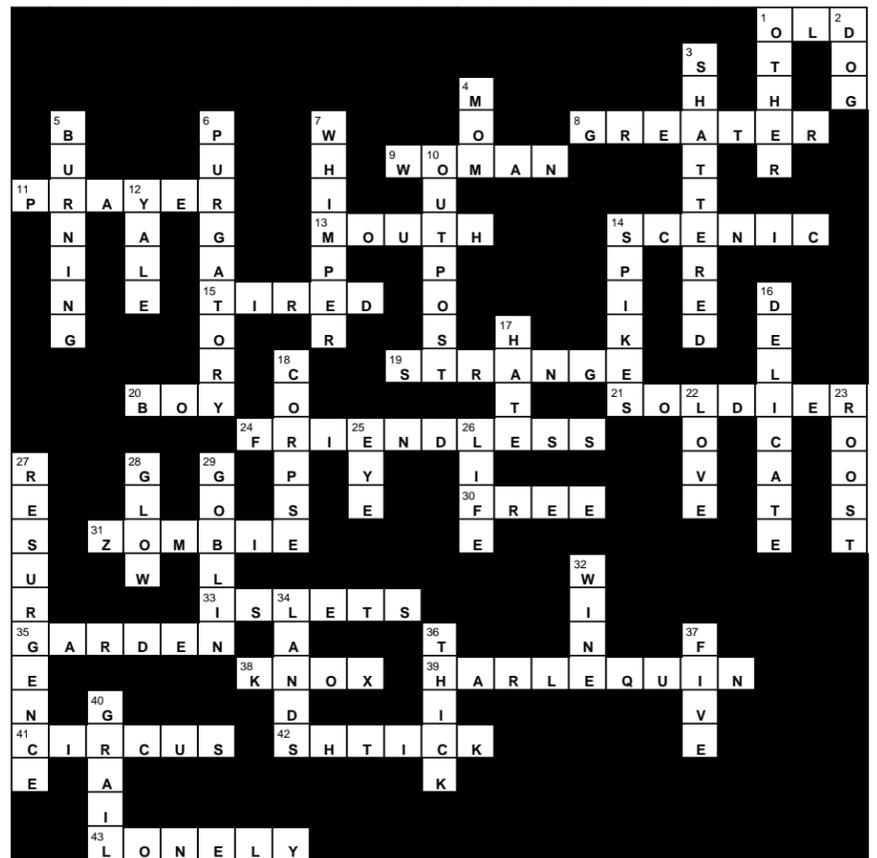
I thought this was a continuation of the "Pendragon Cycle" but it isn't. Avalon, while still dealing with Arthur, isn't set in the distant past but rather in contemporary England. The story progresses at a reasonable clip and doesn't hesitate to put in speed bumps to catch those who skip ahead. Returning king Arthur is not a new concept but Lawhead gives it a clearer understanding than the others I've read. He speaks from a knowledge not only of the legend but also of contemporary England. The story is uplifting and inspiring while still dealing with the kinds of dirty tricks one would expect to encounter in a political commentary such as this. I enjoyed this book. My score: 8 - **Bob LaPierre**

Lord Demon

Roger Zelazny and Jane Lindskold
 Avon Books (August 1999) Fantasy, 288 pages \$23.00

I approached this book with some trepidation, after all Zelazny is one of my

Answer To Puzzle on page 13



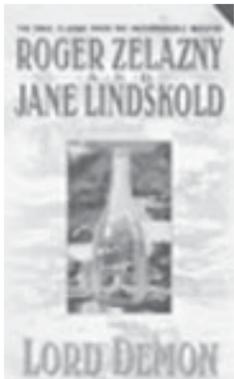
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15) favorite all-time authors and some-one else finishing HIS books Well I shouldn't have worried. Lindsfold did a wonderful job of finishing a book that tastes like "Creatures of Light and Darkness." The form and flow were so typically Zelazny I almost forgot he didn't finish it. The magic was fun and consistent. The heroes and villains were believable and three dimensional. My only regret is this is truly the last Zelazny novel and the world will forever be smaller because of it. All right already. My score : 9 1/2. - **Bob LaPierre**

Komarr

by Lois McMaster Bujold
Baen, 365 pp. \$6.99

Bujold has been writing about her diminutive sleuth Miles Vorkosigan for at least fifteen years in the pages of science



fiction magazines and in stand-alone novels. This is the 13th Vorkosigan novel in the series but you don't need to read the other twelve to dive right into the Empire of Vor, its hierarchy and court intrigue. In fact, this mystery takes place on the outlying planet Komarr and doesn't much concern itself with any of Miles' previous adventures — except to mention that Miles seems to get himself involved in intrigue all over the Empire.

Komarr is a Mars-like planet that is a century or so into a terraforming project which will build a breathable atmosphere but currently it's still a frontier planet with harsh conditions. That brings a mixture of hardy pioneers with a history of fighting for independence into close contact with the more sophisticated royalty of the Empire who fund the project. Bujold creates real characters who are likeable — and hateable in a believable setting that is at once exotic and, to Arizonans, familiar with sweeping vistas of barren and promising landscapes.

