

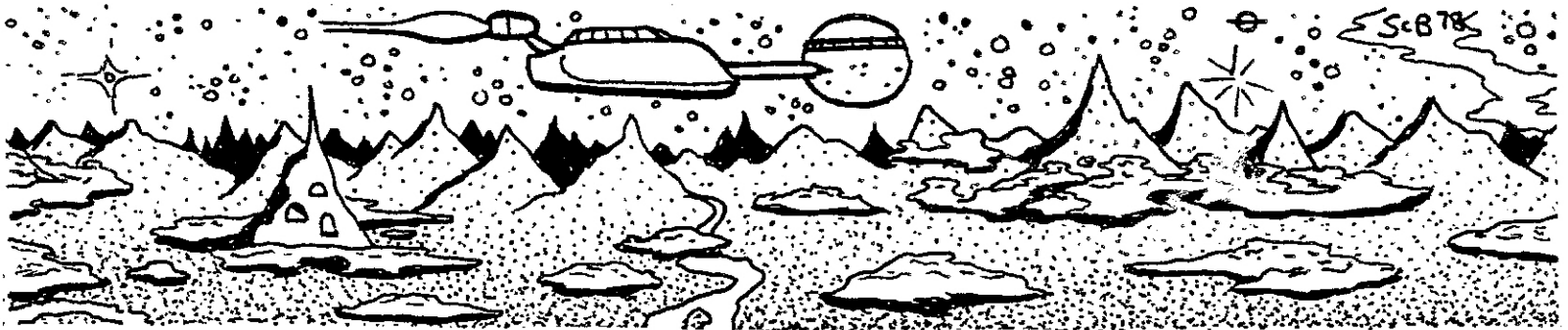
PORSFIS NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PORTLAND SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY

AUGUST 1978

ISSUE NO. 3

Hello! This is your newsletter, interrupting your summer reverie. Sue Renhard (223-8658), Debbie Cross (644-0811) and Steve Berry 228-5998) are your editors. We welcome your constructive criticism, and we hope that you will supply contributions to help fill the gaps. These could be book and movie reviews, news of past and upcoming events, artwork, informative articles, or anything you might think up. As PorSFIS grows, so will we!



REPORT ON WESTERCON 31 By John Andrews

Westercon kicked off on Friday evening with an Ice Cream Social for the early arrivals, trying to live up to its second title of Westercon. A fair number of fans were there, as well as some of the pros, including the Guest of Honor, Poul Anderson. Harlan Ellison even stopped by for a short time, but wasn't around any other time during the con.

Things really got rolling the next day with the huckster's rooms and arts show open, and the panels and films and discussion groups going. (The hucksters area was the biggest I've ever seen, including two worldcons.) The various pros arrived during the day, among them, Niven, Pournelle, Randall Garrett, and M.Z. Bradley.

There were a large number of panels, and few were the common ones that seem to be held at every con. Two of the more interesting ones were "Space Opera Meets the Seventies" and "Ruling the Galactic Empire". There was also a cartoon contest between some pros and fans.

The Masquerade on Saturday night was done in the round, which allowed most of the people a good view of the proceedings. It was also well lit by sets of spotlights. (Though these spots proved to be somewhat dangerous when one of the contestants ran into one, causing a scene very similar to the famous WW II flag raising.) The contestants were numerous, especially including most of Darth Vader's family, himself, his mother, his son, his brother D. Vader of the IRS, and even one girl as the dark side of the Force that seduced him!

Instead of a banquet, (perhaps for good reason, the folksong "Bouncing Potatoes" was written after a particularly infamous Westercon Banquet) the con had a reception for the guests of Honor where they gave their speeches.

On Monday they gave a special showing of Star Wars. Imagine, seeing Star Wars in a group of about 800 fans! They also showed The Wicker Man, which seems to have gained a following among film fans, though I'm not sure why, it's not that good. The rest of the film program was rather unusual, with very few of the well known films, and some really obscure ones. (Anyone ever heard of The 5000 fingers of Dr. T?)

On the whole, the con was pretty relaxed with few scheduling and time problems. (There was even time to eat and sleep!) But, I didn't get to a single room party!

MIDSUMMER MERRIMENT

Come to the festivities! The first annual PorSFis picnic will be at the Hoyt Arboretum shelter at 2:00 PM, August 5th. The order of the day will be fun. Sue has consented to belly dance. Those of us who were not able to see her at Neighborfair appreciate this second chance. There will also be folksinging--a perverse form of folksinging peculiar to SF fans. Anyone who has a musical instrument and can play either "Waltzing Matilda" or "The Ballad of Jesse James" will be welcomed for accompaniment. Costumes, Frisbees, or any other form of amusement or entertainment are appropriate. Bring your own food--that way no one will be disappointed.

