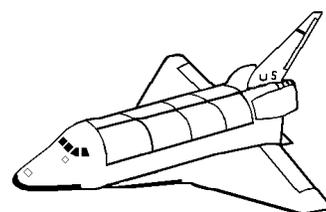


The



SHUTTLE August 1999

The Next NASFA Meeting will be the Picnic on 21 August starting at 2P, Mike Kennedy's The Next Concom Meeting is 19 August at Mike Cothran and Marie McCormack's — see below for additional dates

Oyez, Oyez

The next **NASFA meeting** will be the more-or-less annual NASFA picnic/cookout. It will be on the regular day (**21 August 1999**) but *not* the regular time or location. Show up at **Mike Kennedy's house** starting around **2P** or any time thereafter. Bring your favorite drink, a side dish, and something to throw on the grill. See the map elsewhere in this issue or call Mike at 883-5922 for directions.

There will be no August program or after-the-meeting meeting — the picnic/cookout will run until whenever the last person gives out.

Remaining Concom Meetings Set

The August Con†Stellation XVIII concom meeting will be held at Mike Cothran and Marie McCormack's place at 6:30P on Thursday 19 August 1999. This is an eating meeting. The food theme is "The Blob." I'm not sure I want to *think* about this one!

The rest of this year's concom meetings will be 2 September, 16 September, 30 September, 14 October, and 28 October. The last of these will be at the hotel. Locations for the others are to be determined.

RIP Lan

by Mike Kennedy

The *Shuttle* has received word that George "Lan" Laskowski passed away Monday 19 July. Lan was a fannish legend both as publisher/editor of the Hugo-winning fanzine *Lan's Lantern* and as a LoCer. He had been a regular contributor to the *Shuttle* in that latter capacity.

While I never met Lan in person, I felt I knew him as a friend. In addition to his correspondence with the *Shuttle*, we exchanged several email messages over the years when significant personal events transpired. He was always eminently personable and understanding and will be sorely missed.

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Deadline for the September 1999 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 3 September 1999.

Creature Discomforts

Welcome to the fourth food quiz of 1999. The July con committee food theme was "Creature from the Black Lagoon." Try to match the descriptions below to the actual food items. Answers are hidden elsewhere in this issue.

1. These crunchy treats are made by flattening and pan flying Creature eggs.
2. This piquant mixture was fit for the tastes of all lagoonists.
3. These crustaceans are one of the creature's favorites.
4. Chocolate treats topped with bugs a la mud.
5. Made with lagoon sludge, this was surprisingly sweet.
6. Misunderstanding the theme, this dish was dubbed "critter with a black light on."
 - a. Shrimp cocktail
 - b. Black Lagoon Mud Pies
 - c. Oreos
 - d. Illuminated Roast Beef
 - e. Brownies with a gumi topping
 - f. Chilli with beans and sharp cheese



NASFA Receivables

by Randy B. Cleary

Here's the latest round up of things NASFA has received. This column covers the last month.

FANZINES

ConNotations, Volume 9, Issue 2, Summer 1999, P. O. Box 62613, Phoenix AZ 85082-2613; < editor@casfs.org >. This 16-newsprint-page newszine of the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society is packed with news and reviews of all media of fannish interest. This issue's special feature was on Harlan Ellison (Part II).

De Profundis, #324, Volume 1, Number 4, June 1999; Editor Scott Beckstead, 11513 Burbank Boulevard, North Hollywood CA 91601, USA; 818-760-9234; < http://www.lasfs.org >. This 16-page issue (with a flipped cover) had club news and info. LASFS evicts its tenants.

File 770, Issue 131, Mike Glyer, 705 Valley View Avenue, Monrovia CA 91016; 626-305-1004; < MGlyer@compuserve.com >. This issue had 26 pages of fannish news with another cool Taral cover. It's sort of a reader's digest for fandom.

Kronos, July 1999, D. A. Hussey, < dah2@hotmail.com >. This e-zine is the newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society. This issue contained the usual club and fannish info with a MidWestCon report.

Memphen, #256/257, June/July 1999; Editor Greg Bridges, 141 Stonehaven Circle, Jackson TN 38305; 901-664-6730; < memphen@aol.com >; < http://members.aol.com/memphen/mphn1.html >. The June issue of this club zine had 8 pages, a Tom Foster cover of a fish selling *Memphens*, and book and movie reviews. The July issue had 10 pages of clubiness with a Tom Foster cover (of an alien with sacks full of hamburgers) and a comparison of the Roswell and San Jose 2002 Worldcon bids.

OASFis Event Horizon, Volume 12, #1, Issue 144, July 1999; Leslie R. Hammes, 4796 East Michigan Street #2, Orlando FL 32812; 407-263-5822; < michaelhammes@worldnet.att.net >. This 4-page club zine had a TachyCon 10 report and club stuff.

Scavenger's Newsletter, #185, July 1999; Editor Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City KS 66523-1329; 785-528-3538; < foxscav1@jc.net >; < http://www.cza.com/scav/index.html >. The 24-page issue had the latest small press listings and scroungings with an interview with Tracy Martin.