In this novel, Miles Vorkosigan has resigned from the dreaded Imperial Security Corps and has taken on the more sedate title of Imperial Auditor — basically a glorified accountant who pokes his nose into spreadsheets, receipt tallies and inventory lists. While this may seem mundane, you know that when Miles steps on an interplanetary shuttle or enters a polite social party then by the end

of the chapter somebody he's just met is going to wind up dead — from very mysterious causes. And in the ensuing chapters, everybody in the room will come under suspicion, revealing twisted plots and personal foibles. Even Miles himself will have to convince the others that he is not the murderer.

While the author weaves a capable murder mystery (valid clues subtly interspersed with strategically placed red herrings) this tale has a science fiction setting with enough techno-gadgets to satisfy any hard core Trekkie. Bujold has also done her technical engineering homework with regards to space travel, planetary engineering and modern communications. The book also implies a hint of romance for the poor investigator, who feels his handicaps would never make him attractive to the fair sex and he acts on that assumption. Of course, a gentleman like Miles would never use his Imperial position to press for personal advantage but the lady in question does drop subtle hints — and she certainly needs consoling under the circumstances.

Most mysteries conclude with the prosaic "The murderer is somebody in this room" followed by an exercise in logic until the villain quietly breaks down and confesses. Not so in this book. The evil scoundrel reveals his true colors, takes hostages and forces Miles Vorkosigan once again to show that he is not just an intellect — he is a man of action when action is called for. While the book is a bit predictable (all series books are) this is a good read, often a page-turner and a satisfying tale. - **Pete L. Manly**

The Book Of The Cauldron

by Diana Paxson

This is book three of a projected four book set giving the story of King Arthur through the perspectives of four of the four distinct tribal cultures that shaped Britain in the sixth century.

"The Book Of the Cauldron" continues the story through the eyes of Igierne, the Lady of the Lake, and Guendivar, Artor's [Arthur] queen.

Morgause, Artor's sister, wants power and the throne for herself and her children, and conceived her fifth son by her brother and trains him for that purpose. Igierne, (who is Artor and Morgause's mother) has retired to the Isle Of Maidens to take the role of the Lady of the Lake. And to be keeper of the cauldron of the Goddess.

She discovers her daughter's intent, and Guendivar, as Artor's queen-to-be. She wishes to use the cauldron to heal Britain's war-torn land but the darker magic and old jealousies threaten to tear the world apart.

Obviously, the story of Arthur is well known. What sets Paxson's work apart is the richness of her words and language, and the complexities and reality of her

characters. This is the third book in the series that I have read. I have loved them all and look forward to reading the fourth. I recommend them highly to all fantasy



lovers. - **Pam Allan**

The Garden Of Stone

by Victoria Strauss
Avon Fantasy, 485 pp, \$6.99

"The Garden Of Stone" is almost classic fantasy, filled with character and the subtle richness of detail that makes this author's world unique. It stands alone, and I did not realize that there was a previous book until after I read this one. I plan to look for it, as the title indicates a relationship to this volume.

Cariad is an assassin for a group of rebels trying to overthrow the vicious tyranny of the Guardians, a "gifted" group of power users who control the world of "mind workers" who do not permit the development of mechanical devices. Cariad, herself, is the daughter of a renegade guardian and a guardian who both spied on him and loved him. Brom, her father, had brought down the guardian wards and took the "stone," believed to be the source of all power, and fled the world. Now the world bindings are coming undone. The time of the prophesied return is nigh.

Can the Guardians power be destroyed? Will Brom and the stone return to tip the scales? What will happen next.?

This book holds your interest from first page to last, and is well worth the purchase price to add it to library. Plastic out! Charge! - **Pam Allan**

Rules Of Engagement

by Elizabeth Moon
Baen, 393 pp., \$22

This novel is the sequel to "Once A Hero." It stands alone quite nicely but you will probably want to go back and read the latter anyway regardless of the order.

Esmay Suiza and Brun Meager ought to be friends. Despite their different cultures, they are bright, brave risk takers. After a

screaming match at the Copper Mountain Military Academy, Brun takes off to resume the life of the rich daughter of the most powerful man around, the Speaker of the Council of the Familias Regnant. She decides to take a shortcut, to spend time with a relative, on her way home. She doesn't file a flight plan and gets caught by pirates from an anti-feminist culture called New Texas. She is muted, and put in a breeding program for the pirates.

The media following Brun around had picked up the quarrel and spread it over the newsvids, effectively ruining Esmay's future. When Brun is captured, rumors blame her for the kidnaping.

Esmay's first love, Barin Serrano, is being pursued by the ambitious Casea Ferradi who alters the files to smear Esmay. Esmay is not to be allowed to aid in any attempt to rescue her. Meanwhile, she must go back home long enough to become Landsbride, as property on her home world is carried in the female line.