If you need a ride or have one to offer, meet at the library at 2:00 for a car pool.

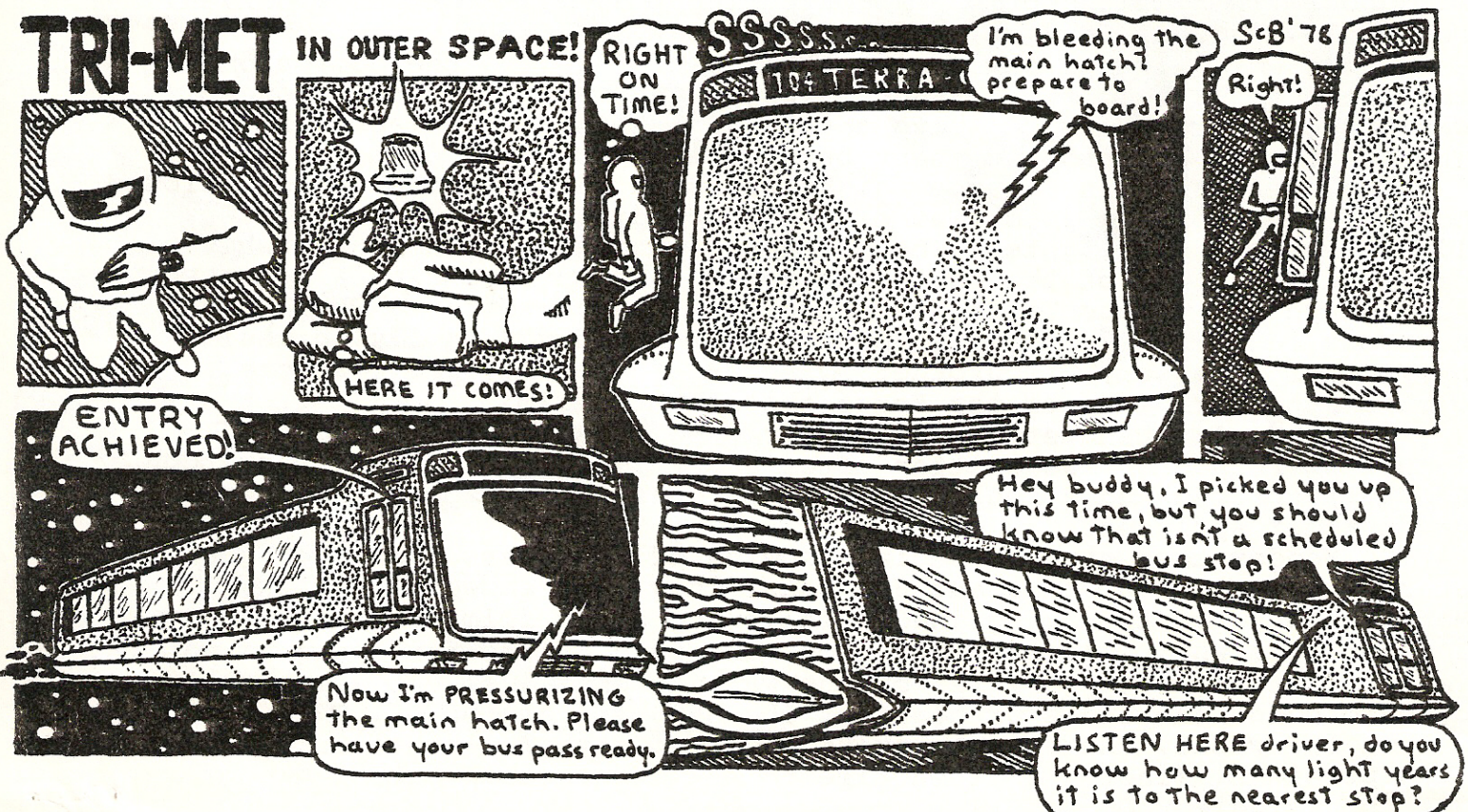
WHY AND HOW TO BUY USED BOOKS

The least expensive way to build a science-fiction library is to shop at the used book stores. If you seek a recently-published book, you could save thirty or forty cents by purchasing a used copy. You can save a substantial sum on older titles if you buy earlier editions. A book published in 1968, for example, might have originally cost 95¢; today the same book in its latest printing probably costs \$1.95 new. A trip to the used book store might turn up an older copy marked 60¢, leaving you more cash for more books.

Used books often look as though they rode around in peoples' pockets for ten years, but they are still readable. Indeed, some have tasteful cover art and certain interesting introductions that might have been deleted from later editions. Of course, some first printings have been deemed collectors' items, and will be priced accordingly.