SFSFS Shuttle, #138, May/June 1999; Editor Carlos Perez, P. O. Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale FL 33307. This 20-page issue from the South Florida Science Fiction Society had club news, several illos, a review of Quark's Bar in Las Vegas, several articles, and lots of LoCs.

MISCELLANEOUS

We also received a **convention listing** from Erwin S. Strauss with a request for informational update on Con†Stellation and a **press release** for the latest L. Ron Hubbard and Dave Wolverton novel, *A Very Strange Trip*. [The latter reviewed in a previous *Shuttle*. -ED]

DeepSouthCon 37 Review

by Mike Kennedy

DeepSouthCon 37 was held on 8–10 August 1999 at the Best Western Landmark Hotel in Metairie LA, in conjunction with Crescent City Con 14. Guests included Author GoH Mike Resnick, Toastmaster George Alec Effinger, Artist GoH Tom Kidd, Gaming GoH Steve Jackson, Fan GoH Toni Weisskopf, Special Guest Algis Budrys, and Science Guest Dr. Jack Stocker. Many other notables were in attendance from the fields of TV, Comics, Gaming, and Art as well as additional literary guests. The final official attendance was 760.

This con represented a first for DSC, the first time it was held in conjunction with a predominantly media/gaming con. The committee tried in many ways, with partial success, to get the two worlds to mix. Many events were attended predominantly (or exclusively) by either the CCC regulars or the DSC regulars. Even by the end of the con it was quite evident that



Tom Kidd program book cover

many people who came because it was a Crescent City Con had little idea what DSC was all about. Nonetheless the committee is to be commended for their efforts in this regard and it must be said that they went out of their way to provide all the aspects that make a DSC unique.

One difference between CCC and the “typical” sf con I’m used to is the extent of their programming. Opening ceremonies started at 12N Friday and

multi-track programming continued at full tilt until around 6P Sunday. The only breaks were a few hours each night between the conclusion of the dances and the beginning of programming (at the unghodly hour of 9A both Saturday and Sunday).

I did make it to a few programming items, including that eminently old-fart-fannish one, the one-shot fanzine panel. While this took place too bloody early (12N-1P) on Saturday, the attendance was quite good. Toni Weisskopf was the guiding force, despite a very nasty cold. (Poor thing, this is the second DSC in a row that she’s been miserable — last year it was her wisdom teeth having just been removed.) With help from a number of people, the one-shot (which took 5 (!) laptops to produce) was printed and distributed well before the end of the con.

For a con as large as it was, I was a little disappointed in the masquerade — in the number of people attending, in the number of entries, and in the quality of those entries. They gave only 3 prizes (a good idea — most cons give out far too many prizes). The 3rd place and 1st place winners were worthy, especially the latter. First place was won by a group of three very elaborate and very well done oriental costumes. The 2nd place winner, I can only imagine, was awarded a prize because the judges felt sorry for them. The costumes (which included makeup jobs a la the band Kiss) were *almost* OK, but the presentation (including the badly faked enthusiasm of a couple of “groupies” planted in the audience) was *so* bad that it would have taken the best possible costume to overcome it in my opinion.

The various awards given at DSC were made during the judging interval at the masquerade. The Rebel and Phoenix awards are given by the DSC committee each year to the fan and pro who have done the most for Southern fandom. This year’s Rebel Award went to LibertyCon honcho Tim (“Uncle Timmy”) Bolgeo who was not present, having had laser eye surgery just a few days before. He did send an acceptance “speech” via email which was read by the committee at later functions. The Phoenix award went to artist Danny Frolich, who was not able to attend because he was recovering from a heart attack. Fortunately the word was that he seems to be doing well. The Rubble Award, which is not an official award of DSC but is highly revered nonetheless, is given to the fan

who has done the most *to* Southern Fandom. In a break with the first two awards, recipient George Wells was present to receive his, er, award. Mr. Wells is well known for his unending quest to unearth the worst science fiction imaginable and foist it upon anyone unsuspecting enough to get in his path.

The dealers room is one area that couldn’t have been a disappointment to any of the attendees. It was huge, being scaled for a media con rather than an sf one. The variety of merchandise was excellent, blending the expectations of DSC regulars with those of their CCC counterparts. In fact, this was perhaps the one area most successful at marrying the two sets of attendees.

The art show was fairly small for such a big con. I can only guess that the art show is not a big part of CCC normally. What was there, though, was of genuinely high quality. The influence of New Orleans (of which Metairie is sort of a suburb) was felt in many of the works by local artists — usually to good effect. Artist GoH Tom Kidd had an absolutely huge display which attracted a lot of attention. One grumble heard many times throughout the con from the DSC crowd, though, was that the auction was held at noon on Sunday — at a time many people not from the immediate area might be expected to be thinking about making their way home.