When she returns, still in disgrace, it is Esmay that figures out where to look, and what Brun will do. One of Barin's relatives gets Esmay back in the search, despite Brun's father. Will Esmay save Brun? Will Brun save herself? Will they save each other. Yes.

The joy of this book is not "will the hero win?" It is in the adventure of getting there and sorting out the quirks along the way. It is a page turner, and I resented interference from the rest my life till it was done. On my Recommended reading list. - **Pam Allan**

Avalanche Soldier

Susan R. Matthews
Avon, 253 pp, \$5.50

"Avalanche Soldier" appears to be independent. Previous books by this author include "An Exchange Of Hostages," "Prisoner Of Conscience," and "Hour Of Judgment."

Salli is a member of an elite paramilitary group called avalanche soldiers, who protect the religious shrines in the avalanche prone wilderness of the state of Shadene. She is a devout Orthodox Dreamer, a faith that says life is a dream, and a Messiah will someday come to awaken them. There is another group that preaches heresy and commits acts of terrorism and civil unrest that the avalanche soldiers must prevent from destroying both shrines and worshippers.

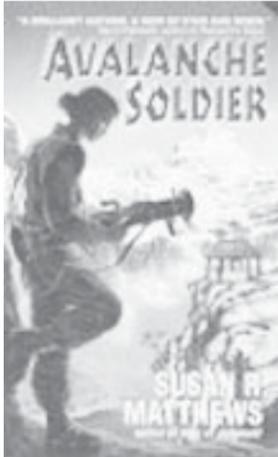
When her brother, a civil policeman awaiting a hearing for killing a heretic, suddenly disappears and is believed to have embraced the heresy, Salli must find him and return him to the fold. When she finds him, she meets the new messiah, a personage of great power who preaches reason, but is also worshiped by the terrorists. When her brother, now a terrorist, plans to destroy the primary shrine, Salli must face a horrible decision.

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Will she kill the messiah to save the shrine, and the people?

"Avalanche Soldier" is a cut above most of the fiction out there. Readability, clarity, and thoughtfulness backed by good characters and a fast moving plot lead to an enjoyable and insightful book with moments of unexpected beauty. I look forward to reading more of this author and



give this one my recommendation for almost any audience. - Pam Allan

The Encyclopedia Of Fantastic Film - Ali Baba to Zombies

by R.G. Young

Applause, 1016 pp, \$39.95

The blurb on the back of this reference says "thirty-five years in the making, and destined to be the last word in fanta-film references" and I am willing to believe it. This has to be the most thorough listing of movie credits I have ever seen. With listings for over 9,000 films from 1896 to 1999, we have been having fun trying to think up obscure movies and checking to see if they are listed. So far, ever one of them has been in here, leading me to believe this book may be just as complete a listing as the author claims. It not only covers the obvious, like "Star Wars" and "Star Trek", it lists "Stewed Missionary" from 1904 and "The Magic Bottle" from 1906. Along with the individual film listings this reference also includes an index of artists and 4 appendixes listing the films by year, telling us which films were based on which books, what song is from what film and the titles of all the films in a particular series.

There are photographs scattered throughout and many are not the usual photos one sees in such a book. A random opening of the book shows me Louis Hayward behind the scenes of 1939's "The Man In The Iron Mask", Kenneth More in 1960's "Man In The Moon", Susan Strasberg in 1978's "The Manitou", and Lon Chaney Jr in 1941's "Man-Made Monster".

For myself, I would have liked a bit more of a synopsis of the films but certainly all the rest of the information is sure to

answer any question the trivia minded might have from the fact that Lorena Velazquez starred in the 1963 film, "Wrestling Women vs the Aztec Mummy", that Doris Lloyd played the housekeeper, Mrs Watchett, in the 1960 classic "The Time Machine" and that "Night of the Lepus" was based on "Year Of The Angry Rabbit" by Russell Braden.

This is a reference that should satisfy both the casually curious and the serious film fan. - Stephanie L. Bannon

Club Listings

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Please check your club listing for errors. Please send corrections and updates to the editor in writing or via email)

ADRIANEMPIRE A medieval and renaissance recreationist club. Sword-fighting, arts, banquets, masquerades, dances. meets every Wednesday night from 7-10pm at Encanto Park. All are welcome. Free. For details, call (602)582-6990.

ARERIALMIRAGE JUGGLING CLUB International Juggling Association affiliate club meets 7-10pm Wednesday evenings at Encanto Park. No dues, everyone welcome. All levels skill exchange in many areas of object manipulation. Devils' Club meets Fridays 5pm north of the Hayden Library on the ASU campus. For more info, call (602)585-7623, or write 2326 E. Electra Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85024.