Make a list of books you want to read and bring it with you when you browse. Write down books you have heard or read about, or books you have read before and wish to add to your library. Nebula and Hugo award winners make good reading, as do anthologies. Sometimes the book covers look interesting. If you don't want to read a book right away, you can set it aside for future enjoyment.

Next month, we will list some used book stores in the Portland area with extensive science-fiction sections.



CONVENTIONS

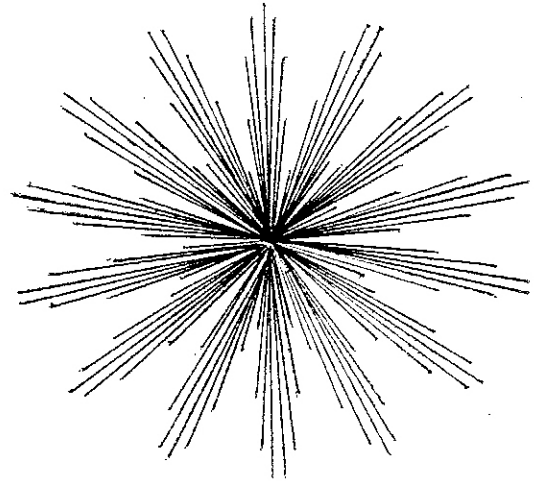
IGUANACON is in Phoenix Aug. 31- Sept. 4.
The address is Box 1072, Phoenix, AZ.
85001. Harlan Ellison will be the GoH.

FANTASY FAIRE VIII will be in Pasadena, CA
Sept 22-24. GoH is Robert Bloch. Katherin
Kurtz is doing the costume contest. Write
to Fantasy Faire, 1855 W. Main, Alhambra,
CA. Phone: (213) 337-7947.

OCTOCON II is in Santa Rosa Oct. 14-15.
Before Sept. 9 membership fees are \$6-\$8.
For information write to Box 1824, Santa
Rosa, CA 95402.

NORWESCON II will be in Seattle March 24-
26. Advance membership is \$7 until Dec. 31.
The address is Norwescon, Box 24207, Seattle
WA. 98124.

In 1979, WESTERCON 32 will be in San
Francisco CA. Of course it will be July 4th
weekend. Write to Westercon 32, 195 Alhambra
St., #9, San Francisco, CA 94123.



THE OFFICIAL PORSFIS ASTERISK

LOSCON 5 is in Pasadena Nov. 3-5. Mem. fee
is \$8. For information write Loscon, c/o
Elayne Pelz, 15931 Kalisher St., Granada
Hills, CA 91344.

We're still waiting to hear more about the
con party without the con which is supposed
to take place Nov. 4th in Seattle. When we
know, you'll know too.

Letters to the Editors

Esteemed Beings:

I'm complaining about the current situation on Zirb. The
Glorks are always Drgling the Brmpfs, and you can't get to
sleep at night for the racket. My pet snrfl is chrsgng because
of it. What are you people going to do about this?

Yours Sxrgly,
H. D. Sprngle

Dear Gentlebeing:

As editors, we feel it is important to maintain neutrality,
since we have no real authority. We simply want to report the
news as we hear it (or create it). However, we do have an editor-
ial addressing this important matter, as you would have seen had
you read our next issue. (Your must remember to allow for the
time differential between Earth and Zirb.)

The Editors

I will do
ARTWORK
for you
FOR A
reasonable
Fee.
Steve (ScB)
228-5998

Wanted: News. Three hardworking SF fans are seeking contributions for a newsletter with limited but quality distribution. Please send submissions to this paper or call Steve at 228-5998, Sue at 223-8658, or Debbie at 644-0811.

Wanted: Readers of SF to utilize small SF library in rear of The Illustrated Store at 1808 E. Burnside. This offer limited to PorSFis members only.

Wanted: Artwork of the science fiction or fantasy type to be used in newsletter or for PorSFis poster. All submissions accepted free of charge.

Wanted: Writers with samples of their work to participate in the PorSFis Writers' Workshop. Report any alternate Fri. at 8:00 PM to 2350 SE 50th, #33 or call 236-1366.

Wanted: Energetic volunteers to help organize an SF symposium for this fall. If you are that person please let it be known at the next PorSFis meeting or call Debbie at 644-0811.



PERSONALS

Unattached female, 24, seeks male companion for galactic tour in two-person spaceship. Must be approximately same age, and be consistent deoderant user. Call Zeera, 536-6494

Wanted: Members and friends to attend regular PorSFis meetings on alternate Sats. from Aug 5. Meetings are at the main branch of the Mult. Co. Library in room E, at 2:00 PM.

PorSFis
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Sam Butler
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