There were a few grumbles, too about the con suite which was in the hotel bar just off the lobby. Not too many people objected strongly to the lack of beer — noting that many con suites are dry now. But the lack of soft drinks was another matter. Drinks in the con suite were limited to iced tea, fruit punch, and something claimed to be pink lemonade. (There may have been coffee too, I’m not sure.) Food was more plentiful and varied, but both food and drink were confined to the con suite itself which was simply not large enough or inviting enough to serve as much of a gathering spot for the fans. My suspicion is that this is one of the cases where the CCC way clashed with the type of con I usually attend.

The layout of the hotel is a bit odd but was used to fairly decent effect by the con. The sleeping rooms are divided between a round 16- or 17-story tower and an 8-story “annex” building. There is an atrium lobby connecting the two with many of the annex sleeping rooms overlooking it. Tower rooms overlook it only if they are on the right side of the tower and low enough. Functions were divided between the penultimate floor of the tower and the ballroom on the ground floor — off the atrium. (The top floor of the tower is taken up by the hotel restaurant and another bar.) Because the elevators that service the tower and those that service the annex are separate, there were a lot of times when one would have to descend in one set of elevators and immediately ascend in the other. Plus the



Yar, there be (Lego) pirates on the mezzanine

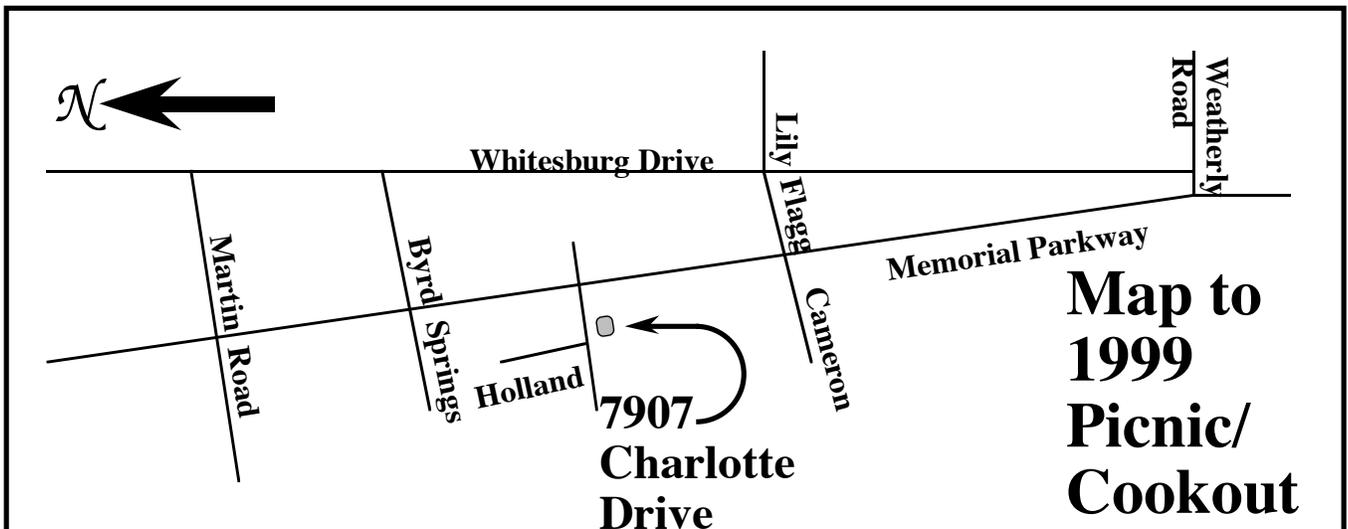
tower elevators (especially the middle one) seemed quite prone to breakdown. Still, I've been to cons with *much* slower elevators so I really can't complain.

Room parties were confined to the top floor of the annex. There were only two open room parties each night — at least that I heard of. There were, however, numerous video rooms (sponsored by various clubs and other organizations) that served somewhat as ongoing room parties and an apparently large number of private and semi-private parties on that floor. The Friday night parties were for DSC 38 (Son of BeachCon — to be held 19-21 May 2000 on Jekyll Island GA) and the Charlotte NC Worldcon bid for 2004. I had rented a suite to hold a Huntsville DSC bid party and made it available to Charlotte for their use Friday night. Saturday night parties included the aforementioned Huntsville bid party for the 2001 DSC and a corresponding Birmingham bid party.

Which leads to the part of this review I'd rather not write. The business meetings (Southern Fandom Confederation and DSC) took place 10A-12N Sunday morning. The SFC business meeting went well, with the major decision made being to reduce the mailings of the *SFC Bulletin* from 4 to 3 per year to try to balance the budget. The only business of the DSC meeting this year was to select the site for DSC 39 in 2001. Unfortunately (from my biased point of view) Huntsville was not successful against Birmingham. I'll leave further analysis of that to other people in other places.

All in all I had a ball at DSC 37/CCC 14. Because it's such a long trip (about 900 miles round trip) I doubt I'll make it down to a CCC anytime soon. But if they ever bid for DSC again I'll look on the bid with fond memories of this con. And I am planning — fortune permitting — to be at both DSC 38 at Jekyll Island and DSC 39 in Birmingham.

1. - c. 2. - f. 3. - a. 4. - e. 5. - b. 6. - d.





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Con†Stellation XVIII: Lupus

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