ARIZONALANBASHERS LEAGUE A collaboration of computer gaming enthusiasts, the Arizona LANbashers League throws quarterly LANparty events. Between parties, support is given to local groups who wish to advertise their own gatherings. We have no set genre of games and play anything from strategy games to first-person shooters to driving/flying simulations. No annual membership is required and admission to an event ranges from \$5-\$15. See our webpage for current events. Email: azlanbashers@earthling.net Web: <http://www.gibbed.com/all> VoiceMail: 602-306-9339

THE AWAY TEAM: The Away Team, is a general sci-fi appreciation group that meets once a month for discussion of various sci-fi news regarding several

mediums to include: television, movies, video, books, comics, magazines, collecting, and so forth. The meetings are comprised of news, review and comment, BBS/computer news and help, meeting new members, video presentations, games, and socializing fun! Food and drinks are provided, via a \$3 munchie fee (per meeting) to compensate the host. (No other fees are involved.) The electronic home of the Away Team, is the Lightspeed Space Station BBS at (520) 325-6674.... Member ages for the group range from 13-40-something with both male and female members. Other activities include null-modem link gamefests, group theater movie viewings, convention trips and more. Have sci-fi fun in a relaxed, low-structure environment. NO RUBBER EARS ALLOWED!! For questions, you can call the BBS, or write to: LSS c/o R. Martin; 2522 N. Sparkman Blvd.; Tucson, AZ 85716

BASFA Baja Arizona Science Fiction Association, a non-profit organization. Puts on TUS-CON Convention annually.

CENTRAL ARIZONA SPECULATIVE FICTION SOCIETY, INC. (CASFS) The non-profit corporation that puts on CopperCon conventions, SmurfCons, HexaCons, occasional regional cons, and publishes Con-Notations. Best described as SF/F generalists with a strong bent towards literary SF/F. Guests welcome - meets at 8pm on the last Friday of each month in January thru September and the second Friday in October, November and December at JB's Restaurant, 2560 W. Indian School in Phoenix, AZ. Write PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082-2613 or call Stephanie L. Bannon (602)973-2341 for information. Web www.casfs.org

THE DARK ONES (Dark-wunz) n. 1) An organization formed for the expres-sion and exploration of various cultural themes including, but not limited to, the Dark Ages and the Renaissance through forms of art including, but not limited to, painting, drawing, writing, photography, spoken word, and acts of characterization. 2) a member of this organization. 3) Information available at (602)978-9314.

DAYSTAR HOLT Arizona's first and longest-running Elfquest fan club. Daystar meets to talk about EQ and related stuff, develop characters, publish stories in our 'zine *Playelf* and create an annual calendar. Other common interests include music, bellydance, camping and of course, SF. Membership is free (18 or over) and is attained by group vote after you attend two meetings or holt-related get-togethers. Meetings are usually the first Saturday of each month; for more info, call Tom or Janice at (602) 581-2258. They have a website up at <http://members.home.net/jeanderson/daystarholt.html>

DESERT LURKERS Tucson based Babylon 5 fan club. Meets and communicates via listserver over the Internet.

Anyone with e-mail access can subscribe to the Desert Lurkers by sending e-mail to b5-l-request@dragon.org and putting "subscribe" (minus the quotation marks) in the subject line. Interested people can contact Alexander Goodrum at E-mail address: goodrum@AZStarNet.com

EARTHLINK SCI-FI CLUB SF generalists with some focus on comics and environmental issues. Meets at various conventions and occasions. Publishes a quarterly newsletter called Cosmic Wavelengths. For information contact them at 8508 E. San Lorenzo, Scottsdale, AZ 85258, or call Nohl Rosen at (602) 991-8847.

THE EMPIRE OF CHIVALRY AND STEEL, INC. The Empire of Chivalry and Steel specializes in the general recreation of the culture of the Middle Ages including all of the Art Forms, Events (Feasts, Tournaments, Ceremonies and Wars) and Combat Arts covering the years of 800AD up to 1650AD and any location within Europe or its explored territories. For more information contact Bart Smith (Phoenix) (602)937-6995 or Leonard Bird (Tucson) (520)742-2432

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF JEDI KNIGHTS Members of the Tatooini Base have revised the International Brotherhood of Jedi Knights, a not-for-profit fan club dedicated to Star Wars. Membership is \$8.00 U.S. and/or \$11.00 (Canada/foreign) and includes a membership packet consisting of a one year subscription to *The New Jedi Times* (published 6 times a year), membership card, IBOJK charter & bylaws information on Jedi studies and a free gift. Checks should be made to either Patty Vance or Elizabeth Laignel. For further information send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The I.B.O.J.K.; P. O. Box 5459; Glendale, AZ 85312-5459; or call either Patty or Lilly at (602) 843-8303. May the Force show you the way of the Jedi!

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION COUNCIL Meets every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. Meeting at the Westridge Mall (75th Ave. and Thomas Rd. Phoenix, AZ. The IFC is regimental (Using Ranks and structured simmialrly to ST) but has social events as well. Attends local Creation And Trek Production Cons, and ST Movie premiers. POC for IFC is A/ Fleet Admiral John Nelson (602) 934-3987 or by voice mail (602) 409-7169 or c/o P.O. box 14370 Phoenix, AZ 85063-4370. E-Mail: bnelson502@aol.com Membership Approx 35-50. The Bi-Monthly newsletter is *Cactus Log*.

THE JEDI KNIGHTS Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month. For more information call Carol Alves, Publicity, (760)244-9593 or write Jedi Knights, c/o Jim Lowerre, 12291 Meade Street, Garden Grove, CA 92841-3629

LEPRECON, INC. One of the two Phoenix (Cont'd on page 18)

Club Listings (Cont'd from page 17)

area corporations that put on yearly conventions. Best described as SF/F generalists with a main thrust into SF/F art. Guests are welcome. The meetings are quarterly on the second Saturday of February, May, August & November unless otherwise notified. August is the annual meeting where board positions are determined. For more information, write PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 ; call Mike Willmoth at (602) 945-6890 or Email: mwillmoth@comupserve.com

THE PHOENIX FANTASY FILM SOCIETY A Phoenix based club interested in the entire realm of SF, Fantasy and Horror film. PFFS has been in existence for 25 years, meeting every 6 weeks in member's homes. Dues are \$10 per year. Membership includes newsletters, an annual film awards and various outings. For information, contact PFFS, P.O. Box 34023, Phoenix, AZ 85067 or call David Storck at (602) 274-7404, e-mail: Menzeez@aol.com.

PHOENIX JAPANIMATION SOCIETY Local chapter of Japanimation/general animation oriented fans - meets monthly. Membership is free, though optional monthly newsletter is \$5/year or \$.50 per month. Call Tom Perry at (602) 996-2196 or write 3241 E. Altadena, Phoenix, AZ 85028.

RAGE ACROSS THE SOUTHWEST A Live Action Theatre Troupe based out of the ASU campus in Tempe, AZ. It is dedicated to the game Werewolf: The Apocalypse by White Wolf publishing. Contact Mike McLaughlin at (602) 461-5842 or write 1730 W Emelita Place #2025, Mesa AZ 85202-3144 or email to warlok@aztec.asu.edu

RAW GAMES (Role-players & Wargamers, Inc.) Role-players & Wargamers, Inc. is the Valley's oldest role-playing and wargaming club. Currently meeting at Carrow's Restaurant at 7th Street & Monte Vista in Phoenix every Sunday from 3pm-9pm (except during conventions and other special events). Open to new members - call (602) 849-9515.

ROLEPLAYING GAMES CLUB (RPGC) The official gaming club of Az. State University. Activities include: live-action roleplaying games, tabletop gaming, conventions, parties, etc. General meetings are open to the public and are held every Friday at 6pm in ASU's Memorial Union. Dues are \$5/semester. For more info, contact Michael McLaughlin, 1730 W. Emelita #2025, Mesa, AZ 85202-3144, or call (602) 464-3144; RPGC@asu.edu

SCIENCE FICTION CONTINUUM The Science Fiction Continuum: An Independent Star Trek and Sci-Fi club in Phoenix, AZ. The SFCOM is an active club that participates in Local Phoenix, and Southwestern Star Trek and Sci-Fi conventions and movies. The SFCOM has three different divisions. The SFCOM is a free group where fun is the name

of the game. The Deep Space SolarFlare (DSSF) an active member club in the International Federation of Treker's (IFT). This group is based on DS9 (a space station). And the IKV Sto-Vo-Kor (Independent Kilngon Vessel). A Klingon Bird of Prey, roming the desert looking for battle. Are the Fed's too soft, looking for combat, feel the call to glory. This is the ship for you. Membership in the SFCOM is free! To join DSSF or the Sto-Vo-Kor a nominal fee for the national clubs involved and uniforms. For further information contact President John Nelson at (602) 409-7169 or on the internet at; BNelson502@aol.com or check out our web site. <http://www.thesfcom.com>

SFACE (Speculative Fiction And Computer Enthusiasts) Phoenix College's one and only connection to the worlds of speculative fiction, including science fiction, fantasy, and horror as well as table top, live action and internet gaming, SFACE also serves as a guide through the Internet - both teaching basic use and utilizing as a source of speculative fiction. For more info contact Dr Ray Bromley at bromley.ray@a1.pc.maricopa.edu. The SFACE Web site is found at <http://www.pc.maricopa.edu/departments/studentact/organizations/sface/>

SHADOWKEEP BBS Intelligent conversation, awesome graphics, stupendous door games, unworldly filebank, RPG forums, QWK message system and online RPG BBS-moderated games! Our BBS is mainly RPG oriented and we offer many services to GMs and players. No fees necessary for users who post intelligent messages! \$5 in credits to new users. Over 20 conferences and 10 doors to choose from! Shadowkeep BBS - PCBoard 15.2/M - US Robotics 28.8 Modem. Phoenix, AZ (602) 245-0919; Connect at 2400-28800

THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM The kingdom of Atenveldt doth lie in the state of Arizona. Within the fair kingdom can be found six Baronies: Atenveldt, Mons Tonitrus, Twin Moons, SunDragon, Tir Ysgithr and Ered Sul. For more information on any of these or for general information on thy past tomorrows thou mayest contact Mistress Myrddina o Dolwyddelan (Terry Schwartz) PO Box 584, Sonoita AZ 85637 (520) 455-5835 Email: myrddina1@aol.com www.atenveldt.org

THE SOUTHWEST COSTUMER'S GUILD The Southwest Costumers Guild is a loose organization of persons interested in all facets of historical, cultural, science fiction, fantasy, and humor costume. Members are often seen on stage and behind the scenes at most local and regional Science Fiction Convention masquerades. They meet on the last Sunday of each month at various members' homes in the greater phoenix area. Call, write or email for details. Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix, AZ 85609 or call Randall Whitlock at (602) 995-7514, email:

costumers@casfs.org or Website: <http://members.aol.com/souwesgld/guilg.html>

STARBASE TUCSON Tucson Arizona based Star Trek club. For info call Geof Wood at (520) 746-1822 or write Starbase Tucson ; 3314 E. Benson Hwy ; Tucson AZ 85706. Email: pegasus409@aol.com

STONEHENGE BBS Enjoy over 60 online games including TradeWars 2002, StarFight, The Pit, Dirty Play, Usurper, LORD, and Battle Grid (new, like Battletech). Topical message boards, E-Mail, and Network Echoes. 1000's of files to download: utilities, games, GIF pictures, & more every day! Stop by and give us a try at Stonehenge BBS (602) 947-2223, FidoNet 1:114/120, 300-9600bps, V.32/V.42bis, 24 hours a day.

TARDIS TARDIS is a Phoenix-based General SF/Fantasy Fan Club, specializing in International media SF/Fantasy since 1983. TARDIS meets every two weeks at different locations around the valley. Activities include watching videos, discussions, parties, fund-raisers, auctions, games, camping trips and outings. We also maintain an active presence at local conventions. TARDIS publishes a monthly informative newsletter, *The Index File*, with a national circulation which is included with membership. Annual membership is just \$12.50. You can contact us at P.O. Box 63191, Phoenix, AZ 85082-3191, Voice Mail at (602) 864-0901, E-mail TARDIS-Info@primenet.com or visit <http://www.primenet.com/~jgeorge/tardis.html>

TEKWAR FAN CLUB Sanctioned by the series' production companies and the USA Network! It is THE information conduit between the fans and the series! Fan club membership will bring you the following 1) subscription to the info filled Tek Informer newsletter; 2) official TekWar Fan Club membership card and kit. Membership is by regular mail only and the newsletter nad materials will not be reproduced electronically. To join the action and initiate your annual membership, make check or money order out for \$12.50 to: Official TekWar Fan Club (Membership section), 2522 N Sparkman Blvd., Tucson AZ 85716-2417

T.H.E.M. T.H.E.M. is ASU's science fiction and fantasy club. Weekly meetings are held in the Memorial Union, with dates to be announced after the semester starts. For more information, contact Becky Fox at E-mail rowan@asu.edu or phone 863-1543 To subscribe to our listserve, send a message to them-request@asu.edu.

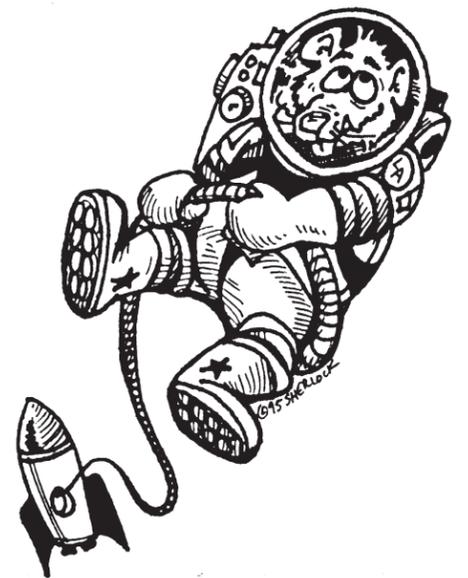
TUCSON FAN ALLIANCE E-Mail Address is Bkoehler@Juno.com or DMitchell1@Juno.com.

Z-PHILES are the Arizona X-PHILES. We maintain a mailing list for news and get-togethers of fans of the X-Files living in Arizona. We get together in both the Phoenix and Tucson areas. To subscribe,

send an empty message to z-philes-subscribe@egroups.com

UNITED FEDERATION OF PHOENIX A Phoenix area Star Trek and general SciFi fan club. We are a social club that meets every two weeks at various locations around the Phoenix area. The UFP has been meeting for over 20 years of continuous activity. Dues are \$10/per year prorated when you join; no restrictions. Membership includes membership roster and monthly newsletter. Come to any two meetings at no obligation. For information, write the UFP at PO Box 37224, Phoenix, AZ 85069, or call Jim Strait at (602) 242-9203. Web page: <http://www.U-F-P.org> or Email to Info@U-F-P.org

UNITED WHOVIANS OF TUCSON A well-informed and very active Dr. Who club. \$15 yearly membership includes four issues of their fanzine - TARDIS Time Lore - written by semi-pros and other dedicated fans. For more information, contact The United Whovians of Tucson at P. O. Box 13541, Tucson, AZ 85732-3541. Also, you can contact the president at kfbuwot@aol.com or the UWOT webmaster at unitedwhovians@aol.com Web page at: <http://www.azstarnet.com/~hgadlng/uwotclub.htm>



Convention Listings

Space Access 2000 Conference (Scottsdale, AZ) **Thursday April 27 - Saturday April 29, 2000**, at the Holiday Inn Old Town Scottsdale, 7353 E. Indian School Rd., Scottsdale, Rooms \$69.00 per night, single or double, plus 10.65% tax, mention "space access" for the rate when you reserve your room. For reservations call (800) 695-6995 or (480) 994-9203. Space Access 2000 hospitality and registration will open at 6 pm Thursday, April 27th, 2000. Intro sessions will run from 8 pm to 10 pm Thursday, in the main (Banyan/Bonsai rooms) ballroom. Main sessions will run 9 am to 10 pm Friday the 28th and Saturday the 29th, with breaks midmorning and mid-afternoon plus longer breaks for (on your own) lunch and dinner. Registration (in the lower ballroom lobby) and our reknowned Space Access Hospitality Suite (suite 406) will be open by 8 am Friday and Saturday. Space Access 2000 registration is currently \$100, \$120 at the door, \$10 off for SAS members, Day and Student rates available at the door (\$30 gets you one year's SAS membership, please include your email address for Updates), mail checks to: SAS, 4855 E Warner Rd #24-150, Phoenix AZ 85044. Watch our web site, <http://www.space-access.org>, for updates on the conference and speakers.

Con-Dor 2K (Del Mar, Ca) **May 5-7, 2000** Doubletree Hotel - Del Mar. Author GoH: Vernor Vinge. Other Gusts TBA Memb: \$30 until April 15th, \$35 at the door Hotel: Rooms \$99 S/D, \$119 T/Q - Double Tree Hotel in Del Mar. 11915 El Camino Real San Diego, CA 92130 1-800-222-TREE or dial direct 858-481-5900. Info: Con-Dor, P.O. Box 15771, San Diego, CA 92175. Email: dkeais@home.com, <http://soar.to/condor>

BotBash (Mesa, AZ) **May 6-7, 2000** at the Confederate Air Force Museum. Admission is Adults/\$10 weekend; Children under 12/\$5 weekend. Contact: BotBash Registration; 1221 W. Bartlett Way; Chandler, AZ 85248; E-mail to info@botbash.com Updated info can be found at www.botbash.com

LepreCon 26 (Scottsdale, Arizona) **May 19-21, 2000** Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort Artist GoH: Lubov; Author GoH: John DeChancie; Local Artist GoH: Larry Vela; Musician GoH: Marilyn Miller Memberships \$30 until 5/01/00 and \$35 at the door. Kids 7-12 half price, Children 6 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, 7601 E Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ (480) 991-2400. Rooms: \$72 + tax S/D/T/Q. Suites \$125 + tax S/D/T/Q Info: LepreCon 26, PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 Phone: (480) 945-6890; Email: lep26@leprecon.org

AgamemCon IV (Burbank, CA) **June 23-25, 2000** Burbank Airport Hilton, Babylon 5 and SF Media oriented convention. Guests include: Tracey Scoggins,

Alexandra Tydings, David A. Brooks, Bear Burge and more! Full Science programming track Sponsored by OASIS Memberships \$45 until 5/31/99 and \$55 at the door. Kids 8-12 half price, 7 and under are free. Hotel: Rooms \$92 S/D, \$124 Suite. Burbank Airport Hilton (818)843-6000 Info: AgamemCon, PMB# 330, 92 Corporate Park, Suite C, Irvine, CA 92606; Email: orrock@ix.netcom.com; Phone: (949) 643-8352

HexaCon 10 (Scottsdale, AZ) **July 14-16, 2000** Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort. Arizona's Largest Annual Gaming Convention Guest of Honor: Steve Jackson of Steve Jackson Games Member-ships: \$15 until 5/31/2000, \$20 at the door. Special Thursday night events for pre-registered members only. Info: Hexacon 10, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082 Phone: (602) 973-2341; Email: dye@casfs.org Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, 7601 E Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ (480) 991-2400. Rooms: \$65 + tax S/D/T/Q. Suites \$100 + tax S/D/T/Q

Sci-Fi Fan Gathering (Las Vegas, Nevada) **July 14-16, 2000** Las Vegas Hilton, Sponsored by AOL X-Files Fan Forum. Guests TBA; Memberships \$25 until June 1, 2000, \$35 to the door. Hotel: Las Vegas Hilton, Rooms \$99 S/D 1-800-732-7117 Info: Jerry Jones, 263 Dempsey Way, Orlando, FL 32835 Email: JerryJones@cfl.rr.com <http://www.fungineering.net/SciFi/index.html>

San Diego ComicCon International (San Diego, CA) **July 20-23, 2000** -. Guests: Bryan Talbot, Gahan Wilson, J. Michael Straczynski, Phoebe Gleckner, Kevin Smith, Harry Knowles, Tim Sale, Jeph Loeb, Ben Katchor, Scott Cloud, Christopher Moeller, William Stout, Will Eisner and the 50th Anniversary of E.C. Comics featuring Al Williamson, Al Feldstein, Will Elder, Marie Severin, Jack Kamen, George Evans, Angelo Torres and Adele Kurtzman Info: Comic-Con, PO Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112-8458. Phone: (619) 491-2475, Email: cciweb@aol.com

CHICON 2000/58th WORLDCON (Chicago, Illinois) **Aug 31-Sept 4, 2000** Hyatt Regency Chicago. GoH: Ben Bova; AGoH: Bob Eggleton; EGoH: Jim Baen; FGOHs: Bob and Anne Passovoy; TM: Harry Turtledove. Memb: \$150; \$40 supporting. Info: Chicon 2000, PO Box 642057, Chicago IL 60664; email: chi2000@chicon.org Webpage: <http://www.chicon.org>

Bubonicon 32 (Albuquerque, New Mexico) **August 25-27** Howard Johnson East, Author GoH: Walter John Williams, Artist GoH: Lela Dowling, Mistress of Toast: Mary Ann Cornett A literary-oriented SF/Fantasy con with two-track programming. Events include panels, an art show, gaming, dealer's room, Filk and more. Memb: \$22 until 5/31/00, \$25 to 8/14/00, \$28 at the Door. Discounts for under 16. Hotel: Rooms \$50 or \$55 (with fridge) S/D/T/Q. Howard Johnson East 15 Hotel Circle NE (I-40 and Eubank), Reservations: (505) 296-4852 or (800) 877-4852 Info:

NMSF Conference, PO Box 37257, Albuquerque, NM 87176 Phone: (505) 266-8905 Email: cwcraig@nmia.com Website: <http://members.aol.com/bubonicon>

COPPERCON 2000 (Scottsdale, AZ) **September 8-10, 2000** Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort. The 20th Annual CopperCon Convention Author GoH: Philip Jose Farmer, Poul Anderson; Artist GoH: Vincent Di Fate; Filk GoH: Cecilia Eng; Local Authors Jennifer Roberson and Adam Niswander. Memb: \$25 thru 5/31/2000, \$30 thru 8/26/00, \$35 at the door, Kids 7-12 half price, Kids 6 and under - free when accompanied by an adult. Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, 7601 E Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ (480) 991-2400; Room rates are \$65 plus tax S/D/T/Q, Suites \$125 plus tax. Info: CopperCon 20, PO Box 62613, Phoenix, AZ 85082, Phone (602)973-2341, Email: cucon@casfs.org or mwillmoth@compuserve.com

TusCon 27 (Tucson, AZ) **Nov 10-12, 2000** at The Executive Inn. Author GoH: Catherine Wells, Artist GoH: Liz Danforth, Fan GoH's: Craig and Stephanie!, TM: Ed Bryant. Memberships: \$25 until 6/1, \$30 until 10/1, \$35 thereafter, children (3-12) half price. Panels, Readings, Meet the Authors, Art Show, Childrens' Zone, Video Room, "Men in Black" LARP, LAN Computer Gaming, and Consuite. Artists interested in panels should contact Rebecca (520)293-1455 immediately! Dealers contact Cristi at (520) 881-3709. The Executive Inn: 333 W Drachman, Tucson, AZ 85705, (520) 791-7551, Rooms \$45 single, \$50 double, and \$65 suite (until Oct 10). More info: TusCon 27, PO Box 26822, Tucson, AZ 85726 Webpage: <http://www.azstarnet.com/~basfa>

LosCon 27 (Burbank, CA) **November 24-26, 2000** Burbank Airport Hilton Guests: Author GoH: Orson Scott Card, Artist GoH: Bob Eggleton, Special Media Guest: Harry Knowles, Fan Guests: Craig Miller and Genny Dazzo. Info: LosCon c/o LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd, North Hollywood, CA 91609 Email: loscon27@lasfs.org <http://www.lasfs.org/loscon27>

The Twelfth Regeneration of Gallifrey One (Van Nuys, CA) **February 23-25,**

2001, Airtel Plaza Hotel, Guests: Sarah Sutton, Mark Strickson and Bonnie Langford from Doctor Who. Memb: \$30 to 6/30/00, \$35 to 9/30/00, \$40 to 11/30/00, \$45 to 1/31/01, \$50 at the Door. Info: Gallifrey Conventions, PO Box 3021, North Hollywood, CA 91609 Phone: (818) 752-3756, info@gallifreyone.com Web: www.gallifreyone.com

Generic Convention Registration Form

Name: _____
 Badge Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ memberships for _____ convention.
 (See calendar for mailing address)
 More info on Masquerade Art Show Volunteer Other

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PO Box 62613
Phoenix, AZ 85082

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